Spring 2024
HUMA 5340 Modern Chinese Literary Criticism (subject to change)

Instructor: Professor Shengqing Wu
Division of Humanities, HKUST
Office: Room 2380, Academic Bldg; Office phone: (852) 2358-8981
E-mail: hmswu@ust.hk; Office hours: 10:00am-1:00pm, Tuesday and by appointment

Time and Classroom
Monday: 3:00pm to 5:50pm
Classroom: 5508 (lift 25-26)

Course Description
This course, taught in Chinese, is designed to introduce students to the history of Chinese
literature and literary criticism from new perspectives. Emphasis will be placed on
reconstructing and interpreting Chinese literary history, the lyrical tradition, and
approaches to Chinese literature from comparative and theoretical perspectives. The
seminar will combine lecture and intensive discussion with regular student assignments.
Active student participation is expected.

Course Objective
The course will enhance students' ability to engage with literature in generic, theoretical,
and historical approaches. Topics include a review of key concepts in literary history,
Chinese narrative in comparative perspective, Chinese lyricism, Chinese poetry in
various media, translation, and new approaches to literary studies.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOS)

1. Enhancing students’ critical thinking abilities and writing skills;
2. Gaining an overview of Chinese literary history and recent critical issues;
3. Mastering some fundamental concepts in literary and cultural studies;
4. Learning how to design a research project through a critically refreshing perspective.

Weekly Organization and Readings
Required and suggested readings are accessible through the course web page (Canvas) or
put on reserve at the library. Lectures, students’ presentations, and discussions will
alternate in class.

Assessment:
Attendance, Presentation, Discussion: 10% +10% (10% for excellent in-class
performance)
Short response papers: 20%
One group project: 10%
One final Paper: 50%
Assignments:
Course Requirements:
All students must attend classes regularly and finish readings **before class**.
1. Writing a short response paper and post it online every OTHER week (one-two pages). I will send you a weekly email to remind you. Please post the response paper as word attachment (file name: surname name WK2) on the Discussion column on Canvas, **Due 5pm Sunday**.
2. Students will be asked to give one or two oral presentations on the reading materials. The oral presentation will not be graded.
3. Group research project
4. Final paper. 8000-10,000 Chinese characters for MPhil and PhD Students, 5000-6000 Chinese characters for MA students. 12-15 page double-spaced paper in English is also acceptable. **Due 5pm on May 27th (Monday), 2024.**

Weekly Schedule

**WEEK 1**
Feb. 5 文學、文學史、文學批評 Introduction to course & Deconstruction of the Notion of wenxue and “literary history”
Selected readings from Hayden White’s *Tropics of Discourse, The Content of the Form*

**WEEK 2 Feb 12 (NO class)**

**WEEK 3**
Feb. 19 文學史的現代書寫
Prasenjit Duara: Introduction from *Rescuing History from the Nation: Questioning Narratives of Modern China* (U. of Chicago, 1995) ; 胡適《中國白話文學史》；錢基博《中國現代文學史》；胡蘭成《中國文學史話》

**WEEK 4**
Feb.26 文學、小說概念的變遷
梁啟超，《小說與群治的關係》等
Ted Huters: *Bring the World Home* Chap 3 & 4

**WEEK 5**
March 4 “悲”的現代批評觀
王國維 《紅樓夢評論》； 魯迅《摩羅詩力說》

**WEEK 6**
March 11 比較視野下的中國小說
Andrew Plakes: *Archetype and Allegory in the Dream of the Red Chamber* ; Marston Anderson: *Limits of Realism* Chap1; David Der-wei Wang: *Fin-de-siecle Splendor: Repressed Modernities of Late Qing Fiction* (1-52).

**WEEK 7**
March 18 再構“抒情傳統”I：朱自清、朱光潛、宗白華、方東美
朱自清，《詩言志辨》；朱光潛《論詩》；宗白華《美學與意境》；方東美《生生之美》

WEEK 8
March 25 再構“抒情傳統”II：陳世襄、高友工等
陈世襄：《论中国抒情传统》；《原兴：兼论中国文学特质》；王德威：《有情的历史：抒情传统与中国文学现代性》

WEEK 9
April 1 (NO class)

WEEK 10
April 8 情、情動與現代性

WEEK 11
April 15. 詩書畫與媒介

WEEK 12
April 22. 文學研究中關鍵詞
Raymond Williams, Keywords ； 金觀濤、劉青峰：〈隱藏在關鍵詞中的歷史世界〉

WEEK 13
April 29 文學與翻譯
錢鍾書，《林紓的翻譯》；Lydia Liu: Introduction from Translingual Practices;
Eliot Weinberger: selections from Nineteen Ways of Looking at Wang Wei: How a Chinese Poem is Translated (Moyer Bell Limited, 1987)

WEEK 14
May 6. concluding remarks & presentation of group projects