FACULTY OF LANGUAGES AND TRANSLATION

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN CHINESE-ENGLISH TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETATION

LEARNING MODULE OUTLINE

Academic Year	2025/2026	Semester	2
Module Code	TRAN3113-321		
Learning Module	Translation Theories and Translation Criticism		
Pre-requisite(s)	Nil		
Medium of Instruction	English/Chinese		
Credits	3	Contact Hours	45 hrs
Instructor	Jiang Xiaohua	Email	xhjiang@mpu.edu.mo
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MODULE DESCRIPTION

This module aims to familiarize students with major theoretical approaches to Translation Studies in China and in the western world as well as their application in translation practice and translation criticism. Students are expected to be able to adopt the translation theories that they have learned to improve their translation practice and to analyze and evaluate works of different genres (literary and non-literary).

MODULE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES (ILOS)

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

M1.	Basically understand the most important Western and Chinese translation theories;
M2.	Basically analyze translations with the translation theories they have learned;
M3.	Basically analyze and/or appreciate different versions of translation with the translation theories they have learned.
M4.	Basically know the theoretical differences between Western and Chinese translation theories

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

PILOs	M1	M2	M3	M4
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	Brief introduction: Western and Chinese translation theories (Have a general idea of important Western and Chinese translation theories and applications.)	3
2	Chinese translation theories (1): ancient Chinese translation theories (Have a general idea of ancient Chinese translation theories and their applications: Zhi Qian, Dao An, Kumārajīva, Xuan Zang.)	3
3	Chinese translation theories (2): Yan Fu and his theory – faithfulness, expressiveness and elegance (xin da ya) (Understand Yan Fu's translation theory and its application.)	3
4	Chinese translation theories (3): Lu Xun and his theory -- faithfulness is preferred to fluency (ning xin er bu shun) (Understand Lu Xun's translation theory and its application, and distinguish the differences between Lu Xun's theory and Venuti's theory.)	3
5	Western translation theories (1): ancient Western translation theories (Have an idea of Cicero, Horace, Augustine, Jerome, etc. and understand their translaiton theories and applications)	3
6	Western translation theories (2): Nida's translation theory and its application– dynamic equivalence vs. formal equivalence (Distinguish Nida's "dynamic equivalence vs. formal equivalence" with traditional "liberal vs. literal".)	3
7	Western translation theories (3): Newmark's translation theory and its application – communicative translation vs. semantic translation (Understand Newmark's theory, and distinguish the differences between Newmark's theory and Nida's theory.)	3
8	Western translation theories (4): Venuti's translation theory and its application – domesticating translation vs. foreignizing translation (Understand Venuti's theory, and distinguish the differences between Venuti's theory and Nabokov's theory.)	3
9	Western translation theories (5): functional theories and applications – K. Reiss and text type (Understand functional theories: a) J. H.Manttari and translational action, b) H. J. Vermeer and Skopos theory, c) C. Nord and text analysis. And understand d) the relationship between text types and functional theory, and e) the relationship between functional theory and skopos theory.)	3

10	Western translation theories (6): Lefevere's manipulation theory and its application (Understand the influences from "ideology, poetics and patronage")	3
11	Western translation theories (7): postcolonial translation theory -- feminism translation theory (Understand Sherry Simon's feminism translation theory, and the influences of feminism upon translation.)	3
12	Western translation theories (8): translation ethics (Understand Chesterman's five types of translation ethics, and know the influences of translation ethics upon translation.)	3
13	Western translation theories (9): cognitive translation theory and its applications	3
14	Review	3
15	Final exam	3

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	M3	M4
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. Class performance and attendance	15%	M1-M4
A2. In-class training	15%	M1-M4
A3. Assignments	30%	M1-M4
A4. Final exam	40%	M1-M4

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

Teaching materials will be drawn from a range of publications in the field of interpreting. No single textbook will be used.

REFERENCES

1. Munday, Jeremy. 2022. *Introducing Translation Studies: Theories and Applications (5th edition)*. London and New York: Routledge.

2. Mona Baker, Kirsten Malmkjaer. 2019. *Routledge Encyclopaedia of Translation Studies (3rd edition)*. London/New York: Routledge.

3. Reiss, Katharina. 2014. *Translation Criticism: The Potentials and Limitations*. Manchester, U.K.: St. Jerome Publishing Press. New York: American Bible Society.

4. 許鈞、穆雷. 2009. 翻譯學概論. 南京：譯林出版社.

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/.