

**Hong Kong Shue Yan University
Minor Programme**

Department of English Language and Literature

Minor Programme Offered: Minor in Literary and Cultural Studies

(Available for Year 1 Entry: 2016 cohort onwards; Year 2 Entry: 2017 cohort onwards; Year 3 Entry: 2020 cohort onwards)

- 1) Students are required to complete a minimum of 15 credits with 2 compulsory courses and choosing 3 courses out of the 6 courses offered:

Course List			
<i>Course Code</i>	<i>Course Title</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Pre-requisite(s)</i>
Compulsory			
ENG120	Introduction to Literature	3	NIL
ENG153	Introduction to Cultural Studies	3	NIL
Choose 3 courses out of 6			
ENG184	Women's Writing and Feminist Readings	3	ENG120
ENG273	Children's Literature	3	ENG120
ENG335	Popular Culture	3	ENG153
ENG389	Travel and Culture	3	ENG153
ENG479	Science Fiction in Literature and Film	3	ENG120
ENG489	Visual Culture Studies	3	ENG153

* *The course list is subject to change without prior notice.*

DESCRIPTION OF COURSES (MINOR IN LITERARY AND CULTURAL STUDIES)

Eng. 120 Introduction to Literature

1 Term; 3 Credits

This course aims to introduce students to various genres of literature (short story, poetry, drama, fiction) as well as to critical reading methods. It also aims to enhance students' appreciation and understanding of major types of literature and equip them with the ability to develop critical approaches to thinking, reading and writing about literary works.

Eng. 153 Introduction to Cultural Studies

1 Term; 3 Credits

Through examining texts, artistic forms and discursive practices that reflect and produce different cultures, students will take part in delineating the working definition(s), methodology and critical awareness of the subject. Concepts such as multiculturalism, diaspora, hybridity, globalism/localism, transnationalism will be discussed. Emphasis will be given to Hong Kong culture as a basic reference point in its contact and interaction with other cultures.

Eng. 184 Women's Writing and Feminist Readings

1 Term; 3 Credits

This course aims to introduce students to the various ways of engaging with literary texts from feminist perspectives. Taking literary texts as a major site of political contestation, feminists have developed a tradition of readings and writings that contributes to multiple interpretations of modern culture. Topics of the course will include introduction to feminist theories, representation of women in various cultural texts, and the traditions of women's writings as evolved over time.

Eng.273 Children's Literature

1 Term; 3 Credits

This course aims at introducing students to both historical development and thematic context of children's literature. A wide range of materials of children's literature, including from pre-school to adolescent texts, are selected for the course. Students will familiarize themselves with fairy tales, religious tracts of the nineteenth century, fantasy writings, picture books and other sub-genres of children's literature. Through examining several landmark works, students will acquire an understanding of 'childhood', identities crisis, double audience, and other critical issues related to the writings for young readers. Besides, they will also look into the debate between education and entertainment purposes, gender stereotypes, multicultural writings, the use of visual language, and adaptations of children's texts.

Eng. 335 Popular Culture

1 Term; 3 Credits

This course aims at providing students with an introduction to contemporary debates on how subjectivities and everyday practices of popular culture take shape in mass society. It also delineates the ways popular culture constitutes a common and thereby important part of our lives. By drawing upon consumer's culture, pop music, media and sports, advertisements, films, anime and comics, theme parks, etc, this course endeavours to show to students that an informal consciousness of class, gender and race is essential to any understanding of the sociology of popular cultural practices, both in the West and in Hong Kong. Issues such as postmodernism, identity politics, technoscience and media will be brought forth to bear on popular cultural texts which are already parts of students' literacies and practices.

Eng. 389 Travel and Culture

1 Term; 3 Credits

Travel has recently become a complex phenomenon of unprecedented proportions. This course aims at providing a theoretical and historical framework to analyse and reflect upon the relationships between travel and culture through an interdisciplinary approach. Topics discussed include: globalization, gender, consumption, theme parks, ecology, heritage and authenticity, etc. Travel writing will also be emphasized.

Eng. 479 Science Fiction in Literature and Films

1 Term; 3 Credits

This course is designed to introduce to students both the historical development and narrative structure of science fiction as a unique genre within the context of the postmodernist movement. Through a body of literary works such as cultural theories, short stories, and novellas, and Sci-fi films, students will be introduced to topics such as alternate history, artificial intelligence, cyberpunk, cloning and genetic engineering, cyborg and posthumanism, nanotechnology, etc.

Eng. 489 Visual Culture Studies

1 Term; 3 Credits

With the advance in visual and media technologies, our society has been increasingly predominated by visual signs and spectacle since the beginning of 20th century. This course aims at equipping students with the tools for more critical understanding of everyday visual experience. It will draw upon cultural texts, such as photography, cinema and television, digital media, Internet and web images, video and computer games, anime and manga, advertisements, fashion and architecture, and as well as visual culture theories to discuss issues like nationality, gender, class, race, postmodernism, consumerism, post-colonialism, etc.