

**City University of Hong Kong
Course Syllabus**

**offered by Department of Chinese and History
with effect from Semester A 2022 /23**

Part I Course Overview

Course Title: Narrative Fiction and Contemporary Chinese Literature

Course Code: CAH5737

Course Duration: 1 semester

Credit Units: 3

Level: P5

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

This course aims to offer a critical study of contemporary narrative fiction in Mainland China/Hong Kong/Taiwan as well as other Sinophone 華語語系 regions including Malaysia, Singapore, USA and Europe. The key elements/styles/significances of Sinophonic story-telling practice will be explored and discussed. Major writers to be discussed are Mo Yan (莫言), Ha Jin (哈金), Zhang Dachun (張大春), Bi Feiyu (畢飛宇), Yan Geling (嚴歌苓), Li Yongping (李永平), Yan Lianke (閻連科), Li Zishu (黎紫書), Zhu Xining (朱西甯), Huang Biyun (黃碧雲), Xi Xi (西西), Bei Dao (北島), etc.

As Hannah Arendt stated, one way to define the human condition is to highlight the symbiosis of action and narrativity, a symbiosis that she identifies as the incipient sign of “natality”. Fiction writing creates an open space in which the public and the personal, as well as the past and the future of a community, are brought into view, allowing the passions and shared historical vision of a community to be contested and interwoven. A vibrant society thrives on its narrative power, since to tell stories is to act out new beginning for the human condition.

In this regard, this course will examine not only the literal aesthetics of fiction but also the “dialogues” between story-telling and various historical junctures.

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	Weighting (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	Describe core ideas and knowledge of contemporary Chinese fiction in the context of Sinophone.		X	X	
2.	Apply the ideas and knowledge to examination of topics related to Sinophone and story-telling, so as to discover new key issues of the subject.		X	X	X
3.	Demonstrate aptness in arguing for or against a topic with evidence as well as ability in finding new points of departure for discussing contemporary Chinese fiction in relation to Sinophone.			X	X
		100%			

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				
1. Lecture	All lectures are theme-based with emphasis on transferring course knowledge.	X	X	X				
2. Tutorial	In tutorial sessions, students are divided into small groups that take turns to act as presenters and discussants. The presenters are required to give an oral presentation on an assigned topic. They will submit in written form a revision of the presentation after receiving comments from discussants and the lecturer. In both reports, they are expected to demonstrate full understanding of the assigned readings, give in-depth arguments, and discover new points for discussion.	x	x	x				
3. Peer review	The discussants will take part in active discussion of the presentation. They will submit to the lecturer their comments of the presentation and discovery of new issues in written form. Both oral and written discussions will be assessed.	x	x	x				
4. Guest lecture	Guest speakers (well-known fiction writers) may be invited to give talks.	x	x	x				

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				
Continuous Assessment: 100%							
Oral and written presentations of assigned topics. Emphasis will be placed on the depth of knowledge and discovery of new issues.	x	x	x			30%	Formulation, organization and presentation of arguments and findings of assigned topics.
In-class discussion. Motivate students' spirit in learning and enhance their awareness in discovering new points of discussion.	x	x	x			25%	Reflection on presentation, posing critical questions.
Final report: a 5,000 words critical essay with comparative approach on selected Chinese fiction writers	x	x	x			45%	Demonstration of knowledge learned and discovery of new arguments.
Examination: - (duration: -)						100%	

5. Assessment Rubrics

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

Applicable to students admitted in Semester A 2022/23 and thereafter

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B)	Marginal (B-, C+, C)	Failure (F)
1. Oral and written presentations of assigned topics	Show command of the knowledge provided in the assigned readings, as well as ability to discover new issues pertaining to the topics of discussion.	1. Excellent command of knowledge of essential aspects of the assigned topics and readings. 2. Excellent linguistic competence to explain and assess the main arguments of the assigned readings. 3. Excellent oral and written presentation skills to demonstrate deliberation of the subject. 4. Excellent reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.	1. Good command of knowledge of essential aspects of the assigned topics and readings. 2. Good linguistic competence to explain and assess the main arguments of the assigned readings. 3. Good oral and written presentation skills to demonstrate deliberation of the subject. 4. Good reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.	1. Familiarity with the assigned topics and readings. 2. Able to describe some important points of the assigned readings. 3. Marginal ability and skills to illustrate general view of the subject. 4. Marginal reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.	1. Unfamiliarity with the assigned topics and readings. 2. Unable to describe some important points of the assigned readings. 3. Unsatisfactory ability and skills to illustrate general view of the subject. 4. Unsatisfactory reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.
2. In-class discussion	Active involvement in discussing the related topics.	Very active participation in discussion.	Active participation in discussion.	Very passive participation in discussion.	No participation in discussion.

