

interdisciplinary perspective. It will study the changing conceptions of culture and the major trends of thought in the discourse of globalization, trying to unravel the complex relationship between globalization and culture.

**HUM 2380 Introduction to Western Classical Culture (3,2,1) (tbc)**

This course aims to introduce the foundations of Western culture, i.e. the ancient Greek and Roman culture through understanding and appreciation of selected literary texts. By reading of representative works in epic, drama, poetry, rhetoric, history and philosophy, it helps students comprehend and appreciate the various aspects of classical culture and their significance for the modern Western world. It thus serves as an essential part of the Western tradition of humanistic education. Relevant dramas and films about ancient Greece and Rome will also be shown in class to consolidate the understanding of these cultures.

**HUM 2390 Death and Culture (3,2,1) (tbc)**

This course aims at introducing the examining the problem of death from different perspectives like religion, philosophy, art and literature. It examines the religious representation of life after death, philosophical reflections of death and its meanings, and the representations of death in different art forms like literature, drama, visual art and film. Examples from Western, Chinese and other cultures will be used whenever it is appropriate. It helps students to understand and engage in critical discussion about the meanings of death from the cultural, religious and philosophical perspectives.

**HUM 2400 Popular Music Studies (3,2,1) (tbc)**

This course aims to widen and deepen the students' basic knowledge of popular music as a pervasive cultural form in contemporary society. It will also enhance their critical understanding of popular music as an academic study through an inter-disciplinary approach.

**HUM 2410 Media and Communication: Issues, Concepts and Theories (3,2,1) (E)**

This course aims to introduce the complex issues, theories, and methods involved in understanding contemporary mediascape. Through reading classic and contemporary texts on the media, students will learn various theories of the media, the issues raised by these theories, the strengths and weaknesses of these theories, and the diverse methods of studying the media.

**HUM 2420 Chinese Song Lyric Writing (3,2,1) (C)**

This course aims to enable students to understand and examine Chinese song lyrics by exploring the crafts and creativity, the practices and possibilities of this particular literary genre. Student's ability to write Chinese song lyrics will be enhanced through appreciation and practice. Students will also be familiarized with the functions of song lyrics in contemporary cultural contexts.

**HUM 3130 Special Topic in the Humanities (3,2,1) (tbc)**

This course provides an opportunity for senior students to study in depth selected topics in contemporary issues related to the study of the humanities. Through examination of theories related to the topic, students will look at cultural issues from an interdisciplinary and cross-cultural perspective. The course will guide students to integrate various points of view and develop their own critical judgment.

**HUM 3140 Histories (3,2,1) (tbc)**

The course will introduce students to some of the diverse functions history has served in thought, belief and government. It will also introduce both traditional notions and contemporary reevaluations of history. Students will be inculcated with the intellectual habit of thinking within interdisciplinary perspectives. The interrelationship among history, literature, science, politics and religion will also be demonstrated. Historical episodes and examples will be chosen from European, North American and Chinese history.

**HUM 3150 The Making of the Contemporary World (3,2,1) (E)**

This course will introduce students to the diverse ways of defining modernity from a humanistic perspective. Students will develop a critical awareness of our present human condition through a comprehensive view of the formation and the nature of the contemporary world. Emphasis will be placed on the various intellectual, social, political and cultural developments that have transformed the modern world into the contemporary world.

**HUM 3160 Artistic Creativity and Aesthetics Awareness (3,2,1) (E/C)**

This course introduces artistic creativity as one of the best inventions of the human mind and the sense of beauty as an important dimension of being humane. Major principles and theories of arts and aesthetics are introduced to help students to understand artistic creative processes, the nature of different art media and the discussions of aesthetic experience. Art creation and appreciation will be practised and students will also reflect on the meaning of the work of art and its related issues in different social and cultural contexts.

**HUM 3180 Humanism and the Individual (3,2,1) (tbc)**

This course aims to (1) introduce the concept of Humanism, and how this concept can be seen as the basic shaping force of the modern individual course; (2) develop critical skills by assessing primary and secondary source readings in history, philosophy, art and literature, with the hope that students will develop critical aesthetic skills by studying Renaissance painting, sculpture and architecture; and (3) demonstrate to students the intellectual and cultural importance of interdisciplinary approaches to learning.

**HUM 3210 Body Cultures (3,2,1) (E/C)**

This course introduces reflections of human bodies and their situated cultures as the base of Humanities. It starts from the Chinese and the Western traditional discourses of the body and ends in the examination of the development of these discourses related to contemporary body issues. Important and representative body theories will be studied and analysed and students will be directed to review critically the application and the manifestation of these discourses in their everyday lives. This course will also consider body in interdisciplinary and cross-cultural manners, so as to enhance students' knowledge and understanding of human bodies in relation to their cultural contexts.

**HUM 3220 Asia Discourses (3,2,1) (tbc)**

This course aims to introduce students to the diverse ways of defining Asia from various perspectives and help them develop a critical awareness to think about "Asia" as a problematic under the global structure of the contemporary world. Though the traditional notion of Asia is a Eurocentric fabrication, Asia is not necessarily grasped as the other in opposition to the West. Emphasis will be placed on how historically Asia is a position without identity, a continent so much de-regionalized, and a place that keeps searching for its definition. Its developments have been intertwined with capitalist globalization, transforming the world as well as being transformed at the same time.

**HUM 3230 Media Representations of Ethnicity (3,2,1) (E)**

This subject aims to introduce students to the concepts of ethnic identity through different kinds of media representation. It explores the politics and dynamics of ethnic identity formation, drawing on the experiences of various ethnic groups from Hong Kong, China and other places. We examine representations of ethnicity in the commercial and independent media, investigate what influences these representations, and consider their repercussions. We also analyse how the idea of ethnic hierarchy informs our understanding of power and privilege related to media representation and stereotyping. Although the terms "race" and "ethnicity" are always used interchangeably and together, we will offer analytical distinction between the two terms by focusing on their ideological undertakings and social construction.