

Overview of courses offered at the School of Translation Studies

This section provides descriptions of the courses offered at the School of Translation Studies. It shows the main focus and content of each, and gives basic information on the overall focus of teaching at the School.

Bi-text Analysis and Application: Technology

This course, is a continuation course of bi-text analysis and application series. It is suitable for students with some command of bi-text analysis and application techniques but still little or no background in science and technology. The course is designed to further enhance the English proficiency in all the four skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing), especially in the scientific and technological field. It provides an introductory examination of scientific and technological developments in eight major fields: mathematics, medicine, genetic engineering, telecommunications, super-hard materials, mechanics and space technology. Our goal is to understand useful terms and theories in cutting-edge technical fields as well as practical skills in technical translation. Students will develop the ability to communicate in English on the topics of science and technology through analysis of the chosen texts and learn the fundamental skills in translation of texts on science and technology. By the end of the semester, students should be able to understand frontline developments in technical fields comprehensively and show some competence in subject-specific technical translations.

Language Error Analysis and Correction

This course is designed for first-year postgraduate students who are studying translation and interpreting. In this course, the main aim is to provide a broad overview of the many issues that affect translation, writing in the second language (English), and writing for international readership. The main focus is on the following areas: An overview of human communication, analysis of text purpose and readership, English as a global language, principles of simplicity and clarity applied to writing and translation for an international readership, analysis of style and structure in major text genres, punctuation, text formatting features that affect text reception by readers (such as color, layout, fonts, etc.), error reduction and analysis, and challenges and solutions when searching for guidance materials in high-quality English. In addition, the class features two lab sessions with one-to-one student-teacher discussion during a translation and editing exercise. At the end of the course, students should have an enhanced understanding of the diverse areas that influence their text production, and should have learned information and search techniques to enable them to produce better-quality text in English.

Undergraduate Language Error Analysis and Correction

This course is designed for first-year undergraduate students who are studying translation and interpreting, and is a simplified version of the same course that is provided to postgraduate students. In this course, the main aim is to provide a broad overview of the many issues

teacher discussion during a translation and editing exercise. At the end of the course, students should have an enhanced understanding of the diverse areas that influence their text production, and should have learned information and search techniques to enable them to produce better-quality text in English.

Debate and Argumentation

This course is designed for second-year undergraduate

This compulsory course is designed to help junior students lay a foundation of basic CI skills. The goal is to build hands-on experience of both English to Chinese and Chinese to English interpreting in consecutive mode, paving the way for higher level interpreting training. The course also prepares students with self-development capabilities for future career in the language service sector. By the end of the semester, students should be able to accomplish an assignment in a general area with average difficulty level and to reflect on their performances.

Cultural Texts: Analysis and Application

This course is a compulsory course for first-year undergraduates at the School of

Technical Writing

prepares you to write in any profession that demands specialized knowledge or expertise. In a professional setting, your writing helps the audience understand a subject better as to reinforce or change their attitude toward the subject, to motivate them to take particular actions, or to help them carry out a task. In other words, technical writing responds to the needs of a particular audience and has a clear, specific purpose in the world. The focus of this course is NOT on writing for a certain professional field, but on the techniques that skilled communicators in all professional fields use to analyze an audience and a purpose, to research and create information on a subject, to arrange the information logically, and to deliver the information clearly and concisely in appropriate language style and format to achieve readability and accessibility. But most importantly, this course requires and teaches that you, as a student technical writer, develop a sense of service to and responsibility for the audience, a sense of collaboration with team members, and commitment to excellence and perfection in the technical documents that you produce.

Computer-aided Translation (CAT)

is a compulsory module for juniors majoring in Translation to be completed within one semester. With the prevalence of information technology and standardization of language industry, translators are being required to increase their technical literacy. In 2009, the US government pointed out in Strategy for American Innovation: Driving Towards Sustainable Growth and Quality that, highly accurate and real-time translation between the major languages of the world [will be] greatly [lower] the barriers to international commerce and . The goal can be met through the development of CAT technologies. The course covers basic concepts and tools of search engine, corpus, termbase, translation memory and quality control, and aims at cultivating awareness of and skills in translation technology.

Digital News Trans-editing

B L is a compulsory module for juniors majoring in Translation to be completed within one semester. By virtue of the Internet, a far-reaching revolution has taken place in the theory and practice of information dissemination, within which digital news has emerged as a significant element in the daily life of many social groups. Digital news trans-editing is now serving the netizens to get an immediate knowledge of the changing world. Adapted to the demands of the time and market, the course aims at cultivating the competence of trainee translators in trans-editing news distributed in digital media. Authentic cases are analyzed to empower students with subject knowledge, stylistic norms and conventions, information filtering and restructuring strategies.

