BA Syllabuses for 2026-27, applicable to cohort admitted in 2020-21

SCHOOL OF ENGLISH

INTRODUCTION

The School of English offers teaching and conducts research in literary and cultural studies, English linguistics and language and communication. The School also contributes to the teaching of the BA&BEd in Language Education (English) double degree programme and the BA (Literary Studies) & LLB joint degree programme.

The School offers two majors and two minors:
(1) **English Studies (ES)**
(2) **Language and Communication (L&C)**

Admission to the School is strictly on the basis of academic record including a minimum Level 5 in English Language in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) examination, or an equivalent score in another recognized English proficiency test. Students intending to declare a major or a minor in the School must pass at least one introductory course from List A in the first year. A major consists of five introductory courses (including the first-year prerequisite) and eight advanced courses (including a capstone experience). A minor consists of three introductory courses (including the first-year prerequisite) and three advanced courses. Students intending to enroll in advanced courses must normally have completed three introductory courses (with at least one course from both List A and List B).

Choice of courses and options is subject to the School's approval. Students should consult the School web page about the actual course offerings and must ensure that their choice of courses conforms to any prerequisites laid down by the School. Majors in English Studies and Language and Communication are given priority entry into advanced courses in their respective major.

Prescribed reading, specifications for each course, recommended course combinations, and information about prerequisites are available at the website https://english.hku.hk. Regular attendance at tutorials and other classes and the punctual completion of work prescribed by the student's tutor or supervisor are expected.

ENGLISH STUDIES

English Studies is the scholarly investigation of the English language and its many uses in social and historical contexts. It prominently includes the study of literature(s) written in English, as well as creative writing. Both the language and the literatures are studied from multiple perspectives, linguistic ones and literary ones, and also including critical and cultural theory. Our English Studies programme has a strong cross-cultural orientation, recognizing English as a language of global communication and world literature, a language which people make their own, creatively and habitually, all over the world. It offers students both a solid foundation and a wide range of choices in various concentrations. Introductory courses emphasize the practice of critical reading, analysis and writing, as well as the development of historical and theoretical knowledge. Advanced courses focus on English language and literature as representations of culture and society in diverse historical contexts, on the production of meaning in different discursive contexts, genres and media, and on the place of English in relation to histories of colonization and globalization with special reference to Hong Kong and the region. A range of capstone courses, including research seminars, internships and senior colloquia, offer students opportunities to integrate and deploy their learning in the major while considering their options upon graduation.

On successful completion of the major or minor in English Studies, students should be able to:

- identify and analyze issues and topics in the study of English literature and linguistics through various approaches;
- formulate critical questions and investigate topics through research, analysis and writing;
- identify and express their own perspectives regarding disciplinary issues and compare them to those of others;
- demonstrate an appreciation of the global dimensions and cultural diversity within English language and literature;
- recognize and make use of various rhetorical and discursive features in the presentation, organization and discussion of ideas, observations, and arguments; and
- understand and articulate the relevance of English Studies in providing insight into the role of language and literature in culture and society.

The courses of the English Studies programme incorporate a variety of teaching and learning methods, including formal lectures, seminars, small group tutorials, workshops, and online learning. They are mostly assessed by coursework, including oral presentations, in-class tests and quizzes, essays and research projects and portfolios. They are designed to provide students with skills of accurate and historically sensitive analysis, critical reading and thinking, and clear and coherent argument in both writing and speaking.

Students are encouraged to discuss their study plans and course selections with the UG Coordinator, their Academic Advisers, or any teachers in the English Studies programme.

First-year Prerequisite

Students intending to declare a major or minor in English Studies in the second year must pass at least one introductory ENGL course from List A "Historical and Theoretical Foundations" (6 credits) in the first year.

Admission to all introductory courses is on the basis of academic record including a minimum Level 5 in English Language in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) examination, or an equivalent score in another recognized English proficiency test.

Major in English Studies (78 credits)

To complete the requirements of the major, students must take:

1. 30 credits of introductory courses (including the first-year prerequisite), normally taken in the first two years of study, which consist of:
   (a) 12 credits from List A "Historical and Theoretical Foundations" (including the first-year prerequisite);
   (b) 12 credits from List B "Critical Reading, Analysis and Writing";
   (c) 6 credits from either List A or List B; and

2. 48 credits of advanced courses, which must include a capstone course to be taken preferably in the final year.

Minor in English Studies (36 credits)

To complete the requirements of the minor, students must take:

1. 18 credits of introductory courses, which consist of:
   (a) 6 credits of the first-year prerequisite from List A "Historical and Theoretical Foundations";
   (b) 6 credits from List B "Critical Reading, Analysis and Writing";
   (c) 6 credits from either List A or List B; and

2. 18 credits of advanced courses.

Introductory Courses

List A: Historical and Theoretical Foundations

The courses in this list will introduce students to the history and organization of diverse areas of literary and linguistic scholarship. Students will acquire a general overview of selected areas and issues, including major theoretical distinctions or classifications and their historical development over time.

ENGL1011. An introduction to the study of meaning (6 credits)
ENGL1013. Exploring the modern: Reading early 20th century British writing (6 credits)
ENGL1015. Introduction to English linguistics (6 credits)
ENGL1016. Introduction to life writing (6 credits)
ENGL1017. Introduction to sociolinguistics (6 credits)
ENGL1018. Language and gender (6 credits)
ENGL1020. Nineteenth-century literature and culture (6 credits)
ENGL1022. Poetry past and present (6 credits)
ENGL1023. Experimental prose (6 credits)
ENGL1024. Topics in world literature (6 credits)
ENGL1025. Understanding narratives (6 credits)
ENGL1037. Persuasion (6 credits)
ENGL1044. Introduction to literary theory (6 credits)
ENGL1045. "Community" in Sociolinguistics (6 credits)
ENGL1051. English sounds (6 credits)
ENGL1056/ LCOM1001. Introduction to language and communication (6 credits)
ENGL1057/ LCOM1002. Language, communication, society, field (6 credits)
ENGL1058/ LCOM1003. Theorizing communication (6 credits)
ENGL1059/ LCOM1004. Introduction to pragmatics (6 credits)
ENGL1060. Performance Studies and everyday life (6 credits)
ENGL1062. Reading and writing about literature (6 credits)
ENGL1063. Introduction to literary history (6 credits)
ENGL1067. Introduction to creative writing (6 credits)

DRTP1000. Introduction to drama, theatre and performance studies (6 credits)

List B: Critical Reading, Analysis and Writing

The courses in this list will introduce students to the practice and methods of critical reading, analysis and writing, focusing on different areas of literary and linguistic study. Students will acquire a basic grasp of analytical distinctions and terminology, and learn to ask questions and construct critical arguments.

ENGL1014. Imaginary geographies: The art of writing place (6 credits)
ENGL1026. Adaptation: From text to screen (6 credits)
ENGL1027. Analyzing discourse (6 credits)
ENGL1028. Awakenings: Exploring women's writing (6 credits)
ENGL1030. Dramatic changes: Versions of Renaissance literature (6 credits)
ENGL1031. English grammar(s) (6 credits)
ENGL1032. Late Victorian Texts and Contexts (6 credits)
ENGL1033. Intercultural communication (6 credits)
ENGL1034. Language and prejudice (6 credits)
ENGL1035. Language crimes (6 credits)
ENGL1036. Meaning and metaphor (6 credits)
ENGL1038. Practice of criticism (6 credits)
ENGL1039. Realism and representation (6 credits)
ENGL1040. Rewriting and writing back (6 credits)
ENGL1041. Modernity and literary modernism (6 credits)

ENGL1042. World Englishes (6 credits)
ENGL1043. An introduction to 20th-century English poetry (6 credits)
ENGL1047. The English lexicon (6 credits)
ENGL1048. Crime stories (6 credits)
ENGL1049. Early English sonnets (6 credits)
ENGL1050. An introduction to qualitative research methods in sociolinguistics (6 credits)
ENGL1052. Introduction to theatre studies (6 credits)
ENGL1053. Eighteenth century drama: The rise of celebrity culture (6 credits)
[*Non-permissible combination with ENGL1053: ENGL2189. Eighteenth century drama: The rise of celebrity culture*
Note to students admitted in 2022-23 and before:
Students who have already completed "ENGL1053. Eighteenth century drama: The rise of celebrity culture" are not allowed to study "ENGL2189. Eighteenth century drama: The rise of celebrity culture" in the academic year 2023-24 and thereafter. But for those who have not completed ENGL1053 as an introductory course, they may still take ENGL2189 as an advanced course in the academic year 2023-24 and thereafter.]
ENGL1054. Writing disaster: Literature, trauma, memory (6 credits)
ENGL1055. Language myths and realities (6 credits)
ENGL1061. Introduction to psycholinguistics (6 credits)
ENGL1064. Language, communication and media (6 credits)
[*Non-permissible combination with ENGL1064: ENGL2182/ LCOM2004. Language, communication and the media*
Note to students admitted in 2023-24 and before:
Students who have already completed "ENGL2182/ LCOM2004. Language, communication and the media" are not allowed to study "ENGL1064. Language, communication and the media" in the academic year 2024-25 and thereafter. But for those who have not completed ENGL2182/ LCOM2004 as an advanced course, they may still take ENGL1064 as an introductory course (List B) in the academic year 2024-25 and thereafter.]
ENGL1065. Introduction to postcolonialism (6 credits)
ENGL1066. Introduction to modern drama (6 credits)

Advanced Courses

In order to enroll in any advanced course in English Studies, students must normally have completed 18 credits of introductory courses, with at least 6 credits from both List A and List B.

ENGL2002. Language in society (6 credits)
ENGL2004. English syntax (6 credits)
ENGL2007. Literary linguistics (6 credits)
ENGL2010. English novel (6 credits)
ENGL2012. Contemporary literary theory (6 credits)
ENGL2030. New Englishes (6 credits)
ENGL2035. Reading poetry (6 credits)
ENGL2039. Gender, sexuality and discourse (6 credits)
ENGL2045. Travel writing (6 credits)
ENGL2047. English discourse structures and strategies (6 credits)
ENGL2048. Language and jargon (6 credits)
ENGL2050. English corpus linguistics (6 credits)
ENGL2055. American Gothic: Haunted homes (6 credits)
ENGL2057. Text and image (6 credits)
ENGL2074. Postcolonial readings (6 credits)
ENGL2075. The idea of China (6 credits)
ENGL2076. Romanticism (6 credits)
ENGL2078. The novel today (6 credits)
ENGL2079. Shakespeare (6 credits)
ENGL2080. Women, feminism and writing (6 credits)

ENGL2085. Creative writing (6 credits)
ENGL2089. Making Americans: Literature as ritual and renewal (6 credits)
ENGL2097. Imagining Hong Kong (6 credits)
ENGL2103. Language and digital media (6 credits)
ENGL2104. Language in the USA (6 credits)
ENGL2112. An introduction to the history of English (6 credits)
ENGL2115. Theories of language acquisition (6 credits)
ENGL2117. English phonology and morphology (6 credits)
ENGL2118. Law and literature (6 credits)
ENGL2119. English in Hong Kong: Making it your own (6 credits)
ENGL2120. Science fiction (6 credits)
ENGL2122. Global Victorians (6 credits)
ENGL2123. Language and identity in Hong Kong (6 credits)
ENGL2125. English construction grammar (6 credits)
ENGL2126. Law, meaning, and interpretation (6 credits)
ENGL2127. Language and the law (6 credits)
ENGL2128. Modernism (6 credits)
ENGL2129. English as a language of science (6 credits)
ENGL2130. Signs, language and meaning: Integrational reflections (6 credits)
ENGL2131. The critic as artist (6 credits)
ENGL2134. World literature (6 credits)
ENGL2135. The cosmopolitan imagination (6 credits)
ENGL2136. Cross-cultural discourses (6 credits)
ENGL2137. The profession of playwright in early modern England (6 credits)
ENGL2138. Language and globalization (6 credits)
ENGL2139. American modern (6 credits)
ENGL2140. Ideologies of language in early modernity (6 credits)
ENGL2141. Doing discourse analysis (6 credits)
ENGL2142. Milton (6 credits)
ENGL2143. Religion and the flourishing of English (6 credits)
ENGL2144. Forms of contemporary literature (6 credits)
ENGL2145. Post-1945 English drama (6 credits)
ENGL2146. Cognitive semantics (6 credits)
ENGL2147. Joyce’s voices (6 credits)
ENGL2149. American dreaming (6 credits)
ENGL2150. The city and modernity (6 credits)
ENGL2152. Theory of the novel (6 credits)
ENGL2153. Literary London (6 credits)
ENGL2156. Eighteenth-century British literature (6 credits)
ENGL2157. Representations of justice in law and literature (6 credits)
ENGL2158. Language processing and learning (6 credits)
ENGL2159. Twenty-first century English poetry (6 credits)
ENGL2160. Sovereignty in law, theory and culture (6 credits)
ENGL2161. Language rights and linguistic justice (6 credits)
ENGL2162. Where the wild things are: Children's literature and the law (6 credits)
ENGL2163. Comics, graphic novel and theory (6 credits)
ENGL2164. The beginnings of English law and literature (6 credits)
ENGL2165. Legal fictions: United States citizenship and the right to write in America (6 credits)
ENGL2166. English phonetics (6 credits)
ENGL2167. Theatre and the world (6 credits)
ENGL2168. The law of signs: Interpretative controversies in legal semiotics (6 credits)
ENGL2169. Writing and violence (6 credits)
ENGL2170. Cringy: The aesthetics of discomfort (6 credits)
ENGL2171. The right to the city: Cultural politics in Hong Kong and London (6 credits)
ENGL2172. The police in literature and culture (6 credits)

ENGL2173. Magic, monsters and maidens fair: Medieval English literature (6 credits)
ENGL2174. Shakespeare and the law (6 credits)
ENGL2175. Bad identities (6 credits)
ENGL2176. Writing Asian diasporas (6 credits)
ENGL2177. Reading and rereading Jane Austen (6 credits)
ENGL2178. Language and art (6 credits)
ENGL2179/ LCOM2001.* Theories of language and communication (6 credits)
ENGL2180/ LCOM2002.* Language in the workplace (6 credits)
ENGL2181/ LCOM2003.* Language and politeness (6 credits)
ENGL2182/ LCOM2004.* Language, communication and the media (6 credits)
[*Non-permissible combination with ENGL2182/ LCOM2004: ENGL1064. Language, communication and the media*
Note to students admitted in 2023-24 and before:
Students who have already completed "ENGL2182/ LCOM2004. Language, communication and the media" are not allowed to study "ENGL1064. Language, communication and the media" in the academic year 2024-25 and thereafter. But for those who have not completed ENGL2182/ LCOM2004 as an advanced course, they may still take ENGL1064 as an introductory course (List B) in the academic year 2024-25 and thereafter.]
ENGL2183/ LCOM2005.* Language, communication and globalization (6 credits)
ENGL2184/ LCOM2007.* Visual communication (6 credits)
ENGL2185/ LCOM2008.* Health communication, 'healthy' communication (6 credits)
ENGL2186/ LCOM2009.* Language and religion (6 credits)
ENGL2187/ LCOM2011.* The language of news media (6 credits)
ENGL2188. Language and food (6 credits)
ENGL2189. Eighteenth century drama: The rise of celebrity culture (6 credits)
[*Non-permissible combination with ENGL2189: ENGL1053. Eighteenth century drama: The rise of celebrity culture*
Note to students admitted in 2022-23 and before:
Students who have already completed "ENGL1053. Eighteenth century drama: The rise of celebrity culture" are not allowed to study "ENGL2189. Eighteenth century drama: The rise of celebrity culture" in the academic year 2023-24 and thereafter. But for those who have not completed ENGL1053 as an introductory course, they may still take ENGL2189 as an advanced course in the academic year 2023-24 and thereafter.]
ENGL2190. Special topics in 19th-century literature (6 credits)
ENGL2191. Special topics in contemporary literature (6 credits)
ENGL2192. Postmodern literature (6 credits)
ENGL2193. Special topics in aesthetics and literature (6 credits)
ENGL2194. Language and advertising (6 credits)
ENGL2195. Staging Asia (6 credits)
ENGL2196. Literature and the mind (6 credits)
ENGL2197. Opera and power: A cultural history of European grand musical entertainment (6 credits)
ENGL2198. Interactive narratives: Literature through new media (6 credits)
ENGL2199. English studies field trip (6 credits)
ENGL2200. Fiction writing (6 credits)
ENGL2201. Poetry and experimental forms (6 credits)
ENGL2202. Creative nonfiction (6 credits)
ENGL2203. Hong Kong in stories (6 credits)
ENGL2204. Dramatic writing (6 credits)
ENGL2205. Creative writing across media (6 credits)
ENGL2206. Writing counterfactual genre fiction (6 credits)
ENGL2207. Creative writing in children's and young adult fiction (6 credits)
ENGL2208. Special topics in fiction (6 credits)
ENGL2209. Special topics in creative nonfiction (6 credits)
ENGL2210. Special topics in hybrid forms (6 credits)

DRTP2000. Acting characters (6 credits)
DRTP2001. Theatre, technology and new media (6 credits)
DRTP2002. Cultural performances in Hong Kong (6 credits)
DRTP2003. Shakespeare: Performance and adaptation (6 credits)
DRTP2004. Applied theatre internship (6 credits)

*Note: Students admitted in 2020-21 or before may choose either the ENGL/ LCOM course codes according to their study plans. Students admitted in 2021-22 and thereafter may only choose the ENGL course codes.

