Interface Studies: Interdisciplinary Methodology Drive of the Foreign Language Education Reform in China

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Abstract: In the new era, foreign language education in China is facing unprecedented historical opportunities. This paper holds that the traditional talents training mode of foreign language education can no longer fully adapt to the needs of the times, whether in terms of accelerating the training of talents in regional and national studies or improving their international communication ability. The transboundary integration and interdisciplinary combination advocated by Interface Studies just fit the requirements of the construction of New Liberal Arts, and provide methodological support for the training of interdisciplinary and innovative talents in foreign language education in the new era. This paper further analyzes the important academic concepts of Interface Studies, and puts forward suggestions on how Interface Studies of foreign language serve the interdisciplinary development of foreign language education reform.

Key words: Interface Studies; Interdisciplinary; Methodology; Foreign Language Education; Reform

A Reflection on the Nature of Machine Translation
in the Perspective of Translator Behavior Criticism

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Abstract: This article critically reflects on the fundamental theoretical issues of machine translation from the perspective of translator behavior criticism. It focuses on the three essential aspects of translation, namely subject, process, and product, which are involved in machine translation. The article discusses the distinctive evaluative features of human translators and machine translators, elucidating the non-volitional behavior of machine translators and the role-shifting of volitional human translators. This study represents the first systematic interdisciplinary attempt that combines machine translation with translator behavior studies.

Key words: The Nature of Machine Translation; Translator's Property; Translator Behavior Criticism

From Translation Universals to Multidimensional Model of Translation Tendencies

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Abstract: The article begins with a retrospective analysis of research concerning translation universals. Then it examines the underlying mechanisms of translation universals from linguistic, socio-cultural, and cognitive perspectives, elucidating their existence, nomenclature, essence, and factors. Drawing inspiration from these mechanisms, the paper introduces a new multidimensional model which seeks to foster a systematic exploration of translation tendencies.

Key words: Translation Universal; Underlying Mechanism; Translation Tendencies; Multidimensional Model

Big Data-Driven Translation Educational Assessment
—A Case Study on Yixuejia Translation Teaching Platform

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Abstract: Quality assessment as a diagnostic instrument for translation education, when used appropriately, produces a positive backwash effect. In this research, the potential of modern educational technology was listed and discussed. It facilitated educators to collect, process and analyze educational scene data without intervention. In this way educational technology enhances formative assessment, summative assessment, and value-added assessment, providing more objective, accurate, and professional evaluations, and innovating dynamic and diverse assessment systems. Taking the Yixuejia translation teaching platform as a case, the article elucidates the value logic and architecture of technology-empowered translation quality assessment and overall assessment in translation education, aiming to enhance the validity of translation education assessment through evidence-based thinking.

Key words: Educational Assessment; Technology; Data-Driven; Translation Quality Assessment; Yixuejia Translation Teaching Platform

Professional Interpreting Competence of Foreign Trade Practitioners from the Perspective of New Liberal Arts Linguistics
—Based on the Survey and Interview of Foreign Trade Practitioners in China's Border Regions

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Abstract: This study first constructed a theoretical framework for the professional interpreting competence of foreign trade practitioners from the perspective of New Liberal Arts Linguistics. It then conducted in-depth investigations, with " questionnaire survey and interview", on the professional interpreting competence of 492 foreign trade practitioners in border areas of China, such as Heilongjiang Province and the eastern border areas of Mongolia. The results of multiple linear regression analysis indicated that foreign trade practitioners' self-conversation ability, listening ability, translation ability, and " cross-cultural communication ability + communication strategies " could effectively predict and explain the overall level of their professional interpreting competence. Compared with the professional interpreting competence standards from the perspective of new liberal arts linguistics, there were deviations in the cultural, social, interdisciplinary, and generative aspects of interpretation, respectively, resulting in an overall low level of the practitioners' professional interpreting competence. Based on these findings, the article proposes intelligent strategies to enhance the professional competence of foreign trade interpreters, with the aim of providing insights for the cultivation of outstanding foreign trade interpreters for the language service industry in China's border areas.

Key words: New Liberal Arts Linguistics; Foreign Trade Practitioners; Professional Interpreting Competence; Intelligent Countermeasures

Research on the Current Situation of Cultural Confidence among Foreign Language Major Students in the Context of Cross-Cultural Communication
—Taking French Major as a Case

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Abstract: Based on the generative principles of cultural confidence, this study conducted a questionnaire survey on 436 French major students from nine domestic universities from the perspectives of cultural cognition, cultural identity, and cultural behavioral practices to evaluate the current status of cultural confidence among foreign language major students in the context of cross-cultural communication. The results show that: (1) The overall situation of students' cultural confidence is good. (2) Students' performance in different dimensions of cultural confidence is uneven, which is characterized by "high identification, insufficient cognition, and weak behavioral practices". To be more specific, students have the strongest "emotional identity" and the weakest "linguistic communication" ability. (3) The cultural confidence of students is influenced by different factors, including gender, experience in serving as student leaders, political affiliation, school type, and growth environment, all having an impact on students' expression of cultural confidence. Based on these findings, the article put forward feasible suggestions in terms of teaching materials, teaching methods, and teacher training, focusing on the cultivation of students' behavioral and practical abilities. This article may shed light on future foreign language education aiming for further promoting the dissemination of Chinese culture, and "letting the world understand China".

