

HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

COURSE OUTLINE

1. **COURSE TITLE**

Artistic Creativity and Aesthetics Awareness

2. **COURSE CODE**

HUMN3005

3. **No. OF UNITS**

3 Units

4. **OFFERING DEPARTMENT**

Department of Humanities and Creative Writing

5. **PREREQUISITES**

N.A.

COREQUISITES

N.A.

6. **MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION**

English

7. **AIMS & OBJECTIVES**

- (1) To introduce artistic creativity as one of the best inventions of the human mind and the sense of beauty as an important dimension of being humane.
- (2) To introduce major principles and theories of art to help students understand various artistic creative processes and their products.
- (3) To enhance students' critical thinking on artistic phenomena and their reflections on the artistic developments in different social and cultural contexts.
- (4) To encourage students to develop their own artistic abilities, and prepares them to create, appreciate, understand and review works of art critically.
- (5) To enhance students' knowledge and understanding of Chinese and Western aesthetics, and the classical and modern masterpieces produced from these aesthetic theories.

8. **COURSE CONTENT**

The course introduces human artistic phenomena and the relation of art to the study of the Humanities. The discussion will be conducted around main theories of art with reference to Chinese and Western, classical and modern masterpieces. It will outline the fundamental

ways of art appreciation and reflect critically on the relation of art and cultures and social contexts. Students will be asked to attend art exhibitions and performances, write art reviews, and create an original piece of art. They will also learn from artists' sharing session on the creativity of art. Active participation in discussion on and sharing of aesthetic and creative experience is strongly encouraged, as well as understanding and applying the theories introduced.

Outline content:

- I. Introduction: Definition of Art
- II. Theories of Human Creativity
 - a. Why do people create art?
 - b. The creative process
- III. Theories of Art
 - a. Art as Imitation
 - b. Art as Expression
 - c. Art and Psychoanalysis
 - d. Chinese Aesthetics on Imitation and Expression
- IV. The Response to Art
 - a. Art and Morality
 - b. Art and Technology
 - c. The Problem of Taste
 - d. Art and Appreciation
- V. The "Aesthetic Experience"
 - a. Theory of Distancing & Empathy
 - b. The Sense of Beauty

9. **COURSE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES (CILOs)**

CILO	By the end of the course, students should be able to:
CILO 1	Identify basic features of Chinese and Western aesthetics and some representative classical and modern art masterpieces produced based on these aesthetic theories
CILO 2	Explain the major principles and theories of art and be benefited from them in understanding artistic creativity and their products
CILO 3	Illustrate artistic activity and its meaning to our lives
CILO 4	Express their own artistic ideas in artistic languages
CILO 5	Review art in critical angles and reflect on the works under social and cultural contexts
CILO 6	Evaluate fine works of art and envision aesthetic experience through the appreciation of them

10. **TEACHING & LEARNING ACTIVITIES (TLAs)**

CILO alignment	Type of TLA
1	The instructor will introduce artistic creativity through analysis of the formal properties and the conceptual content in some art masterpieces and representing art works.
2	Students will study aesthetical theories in both Chinese and Western traditions and learn how to apply them to the understanding of the art works.

3	Students will relate the reading to social and historical contexts.
4	Students will nurture their aesthetic experience through art creative project assignment.
5	Students will practice critical reading and writing of art reviews and to practice them via course assignments.
6	Students will learn the art appreciation methods and apply them in class and field trips on art exhibits.

11. **ASSESSMENT METHODS (AMs)**

Type of Assessment Methods	Weighting	CILOs to be addressed	Description of Assessment Tasks
Tutorial Presentation	20%	1-3 & 6	Each student will participate in one presentation with clear individual assignment and division of labor. The presentation will test the student's ability to explore particular aspects and problems associated with the theories of aesthetics and art and their understanding of art in the social and cultural contexts through their presentation and research assignments.
Creative Project	20%	3&4	Students are requested to submit a creative project and present it in tutorials. The submission will be accompanied by a paper introduction. This project will be assessed by its creativity in communication skill and artistic ideas. Clear instructions regarding the expectations of this assignment will be given in the beginning of the course. Students viewers who participate in the presentation of the projects will also discuss the works.
Art Review	20%	1-3, 5 & 6	Students will be introduced to on-going art exhibits. They are asked to write an art review on a piece of art work of their choice with analysis. The review will be assessed by its applicability of theories introduced in class and its critical reflection relating the social and cultural contexts to the work. Clear instructions will be given on the requirements of this review writing.
Final Examination	40%	1-3 & 5	This will test the students' ability to understand the basic features of Chinese and Western aesthetics introduced in the course. The questions are designed to assess their ability to analyze these representing theoretical claims and to discuss them through artistic examples and expression, and to reviewing art cases in critical angles under social and cultural contexts.

END