Capstone Courses
ENGL3040. Internship in English studies (capstone experience) (6 credits)
ENGL3041. Senior colloquium in English studies (capstone experience) (6 credits)
ENGL3042. Extended essay in English studies (capstone experience) (6 credits)

Introductory Courses

ENGL1011. An introduction to the study of meaning (6 credits)

This course introduces the study of meaning in the English language. We will examine semantic meanings - meanings encoded in the language system itself - and also pragmatic meanings - meanings inferred from the communicative context of language use. Students will also be introduced to various theories of meaning and cognitive semantics.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1013. Exploring the modern: Reading early 20th century British writing (6 credits)

This course will explore the early 20th century as a site of modernity. We will look at a range of texts to explore what the modern might mean and how writers have addressed issues of modernity and its impact on society and human relations. Some of the topics to be covered will include representations of the city, the changing roles of men and women, the rise of modern transportation and the impact of the First World War.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1014. Imaginary geographies: The art of writing place (6 credits)

Through studying a wide range of landscape descriptions in poetry, travel writing, drama and the novel, students will learn about landscape description from aesthetic, historical, geo-humanist and geo-political perspectives. Students will learn to identify particular movements and styles, such as the picturesque, romanticism, modernism and environmentalism in selected descriptions of places. They will also learn how place description functions in literary texts to provide not only a realistic visual setting, but through metaphor, the thoughts and feelings of characters, and the cultural and ideological outlook of the writer. The course has a practical component in which students produce place descriptions of their own and discuss these within their groups.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1015. Introduction to English linguistics (6 credits)

This survey course offers a comprehensive first introduction to the linguistic study of English, covering the various levels of analysis (and the core branches of linguistics that study them): sounds (phonetics and phonology), words (morphology and lexicology), meanings (semantics and pragmatics), grammar (syntax), text and discourse (discourse analysis). It will also offer a first introduction to a number of key aspects of language use (and the linguistic disciplines dealing with them): language acquisition and processing (psycholinguistics), language change (historical linguistics), regional and social variation (sociolinguistics), [literary] style (stylistics). Finally, the course will introduce a number of methodological and theoretical approaches one can take in the academic study of a language, and consequently also in English language research.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1016. Introduction to life writing (6 credits)

This course will introduce the contemporary and surging field of "Life Writing": the telling of lives. The basic questions open into extraordinary ones: who "owns" a life? who has the "right" to tell someone's life? who "deserves" a life-story to be told? how does the "telling" a life interfere with the conditions of the life itself? what material is left in and what is left out? The course will look at beginnings of life writing in early religious writings and move into the contemporary and intercultural directions of life-writing: for example, historical relationship to journalism and gossip; the offering of role models; and the mapping of voices otherwise unknown.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1017. Introduction to sociolinguistics (6 credits)

This course introduces students to the field of sociolinguistics—a cross-disciplinary study of the relationship between language and society with insights from linguistics, sociology, psychology and linguistic anthropology. For decades, sociolinguists have looked for ways to understand human social behaviors and organization by studying what people do with language and why. This course provides a basic foundation for students who are interested in the scholarly research of language in social contexts, as well as for those who want an alternate perspective of their own social world.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1018. Language and gender (6 credits)

In this course, we explore how gender ideologies influence and are influenced by language use, in language about men and women, and in language use by men and women. We will discuss different approaches to and historical perspectives on the study of language and gender, reviewing both qualitative and quantitative studies in the early development of the field. We will consider gender as one of many social categories that interact with other social categories such as age, race, class, ethnicity, profession, sexuality, and others. Stereotypes and biases about the sexes, standard and vernacular norms, and power and authority will also be examined in the course. The course will survey the history of the field and identify major strands in the development of knowledge in the discipline. It also traces the historical progression of the field, with reference to key historical texts and debates.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1020. Nineteenth-century literature and culture (6 credits)

This course offers a survey of the literature and culture of 'the long nineteenth century', that is the period between the French Revolution (1789) and the beginning of the First World War (1914). We will be looking at the historical, social and political changes Great Britain underwent in this period:

wars abroad and tumults at home, the industrial revolution, the scientific revolution, religious debate, empire, class and gender concerns. With such background and context, we will then look at the various writings (across all genres) that were produced under these circumstances: the realist novel, Romantic poetry, sensation and silver-fork fiction, aestheticist and fin-de-siècle writing, the bestselling romance, detective fiction, high and late Victorian drama, to name just some.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1022. Poetry past and present (6 credits)

This course introduces students who have little experience of poetry to two of the most popular generic forms in English poetry – the sonnet and the lyric. Selected examples will be from the seventeenth to twentieth centuries and will include poems by British, American, and anglophone writers. A specific theme will be chosen as the focus for poems from different historical moments.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1023. Experimental prose (6 credits)

This course poses a theoretical question (what is literary prose?), and contemplates a variety of answers historically, by studying the flourishing prose genres of the English Renaissance. We begin with an introduction to theories of prose, before proceeding to a wide range of literary works and historical documents: essays, explorers' journals, science fiction, utopias, and picaresque novels. The genres that we examine are all experimental not only in the late modern sense of 'attempting something new,' but also in the early modern sense of 'relying on experience.' But what sort of experience did writers consult to narrate trips to the moon and catalogue the customs of remote peoples? Moreover, how is such storytelling (fictional or first-hand) supposed to affect the lives of its readers? Our central critical focus will be the importance of narrative perspective, or the speaker's 'point of view,' for determining what we, as readers, come to know.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1024. Topics in world literature (6 credits)

This course introduces students to the concept and practice of world literature. It seeks to understand world literature not as a collection of national literary canons created in different linguistic and cultural locations, but as a field of knowledge about literature as a cross-cultural and translingual system of production and circulation. We'll read a selection of seminal statements on world literature and discuss the historical formation of world literature: its methodology and scope, its politics and limitations, in close relation to historical forms and forces of globalization.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1025. Understanding narratives (6 credits)

This is a course about how stories work, and how to read them effectively and critically. We encounter narratives every day, in gossip and jokes, news reports, in books and films and on the internet. Everyone is experienced in understanding and interpreting stories. This course gives you the chance to articulate, understand, and develop your skills as a consumer (and creator) of stories, through describing and analyzing the various elements of a narrative – such as narration, character, structure, genre, and point of view – in a number of different examples in English. The course will develop a critical vocabulary which students working in small groups can use, with increasing confidence, to discuss, analyze and report on written narrative texts of various length and complexity. Besides the target stories, there will be critical readings, with plenty of examples, in textual studies and in narratology (the poetics of stories).

At the end of the course, all students should have the skills and confidence to give a productive and well-informed reading of any narrative, literary or non-literary, and some sense of the part that narrative plays in our understanding of the world we live in.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1026. Adaptation: From text to screen (6 credits)

In this course, students will be introduced to literary and cinematic technique by studying recent film adaptations of English literature alongside the original text. We will take one period text, such as Jane Eyre, Pride and Prejudice, Bleak House or Mrs. Dalloway, and one contemporary text, such as Atonement, Cloud Atlas or Never Let Me Go. Students will confront the problems and possibilities of adaptation, the demands of fidelity to the original text, and the need to find contemporary resonances. As well as developing an awareness of the practical issues of moving from a textual to a predominantly visual medium, students will learn to identity aesthetic, cultural and political influences in the adaptation of literature. This course also allows students to think creatively about storyboards and visual techniques, by sketching alternative scenarios.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1027. Analyzing discourse (6 credits)

This course provides an introduction to the field of discourse, focusing on the analysis of spoken and written English. In this course, we will focus on exploring different approaches to the study of discourse, developing tools for analyzing particular texts, and understanding the relationship between discourse contexts and functions. Emphasis will be placed on data analysis in the course, which will give students the opportunity to apply concepts from the lectures to workshop discussions and assignments. Some units to be covered in the course include: narrative structure, rhetorical analysis, spoken versus written discourse, data collection and transcription, conversation analysis, and discourse in professional contexts.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1028. Awakenings: Exploring women's writing (6 credits)

This course will focus on close reading of passages from a selection of prose and poetry authored by women. As we read these texts, we will explore a few of the key issues that have concerned women writers. We will examine questions of the difference of the female point of view, the suppression of female subjectivity and autonomy as well as the renderings of an alternative worldview and culture.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1030. Dramatic changes: Versions of Renaissance literature (6 credits)

In this course we will read great plays of the English Renaissance in tandem with their non-dramatic sources (history, romance, chapbook, story cycle). In a couple of instances, the plays themselves will be considered as sources for contemporary representations (*Hamlet* for Stoppard's spinoff, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, and *Macbeth* for Kurosawa's film, *Throne of Blood*). For Renaissance speakers the word 'version' principally meant a 'translation' from one language into another. We will observe and evaluate, therefore, what happens when a well-known or 'true' story gets 'translated' into the conventions and genres of the theater. We compare notable variations in the telling of the tales, with attention to the following questions: How does the alteration of a plot element change a story's significance? How does the manner of presentation — the enactment of drama (*mimesis*) or the narration of prose (*diegesis*) — affect the way we understand characters?

Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1031. English grammar(s) (6 credits)

This course is an elementary and practical introduction to the analytical and terminological distinctions that are relevant to the study of the structure of English words and sentences. It will pay due attention to variation in the way they are covered and distinguished in different grammar books. Topics include: Word structure and word-formation, lexical and phrasal categories, grammatical functions and semantic roles, coordination and subordination, clause types, tense and aspect, mood, information structure. All classes will involve practical analysis of linguistic material. A key part of the course will be an individual assignment in which students critically compare two grammar books with the prescribed course text.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1032. Late Victorian Texts and Contexts (6 credits)

This course reads representative late nineteenth-century texts, which may include novels, short stories, plays, poetry, or even musical hall songs and pantomime. The aim is to situate these texts in a society that is still very much embedded in Victorian ideas and ideals but that is at the same time looking towards the twentieth century and its changing views of life, the world and literature. Course themes alongside the regular issues of class, race and gender may include: social changes, the changing subject, devolution, degeneration, the reading public and the publishing industry, genre and modality (romance, realism, aestheticism), 'elite' and 'popular' art, and others.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1033. Intercultural communication (6 credits)

Intercultural communication can be defined as the study of cultural identity, difference and similarity as constructed through discourse, i.e. different ways of speaking, doing and being. In the ever-changing world defined by restructuring of economic, social and cultural relations, transnational migration, tourism, overseas study, and global media, more and more people from different backgrounds come into contact with one another. Their communication faces many challenges which include the linguistic challenges of language learning, the discursive challenges of stereotyping and the social challenges of equal work opportunities, inclusion and justice. This course provides a critical understanding of intercultural communication from discourse analytic and sociolinguistic perspectives and demonstrates how people in different situations of intercultural contact position themselves linguistically and discursively, and how the linguistic codes and varieties they speak and write give them access (or not) to different resources such as mobility, education opportunities, jobs, and so on. We examine the notions of 'sameness', 'difference', ethno-cultural stereotyping, discrimination, exclusion and exploitation, and the underlying language ideologies (i.e. assumptions and beliefs about language) that normalize and naturalize the views we hold of ourselves and other people. We ask to what extent we can assume culture to be synonymous with language and nation, and how acts of intercultural communication are performed or represented in different contexts such as international business, marketing, and interpersonal relations.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1034. Language and prejudice (6 credits)

Prejudice is defined as "dislike, hostility, or unjust behaviour deriving from preconceived and unfounded opinions" (OED). Social prejudice and discrimination often manifest through language use,

and/or attitudes and practice towards language users (who are considered as members of certain social/ethnic/gender/age categories), this course examines sociolinguistic case studies of language discrimination both locally and internationally.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1035. Language crimes (6 credits)

This course introduces the study of texts through utterances taken from criminal cases. Students will learn how to apply concepts such as types of meaning and speech acts to analyse the utterances in context, and formulate critical arguments about their observations.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1036. Meaning and metaphor (6 credits)

The course looks at different definitions of metaphor and reviews various theories that have been applied to figurative language. It presents the identification and analysis of metaphor as a tool in the study of texts of all kinds, and introduces approaches which see the study of metaphor as a key to understanding human cognition and experience. It shows how questions about metaphor are at the heart of debates about meaning and interpretation across the humanities and social sciences, and illustrates the role of metaphor in fundamental ideological discussions. Topics include: Definitions of metaphor; Literal vs. metaphorical meaning; Metaphor and metonymy; Nonlinguistic realizations of conceptual metaphors; The scope of metaphor; Metaphor, politics, and ideology; Metaphor in literature; Metaphor in education; Metaphor in music.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1037. Persuasion (6 credits)

This is a course about rhetoric, in which students will explore ways language can be used to convey, reinforce or change ideas. In theory and in textual practice we will work together to understand how persuasion works in English in a number of different language domains. The course explores discourse relations in writing and speech, through critical analysis and practice of strategies of persuasion in some or all of the following domains: academic writing; advertising; the courtroom; polemic and propaganda; literary representation.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1038. Practice of criticism (6 credits)

This course introduces students to the development of criticism as a literary genre and as a space of engagement with creative literature. By studying a selection of key critical texts in conjunction with works of imaginative literature, the course will discuss the creative uses of criticism in the history of literature and the role criticism has played in our understanding of literature. There will be weekly lectures and workshops, in which we will discuss, and participate in, some of the most significant debates among major critical thinkers and to relate these debates to our own studies of literary texts.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1039. Realism and representation (6 credits)

In this introductory course we will examine and explore one of the most dominant modes of literary representation. We will begin by situating realism as a movement in literary history and investigate its

theoretical and material underpinnings and the literary conventions that characterize it. We will consider different ways of defining realism and situate them in relation to different arguments about the nature and role of literary representation. With close attention to texts from different times, we will try to trace how realism distinguishes itself from other forms of writing and how it persists in contemporary literary practice alongside and even within movements against realism in art and literature. We will also consider the conventions of realistic representation in different genres, art forms and media, and their role and relevance in non-fictional discourses and genres. Finally, we will also examine and discuss the relevance of arguments about realism to the writing and rhetoric of critical essays.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1040. Rewriting and writing back (6 credits)

In this introductory course, we will study and explore the ways in which literary creativity and the practice of writing are motivated and shaped by the reading of other texts. With close attention to texts from different times and places, we will identify some of the major acts of rewriting by which authors have sought to distinguish themselves ever since Virgil chose Homer as his model. Distinguishing between different modes of rewriting such as allusion, translation, parody, and counter-discourse, we will examine their role in specific contexts of literary production. Apart from considering the importance of rewriting in the formation and critique of a literary canon, we will also discuss the value of rewriting in the critical study of literature and the forms it may take in the writing of essays, including summary, paraphrase, and plagiarism.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1041. Modernity and literary modernism (6 credits)

Literary Modernism has often been characterized as an inward turn: as a growing preoccupation with the workings of consciousness; the nature of subjective experience; and the constitution, and definition, of the subjective self. In this introductory course we will examine depictions of subjectivity in modernist literature, discussing topics such as the unconscious and psychic conflict, impersonality, sexual and racial difference, the role of the body in consciousness, and the dynamics of fantasy and memory. We will contextualize our close readings in contemporary psychological and scientific research, the rise of urbanism and cosmopolitanism, colonialism and post-colonialism, technological advancements and the World Wars. Through response papers, presentations, and class discussions, students will learn to analyze textual details and techniques and organize their observations within cogent arguments.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1042. World Englishes (6 credits)

This course introduces students to a study of varieties of English world-wide, surveying the development and classification of English varieties in both historical and contemporary eras. It explores both structural and sociolinguistic aspects of World Englishes, with particular attention to New Englishes. Through the critical reading of introductory texts and research papers in the field, this course examines some of the fundamental issues and debates in World/ New Englishes, involving concepts of ‘mother tongue’, ‘nativeness’ and ownership, issues of ideology, attitudes and identity, and challenges of creative expression, pedagogy and planning. Students will be expected to reflect critically on the readings and issues, and produce a written paper that engages with one of these issues in the field of World Englishes.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1043. An introduction to 20th-century English Poetry (6 credits)

This course will introduce poems by such major 20th-century poets as T.S. Eliot, W.H. Auden, Dylan Thomas, Philip Larkin, Ted Hughes and Seamus Heaney as well as work by other English poets. The poems have been chosen not just for their intrinsic merits, but also to illustrate the patterns of sound, syntax, tone and figurative language poets use to achieve their effects. The classes will not be lectures on poetry but close readings and discussion of individual poems.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1044. Introduction to literary theory (6 credits)

