

**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. Focusing more on the Chinese contexts of ethnic representations, we address if the needs and interests of minority communities are being met by the mainstream media, and whether the minority may reinforce the identification of the ethnic majority in the media depiction. In addition, we ask if change in the diversity of media images is possible and what can be done to promote change for ethnic representation.

**HUM 3240 Creative Industries: Theories and Practices (3,2,1)**

This course is designed to enhance students’ understanding of creative industries in general and its development in Hong Kong in particular. It explores popular cultures and its possible relationship with the development of creative industries in a cross-disciplinary approach.

**HUM 3250 The Art of Creating Stories: Writing and Appreciation (3,2,1) (E)**

The course will explore the art of storytelling by discussing the history and role of storytelling in humanities. Followed by introduction to the fundamental elements, i.e. character, point of view, structure, plot, tension and dialogue with selected examples from different genres and forms, a wide variety of fictions, poems and movies will be introduced in this class. Students will learn to appreciate the art of storytelling, and create their own work. At the end of this course, students will develop a series of creative work that show their unique voice by making use of strategies acquired during the process of learning.

**HUM 3260 The Double Face of Creativity: Fact and Fiction (3,2,1) (E)**

This course aims to demonstrate the interrelationship between fact and fiction in the writing of creative works through the examination and discussion of the historical fiction. While it is generally believed that fact and fiction are two different and sometimes even opposite writings which happen in different contexts, this course hopes to show that they are two sides of the same coin. Through a study of the historical fiction, students will see the creative aspects of a critical research, and how being critical is an important step towards creativity.

**HUM 3270 Major Thinkers in Humanities (3,2,1)**

This course aims to introduce the major thinkers in the West who have significant influence in shaping the Western mind. These thinkers are selected according to their comprehensiveness of their thought about understanding of human nature, culture, art, history and the meaning of human existence and their significance in Western intellectual history. It will introduce to the students the contents of their thought by outlining their major ideas and by reading selected texts. It helps students to understand how these thinkers tackle the big issues concerning humanities, i.e. their views about man, human history, art, culture and the meaning of life, and their relation with the modern world. It aims at introducing the major figures of Western thought as factors which shape the Western intellectual universe, and thus provides a solid basis for humanities and cultural studies.

**HUM 3280 Devil and Culture (3,2,1)**

The aim of this course is to introduce and examine cultural issues related to the idea of devil and its representations in the Western cultural tradition. It will discuss the idea of evil and the devil from the religious-historical and philosophical perspectives, and then look at examples of the representations of devil from literature, drama and film. Some examples of the Chinese ideas of evil and devil will also be used for comparison. It will help students to understand, interpret and make sense of the idea of the evil and the devil and its meaning in the modern world.

**HUM 3290 Special Topic in Theory and Culture (3,2,1) (C)/(E)**

The course aims to provide an opportunity for senior students to have an in-depth study of a selected topic related to creative arts. Students will look at creative arts from an interdisciplinary, cross-cultural and theoretical perspective. The course will guide students to integrate various points of view and develop their own creative work and/or critical judgment.

**HUM 3300 Special Topics in Media and Cultural Studies (3,2,1) (E)**

This course aims to provide an opportunity for senior students to have an in-depth study of a selected topic related to media and cultural studies. Students will examine the selected media and culture topic from an interdisciplinary, cross-cultural and theoretical perspective. The course will guide students to integrate various points of view and develop their own critical judgment.

**HUM 3310 Special Topic in Creative Arts (3,2,1) (E)**

This course aims to provide an opportunity for senior students to have an in-depth study of a selected topic related to arts. Students will look at creative arts from an interdisciplinary, cross-cultural and theoretical perspective. The course will guide students to integrate various points of view and develop their own creative work and/or critical judgment.

**HUM 3320 Hong Kong Films and Society (3,2,1) (C)**

This course aims to enhance students’ understanding of how Hong Kong films have been shaping and shaped by the local culture and society and the global context of film-making. To this end, this course will introduce a wide range of approaches to film studies and rethink how to apply these approaches to different periods of Hong Kong film development.

**HUM 3591-2 Honours Project (3,3,0)**

The Honours Project plays an important part in the Humanities Programme. It affords the opportunity to exercise individual initiative and to develop the ability to pull together into an integrated whole what has been learnt in separate courses, including those outside the particular option. It should provide an outlet for demonstrating the knowledge and insight gained during the Programme. This course is open to Humanities majors only.

**HUM 7010 Advanced Humanities Seminar (3,3,0) (E)**

This course aims to enable postgraduate students (1) to understand and examine the major schools of thinking in the field of humanities through critical analysis of some representative and canonical texts; (2) to explore the content, origin, development and influence of the major works; (3) to deepen the knowledge of the prominent theories of the humanities; and (4) to apply the theoretical knowledge in understanding significant current issues of our world.

