Chn421C English-Chinese Translation

Introduction

Course Description: This course introduces the basic techniques of English-Chinese translation based on a bottom-up approach, starting at the word level, then moving above the word level, to the sentence and the textual level. It consists of ten units, two tests, and a final project. This course is taught as both a hybrid and stand-alone web course. The online environment provides a unique platform for students to practice their writing, communication, and web search skills. Students gradually develop sensitivity and awareness to the "situational" meaning of words, phrases, sentences and texts through hands-on comparison and analysis of both monolingual and bilingual authentic texts. The face-to-face classroom setting gave students ample opportunities for negotiation, networking, presentation, and teamwork experiences.

Class assignments focus on the comprehension, knowledge acquisition, and the reformulation of translation. Students acquire translation techniques and refine their language skills at the end of the course. Furthermore, students not only sharpen their reading and writing skills through weekly translation-related assignments, but also develop listening and speaking skills and widen their world knowledge through in-class oral presentations and discussions.

Course Objectives

The main goals of this course are:

1. to understand the basic concepts, principles, and skills in English-Chinese translation.
2. to develop sensitivity to the "situational" meanings of words, phrases, and sentences.
3. to increase awareness of common mistakes in English-Chinese translation.
4. to identify translation problems and solve the problems successfully.
5. to become familiar with online translation resources and web search strategies.
6. to build self-revision and peer-review skills and cultivate the ability to be quality producers and self-directed learners.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will acquire translation and Chinese computer skills at the end of the course. Students will learn to:

1. recognize potential translation problems in the source text;
2. explain the nature of the problems and suggest strategies for solving the problems;
3. revise one’s own translation to improve its quality and review other’s translation to give helpful suggestions for revisions.
4. adopt important research and analytical strategies for lifelong learning of language using online resources.
Course Requirements

Students must learn to produce translations on computer and participate in online discussion forums. Your performance in this class will depend upon participation and the completion of all assignment in a timely manner. **LATE homework assignments will affect your grade.** There are fifteen Cafe entries, nine reading responses, various translation-related tasks, nine translation assignments, twelve reflections, eleven discussions, two tests, and one final project.

1. **Online Cafe** is the social lounge for the class. Weekly discussion topics will be posted for social networking. Entries in the Cafe will be graded according to the content of the postings.

2. **Online Reading Responses** are short essays that respond to specific questions based on the assigned readings. Readings are assigned to expose students to the various issues in English-Chinese translation. Reading responses will be graded upon one's ability to thoughtfully engage, rather than summarizing, the text.

3. **Online Translation-related tasks** engage students with hands-on comparison and analysis of both monolingual and bilingual authentic texts. Translation-related tasks will be graded upon evidence of care in formulating postings and how well student followed directions.

4. **Online Translation assignments** are assigned to facilitate student learning of a specific unit. All translation assignments have to be typewritten with MS Word and submitted by uploading them to the class website. Translation assignments will be graded according on the quality of translation based on the following criteria: accuracy, naturalness, vocabulary, grammar, and mechanism.

5. **Online Reflections** are writings reflecting the translation process of weekly translation assignments. Online reflections will be graded upon evidence of care in formulating postings.

6. **Online Discussions** are follow-up discussion of weekly translation assignments and unit tests. Discussion entries will be posted every week after students submit their translation assignments. Online Discussions will be graded according to the content of postings and how well student followed directions.

7. **Unit Tests** are given every three units to evaluate students' knowledge of the practice of translation at each stage. Each test is composed of multiple choice questions, translations, and short essay questions. The English source text for the unit tests should contain many of the problems in translation discussed in class.

8. **Final project** are guided translation project, which demonstrate students’ mastery of word processing and formatting skills in addition to ability to apply research and translation techniques learned in class. Students are also required to do a PowerPoint presentation of their final project.
**Evaluation**

Students will be evaluated based on participation, reading responses, various translation-related tasks, translation assignments, reflections, discussion, oral presentations, unit tests, and final project as described above.

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<tr>
<th>Grade Range</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>94-100%</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>90-93%</td>
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<tr>
<td>87-89%</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<td>Below 60%</td>
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Student conduct is governed by the Student Conduct Code ([http://www.hawaii.edu/student/conduct/](http://www.hawaii.edu/student/conduct/)). Misconduct, including plagiarism, will be referred to the Dean of Students for action.

**NOTES ON THE UHM BACK CREDIT POLICY**

1. A maximum of **16 back credits** (101, 102, 201 and 202) may be earned for any ONE second language (you can't receive back credits for more than one language).
2. Only the first language course taken at the university level may be used for back credits. So if the first Chinese course you take after high school is taken at a college or university outside of the UH system and is transferred to your UHM transcript, you will not be eligible to receive back credits here for Chinese even if you subsequently take courses from us.
3. Only your first attempt at a language may be used to receive back credits, and it must be taken for a letter grade (not CR/NC) and **passed with at least a 'C'**. So if you take, say, Chinese 421C as your first Chinese class at UHM and receive less than a 'C' for it (even a 'C-'), you will never receive back credits in Chinese, even if you take the course again and get a 'C' or higher.
4. Back credits are not automatically awarded - you must be applied for. You can apply for back credits in Chinese by going to Moore Hall, room 378. You must wait until your course grade is officially entered into your records before applying.