CUS3317
Narrating Hong Kong 論述香港

Prof. Chan Ching Kiu, Stephen 陳濟儒教授

We examine Hong Kong as an evolving community through a variety of stories people have told about her. Throughout history, narratives are tales or discourses which treat what happen to the place in relation to what its inhabitants want as individuals and as a collective. At their core is the question of desire; in the culture and politics of its representations, we look for traces of hope, fear, anxiety, ideology as well as imagination.

Drawing on bilingual readings as well as audio-visual texts, this course is taught in Chinese.

Weekly topics:

- 創意與文化生產
- 「香港人」的塑造: 一木一石
- 藝術創作
- 藝術實踐
- 許諾

Assessment:

- 70% Continuous Assessment
- 30% Final Examination (Open Book)

Lecture time: Wed 16:30-18:30
Tutorial time: Thur 15:30-17:30

CUS3325
Workshop on Creativity & Cultural Production 創意與文化生產

Ms. Lai Yan Chi 賴恩慈老師

This course aims at enhancing students’ critical understanding of Objectives:

i) To foster students’ creativity in various art and cultural creativity as driving force behind cultural production, and the relationship between creativity and cultural production.

A critical reflexivity rooted in contextual awareness is corollary to the fostering of creativity, and hence the course will be focused on areas of cultural production that best bring about such quality of creativity, including but not limited to performance art, video and film production, community art. Students will be guided through two dimensions surrounding creativity as cultural production: as creative industries, and as socio-cultural intervention. In this light, students will learn about the theories and concepts around creative industries, as well as public art as an emerging form of social cultural intervention.

Lecture time: Mon 10:00-13:00

CUS3215
Gender and Cultural Politics 性別與文化政治

Prof. Tang Tse Shang, Denise 鄧芝珊教授

This course provides students with an introduction to feminism by studying the history of feminist thought. By adopting bell hooks’ approach on feminism is for everybody, students will begin with learning how gender is socially constructed and how feminism can be practiced in everyday life. Feminism is more than seeking equality with men, rather it takes into account various notions of difference, intersecting identities, femininities and masculinities.

This course aims to extend students’ understanding of the intersections between gender and politics through an investigation of texts, representations and ethnographies dealing with such to feminism is for everybody, students will begin with learning how gender is socially constructed and how feminism can be practiced in everyday life. Feminism is more than seeking equality with men, rather it takes into account various notions of difference, intersecting identities, femininities and masculinities.

Lecture time: Mon 10:30-12:30
Tutorial time: Thur 16:30-18:30

CUS3350
Power & Body in the Performing Arts 權力·身體·演藝

Prof. Yoon Soo Ryon 尹水蓮教授

Through the creative medium of performing arts, this course explores the cultural politics of body and power in the context of modern society’s regulation and maximization of its subjects. We will also study human subject’s resistance to and subversion against biopower as it works through the body as a site of power struggle.

This course is organized around central issues and keywords relevant to our understanding of biopower including: power, surveillance, censorship, corporeality, aesthetics, visibility, necropolitics, and subjectivity. We will read key theoretical texts alongside case studies of cultural policies and performing arts, which will help us obtain a more concrete understanding of how power works onto the bodies in dance, theatre, and film.

Assignments include a midterm group project and a final take-home exam.

Lecture time: Mon 14:00-16:00
Tutorial time: Thur 16:00-18:00
This course provides students with the opportunity to develop an overall understanding of the complexity of mass media messages and their meanings in our everyday lives. Media literacy concerns both production and consumption of messages -- writing, reading, speaking, listening. Emphasis is thus on developing critical skills to "read" media messages, and to reflect on the media industries which are responsible for producing these messages.

It is expected that students, after taking this course, will develop basic skills to critically analyze the process of media making from different perspectives, including gender, cultural, and ethical ones.

Through discussion, reading, group projects, role playing and other work, students will be expected to gain an understanding into the complex role of mass media in our culture’s development, and most importantly, our lives.

**Lecture time:** Tue 16:30-18:30
**Tutorial time:** Wed 15:00-17:00

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This course invites students to explore the relationship between morality and commodity culture in their lives. Examining the process of commodification, the emergence of consumerism, and the impact of these on changing moral values in contemporary societies, the course will consider how our moral principles are shaped by consumption practices and consumerism in affluent societies, as well as how these moral values are mobilized to promote consumption. Issues to be discussed include commercialized food and sex, sweatshop and fashion consumption, intellectual property, voluntary simplicity movement, community money and barter trade.

