## Comparative Literature and Arts

This course compares and analyses different national literatures and their non-literary counterparts. Emphasis will be placed on widening students' literary horizon, examining the similarities and differences among cultures, analysing the aesthetic exchange between literature, media, and nonfiction in a global context, and helping students develop their moral and ethical positions in response to different cultural, political, religious traditions.

### 7360 The Ecocritical Imagination

The course will examine the variety of texts and genres, literary and critical, that document the relationship between the living world and its physical environment-focussing on the urgent ecological relationship between sentient creatures and the nonsentient substrate. What are the global implications for the living world, and how has the awareness of potential and actual problems found reflection in the literatures of environmental consciousness?

#### ENG 7370 World Theatre (3.3.0)

This course provides a platform for students to examine the history of world drama, and the influence of dramatic movements across cultural contexts. Topics of interest may include the study of genres, dramatic schools, theories, movements, and specific playwrights. Equal emphasis will be given to various theoretical pursuits, as we analyse plays in light of gender theories, ideology, historicism, and performance studies.

#### **Twenty-first Century Fiction ENG** 7380 (3,3,0)

Twenty-first century fiction provides a forum from which to explore recent novels from around the world. Topics that may be investigated include the transnational, the post-postcolonial, the late-postmodern, the spectacular, the performative, hybridity, immigration, mass culture, sexuality, reliability, disaster, and protest. Given the global context of the course, English-language texts are selected from countries as diverse as Canada, India, Ireland, the USA and broader regions like the Caribbean and Asia. Particular emphasis will be placed on the political, cultural, and global underpinnings of the texts under consideration, drawn from this still-young century. Students will be encouraged to juxtapose the contents and contexts of chosen works while charting apparent shifts and trends in early 21st century artistic representation.

### **ENG** 7390 Advanced Topic in Literary and (3,3,0)**Comparative Studies**

This course will define critical and disciplinary parameters necessary to in-depth study and research of literature(s) written in English. Students will be introduced to methodologies or approaches relevant to the study of the selected topic. Illustration of the topic will be done through close readings of selected primary and theoretical texts.

#### ENG 7400 **Advanced Topic in Genre Studies** (3,3,0)

This course will examine the features and/or development of a genre or subgenre, up to the present time. In a particular year, the focus of the course may be on a specific period and/or a (sub) genre, rather than a broad survey. Aside from a solid theoretical component, the course will offer a focus on selected texts with a view to developing the analytical and critical tools necessary to unfold their artistry and meaning.

### **ENG** 7410 **Advanced Topic in Critical Theory:** (3,3,0)**Popular Cultural Studies**

This course will focus on the interdisciplinary, and still-emerging, field of cultural studies. Moving through the evolution of the critical discipline, which integrates its Marxist inceptions in 1950s Britain, its post-colonial and post-structuralist inclinations on the Continent in the 70s and 80s, and its contemporary multidimensional applications in places as different as the US and Hong Kong, this course will utilize the various discourses of culture and pop culture (including theory, the novel, and film) to excavate topics like stardom, the chic, the bourgeois, urbanism,

democracy, globalism, reality television, mass identity, and eroticism. Students will be encouraged to develop their own informed ways of reading "culture" in its numerous modalities.

### 7420 Master's Project

The project is an elective course during the second semester designed for students who have (a) achieved a satisfactory (passing) grade in the Graduate Research Seminar and (b) submitted a satisfactory prospectus to the Programme Planning Team (PPT) no later than the end of March of their final (or only) year of study. Although supervised by a member of staff, students will be encouraged to achieve a high level of self-directed exploration in their research and writing. The Project enables students to develop their own thinking and scholarship in an area relevant to the broad ambit of the degree. The project will demand rigorous standards of research and writing and, aside from its intrinsic value as a piece of scholarship, will provide valuable evidence (initially, in the form of an article-length research paper output) of a given student's worthiness for academic appointments or further studies

### 7430 The Erotics of Humanism (3.3.0)

Taking its departure from the Western cultural project of historical humanism, this seminar will ask questions about the erotic and affective developments that occur within the processes of humanism's emergence as the cultural dominant within domains of knowledge production, creativity and species formation. These questions presume that the erotic is both a necessary component in the development of humanism—one of its necessary conditions and also one of the consequences of that emergence. Readings will move from Plato to Foucault and shall include creative, critical and theoretical works.

