

Course Title	: Topics in Bilingual Studies: Love in Chinese and Western Literatures
Course Code	: TRA3221
Recommended Study Year	: 2 to 4
No. of Credits/Term	: 3
Mode of Tuition	: Lecture-tutorial
Class Contact Hours	: 2-hour lecture per week 1-hour tutorial per week
Category	: Elective (Category B)
Prerequisite	: Nil
Co-requisite	: Nil
Exclusion	: Nil
Exemption Requirement	: Nil

Brief Course Description:

This course examines the concept of love in Chinese and Western literature. Literary works will be selected for a critical analysis of different concepts of love and their implications. The course discusses love as an ideological construction and its relation to gender and sexuality, exploring the cultural similarities and differences between Chinese and Western societies. The literary works will be studied with reference to a number of literary and cultural theories.

Language of instruction: English / Chinese

Aims:

The course aims to enhance students' understanding of the cultural similarities and differences between Chinese and Western society in the concept of love. It allows students to develop a critical appreciation towards Chinese and Western literature, and to understand the relation between literature and translation.

Learning Outcomes (LOs):

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. conduct literary analysis;
2. discuss literature through a cross-cultural and comparative approach;
3. describe the similarities and differences of Chinese and Western cultures and cultural values;
4. identify the classical roots and historical development of both East and West on the subject of love; and
5. demonstrate the ability to think critically.

Indicative Content:

1. Love as an ideological construction.
2. Love and its relation to sexuality.
3. Love and gender ambiguity.
4. Love and its relation to patriarchy.
5. Literary and cultural theories relating to love, gender and sexuality.

Teaching Method:

Lectures and tutorial discussions

Measurement of Learning Outcomes:

Students' progress towards the learning outcomes will be measured by means of:

1. Presentation and participation in discussion during lectures and tutorials; [LOs 1-5]
2. An essay that requires the skills of literary criticism and textual analysis, and an understanding of the relation between translation and literature appreciation; [LOs 1-5]
3. An examination with questions that test the students' ability for textual analysis, with emphasis on the comparison between Chinese and Western literature on the subject of love and its implications. [LOs 1-5]

Assessment:

Examination: 50% (One 2-hour paper)

Tutorial participation: 15%

One term paper: 35%

Required Readings:

Readings may include selections from any of the following:

Ben Jonson, *Epicene*; Ovid, *Metamorphoses* (selections); Plato, *The Symposium*; William Shakespeare, *Hamlet*; *Romeo and Juliet*; *Twelfth Night*; Shakespeare's Sonnets; Bernard Shaw, *Pygmalion*; Oscar Wilde, *The Importance of Being Earnest*; 曹雪芹, 《紅樓夢》 (selections); 張愛玲, 〈色·戒〉; 《傾城之戀》; 白先勇, 《孽子》 (selections)

Supplementary Readings:

Barbour, Richmond, "'When I Acted Young Antinous": Boy Actors and the Erotics of Jonsonian Theater', *PMLA*, 110:5, 1006-1022, October, 1995.

Barker, Francis, *The Culture of Violence: Tragedy and History*, Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1993.

Cornato, Rocco, *Jonson versus Bakhtin: Carnival and the Grotesque*, New York: Rodopi, 2003.

Craft, Christopher, 'Alias Bunbury: Desire and Termination in *The Importance of Being Earnest*'. *Representations*, No.31. 19-46, Summer, 1990.

De Grazia, Margreta and Stanley Wells (Eds.), *The New Cambridge Companion to Shakespeare*, New York: Cambridge University Press, 2010.

Donaldson, Ian, *Ben Jonson: a Life*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011.

Garber, Marjorie, *Shakespeare After All*, New York: Pantheon Books, 2004.

Greenblatt, Stephen, 'Friction and Fiction'. In *Reconstructing Individualism: Autonomy, Individuality, and the Self in Western Thought*, Ed., Thomas C. Heller, Morton Sosna, David E. Wellbery, Arnold I. Davidson, Ann Swidler and Ian Watt. Stanford: Stanford UP, 1986, 30-52.

Halperin, David, *One Hundred Years of Homosexuality: and Other Essays on Greek Love*, New York: Routledge, 1990.

Howard, Jean E., 'Crossdressing, The Theatre, and Gender Struggle in Early Modern England'. *Shakespeare Quarterly*, 39:4, 418-440, Winter, 1988.

Roston, Murray, *Tradition and Subversion in Renaissance Literature: Studies in Shakespeare, Spenser, Jonson, and Donne*, Pittsburgh: Duquesne University Press, 2007.

Tambling, Jeremy, 'Inside and Outside the Dream of Red Mansions', *Tamkang Review*, XXXIV:2, 63-84.

Zucker, Adam, *The Places of Wit in Early Modern English Comedy*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2011.

Important Notes:

- (1) Students are expected to spend a total of 9 hours (i.e. 3 hours of class contact and 6 hours of personal study) per week 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 writing assignment(s) 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/>