1. **COURSE TITLE**
   Contrastive Language Studies: English and Chinese

2. **COURSE CODE**
   TRAN2026

3. **NO. OF UNITS**
   3

4. **OFFERING DEPARTMENT**
   Translation Programme

5. **AIMS & OBJECTIVES**
   This Course aims to enable students to appreciate language differences and similarities between English and Chinese. It discusses English-Chinese contrasts in grammar and lexicon. Upon completing the Course, students will be able to perform contrastive analyses, and demonstrate enhanced competence and skills in coping with language problems in translation.

6. **COURSE CONTENT**
   This Course is built around a number of topics (each lasting one to two weeks), which provide coherence to the central theme of the course. The topics are negotiated with the class, and may include some or all of the following in any given semester:
   - Historical overview of the English and Chinese languages
   - English and Chinese morphology
   - English and Chinese discourse structures: hypotaxis versus parataxis
   - English and Chinese syntactic structures (1): grammatical category and quantity/number
   - English and Chinese syntactic structures (2): time and tense systems
   - English and Chinese syntactic structures (3): passives and negations
   - Word order in English and Chinese
   - English and Chinese lexical contrasts and culture (1): Idioms
   - English and Chinese lexical contrasts and culture (2): Euphemistic expressions

7. **COURSE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES (CILOS)**

<p>| CILO | Upon successful completion of this Course, students should be able to: |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CILO No.</th>
<th>TLAs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CILO2, 3</td>
<td>Students study the historical developments of the English and Chinese languages in comparison; identify the differences and similarities between the two languages; and discuss how a basic contrastive knowledge of English and Chinese is helpful to the translator.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CILO2, 3</td>
<td>Students study how words are formed in English and in Chinese; identify the major morphological differences and similarities between the two languages; and compare and analyse English-Chinese and Chinese-English translations based on different types of language units, i.e. the morpheme, the word, the word group, the sentence and the text.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CILO2, 3</td>
<td>Students study English and Chinese grammatical structures in contrast; identify the major syntactical differences and similarities between the two languages; and analyse samples of English-Chinese and Chinese-English translations involving various grammatical categories and sentence elements, including tense, number, word-order, voice, passive-active conversion, sentence-structure, standards of textuality, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CILO2, 3</td>
<td>Students study the English and Chinese lexicons in contrast; identify the major differences and similarities between the two</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8 **TEACHING & LEARNING ACTIVITIES (TLAs)**

Students will be engaged in extensive reading assignments on various aspects of contrastive language studies, as well as in discussing and writing about their relevance to translation.
lexical systems; analyse how culture plays a role in contributing to meaning in English and Chinese vocabulary; analyse samples of English-Chinese and Chinese-English translations involving lexical meaning; and reflect on solutions to translation problems by applying an enhanced understanding of English-Chinese differences and similarities on various levels, morphological, syntactical and lexical.

### 9 ASSESSMENT METHODS (AMS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Assessment</th>
<th>Weighting (The percentage may vary.)</th>
<th>CILOs to be addressed</th>
<th>Description of Assessment Tasks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essay</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4</td>
<td>Students will be given a choice of topics on English-Chinese comparison/contrast, and write an essay on one. They are required to exercise contrastive knowledge, and demonstrate skills in analysing and solving translation problems from the perspective of contrastive language use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4</td>
<td>The test will be given about mid-term. It will require students to apply contrastive skills they have learned in the first half of the semester to solving problems by doing a translation and providing a discussion on the translation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group discussions</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>2, 3</td>
<td>Students will participate in discussions in small groups on given topics on contrastive English-Chinese studies. A written report of the points discussed in each session will be submitted for marking by the teacher.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project and in-class presentation</td>
<td>20 %</td>
<td>2, 3, 4</td>
<td>As a group project, students will be given a text to translate (English to Chinese or Chinese to English), and discuss the potential problems they may encounter in the translation. The discussion will be focussed on a given contrastive studies topic (e.g. contrastive morphology and translation, English and Chinese word order in translation, lexical contrasts and translation, etc.). The translation and discussion will be submitted as group work, and the students will also present their findings in class.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The exam will require the students to (i) discuss the differences and similarities between English and Chinese at the syntactical, lexical and cultural levels; and (ii) do a translation and provide a follow-up discussion of the translation on those levels.

10 Textbooks / Recommended Readings*

包惠南：2001，<i>文化語境與語言翻譯</i>，北京：中國對外翻譯出版公司。
陈定安：1998，《英漢比較與翻譯》，北京：中國對外翻譯出版公司。
陈东成，2000，《文化差異與翻譯》，長沙：中南大學出版社。
潘文國：1997，《漢英語比較綱要》，北京：北京語言文化大學出版社。
譚載喜：2005，《翻譯學》，武漢：湖北教育出版社。
熊文華：1997，《漢英應用對比概論》，北京：北京語言文化大學出版社。
黄勇(主编)，2007，《英漢語言文化比較》，西安：西北工業大學出版社。
楊豐寧，2006，《英漢語言比較與翻譯》，天津：天津大學出版社。
張安德，2003，《英漢詞語文化對比》，武漢：湖北教育出版社。
趙世開(主编)：1999，《漢英對比語法論集》，上海：上海外語教育出版社。


Journals

<i>Across Languages and Cultures</i> (Hungary)
《外語教學與研究》(北京)
《外國語》(上海)
《外語與外語教學》(大連)

*The references will be updated as necessary with the working syllabus.