#### 7440 The Postcolonial and India (3,3,0)

This course considers "India" as a site of literary production within colonial and postcolonial discourse before and after Indian independence in 1947. A privileged site in diasporic Anglophone history, India was among the earliest nations to delink its history of English from colonial culture. As both material locus of postcolonial reality, and an imaginary site in language, "India" both constitutes and problematizes contexts of race, class and nation and the canons deriving from these.

Note: The prerequisites for the English courses marked with an asterisk (\*) can be waived with the consent of the Head of the Department. All prerequisites, unless otherwise stated, apply to English majors only.

## ENGL 1005 English, Creativity, and Cultures (3,3,0) (E) This course will (1) examine the changing nature of language, and how creativity forms and transforms the English language and different cultures in English; (2) question and challenge students' perceptions of language, culture and creativity; (3) reflect on how creativity has played a role in the production of literary and

everyday texts; and (4) lay a foundation for linguistic and literary studies.

### ENGL 2005 Introduction to the Study of (3,3,0) (tbc) Language

This course will (1) raise students' awareness of language, especially the English language, as an object of study; and (2) lay a foundation for students' knowledge of language use and language structure including its phonology, morphology, syntax and semantics.

### ENGL 2006 Language, Culture and Society (3,3,0) (tbc)

This course will help students (1) understand the interaction between social systems and language varieties; (2) examine the notions of standard and non-standard varieties of a language, especially as they relate to the language situation in Hong Kong; (3) understand how language use differs across individuals and groups based on social class, gender, identity, and ethnicity; and (4) understand how language ideologies and attitudes impact language policies and language education.

ENGL 2007 Literary and Comparative Studies (3,3,0) (tbc) This course will (1) introduce students to basic concepts and terminologies used in literary and comparative studies; (2) introduce students to techniques and skills used in analysing literary texts across cultures; (3) explore the interrelations between literatures by exploring common themes, genres, etc.; (4) develop students' literary and cultural literacy by introducing them to literary masterpieces; and (5) develop students' basic research skills, critical thinking and analytical abilities.

## ENGL 2015 Literature and Culture (3,3,0) (tbc)

This course will (1) introduce students to the notion of literary culture; (2) illustrate the impact of culture in redefining English literature as a discipline; (3) locate the reader of English literature as a consumer of culture in a variety of popular forms; and (4) encourage the appreciation of culture and literature in their imagistic, graphic, literary, critical, and iconoclastic forms.

# ENGL 2016 Sounds of English around the (3,3,0) (tbc)

This course will (1) provide basic knowledge of phonetics and phonology, one of the major subsystems of language; (2) expose students to subtleties in language sounds; (3) train students to transcribe language sounds in the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA); and (4) familiarize students in the analysis of the sound systems of language, especially the sound systems of English in the speech of native and non-native speakers and of learners acquiring English as a first or a second language.

# ENGL 2017 Stepping Stones in English (3,3,0) (tbc) Grammar

This course will lay the foundations for students' acquisition of competence in and knowledge about the English language.

# ENGL 2025 The Art of Storytelling (3,3,0) (tbc)

This course will (1) explore various forms of storytelling in literature; (2) analyse literary devices used in the selected texts; (3) examine the observance of literary conventions in different genres; and (4) assess literature and its impact on society.

# ENGL 2055 American Popular Fiction after (3,3,0) (tbc)

Prerequisite: ENGL 2007 Literary and Comparative Studies This course will (1) explore the impact of popular culture on American literature from 1950 to the present; (2) examine the impact of emerging, alternative genres on the American canon during the same period; and (3) approach ideologies of American exceptionalism in the specific context of the globalization of American literature, culture, and economy after 1950.