**Assessment:**
Students are assessed on the basis of 70% Continuous Assessment and 30% Final Examination.
CLA 9008: Performance Arts in Modern Times

An introductory course to different practices of artistic and cultural performance, which aims to train students to understand and enjoy diverse genres of performance.

Key topics:

- How do we “read” different kinds of performance (music, dance, theatre, etc)?
- Why is there a difference between “high” art and “low” art?
- Can performance make or break cultural traditions?
- How is “Hong Kong” formed in performance?
- Can performance be a force for change in communities?

Course activities:

Lively discussions of case studies, guest lectures from performing artists, and visits to ongoing performances and festivals.

Lecture: Wednesdays, 15:30-17:30 LKK 303
Tutorial: Thursday, 16:30-18:30 LKK205
Asst. Prof. Anjeline de Dios 安哲琳教授
anjelinededios@ln.edu.hk
CLB9018
Thinking Like an Anthropologist
人類學家的思考方法

Prof. Roberto Castillo 陳古城教授

One of the most important skills for someone majoring in Cultural Studies nowadays is the development of a critical, reflexive, and inquisitive approach to investigating culture.

To do Cultural Studies is to engage with people and communities and to strive to describe and contextualise the ‘patterns of organisation’ that underlie all social practices. Rather than being a course solely about ‘anthropology’, Thinking Like an Anthropologist will take you on a historic, philosophical, inter-disciplinary and critical journey from the beginnings of anthropology and its concern with ‘culture’, to the contemporary importance of ethnography and the study of everyday life.

The course is structured around a number of key questions, which are drawn mainly from cultural anthropology, and from the Cultural Studies critique of anthropology. The issues that we will debate are topical and foundational for all branches of the humanities and social sciences. Through our debates, your understanding of the diversity of human culture and societies in the world will be enhanced.

In our lectures and tutorials you will not only learn about anthropology and cultural studies but also about how you can actively think about cultural problems and how you can intervene and take action.

Assignments include short creative written assignments and a final essay.

Lecture time: Fri 15:30-17:30
Tutorial time: Tue 16:30-18:30

CLA9008
Performance Arts in Modern Times
演藝·當下

Prof. Yoon Soo Ryon 尹水蓮教授

This course offers an introduction to the contemporary state of performance/performance art(s) through a survey of key conceptual themes and case studies that cut across artistic genres and geographical differences.

In particular, we will explore performance art and experimental performance that emerged from paradigmatic changes like avant-garde movement or the introduction of new media. We will analyze how artists in modern times, in various cases, respond to the imminent social change, crisis, and paradigm shift through their creative responses.

(Li Weiwei, Dropping a Han Dynasty Urn [1995])

Assignments include short creative written assignments and a final essay.

Lecture time: Mon 14:30-16:30
Tutorial time: Wed 16:30-18:30

CUS3359
Introduction to Performance Studies
表演研究導論

Prof. Yoon Soo Ryon 尹水蓮教授

What are performative (noun), performativity, and performance, and how are they connected to one another? How do racial and gendered identities become “performative”? Can we look at social protests, oath taking, sexual orientation, and k-pop s performance at the same time? What can we gain from looking at our everyday life as performance?

These questions will help us explore the emergent discipline called “Performance Studies.” We will broaden our understanding of performance as a sociocultural practice. Together, we will watch and analyze a set of stylized acts of discourse, subjectivity, and embodiment including: dance, music, theatre, rituals, festivals, social protests, speech acts, as well as gender, race, sexuality, and nation-ness.

The course will encourage students to practice and devise their own performances in tutorial sessions, in addition to performance viewing.

No prior experience or background in performance required!

Lecture time: Wed 13:30-15:30
Tutorial time: Mon 10:30-12:30 / Thur 15:30-17:30

CLA9007
Creative Thinking
創意思考

Prof. Tang Tse Shang, Denise 鄧芝珊教授

This course aims at assisting students to adapt to the demands of university education and careers in the 21st century by allowing them to become familiar with the concepts and practices of creative thinking.

Through reading, discussion, group work, community involvement, and other creative works, students will learn how to identify underlying assumptions of a viewpoint, formulate critical questions on a range of issues, examine issues from multiple perspectives, and offer critical and creative feedback.

Students will be asked to develop these skills with an awareness of the social, cultural, interpersonal, institutional, and technological settings, in order to understand creative thinking as it is practiced in context.

Lecture time: Thur 14:30-16:30
Tutorial time: Fri 10:30-12:30