

**City University of Hong Kong**  
**Course Syllabus**

**offered by Department of Chinese and History**  
**with effect from Semester B 2017/18**

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**Part I Course Overview**

**Course Title:** Introduction to Literary Theory and Criticism

**Course Code:** CAH2142

**Course Duration:** 1 Semester

**Credit Units:** 3

**Level:** B2

Arts and Humanities

**Proposed Area:**  
*(for GE courses only)*

Study of Societies, Social and Business Organisations

Science and Technology

**Medium of Instruction:** Chinese

**Medium of Assessment:** Chinese

**Prerequisites:**  
*(Course Code and Title)* Nil

**Precursors:**  
*(Course Code and Title)* Nil

**Equivalent Courses:**  
*(Course Code and Title)* Nil

**Exclusive Courses:**  
*(Course Code and Title)* Nil

## Part II Course Details

### 1. Abstract

(A 150-word description about the course)

This course will introduce students to concepts, topics, and issues of literary theory and criticism. Wherever feasible, seminal texts of Chinese literary thought and those of European literary theory will be juxtaposed to demonstrate basic questions and concerns shared by different literary traditions. The Chinese texts will be offered and explained to familiarize students with these shared questions and concerns, but the focus of this course will be on European literary theory and criticism. Students are encouraged to read the texts of European critical theory written in English, and to think whether the concepts and approaches outlined in these texts can be applied to interpreting Chinese literature. The objective of this course is to provide students with methods and tools of studying literature, and to stimulate them to reflect on the characteristics of Chinese literature in a broad, comparative context.

### 2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

(CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)

No.	CILOs <sup>#</sup>	Weighting* (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	Identify the main concepts, topics, and issues of literary theory and criticism.	30%	✓	✓	✓
2.	Recognize various rhetorical techniques, structures and styles of exemplary critical texts.	20%	✓	✓	✓
3.	Explore and apply different approaches to literary criticism.	30%	✓	✓	✓
4.	Demonstrate their exploration clearly, coherently and accurately in their own way.	20%	✓	✓	✓
		100%			

\* If weighting is assigned to CILOs, they should add up to 100%.

<sup>#</sup> Please specify the alignment of CILOs to the Gateway Education Programme Intended Learning outcomes (PILOs) in Section A of Annex.

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to self-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

### 3. Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

(TLAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs.)

TLA	Brief Description	CILO No.						Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3	4			
Lecture	Basic concepts, questions, and issues shared by different literary	✓	✓	✓				

	traditions will be explained in lecture. Exemplary critical texts will be analyzed to demonstrate rhetorical techniques and structures. Different approaches to understand literature and literary criticism will be discussed.							
Tutorial	A number of tutorial groups are formed. Each group is responsible for one oral presentation with a written report on their exploring different literary topics and issues.	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Assignment	Students are required to analyse critical topics with appropriate approaches and examine the characteristics of literature.	✓	✓	✓	✓			

#### 4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)

(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs.)

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.					Weighting*	Remarks
	1	2	3	4			
Continuous Assessment: 60%							
One assignment (30%):  Students are required to analyse critical texts with different approaches and explore the characteristic of literature.		✓	✓	✓		30%	
Presentation (10%) & Report (20%):  Each tutorial group is responsible to analyse chosen literary concept and topic and lead the class for discussion. Group members should also complete a written report covering their exploration by the end of the semester.	✓	✓	✓	✓		30%	
Examination: 40% (duration: 2 hours)							

\* The weightings should add up to 100%.

100%
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## 5. Assessment Rubrics

(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
1. Assignments	<p>1. Knowledge of the subject</p> <p>2. Critical thinking ability in reviewing relevant researches</p> <p>3. Application of relevant approaches.</p> <p>4. Ability in knowledge application.</p>	<p>1. Excellent command of knowledge in literary studies.</p> <p>2. Excellent critical thinking ability in reviewing research reports/research articles related to literary studies.</p> <p>3. Excellent application of theories in literary studies.</p> <p>4. Excellent ability in knowledge application.</p>	<p>1. Good command of knowledge in literary studies.</p> <p>2. Good critical thinking ability in reviewing research reports/research articles related to literary studies.</p> <p>3. Good application of theories in literary studies.</p> <p>4. Good ability in knowledge application.</p>	<p>1. Fair command of knowledge in literary studies.</p> <p>2. Fair critical thinking ability in reviewing research reports/research articles related to literary studies.</p> <p>3. Fair application of theories in literary studies.</p> <p>4. Fair ability in knowledge application.</p>	<p>1. Marginal command of knowledge in literary studies.</p> <p>2. Marginal critical thinking ability in reviewing research reports/research articles related to literary studies.</p> <p>3. Marginal application of theories in literary studies.</p> <p>4. Marginally acceptable ability in knowledge application.</p>	<p>1. Unsatisfactory command of knowledge in literary studies.</p> <p>2. Unsatisfactory critical thinking ability in reviewing research reports/research articles related to literary studies.</p> <p>3. Unsatisfactory application of theories in literary studies.</p> <p>4. Unsatisfactory ability in knowledge application.</p>
2. Presentation & Report	<p>1. Knowledge of the subject</p> <p>2. Critical thinking ability in reviewing relevant researches</p> <p>3. Application of relevant approaches.</p> <p>4. Ability in</p>	<p>1. Excellent command of knowledge in literary studies.</p> <p>2. Excellent critical thinking ability in reviewing research reports/research articles related to</p>	<p>1. Good command of knowledge in literary studies.</p> <p>2. Good critical thinking ability in reviewing research reports/research articles related to literary studies.</p>	<p>1. Fair command of knowledge in literary studies.</p> <p>2. Fair critical thinking ability in reviewing research reports/research articles related to literary studies.</p>	<p>1. Marginal command of knowledge in literary studies.</p> <p>2. Marginal critical thinking ability in reviewing research reports/research articles related to literary studies.</p>	<p>1. Unsatisfactory command of knowledge in literary studies.</p> <p>2. Unsatisfactory critical thinking ability in reviewing research reports/research articles related to literary</p>

