

# HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

## COURSE OUTLINE

### 1. COURSE TITLE

21st Century Fiction

### 2. COURSE CODE

ENGL4076

### 3. NO. OF UNITS

3 Units

### 4. OFFERING DEPARTMENT

Department of English Language and Literature

### 5. PREREQUISITES

Nil

### 6. MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

English

### 7. AIMS & OBJECTIVES

- 1) To consider the impact of global popular culture on works of literature around the world from 2000 to the present;
- 2) To explore 21st century works of fiction through a variety of critical and theoretical lenses, such as transnationalism, posthumanism, postmodernism, poststructuralism and the post-postcolonial; and
- 3) To evaluate the work of specific writers and their contribution to the development of 21st century literature.

### 8. COURSE CONTENT

- I. Pop Culture – Celebrity, Commodity, Mass Media Culture
- II. Ecocriticism and the Environment
- III. Post-colonial, Diasporic and Transnational Narratives
- IV. 9/11 and the Spectacle of Terrorism

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

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<b>CILO</b>	<b>By the end of the course, students should be able to:</b>
CILO 1	Examine the global social, political, cultural issues and events and their impact on the production of 21st century fiction from around the world
CILO 2	Compare diverse styles and genres by writers representative of 21st century fiction, be they novelists, poets, and/or dramatists
CILO 3	Evaluate the shifts and trends evident in contemporary fiction and their contribution to the emergence of a distinctive '21st century' literature
CILO 4	Argue, in a convincing and persuasive analysis, a particular position on an assigned topic not less than ten pages in length

## 10. TEACHING & LEARNING ACTIVITIES (TLAs)

<b>CILO alignment</b>	<b>Type of TLA</b>
CILO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- be given written tasks to identify key themes, ideas, and genres in the contemporary period</li> <li>- work in teams and produce evidence on how a writer's work has been influenced by specific historical, political or cultural issues or events</li> </ul>
CILO 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- read texts written by contemporary writers from around the globe</li> <li>- compare/contrast writing styles and genres by different writers through short written responses or through in-class oral presentations</li> <li>- close-read and analyze specific literary passages or extracts by a given writer</li> </ul>
CILO 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- watch documentary videos that feature key developments and trends evident in literature from the late 20th century to the present day</li> <li>- identify or classify a particular writer's work as belonging to a specific style or genre prevalent within the contemporary period</li> </ul>
CILO 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- access the library catalogue, the MLA database, and the internet to conduct original research on an assigned topic</li> <li>- write a research paper based on their cumulative research and discussions</li> </ul>

## 11. ASSESSMENT METHODS (AMs)

<b>Type of Assessment Methods</b>	<b>Weighting</b>	<b>CILOs to be addressed</b>	<b>Description of Assessment Tasks</b>
Coursework	25 %	1, 2, 3, 4	Coursework may include tutorial and online discussions, oral and written presentations, debates, performances, oral reports, in-class exercises, documentary film screenings, and reviews of film clips.

			<p>No single assignment will be weighted more than 40%.</p> <p>Additionally, e-pedagogy pertinent to digital humanities may also be introduced in support of delivery of the course, including gathering and analyzing data via social media and/or other digital tools.</p> <p>Students will be graded on their performative exercises, communicative accuracy, participation and cooperation in group projects, interpretation of texts, and writing competence.</p>
Research Essay	40 %	2, 3, 4	<p>The research essay will assess the student's ability to take a position on a relevant topic, demonstrate conceptual awareness of key issues related to the period, and to analyze one or more literary texts.</p> <p>Students' research essays will be graded on the basis of cogency, originality, organization, usage and grammar.</p>
Examination	35 %	1, 2, 3	<p>The examination will assess students' understandings of the core issues and themes of the period.</p> <p>Additionally, the exam will assess students on their presentation of arguments, analysis of material, coherence of thinking, organization, and writing competence.</p>

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