Pacific and Asian Studies

PAAS 215 Language, Media and Translation in PAAS
Language, Media and Translation in PAAS

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Learning Objectives:
• To read critically across a range of media for meaning, style, genre and context.
• To develop a practical awareness of translation in its various literary, cultural and philosophical senses.
• To write a persuasive 2000-word essay in response to a prompt.
• To present an argument orally to one’s peers and discuss critically their questions and comments.
Language, Media and Translation in PAAS

This core course introduces approaches to language, media and translation in Pacific and Asian Studies, with an emphasis on reading critically for meaning, style, genre and context. The course materials provide students with an introduction to debates about intercultural and intermedial modes of expression in recent fiction and theory and aim to foster an appreciation for the role of language in shaping our experience as human beings, both individually and collectively. Students will gain hands-on experience of using archival materials held in the library’s special collections to learn about local BC history in Victoria and Vancouver.
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Proposed Assignments:

- Online reading log = 20% (2% for 10 weeks)
- Group presentation = 10%
- Midterm project 25%
- Library translation project (group presentation) = 10%
- Final Paper 15%

- Amy Tan, “Mother Tongue”
- Ma Boyong, “City of Silence” (2011), translated by Ken Liu
- Walter Benjamin, “The Task of the Translator: An Introduction to the Translation of Baudelaire’s Tableaux Parisiens” (1923) translated by Harry Zohn
- Jiayang Fan, “Han Kang and the Complexity of Translation,” The New Yorker (Jan. 18, 2018)