This course offers you an introduction to the study of literature by looking at the development of literature as a subject of teaching and learning. We will begin by tracing the formation of related concepts in Western history leading up to the establishment of literature as an academic discipline. The course will then survey influential theoretical approaches to literature in the 20th century and will examine their accounts of what literature is and what its place and role are (or should be) in culture and society. Mapping important debates carried on in these accounts, we will ask how they define and explain basic activities, roles and effects that form part of literature, such as the activities of reading and writing, the roles of writers and readers, the network of publication, and the products of writing (work, text, script) and their meaning. A range of selected literary texts will allow us to critically explore the insights and interests of different approaches. At the end of the course, students will be able to orient themselves within the field of literature with the help of a basic vocabulary of critical terminology and to situate their own interests in relation to relevant theoretical concerns.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1045. "Community" in Sociolinguistics (6 credits)

The concept of "community" has been key to the study of language in society since the inception of sociolinguistics in the 1960s. In the course of the past half a century, various notions of community have been proposed and applied to the study of linguistic data. These include "speech community", "discourse community", "community of practice", "imagined community", "virtual community" and most recently "transnational community". In this course, we will explore how these various concepts have been applied and we will address salient similarities and differences between them. In doing so, we will discuss the various understandings of language, and the various understandings of the relationship between language and society which lie at the heart of these different types of community. Finally, we will question the validity of the concept of community today against the backdrop of globalisation, and the rising importance of migration and mobility.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1047. The English lexicon (6 credits)

The term *lexicon* can refer to a wordlist or dictionary. It is also a synonym of *vocabulary*, which refers to all the words of a language, or, as in "one's vocabulary", all the words a particular speaker of a language knows, sometimes referred to as "the mental lexicon". But what counts as a word in English? Is *driver's liability insurance* three words in English while the Dutch equivalent *bestuurdersaansprakelijkheidsverzekering* is one word? Are forms that can be bound by spaces, like *driver's*, *liability* and *insurance*, indivisible themselves, or can we identify constituent parts? Have these forms always been part of the English language or did they come about at different historical moments and in different ways? How do words, or so-called "entries" in the lexicon, relate to others meaningwise? Are all words of the same kind, or can we arrange them in categories? When it comes to constructing sentences, words are often conceived as building blocks which are combined in accordance with the rules of grammar, but should lexicon and grammar really be seen as completely separate, or could their

relationship also be conceptualized differently? How much grammar is there, or should there be, in a dictionary? How do speakers access their mental lexicon when they talk? These are some of the questions that will be addressed in this course on words in English which will approach its topic from a variety of perspectives: synchronic theoretical linguistics, diachronic linguistics, psycholinguistics and lexicography.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1048. Crime stories (6 credits)

In *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, Oscar Wilde famously compares criminal acts to art: "I should fancy that crime was to them [the lower classes] what art is to us, simply a method of procuring extraordinary sensations." Wilde asks us to think about the relationship between art and crime, and the role crime plays in the growing gap between popular culture and high literature. This course introduces students to the study of narrative through crime stories, and it will survey the origins of detective and crime fiction and its development into the twenty-first century. Students will examine how this self-reflexive genre uses narrative to reflect on acts of storytelling and interpretation. Course materials will include eighteenth-century broadsheets about famous criminals, nineteenth-century "penny dreadfuls," sensation fiction, and detective novels. Readings will include Edgar Allan Poe, Arthur Conan Doyle, Raymond Chandler, and others. The course will conclude with the growth of the detective genre in contemporary Hong Kong.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1049. Early English sonnets (6 credits)

The course provides an introduction to the study of the sonnet, an enduring lyric genre that began in 13th century Italy and became popular in England nearly three centuries later, when poets such as Wyatt and Surrey translated selected *Canzoniere* of Francesco Petrarca. Very often the expression of a suffering lover, a sonnet contains 14 lines that proceed according to a rhyme scheme — the typical Renaissance pattern is structured ABABCDCDEFEFGG. Beginning with Philip Sidney's Astrophil and Stella (composed between 1580 and 1584), sonnets in English sometimes were composed as a sequence, a collection of poems that features recurrent voices (speaker and addressee), develops thematically, and tempts the discovery of a narrative trajectory. In addition to the authors mentioned above, we read carefully some of the major sonnets of the English Renaissance from Spenser, Shakespeare, Donne, Milton, and others.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1050. An introduction to qualitative research methods in sociolinguistics (6 credits)

As access to the Internet has grown, it has become increasingly common for people to interact via different channels when going about their day-to-day affairs. For people who have access to the Internet, this can mean that they interact both online and offline alternatingly or even simultaneously. As a result it is sometimes difficult to separate online and offline spaces. This has implications for sociolinguistic research. Taking this as its starting point, this course introduces students to a core set of qualitative research methodologies used in sociolinguistic research on both online and offline spaces. These include discourse analysis, interviews and ethnography. In doing so, the course also highlights the interplay between research questions, data and methodology, thereby offering students a more general introduction into core components of the qualitative sociolinguistic research process (ethics, research questions, theoretical literature, data sampling, data analysis). To introduce these methods as part of the more general process of conducting qualitative sociolinguistic research on online and offline spaces, the course draws on theoretical material and empirical research, while offering numerous possibilities in the form of activities in class to discuss and apply these methods to data samples.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1051. English sounds (6 credits)

This course offers an introduction to the study of speech sounds in the English language. We will examine how speech sounds can be studied in a scientific way (phonetics) and how English sounds are organised and represented (phonology). Students will be introduced to the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA), an essential tool for the description of speech sounds. While this course will focus on Southern British English (sometimes known as Received Pronunciation or BBC English), accent variation in English and contemporary sound changes will also be discussed.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1052. Introduction to theatre studies (6 credits)

This course will introduce students to the historical paradigms and methods specific to the field of Theatre Studies. It will provide an overview of several diverse genres of drama and performance, such as early modern, realist and intercultural theatre in a variety of geographical contexts. Simultaneously, the course focuses on concepts such as performers, audiences and space, the critical vocabulary required for performance analysis.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1053. Eighteenth century drama: The rise of celebrity culture (6 credits)
[Non-permissible combination: "ENGL2189. Eighteenth century drama: The rise of celebrity culture" and "DRTP2008. 18th-century drama"

Note to students admitted in 2022-23 and before:
Students who have already completed "ENGL1053. Eighteenth century drama: The rise of celebrity culture" are not allowed to study "ENGL2189. Eighteenth century drama: The rise of celebrity culture" in the academic year 2023-24 and thereafter. But for those who have not completed ENGL1053 as an introductory course, they may still take ENGL2189 as an advanced course in the academic year 2023-24 and thereafter.]

This course introduces students to the world of the bustling and controversial theatres of the Anglo-Atlantic Eighteenth Century. Taking a dramaturgical approach to a number of dramatic texts produced in this important period in the history of popular entertainment, this course will examine key developments in literary innovation such as character development and the rise of interiority from within the context of new theatrical technology, the rise of new forms of media, the growing power of government censorship, an emerging imperial identity, nationalism, and increased social mobility. We will also focus on the rise of celebrity culture in the period and examine the development of popular obsession with "stars" within the broader social contexts of shifting gender norms, new regimes of sexual expression, and the rise of consumer culture. We will also examine plays alongside other forms of texts such as published gossip, celebrity memoirs, newspaper advertisements, playbills, and acting manuals, making use of existing databases hosted at the Folger, Huntington, and the British Libraries. This course also aims to serve as a general introduction on how to read literary texts historically, and how the study of literature can benefit from an interdisciplinary approach that borrows insights from Language Studies; Cultural Studies; New Media Studies; and Gender/Sexuality studies. At the end of this course, students should have acquired a critical familiarity with the dramatic culture of the Eighteenth Century, as well as a set of analytical skills that will prepare them for the future study in literary criticism. Texts to be studied might include popular versions of Sentimental Comedy; Operas/Oratorios; Bourgeois Tragedy; Gothic Fantasy; Pantomime and Travel Drama. Authors to be

studied might include Jonathan Steele; George Frideric Handel; Henry Fielding; Oliver Goldsmith; Susanna Centlivre; Hannah Cowley; and Elizabeth Inchbald.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1054. Writing disaster: Literature, trauma, memory (6 credits)

Broadly conceived, this course will explore the relationship between writing and loss. Its more concentrated concern is with how writing (and here we mean both literary and cinematic works) manages to represent the unthinkable, the unsayable, and the unmournable. This course will study the representational systems and generic instabilities of works that emerge from the aftermath of various disasters and catastrophes (war, ethnic violence, political turmoil, the annihilation of the ecosystem). In particular, it will look at how these works engage various clinical and legal discourses about trauma and testimony, paying close attention to moments when alternative ways of remembering, experiencing, and recounting disasters are imagined and performed. Focusing mostly on texts in the postcolonial literary canon, this course will take students through fictional writing, films, theoretical texts, and philosophical works in order to provide them with a better understanding of what it means "to write disaster" and to show how this writing unfolds over time and space through the words of those who survive what they often cannot endure.
Assessment: 100% coursework

ENGL1055. Language myths and realities (6 credits)

This course explores popular beliefs and misconceptions about language that are of broad interest, and discusses the extent to which they are consistent with empirical linguistic evidence.
Topics may vary in each offering of the course, and may address some of the following topics in sociolinguistics and psycholinguistics:

Is English declining or simply evolving?
Can we speak English without an accent?
Do people code-mix because they cannot speak either language well?
To what extent do men and women use language differently?
Does the language we speak determine the way we think?
Can children learn two or more languages well at the same time? Is this harmful to them?
Do bilinguals have a better brain than monolinguals?
Is our writing/voice unique?

The goal of the course is to equip students with the linguistic knowledge and skills for debunking common languages myths and unravelling the underlying ideologies held by non-linguists.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1056/ LCOM1001.* Introduction to language and communication (6 credits)

This course introduces a range of theories, approaches and applications pertinent to the study of language and communication. In doing so, it aims to provide students with core knowledge needed to critically reflect upon the role of language as a social practice; and to apply this when reading texts and working with data. This entails familiarising students with theories and approaches (including the polysemy of core concepts like "language" and "communication", and the shift from structuralist to social constructionist approaches); methodologies (including ethics, ethnography, interviews and discourse analysis); and applications (including examples from scholarship and brief presentations by invited speakers highlighting different ways of doing language and communication). While the course will highlight the importance of interdisciplinary approaches to language and communication, it will

strongly draw on themes and research from within the field of sociolinguistics. Structurally, the course will consist of a mix of frontal input, workshops, tutorials, and contributions by invited speakers. During the semester, students will thus be expected to be active listeners as well as participants in workshops and tutorials. The latter will entail students taking first steps in collecting and analysing small segments of data, with guidance, and using the theoretical and methodological knowledge provided.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1057/ LCOM1002.* Language, communication, society, field (6 credits)

In this introductory course to sociolinguistics, we address some fundamental topics in the positioning of language in human societies, from the beginnings in dialectology, and language variation, to code choice, and power, as well as consider applications in education and language policy and planning. We not only examine theories and issues, but also explore methods in conducting sociolinguistic research. Our investigation draws richly from both English as well as multilingual and non-English scenarios, critically examining classic sociolinguistic accounts from a contemporary perspective, and ultimately building a solid and comprehensive understanding of the workings of language and communication in society.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1058/ LCOM1003.* Theorizing communication (6 credits)

This course offers an overview of the major currents in linguistic theory of how the ‘fact’ of (human) communication is explained, what its prerequisites are, and how they align with everyday personal experience. Students will be introduced to the major theoretical schools and asked to engage and interact with each one of them by drawing on their critical reflection, their lay experience, and analyses of their personal communicational biographies.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1059/ LCOM1004.* Introduction to pragmatics (6 credits)

People do not always say what they mean. So, how do we manage to understand each other if speakers regularly mean something other than what they say? Why don’t people just say what they mean? We shall answer these and many other questions in this introductory course to Pragmatics. Some of the topics we shall be concerned with in this course include different levels of meaning, speaker’s intention, interpretation and understanding of utterances; the role of context in utterance interpretations; speech acts; conversational implicature; presupposition and politeness.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1060. Performance Studies and everyday life (6 credits)

What does it mean 'to perform'? What do theatre and performance in everyday life have in common? This course introduces students to the world of performance on and offstage—from theatre to rituals, everyday practices, festivals, sporting events, judicial proceedings and celebrations—that is, all forms of cultural expression and enacted behaviour. Combining an interdisciplinary range of approaches, we will engage with significant concepts and approaches in the field of Performance Studies. Simultaneously, we will study performers in a variety of different contexts and theatrical and extra-theatrical practices spanning historical periods and geographic divides to consider how performance influences our view of the world.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1061. Introduction to psycholinguistics (6 credits)

This course explores key issues related to the psychology of language: how humans process, produce and acquire different aspects of language. Major psychological processes and factors involved in language perception and production will be discussed. We will also critically examine the range of methods used in psycholinguistic and language acquisition research. This course lays the foundation for advanced courses psycholinguistics and language acquisition (e.g., ENGL2115 Theories of language acquisition and ENGL2158 Language processing and learning).
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1062. Reading and writing about literature (6 credits)

How is reading and writing as an English major different from other kinds of reading and writing? This course will familiarize students with the standards and conventions of inquiry and textual analysis and focus on how to argue for their own interpretation of a literary text. We will be reading from a variety of genres from different historical periods so we can see how writers use literary forms to make sense of the world around them. Students will build a "tool kit" of skills to demonstrate how they arrived at a text-based interpretation, how to build on that analysis, and how to persuade other readers through discussion and writing of their own reading. Students will learn the principles of literary research and how to situate their own readings alongside appropriate secondary sources. This course will prepare English majors and minors with the critical reading and writing skills that they will need to succeed in upper-level literature classes.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1063. Introduction to literary history (6 credits)

This course provides an introduction to the major periods in English literary history, from the rise of Modern Vernacular Literary traditions in the sixteenth century to the present. In addition to reading a series of influential and canonical texts from the 1600s up to the late twenty-first century, students will learn how literary forms evolve over time; how literary canons are produced and contested; and how "periodization" remains a useful way to organize literary history even as they reveal ideological and formal divisions across time.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1064. Language, communication and media (6 credits)
[Non-permissible combination with ENGL1064: ENGL2182/ LCOM2004. Language, communication and the media
Note to students admitted in 2023-24 and before:
Students who have already completed "ENGL2182/ LCOM2004. Language, communication and the media" are not allowed to study "ENGL1064. Language, communication and the media" in the academic year 2024-25 and thereafter. But for those who have not completed ENGL2182/ LCOM2004 as an advanced course, they may still take ENGL1064 as an introductory course (List B) in the academic year 2024-25 and thereafter.]

This course introduces students to the study of mass media discourse in today's society. The 'mass media' plays a central role in shaping how we produce, circulate, and interpret meanings about the world. Drawing on approaches from discourse analysis and critical sociolinguistics, the course examines how language and communication practices in media texts reflect, reproduce, and sometimes challenge social hierarchies and ideologies. Students will explore how power, identity, and cultural values are constructed through media representation, paying particular attention to cross-cultural

dimensions and the interplay between global and local voices in Hong Kong's media landscape. Through analysis of examples from news, advertising, digital platforms, and popular culture, students will engage with questions about how discourse contributes to public knowledge, social change, and the negotiation of meaning in an increasingly mediated world.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1065. Introduction to postcolonialism (6 credits)

This course introduces students to the field of postcolonial literature and theory. Students will explore literary texts produced by formerly colonised and diasporic writers as well as writing used by various imperial agents. The course also examines critical readings that cover the major debates within postcolonial studies and that chart the history of postcolonial responses to forms of colonisation.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1066. Introduction to modern drama (6 credits)

[Non-permissible combination: "DRTP1000. Introduction to drama, theatre and performance studies"]

The course introduces students to key characteristics of modern drama spanning from the late 19th century to contemporary times. Using a diverse range of modern plays and productions, students will develop skills in analysing, critiquing, and enacting dramatic texts. Students will learn about modern drama's conventions, theories, movements and contexts – from traditional dramas and Naturalism to contemporary physical theatre and site-specific performances – deepening their understanding of the representative plays as well as its practical implementation in performance settings.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1067. Introduction to creative writing (6 credits)

[Non-permissible combination: "ENGL1067. Creative writing"]

This course introduces creative writing with a special focus on discovering original stories and carving diverse creative paths towards their expression. In addition to the craft of creative writing, the course emphasises the art of introspection—learning to read, think, and live like a writer. This course explores topics such as voice, character, identity, memory, and the relationship between truth and storytelling. Students will study multiple genres and experiment with form and content to help their writing evolve in a supportive and inclusive environment. Through this course, students will learn to frame and shape creative work in ways that reflect unique voice and perspective, develop the ability to revise their work effectively, and connect with contemporary audiences. Based on their reading and writing, each writer in the class will develop an individual portfolio of creative work.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

DRTP1000. Introduction to drama, theatre and performance studies (6 credits)

[Non-permissible combination: "ENGL1066. Introduction to modern drama"]

The course introduces students to key characteristics of drama, theatre and performance studies. Using a diverse range of plays and productions, students will develop skills in analysing, critiquing, and enacting dramatic texts. Students will learn about different dramatic and theatrical conventions, theories, movements and contexts—from traditional dramas and Naturalism to contemporary physical theatre

and site-specific performances—deepening their understanding of the representative plays as well as its practical implementation in performance settings.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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*Note: Students admitted in 2020-21 or before may choose either the ENGL/ LCOM course codes according to their study plans. Students admitted in 2021-22 and thereafter may only choose the ENGL course codes.

