

**Hong Kong Shue Yan University**  
**Minor Programme for the Academic Year 2016/17**

**Department of English Language and Literature**

**Minor Programme Offered: Minor in Literary and Cultural Studies**

- 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:

<b>Course List</b>			
<i>Course Code</i>	<i>Course Title</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Pre-requisite(s)</i>
<b><i>Compulsory</i></b>			
ENG120	Introduction to Literature	3	NIL
ENG153	Introduction to Cultural Studies	3	NIL
<b><i>Choose 3 courses out of 6</i></b>			
ENG183	Modern Asian Fiction	3	ENG120
ENG273	Children's Literature	3	ENG120
ENG335	Popular Culture	3	NIL
ENG389	Travel and Culture	3	NIL
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. 183 Modern Asian Fiction**

**1 Term; 3 Credits**

Through critical reading of various modern Asian novels and short stories, this course explores modern Asian culture and history as reflected in literary texts. Issues such as modernity and postmodernity, colonialism and postcolonialism, identity, gender and sexuality will be discussed. This course also questions the idea of national literature, and how a category of literature is formed. Basic critical theories will also be introduced.

### **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.