Key words: Cultural Confidence; Foreign Language Majors in Colleges and Universities; Cultural Communication to Foreign Countries

Integration of Ideological and Political Elements into Chinese Language-Related General Education Courses in Foreign Language Colleges and Universities —Also on Improving Foreign Language Talents' Humanistic Qualities

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Abstract: In the context of the construction of the new liberal arts, foreign language colleges and universities are striving to cultivate foreign language talents with global vision. In the new era, general education is indispensable in the cultivation of outstanding foreign language talents, and among the general education courses, the ones that help improve students' mother language proficiency are of great importance. The integration of ideological and political elements into these courses takes an important role on nurturing students' cultural confidence, improving their aesthetic judgement and individual language ability. Therefore, Chinese language-related general education courses in foreign language universities involve a high-level mother language education, as well as a humanistic quality education. Considering the fact that improving foreign language talents' humanistic qualities cannot be achieved overnight, teachers of Chinese language need to continually carry out reforms and practices in the Chinese language-related general education courses, guide students to explore the vast world and charm of their mother tongue, and enhance students' understanding and emotional connection with their mother tongue, thus cultivating their humanistic spirit.

Key words: Foreign Language Colleges and Universities; Chinese Language-Related General Education Course; Integration of Ideological and Political Elements into Curriculum; Humanistic Quality

Humanistic and Ideological-Political Education in the Teaching of British and American Literature

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Abstract: This paper proposes the integration of humanistic and ideological-political education in the development of British and American literature courses for the English major, due to the focus on humanities in its teaching objectives. The aim of nurturing well-rounded individuals through immersion can be accomplished by digging out and sorting humanistic and ideological-political elements for instruction in the specialized courses and seamlessly incorporating them into classroom teaching. This paper argues that the implementation of humanistic and ideological-political education in the teaching of British and American literature should center on the reading of classics, with two levels and planes of engagement-"experiential reading" and "critical reading". It further elucidates four integration points for humanistic and ideological-political education: (1) cultivation of aesthetic and emotional intelligence; (2) imparting of life outlooks and values; (3) ideological screening; and (4) fostering comparative vision between China and the West. These integration points can serve as the overarching framework for the ideological-political instruction in the British and American literature courses.

Key words: British and American Literature; Ideological-Political Instruction in all Courses; Humanistic Education; Ideological and Political Education

Exploring the Current State of International Communication of Chinese Key Terms and Countermeasures: A Case Study of "the Belt and Road"

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Abstract: Chinese key terms serve as reflections of China's innovative thinking on governance and play a vital role in helping the international community understand China. Since the establishment of the "Chinese Keywords" platform in 2014, considerable efforts have been made in sorting, interpreting, and translating these key terms, yielding effective results. Drawing on the agenda-setting theory, this paper examines the current state of international communication surrounding Chinese key terms, taking "the Belt and Road" as a case. The paper reviews relevant reports from foreign media in English and explores research findings from foreign academics. Results showed that there were problems and issues regarding the distribution of reports and research results, breadth of topics, level of attention and continuity, and the subjects of expression in the international communication of the terms. To tackle these problems and issues, this paper proposes countermeasures such as stimulating media interest through academic research, inspiring further research through self-research endeavors, and leading the expression of others through self-expression.

Key words: Chinese Key Terms; The Belt and Road; International Communication

An Exploration into the Knowledge Veins of *Reflections on Things at Hand* Translated by Wing-tsit Chan: A Digital Humanities Approach

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Abstract: Wing-tsit Chan's work, *Reflections on Things at Hand*, marks the inaugural complete English translation of *Jin Si Lu* (《近思录》) and serves as the first systematic introduction of Cheng-Zhu Neo-Confucian philosophy to the English-speaking world. Within this translation, a multitude of subtexts, particularly the 1,318 footnotes, contain a wealth of philosophical knowledge. However, existing research on these critical footnotes has been limited to qualitative analysis for the selection of translation methods based on a small dataset. This study takes a digital humanities approach to delve into the intricate veins of knowledge found within Wing-tsit Chan's translation. By employing Python for LDA topic modeling and LancsBox X for quantitative and qualitative analysis, the study uncovers three main channels of knowledge in the footnotes of Chan's translation concerning Cheng-Zhu Neo-Confucian philosophy. These channels include the philosophical root in Confucianism, its development from official historical sources, and its integration into philosophical studies within both East Asian and Western contexts. This research highlights the ongoing globalization of Cheng and Zhu's Neo-Confucian philosophy, showcasing its evolution from singularity to diversity, and from simplicity to complexity.