Advanced Courses

ENGL2002. Language in society (6 credits)

This course will provide an introduction to the study of 'sociolinguistics', which deals with the relationship between language and society. Topics will vary, but may include the following: multilingualism, language varieties, language planning, language change, English in contact with other languages.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2004. English syntax (6 credits)

This course introduces the structure of English by investigating approaches to grammar, models of grammatical analysis, and the grammar of contemporary English. It is interested in the relationship between morphology and syntax, and grammar and linguistics.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2007. Literary linguistics (6 credits)

Why does a headline capture our attention? An advert slogan stay long in our mind? A speech sway our opinion? A song carry our emotions away? A joke make us laugh? And a school text leave us blank? Essentially, it is because of the intricate workings of language; often, it is not so much what is said as how it is said that impresses us most. And this applies also to the language of literature. Rhyme and metaphor are not the exclusive property of poetry; while a poet can use the same words as an army officer or a salesperson. Literature shares many of the features of everyday language, and this course will take us through the language that is used in a spectrum of texts of differing degrees of literariness, including poems, plays, stories, songs, jokes, advertisements, political and religious communications, regulations, textbooks and technical manuals. We will examine how linguistic forms and literary devices are related to aesthetic effects and ideological functions. We will analyse how the choice and the patterning of words, sounds and images help convey and elicit feelings and thoughts, and views and values. Topics include: Towards characterizing stylistic analysis; Collocation, deviation and word play; Prosody, parallelism and performance; Discourse into discourse; Narration and representation of speech and thought; Reader positioning and response.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2010. English novel (6 credits)

This course offers a study of narrative fiction, and of its development.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2012. Contemporary literary theory (6 credits)

In the late 20th century, developments in critical thought had a major impact on literature and criticism. Relations between literary production and language, politics and history were radically re-examined by and through what has become known as 'theory'. As a body of thought, theory includes such diverse and conflicting schools and movements as Marxism, poststructuralism, feminism and gender theory, new historicism, postcolonialism and postmodernism. As well as exploring the institution of theory in the academy, students will put theory into practice in readings of selected literary texts.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2030. New Englishes (6 credits)

This course explores both structural and sociolinguistic aspects of World Englishes, with particular attention to New Englishes, especially postcolonial Englishes of Asia. We will examine how the structural features found in these Englishes are not a consequence of a lack of ability to learn English perfectly, or pronounce it correctly, or express it clearly. Rather, such features are completely appropriate to the multilingual and multicultural ecologies in which the Englishes have evolved, ecologies in which numerous other languages of diverse typologies abound. We will also critically consider issues and debates in World/ New Englishes, involving concepts of 'mother tongue', 'nativeness' and ownership, issues of ideology, attitudes and identity, and challenges of creative expression, pedagogy and planning.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2035. Reading poetry (6 credits)

This course demonstrates how poems can be used for self-exploration and self-expression, telling a story, and social comment. A conventional, received idea of poetry is that it is unmediated self-expression. This course discusses and historicizes this idea with reference to selected texts from the 17th to 20th centuries. It also critiques this idea by attending to how the self in poetry is also a social self, formed in dialogue with external events and others.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2039. Gender, sexuality and discourse (6 credits)

This course offers an introduction to ways that language usage trends across society can be sensitive to social categories of sexuality and gender along with how speakers use language to project gender and sexuality. The course includes an historical view while bringing in cutting edge research, in this way highlighting emerging trends while keeping persistent themes in view. Project work will focus on discourse analysis of authentic data.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2045. Travel writing (6 credits)

This is a survey of European travel writing as a literary genre from the medieval period to the present day. The writings of travelers and explorers such as Marco Polo, Christopher Columbus and James Cook are examined, as well as those of modern travel writers such as Freya Stark, Graham Greene, D.H. Lawrence, Paul Theroux and Jan Morris. European travel writing is explored formally and thematically with the aim of introducing students to its many strategies and subtexts, and especially its historical role in articulating 'otherness' for the European imagination.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2047. English discourse structures and strategies (6 credits)

This course will provide an introduction to the analysis of English discourse from a linguistic perspective. Students will learn rhetorical methodologies and examine their effects on readers and listeners. Units include: spoken and written English discourse, global organization and cohesion, discourse markers, information structure, narrative, and non-verbal structures and strategies.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2048. Language and jargon (6 credits)

This course focuses on specialized sub-group languages or jargons, and uses texts from a range of historical period to examine the socio-cultural dynamics behind the creation, maintenance and disappearance of such jargons. Particular attention will be paid to the history of criminal jargon, prison jargon and other speech varieties associated with other marginal or criminalized sub-groups (e.g. drug addicts, 'tramps', etc.), as well as to the history of the study of such jargons and the inclusion of jargon and slang items in mainstream dictionaries. Students will read texts from different periods in the history of English, as well as considering the role of jargons in modern societies such as the United States, Britain and Hong Kong, as well as in 'cyber-space'.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2050. English corpus linguistics (6 credits)

Corpus linguistics is a rapidly-developing methodology in the study of language. It exploits the power of modern computer technology to manipulate and analyse large collections of naturally-occurring language ('corpora'). This course will introduce students to the use of computers and computerized corpora as tools for exploring the English language.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2055. American Gothic: Haunted homes (6 credits)

In this course we will examine the gothic as an important genre in American literature and trace its tradition over two hundred years of literary history. As a response to dominant ideas and conventions that shaped American literature, the gothic offers us a challenging perspective on the mainstream as well as on what it excludes. Beginning with some classic examples of the genre, we will seek to identify the elements and the rhetoric of the gothic text in order to appreciate the specific use that later writers have made of the gothic form.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2057. Text and image (6 credits)

This interdisciplinary course explores relations between literature and various forms of image-based representation. It begins with 'painterly' descriptions in novels and poetry, and common strands in art and literary criticism, and proceeds to discussion of relations between film and literature, such as the presence of cinematographic form in modern literature. In the concluding module, we consider the shift in emphasis from text-based to image-based culture and its impact on postmodern society. Course material consists of critical essays, and examples from literature, the pictorial arts and the moving image.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2074. Postcolonial readings (6 credits)

This course examines important works of literature in English from perspectives opened up by recent debates on ‘nation’, ‘narration’, and ‘hybridity’.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2075. The idea of China (6 credits)

This course examines English representations and interpretations of China in a selection of writings from the 18th century to the early 20th century.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2076. Romanticism (6 credits)

The course studies the Romantic era, and traces its history through a selection of its main texts.
Assessment**:** 100% coursework.

ENGL2078. The novel today (6 credits)

This course provides the opportunity to study selected novels in English which are representative of current trends in literature. Representative texts will be studied and these will be selected from critically acclaimed novels such as those appearing on the Man Booker short list. American fiction and world literature might also be included.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2079. Shakespeare (6 credits)

[Non-permissible combination: “DRTP2005. Shakespeare”]

This course will explore some of the themes and form of Shakespeare’s drama, and will consider how his work has been interpreted in modern times.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2080. Women, feminism and writing (6 credits)

This course will explore the often difficult relationship between women and what has been traditionally known as the ‘feminine sphere’. Women have commonly been associated with the feminine sphere of love, marriage and family and this course will consider how modernity and feminism have challenged and disrupted this assumption.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2085. Creative writing (6 credits)

[Non-permissible combination: “ENGL1067. Introduction to creative writing”]

This seminar offers an introduction to creative writing. Writers in the class will focus especially on telling and writing stories through workshops, readings, research, and individual coaching. Students

will also practice the art of holding an audience page by page. Each writer in the class will develop a body of work specific to individual taste and discovery. No previous experience is necessary. Workshops and materials will be introduced to sharpen the writer's plot, characters, dialogue, with an emphasis on the writer's ear and eye for shaping stories across drafts.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2089. Making Americans: Literature as ritual and renewal (6 credits)

This course will be an introduction to American literature primarily through fictional and non-fictional accounts of exemplary lives. Our focus will be on how successive generations of immigrants and settlers have constructed and transformed a vision of 'America' as process and promise. The course aims to introduce students to the diversity of writing that constitutes American literature, to guide them in the development of critical reading and writing skills and to provide them with opportunities to build, present and respond to arguments about the texts and topics under discussion.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2097. Imagining Hong Kong (6 credits)

[Non-permissible combination: "ENGL2203. Hong Kong in stories"]

In this course, students will read selections of fiction, poetry, essays, and journalism from earlier moments in the twentieth century to post-1997. Questions of modernity, urbanization and the urban subject, and cross-cultural identities will be discussed from perspectives opened up by postcolonial theories, and with reference to historical change both locally and in Hong Kong's geopolitical situation in the last fifty years.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2103. Language and digital media (6 credits)

Language is strongly influenced by the medium through which it is presented. When the medium itself is in wide use, norms emerge which determine not only the form that language can take, but also the pragmatic effects of any language use that either exploits or deviates from these norms. The nature of public language--that is, language generated by or for the public at large through various media--in turn influences public discourse (i.e., what is being talked about large-scale, and how it is talked about). When the nature of the medium is expressly exploited linguistically, then this change can achieve overwhelming and widespread effects.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2104. Language in the USA (6 credits)

This course addresses the problems (theoretical and practical) inherent in defining a variety of English as 'American'. Issues treated include the history of American English; dialectology; sociolinguistics; Black English; and the politics of American English.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2112. An introduction to the history of English (6 credits)

This introductory seminar will acquaint students with the main historical periods of the English language (Old English, Middle English, Early Modern English) and theoretical and methodological

problems and approaches in studying these varieties. Students will also learn about language-internal and language-external explanations of linguistic change and apply them to historical varieties of English. We will also examine topics in the history of linguistics, with particular reference to linguistic schools and approaches that have been crucial to the development of historical linguistics as a discipline. Through the use of various media apart from academic literature (video, audio presentations, online sources, computer corpora), the seminar will offer students various modes of learning about the history of English, language change, and linguistic theory.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2115. Theories of language acquisition (6 credits)

[*Non-permissible combination: LING2036. Child language*]

This course offers an introduction to the central themes in language acquisition, covering first language acquisition, second/foreign language acquisition and bilingualism. Students are expected to gain from the course a broad understanding of how children acquire their first language, how second language learners learn a new language, and the potential differences in processing and outcome.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2117. English phonology and morphology (6 credits)

This course provides a comprehensive study of the sounds (phonemes) and building blocks (morphemes) of English words. Students will examine the phonemes of English as they occur separately and in context, and the processes involved in producing those sounds. The course involves problems that Cantonese speakers might have in mastering English phonemes (and why) and ways in which those problems can be overcome. Students will also develop an understanding of the foundation of English words. In learning the various ways in which English words are formed, each student will be able to increase his/her own lexicon and develop an understanding of how and why words are constantly being added to or deleted from the English language, and who is generally responsible for those changes.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2118. Law and literature (6 credits)

This course explores the complex interactions between literature and the law. Even though the two disciplines may seem distinct, both law and literature are products of language and have overlapped in significant and interesting ways in history. Why do legal themes recur in fiction, and what kinds of literary structures underpin legal argumentation? How do novelists and playwrights imagine the law, and how do lawyers and judges interpret literary works? Could literature have legal subtexts, and could legal documents be re-interpreted as literary texts? We will think through these questions by juxtaposing novels, plays, court cases, and critical theory.
Pre-requisite: a previous course in legal and/or literary subject.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2119. English in Hong Kong: Making it your own (6 credits)

This course examines English as a cultural phenomenon in Hong Kong. Students investigate the ways in which Hong Kong English (HKE) differs from British English, and from Englishes in other ex-colonies of the Pacific region, particularly other Asian countries; you will have an opportunity to focus on a particular type of HKE discourse, including (but not limited to) everyday social interactions, business, the law, the media, and literature. You will be asked, specifically, to think about Hong Kong

English as a language full of richness, distinguishable from other Englishes, and no less worthy of recognition than, say, American English.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2120. Science fiction (6 credits)

As the world is becoming increasingly "science fictional", the genre of Science Fiction may itself appear to be boldly entering the mainstream of literature and at last confront the bureaucratic powers of academic criticism. We therefore do well to remember that Science Fiction is chiefly concerned with the lure and fear of frontiers and the unknown: a fascination with the future that yet often gives way to nostalgia, a reaching out to otherness that always risks reaffirming sameness, and a bracing disregard for literary conventions that nevertheless remains prone to revere tradition. In this course, we will study contemporary Science Fiction against the background of the genre's history. We will acknowledge its prehistory in early modern fictional writing about science and its kinship with related genres such as utopia (and dystopia), the fantastic, and the gothic. We will pay our respects to the evolution of the genre from its emergence in the late nineteenth century, through its Golden Age in pulp and its late ascendancy in novels, TV and films. But we will reserve most of our time to an exploration of contemporary Science Fiction and its relevance to the pushing of technological frontiers, the looming ecological tipping points, and the shifting ideological paradigms in our world.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2122. Global Victorians (6 credits)

This course will examine Victorian literature and culture through a global lens with an emphasis on questions of empire and race.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2123. Language and identity in Hong Kong (6 credits)

This course is a continuation of ENGL2002 Language in Society with a special focus on language and identity in Hong Kong. Students who have taken ENGL2002 will have a foundation in sociolinguistics, which certainly will be helpful, but ENGL2002 is not a prerequisite.
This course examines identity studies and related language ideology research in sociolinguistics and linguistic anthropology (including some relevant literature from sociology and social psychology). It specifically draws on research based in Hong Kong for comparison understanding, and application of currently available theoretical models.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2125. English construction grammar (6 credits)

This course will introduce students to two burgeoning paradigms in present-day linguistics: construction grammar and grammaticalization theory. The first of these is a general semantico-syntactic language theory; the second a (historical) linguistic discipline that focuses on how grammatical constructions come into being. The compatibility and complementarity of both approaches will be looked at through a detailed case study of English clausal complement constructions.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2126. Law, meaning, and interpretation (6 credits)

This course is concerned with meaning in verbal discourse. What makes the course distinctive, however, is that its interest in interpretation will be comparative, not between different languages but as regards how verbal discourse is interpreted in settings that bring different interpretive norms to bear on linguistic data: e.g. in literary and film interpretation, in religious interpretation, and in legal interpretation. The course begins with an introductory review of topics and approaches in semantics and pragmatics, then traces how meanings are ascribed differently in a selection of disciplinary and institutional settings. A final stage of the course is concerned with how approaches to interpretation engage with one another and the controversies and debates that arise when they do. No specialized knowledge of linguistics, law, or religious interpretation is needed; the course will provide a multidisciplinary introduction to the fields under discussion. In doing so, it will draw extensively on contributions made by students who are taking or have taken relevant courses in linguistics, literary criticism, and other cognate fields.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2127. Language and the law (6 credits)

Language plays an essential role both in creating law (e.g. in how specific laws are drafted) as well as in the implementation of law (e.g. in how language is deployed but also contested - in court). This course examines how language plays these important social roles, and addresses topics, including: different linguistic registers and genres which shape our concept of what legal language is; communicative strategies, adopted in the courtroom by speakers occupying different roles (judge, barrister, defendant, witness, etc.); how language is used and understood in in legal drafting and interpretation; submission of language data as evidence in some court cases; and linguistic and legal issues that arise in bilingual and multilingual jurisdictions (i.e. in systems that formulate and apply their law in two or more different languages). Together, such aspects of language use form the subject matter of an increasingly researched and studied interdisciplinary field, known as ‘language and law’ or ‘forensic linguistics’, to which this course provides an accessible introduction.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2128. Modernism (6 credits)

This course explores a number of radical twentieth-century literary texts in various genres, written in or translated into English, each of which is an attempt to challenge and re-invent more traditional forms and modes of writing. These modernist texts, and their inter-relationship, will be considered under the rubric of “world literature”. The course will also look at some of the themes - such as empire and nation, the nature of the artist, the bourgeois experience, the city, and changing understandings of gender, race, sexuality and the foreign - that shaped modernity in the modernist century.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2129. English as a language of science (6 credits)

