

Romanization, translation, and other online tools

Chinese:

Romanize name (supports 注音Bopomofo, 漢語拼音Hanyu Pingyin, 通用拼音Tong-yong, 注
音二式MPS II, 威妥瑪拼音Wae-Giles, 耶魯拼音Yale)

<https://crptransfer.moe.gov.tw/index.jsp>

Pinyin (with or without tone marks)

<https://www.toolsdaquan.com/chinese-to-pinyin/>

Traditional Chinese to Simplified Chinese 繁簡轉換

<https://www.ifreesite.com/gbk-big5-gb2312-utf8.htm>

There does not seem to exist an online tool that can automatically romanize Chinese phrase by phrase. The romanization generated by the online tool is often character by character, which is incorrect/does not make sense. For example, online tools will romanize 维思的学生 as “wei si de xue sheng”, rather than “weisi de xuesheng (the correct format)”. So, make sure to fix it yourself manually.

Most online pinyin converters will spell “ü” as “v” (for example, the pinyin of 女 should be “nǚ”, but most converters do “nv”). Always manually check it!

Japanese:

Romaji converter:

<https://nihongodera.com/tools/romaji-converter>

(Modified Hepburn, Traditional Hepburn, Nihon-Shiki, Kunrei-Shiki, Wāpuro)

Translation:

DeepL (Some people believe it produces more accurate translation than Google Translation)

<https://www.deepl.com/translator>

Notes on Romanization and Translation

Following are some excerpts from theses written by Wesleyan students as examples.

1. From “Reimagining & Reconstructing 1920s Shanghai in 2020: The Preservation of Wukang Mansion in the Former French Concession” by Ann Zhang (2023)

Note on Romanization and Chinese Names

In this thesis, Chinese names of articles, books, places, or people are romanized into Hanyu Pinyin. Exceptions are made for Names of Chinese people who were active before 1949, in this case Wade-Giles Romanization method is used (e.g., Oei Huilan, Soong May-ling). Following the Chinese tradition, all Chinese people’s names in this thesis appear in the format of [Last name, First Name]. All Chinese names and phrases are in simplified Chinese, since it is the commonly used type of Chinese in Shanghai at the moment of composition.

When citing Zhang Ailing (张爱玲)’s work, I cite Zhang Ailing, her Chinese name, for work that was originally composed in Chinese, and Eileen Chang, her English name, for work that was originally composed in English.

2. From a thesis on modern Chinese history (anonymous according to the writer’s wish)

Note on Romanization and Translation

In keeping with current academic convention, this thesis uses the Hanyu Pinyin system for the romanization of Chinese words, names, and terms. Unless otherwise noted, I translated all passages from Chinese. Since this thesis focuses on the period after the founding of the People’s Republic of China in 1949, I use simplified Chinese characters.

3. From “A Cosmic Concoction: The Practice of Chuang Shu-chih, a Female Chinese Medicine Healer” by Felice Li (2024)

Notes on Translation and Romanization

This thesis includes both traditional and simplified Chinese characters, depending on the context. For most of the concepts in Chinese Medicine, I use traditional Chinese. When mentioning concepts that originated in mainland China after 1949, I use simplified Chinese characters. This thesis mostly uses the Hanyu Pinyin system for the romanization of Chinese words. Other romanization systems are adopted for (1) commonly recognized spellings, such as “KMT” and (2) spelling that Taiwanese scholars use when referring to their own names. If a name or a term does not have a specific spelling, I spell it in Pinyin. In romanizing Japanese, I follow the modified Hepburn system.

There are several ways to spell the name of Chuang Shu-chih 莊淑旂 (Chuang Shu Chih, Chuang Shu-chi, Shu che Chwang, and Zhaung Shuqi), and I will mention her as Chuang Shu-chih in this thesis. Chuang spelled her name as So Shukuki and wrote it as 莊淑旂 when she was in Japan. In the bibliography, when listing her books published in Japanese, I will write

them as they are in the original text. I spell the first names of Chuang's children in Pinyin but leave their family name spelled as "Chuang," for consistency. All Chinese and Japanese names are spelled in the original sequence, family names before given names.

Most ancient medical texts cited in this book have no published English translations. All translations of texts from Chinese and Japanese are mine unless otherwise indicated. During translation, I consulted the most recent or authoritative translation, if available. For subsequent references, the names of ancient texts and certain terms lacking English counterparts (such as "Sangu Liupo") will be denoted in Pinyin.

I used online translation and romanization tools, such as DeepL, online pinyin converter (<https://www.toolsdaquan.com/chinen/se-to-pinyin>), and Nihongodera romaji converter (<https://nihongodera.com/tools/romaji-converter>), for translating the bibliography. I acknowledge using generative AI (ChatGPT 3.5) for help with translation and editing and Grammarly for editing.

4. From "Staging Modernity: Exploring Chinese Nationhood in the Early Twentieth Century Through Spoken Drama" by Shuowen (Echo) Shen (2024)

Note on Romanization and Translation

This thesis uses the Hanyu Pinyin system when it comes to the Romanization of Chinese terms, names, and places. The translation of the three plays is included in *The Columbia Anthology of Modern Chinese Drama* (2010), edited with a critical introduction by Chen Xiaomei. Cao Yu's *Thunderstorm* 雷雨 (1934) is translated by Wang Tso-liang and A.C. Bernes, with a revised translation by Charles Qianzhi Wu, which also includes the prologue and epilogue. Hu Shi's *The Night the Tiger Was Caught* 獲虎之夜 (1922-1923) was translated by Jonathan S. Noble, and Bai Wei's *Breaking Out of Ghost Pagoda* 打出幽靈塔 (1928) by Paul B. Foster. There are instances where I have provided my own translations for specific cases; these are noted in the footnotes. Unless otherwise noted, I translated all passages from Chinese except for the primary sources mentioned above. The Chinese names of scholars and authors are romanized such that their last name precedes their first name. All of the terms and names are in traditional Chinese since this project deals with China in the Republican Era.

Citation

A general guide for the format (Contributed by Sida Chu '26)

[Very helpful!] Quick Guide on Citation Style for East Asian Languages (Yale University Library)

Chicago: <https://guides.library.yale.edu/c.php?g=296262&p=1974227>

MLA: <https://guides.library.yale.edu/c.php?g=296262&p=1974230>

APA: <https://guides.library.yale.edu/c.php?g=296262&p=1974231>

Zotero

Set your courses in zh/ Chinese for Chinese, jp/ Japanese for Japanese, so the footnote/ bibliography will be generated in a style for East Asian Languages

Section
Pages
Language zh
Short Title
ISSN

MS Word

Font

The font for academic writing in East Asian languages is:
Chinese: 新明細體 (Traditional Chinese) and 宋体 (Simplified Chinese)
Japanese: MS 明朝

How to set different fonts for writing in East Asian languages:

