

## Shanghai Jiao Tong University

# **EN349** English/Chinese Business Translation (Online)

| Instructor<br>Information     | Yu Cheng<br>Home Institution: Tongji University<br>Email: chengyu@tongji.edu.cn  |         |         |
|-------------------------------|--|---------|---------|
| Term                          | June 28, 2021<br>- July 16, 2021   | Credits | 4 units |
| Course Delivery               | The class will be delivered in the format of online. Other than recorded lecture videos, the instructor will arrange 2-6 hours' real-time interactions with students per week (via discussion forum, zoom meeting, and WeChat). The workload students are expected to complete to properly pass this course is about 10-15 hours per week. |         |         |
| Required Texts<br>(with ISBN) | An English-Chinese Translation Course For Business Li, Ming Publishing House: Shanghai Foreign Language Education Press ISBN: 9787544617703  |         |         |
| Prerequisite                  | Native or near native Chinese speaker, Fluent in English   |         |         |



#### **Course Overview**

This course prepares students with translation skills needed in a globalized business world where individuals, businesses, institutions, government and non-government agencies and organizations require quality translation between Chinese and English languages. Students have the opportunities to learn and practice a broad range of topics that are common in everyday business environment. More importantly, they will be able to continuously build up their bilingual and bicultural competence in business contexts. This course also enhances understanding of cultural and ethical issues to help students build up confidence and capabilities in tackling complexities involved in cross-cultural situations. To better understand how business translation works, students will be trained to reflect on their translation processes through both individual and group work.

#### **Learning Outcomes**

On completion of this subject students should

- 1. Capitalize on general translation theories and concepts;
- 2. Exercise the acquired practical know-how in various fields that require business translation;
- 3. Familiarize themselves with a wide range of business topics and texts;
- 4. Develop strategies to deal with typical textual complexity in business translation;
- 5. Identify, resolve and avoid mistranslation arising from cross-cultural and interdisciplinary factors;
- 6. Reflect critically on translation processes;
- 7. Work collaboratively for optimal translation outcome.

#### **Grading Policy**

| Homework                  | 20% |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Group translation project | 30% |
| Written Exam              | 50% |

#### **Grading Scale**

| Number grade | Letter grade | GPA |
|--------------|--------------|-----|
| 90-100       | A            | 4.0 |
| 85-89        | A-           | 3.7 |
| 80-84        | B+           | 3.3 |
| 75-79        | В            | 3.0 |
| 70-74        | B-           | 2.7 |
| 67-69        | C+           | 2.3 |
| 65-66        | С            | 2.0 |
| 62-64        | C-           | 1.7 |
| 60-61        | D            | 1.0 |
| ≤59          | F (Failure)  | 0   |



### **Class Schedule**

| Date  | Lecture   | Readings  | Online Teaching<br>Arrangement   |
|-------|---|---|--|
| Day 1 | Theories and concepts:<br>Translating business texts<br>in a globalized world | Li: pp.1-10; Enkvist, NE<br>1978, 'Contrastive Text<br>Linguistics and Translation',<br>in L Grähs, G Korlen & B<br>Malmberg (eds), Theory and<br>Practice of Translation, Peter<br>Lang, Berne, pp. 169-188. | approximately 80 minutes<br>pre-recorded video lectures<br>plus 60 minutes translation<br>exercises  |
| Day 2 | Translation as a decision-<br>making process: How to<br>choose the right word | Li: pp.12-18; BASSNETT, S<br>2006, 'Translating Genre', in J<br>Strong, G Dowd & L<br>Stevenson (eds), Genre<br>Matters: Essays in Theory and<br>Criticism Intellect Books,<br>Bristol, pp. 85-96             | approximately 80 minutes<br>pre-recorded video lectures<br>plus 60 minutes translation<br>exercises  |
| Day 3 | Parts of speech and<br>Translation  | Li: pp.20-26; Pellatt, V & Liu, ET 2010, Thinking Chinese Translation - A Course in Translation Method: Chinese to English, Routledge, London, pp.25-27   | approximately 80 minutes<br>pre-recorded video lectures<br>plus 60 minutes translation<br>exercises  |
| Day 4 | Translation techniques: insertions and omissions                              | Li: pp.28-34; Li: pp.36-43;   | approximately 80 minutes<br>pre-recorded video lectures<br>plus 60 minutes translation<br>exercises  |
| Day 5 | Translating metaphor and idioms   | Li: pp.54-59; Pellatt & Liu: pp 100-101, 117-120; Li: pp.61-68;   | approximately 80 minutes<br>pre-recorded video lectures<br>and 60 minutes translation<br>exercises plus 120 minutes<br>online interaction via Zoom |
| Day 6 | Translating<br>Subjects   | Li: pp.70-77;   | approximately 80 minutes<br>pre-recorded video lectures<br>plus 60 minutes translation<br>exercises  |
| Day 7 | Translating passive voice   | Li: pp.78-84; Pellatt & Liu: pp.52-55   | approximately 80 minutes<br>pre-recorded video lectures<br>plus 60 minutes translation<br>exercises  |
| Day 8 | Complex sentences   | Li: pp.44-52; Pellatt & Liu: pp 28-29   | approximately 80 minutes<br>pre-recorded video lectures<br>plus 60 minutes translation<br>exercises  |
| Day 9 | Sentence order and word order   | Li: pp.86-93; Pellatt & Liu: pp.208-209   | approximately 80 minutes<br>pre-recorded video lectures<br>plus 60 minutes translation<br>exercises  |



| Day 10 | Translating Subordinate<br>Clauses  | Li: pp.96-103; Electronic<br>Reserve:<br>https://www.grammar.com/ | approximately 80 minutes pre-recorded video lectures and 60 minutes translation exercises plus 120 minutes   |
|--------|---|---|--|
| Day 11 | Translating business letters  | Li: pp.114-120;   | online interaction via Zoom<br>approximately 80 minutes<br>pre-recorded video lectures<br>plus 60 minutes translation<br>exercises                 |
| Day 12 | Translating advertisements:<br>a balance between accuracy<br>and creativity | Li: pp.123-131;   | approximately 80 minutes<br>pre-recorded video lectures<br>plus 60 minutes translation<br>exercises  |
| Day 13 | Translating user manuals & public signs                                     | Li: pp.161-168; Pellatt & Liu: pp.39-41                           | approximately 80 minutes<br>pre-recorded video lectures<br>plus 60 minutes translation<br>exercises  |
| Day 14 | Translating business contracts  | Li: pp.133-144; Pellatt & Liu:<br>pp104-107                       | approximately 80 minutes<br>pre-recorded video lectures<br>and 60 minutes translation<br>exercises plus 120 minutes<br>online interaction via Zoom |
| Day 15 | Final Exam  |   | 120 minutes online   |