

HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

COURSE OUTLINE

1. COURSE TITLE

Environmental Humanities: Key Concepts

2. COURSE CODE

HUMN2055

3. NO. OF UNITS

3 Units

4. OFFERING DEPARTMENT

Department of Humanities and Creative Writing

5. PREREQUISITES

Nil

6. MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

English

7. AIMS & OBJECTIVES

This course explores the complex interrelations between nature and human culture, while examining the roles of arts and humanities in creating and perpetuating a more biologically diverse and resilient world in the current moment of global ecological crisis. Aiming at introducing ecocriticism in the humanities to students, the compelling contents of this course endeavor to raise more ethical and political concerns for the environment, nonhuman species, and ecological justice. The course applies various distinct ecocritical approaches to cultural, literary, and visual studies, engaging in interdisciplinary learning methods through processes of careful observation, deliberate description, and critical analysis.

8. COURSE CONTENT

Course Content in Outline:

I. Social Justice and Climate Justice

II. Landscape Forensics and Conversation with Plants

III. Biodiversity and Reading the Animals

IV. Built Environment and Wilderness: Class, Gender, Race, and Biopolitics

- V. Indigenous Knowledge and Environmental Future
- VI. Scale, Plastic Oceans, and Blue Humanities
- VII. Slow Violence and Decolonizing Nature
- VIII. The Anthropocene and Sixth Extinction
- IX. Post-Growth Living, Eco-Ethics, and Green Economy

9. COURSE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES (CILOs)

CILO	By the end of the course, students should be able to:
CILO 1	Describe the complicated interrelationships between nature and human culture
CILO 2	Employ a range of critical methods, conceptual frameworks, and theoretical approaches to the global environmental humanities
CILO 3	Examine and compare historical and contemporary ecological thoughts and their impacts on cultural, literary, and visual studies
CILO 4	Articulate an awareness of place and the earth through investigation, observation, and engagement with local ecosystems

10. TEACHING & LEARNING ACTIVITIES (TLAs)

CILO alignment	Type of TLA
1	Read, study, and discuss different primary texts, art works, and theoretical materials, focusing on ideas, history, politics, and aesthetic style
2	Compose a short journal on regular basis to learn how to evaluate the materials they discuss in class
3	Do in-class and take-home assignments to analyze the wide range of factors and their effects on the relationships between nature and culture
4	Write research papers showing effective scholarship on environmental humanities studies and participate in in-class discussion

11. ASSESSMENT METHODS (AMs)

Type of Assessment Methods	Weighting	CILOs to be addressed	Description of Assessment Tasks
Written assignments	35 %	2,3,4	Written assignments include critical responses and research-length essay
Class Presentations, and Participation	25 %	1,2,3	Presentation can be delivered in group for students to share their research output; active class participation and interactions; regular contribution to the Moodle forum discussion.
Examination	40 %	1,2,3	Examination can test the effectiveness of student

		learning and their ability to integrate different kinds of knowledge
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