

HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

COURSE OUTLINE

1. COURSE TITLE

The Double Face of Creativity: Fact and Fiction

2. COURSE CODE

HUMN4027

3. NO. OF UNITS

3 Units

4. OFFERING DEPARTMENT

Department of Humanities and Creative Writing

5. PREREQUISITES

Remarks: If there is any inconsistency between the HUMN 4027 and WRIT 4015 versions of this syllabus, the WRIT 4015 version shall prevail.

COREQUISITES

N.A.

6. MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

English

7. AIMS & OBJECTIVES

This course aims to demonstrate the interrelationship between fact and fiction in the writing of creative works through the examination and discussion of the historical fiction. While it is generally believed that fact and fiction are two different and sometimes even opposite writings which happen in different contexts, this course hopes to show that they are two sides of the same coin. Through a study of the historical fiction, students will see the creative aspects of a critical research, and how being critical is an important step towards creativity.

8. COURSE CONTENT

Course Content in Outline:

- I. Introduction: historical fiction
 - i. Definition of the genre

- ii. Selected examples and subjects
- iii. Variations of historical fiction
- II. Doing a research
 - i. What is a research?
 - ii. Finding a topic
 - iii. Research methods
 - iv. Writing up the research paper
- III. Interrelationship between the creative and the critical
 - i. Creativity and its practices
 - ii. Selected examples of combining the creative and the critical
 - 1. The case of traditional historical fiction
 - 2. The case of historical fiction with a twist
- IV. Practices: group projects
 - i. Creative critical projects
 - ii. Presentations
 - iii. Peer review

9. COURSE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES (CILOs)

CILO	By the end of the course, students should be able to:
CILO 1	Describe and explain the interrelationship between fact and fiction, especially in the study of historical fiction.
CILO 2	Explain the connections between various historical fictions and the social, historical and cultural environment from which they emerge.
CILO 3	Appreciate critically the various ideologies behind different historical fiction, and the creative possibilities of historical subjects.
CILO 4	Combine creativity with critical research, and to conduct a simple academic research on a specific creative writing topic.
CILO 5	Present ideas and insights relating to the historical fiction in both speaking and written forms.

10. TEACHING & LEARNING ACTIVITIES (TLAs)

CILO alignment	Type of TLA
1	discussing the relationship between fact and fiction in different kinds of writing through a review of theoretical materials concerning the process of creative writing
2	provided with a range of critical readings on the study of historical fiction; reading and discussing selected historical fiction in class
3	guided through a series of in-class activities to examine selected historical events/personalities as they have appeared in various samples of historical fiction

4	instructed to complete a small-scale creative research project on chosen historical topics
5	trained to complete in-class presentations on relevant topics; peer-reviewing presentations of classmates

11. ASSESSMENT METHODS (AMs)

Type of Assessment Methods	Weighting	CILOs to be addressed	Description of Assessment Tasks
Continuous assessment	30 %	1-4	Includes short quizzes, term paper, and in-class exercises. Usually these are written tasks relating to the specific topics taught in class.
Group project	30 %	4-5	Students will form groups and work with group members to do a mini-research project on a chosen topic. The project is an opportunity to practice what they have learnt in the course regarding creative and critical writing. It can take the form of a performance, a drama, a recitation or any other relevant form.
Examination	40 %	1-5	The examination aims to assess the extent to which students have achieved the intended learning outcomes of the course.

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