

HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

COURSE OUTLINE

1. **COURSE TITLE**

Special Topic in Arts and Creativity

2. **COURSE CODE**

HUMN4037

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**

This course aims to provide an opportunity for senior students to have an in-depth study of a selected topic related to creative arts. Students will look at creative arts from an interdisciplinary, cross-cultural and theoretical perspective. The course will guide students to integrate various points of view and develop their own creative work and/or critical judgment.

8. **COURSE CONTENT**

The selected topic will be determined by the individual instructor in consultation with the Programme management team. The course will normally start with a discussion of theoretical problems in relation to creative arts. Depending on the nature of the selected topic, the course will focus on one or more important school(s) of creative arts. Assigned readings will be bilingual and interdisciplinary, and students will be encouraged to examine the topic and/or develop their creative work from a cross-cultural perspective.

Sample Topic:

COURSE TITLE
Scriptwriting for Theatre

AIMS & OBJECTIVES

The course aims at helping students acquire basic concepts, knowledge and skills, and provide them with practical training in writing theatre play. It aims not only at conveying practical skills and techniques in theatre creation, but also helping students understand theatre as a distinguished art form, its aesthetics, and develop their own idea and style in theatre as an art.

COURSE CONTENTS

1. Writing a play for theatre: how does it differ from television and film drama?
2. Style and aesthetic purpose: What kind of play do you want to write?
3. Reading masterpieces as examples: from Greek tragedy to modern theatre
4. Choosing a theme, constructing a plot, dramatic action and development
5. Division into acts and scenes
6. Creating a character
7. Writing lines and dialogues
8. Language: diction, rhythm, intonation
9. Language style: naturalistic, poetic, stylized
10. The role of space and time
11. Performance instructions
12. From script to performance

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

CILO	By the end of the course, students should be able to:
CILO 1	Produce script writing as an art form and its difference from other drama forms like television and film script with basic concepts and skills.
CILO 2	Produce playwriting such as plot construction, scene division, character creation, writing dialogue suitable for stage performance, etc. through practical writing exercises and a final work.
CILO 3	Present their idea and style of theatre by making use of the interrelations between plot, character, language etc. in their own work with a coherent style.

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

CILO alignment	Type of TLA
1	In the lecture, students will be introduced basic knowledge and concepts of theatre and play writing, and will be given excerpts from masterpieces theatre for reading.
2	In the class exercises, students will be given different tasks according to the lecture topic: different methods of plot construction, character building, writing dialogues, etc. They may also be required to write theatre scripts of different forms: adaptation from literary fiction, adaptation from history, fantasy, realistic drama, psychological drama, tragedy, comedy, farce, etc., and different language styles such as naturalistic, poetic, stylized and choral, etc. Attention is paid to the relation between these different theatre forms and their appropriate language styles. Students may also "rehearse" their own works in the group reading session, and may discuss each other's work for further revision and improvement.

3	Students will be given the task of developing and writing their own full length play with step-by-step monitoring and consultation with the teacher.
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11. **ASSESSMENT METHODS (AMs)**

Type of Assessment Methods	Weighting	CILOs to be addressed	Description of Assessment Tasks
Continuous Assessment	40%	1, 2	Students will be given different tasks and exercises such as discussion (20%), writing assignment (20%) in accordance with the respective lecture topic. They will be assessed according to the result of the exercises. The amount of the exercises and their respective requirements will be made known to the students either at the beginning of the course or in the lecture.
Participation	10%	1, 2	Students' participation will be assessed to evaluate their understanding.
Final Work	50%	2, 3	Students will be required to write a full length play for more than an hour, with a coherent construction and the necessary performance instructions ready for staging.

END