



FACULTY OF LANGUAGES AND TRANSLATION
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN CHINESE-ENGLISH TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETATION
LEARNING MODULE OUTLINE

Academic Year	2025/2026	Semester	1
Module Code	TRAN4107-411/412		
Learning Module	Literary Translation I		
Pre-requisite(s)	Nil		
Medium of Instruction	English		
Credits	2	Contact Hours	30 hrs
Instructor	LIE Jianxi	Email	liejianxi@mpu.edu.mo
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MODULE DESCRIPTION

This course familiarises the students with the basic practice of literary translation, the most common problems that appear in literary translation, as well as techniques and strategies of producing literary translations that faithfully serve the original and at the same time stand as works of art in their own right within the linguistic and cultural context of the target culture.

The course consists of one hour of lecture and one hour of seminar per week. In the first-semester seminars, the students will have an opportunity to present their critiques of translations of shorter literary texts (poetry, prose, drama). The students are expected, during their critical comparison and analyses of existing translations, to learn about different approaches to literary translation as well as techniques and strategies literary translators employ, rightly or wrongly, in their work. In the second-semester seminars, the students will present/discuss their readings of discursive writings by major scholars on different aspects of literary translation. This will help the students to gain theoretical / critical insight into this field of study.

MODULE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES (ILOS)

On completion of this learning module, students will be able to:

M1.	develop a particular set of skills through intensive practice in literary translating;
M2.	explore the nature of literary translation with a more critical eye.

These ILOs aims to enable students to attain the following Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (PILOs):

PILOs	M1	M2
P1. Knowledge and skills of translation and interpreting in the areas of public administration, tourism, commerce and mass media;	✓	✓
P2. Knowledge of translation theories, critical understanding of translation and interpreting;	✓	✓



P3. Knowledge and skills of both Chinese and English as language professionals;	✓	✓
P4. Knowledge of cross-cultural communication;	✓	✓
P5. Master Chinese-English translation and interpreting skills, strategies and technologies;	✓	✓
P6. Apply Chinese and English writing competence into translation practices;	✓	✓
P7. Apply knowledge of languages and translation studies into bi-lateral translation practices between English and Chinese;	✓	✓
P8. Apply strategies and techniques in public speaking, consecutive and simultaneous interpreting;		
P9. Gain cross-cultural awareness in translation and interpreting practices;	✓	✓
P10. Obtain basic research abilities.	✓	✓

MODULE SCHEDULE, COVERAGE AND STUDY LOAD

Week	Content Coverage	Contact Hours
1	Introduction to the Course	2
2	Literal and Literary Language: Types of Translation	2
3	Translation as Interpretation	2
4	What Do Literary Translators Do?: Lefevere, Chapter 3	2
5	In-class Translation Assignment (Short Story)	2
6	Specific Translation Problems (1): Words and Things	2
7	Specific Translation Problems (2): Allusions and Parodies	2
8	Specific Translation Problems (3): Puns and Wordplay	2
9	In-class Translation Assignment (Prose)	2
10	Specific Translation Problems (4): Profanity, Prurience and Pornography	2
11	Specific Translation Problems (5): Tones and Undertones	2
12	Specific Translation Problems (6) Rhythm and Speed	2
13	In-class Translation Assignment (Poetry)	2
14	Review	2
15	Exam	2

TEACHING AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

In this learning module, students will work towards attaining the ILOs through the following teaching and learning activities:



Teaching and Learning Activities	M1	M2
T1. Lectures and group discussions	✓	✓
T2. In-class and out-of-class practice and workshops	✓	✓
T3. Knowledge- and practice- based assignments and tests	✓	✓

ATTENDANCE

Attendance requirements are governed by the Academic Regulations Governing Bachelor's Degree Programmes of the Macao Polytechnic University. Students who do not meet the attendance requirements for the learning module shall be awarded an 'F' grade.

ASSESSMENT

In this learning module, students are required to complete the following assessment activities:

Assessment Activities	Weighting (%)	ILOs to be Assessed
A1. Assignments	60%	M1-M2
A2. Final exam	40%	M1-M2

The assessment will be conducted following the University's Assessment Strategy (see www.mpu.edu.mo/teaching_learning/en/assessment_strategy.php). Passing this learning module indicates that students will have attained the ILOs of this learning module and thus acquired its credits.

MARKING SCHEME

Excellent: Strong evidence of original thinking; good organisation, capacity to analyse and systemise; superior grasps of subject matter; strong evidence of extensive knowledge base.

Very Good: Evidence of grasps of subject; strong evidence of critical capacity and analytical ability; good understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.

Good: Evidence of grasp of subject; some evidence of critical capacity and analytical ability; reasonable understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.

Satisfactory: Profiting from the study experience; understanding of the subject; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material.

Pass: Sufficient familiarity with the subject matter to enable the student to progress without repeating the learning module.

Fail: Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; weak in critical and analytical skills; limited, or irrelevant use of literature.

REQUIRED READINGS



1. Excerpts from published translations of literary works from English into Chinese and vice versa, that can be used for comparisons and analyses as well as serve as model translations for the languages in question (to be used for student workshops/presentations).
2. Assorted shorts to be translated by the students from Chinese into English or vice versa. These will be part of the student's portfolio.

REFERENCES

- Bassnett, Susan. 'Translating for the Theatre: The Case Against Performability'. TTR: Traduction, Terminologie, Rédaction, vol. 4, n° 1 (1991), pp. 99-111.
- Jin, Di, 'The Ultimate Challenge of Style', Literary Translation: Quest for Artistic Integrity (Manchester: St Jerome, 2003), pp. 131-149.
- Lau, S.M. Joseph, 'To Disillusion or to Disenchant?: The Use of Translation as Interpretation', Tamkang Review, 10 (1 & 2) (Fall-Winter 1979): pp. 227-242.
- Lefevere, André, Translating Literature: Practice and Theory in a Comparative Literature Context (Beijing: Foreign Language Teaching and Research Press, 2006).

STUDENT FEEDBACK

At the end of every semester, students are invited to provide feedback on the learning module and the teaching arrangement through questionnaires. Your feedback is valuable for instructors to enhance the module and its delivery for future students. The instructor and programme coordinators will consider all feedback and respond with actions formally in the annual programme review.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The Macao Polytechnic University requires students to have full commitment to academic integrity when engaging in research and academic activities. Violations of academic integrity, which include but are not limited to plagiarism, collusion, fabrication or falsification, repeated use of assignments and cheating in examinations, are considered as serious academic offenses and may lead to disciplinary actions. Students should read the relevant regulations and guidelines in the Student Handbook which is distributed upon the admission into the University, a copy of which can also be found at www.mpu.edu.mo/student_handbook/.