Key words: Digital Humanities; *Reflections on Things at Hand*; Knowledge Veins; Footnotes; LDA Topic Modeling

An Aesthetic Inquiry into Howard Goldblatt's Translation of "Exaggeration" Based on NVivo

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Abstract: This paper, with Mo Yan's *Life and Death Are Wearing Me Out* translated by Goldblatt as an example, examines the aesthetic value of Chinese exaggeration as a rhetorical device realized in Goldblatt's translation. It is based on a corpus of "the treatments of exaggeration in Goldblatt's translation" constructed using NVivo as a tool. From an aesthetic perspective, it defines exaggeration as an aesthetic and philosophical category which can be observed in terms of linguistic, cultural, and deviational dimensions. Three primary findings have emerged from the study. Firstly, in the linguistic dimension, Goldblatt maintains the images of exaggeration, accounting for 65. 14 percent. Secondly, in the cultural dimension, "truth-driven" expressions account for 62. 35 percent, surpassing the 37. 65 percent of " utility-driven " expressions. This suggests that Goldblatt exhibits a positive attitude towards preserving cultural connotations. Besides, in order to achieve the aesthetic values of exaggeration present in the original text, Goldblatt employs strategies such as equivalence, adaptation, compensation, as well as various rhetorical devices and narrative strategies. Thirdly, in the dimension of deviation, Goldblatt enhances the aesthetic effects of exaggeration by challenging conventional semantic correlations and word order structures. In conclusion, Goldblatt employs two macro-strategies in translating exaggeration to achieve the aesthetic values: "no change" and "change". "No change" represents his aesthetic pursuit of faithfulness to the "truth", while "change" serves as an aesthetic compensation for the truth conveyed in the original text. Compared to local translators, the involvement of the "Other" in cross-linguistic narrative expression provides another perspective for the interpretation and dissemination of Chinese culture.

Key words: Howard Goldblatt; Exaggeration Translation; *Life and Death Are Wearing Me Out*; Interlingual Communication; Aesthetic Value

A Corpus-Based Discourse Analysis of the Shifting Focus in Sino-US Diplomacy in the Past Five Years

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Abstract: Examining the changes in the diplomatic priorities of China and the United States before and after the COVID-19 epidemic is crucial for understanding their bilateral relations, foreign policies, and predicting future trends. This study constructs four diachronic and synchronic Chinese and American diplomatic spokesperson databases from 2017 to 2022, both before and after the epidemic. Then four dimensions—epidemic prevention and control, economy and trade, human and cooperation, sovereignty and disputes—are used to reflect the main aspects of the changes in the bilateral diplomatic focus. Keyword frequency analysis is employed to illustrate the concerns of both sides, while core keyword matching data and example sentence analysis reveal their deeper levels of attention, motivations, and trends. The research findings suggest that China has actively implemented preventive measures and reduced its attention to economy and trade, instead prioritizing human peace and development, cooperation and win-win situations. This highlights China's political strategy of striving to create a positive international image to break the Western blockade. On the other hand, the US politicizes the virus; emphasizes economy and trade, but lacks genuine openness. It also exhibits more opposition towards and resistance against China, showing indifference towards human peace and development, and placing greater emphasis on the "peace" of other countries. Faced with challenges from China, the US leans towards cooperation with its allies and partners, while intervening in China's internal affairs and the Indo-Pacific region issues. The linguistic research model of this article can provide a reference for the scientific data analysis of the governments' true intentions and potential policy changes which are marked by major events.

Key words: Sino-US Diplomatic Relations; Corpus; Discourse Analysis

The Impact of Teaching Resources Development on Foreign Language Teachers' Information Literacy

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Abstract: This article aims to explore the impact of teaching resources development on foreign language teachers' information literacy. Semi-structured interviews with 9 college English teachers were conducted. The study also carried out one-semester participatory observation of the development process, and collected 65 pieces of developed resources. The findings indicate that the development of teaching resources has enhanced foreign language teachers' overall awareness, abilities, and ethics regarding information literary. However, there were no significant changes in teachers' information knowledge and research abilities. Furthermore, despite the different backgrounds and experiences of the teachers in the study, the impact of teaching resources development on their information literacy exhibited similar patterns. This can be attributed to a lack of information knowledge and relevant training experiences. The study may provide valuable insights into teachers' professional development and foreign language education within the context of digital transformation.

Key words: Information Literacy; Teaching Resources Development; Teachers' Professional Development

Inquiring into the Effectiveness of Foreign Language Culture Learning through Desktop VR (LiVR)

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Abstract: As a type of low-immersion virtual reality (LiVR), Desktop VR affords panoramic vision and remote experience, meeting the needs of high-quality resource sharing. It has become a popular application in the realm of virtual reality nowadays. The purpose of this study was to investigate the effects of a self-developed LiVR software on EFL learners' culture learning ($N = 60$). The results demonstrate that the unique, interactive three-dimensional features provide an enjoyable experience that stimulates students' interest in learning. Most importantly, the sense of gain and the comprehensive impression of information obtained through exploring and experiencing far exceed that obtained through text reading alone, resulting in good knowledge retention. While LiVR may not necessarily enhance performance in promoting "exam-oriented" problem solving, it does contribute to the cultivation of integrative problem-solving abilities. To maximize the effectiveness of teaching with LiVR, it is crucial to consider context appropriateness, learners' cognitive styles, and technological design in a comprehensive manner.

Key words: VR; Desktop VR; Virtual Reality; Foreign Language Learning; Culture