# ENGL 2056 Comparative Literature: Theory (3,3,0) (tbc) and Methodology

Prerequisite: ENGL 2007 Literary and Comparative Studies This course will (1) introduce students to various theories and methodologies used in comparative literature; (2) study the interrelations of several literatures according to common themes and genres; and (3) familiarize students with the basic concepts involved in the study of comparative literature.

## ENGL 2057 Creative Writing (3,3,0) (tbc)

Prerequisite: ENGL 2007 Literary and Comparative Studies This course will (1) give students an opportunity to understand how a piece of creative work is written; and (2) examine the three primary genres of creative writing.

## ENGL 2065 Literary World Masterpieces (3,3,0) (tbc)

Prerequisite: ENGL 2007 Literary and Comparative Studies This course will (1) introduce students to representative and established literary works from different cultures; (2) engage students in literary discussion that will improve their skills in literary appreciation and critical thinking; and (3) equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary for analysing literary works as a foundation for further studies in the discipline.

## ENGL 2066 Literature and Society (3,3,0) (tbc)

Prerequisite: ENGL 2007 Literary and Comparative Studies This course will (1) investigate the aesthetic and political dimensions of socially committed literature; and (2) highlight the interactive relationship between literature and society.

### ENGL 2067 Literature and Persuasion (3.3.0) (tbc)

This course will (1) introduce students to the literature of persuasion as a specific kind of writing in various forms; (2) introduce students to an understanding of the role of literature and persuasion in society; and (3) encourage students to view their own persuasive writing in English from the perspectives acquired in this course.

# ENGL 2075 Literature, the Arts and Media (3,3,0) (tbc

Prerequisite: ENGL 2007 Literary and Comparative Studies This course will (1) appreciate the aesthetic dimension of literature; (2) examine the relationship between literature and other forms of imaginative and artistic endeavors; (3) heighten students' interest in literary and artistic topics; and (4) assess the impact of non-print media on literary arts and representation.

## ENGL 2076 Poetry (3,3,0) (tbc)

Prerequisite: ENGL 2007 Literary and Comparative Studies This course will (1) introduce students to selected poets' works, particularly in several different periods; (2) show how history and culture influence poetic works; and (3) give enjoyment and encourage appreciation of the skills, beauty and quality of fine poetry.

# ENGL 2077 Western Critical Approaches to (3,3,0) (tbc) Literature

Prerequisite: ENGL 2007 Literary and Comparative Studies This course will (1) strengthen students' analytical skills; (2) introduce major Western critical perspectives; and (3) provide basic critical approaches for effective reading and literary analysis.

## ENGL 2085 Western Drama (3,3,0) (tbc)

Prerequisite: ENGL 2007 Literary and Comparative Studies This course will (1) introduce students to the formative influences, subgenres, and the critical and creative traditions of Western drama; and (2) introduce Western drama in its historical contexts, including the specific interests and techniques of significant playwrights.

# ENGL 2086 Western Poetry and Poetics (3,3,0) (tbc)

Prerequisite: ENGL 2007 Literary and Comparative Studies This course will (1) introduce students to the creative, formal, and critical traditions of Western poetry and poetics; and (2) introduce students to Western poetry in its historical contexts, including the specific interests and techniques of significant poets.

# ENGL 2095 Foundations of Language Studies (3,3,0) (tbc)

The aim of this course is to raise students' awareness of language, especially the English language as an object of study; as to lay a foundation for knowledge of language structure (its phonology, morphology, syntax and sematics) and language use, particularly with reference to issues relating to the English language.

# ENGL 3005 Research Skills in English (3,3,0) (tbc) Language and Literature

This course will (1) familiarize students with basic research skills in language and literature; (2) improve students' writing skills in English; (3) strengthen students' ability to discuss linguistic and literary topics; (4) develop students' critical and analytical skills; and (5) prepare students to undertake research-based writing such as the Honours Project.