

# HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

## COURSE OUTLINE

### 1. COURSE TITLE

The Short Story

### 2. COURSE CODE

ENGL2035

### 3. NO. OF UNITS

3 Units

### 4. OFFERING DEPARTMENT

Department of English Language and Literature

### 5. PREREQUISITES

ENGL2007 Literary and Comparative Studies

### 6. MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

English

### 7. AIMS & OBJECTIVES

- 1) To examine representative short stories written in or translated into English;
- 2) To demonstrate knowledge of different types of short stories, and different writers' styles and literary techniques; and
- 3) To evaluate the production of short stories in an international and inter-cultural context.

### 8. COURSE CONTENT

- I. Introduction: Short Story as a Genre
- II. Contributions to the Development of the Genre (e.g. Somerset Maugham, Guy De Maupassant, Ernest Hemingway, and Katherine Mansfield)
- III. Close Study of Selected Short Stories in their Literary, Cultural and Socio-historical Contexts

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

<b>CILO</b>	<b>By the end of the course, students should be able to:</b>
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CILO 1	Describe the short story as a genre and its differences from the novel
CILO 2	Identify the characteristics of a romantic, realist, modernist, and post-modernist short story
CILO 3	Analyze the mechanism of the short story such as plot, complication, climax, denouement, and setting
CILO 4	Evaluate the chosen texts through close reading, the use of concrete examples and specific details
CILO 5	Prepare a coherent thesis and a paper based on their research in the appropriate format and style
CILO 6	Defend their research findings in the form of oral presentations and written reports

## 10. TEACHING & LEARNING ACTIVITIES (TLAs)

CILO alignment	Type of TLA
CILO 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Relate their own reading experiences in the past and reflect on their existing knowledge of the short story as a genre</li> <li>- Play an active part in student-centered lectures, and answer questions on the rise, the unique characteristics, and the theory of the short story</li> <li>- Engage with supplementary readings, ask questions, and discuss the issues raised in tutorials</li> </ul>
CILO 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Read different types of short story</li> <li>- Draw charts and diagrams to illustrate different short story types and formations</li> <li>- Access the library catalogue and the internet to note the differences between romantic, realist, modernist, and post-modernist short stories</li> <li>- Participate in classroom and online discussions, and demonstrate their ability to analyze and critique the selected texts</li> <li>- Write a research paper on their findings</li> </ul>
CILO 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Do hands-on analysis of a short story in class to highlight their understanding of formal elements such as plot, complication, climax, denouement, and setting</li> <li>- Discuss the results, give and obtain peer reviews</li> <li>- Keep a portfolio on different short story writers, their changing theories on plot, setting and characterization</li> </ul>
CILO 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Do debates to evaluate a group of selected texts, and defend their views against opposite opinions on the same texts through close reading and the use of concrete examples</li> <li>- Do group projects in order to apply their knowledge learnt in class, on their own, and from peers</li> <li>- Give creative interpretations of selected texts</li> </ul>
CILO 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Maintain a journal to record their thoughts, or any issues that are related</li> </ul>

	<p>to their writing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Write short response papers using peer review</li> <li>- Submit a research paper, receive feedback from the instructor regarding the merits and demerits of their writings, and learn how to produce critical and well-supported essays in the process</li> </ul>
CILO 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Give oral and written presentations to defend their views, and challenge others' opinions on the selected texts</li> <li>- Sit for the final exam and articulate their critical views on the significances of the short story, and the different developments of the short story across time and space</li> </ul>

## 11. ASSESSMENT METHODS (AMs)

Type of Assessment Methods	Weighting	CILOs to be addressed	Description of Assessment Tasks
Class assignments	35 %	1, 2, 3, 4	<p>Coursework may consist of short and/or long forum entries (5%), discussions and debates (10%), presentations (20%).</p> <p>Students will be assessed on the basis of their understanding of the historical origin and the formal characteristics of the short story, as well as their interpretive analysis of different schools of short story writers and the representative texts, including films and other media.</p> <p>Students' written work will be graded on consistency, originality of interpretation, usage, and grammar.</p>
Term paper	30 %	5, 6	<p>Students will write a paper on a particular school or writer. All writing assignments will be graded on consistency, accuracy, organization and writing competence.</p>
Examination	35 %	1, 3, 4	<p>The exam will test students' ability to identify the rise and the characteristics of the short story, to analyze different schools and short story writers, to interpret a set of chosen texts.</p> <p>The exam will be graded on demonstrated knowledge, analysis of material, coherence of arguments, organization, and writing competence.</p>

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