

studies by providing basic knowledge and methods in the study of culture and civilization.

**LCS 2220 Modern Western Thought (3,\*,\*)**

This course aims to introduce the modern Western thought from Enlightenment to the 20th century. It aims at introducing the major trends in modern Western thought as a major driving force of political, social and artistic developments shaping the modern Western world. It helps students to understand how thinkers in the world respond to the challenge of modernity, and thus understand the Western world as we know it today.

**LCS 2230 Modernity and China (3,\*,\*)**

This course aims to introduce the idea of modernity in the Western world, its genesis, development and its spread to the world. It will discuss the challenge of modernity and China's response, thus achieving and understanding of how Chinese modernity came into shape. It discusses the historical, cultural, literary and artistic trends in China from the end of the 19th century to the 1980s as an expression of Chinese modernity.

**LCS 2310 Fairy Tales and Our Society (3,\*,\*)**

This course aims to guide students towards a study of the fairy tales including the basic narrative structure, major components, main themes and features, and some of the cultural and historical transformations in recent centuries. Special attention would be given to the various possible interpretations of fairy tales in our society regarding the domains of gender, race, class, culture and other factors of identity formation.

**LCS 2320 Detective Fiction and the Modern World (3,\*,\*)**

This course aims to study the social, cultural and historical reasons for the appearance of the fiction of detection, and to provide an overview of its development from the mid-19th century to the present. Examples of detective fiction which mark important points in its historical development will be studied to understand how this genre changes according to changing social, cultural and historical environment in our world.

**LCS 2330 Introduction to Cultural and Creative Industries (3,\*,\*)**

This course aims to introduce students to cultural and creative industries in general and their development in Hong Kong in particular. It explores popular cultures and their possible relationship with the development of creative industries from a cross-cultural and inter-disciplinary perspective.

**LCS 2340 Popular Music and Society (3,\*,\*)**

This course aims to enhance students' knowledge of popular music and its relation to society at large. It will also develop students' critical understanding of the academic study of popular music. Students will have to examine popular music studies and apply them to analyse popular music in the special context of Hong Kong society.

**LCS 2350 Manga and Anime: Japanese Popular Culture in Hong Kong (3,\*,\*)**

This course aims to introduce students to the popularity of Japanese animation (anime) and comics (manga) in Hong Kong by considering anime and manga as medium, art, culture, and industry. It examines the reasons why these forms of popular culture from Japan can appeal to Hong Kong youths and investigates their historical developments in the city. This course is relevant to all realms of academic inquiry, and should attract students who share interests in media studies, in communications, in industrial structures, in art and visual form, in gender treatment, and in Japanese fan culture, and cross-cultural studies.

**LCS 2360 Horror Film and Fiction (3,\*,\*)**

This course aims to introduce students to a comprehensive overview of the traditions of horror tales and cinematic genre of horror. Always berated and frequently overlooked in academic

study, horror serves a significant social function to signal the indescribable anxiety of the society. Horror inherently deals with some forbidden topics or disturbing course matters, thus it might be the most socially revealing genre. We do not only look into the history of horror but also examine the definition of horror. The course investigates the cultural function, representation of horror and what pleasure we derive from it.

**LCS 2370 Sex and Gender in the Media (3,\*,\*)**

This course aims to introduce students to the representations of sexuality and notions of gender in mass media. Topics that will be discussed include sexual image, sexual language and gender behaviour in entertainment television and commercial films, effects of pornography on the Internet, sex and violence in movies, sex and music videos, and the film and TV content ratings system. The course also examines the social, political and economic influences of sexuality in mass media on ethics, industry and community from cross-disciplinary perspectives.

**LCS 2380 Theme Park and Other Themed Spaces (3,\*,\*)**

This course aims to introduce students to the social functions and ideological meanings of leisure institutions, from museums, fairs, gardens to amusement parks, movie theaters, world expo and other themed spaces. We focus on the notion of leisure and play, and investigate the wide world of themed entertainment. While looking at particular case studies and particular leisure spaces, ranging from Disneyland to ethnic villages and Imax theaters, we look into the connection between play and modern life, the utopian elements of leisure spaces, the impacts of the increasingly global and lucrative contemporary tourist industry on the production of historical knowledge and the invention of traditions, and other issues related to cultural politics and management.

**LCS 2390 Understanding Media Culture (3,2,1)**

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.

**LCS 3110 Masterpieces in Humanities (3,\*,\*)**

This course aims to introduce excellent works of literary and other art forms in English and Chinese of both traditional and contemporary domains. The course will demonstrate the excellence of human creativity in these works and attempt to understand their cultural and historical backgrounds, as well as the nature and development of the related media. The course will also encourage students to confront the contemporary controversy surrounding these canonical works, and exercise independently their critical, analytical, and creative judgments in assessing the value of such canonical works in the contemporary world.

**LCS 3120 Hong Kong Studies (3,\*,\*)**

This course aims to introduce students to different aspects of Hong Kong studies with a multi-disciplinary approach. Through the exploration of recent studies on Hong Kong in the fields of culture, society, history and politics, it also tries to address issues related to ethics/values and promote understanding of Hong Kong as a cosmopolitan city.

**LCS 3210 Understanding Globalization (3,\*,\*)**

This course aims to enhance students' understanding of globalization and its impact on society, economics and culture. Through the examination of different theories and issues related to globalization, it also aims to foster students' critical evaluation of and reflection on globalization studies from different perspectives.

**LCS 3220 Rethinking Cultures: East and West (3,\*,\*)**

This course aims to help students comprehend major theories of culture of the 20th century from an interdisciplinary perspective. Students will familiarize themselves with seminal debates and how they are or are not relevant to contemporary Hong Kong society.

