Course Syllabus

Course Code: HUMA 3203

Course Title: Chinese Creative Writing: Reading Literary Classics and Writing Novels [C][PU] Course Offered in: Fall 2024 Course

Instructor: Yan Lianke

Course Description:

This course introduces selective Western and Chinese literary novels, and provides students with a forum for extended practice in the art of creative writing. It is designed for students who have little or no previous experience writing literary texts in a particular genre. Introductory workshops introduce students to a variety of technical and imaginative concerns through exercises, readings, and discussions. In addition to weekly reading literary classics, this course will especially focus on writing literary novels in Chinese or cross the boundaries of the genre.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs):

Upon completion of this course, students are expected to be able to:

1. Through guidance in a small classroom setting, students will learn to interpret and write literary novels.

2. By reading world literary classics and Chinese literary classics, students will understand the essence of literary creative writing.

3. Through hands on coaching sessions, students will discover and express their own creativity in the genre of fiction.

Planned Assessment Tasks:

Final & Written Assignment: 70%

Course Participation & Attendance: 30%

Course Arrangement:

Week 1

第一講 故事:一種講述的責任與契約

閱讀材料:歌德《一堆奇怪的小鄰居》

第二講 人物:作為寫作的一種終極之典型 閱讀材料:左拉《陪襯人》

Week 3

第三講 細節:文學堅實而永恆的支點 閱讀材料:契訶夫《一個小官吏之死》

Week 4

第四講 語言:別把羽毛從鳥兒身上拔下來 閱讀材料:沈從文《丈夫》

Week 5

第五講 風格:寫作者對自我的尋找與認定 閱讀材料:馬克·吐溫《競選州長》

Week 6

第六講 歷史背景:人物與命運的草原和大地 閱讀材料:莫泊桑《羊脂球》

Week 7

第七講 世俗世相:文學中精神萬物與真實生長的根本土壤 閱讀材料:哈代《三怪客》

Week 8

第八講 自然情景:決然不是人物與情節的舞台與幕布 閱讀材料:傑克·倫敦《熱愛生命》

Week 9

第九講 誇張與傳奇:一顆下世紀荒誕的種子 閱讀材料:果戈理《鼻子》

Week 10

第十講 思想:射向目標的箭和纏箭而繞的風 閱讀材料:都德《柏林之圍》

Week 11

第十一講 文學關係:寫作與閱讀的內脈線 閱讀材料:森鷗外《舞姬》

Week 12

第十二講開頭與結尾:可控的開始與不可控的結束 閱讀材料:歐·亨利《最後一片葉子》

Week13

課程總結與自由討論