English is sometimes called ‘the’ language of science. This could be more myth than reality, but there is no question that a great deal of academic communication takes place in English. Well-established notions like ‘scientific English’ or ‘academic English’ suggest that this is a special kind of English which has features that differ from ‘general’ English. This course will provide a context for reflection on the present role of English in a globalized academic world and the history of that role, as well as on the nature of English-language discourse in various academic disciplines. It is not an academic writing course, but an analytical course dealing, on the one hand, with the sociology and history of the language of science, and, on the other, with the textual and linguistic characteristics of the discourse produced in natural-scientific, social-scientific and humanities disciplines.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2130. Signs, language and meaning: Integrational reflections (6 credits)

This course introduces students to the basic tenets of integrational linguistics and integrationism. Integrational linguistics takes as its point of departure a theory of the sign which emphasizes the temporal, contextual and experiential dimensions of language and communication. Language users are also seen as language makers, in that they constantly create meaning and integrate and adapt their linguistic experience to novel situations. The course aims to provide insight into a wide range of topics, including the nature of memory, experience, consciousness, and other psychological and philosophical questions.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2131. The critic as artist (6 credits)

The rise of modern literary criticism is concurrent with the rise of modern society. This course introduces students to the development of literary criticism as a literary genre and a historical formation. By studying a selection of key critical texts from the early nineteenth century to the mid-twentieth century, the course will discuss the creative uses of criticism in the history of English literature and the role criticism has played in the development of our understanding of literature. There will be weekly lectures and workshops, in which we will discuss, and participate in, some of the most significant debates among major critical thinkers and to relate these debates to our own studies of literature.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2134. World literature (6 credits)

This course seeks to understand world literature not as a collection of national literary canons created in different linguistic and cultural locations, but as a field of knowledge about literature as a cross-cultural and translingual system of production. Reading a selection of texts, both fictional and non-fictional, we will discuss the concept and practice of world literature: its genealogy and methodology, its scope and purpose, its politics and limitations, in close relation to historical forms and forces of globalization.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2135. The cosmopolitan imagination (6 credits)

Invented by Greek philosophers twenty-four centuries ago as a way to stretch received notions of belonging and obligation, the word ‘cosmopolitan’ continues to tease the imagination even today, in a time when universities declare global citizenship as an educational aim and you can sign up for world citizenship online. In this course, we will critically examine different interpretations of what it might mean to be ‘a citizen of the world’ or ‘at home in every place’ (as Samuel Johnson’s *Dictionary of the English Language* defined ‘cosmopolitan’ in 1755). From the vantage point of recent debates about the promise or failure of cosmopolitanism to challenge dominant forms of globalization, we will read and discuss a selection of texts in various genres from the 18th to the 21st century, situating the cosmopolitan ideal and its critiques in relation to different modes of representation and discrepant experiences of globalization.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2136. Cross-cultural discourses (6 credits)

This course is a seminar and lecture series for advanced students in which teachers introduce and discuss a variety of topics and critical issues in cross-cultural studies. Topics will vary from year to year but will always revolve around one coherent thematic cluster, which might be, for example, China-West, travel writing, cross-cultural theory and methodology, world literature, literary crossings in British history, globalism, colonialism, Hong Kong. Students will thus engage with a specific cross-cultural subject matter in-depth, and from a variety of critical perspectives. They will also learn specifically about academic research in cross-cultural studies.
Assessment: 100% coursework (written essay or project).

ENGL2137. The profession of playwright in early modern England (6 credits)

[Non-permissible combination: DRTP2006. Early modern drama]

In this course we examine the emergence of writing for the theater as a profession — commercial as well as artistic — during the English Renaissance. An intersection of literary history and textual analysis, the course begins with a brief look at popular medieval plays as foils in style, production, and authorship. Subsequent readings include dramatic works (comedy, tragedy, masque), journals from key historical figures, acts of government, literary criticism, and material histories of the theater. Our inquiry comprises both the promotion and suppression of drama within the culture of early modern England. We pay special attention, therefore, to theories of dramatic value (what do authors profess to be doing?) and various legal regulations of drama (what do authorities find dangerous?).
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2138. Language and globalization (6 credits)

[Non-permissible combination: ENGL2183/ LCOM2005. Language, communication and globalization]

Globalization has been defined in a number of ways, for example as the increased interconnectedness of individuals, organizations and countries; intense flows of goods, services, capital, information, images, and people; a new 'world order' with privileged centres and disadvantaged peripheries; or a geography of unequal development. Whichever of these definitions is adopted, an understanding of how language is used as part of these networks, flows, and inequalities, or indeed to facilitate them, is crucial in theorizing language and communication in the contemporary world. Therefore, this course examines language through the metaphors of transition, flux, mobility and displacement. In a world where people's lives and identities are no longer so neatly bounded or easily located, with positions of power and authority no longer clearly defined, we ask questions about the role of language in shaping contemporary 'globalized' identities, relationships and communities. Some of the key areas of globalization that are considered from the perspective of language and communication are the new globalized economy; print, broadcast and new media; popular culture; tourism; and second language education.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2139. American modern (6 credits)

This course will examine American literature from 1900-1940, a period of tremendous change in American culture. We will explore how certain paradigms of American identity are challenged / reinforced / examined / sublimated in the literature during this tumultuous period. We will also explore how American modernist literature is in conversation with (and sometimes in conflict with) the broader Modernist movement. And finally we will seek to understand how the American modernist style is a

deeply complicated and fraught response to the rapid and complex changes wrought by modernity in early twentieth century America.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2140. Ideologies of language past and present (6 credits)

This course examines the metadiscourses about language, in particular the English language, and the linguistic beliefs expressed therein, from a historical vantage point. We will consider so-called lay perspectives as well as professional views on language drawing on a variety of text genres across a time span covering antiquity up to the present. What have learned people said about language change, language conservation, language future, language standards, the vernacular, Bible translation, and how do their discourses differ from the claims made by professional linguists? When are one's linguistic beliefs 'ideological' and how does language ideology differ from language myth? Among other texts, we will scrutinize Plato's *Cratylus*, Medieval accounts about the Adamic language, the More-Tyndale controversy about vernacular bibles, Early Modern treatises about the foreignization of the English language, the interventions by Swift, Johnson and Orwell, colonial commentaries on American English, the representation of fictional characters' speech. And finally we will engage with academic texts spanning 150 years of scientific discourse on language.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2141. Doing discourse analysis (6 credits)

In the last fifty years or so, 'discourse' and 'discourse analysis' (DA) have firmly established themselves as key notions in many academic disciplines, including linguistics, literary studies, communication studies, and social sciences, to name a few. As a consequence, there currently exist at least 40 'tribes and sub-tribes' of discourse analysis, with new approaches still appearing and older approaches being re-conceptualized. This course aims at, first, providing the students with an accessible introduction to the theoretical underpinnings of discourse analysis, and, second, taking them through a step-by step process of doing discourse analysis. The particular focus of the course is on introducing the students to the analysis of context-specific use of language in written, spoken and multimodal communication. Examples for the course will be drawn from different authentic discourses, such as everyday conversations, media, politics, business and healthcare encounters, with some of the examples coming from the sociocultural context of Hong Kong.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2142. Milton (6 credits)

We read selected poems from Milton's oeuvre, with a focus on the epic *Paradise Lost*. As we read the texts, we focus on questions of genre, interpretative puzzles, and place Milton in the larger literary culture and religious milieu of early modern England.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2143. Religion and the flourishing of English (6 credits)

This course focuses on how religious dissension in the early modern period affected the development of English as a literary language. We examine the thought of Christian reformers and counter-reformers — among others, Wycliffe, Tyndale, and More — and analyze selections from major religious texts that for the first time became accessible in the vernacular. The works under study come from a range of genres, including royal edicts, trials, and literary dialogues; and they span from the first English bible, a manuscript of the late fourteenth century, to the "King James version," a book printed in 1611 — one whose impact on English remains unparalleled. Primarily we will attend to arguments about language

featured in their prologues and addresses to the reader. Topics for discussion include: theories of textual interpretation; controversy over the suitability of English for the translation of scripture; and heresy as a language crime (the religious thinkers whom we read faced dire punishment for their stances). 'Flourish' has comprised three main meanings since its appearance in Middle English: to bloom or prosper, to brandish a weapon, and to ornament speech. We shall touch on each — the cultural thriving of English, verbal duels, and the politics of poetics.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2144. Forms of contemporary literature (6 credits)

This advanced course will focus on representative texts of late 20th and early 21st century Anglophone literature. Topics will include memory, history, and the representation of trauma; the writing of transnational and trans-lingual experience; the ethics of narration and reading; the formation and dynamics of the non-nuclear family. We will study formal practices and innovations; allegory and intertextuality; the poetics of perspective and unreliable narration; the impact of translation on Anglophone literature.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2145. Post-1945 English drama (6 credits)

This advanced course will introduce a number of plays by major playwrights such as Arthur Miller, Tennessee Williams, Samuel Beckett, Tom Stoppard, Caryl Churchill and Brian Friel. The course will be broadly chronological and the plays discussed will be situated in their socio-political contexts. The classes will comprise close readings and discussion of the plays rather than lectures on drama.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2146. Cognitive semantics (6 credits)

Imagination gives us the ability to invent new concepts so we can develop arts, science, religion, culture, sophisticated tools, and language. In this course, we focus on how the human mind operates largely behind the scenes to create new meaning. Almost invisibly to consciousness, we create meaning every day. As opposed to the general view that meaning is given or prepackaged in linguistic expressions, meaning construction should be understood as something that we actively participate in as a product of interaction with others in specific contexts. We perform it with lightning speed. More often than not, we do not find it difficult at all to produce and understand language we have not heard before when we communicate with others. The construction of meaning is also crucial to the understanding of our own culture. Cultural models are not only ideas that reside in our minds. They are often embodied in a wide array of material artefacts. This course will look at examples of thinking strategies that involve the interaction of mental structure and material structure.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2147. Joyce's voices (6 credits)

This course will explore James Joyce's major work(s). "If I can get to the heart of Dublin, I can get to the heart of all cities in the world. In the particular is contained the universal" (Joyce).
There is a sense in which Joyce wrote only one book. All the characters in his books, early and late, belong to the same Dublin world. A study of the key texts will reveal the distinctive features of Joyce's art as well as the ways in which it can be viewed as a continuous progression. The stylistic brilliance of Joyce is generally acknowledged. He celebrates the richness, fertility and infinite possibilities of

ordering the world that lie within language. He subverted narrative conventions and experimented with new forms to produce art that still has the power to startle.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2149. American dreaming (6 credits)

This course will examine American literature from the middle to the end of the twentieth century. It will stand alone as a course offering but will also dovetail nicely with American Modern which covers American literature from the first half of the twentieth century. Specifically this course will interrogate the myth of the American dream -- we will look at novels that explore what it promises, whom it fails. We will pursue why so often the American dream is a literary nightmare. In this pursuit, we will read a broad range of important American fiction and interpret what writers from various vantage points (historical, geographical, economical, ethnic, gender) have to say about the American Dream, an idea that sustains its potency even as we make our way into the twenty-first century.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2150. The city and modernity (6 credits)

This course will focus on urban literature in a broadly chronological manner to explore the emergence of the modern metropolis within European and American contexts. Beginning with London and Paris, we will look at how writers imagined, walked, and mapped the city in a new expression of urban modernity, from the 'City of Lights' to 'Modern Babylon'. American cities, in particular New York, will provide another mode of comparison for the ideas of alienation, consumption, crime and corruption so central to our contemporary conceptions of the city. Utilising primary and secondary sources each week, the course will be organised thematically, investigating movement, space, gender, and issues of class to locate the nineteenth century city as a dynamic place of shifting and often contradictory ideas.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2152. Theory of the novel (6 credits)

The novel has been one of the most important cultural forms of the past two hundred years. Yet compared to poetry and drama, the essence of the novel has proven difficult to define. This course will survey the ways that theorists have sought to understand the novel's development and how it functions as a literary form. We will begin with critical accounts of the novel's rise in the eighteenth century. Why did the novel emerge at this moment, and what is its relationship to other literary and non-literary forms, like the romance and the newspaper? We will then think about the form of the novel and how theorists seek to pin down exactly what it is. Students will think about these theories in relationship to one or two seminal novels.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2153. Literary London (6 credits)

This course surveys British literary and cultural depictions of London from the eighteenth century to the present. Students will consider how the expanding eighteenth and nineteenth-century city transformed cultural understandings of the self and its relationship to society. We will examine literary representations of the changing spaces of the city and the effect of crowded urban life on individual character and community. Course materials might include canonical authors like William Wordsworth or Charles Dickens, popular literature and newspapers, and seminal works in urban studies and literary criticism in thinking about the depiction of London in literature and popular culture.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2156. Eighteenth-century British literature (6 credits)

The eighteenth century saw the rise of the novel and, arguably, the emergence of a new modern self. It also ushered in enlightenment ideals that challenged existing social hierarchies. This course will survey the developments in British literature and culture during this tumultuous time. We will read poetry, journalism, and prose fiction in light of the period's key concepts, including the enlightenment, the self, and the public sphere. In particular, our discussions will focus on the emergence of new genres and forms, including the newspaper and the novel. Readings may include Daniel Defoe's Robinson Crusoe, Samuel Richardson's Pamela, and Fanny Burney's Evelina.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2157. Representations of justice in law and literature (6 credits)

Addressing readers of the Law Reports, the renowned Renaissance jurist Sir Edward Coke repeats an ancient definition of justice: "*Ius suum cuique tribuere*, to give to every one his owne". As intuitively appealing as this formulation may be, can we say anything more specific about dessert, about what it means to be given one's due? How have literary authors and legal thinkers explored what it might mean to distribute or receive a fair share? In this course, we examine a variety of conceptions and depictions of justice, an idea crucial to the peace of the individual as well as the harmony of society; yet it is an idea that can seem ineffable. We begin with selected foundational meditations and dramatic situations from antiquity, before continuing with prominent early modern attempts to argue for, come to terms with, or present a vision of, a particular understanding of justice.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2158. Language processing and learning (6 credits)

The course provides an overview of the cognitive approaches to first and second language processing and learning. Students will gain a broad understanding of how different components of language (words, meaning and syntax) are processed and represented in the mind, how fundamental principles of learning and memory may be relevant to first and second language learning, and how language patterns may be learnt without intention and awareness.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2159. Twenty-first century English poetry (6 credits)

"One of the surest of tests is the way in which a poet borrows. Immature poets imitate; mature poet steal; bad poets deface what they take, and good poets make it into something better, or at least something different." (T.S. Eliot, 1920) This is not a 'creative writing' course per se nor is it just a lit. crit. course about recent poetry: students should be willing to approach the texts from the 'inside' as well as the outside.
Harold Bloom has written of "the anxiety of influence" poets may feel in relation to their precursors. This can hinder poets' own poetic development and result in writing that is merely derivative. However, many poets also demonstrate the 'benefits of influence', of serving their (poetic) apprenticeships – rather as a carpenter does - as they seek their own poetic voices. We may, for instance, follow a clear line of descent in poetic influence from the poetry of John Keats to Wilfred Owen; Owen to Philip Larkin; Larkin to Carol Ann Duffy.
Who are the new voices in English poetry in the first few years of the twenty-first century? What is distinctive about their writing? This course will combine critical and creative approaches to the study of these poems.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2160. Sovereignty in law, theory and culture (6 credits)

Sovereignty is a centrally important concept for both law and politics, to which recent debates in Hong Kong testify. In this course we will assess the meaning and significance of sovereignty by drawing on resources from across the arts, humanities and social sciences. We will read and discuss materials from law, political theory, philosophy, urban studies, literature and the visual arts in order to answer the following questions: What is sovereignty and how is it related to the history of the state? How is our understanding of sovereignty changing in the context of contemporary challenges like globalization, climate change and international terrorism? And what would law and politics looks like without sovereignty? The course takes a broad historical sweep, from early-modern conceptions to the present day. We will look at key theorists of sovereignty like (the authoritarian) Thomas Hobbes, (the Nazi-sympathizing) Carl Schmitt and (the anarchist philosopher) Giorgio Agamben as well as explore thinkers who are trying to imagine law and politics 'without' or 'beyond' sovereignty. Throughout the course, we supplement theoretical and legal debates with insights from literature and the visual arts. The plays of William Shakespeare; poetry written by inmates within the Guantanamo detention centers; 17th century emblems and images; and an early-twentieth century novel will all help us understand the meaning of sovereignty and explore possibilities for its critique.
The course will be of particular interest to students who have enjoyed classes in legal theory, law and literature, law and film, or constitutional law. But the course is open to all who are excited to explore the possibilities of interdisciplinary scholarship and want to find out more about the elusive but crucially important notion of sovereignty. This course hopes to broaden the scholarly horizons of students by bringing students together from different disciplinary backgrounds. The course will provide participants with valuable cross-disciplinary reading, rhetorical and evaluative skills.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2161. Language rights and linguistic justice (6 credits)