They will also acquire a global and critical sensibility with respect to culture as manifested in both material and symbolic realms. Students will engage with issues and acquire knowledge and skills in identifying, profiling and discussing them. In brief, the course will act as a capstone of the programme where the culmination of inter-disciplinary knowledge can be actualized.

**LCS 3310 A History of Personal Writings (3,\*,\*)**

This course introduces a variety of personal writings to students. Starting with the form, content and structure, the course will go on to give a historical overview of major pieces of personal narratives of different types, and examine the significant role played by memory in the construction of personal narratives. The course will also discuss the interesting mixture of fact and fiction in any personal writing, as well as the intriguing relationship between the subject and object of the narrative. In the course of the semester, students will also have a chance to create their own personal narratives and be guided to recognize the power of this writing in relation to their personal growth.

**LCS 3320 The Critical and Creative Spirit: The Case of Historical Fiction (3,\*,\*)**

This course aims to demonstrate the interrelationship between creativity and the critical spirit through the examination and discussion of the historical fiction. While it is generally believed that creativity and the critical spirit are two separate and sometimes even opposite approaches and qualities, 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.

**LCS 3330 Creative Writing in Practice (3,\*,\*)**

This course provides both the theoretical knowledge and the opportunity for practical experience to students who are interested in discovering their creativity and exercising it in writing. An introduction to the creative process and the basic approaches to creativity are given at the beginning of the course, before students are taken through selected types of creative work. The course focuses equally on careful guidance in students' appreciation of creative works, as well as in their own creative practice.

**LCS 3340 The World of Theatre (3,\*,\*)**

This course aims to introduce the major forms in theatre from the West to the East. It discusses the relation between different theatre aesthetics and forms, and its relation to reality, and the 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 of theatre forms with the help of original texts, and videos or live performances. Students will have the opportunity to see live theatre performances and have discussion with theatre artists.

**LCS 3350 Exploring the City (3,\*,\*)**

This course aims to enhance students' understanding of the city. While cities are diverse and exciting, they also pose challenging problems. Through the examination of classic and contemporary texts on the city, students will acquire an in-depth understanding of key developments in the study of the city. Case studies will also be used to develop the analytical techniques of the students.

**LCS 3360 Great Thinkers on Meanings of Life (3,\*,\*)**

This course aims to promote students' reflection on existential questions about life and its values by introducing them to philosophical thoughts of classical and modern thinkers of both the Chinese and the Western cultures. The focus will be on the meaning of human life. It will provide students with inspiring intellectual discourses of the selected thinkers and their self exploration and speculation process. The course will analyse philosophical texts written by these thinkers and the answers they offer on the issue of the meaning of life. Finally, it will encourage students to examine their own value systems and living attitudes to

life, and to relate them to the human conditions discussed by the thinkers. This course is also designed to introduce philosophical thinking.

**LCS 3370 Digital Media and Culture (3,\*,\*)**

This course aims to introduce students to a comprehensive overview of theories of digital media in contemporary culture. Based on a historical understanding of digital media developments, the course explores the role of new media in a globally networked world. It also examines the social, political and economic influences of new digital technologies on culture, industry, creativity and community from cross-disciplinary perspectives.

**LSE 7010 Approaches to the Study of Values (3,3,0)**

This course begins with an introduction to both religious and philosophical moral theories and principles in preparing students to analyse important issues that they face in their daily life. In order to enhance their social awareness, an issue-enquiry approach will be used to train them applying those methods derived from these theories and principles in facilitating morally acceptable solutions. This course will also help students learn how to conduct research projects on ethical issues in major areas of liberal studies.

**LSE 7020 Critical Thinking for Liberal Studies (3,3,0)**

To tackle and resolve many of the issues in liberal studies demands strong analytical power and good skills of critical thinking. This course mainly provides for secondary school teachers a basic introduction to critical thinking, with the emphasis on applications to issues in liberal studies. Students in this course are expected to learn the basic skills in logico-linguistic analysis, the detection of fallacies and logical and scientific methods. Examples will be mainly taken from the areas covered by liberal studies.

**LSE 7030 Ethical Issues in Personal Development and Interpersonal Relationships (3,3,0)**

Senior secondary school students typically experience a number of ethical challenges as they grow and begin the transition into adulthood. These may relate not only to the physiological changes they are experiencing, but also to their psychological development, their social adjustment, and their philosophical and religious self-understanding as human beings in a rapidly-changing world. This course mainly prepares secondary school teachers to deal with such issues in a direct and responsible manner as they arise during the teaching of the liberal studies curriculum. Emphasis will be placed on both a theoretical grounding in and a practical application of scholarly views on topics such as sexual difference, self-esteem, personal growth, stress-management, ethical decision-making, religious commitments, basic lifestyle choices, and fostering of harmonious relationships with family, friends, and potential life partners.

**LSE 7040 Values and Socio-Cultural Issues in Hong Kong Today (3,3,0)**

This course intends to provide better understanding of contemporary Hong Kong through an examination of various socio-cultural issues. The issues will be studied in broader social, cultural and religious contexts and examined critically from an axiological perspective. Students are expected to acquire a sense of value that extends beyond the mere acquisition of knowledge. However, due cognizance will be taken to the need of helping students to be better prepared to teach related programme. Some discussion themes covered in this programme have been intended to match the requirements of the curriculum structure for liberal studies in secondary schools.

**LSE 7050 Traditional Values and Moral Challenges in Modern China (3,3,0)**

This course begins with an introduction to the background of the reform and opening-up drive of China since the end of 1978.