

# HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

## COURSE OUTLINE

### 1. COURSE TITLE

Special Topic in Literature

### 2. COURSE CODE

ENGL4085

### 3. NO. OF UNITS

3 Units

### 4. OFFERING DEPARTMENT

Department of English Language and Literature

### 5. PREREQUISITES

ENGL2007 Literary and Comparative Studies; or others as may be required depending upon the topic offered

### 6. MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

English

### 7. AIMS & OBJECTIVES

- 1) To provide advanced students with an opportunity to study and discuss selected topics in literary and critical studies;
- 2) To prepare students for further study in the same (or related) special topic.

### 8. COURSE CONTENT

The intent of this course is to allow flexibility in that the specific topic may be selected according to the needs of the students and developments in literary and cultural studies.

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

CILO	By the end of the course, students should be able to:
CILO 1	Describe the specialized literary topic in its historical context
CILO 2	Evaluate critical debates within the field as they pertain to the given special topic

CILO 3	Argue for or against a writer's focused treatment of the special topic
CILO 4	Pursue subsequent concentration and further study in the same (or related) special topic

## 10. TEACHING & LEARNING ACTIVITIES (TLAs)

CILO alignment	Type of TLA
CILO 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Read texts and respond to the selected literary topic</li> <li>- Watch and analyze documentary material including photos and videos; then position the topic in light of historical contexts</li> <li>- Work in teams and do cumulative projects on tracing the influence of historical events on the topic</li> <li>- Keep a journal and reflect on how the passage of time may lead to a renewed interest or different focus in the given topic</li> </ul>
CILO 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Access the library catalogue, the MLA database and the internet and examine the different schools, theories, critical debates past and present relevant to the selected literary topic</li> <li>- Present their findings in oral and written presentations</li> <li>- Initiate forum discussion on the BU Moodle in order to keep the research interest and conversation on-going</li> </ul>
CILO 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Be given written tasks in class interpreting the special topic</li> <li>- Write short response essays, blog entries, do group projects on a critical evaluation of a writer's interest in the special topic; and articulate their own points of view</li> <li>- Do debates and argue for or against a writer's attitude or position toward the special topic</li> <li>- Give and receive peer reviews</li> </ul>
CILO 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Attend workshops and seminars run by the library</li> <li>- Consult librarians and hone their research skills</li> <li>- Undertake a sophisticated, thesis-driven research paper</li> <li>- Receive feedback from the instructor and their peers regarding the on-going improvement of their writing, and learn how to produce critical and well-supported essays in the process</li> </ul>

## 11. ASSESSMENT METHODS (AMs)

Type of Assessment Methods	Weighting	CILOs to be addressed	Description of Assessment Tasks
Assignments	35 %	2, 3, 4	Assignments may consist of short and/or long papers, online blog entries, journal logs, group projects, and library workshops. Students must write a research paper that is

			intended for an educated readership.
Classwork	30 %	2, 3	<p>Classwork may consist of response papers, short writing exercises, oral reports, debates, in-class discussions, peer reviews.</p> <p>Additionally, e-pedagogy pertinent to digital humanities may also be introduced in support of delivery of the special topic, including gathering and analyzing data via social media and/or other digital tools.</p> <p>Students will be graded on participation, as well as their analytical, interpretive, and communicative competence.</p> <p>Assessment will be made on the basis of the students' understanding of the given topic, their examination of the historical background of the given topic, their knowledge of theories and debates past and present, and their critical evaluations of selected writers that are related to the topic.</p>
Examination	35 %	1, 2, 3	<p>The exam will assess students on the basis of their understanding of the selected topic, their ability to relate the topic to historical contexts, their awareness of the different schools and debates, their critical opinions toward a writer's treatment of the special topic.</p>

Last Update: 2022-12-01  
Published Date: 2023-01-04

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