The first part of the course offers a broad picture of linguistic diversity and cultural preservation, traces the evolution of language rights and explores the historical connections of such evolution with nation states, warfare, and globalization. The second part of the course surveys international and national legal regimes in the protection of language rights, covering both minority language rights and official language rights, and their manifestations as negative and positive rights. We will examine how some of these rights are realized in the domains of education, legal processes and public services across jurisdictions, as well as the limitations of their reach. The third part of the course focuses on the philosophical and moral basis of language rights, addresses sources of contention, and queries the concept of 'linguistic justice'. Such discussions provide a lens through which tensions between liberalism and diversity may be probed.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2162. Where the wild things are: Children's literature and the law (6 credits)

The experience of becoming literate and the content that supports that effort are fundamental to understanding one's place and one's power in a legal context. A close examination and interrogation of what societal norms are being introduced to young readers through an analytical study of children's literature will provide a foundation for understanding the relationship between norms introduced in children's literature and the laws that codify those norms.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2163. Comics, graphic novel and theory (6 credits)

The course introduces students to the graphic novel (book-length comics) as a relatively "new" genre of contemporary literature. The course consists of a survey of key texts and provides students with the necessary critical toolkit used to analyze visual literatures. Over the course of the semester, we will focus on the “form” of the graphic novel and how it creates arguments about gender, class, sexuality and race. This course will also be an introduction to the critical methods and theories used to interpret the unique relationship between text and image.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2164. The beginnings of English law and literature (6 credits)

Students completing the course will have a strong sense of the history and development of English statute and common law, familiarity with many of the canonical literary texts and authors of the medieval and renaissance periods, and a critical understanding of the interactions of pre-modern law and literature, as well as the ability to undertake legal and literary research using primary texts and documentary artefacts from manuscript libraries and archives. The course focuses on developing students' skills in developing arguments about a range of canonical literary texts, but also on the ways in which literary approaches can be the basis for understanding text traditionally considered to be 'non-literary': legal and archival materials. An innovation of this course is its centralization of the material archive of books and documents. As part of its training in legal and literary history, the course introduces students to the history of the book as an academic discipline, and to the skills of pre-modern archival research – paleography, codicology, diplomatic, and textual scholarship, among others. In this way, the course (while reinforcing the general skills of legal and literary research and argument necessary for the successful completion of the LLB or BA) should also prepare students to take on postgraduate work in a new range of disciplines focusing on the pre-modern period, and thus open to them a greater number of career paths after their time at HKU.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2165. Legal fictions: United States citizenship and the right to write in America (6 credits)

In 1776, the idea of self-evidence grounded the philosophical assertion that “all men are created equal.” And yet, political, economic and social equality in the democratic republic of the United States has often proven less of a guarantee and more of a promise. Beginning with Thomas Jefferson’s writing of the “Declaration of Independence,” the recognition of a person as fully human in the United States has depended on assumptions regarding race, class and gender. The course examines the changing definition of United States citizenship by putting legal texts (the U.S. Constitution, federal and state laws, Executive Orders, Supreme Court decisions) in dialogue with literary writings and film. In this course we will read stories by people whom federal and or state law barred from full citizenship. Through autobiographies, fiction, poetry and speeches, we will examine the cultural legacy of legal terms such as “domestic dependent nation,” “illegal alien” and “unlawful enemy combatant.” The course themes may include: property and democracy, slavery, westward expansion and Indian Removal, immigration (with particular focus on China and Asia), the right of women to vote, and the wartime powers of the Executive Office. Our goal will be to pay careful attention to the language and genres of the American legislative and judicial system, and conversely to contextualize literature in relation to the legal history through which the U.S. Constitution has been reinterpreted and amended to broaden its terms of equality. We will read writers who used words to protest against and revise the historical circumstances in which they had to fight for legal standing. We will also consider how different kinds of writing -- legal, scientific, autobiographical and fictional -- employ different rhetorical strategies to reach audiences, affect readers and influence the world.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2166. English phonetics (6 credits)

This course introduces students to the theoretical advancements in the study of speech. In the first half of the course, we will look at the acoustic nature of different 'components' of speech: vowels, consonants, stress and accent, intonation, and voice quality. The second half of the course will focus on how the study of speech can be applied various areas of inquiry such as speech perception and production, the learning of new sounds, sociophonetics, and forensic phonetics. Students will get hands-on experience with Praat, a free computer software package for analysis of speech in phonetics. Prior knowledge of phonetics and/or phonology will be helpful but not obligatory. Students with little background on the study of speech are encouraged to read the recommended introductory textbooks before the course starts.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2167. Theatre and the world (6 credits)

[Non-permissible combination: "DRTP2007. World drama"]

This course explores how theatre was produced and consumed globally during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Through a critical historical approach, students will analyze how proscenium theatre was disseminated, Asian performance traditions were mythologized and a transnational, commercial entertainment industry was instituted during the colonial and postcolonial ages. The course will therefore consider theatre and performance in relation to broader themes such as imperialism, postcolonialism, globalisation and neoliberalism.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2168. The law of signs: Interpretative controversies in legal semiotics (6 credits)

This course investigates the way that law treats verbal and visual signs. The study of signs is termed semiotics. By sign is meant here the visual and verbal bearer of contentious meanings and/or of disputed cultural significance. Through the study of decided cases, the courses analyzes how verbal and visual signs encounter law's definitions, registration regimes, prohibition, censorship, or protection. Among the legal domains involved are: trademark and copyright law; employment and discrimination law; censorship, free speech and obscenity law; blasphemy; public order law; human rights law. The course will be divided into sections by topic (not all of which will be taught for each iteration): (i) names and marks (legal limits on the right to choose, registration regimes in relation to personal and corporate names, marks, titles, licence plates, domain names); (ii) art (art works and customs regulations, legal definitions of art; art works and forgery, e.g. artistic images of currency; art works and parody; art and taboo; song lyrics and taboo meanings); (iii) flags, insignia and symbols (laws against flag desecration; banned political symbols; triad society symbols; gang insignia); (iv) speech versus conduct (gestures; public order offences involving swearing, insulting language or behaviour; contempt of court; the definition of speech under the First Amendment); (v) clothing and hair-styles (e.g. employment law; sumptuary laws; contempt of court); (vi) cultural appropriation and identity (the commercial use of indigenous linguistic materials and cultural symbols); (vii) language in public spaces (regulations on signage; noise and nuisance; the definition of public). The course focuses on the underlying legal, socio-political, and semiotic doctrines that are at play, but also the implicit or explicit theory of the sign, the understanding of how signs communicate, how the ownership of signs and images is understood, and how law assigns authorial and interpretative responsibility for meanings.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2169. Writing and violence (6 credits)

"The pen is mightier than the sword." In this course, we will probe the complex relationship between writing and violence, metonymically hinted at in this popular saying, which reassuringly identifies writing as a more effective alternative to violence, but also – more troublingly – as a superior weapon. The complexity lurks in the word "might", which – also troublingly – rhymes with "right". What, then, does the relationship between writing and violence have to do with questions of power and potential, justice and what counts as normal? We will approach this question from three perspectives, considering writing about violence, writing on the side of violence, and writing against violence. We will try to trace the shadow of violence in the history of writing and to locate its function in the formation of classical genres and conventions of literature, in order to scrutinize their influence and transformation in contemporary writing, both fictional and non-fictional. Throughout, we will refer to different theoretical accounts of violence and test their value in understanding the potential of writing to serve or check, expose or veil, normalize or counteract, face or avert violence. Recognizing the capacity of writing to reflect on its own troubled relationship with violence, we may also ask how it can empower readers to respond critically to violence, in literature and in life.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2170. Cringy: The aesthetics of discomfort (6 credits)

Cringe, Crunch, Coil: Although the words form no sentence, their proximity to each other, and the distinctive quality of their alliteration might produce that elusive feeling of the awkward-embarrassed-slightly/very-uncomfortable "cringe." We are all well acquainted with that "cringy feeling" as it arises in interpersonal relationships; no doubt, many of us have countless memories of distressing moments of awkwardness. Unfortunately -- or fortunately -- the ground never opens up to swallow us. But cringy is not simply that feeling of awkwardness we, as individuals, wish away or try to breathe through. What happens when creators of aesthetic objects move away from effecting outright shock, awe, and shame and instead look to making "cringy" literature, film, and art? By consuming these aesthetic objects, we begin to experience the collective dimension of "cringy." That said, under what circumstances do consumers of "cringy art" feel cringy? And, more importantly, what processes of interpretation, critique, and action are triggered by this minor emotion that is never satisfyingly cathartic? In order to answer these questions (and many more), we will, by focusing on a collection of literary and cinematic works, study the techniques, styles, and narrative modes that enable "cringy art."
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2171. The right to the city: Cultural politics in Hong Kong and London (6 credits)

From their historical relationship to their contemporary status as leaders of global finance capital to the challenges of Brexit and reunification, the pairing of Hong Kong and London offers ideal ground for examining the rights to the city in the present. Taking advantage of King's College London's partnership with HKU, this course will enable students to seek commonalities and solutions by reading about, researching and engaging with each other's environment. The parallax views created by a joint HKU/KCL course will provide students with a unique opportunity to grasp the specific ways in which global dynamics coalesce in the cultural politics of different locales. By bringing together literature and other forms of urban culture -- for example, stand-up comedy, underground music and street art -- 'The Right to the City' will help students to trace the role that cultural forms play in mediating struggles for urban justice.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2172. The police in literature and culture (6 credits)

This course will explore representations of the police and law enforcement in literature and popular culture from the nineteenth century to the present. Students will study the history of policing and its emergence in the nineteenth century, as well as its relationship to the rise of detective fiction and true crime.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2173. Magic, monsters and maidens fair: Medieval English literature (6 credits)

This course offers an introductory survey of the literature produced in England between 700 and 1500. Moving from the earliest period of English literature to the advent of the age of print, this course examines the magic and marvels of medieval literature. We will explore the monstrous from *Beowulf*'s dragon to the mysterious Green Knight, the magical from the lais of Marie de France to *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, and the lives of women from the fair maidens of Arthurian romance to the bawdy Wife of *The Canterbury Tales*, and from Grendel's murderous mother to the wily thief's wife in *The Second Shepherds' Play*. From the elegies and epics of Old English poetry to the saints and sinners of the 'miracle plays', the course covers the major literary works of medieval England before the age of print. Taking readings from across a range of genres, this course will provide a sound introduction to the texts and themes of medieval English literature, while exploring the many faces of the marvellous and the monstrous.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2174. Shakespeare and the law (6 credits)

Shakespeare made extensive use of legal terms, ideas, and procedures in his drama. In this course, we will examine the connections between Shakespeare and the law in two broad ways. First, we will look at how law, and legal reasoning, contributed to Shakespeare's construction of drama, including his famed creation of vivid, life-like characters. We will explore how legal notions of intention, suspicion, and inference informed the "inwardness" or "interiority" of Shakespeare's characters. Students will be asked to bring early modern legal cases (such as *Hales v Petit*) and land law (Domesday Book) to bear on their analysis of Hamlet's much discussed "delay". We will consider both how early modern legal training – including forensic rhetoric and evidentiary reasoning – informed Shakespeare's dramatic technique, and how literary, narratological, and affective strategies informed the development of English law.
Second, the course will explore the interrelationships between language, law, and power. The relationship between the crown and the law (*rex* v *lex*) was much debated in early modern England and was a central focus of Shakespeare's history plays. We will examine the intersection of law and power politics in *2 Henry VI*, a play famous for the rebel cry: "The first thing we do, let's kill all the lawyers". The line speaks to deep social grievances concerning the role and nature of law, the place of the commons, and the nature of authority. Students will examine important texts in the early modern understanding of kingship and authority, including case law (*Calvin's Case*, *Case of the Duchy of Lancaster*, *Willion v Berkley*), legal theory (Edward Coke's foundational writings on the common law and Ernst Kantorowisz's *The King's Two Bodies*), and Elizabethan political theology (*Homily on Obedience*, *Homily Against Disobedience*). *2 Henry VI* also offers an opportunity to examine Shakespeare's treatment of the legal trial, the criteria for interpretation and judgement, and the connection between trial jury and theatre audience.
Pre-requisite: a previous course in legal and/or literary subject.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2175. Bad identities (6 credits)

This course will discuss issues of privilege and vulnerability, notions of appropriation, theories of identity and identification, and the dynamics of identity politics through a focus on “bad identities”; that is, on individuals who identify themselves in ways that fall beyond or challenge the limits of what generally is deemed legible and legitimate. By focusing on individual cases, the course will seek to understand why bad identities are so problematic for, and generative of, so much contemporary thought and debate. We will focus on a number of bad identities, including examples of bad race, bad trans, bad imagination, bad homosexuals, bad fat and bad academics. Course literature consists of memoirs, novels, films, academic articles, and media depictions and debates.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2176. Writing Asian diasporas (6 credits)

This course introduces students to literature from the Asian diaspora: the movement of people of Asian descent to places all over the world. Reading a range of historical to contemporary narratives and fiction produced by diasporic Asians across the globe, we will examine the conditions of physical and emotional dislocation, exile, return, alienation and loss but also, the pleasures of global mobility and privilege, intercultural contact, new identities and ways of being. Over the course of the semester, we will address the experiences of living and writing between Asia and the rest of the world. Depending on the course instructor and semester, different geographical routes and historical periods will be covered.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2177. Reading and rereading Jane Austen (6 credits)

This course will examine the works of one of the most adapted and reworked author in the English literary canon: Jane Austen. In this course we will try and account for Austen's enduring popularity and appeal to global audiences. We will start by situating her novels in the context of late 18th and early 19th century Britain, in the wake of the French Revolution and the contested ideas surrounding Enlightenment and Cosmopolitanism. We will read her fiction historically, paying close attention to how Austen responds innovatively to issues surrounding norms underpininning gender and sexuality, social contract theory, and the value of the literary arts. We will then consider how the cultural debates enacted by her fiction continue to resound today by analysing a range of adaptations, from Hollywood to Bollywood. We will pay particular attention to the place she occupies within the British heritage industry and the forms of politicised nostalgia it circulates, and we will also examine contemporary adaptations of her work in the context of conflicts around forms of neocolonialism, heteronormativity, and classism that her novels continue to provoke.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2178. Language and art (6 credits)

This course investigates the social, political and aesthetic contexts and consequences of language (text) as a medium in contemporary art. A range of sociolinguistic and social semiotic approaches and analytic concepts will be introduced to understand and explain the meaning potentials of displayed language.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2179/ LCOM2001.* Theories of language and communication (6 credits)

This course examines theoretical discussions of language and communication, with special reference to underlying assumptions about language (i.e. their metatheory) and the respective philosophies of language they are based on, their merits and shortcomings, as well as possible points of contact between them. These assumptions will also be critically discussed on the basis of exemplary linguistic studies presented in class. We shall hence consider the various traditions contributing to language and communication theory, among which are the semiotic, the phenomenological, and the sociocultural traditions. Particular emphasis will be placed on how sociolinguistic theory has dealt with the phenomena of language and communication.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2180/ LCOM2002.* Language in the workplace (6 credits)

People spend a considerable amount of time at work. The workplace thus provides a useful site for investigating various aspects of language and communication. This course will discuss a range of features of workplace discourse and illustrate the impact social factors may have on the ways in which language is used in this context. We will also discuss and compare different methodological approaches and a variety of theoretical frameworks used for an analysis of workplace discourse. These tools will then be used by the students to analyse naturalistic data.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2181/ LCOM2003.* Language and politeness (6 credits)

This course will discuss various approaches to linguistic politeness. Students will be introduced to a number of theoretical frameworks that have been developed in order to capture and assess this complex concept. A particular focus will be on the question of universality and culturally influenced perceptions of politeness. Moreover, the impact of various social factors (including power, gender and ethnicity) on the performance and perception of linguistic politeness is discussed, and the topic of impoliteness is covered.
Assessment:100% coursework.

ENGL2182/ LCOM2004.* Language, communication and the media (6 credits)
[Non-permissible combination with ENGL2182/ LCOM2004: ENGL1064 Language, communication and the media
Note to students admitted in 2023-24 and before:
Students who have already completed "ENGL2182/ LCOM2004. Language, communication and the media" are not allowed to study "ENGL1064. Language, communication and the media" in the academic year 2024-25 and thereafter. But for those who have not completed ENGL2182/ LCOM2004 as an advanced course, they may still take ENGL1064 as an introductory course (List B) in the academic year 2024-25 and thereafter.]