	<p>knowledge application.</p> <p>5. Collaborative skills and interaction with classmates</p>	<p>literary studies.</p> <p>3. Excellent application of theories in literary studies.</p> <p>4. Excellent ability in knowledge application.</p> <p>5. Excellent collaborative skills and interactions with the fellow classmates.</p>	<p>3. Good application of theories in literary studies.</p> <p>4. Good ability in knowledge application.</p> <p>5. Good collaborative skills and interactions with the fellow classmates.</p>	<p>3. Fair application of theories in literary studies.</p> <p>4. Fair ability in knowledge application.</p> <p>5. Fair collaboration with teammates and interactions with the fellow classmates.</p>	<p>3. Marginal application of theories in literary studies.</p> <p>4. Marginally acceptable ability in knowledge application.</p> <p>5. Marginally acceptable collaborative skills and interactions with the fellow classmates.</p>	<p>studies.</p> <p>3. Unsatisfactory application of theories in literary studies.</p> <p>4. Unsatisfactory ability in knowledge application.</p> <p>5. Unsatisfactory collaborative skills and interactions with the fellow classmates.</p>
3. Examination	<p>1. Knowledge of the subject</p> <p>2. Critical thinking ability in analysing the questions</p> <p>3. Application of relevant approaches.</p> <p>4. Ability in knowledge application.</p>	<p>1. Excellent command of knowledge in literary studies.</p> <p>2. Excellent critical thinking ability in analysing the questions.</p> <p>3. Excellent application of theories in literary studies.</p> <p>4. Excellent ability in knowledge application</p>	<p>1. Good command of knowledge in literary studies.</p> <p>2. Good critical thinking ability in analysing the questions.</p> <p>3. Good application of theories in literary studies.</p> <p>4. Good ability in knowledge application</p>	<p>1. Fair command of knowledge in literary studies.</p> <p>2. Fair critical thinking ability in analysing the questions.</p> <p>3. Fair application of theories in literary studies.</p> <p>4. Fair ability in knowledge application</p>	<p>1. Marginal command of knowledge in literary studies.</p> <p>2. Marginal critical thinking ability in analysing the questions.</p> <p>3. Marginal application of theories in literary studies.</p> <p>4. Marginally acceptable ability in knowledge application</p>	<p>1. Unsatisfactory command of knowledge in literary studies.</p> <p>2. Unsatisfactory critical thinking ability in analysing the questions.</p> <p>3. Unsatisfactory application of theories in literary studies.</p> <p>4. Unsatisfactory ability in knowledge application</p>

### Part III Other Information (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

#### 1. Keyword Syllabus

*(An indication of the key topics of the course.)*

European literary theory and criticism; critical theory; Chinese literary thought

#### 2. Reading List

##### 2.1 Compulsory Readings

*(Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)*

Chapters taken from the following books

1.	郭紹虞主編《中國歷代文論選》，上海：上海古籍出版社，1-4 冊，1979。
2.	<i>The Norton Anthology of Theory and Criticism</i> , New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 2001.

##### 2.2 Additional Readings

*(Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)*

1.	《柏拉圖文藝對話集》，朱光潛譯，北京：人民文學出版社，1959。
2.	康德《論優美感和崇高感》，何兆武譯，北京：商務印書館，2001。
3.	黑格爾《美學》，朱光潛譯，北京：商務印書館，1979。
4.	張健：《文學概論》，臺北：五南圖書出版股份有限公司，1983 年。
5.	沈謙：《文學概論》，臺北：五南圖書出版股份有限公司，2002 年。
6.	童慶炳：《文學活動的審美維度》，北京：高等教育出版社，2001 年。