

HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

COURSE OUTLINE

1. COURSE TITLE

Stylistics and Aesthetics

2. COURSE CODE

WRIT7010

3. NO. OF UNITS

3 Units

4. OFFERING DEPARTMENT

Master of Arts (MA) in Creative Writing for Cultural Professionals

5. PREREQUISITES

Nil

6. MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

English

7. AIMS & OBJECTIVES

This course aims to explore the field of literary stylistics and its relationship to aesthetics and phenomenology in a cross-cultural context. The course will enable students to better understand how both beauty and meaning are formed with words across various cultural and literary traditions and so better understand their own creative practice. A variety of academic and creative texts from across cultures will be studied. Having read model texts, students will compose new creative works – in prose, poetry, script etc. according to their preference – and discuss techniques and philosophies of writing related to stylistics and aesthetics.

8. COURSE CONTENT

Week 1. Introduction to Stylistics & Aesthetics
Weeks 2. Practicing Stylistics
Weeks 3. Lux et Nox: Foregrounding & Modulation
Weeks 4. Time and Structure
Weeks 5/6. Metaphor and Symbol
Weeks 7. Writing and Silence

Weeks 8. Narrative Style

Weeks 9. A Lens on the World: Focalisation, Modality & Narrative Discourse

Weeks 10. Archaic Style, Register & Dialect

Week 11. Representational Aesthetics (Ghosts, Angels & Superhighways)

Week 12. Stylistics, Aesthetics & Multimodal Works

Week 13. Transitivity (and Writing the Stylistics/Literary Aesthetics Essay)

9. COURSE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES (CILOs)

CILO	By the end of the course, students should be able to:
CILO 1	Demonstrate understanding of the fields of stylistics and aesthetics in various cultural and literary traditions.
CILO 2	Critically analyze creative works via stylistic methods.
CILO 3	Compose creative writing informed by newly acquired stylistic and aesthetic understandings.

10. TEACHING & LEARNING ACTIVITIES (TLAs)

CILO alignment	Type of TLA
1	Students will: Read texts across various cultural traditions that instruct in the theory and practice of stylistics and aesthetics in writing.
2	Participate in class discussions
3	Do in-class writing exercises which will help to develop their creative works.
3	Compose a final Creative Writing Portfolio demonstrating knowledge acquired throughout the course

11. ASSESSMENT METHODS (AMs)

Type of Assessment Methods	Weighting	CILOs to be addressed	Description of Assessment Tasks
Writing assignments	40 %	1, 3	Students will do regular creative writing assignments informed by prompts given in class.
Creative Writing Portfolio	20 %	1, 3	Students will refine their writing assignments and produce a portfolio.
Final Term Paper (Critical essay)	30 %	2, 3	Students will write an essay analyzing some aspect of creative writing (their own or that of other authors – or a combination of the two) with reference to stylistic and aesthetic understandings gained throughout the course.

In-Class Participation	10 %	1, 2	Participation includes speaking in class during class discussions based on the assigned readings and sharing feedback on classmates' work.
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