

## **ENGL4001 Graduation Project (Section 003) – Prof. Sun Yifeng**

This course offers an in-depth introduction to the practice and theory of literary translation from Chinese into English. Designed for upper-level students, it aims to cultivate a critical understanding of the translation process while deepening their appreciation of both linguistic and cultural contexts. Emphasis will be placed on analyzing and translating a range of Chinese literary genres, including poetry, fiction, and drama, into English. The course will be delivered through a combination of lectures, group discussions, and hands-on translation workshops. Students will explore the cultural, linguistic, and aesthetic challenges inherent in literary translation and examine the strategies and techniques used to address them. Readings and assignments will further develop students' awareness of the complexities of translating literary style, tone, and voice. Active classroom participation is essential. Through regular in-class translation exercises and collaborative peer reviews, students will be encouraged to think critically about poetic nuance, authorial intent, and reader reception. These activities aim to enhance both individual skills and teamwork in the translation process. Coursework will include regular translation assignments, peer editing sessions, and reflective commentaries on translation choices and challenges. The final project will involve a substantial translation of a literary work chosen by the student group, accompanied by a critical commentary discussing their translation strategies, the challenges faced, and the rationale behind key decisions. By the end of the course, students will have built a strong foundation in literary translation and acquired the confidence and analytical precision needed to undertake their own translation projects in Chinese literature. Students will learn to work with AI-assisted tools as part of the translation process, using them to check terminology and explore alternative phrasings. Because foundational translation skills remain essential, AI will not be used to generate rough drafts. Students will also learn to evaluate AI output critically, with attention to ethical use, source attribution, and authorial voice. Throughout, AI will be treated as a practical aid, not a replacement for the translator's own judgment.