

Department of English
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

ENGE3370 – Writing Hong Kong

Description

This course focuses on the art of writing about Hong Kong. Through the use of writing prompts and readings in the genres of fiction, creative non-fiction, and poetry, the course introduces students to different approaches to writing about the city's social, cultural and physical environments. The majority of class time will comprise discussions of primary texts, presentations and critique workshops, and coursework will include critical responses as well as creative writing in the genres of study. Students are expected to engage proactively in all discussions, as they consider issues such as genre, memory and identity in relation to readership. Through participation in class discussions, writing workshops and exploration of actual environments, students will be able to produce writings in multiple genres that evoke Hong Kong's unique past, present, and future.

Learning outcomes

By the end of this course a student should have:

- i) Developed an understanding of cultural and literary issues regarding writing about Hong Kong in English.
- ii) Considered the various genres and their diverse possibilities in relation to writing about Hong Kong.
- iii) Gained experience in careful, constructive evaluation of their own writing as well as those of others.
- iv) Acquired and discussed techniques of writing about Hong Kong.

Course schedule

Lectures	Topics
1)	Creative Non-fiction: Sense of Place, Sense of Self
2)	Poetry: The Personal and the Social
3)	Poetry: The Personal and the Imaginary
4)	Fiction & Creative Non-fiction: Vignettes of a City
5)	Film: The Individual and the Community
6)	Poetry: Hope and Uncertainty
7)	Fiction: The Real and the Surreal
8)	Poetry: Sexuality, Identity and Language
9)	Film: Love, Sexuality and Society
10)	Fiction: The Diasporic Subjectivity (I)
11)	Creative Non-fiction: The Diasporic Subjectivity (II)
12)	Writing Hong Kong: Finding Your Voice (I)
13)	Writing Hong Kong: Finding Your Voice (II)

Assessment Scheme

Task nature	Description	Weight
Attendance and Participation	Attendance is required. Students are expected to engage actively and promptly in all exercises and class discussions. This mark will include deductions for late arrival or absence in class.	10%
Presentations and Workshop Critiques	Students are expected to contribute to critique workshops proactively by presenting their own work and providing constructive feedback on the writings of others. This mark will include deductions for absence in workshop sessions.	20%
Discussion Board Responses	Every other week students will post a response to a discussion prompt. Sometimes the prompts will ask for critical responses to assigned readings or other topics discussed in class; sometimes they will ask for creative responses or for self-reflection about your writing process. The responses will be informal, though you should proofread them to make sure your meaning comes across clearly.	10%
In-depth Response	<u>Hong Kong Neighborhood Study</u> : Choose a neighbourhood in Hong Kong (it may be one you are already familiar with, or a new one). Research the history of the neighborhood. Spend at least an hour there at street level. You may walk or bike around, or you may sit in one place and watch the street around you. Take notes. Write at least 500 words about how the traces of the neighbourhood's distant and/or recent past are, or are not, apparent to you. You may also discuss your perception of, or relationship with, the neighbourhood.	15%
Creative Project and Critical Self-Reflection	Your writing portfolio will have both a creative and a critical component: -The creative component (30%) will comprise: 1) a work of flash fiction or creative nonfiction, or a selection of poems (or one long poem), and 2) a short piece of monologue. -The critical component (15%) will be a reflection describing your drafting process and discussing your inspiration, imagined audience, and goals for your creative pieces.	45%

Learning Resources

All selected readings will be made available on the course website. While there is no requirement to purchase a textbook or other materials, students are responsible for printing out or downloading and bringing to class all assigned readings, either in hard copy or digitally.

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Please read carefully the information regarding academic honesty on the following website: http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/	

Department of English

Grade A / Excellent: Outstanding performance on ALL learning outcomes.

Demonstrates the ability to synthesize and apply the principles or skills learned in the course in a manner that would surpass the normal expectations at this level and typical of standards that may be common at higher levels of study. The 'A' grade should be reserved for truly excellent work that exceeds the level expected for the majority of students and are expected to be achieved only by a small minority

Grade A- / Very Good: Generally outstanding performance on ALMOST ALL learning outcomes.

Demonstrates the ability to synthesize and apply the principles or skills learned in the course in a manner that would fully fulfill the normal expectations at this level and occasionally reaches standards that may be common at higher levels of study.

Grade B+ / Good (Plus): HIGH performance on all learning outcomes, OR HIGH performance on some learning outcomes which compensates WELL for slightly less satisfactory performance on others, resulting in overall substantial performance.

Demonstrates the ability to apply WELL the principles or skills learned in the course in a comprehensive manner that would sufficiently fulfill the normal expectations at this level WELL.

Grade B / Good: SUBSTANTIAL performance on all learning outcomes, OR SUBSTANTIAL performance on some learning outcomes which compensates for slightly less satisfactory performance on others, resulting in overall substantial performance.

Demonstrates the ability to apply the principles or skills learned in the course in a MORE COMPREHENSIVE manner that would sufficiently fulfill the normal expectations at this level.

Grade B- / Good (Minus): GOOD performance on all learning outcomes, OR GOOD performance on some learning outcomes which compensates for slightly less satisfactory performance on others,

resulting in overall substantial performance.

Demonstrates the ability to apply the principles or skills learned in the course in a COMPREHENSIVE manner that would sufficiently fulfill the normal expectations at this level.

Grade C+ / Fair (Plus): VERY SATISFACTORY performance on the majority of learning outcomes.

Demonstrates the ability to apply the principles or skills learned in the course in a SOMEWHAT SUSTAINED manner that would meet the basic requirement at this level.

Grade C / Fair: SATISFACTORY performance on the majority of learning outcomes.

Demonstrates the ability to partially apply the principles or skills learned in the course in a manner that would meet the basic requirement at this level.

Grade C- / Fair (Minus): SOMEWHAT SATISFACTORY performance on A NUMBER OF learning outcomes.

Demonstrates the ability to SOMEWHAT apply the principles or skills learned in the course in a manner that would meet the BARE basic requirement at this level.

Grade D+ / Pass (Plus): BARELY SATISFACTORY performance on A FEW learning outcomes.

Addresses the course inadequately by meeting the basic requirement at this level only in some areas while responding minimally with possibly tangential content in others.

Grade D / Pass: ALMOST BARELY satisfactory performance on VERY FEW learning outcomes.

Addresses the course inadequately by meeting the basic requirement at this level only in very few areas while responding very minimally with possibly tangential content in others.

Grade F / Failure: Unsatisfactory performance on a number of learning outcomes, OR failure to meet specified assessment requirements.

Fails to address the course and likely does not understand what the course requires. In other words, the work completely misses the point.