

HUMA5440 Contemporary Chinese Fiction

Fall 2024

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Course Description

This class will be a close reading of Western and contemporary Chinese literary masterpieces as well as cultivating students' ability in innovative fictional writing. The goal for this class is to get familiar with selective Western and Chinese masterpieces and learn how to write a short story or a long essay on your own in addition to writing a critical essay. It will be designed as a PG creative writing course, not only exploring styles, structures, and narratives of novels, but also involving students in the form of seminar discussions and in-class writing. Unlike the traditional literary courses that focus on lectures and literary theories, this class encourages students to read, appreciate, and critique Western and Chinese novels, and engage in innovative writing of fiction and essay.

Grading

Attendance, Participation, Discussion	10%
Pop quizzes on readings	20%
In-class writing practice and presentations	20%
Critical essay	25%
Final short novel	25%

Class Requirements:

Attendance and in-class participation are weighed heavily in this course. Students are ^[1]_[SEP]expected to complete the reading assignment PRIOR to coming to class and be ready to discuss and engage in class. If no participation effort is made in class, attendance alone cannot guarantee a high mark for this portion of your grade.

Class participation is expected since talking with fellow students is the best way to learn. So earn your good grade the fun way—start and keep talking in class! Don't be afraid to make mistakes, but you do need to show that you are familiar with the readings and that you have seriously thought about the texts. **Be prepared and read before class.** **Pop quizzes** will be given from time to time in class without prior notice. The quiz usually consists of 4-5 questions only and would not take more than 15 minutes to complete.

In-class writing practice is required either on papers or on your own computer, but you are also allowed to continue to write or revise after the class. We will also share some of your writings in the class with other classmates.

Individual and group presentations are required in the class.

A **critical essay** is required at the end of the semester. You can choose your own topic about a literary criticism of a writer and his/her novels.

Final short novel must be an innovative creative writing piece, which can demonstrate your writing skills in terms of language, structure, style, and narratology.

Class Rules:

NO plagiarism!!! – This is taken VERY seriously. Violations will result in a ZERO on your grade.

No use of mobile phone – i.e. no talking, texting, emailing, or web browsing on your mobile phone. Please put your phone on silent mode in class. If constant usage is found or a message/ring tone is heard, your phone will be taken away until the class ends.

Listening etiquette – please listen carefully while someone is talking.

Speaking etiquette – please allow others to finish their sentence before you offer yours.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOS)

1. Enhancing students' creative writing skills;
2. Gaining an overview of contemporary Chinese novels and recent critical interest;
3. Mastering some fundamental concepts in literary and cultural studies;
4. Learning how to read both Western and Chinese literary classics;
5. Improving students' ability of writing a literary critical essay.

课程安排:

分两个层面。均以作品例。

第一个层面。从总体上讲述写作所需要的视野和价值立场。分析小说写作中的叙事、空间和时间的关系。进入文学内部，着重于从文学本质入手，分析文学写作中的一些基本问题。比如文学中现实与虚构之间的关系、时间、空间，叙事，文体，结构等。让学生能够对小说写作有最基本的把握。

第二个层面。进行细部训练。从写作者所应具备的能力入手，如观察力、感受力和想象力，培养写作的感觉和方向。以经典文学中的片断为例，分析其结构、语言和技巧，对学生进行非常具体的写作训练。

阅读书目：

课堂上所提及的经典篇目作为学生的积累，可以在课余时间慢慢阅读。

需要在课前阅读的必讀小說則长篇泛读，短篇必讀與精读

推薦批評文集：

昆德拉《小說的藝術》

劉再復《什麼是文學：文學常識二十二講》

劉再復《怎樣讀文學：文學慧悟十八講》

刘剑梅《小說的越界》

閻連科《聊齋的帷幔》

Class Schedule (Subjected to change):

Week 1 介紹課程安排
 電影《弗蘭肯斯坦》

Week 2 文學與寓言

 博爾赫斯《南方》《環形廢墟》《小徑分岔的花園》
 《永生》《神的文字》《阿萊夫》
 卡夫卡《變形記》
 庫切《等待野蠻人》
 黃錦樹《開往中國的慢船》
 課外电影：《紅高粱》

Week 3 文學與魔幻

 布魯諾·舒爾茨《沙漏做招牌的療養院》《鳥》《蟑螂》《死季》
 《父親的最後一次逃亡》
 莫言《透明的紅蘿蔔》《黑孩》或《酒國》（選讀）

余華《十八歲出門遠行》《1986》《古典愛情》
閻連科《受活》（選讀）
王小波《綠毛水怪》
張楚《水仙》
課外電影《可憐的東西》

Week 4 文學與良心

遠藤周作《沈默》（選讀），《深河》（必讀）
格雷厄姆·格林《權力與榮耀》（選讀）
陀思妥耶夫斯基《卡拉馬佐夫兄弟》（選讀）
課外電影《第七封印》

Week 5 文學的小徑分岔

黃錦樹《遲到的青年》
若昂·吉馬朗埃斯·羅薩《河的第三條岸》
福克納《愛米麗的玫瑰花》
海明威《白象似的群山》
閻連科《聊齋本紀》（選讀）
課外電影《媽的多重宇宙》

Week 6 文學與自然

沈從文《丈夫》
廢名《橋》
阿城的《樹王》《棋王》《孩子王》
汪曾祺《受戒》《大淖紀事》
課外電影《黃金時代》

Week 7 文學與自然

陳春成《夜晚的潛水艇》《竹峰寺》
孫頻《以鳥獸之名》《海邊魔術師》《棣棠之約》
吳明益《苦雨之地》
張愛玲《中國的日夜》

課外電影《野草莓》

Week 8

感受與想像

馬爾克斯《禮拜二午睡時刻》《巨翅老人》《世界上最漂亮的溺水者》

閻連科《年月日》

胡安·魯爾佛《佩德羅·巴拉莫》

課外電影《胭脂扣》

Week 9

女性的寫作

張愛玲《傾城之戀》

克萊兒·吉根《南極》

西西《浮城誌異》

維吉尼亞·伍爾夫《奧蘭多》（選讀）

韓江《素食者》

奧爾加·托卡爾丘克《太古和其他的時間》（選讀）

《衣櫃》

課外電影《奧蘭多》

Week 10

文學與自我

佩索阿《憫然集》

赫拉巴爾《過於喧囂的孤獨》

高行健《靈山》（選讀）

菲利普·福雷斯特《然而》（選讀）

課外電影《包法利夫人》

Week 11

文學與歷史

遲子健《額爾古納河右岸》

朱天心《古都》

王小波《革命時期的愛情》

余華《活著》（小說選讀）

課外電影《活著》

Week 12 Student Presentation

Week 13 Student Presentation

課堂總結