

## 外语系硕士研究生主要课程

(2024 学年度秋季学期更新)

### **Academic Research and Writing**

This course aims to provide students with an overview of the research process, with a focus on developing students' skills to design rigorous academic research and the ability to critically appraise and produce research reports. Students will explore the use of quantitative and qualitative research methods, and mixed-methods approaches that are gaining increasing recognition recently. Quantitative and qualitative data analysis techniques commonly used in social sciences in particular the field of applied linguistics will be introduced. Discussion will also relate to effective academic writing and writing a research proposal and report.

### **English Literature Studies**

This course provides an overview of the landscape of studies on English-language literature and related topics in comparative literature. It aims to acquaint students with the major schools and approaches in this field, develop their methodological awareness and skills to conduct academic research. The course will be taught in an approach-oriented method.

### **Contrastive Linguistic Studies**

This course is designed to provide an introduction to contrastive linguistics, the scientific study of language from contrastive point of view for MA students in the second year. It will help them to get a general understanding of contrastive linguistics, including the basic concepts of contrastive linguistics; the branches of contrastive linguistics, such as Contrastive Studies of speech sounds, lexicons, syntax, text, language in use; and two interdisciplinary branches: CL & Foreign Language Teaching and CL & Translation, as well as two methodological subjects, namely Quantative Contrastive Studies and Contrastive Functional Analysis, which will build

up an all-sided picture of contrastive linguistics so as to help the students to find out the specific field they are interested in.

### **Western Literary Theory**

This is an advanced literary course for graduate students majoring in English literature. It introduces the major schools of literary theory in the 20th century, including Formalism, Reader-Oriented Criticism, Feminism, Western Marxism, and Cultural Studies et al.. Each school will be examined not only in terms of its understanding of literature and its relation to the overall culture but the school's strengths and limitations as an interpretive tool. Students will understand the precepts of these theories and their main proponents. In addition, they will also practice these theoretical approaches to literature on a single work to understand how such lenses affect interpretation.

### **Translation Workshop**

The course is intended to help the students improve their ability of translating various types of materials, especially non-literary materials, either from English to Chinese or from Chinese to English. The instructor will select some examples from various sources and ask the students to translate them before class, each student is required to present his or her own translation in class, and then the whole class will have a discussion to see which version is better and why it is better. In the course of the discussion the instructor will also give his own translation and make a commentary on the students' translations so that the students may learn some translation techniques and gradually improve themselves in translation.

### **Postcolonial Literature**

This course provides an overview of Post-Colonialism, an academic field not limited to literature, but engaging culture, history, philosophy, and linguistics as well. During the course we will discuss the history of European colonialism; that is, we will investigate the ideas behind the European expansion, not only in terms of territory but also in terms of ideas and ideals that lay behind it. We will consider Post-Colonialism

as an intellectual discourse that deals with both the physical and the psychological effects of colonialism. In doing so, we will examine both cultural and national identities in colonised and decolonised countries and societies. Although our primary readings will be in literature, we will also engage historical, sociological, and economic studies.

### **Research Methodology in Applied Linguistics**

This course, which extends on the course “Academic Research and Writing”, aims to introduce students to the research design and data analyses in applied linguistics. Its primary focus is, however, the basic statistical analysis techniques commonly used in quantitative research. Topics to be covered include an introduction to research in applied linguistics, development of research instruments, basic statistical concepts, hypothesis testing, estimation of population parameters, and a range of analytical statistical methods. Classroom sessions will combine teacher lectures, hands-on exercises using the Statistical Package for Social Scientists (SPSS), and evaluation of empirical research papers. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to design research in applied linguistics and analyze statistical data in an academically acceptable way.

### **Literary Stylistics**

This course aims to provide students with a systematic way of describing and interpreting a text, with a focus on developing students’ skills to turn intuitive readings of literary works into a scientific process of text interpretation, which helps eliminate impressionism from literary criticism. Students will explore in detail how an author’s choices of words, sounds, sentence patterns, etc. influence the expression of meaning and ideas, and also, what particular aesthetic effects can be achieved through characteristic uses of language. Students will engage in, step by step, the process of analyzing a literary text from lexical categories up to the consideration of mind style and narrative structure, developing their academic skills of seizing and articulating the existing intuitions about the meaning of a text, as patterns emerge which were not

spontaneously noticed before.

### **Studies of US Literature**

This course is a captivating journey through the diverse tapestry of American literature, meticulously designed for English as a Second Language (ESL) students. We delve into the pages of iconic literary works, fostering language acquisition through a dual approach of extensive and intensive reading. We will decipher the nuances of American culture, history, and societal evolution as reflected in these texts. By immersing ourselves in the writings of celebrated American authors from various eras and backgrounds, we aim to deepen not only linguistic competence but also cultural awareness. Through critical analysis and engaging discussions, students will unlock the power of language while broadening their cultural horizons, ultimately emerging as more proficient English speakers with a profound appreciation of American literary heritage. This course will equip ESL learners with valuable language skills and an enriched understanding of the United States' cultural fabric.

### **Culture and Translation: Theory and Practice**

This course examines the distance between source text and target text cultures, considers the origins of this difference, addresses the issues of translation and cultural exchange, and studies the techniques of finding information needed to understand cultural specifics. With focus on the cross-cultural dimensions of translation, this course investigates a variety of complex cultural barriers faced by the translator in terms of differences in the expression of emotions, values, idioms, symbolism, metaphor and aesthetic taste. Students are engaged in analyses of the translations of others and in translation of their own to test and improve their own cultural sensitivity and awareness. Poems, essays, passages of classics in both Chinese and English used for topics to address the relation between culture and translation.

### **Non-literary Translation**

This course is intended to help the students know the striking features of non-literary translation and improve their non-literary translation ability. This course is more a practical one than a theoretical one, so its focus is on the translation exercise with the guidance of some theories. As non-literary texts cover a very large scope, the course has to choose some topics or types of texts to deal with, especially ones that the students will handle in their future career.

### **Academic Research & Writing**

This course aims to provide students with an overview of the research process, with a focus on developing students' skills to conduct rigorous academic research and write up their research in an academically acceptable manner. Students will explore the use of quantitative and qualitative research methods, and mixed-methods approaches. They will be introduced to quantitative and qualitative data analysis techniques commonly used in social sciences in particular the field of applied linguistics, based on which they will be able to critically appraise research reports. Students will engage in, step by step, the process of writing up a research in realm of social sciences and humanities respectively, developing their academic skills including searching and managing literature, and formatting citations and references in MLA or APA styles.