This course introduces students to the study of mass media discourse in today's society. The 'mass media' phenomenon deserves particular attention because, as sociologists and sociolinguists point out, it has a deep impact on our knowledge of and on how we communicate about the world. The course considers cross-cultural issues of mediated discourse and looks how eastern and western ideologies amalgamate to form new local ideological discourses, with particular attention to Hong Kong. The course will take as its foundation the field of (social) semiotics, and will look more closely at how this field's theoretical premises match with our personal experiences as communicating members of society. The course also introduces students to philosophical-semiotic questions about epistemology and ontology.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2183/ LCOM2005.* Language, communication and globalization (6 credits)

[*Non-permissible combination: ENGL2138. Language and globalization*]

This course, centring on the phenomenon of 'globalization' in relation to language and communication, critically examines some widely held notions, such as the view that globalization has resulted in the homogenization of cultures and languages, and in the hegemony of English, and is organized along three main lines. It investigates the *politics* of language and globalization, in how various nations, particularly those in Asia, struggle with the balance between their indigenous languages and languages of global import and/or wider local significance, e.g. English or Mandarin. It addresses the phenomenon of globalization bringing communities and languages into contact, the consequences of which are often viewed as situations of *peril*, involving the endangerment of languages, as well as the evolution of new linguistic varieties such as World/New Englishes. It identifies a number of communicative practices in *pop* culture that are ubiquitous in and representative of today's global world, such as SMSes, e-mail and other electronic communication, hiphop, and callcentres, and explores how languages are appropriated by users in managing their own local identity alongside wider global needs.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2184/ LCOM2007.* Visual communication (6 credits)

All visual texts such as photographs, advertisements, magazine covers and websites are carefully designed and create specific effects. Designers use different semiotic tools such as colour, framing, focus, font style and positioning of elements to communicate with the viewer. Taken together, this visual vocabulary makes up a visual language that we can analyse. More broadly, this course is concerned with 'visuality' – the different ways in which we are capable of seeing (our 'vision') are constructed: how we see, how we are able, allowed, or made to see, and how we relate to these acts of seeing (or not seeing). We will examine a wide range of visual examples from everyday life including photographs, advertisements, cartoons, magazine covers, artworks and websites.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2185/ LCOM2008.* Health communication, 'healthy' communication (6 credits)

Health communication extends from patient-doctor interactions to inter-professional encounters and media campaigns. While research has shown that effective communication is an indispensable part of delivering quality healthcare, technological advances in modes of communication, together with increasingly complex social environments, are presenting professionals and patients alike with multiple challenges. This course pursues two main interrelated objectives (as reflected in the course title). First, it is aimed at introducing the students to one specific area of inquiry within the so-called 'applied linguistics of professions' (Sarangi, 2005). The students will learn about different analytical approaches to healthcare communication, namely micro- and macro-perspectives on the analyses of spoken and written discourse data. Second, it is intended as a course with a more 'practical' aim of developing the students' understanding that effective health communication strategies may significantly improve the healthcare quality and outcomes. To achieve these two objectives, the students will engage with authentic data from a variety of healthcare sites (from primary care encounters to specialist clinics to genetic counseling) to examine some critical issues of health communication such as shared decision-making between healthcare professionals and patients; delivery of accurate and accessible healthcare information; communicating health risk and uncertainty (that is very common in modern medicine).
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2186/ LCOM2009.* Language and religion (6 credits)

In this course we will explore the complex relationship between language and religion by focusing on four main questions: 1) What is religion? 2) What is language? 3) How is the relationship between language and religion conceptualised in sociolinguistics, and what does this conceptualisation imply? 4) How can language be used to perform religious identities? We will address the first two questions by focusing on the historical emergence of religion as a universal category; and on conceptualisations of language as a practice. The third question will be examined on the basis of theoretical literature and case studies which discuss the relationship between language and religion, and the use of language for the performance of religious identities. This will lead to a consideration of the various ways language is used as a resource to perform these same identities; and of the interaction between religion and other social categories. Since the Internet and English have become important ways of spreading and sharing knowledge, we will also tackle this fourth question by working with computer-mediated data taken from English-language websites used by religious communities.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2187/ LCOM2011.* The language of news media (6 credits)

As a natural concomitant of the mass media, the consumption of news has become a staple of modernity. We encounter and attend to different kinds of news discourse on a daily basis – for example, print newspapers; news documentaries, current affairs programmes, news interviews, or investigative journalism programmes on television and radio; online news from digitised newspapers, news blogs, news updates or news feeds from social networking sites (e.g. Facebook/Twitter), Google news, YouTube news videos. In this course, we will examine the ways in which meanings are discursively construed in the news. We will also critically reflect and debate on issues of power relations and ideologies of the news media: the influence they exert both on our governments and major institutions as well as their ability to shape our ideas, beliefs and behaviours through the news discourse that we immerse ourselves in. Adopting a linguistic/semiotic perspective, this course offers detailed insights into the language of the news by discussing the main characteristics of news discourse and exploring theoretical frameworks to research and analyse the use of text and image in the construction of news and the manifestations of power, control and ideology in the press.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2188. Language and food (6 credits)

Food is never just food. Food holds sociocultural significance based on taste, preference, ritual, tradition, gender, race and ethnicity, social class, and even its origin of place. This course studies how language, culture, and identity are linked to each other through food. It examines the connection between everyday sensory experience and cross-cultural and -linguistic understanding of food. We will read and discuss a range of research on language use in food-related contexts, applying approaches to various data sources such as restaurant menus, recipes, mealtime conversations, food packages, mukbang (livestream of eating), food advertisements & informercials, and reality TV shows. Students will conduct small-scale research projects by collecting and analyzing a body of data concerning any language-and-food topic, while also applying course concepts to the collected data.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2189. Eighteenth century drama: The rise of celebrity culture (6 credits)

[*Non-permissible combinations: "ENGL1053. Eighteenth century drama: The rise of celebrity culture" and "DRTP2008. 18th-century drama"*

Note to students admitted in 2022-23 and before:
Students who have already completed "ENGL1053. Eighteenth century drama: The rise of celebrity culture" are not allowed to study "ENGL2189. Eighteenth century drama: The rise of celebrity culture" in the academic year 2023-24 and thereafter. But for those who have not completed ENGL1053 as an introductory course, they may still take ENGL2189 as an advanced course in the academic year 2023-24 and thereafter.]

This course introduces students to the world of the bustling and controversial theatres of the Anglo-Atlantic Eighteenth Century. Taking a dramaturgical approach to a number of dramatic texts produced in this important period in the history of popular entertainment, this course will examine key developments in literary innovation such as character development and the rise of interiority from within the context of new theatrical technology, the rise of new forms of media, the growing power of government censorship, an emerging imperial identity, nationalism, and increased social mobility. We will also focus on the rise of celebrity culture in the period and examine the development of popular obsession with "stars" within the broader social contexts of shifting gender norms, new regimes of sexual expression, and the rise of consumer culture. We will also examine plays alongside other forms of texts such as published gossip, celebrity memoirs, newspaper advertisements, playbills, and acting manuals, making use of existing databases hosted at the Folger, Huntington, and the British Libraries. This course also aims to serve as a general introduction on how to read literary texts historically, and how the study of literature can benefit from an interdisciplinary approach that borrows insights from Language Studies; Cultural Studies; New Media Studies; and Gender/Sexuality studies. At the end of this course, students should have acquired a critical familiarity with the dramatic culture of the Eighteenth Century, as well as a set of analytical skills that will prepare them for the future study in literary criticism. Texts to be studied might include popular versions of Sentimental Comedy; Operas/Oratorios; Bourgeois Tragedy; Gothic Fantasy; Pantomime and Travel Drama. Authors to be studied might include Jonathan Steele; George Frideric Handel; Henry Fielding; Oliver Goldsmith; Susanna Centlivre; Hannah Cowley; and Elizabeth Inchbald.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2190. Special topics in 19th-century literature (6 credits)

This course focuses on selected writers, genres, and/or topics related to 19th-century literature and culture. Secondary readings will cover a range of critical perspectives on issues such as empire, popular culture, theatre, the Gothic, science and technology, sexuality, religion etc. To allow for in-depth treatment, the course is designed to rotate its emphasis each time the course is offered.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2191. Special topics in contemporary literature (6 credits)

This course offers students the opportunity to do an in-depth study of a topic in literature, culture and theory from the late 20th and 21st centuries. This may include a single-author approach, a study of under-represented writers, or an examination of primary and secondary texts that offer a specific understanding of distinctive features of the contemporary period.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2192. Postmodern literature (6 credits)

This course examines the dominant socio-cultural framework and literary and critical practices that define postmodernism in the twentieth century. Students will explore the major debates, key ideas and texts that enable an understanding of the postmodern turn and continue to define contemporary literature in the present.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2193. Special topics in aesthetics and literature (6 credits)

This course introduces students to some major theories of the aesthetic and aesthetic value. Commonly defined as a philosophy of Art and the way in which we judge and appreciate artistic productions, the discourse of aesthetics raises a set of compelling questions about the fraught relationship between beauty, pleasure, judgment, and value. Students will explore a range of theories on the aesthetic and aesthetic judgment, and think more broadly about the purpose of the literary in broader society. Writers considered may include Plato on Mimesis; Aristotle on Catharsis; Burke on the sublime; Kant on Hedonism; Marx on art and value; as well as more recent debates on aesthetic affects coming out of contemporary queer theory.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2194. Language and advertising (6 credits)

Since William Caxton issued the first print advertisement for Sarum Pie in c.1476-7, the field of advertising has evolved tremendously. Today, advertisements are no longer composed of just text but draw on a variety of semiotic modes (e.g., text, colour, spatiality, images, volume, pitch, etc.). In this advanced-level course, we draw on discourse analytic methods and approaches to explore the use of language in advertising. The course is divided into two broad sections: approaches and methodologies and close reading. We will begin the course by examining theoretical approaches in discourse analysis pertaining to the analysis of advertisements (e.g., stylistics, genre analysis, multimodality, critical discourse analysis). This is followed by a series of lectures dedicated to the close reading of advertisements across a range of forms (e.g., audio, print, video, etc.). We will follow a linear trajectory, exploring advertisements all the way from the Renaissance period to the present day. We will also travel across the globe, exploring the commonalities and differences between advertisements published in different parts of the world. As part of the course, students will have the opportunity to select advertisements of their interest and develop a small-scale discourse analytic project on topics such as K-Pop advertising, public health advertising, beauty advertising, etc. By the end of the course, students will be able to develop their discourse analytic skills and apply them in the analysis of a range of advertisements and, more broadly, different literary and non-literary genres.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2195. Staging Asia (6 credits)

[Non-permissible combination: "DRTP2009. Staging Asia"]

The course examines plays written in English by Asian playwrights, including adaptation of classic texts into Asian contexts. Students will study modern Asian plays, which involves looking at translated texts, considering their context and performance history. It also explores English language theatres in Singapore, Indonesia, and Hong Kong. Students will learn about constructing, designing, and producing plays, with a focus on how virtual reality and technology (such as "visualization of 'lost' theatres/venues") are incorporated into modern theatre practices. The course will involve theatre field trips and/or guest workshops delivered by theatre practitioners in Hong Kong.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2196. Literature and the mind (6 credits)

This course will provide a historical and global understanding of 'madness' present in literature, from mythology and Shakespeare to Foucault and contemporary representations of mental illness. Students will gain critical insight into the way 'madness' was linguistically appropriated alongside medical and psychological interventions, particularly in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Thus, the course will have a multi-disciplinary approach, exposing students to the discourses of madness produced throughout Western and non-Western societies and cultures.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2197. Opera and power: A cultural history of European grand musical entertainment (6 credits)

This course introduces opera as a dynamic cultural phenomenon, tracing its development from early 17th-century Europe to the present. Rather than focusing on musical analysis, we explore opera's roles in courtly spectacle, public entertainment, political diplomacy, and commercial enterprise. Students will examine works such as Monteverdi's pioneering L'Orfeo, Mozart's incisive depiction of class conflict in The Marriage of Figaro, Halévy's appeal for cosmopolitanism in La Juive, Meyerbeer's melodrama of colonial exploitation in Vasco di Gama, and Wagner's complex blending of folk culture with high aestheticism. Contemporary and global perspectives will be addressed through looking at contemporary works like Terence Blanchard's Fire Shut Up in My Bones, the resumption of the Wagnerian repertoire in Bayreuth after World War II, and Zhang Yimou's staging of Puccini's orientalist Turandot in Beijing.

We will also study the material contexts that enable operatic production—from repertory theatres and international festivals to new digital platforms—and analyse how opera is marketed and promoted across diverse cultural and commercial environments. A case study of a contemporary Hong Kong production will provide insight into how Western opera is adapted and received in a modern global city.

Throughout, we will consider how opera continues to build a globally connected audience, sustained by the emotional diversity and expressive power of the human voice. Students will critically evaluate opera's adaptation to new markets and media, and reflect on its challenges and opportunities for the future.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2198. Interactive narratives: Literature through new media (6 credits)

This course examines classic literature (e.g. Mary Shelley's Frankenstein (1818) and its enduring cultural legacy through the lens of new media technologies. Students will read the classic text and critically engage with its adaptations and reinterpretations in film, virtual reality (VR), video games, and electronic literature. The course will explore how narrative, character, and themes transform across media, and how emerging technologies shape our experience of classic texts.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2199. English studies field trip (6 credits)

This field trip course provides an experiential learning opportunity for students to explore the dynamic interplay of English linguistics, literature, and culture outside Hong Kong. Through activities such as watching theatrical productions, visiting key literary sites, conducting sociolinguistic interviews, recording authentic language use, and attending guest lectures, students will analyze their encounters, connect them to theoretical concepts in English studies, and gain nuanced insights into the interconnections among language, literature, and culture.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

[Note: For students majoring or minoring in English Studies only.]

ENGL2200. Fiction writing (6 credits)

This course challenges students to develop a deeper understanding of the art and craft of writing fiction, emphasizing narrative structures and the use of stylistic elements to control the reader's experience. This course encourages students to engage emotionally with the texts; to not merely ask what an author is attempting to communicate, but how the author effectively induces (or fails to induce) an emotional or intellectual response in the reader. Readings will expose students to a diverse range of fiction as well as craft-essays by fiction authors selected to demystify the specific techniques they use to elicit specific reader responses. Instruction will focus both on the use of language as written fiction's medium of conveyance and on the conceptual narrative structure which forms the underlying message being conveyed. Students will draft, workshop, and revise their creative writing over the course of the term and produce short craft analyses focusing on a chosen stylistic element or aspect of published works of fiction.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2201. Poetry and experimental forms (6 credits)

This course develops precision in language through the study and practice of poetry while exploring innovative prose forms that challenge traditional narrative boundaries. Students will master fundamental poetic techniques including meter, form, and compression, then apply this precision to experimental prose writing. The course examines flash fiction, prose poetry, lyrical essays, fragmented narratives, hybrid forms, and multimedia prose. Through workshops, creative exercises, and critical analysis, students will develop technical control over language while pushing creative boundaries in both verse and experimental prose forms. Emphasis is placed on linguistic precision, structural innovation, and the integration of poetic techniques into prose forms.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2202. Creative nonfiction (6 credits)

This course examines a range of creative nonfiction forms, including biography, memoir, personal essay, and letter writing, with a focus on storytelling. Students will analyse texts from various cultural perspectives, exploring how different authors imbue their narratives with authenticity and emotional depth.
Students will investigate the relationship between factual truth and the creative retelling of stories, while also considering how personal and cultural identities influence nonfiction writing. In addition, students will evaluate how the chosen form of a creative nonfiction narrative can affect its meaning and impact. Through close readings of selected works, students will critically engage with thematic elements, addressing topics such as identity, memory, and the intricacies of lived experience.
Classes will include creative writing exercises, discussions, and peer-review workshops. Through these activities, students will develop their narrative skills and produce original works reflective of their unique perspectives and experiences.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2203. Hong Kong in stories (6 credits)

[Non-permissible combination: "ENGL2097. Writing Hong Kong"]

In this course, students will explore a range of creative texts—including fiction, nonfiction, films, and video games—that depict Hong Kong's unique physical and cultural landscapes. Through the lens of storytelling, students will engage with the themes of modern life, urbanisation, cultural identity, and transnationalism. By analysing and discussing creative texts, students will examine how individual and collective memories shape narratives and influence perceptions of Hong Kong. Students will develop their creative writing skills by reflecting on these themes and crafting original narratives about Hong Kong.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2204. Dramatic writing (6 credits)

This comprehensive workshop explores the craft of writing for performance across multiple dramatic mediums, from traditional stage plays to screenplays, radio dramas, podcasts, and emerging digital formats. Students will master the fundamental elements that unite all dramatic writing: compelling dialogue, dynamic character development, visual storytelling, and the creation of tension through action and conflict. The course examines how writers adapt their techniques for different performance contexts, studying how intimate theatrical spaces demand different approaches than cinematic storytelling, and how audio-only formats challenge writers to create vivid worlds through sound and voice alone. Through practical exercises and creative projects, students will experiment with monologues, short scenes, one-acts, screenplay excerpts, and innovative genre-blending forms that blur traditional boundaries. Emphasis is placed on understanding dramatic structure, subtext, and the collaborative nature of performance writing, preparing students to write compelling dramatic works whether for stage, screen, audio platforms, or emerging interactive media. Students will develop a portfolio showcasing their versatility across the dramatic writing spectrum.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2205. Creative writing across media (6 credits)

