

Dharma Realm Buddhist University
International Institute for the Translation of Buddhist Texts
Certificate Program in Buddhist Translation
TRNC 41 – Translation Workshop
Fall 2024

Time: Monday & Tuesday 7:00 - 9:00 am; Tuesday 2:15 - 4:15 pm, 6 hr lab per week

Units: 2 units

Instructors: Bhikshuni Heng Yi,
Michael Lu (Translation Fellow)

Course Description:

Modeled upon the Buddhist translation assemblies held in imperial China, the Translation Workshop is a laboratory for live translation practice in a group setting. Under the supervision of instructors, students work in teams with more experienced translators in a process of primary translation, bilingual review, and editing of selected canonical texts. During the workshop, students will practice doing research and building terminology lists, including alternative translations, which the entire class will standardize to ensure consistency of translation. Students will be evaluated both on their individual translation capacity as well as on their development of interpersonal skills and team spirit.

Program Learning Outcomes

TRNC PLO 1 - Exercise ethical sensibility.

TRNC PLO 3 - Create clear, accurate, nuanced translations adapted to various audiences.

Course Learning Outcomes

Students will demonstrate the ability to

- Explain various concepts and types of translation theories and apply them to the translation of Buddhist texts.
- Research foundational sources relevant to Buddhist text translation and Buddhist translators.
- Reflect on and apply ethical norms that guide translation: in particular, contemplate the spirit of the guidelines for translators established by the Buddhist Text Translation Society
- Use key resources such as dictionaries, the electronic Tripitaka, and online databases. Learn to create glossaries of terms and expressions.
- Develop skills in one or more of the various aspects of the translation process: primary translation, revision, editing and polishing.

Grading Breakdown

Attendance 45%

Participation 45%

Reflective Paper 10%

Required Work & Grading

Students will be graded on attendance and participation. Class performance, cumulative understanding, and informed participation in ongoing discussion depend on regular attendance. **More than 6 absences will result in a failure for the course.**

Not present for 50% of one class session twice = 1 absence

Not present for 100% of one class session = 1 absence

Students will be expected to engage in class discussion. If you need to miss a class, please contact the instructor with the reasons for your absence.

Reflective Papers: Students are expected to write two reflective papers. One is due toward the beginning of the fall semester (1 page, Fri Aug 30 by 10 pm), and the other is due toward the end of the spring semester (3 pages). Both are about your reflection on BTTS Eight Guidelines. The purpose of having you write two papers is to show how your understanding of the Eight Guidelines grows or changes over this period of time. Your papers should be double-spaced, 12-point font.

Electronics policy

While technology (computers, cell phones, tablets) use is generally not allowed in DRBU classes, students in this course will be allowed to use devices in the lab section and in class for research and communication **only** for the purposes of translation-related activities. Please respect guest lecturers and those speaking in class discussions by paying full attention and not misusing technology.

Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism includes copying passages from someone else's work, using someone else's insights without acknowledgement, or paraphrasing another's original phrases without acknowledgement. Using someone else's words or ideas without proper citations will affect your grade or result in failing the course. Be sure that you provide complete citations for *any* material that helps shape your translations, even if you are paraphrasing another person's text in your own words. Papers that do not meet academic standards for citation may not be credited for the course and, if plagiarism is a concern, may be reported to the Program Director.

Disability Services

The Office of Disability Services has been designated by the University as the primary office to guide, counsel, and assist students with disabilities. If you already receive services through the Office of Disability Services and require accommodations for this class, make an appointment with me as soon as possible to discuss your approved accommodation needs. Please bring your accommodation letter with you to the appointment. Your professors will hold any information you share with them in the strictest confidence unless you give them permission to do otherwise. If you have not contacted the Office of Disability Services and need accommodations, your professors will be happy to refer you.