

HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

COURSE OUTLINE

1. COURSE TITLE

Special Topic in Chinese Creative Writing

2. COURSE CODE

WRIT3017

3. NO. OF UNITS

3 Units

4. OFFERING DEPARTMENT

Department of Humanities and Creative Writing

5. PREREQUISITES

Nil

6. MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

Cantonese

7. AIMS & OBJECTIVES

This course aims to provide an opportunity for students to study in depth selected topics related to Chinese creative writing. This course would be offered with different contents. Special topic on creative non-fiction, poetry, or fiction may focus on a particular theme, sub-genre, or problem. Topics could include writing that engages with the social concerns; writing that engages with a particular place such as the countryside or Taipei; writing that is categorized as certain genre; writing that engages with digital technology; literary work that engages with other forms of arts or cultural production.

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 a particular theme, sub-genre, or problem in relation to Chinese creative writing. Depending on the nature of the selected topic, the course will focus on one or more important field(s) of Chinese creative writing. Assigned readings can 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 Special Topic:

COURSE TITLE

Fiction Writing Workshop: Perspectives on Hong Kong

AIMS & OBJECTIVES

This fiction writing course explores the formal possibilities of writing fiction with a focus on the topic of Hong Kong. Texts include short stories, excerpts from novels, theoretical essays, and films about Hong Kong. Students are expected to acquire a basic knowledge of the important subject matter, themes, and formal characteristics related to writing about Hong Kong. By adopting a workshop model, this course also helps students to write short stories on the subject of Hong Kong.

COURSE CONTENTS

Week 1 Introduction:

Writing in and about "Hong Kong"

Fiction as a Genre

Week 2 Hong Kong as a Cosmopolitan City in the 1930s

Reading: 謝晨光〈加藤洋食店〉、〈La Bohème〉、張愛玲〈沉香屑·第一爐香〉

Week 3 Reality and Realism

Film: 李鐵《危樓春曉》 Reading: 侶倫〈私奔〉、梓人〈長廊的短調〉

Student-led discussion: 侶倫〈Piano Day〉

Week 4 The Modern Woman as an Allegory of Hong Kong

Film: 易文《曼波女郎》 Reading: 易文〈女人世紀〉

Student-led discussion: 李維怡〈剝皮豬、豆腐龜和發瘟雞〉

Week 5 Resisting Everyday Life

Reading: 崑南《地的門》

Week 6 Strangers in the City

Film: 王家衛《重慶森林》 Reading: 劉以鬯《對倒》

Week 7 City Space and Mobility

西西《我城》、《美麗大廈》

Student-led discussion: 董啟章〈對倒《對倒》〉

Week 8 Cultural Re-presentation

Film: 《蝶影紅梨記》 Reading: 也斯《剪紙》

Student-led discussion: 西西〈巴士〉

Week 9 Ghost in the City

Film: 《胭脂扣》 Reading: 董啟章〈永盛街興衰史〉

Student-led discussion: 羅貴祥〈女性映像〉

*Submission of the first draft of the written assignment

Week 10 *Workshop of students' work

Week 11 Writing "Time Zero"

西西〈浮城誌異〉、〈肥土鎮灰闌記〉

*Workshop of students' work

Week 12 City of Commodities

韓麗珠〈門牙〉、〈林木椅子〉

Week 13 An Oral History of "Losers"

黃碧雲《烈佬傳》

9. COURSE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES (CILOs)

CILO	By the end of the course, students should be able to:
CILO 1	Demonstrate knowledge of the basic concepts and skills of fiction writing as an art form and its differences from other art forms and genres.
CILO 2	Acquire a basic knowledge of the important subject matter, themes, and formal characteristics related to writings about Hong Kong.
CILO 3	Analyze the themes and forms of literary works.
CILO 4	Develop their own short stories into a coherent form by making use of their acquired concepts, knowledge, and skills.

10. TEACHING & LEARNING ACTIVITIES (TLAs)

CILO alignment	Type of TLA
1, 4	Students will: -write a short story of at least 4000 characters and revise it based on the feedback from the teacher and classmates
2, 3	-write responses and participate in class discussion of the assigned readings and critique other students' work

11. ASSESSMENT METHODS (AMs)

Type of Assessment Methods	Weighting	CILOs to be addressed	Description of Assessment Tasks
Class participation	10 %	1, 2, 3	Students will actively participate in class discussions and peer critiques of other students' work.

Reading response	20 %	1, 2, 3	Students will submit at least 5 reading responses of 300 characters each on their assigned readings.
Leading discussion	20 %	3	Students will form groups to lead a 30-minute class discussion on a text assigned by the teacher. Each student must submit a textual analysis of 1000 characters on the discussion day.
Written assignment	50 %	4	Students will write a short story of at least 4000 characters on the theme of Hong Kong, and 1000 characters of self-reflection, explaining the story's thematic and formal strategies as a response to what they learned in the course. Students will submit the first draft of at least 2000 characters and 500 characters of self-reflection as a mid-term assessment. They will have to revise and complete the work according to the feedback from the teacher and classmates at the end of the semester.

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