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B)	Marginal (B-, C+, C)	Failure (F)
3. Final report	The students need to demonstrate (1) factual information of the topics discussed throughout the course; (2) their creative and critical opinions of certain issues related to the subject taught in the class.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Excellent command of knowledge of essential aspects of the course content. Excellent linguistic competence to explain and assess the main arguments of the assigned readings. Excellent oral and written presentation skills to demonstrate deliberation of the subject. Excellent reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Good command of knowledge of essential aspects of the course content. Good linguistic competence to explain and assess the main arguments of the assigned readings. Good oral and written presentation skills to demonstrate deliberation of the subject. Good reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Familiarity with the subject matter. Able to describe some important points of the assigned readings. Marginal ability and skills to illustrate general view of the subject. Marginal reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Unfamiliarity with the subject matter. Unable to describe some important points of the assigned readings. Unsatisfactory ability and skills to illustrate general view of the subject. Unsatisfactory reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.

Applicable to students admitted before Semester A 2022/23

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
1. Oral and written presentations of assigned topics	Show command of the knowledge provided in the assigned readings, as well as ability to discover new issues	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Excellent command of knowledge of essential aspects of the assigned topics and readings. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Good command of knowledge of essential aspects of the assigned topics and 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Adequate command of the assigned topics and readings. Fair linguistic competence to 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Familiarity with the assigned topics and readings. Able to describe some important points of the assigned 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Unfamiliarity with the assigned topics and readings. Unable to describe some important points of the

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
	pertaining to the topics of discussion.	2. Excellent linguistic competence to explain and assess the main arguments of the assigned readings. 3. Excellent oral and written presentation skills to demonstrate deliberation of the subject. 4. Excellent reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.	readings. 2. Good linguistic competence to explain and assess the main arguments of the assigned readings. 3. Good oral and written presentation skills to demonstrate deliberation of the subject. 4. Good reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.	describe the arguments of the assigned readings. 3. Acceptable oral and written presentation skills to illustrate general view of the subject 4. Fair reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.	readings. 3. Marginal ability and skills to illustrate general view of the subject. 4. Marginal reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.	assigned readings. 3. Unsatisfactory ability and skills to illustrate general view of the subject. 4. Unsatisfactory reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.
2. In-class discussion	Active involvement in discussing the related topics.	Very active participation in discussion.	Active participation in discussion.	Passive participation in discussion.	Very passive participation in discussion.	No participation in discussion.

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
3. Final report	The students need to demonstrate (1) factual information of the topics discussed throughout the course; (2) their creative and critical opinions of certain issues related to the subject taught in the class.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Excellent command of knowledge of essential aspects of the course content. 2. Excellent linguistic competence to explain and assess the main arguments of the assigned readings. 3. Excellent oral and written presentation skills to demonstrate deliberation of the subject. 4. Excellent reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Good command of knowledge of essential aspects of the course content. 2. Good linguistic competence to explain and assess the main arguments of the assigned readings. 3. Good oral and written presentation skills to demonstrate deliberation of the subject. <p>Good reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adequate command of the course content. 2. Fair linguistic competence to describe the arguments of the assigned readings. 3. Acceptable oral and written presentation skills to illustrate general view of the subject 4. Fair reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Familiarity with the subject matter. 2. Able to describe some important points of the assigned readings. 3. Marginal ability and skills to illustrate general view of the subject. 4. Marginal reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unfamiliarity with the subject matter. 2. Unable to describe some important points of the assigned readings. 3. Unsatisfactory ability and skills to illustrate general view of the subject. 4. Unsatisfactory reflective and discovery ability to address new issues pertaining to the subject.

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.)

Sinophone. Literature. Hong Kong, Mainland China, Taiwan, Malaysia.
Modern and contemporary Chinese literature, studies of representative writers, sociology of literature, modern and contemporary Chinese fiction. Feminism, gender politics, identity, domestic and national, genres and subgenres, individual and collective memory.

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.)

1.	《跨世紀風華：當代小說 20 家》王德威 著：2002 臺北：麥田
2.	《反離散：華語語系研究論》史書美 著：2017 臺北：聯經
3.	《馬華文學與中國性》黃錦樹 著：1998 臺北：元尊文化
4.	《台灣新文學史》陳芳明 著：2011 臺北：聯經
5.	《根著我城：戰後至 2000 年代的香港文學》陳智德 著：2019 臺北：聯經

2.2 Additional Readings

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

1.	《解體我城》陳智德 著：2009 香港：花千樹
2.	《後遺民寫作》王德威 著：2007 臺北：麥田
3.	《同志文學史》紀大偉 著：2017 臺北：聯經
4.	《此心安處即吾鄉：嚴歌苓的移民小說文化版圖》葛亮 著：2014 香港：三聯