

SYLLABUS FOR TRANSLATION OF LITERARY & CULTURAL TEXTS
(2 CREDITS)

This course is a practice-based training designed to help students learn the skills necessary for translating basic Chinese texts dealing with culture, history, the arts and philosophy **into English**.

選課要求

- (1) Must have completed the course: *Basic Chinese into English Translation*.**
- (2) Priority will be given to students in the DFLL Translation Program and DFLL students at least in their third year.**
- (3) If there are available slots, non-DFLL students who conform to (1) above may be admitted.**
- (4) Please bring proof of having earlier completed *Basic Chinese into English Translation* (grade report or official transcript of records) on the first day of classes.**
- (5) This is a difficult and challenging course. Do not come if you tend to be lazy and/or faint-hearted.**

評量方式 Grading

Weekly Exercises: 30%

Class Attendance/Participation: 35 %

Exams: 20%

Term Project: 15%

Classes will be conducted as follows:

- (1) A weekly translation exercise of about 500-700 Chinese characters long. At least 14 exercises during the term.
- (2) Source-language texts will include select articles on Chinese/Taiwanese history, culture, language, the arts, philosophy and literature.
- (3) Weekly translation projects submitted by students will be discussed in class, including analysis of mistranslations, corrections and improvements.
- (4) Emphasis of student-work analysis: textual content, grammar, diction, vocabulary, language register and format.
- (5) Every now and then, students will be assigned to study and comment on the work of their classmates as a means to learn others' adopted techniques, as

- well as consider their pros and cons, in comparison with their own work.
- (6) Towards the latter part of the term, students will be assigned inter-textual comparison of existing translations with their original, to pinpoint weak points and to offer possible improvements.
- (7) As a way to develop speed, students will at times be required to do translation of short passages on-site, to be followed by a review of their work.
- (8) Students will sit for their mid-term and final exams.
- (9) Students will be required to compile a glossary of terms based on the assigned exercises, to be submitted by the end of the semester.

Section I. Chinese Culture and Arts

- 第 1 週 Introduction
- 第 2 週 Calligraphy
- 第 3 週 Painting
- 第 4 週 Archaic Jade/Porcelain

Section II: Language and history

- 第 5 週 Chinese influence on world history
- 第 6 週 The Chinese language and its development
- 第 7 週 Tang Dynasty China
- 第 8 週 The Qing Empress Dowager
- 第 9 週 (Mid-term exam)

Section III: Philosophy

- 第 10 週 Confucian Thought and East Asia
- 第 11 週 Chuang-tzu's philosophy

Section IV: Taiwan Culture & History

- 第 12 週 Festivals of Taiwan
- 第 13 週 Tea Drinking Culture in Taiwan
- 第 14 週 The February 28 Incident

Section V: Literature

第 15 週 Chinese/Taiwanese essays

第 16 週 Taiwanese novella excerpts (1)

第 17 週 Taiwanese novella excerpts (2)

第 18 週 (Final Exam)

課程目標

To make students learn Chinese into English translation skills, as well as ways of handling different types of cultural/literary source texts.

課程要求

- (1) A weekly translation exercise of about 500-700 Chinese characters long. At least 14 exercises during the term.
- (2) Students will sit for their mid-term and final exams.
- (3) Students will be required to compile a bilingual glossary of terms based on the assigned exercises, to be submitted after mid-terms and the end of the semester.