

# HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

## COURSE OUTLINE

### 1. COURSE TITLE

Theory as Writing

### 2. COURSE CODE

WRIT7020

### 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

As far back as Plato's writings that were both philosophical and literary, a good number of philosophers and theorists in various cultural traditions have written texts that cross the border with creative writing, and many writers have incorporated the perspectives of philosophy and theory in their work. This interchange between theory and writing leads to an interrogation of genre conventions, including poetry, nonfiction, and fiction, as well as various disciplinary boundaries, such as feminist theory, post-colonial theory, and psychoanalytical theory within literary texts. "Autotheory," for example, has emerged as a term for contemporary works of literature that combine life writing with frameworks and language from various critical theories. At the heart of these works is a spirit of inquiry and experimentation will serve as a touchstone for this course.

### 8. COURSE CONTENT

Course Content in Outline:

- I. The Relationship between Philosophy and Literature in Antiquity
- II. Theory as Writing
- III. Writing as Theory

IV. Theory and Genre

V. Autotheory

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

<b>CILO</b>	<b>By the end of the course, students should be able to:</b>
CILO 1	Explain the interrelationship between theory and creative writing across various cultural traditions.
CILO 2	Identify the intersection of theory and various genres of literature.
CILO 3	Explain the differences and similarities between theory and creative writing.
CILO 4	Articulate how one's creative writing can engage theory and philosophy, and how elements from creative writing can inform one's critical writing.

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

<b>CILO alignment</b>	<b>Type of TLA</b>
1	Students will: Read texts that integrate theory and philosophy with creative writing across various cultural traditions.
2	Discuss how to evaluate the relation between theoretical writing and creative writing.
3	Present the assigned readings to the class with an openness to critique of each other's presentations and argumentation.
4	Write a Final Project that produces a hybrid text with both creative and theoretical elements.

### 11. ASSESSMENT METHODS (AMs)

<b>Type of Assessment Methods</b>	<b>Weighting</b>	<b>CILOs to be addressed</b>	<b>Description of Assessment Tasks</b>
Participation in class discussions and feedback on classmates' work	30 %	1, 2, 3	Participation includes speaking in class during class discussions based on the assigned readings and sharing feedback on classmates' work.
Class Presentation	30 %	1, 2, 3	The Class Presentation on the assigned readings is a forum for class discussion about the texts.
Final Project	40 %	1, 3	The Final Project may take the form of a creative

		work, such as a short story, series of poems, or a play, etc. that engages theory (philosophy, critical theory, etc.), or a scholarly essay that includes creative writing elements (e.g. characterization, narrative, poetic devices, etc.). In either case, an introduction to contextualize the project in relation to the course content and assigned readings is required.
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