

B.A. (Honours) in Contemporary English Studies

Course Title	: Final Year Project
Course Code	: ENG4302
Recommended Study Year	: 4 th Year
No. of Credits	: 3
Mode of Tuition	: Individual Supervision
Category	: Required Course
Prerequisite(s)	: ENG3006 Final Year Project Preparation
Co-requisite(s)	: Nil
Exclusion(s)	: Nil
Exemption Requirement(s)	: Nil

Brief Course Description

This course aims to develop the students' ability to carry out extended investigation into a specific topic they have chosen. Students will develop, research and write up the literary, linguistic or practical topic they identified in ENG3006. By producing a long paper, students will be asked to demonstrate and synthesize the subject knowledge, linguistic ability, academic writing skills and analytical power which they have developed over their four years of study.

Aims

1. Use methods appropriate to the area of study;
2. Collect, analyse and evaluate research data or other materials;
3. Tackle a research or communicative problem efficiently;
4. Argue and reason logically and effectively;
5. Provide a fully annotated long essay, or commentary on their practical project, in an appropriate format.

Learning Outcomes (generic)

1. Demonstrate powers of analysis across a chosen form of discourse;
2. Demonstrate critical engagement with complex material;
3. Demonstrate the ability identify and research appropriate questions;
4. Produce a coherent, sustained, persuasive written argument;
5. Demonstrate the ability to communicate with clarity, confidence (and possibly vividness and elegance);
6. Demonstrate meticulous and scholarly presentation of material in the manner required;
7. Demonstrate knowledge of the status of empirical evidence and be able to demonstrate an understanding of different methodologies;
8. Demonstrate an ability to evaluate and assimilate information from different sources.

Indicative Contents

Students are required to write a paper of about 7,000 words (excluding notes and bibliography) on a topic of their choice, selected from contemporary literary studies

or applied linguistic studies. Students choosing to write on a practical topic will need to work closely with the Department to research the suitability of the project. These students will not only produce a communicative text or set of texts, but will also write a commentary of at least 5,000 words justifying their use of the appropriate linguistic, discursive, or literary features.

Teaching Method

There is no formal teaching for this course, but students are required to spend approximately 9 hours a week on the work related to their projects. Supervisors will advise students individually on the use of reference materials, approach, collection and analysis of data, and presentation. However, it is the students' responsibility to ensure that their project progresses in accordance with the schedule set by the Department, prepare for their consultation sessions with the supervisor, and seek their supervisor's advice and assistance as necessary.

We believe that for genuine critical ability to develop, teachers must create an atmosphere which fosters independent inquiry. Thus, in this course students are encouraged to make judgments about particular issues and then learn to effectively organize textual materials that support their arguments. This problem-solving task involves analysis, synthesis, and the evaluation of ideas, all of which are essential to critical thinking.

Measurement of Learning Outcomes

LOs 1-8: through assessment of the final written submission

Assessment

- 80% final assessment of the written submission
- 20% for participation (e.g. timely submission of drafts, response to feedback, ability to work independently)

Required and Supplementary Readings

To be discussed with the supervisor.

Important Notes:

- (1) Students are expected to spend a total of 9 hours per week (including consultation with supervisors and independent work) to achieve the course learning outcomes.
- (2) Students shall be aware of the University regulations about dishonest practice in course work, tests and examinations, and the possible consequences as stipulated in the Regulations Governing University Examinations. In particular, plagiarism, being a kind of dishonest practice, is "the presentation of another person's work without proper acknowledgement of the source, including exact phrases, or summarised ideas, or even footnotes/citations, whether protected by copyright or not, as the student's own work". Students are required to strictly follow university regulations governing academic integrity and honesty.
- (3) Students are required to submit copies of their projects using Turnitin.
- (4) To enhance students' understanding of plagiarism, a mini-course "Online Tutorial on Plagiarism Awareness" is available on <https://pla.ln.edu.hk/>.