**HUMN 1005 The Study of Culture (3,2,1) (C)**

The study of culture will be conducted in a cross-cultural and interdisciplinary manner. Contemporary cultural issues, especially those in Hong Kong, will be discussed as they relate to the cultural translation between China and the world. To enhance the interdisciplinary approach to the study of culture, the instructor will address different disciplines and cultural theories including

philosophy, anthropology, sociology, critical theories, literary theories, postmodern and postcolonial discourses.

**HUMN 1006 Introduction to the Humanities (3,2,1) (C)/(E)**

This course is a general introduction to the Humanities by providing students with a basic understanding of the Humanities as an area of study. This course delivers an interdisciplinary and multi-perspective overview of cultural, political, philosophical and aesthetic factors critical to the formulation of human values and the historical development of the individual and of society. Providing discussion of different themes and disciplines in the Humanities such as literature, the arts, philosophy and cultural studies, this course also introduces the relationship between the Humanities and the university as an idea and an institution.

**HUMN 2005 Humanities Study and Research Methods (3,2,1) (E)**

This course will prepare students for the three-year study of the Humanities. It will introduce the approaches and methods distinctive of interdisciplinary Humanities thought, and it will compare these methods with those employed in other branches of learning, e.g. social and natural sciences. Significant texts concerning the approach, content areas, and ideas of the course in Chinese and in English will be introduced. Students will learn to integrate different points of view through cross-disciplinary and cross-cultural readings. The course will also introduce the relationship between the Humanities and the university as an institution and an idea.

**HUMN 2006 Human Self-Discovery (3,2,1) (C)**

This course aims to (1) introduce various theories of human nature to students as an intellectual foundation for reflection on what it is to be human; (2) help students to learn how to analyse claims about humanness and to practise their arguments for or against these claims on the basis of comparisons with others' claims; and (3) explore with students together on particular aspects and problems associated with classical, modern and contemporary theories about humans and human nature in the light of its developments in the history of thoughts gleaned from traditional Chinese and Western philosophies.

**HUMN 2007 Chinese and Western Modes of Thought (3,2,1) (C)**

This course aims to provide students a clear understanding of the basic differences and similarities between traditional Chinese and Western cultures through comparative study of selected themes in philosophical, religious, moral, and scientific thinking. This course will also analyse issues pertaining to cultural encounters, accommodations, and confrontations in modern and contemporary Chinese history with some emphasis on Hong Kong. This study of cultural interaction will help students acquire a vision of the changing world and develop their ability to adapt to those changes.

**HUMN 2015 Writing Seminar: Workshop in Creative Writing (3,2,1) (C)**

This course aims to enable students to understand and examine the major creative writing genres through practices and critical analysis, explore the rich diversity of modern literary writings, and read representative works in English and Chinese that will parallel the writing exercises in both languages. (This course is cross-listed as WRIT 2015.)

**HUMN 2016 Performing as Human Experience (3,2,1)**

This course aims to (1) boost students' power of reflection on their daily life experience and values through dramatic re-enactment of situations; (2) enhance students' multiple intelligences including spatial, intra-personal and inter-personal, etc.; and (3) improve students' expressive capacity through better use of their bodies and speech.

**HUMN 2017 A Lifelong Romance with Films (3,2,1) (E)**

This course aims to provide students a humanistic learning experience through examining selected films which discuss

fundamental issues of life and living. Films chosen for the course will be narratives about different life stages—childhood, teenage years, adulthood, old age—and will present students opportunities for discussion of meanings and significance of experiences at these life stages. In the course of examining these films and discussing the various questions related to life and living, students will also be learning about the film medium, such as the different genres and their conventions, how stories are told, and different strategies of representation. Through interactive and experiential learning, the course aims to enhance students' skills of discussion, creative expression, critical thinking, and cultural literacy. It is also hoped that students will form the habit of active participation and become responsible learners.

**HUMN 2025 Gender: Theory and Culture (3,2,1) (E)**

This course will introduce students to trends of thought and the basic theories in gender studies. This interdisciplinary introduction will define and explore how gender is constructed socially, culturally, and historically, using examples from various cultures.

**HUMN 2026 Globalization and Culture (3,2,1)**

This course is designed to equip students with the ability to understand culture in the age of globalization from an 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.

**HUMN 2027 Introduction to the Art of Theatre (3,2,1) (C)**

This course aims to introduce the histories and aesthetic principles of the major forms of theatre from the West to the East. It discusses the relation between different forms of theatre and their relations to reality, historical and social background. It helps students to analyse and appreciate different styles and genres of theatre, their aesthetic principle, and their relation with their time and culture. It will also show examples theatre forms with the help of original texts, videos or live performances.

**HUMN 2035 Introduction to Western Classical Culture (3,2,1)**

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.

**HUMN 2036 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.

**HUMN 2045 The Art of Speech: Appreciation and Practice (3,2,1)**

This course aims to (1) foster appreciation of the role of rhetoric in Western and Chinese culture, and critical awareness of the power and limitations of the spoken art of persuasion; (2) help students acquire knowledge and understanding of the history and theory of rhetoric the basic philosophical issues about rhetoric and the methods of speech analysis; and (3) provide students with practice and training in the skills of speech composition and delivery.