Cultural Translation

is a compulsory course focused on the translation of texts with cultural themes. It is designed for junior translation majors who have been acquainted with such texts in their freshman year. Content of the course includes modules about popular culture, customs around the world, art festivals and events, as well as sites of historical and cultural significance. A case-based, task-driven teaching model is adopted, with authentic bilingual language materials. Upon completion of this course, students are expected to: 1) have a better understanding of the language and cultural knowledge covered; 2) master the strategies and methods for translating relevant cultural texts; 3) gain familiarity with the functions and genres of cultural texts; 4) understand the functions of the source text and the translated version in their respective cultural context; 5) strengthen culture awareness and

bilingual communicative skills, and therefore 6) improve their overall competency to make decisions in the translation process.

Localization Engineering and Project Management

This course is designed to provide students with basic knowledge on localization engineering and project management. It will explore various localization engineering technologies and project management methods of typical objects such as software, online helps, documents and multimedia. This course will focus on the processing and converting methods of complicated documents in the current field and the usage of frontier localization and project management tools. Through systematic learning and practice on this course, students will be able to develop a thinking pattern of solving problems through computers and improve their abilities of translation, localization engineering and project management using computer software, and thus enrich their practical experiences in complicated localization projects.

Literary Text Reading

The purpose of this course is for the third-year students to be familiar with some selected classical literary works written in English or Chinese through an in depth study of the style and

meaning correspondence and transformation of English words, to make them understand the importance of learning and using English words accurately. Given the status quo of being fresh students at STS, with limited vocabulary and relatively weak English

speeches. Various listening materials will be offered to help students enlarge vocabulary and enrich their background knowledge. Solo practice, pair work will be organized in the class with group cooperation or workshop encouraged after class.

Conference Listening and Note-taking

L is a practice-oriented course aimed at empowering students with improvement in short-term memory, proficiency in listening comprehension (logic analysis, key information identification) and retelling (language quality and fluency) in English or Chinese. Listening materials include conference addresses, speech in various field, culture, environment, politics, etc. to help students enlarge vocabulary and enrich their background knowledge. Solo retelling practice, pair work will be organized in the class with group cooperation or workshop encouraged after class.

News Listening and Summarizing

This course *L P* is designed to continue to help second-year translation majors improve their overall listening ability and pave the way for a better performance in other translation and interpreting courses. Students are to listen to/watch selected up-to-date listening materials from VOA (Standard English), BBC, CNN, NPR broadcasting and other related materials in class and after class. The themes of the news story cover a wide variety of social, political, political, economic, environmental, cultural and other areas. Students are supposed to have exercises in various forms. Students are to grasp the key words and the main idea of the listening materials, get familiar with the proper nouns (person, place, international organization, etc.), keep up with the happenings home and abroad, and get to know background knowledge of related countries and organizations. Students are also expected to know the features of news reports, summarize the happenings from a series of related news stories, and research and analyze the news stories.

Movie English and Dubbing

This course *B* is designed to help the first-year translation majors improve their listening ability and pave the way for a better performance in future translation and interpreting courses. Students will watch selected movie clips and documentaries. Students will do individual and group exercises of imitating and dubbing aimed at improving their pronunciation, intonation, tone, and rhythm. Upon the successful completion of this course, students will improve their ability of listening comprehension and oral production, enlarge their vocabulary and useful expressions. Students will also have improvement in understanding western culture.

Current Affairs Texts: Analysis and Application

This course is a compulsory course for first-year undergraduates at the School of Translation Studies. It forms a step-by-step course serial with

current affairs and social phenomena, work with confidence both individually and on a team basis, and use computers and the Internet effectively to complete group project assignments.

Screen Translation

This course is an elective course for third-year undergraduates at the School of Translation Studies. Consisting of film title translation, subtitle translation of feature films and documentaries, and dubbing translation, it provides students with the opportunity to learn the characteristics of screen translation, guiding theories, translation strategies and techniques, and the methods of using subtitle translation software. Through case-based workshop, it aims to develop *subjectivity*, arouse their interests in this field, and develop their ability of inter-lingual transformation, cross-cultural communication, project management and team work cooperation.

Business Negotiation Interpreting

L, an advanced course after *P* and *L*, is designed to improve *ability* and quality of delivery from English into Chinese with the skills learnt in previous interpreting courses. Through conducting practical preparation and negotiation, the focus of the course is on how to grasp the attitudes, the intentions and messages, and their logical relations with the goal of negotiation so that students should be able to deliver precisely and appropriately as interpreters in business settings.

Conference Interpreting

L, an advanced course for undergraduates after *P* and *L* is designed to bridge the skills needed for conference interpreting from those learnt in previous courses. With a combination of long-term and short-term goals and tasks, the focus of this course is on the improvement of split of attention: analytical skills plus prediction and anticipation applied in conference materials, and the flexibility in delivery: precise chunking to logical delivery with a strong awareness of the different language features and a high proficiency in manipulating both languages.

Introductory Sight-translation and Interpreting

This introductory module of *P* aims at improving student *analytical* reading and listening skills for information processing and language command, and equip them with sight-translation and interpreting skills. The course is designed to bolster *confidence* through adopting gradual training strategies which start at the least difficult type of sight translation to more stressful types of sight-translation. The general objective of the course is to help students lay a foundation for the training of consecutive and simultaneous interpretation.