This course explores the art and craft of multidimensional storytelling that resonates across diverse platforms, from traditional novels and short stories to film, podcasts, social media, video games, and emerging digital formats. Students will master how narrative techniques must adapt to different mediums by examining key storytelling fundamentals: character development, dialogue, pacing, point of view, and audience engagement. Through comparative analysis, hands-on workshops, collaborative projects, and platform-specific exercises, students will develop versatility in crafting stories that harness each medium's unique strengths—whether exploiting cinema's visual language, leveraging interactive media's participatory elements, or maximising prose fiction's interiority. Students will create a portfolio of interconnected works that demonstrate their ability to tell compelling stories regardless of medium, preparing them for contemporary publishing landscapes where writers increasingly work across multiple formats.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2206. Writing counterfactual genre fiction (6 credits)

A broad range of genre literature makes use of counterfactual elements, including science fiction, fabulism, fantasy, horror, surrealism, and even works of so-called literary fiction which incorporate the device of magical realism. Ideally, authors strive to use these un-real elements to examine aspects of the human condition which are not so easily seen under the constraints of Realism in art: H.G. Wells could not have depicted his slant critique of Victorian Capitalism, for example, had he not imagined the Time Traveller's eponymous Machine. This course will introduce students to works of fiction across a range of counterfactual genres. We will examine the genres' practices, tropes, forms, and

techniques, with an emphasis on how authors use these tools to develop speculative, counterfactual, and fabulist stories. Students will learn to use counterfactuals of setting and character to metaphorise and allegorise elements of the real. Students should be prepared to draft, workshop, and revise their creative writing over the course of the term.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL 2207. Creative writing in children's and young adult fiction (6 credits)

This dynamic workshop explores the vibrant worlds of children's and young adult literature, where imagination meets the profound challenges of growing up. Students will master the unique craft elements that make stories resonate with younger audiences, including age-appropriate voice, pacing, dialogue, and thematic complexity. Through reading contemporary and classic works alongside intensive writing practice, students will explore diverse genres from fantasy and science fiction to realistic fiction and graphic narratives. The course addresses the delicate balance of entertaining while tackling serious issues, developing authentic young characters, and understanding the literary landscape for children's and young adult markets. Students will create original works that honour young readers' intelligence while capturing the emotional intensity, humour, and wonder that define exceptional literature for younger audiences.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL 2208. Special topics in fiction (6 credits)

This course offers students the opportunity to participate in an in-depth study of the commonality and diversity of writing styles and techniques within a selected category of fiction. This may include an intensive study of a single distinctively voiced author such as Toni Morrison or David Foster Wallace; a study of works of a specific genre or genre-group such as migrant literature or crime fiction; or an examination of a specific form, trope, theme, or stylistic device across authors and genres, such as flash fiction, women and violence, post-colonialism or the epistolary novel. Students will produce essays of craft analysis as well as producing their own fiction within the stylistic constraints of the course's chosen focus.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL 2209. Special topics in creative nonfiction (6 credits)

This course highlights creative nonfiction, inviting students to explore how writers of various cultural backgrounds articulate their lived experiences of displacement, identity, and belonging. This course examines both the history of creative nonfiction as well as contemporary works. Through critical analysis of texts, students will engage with themes such as cultural hybridity, memory, home, power, and inequality, ultimately developing an understanding as to how authors depict and interrogate the complexities of the experience.
The specific works and topics covered will vary by semester and by instructor. For example, this course may concentrate on works from one specific region in the world, or it may highlight one particular form of creative nonfiction, such as memoir.
Students will draw upon their own backgrounds and influences.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2210. Special topics in hybrid forms (6 credits)

This course explores the intersections and possibilities in the hybridity of creative writing forms. Through analysis and creative practice, students will investigate how authors mix and merge distinct

narrative forms, such as novel, memoir, poetry, visual art, or graphic novel, to create innovative stories that challenge traditional literary boundaries.
Students will come to understand how blending forms can enrich storytelling by critically engaging with creative works that make use of hybrid forms to express complex themes, emotions, and narratives. The specific forms and creative works examined may vary by semester.
With consideration of the influence of form on a story's overall meaning and impact, students will experiment with and develop their own hybrid narratives.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

DRTP2000. Acting characters (6 credits)

In this course, students will develop essential skills for effective public speaking and performance. They will explore in-depth character analysis, apply critical thinking to texts and situations, and master voice and body control through physical and mental relaxation techniques. Students will learn to creatively engage with imagined circumstances while staying grounded in reality and adapt their performance style to suit different mediums. This is an acting studio that is suitable for students interested in acquiring and workshopping acting skills. The curriculum includes improvisation, workshops, and both monologue and group performances, fostering a comprehensive approach to performance arts.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

DRTP2001. Theatre, technology and new media (6 credits)

This course explores the dynamic intersection of theatre and technology, from the ancient Greek sound engineering system of the Epidaurus theatre to the invention of light bulbs and lamps that paved the way for Naturalism in the 19th century and extending to multimedia technologies in the 21st century.

Students will learn about practical "technologies" that involve making theatre: from sound and set design to costume and production. Students will examine the historical trends that have shaped theatre's relationship with technology, including the recent use of digital technology, and will experiment with contemporary practices, such as immersive theatre and augmented reality (AR).
Assessment: 100% coursework.

DRTP2002. Cultural performances in Hong Kong (6 credits)

This course explores the rich and diverse landscape of cultural performances in Hong Kong, examining how traditional, contemporary, and hybrid forms of performance reflect and influence the city's social, political, and cultural identity. Through critical analysis of local performances, festivals, and artistic practices, students will examine the ways in which performance serves as a medium for cultural expression, community building, and social dialogue. The course combines theoretical perspectives with practical engagement, encouraging students to critically analyse Hong Kong's unique performance traditions and to develop their own creative responses to the city's vibrant cultural landscape. Emphasising both historical context, contemporary developments, and field work, this course aims to deepen students' understanding of the role of performance in shaping and negotiating Hong Kong's cultural identity, as well as giving practical opportunities for students to participate in the creative and cultural life of the city through performance projects and community engagement activities.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

DRTP2003. Shakespeare: Performance and adaptation (6 credits)

This course investigates the dynamic afterlife of Shakespeare's plays on stage and screen, focusing on how performance and adaptation continually transform his work for new audiences. Emphasising Shakespeare as a living theatrical presence, students will examine how his plays have been interpreted, reimagined, and reinvented by performers, directors, and adaptors across centuries and cultures.
Through practical exploration and critical analysis, the course will introduce students to historical and contemporary staging practices, from the conventions of early modern London theatres to the innovations of modern and global performance. Drawing on the insights of performance theorists and theatre practitioners, students will consider how acting, direction, design, and adaptation choices shape the meanings of Shakespeare's texts in live theatre, film, and other media. Students will also explore the possibilities of staging Shakespearean vehicles grounded in the cultural and historical specificity of Hong Kong in the 21st century.
Key topics include the transformation of Shakespeare's characters and stories in diverse cultural contexts, the challenges and opportunities of adapting Shakespeare for new forms and audiences, and the ongoing debates about authenticity, interpretation, and relevance. Students will engage with a range of productions and adaptations—classic and contemporary, local and international—and analyse the dynamic relationship between the Shakespearean canon and contemporary global theatre.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

DRTP2004. Applied theatre internship (6 credits)

This course offers students an experiential learning experience by enabling them to apply their classroom knowledge in a professional theatre or performance setting. Students will have the opportunity to participate in the creative and collaborative processes that define the theatre arts. Through this internship, students will have the opportunity to contribute to specific institutions and companies within Hong Kong that make a meaningful impact in both the performing arts community and the broader communities those organizations serve.
A central focus of the internship is to develop awareness in the vital role theatre plays in reflecting, shaping, and serving specific communities—whether cultural, educational, or geographic. Students will explore how the theatrical arts and performance traditions can foster dialogue, promote social change, and bring diverse people together. By working within theatre companies, arts organizations, educational theatre programs, or related institutions, students will gain firsthand professional experience in how theatre can be a catalyst for community engagement and enrichment.
Students are responsible for identifying and securing a suitable internship placement—in consultation with the course coordinator—that allows them to contribute to the unique needs and goals of a particular community through the theatrical arts. Over the course of the internship, they will demonstrate their ability to transform a work placement into a valuable learning experience relevant to the Drama, Theatre and Performance Studies minor, while also making a positive contribution to the communities they serve. The internship should involve at least 120 contact hours of in-person service.
Assessment is based on a pass/fail basis, determined by active participation, submission of reflective written reports and a presentation that analyse the community impact of students' work, and feedback from the internship supervisor.
Assessment: 100% coursework (graded on a pass/fail basis).

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*Note: Students admitted in 2020-21 or before may choose either the ENGL/ LCOM course codes according to their study plans. Students admitted in 2021-22 and thereafter may only choose the ENGL course codes.

<u>Capstone Courses</u>

ENGL3040. Internship in English studies (capstone experience) (6 credits)

This course offers students a capstone learning experience by allowing them to take their classroom knowledge into the community. Students will have an opportunity for experiential learning, earn credits toward their degree, and engage in a rich experience while working in an organization that demonstrates a real impact on society. Students are responsible for identifying and securing a suitable internship opportunity, in consultation with the course coordinator. The duration of the internship will depend on the arrangement between the student and the organization, but should involve at least 36 contact hours of service for the organization. Assessment will be graded on a pass/fail basis, based on a written report as well as feedback from the organization contact.
Assessment: 100% coursework (graded on a pass/fail basis).

ENGL3041. Senior colloquium in English studies (capstone experience) (6 credits)

This course is designed as a capstone course offering students an opportunity to integrate and reflect upon what they have learned in the major while focusing on current topics and critical debates in English studies. Students are expected to be able to build on courses they have taken before and should consult individual colloquium co-ordinators before registering for the course. There will be no formal lectures but weekly meetings for the discussion of texts and issues, led by students. Assessment will be based on contributions to colloquium discussions and a final essay.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL3042. Extended essay in English studies (capstone experience) (6 credits)

The Extended Essay in English Studies offers students an opportunity to undertake an undergraduate research project in a particular area of English Studies under the guidance and instruction of a supervisor. The extended essay course can only be taken in conjunction with another advanced ENGL course, and students will be required to attend the classes for that course, as part of a 12-credit combination. The supervisor of the extended essay will normally be the teacher of the conjoined course and students intending to enrol in an extended essay course must first seek approval from the prospective supervisor. Subject to the teacher's approval, students can enrol in the extended essay course either concurrently with the conjoined course or after they have completed the conjoined course. Assessment will normally consist of an extended essay of approximately 5,000 words in addition to the coursework of the conjoined course, or it may involve completing alternative pieces of coursework, including a research paper, for the taught and research courses together.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION

Language and Communication is an interdisciplinary programme within the Faculty of Arts, which centres on the study and use of language in society in a multilingual, globalized world. It thereby focuses on both languages of global import, such as English, as well as those with local significance, and on how they are appropriated and positioned in multilingual, cosmopolitan contexts of Asia. The programme provides the theoretical foundations and applied contexts for understanding and addressing linguistic and social questions of language and communication. It equips students with the intellectual and practical tools to critically examine, intelligently reflect on, and competently participate in communicative situations, in real-world contexts, such as in the workplace as well as in more informal sites of multilingual communication. The Language and Communication programme takes particular pride in engaging in experiential learning, from internships and projects in courses involving fieldwork in Hong Kong, to initiatives such as overseas field trips. In addressing the need in society for linguistically versatile and culturally sensitive leaders in the 21st-century knowledge economy of Asia's world city and beyond, the programme aims at honing transferable skills for a wide range of careers, including education, materials development, editing and publishing, public administration, public relations, marketing, the media, event organization, tourism, cultural affairs and global creative industries.

On successful completion of the major or minor in Language and Communication, students should be able to:

- identify and critique relevant issues in the study of language and communication, and apply theoretical and methodological knowledge to real-world social and linguistic data;
- critically evaluate established knowledge and creatively apply it to novel, contemporary contexts of communication, in this multilingual, globalized world, in particular in the settings of Hong Kong and Asia;
- critically reflect upon the strengths and weaknesses of their own and others' viewpoints and communicative practices, and challenge taken-for-granted assumptions about language and communication;
- identify, appreciate and critically examine the role of diversity in languages and communicative strategies across cultures and time, and how this shapes one's linguistic identity and comes to bear upon communicative situations, drawing on cross-cultural perspectives in the study of language and communication;
- use the necessary intellectual, communicative and practical skills to participate in intellectual discussions of linguistic and social issues and collaborate productively in research projects, in and for both institutional and real-world contexts; and
- demonstrate an understanding of the complexities of contemporary social and political issues of language and communication in the context of globalization – such as the appropriation and positioning of languages of global significance, in particular English, and the fine balance struck with other local languages, with a view to sustainability in multilingual, cosmopolitan contexts of Asia, – which allows for intelligent, significant and responsible contributions to society.

The courses of the Language and Communication programme incorporate a variety of teaching and learning methods, including formal lectures, seminars, small group tutorials, workshops, and online learning. They are mostly assessed by coursework, including oral presentations, in-class tests and quizzes, essays and research projects and portfolios. They are designed to provide students with skills of accurate and historically sensitive analysis, critical reading and thinking, and clear and coherent argument in both writing and speaking.

Students are encouraged to discuss their study plans and course selections with the UG Coordinator, their Academic Advisers, or any teachers in the Language and Communication programme.

First-year Prerequisite

Students intending to declare a major or minor in Language and Communication in the second year must pass at least one introductory LCOM course from List A "Historical and Theoretical Foundations" (6 credits) in the first year.

Admission to all introductory courses is on the basis of academic record including a minimum Level 5 in English Language in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) examination, or an equivalent score in another recognized English proficiency test.

Major in Language and Communication (78 credits)
To complete the requirements of the major, students must take:

1. 30 credits of introductory courses (including the first-year prerequisite), normally taken in the first two years of study, which consist of:
   (a) 12 credits from List A (of which at least 6 credits must be from LCOM as a first-year prerequisite);
   (b) 6 credits from List B;
   (c) 12 credits from List C; and

2. 48 credits of advanced courses, which consist of:
   (a) 24 credits from the ENGL and LCOM course lists below (of which 12 credits must be from LCOM, and 12 credits from either ENGL or LCOM), which must include a capstone course to be taken preferably in the final year;
   (b) 24 credits from any other programmes from the list below (i.e. which are not ENGL and LCOM courses).

Minor in Language and Communication (36 credits)
To complete the requirements of the minor, students must take:

1. 18 credits of introductory courses (including the first-year prerequisite), which consist of:
   (a) 6 credits of LCOM course from List A (first-year prerequisite);
   (b) 6 credits from List B;
   (c) 6 credits from List C; and

2. 18 credits of advanced courses (of which at least 6 credits must be from LCOM).

Introductory Courses

List A: Historical and Theoretical Foundations
The courses in this list will introduce students to the history and organization of diverse areas of linguistic scholarship. Students will acquire a general overview of selected areas and issues, including major theoretical distinctions or classifications and their historical development over time.

ENGL1011. An introduction to the study of meaning (6 credits)
ENGL1015. Introduction to English linguistics (6 credits)
ENGL1017. Introduction to sociolinguistics (6 credits)
ENGL1018. Language and gender (6 credits)
ENGL1037. Persuasion (6 credits)
ENGL1045. "Community" in Sociolinguistics (6 credits)
ENGL1051. English sounds (6 credits)

LCOM1001. Introduction to language and communication (6 credits)
LCOM1002. Language, communication, society, field (6 credits)
LCOM1003. Theorizing communication (6 credits)
LCOM1004. Introduction to pragmatics (6 credits)

List B: Critical Reading, Analysis and Writing

The courses in this list will introduce students to the practice and methods of critical reading, analysis and writing, focusing on different areas of literary and linguistic study. Students will acquire a basic grasp of analytical distinctions and terminology, and learn to ask questions and construct critical arguments.

ENGL1014. Imaginary geographies: The art of writing place (6 credits)
ENGL1026. Adaptation: From text to screen (6 credits)
ENGL1027. Analyzing discourse (6 credits)
ENGL1028. Awakenings: Exploring women's writing (6 credits)
ENGL1030. Dramatic changes: Versions of Renaissance literature (6 credits)
ENGL1031. English grammar(s) (6 credits)
ENGL1032. Late Victorian Texts and Contexts (6 credits)
ENGL1033. Intercultural communication (6 credits)
ENGL1034. Language and prejudice (6 credits)
ENGL1035. Language crimes (6 credits)
ENGL1036. Meaning and metaphor (6 credits)
ENGL1038. Practice of criticism (6 credits)
ENGL1039. Realism and representation (6 credits)
ENGL1040. Rewriting and writing back (6 credits)
ENGL1041. Modernity and literary modernism (6 credits)
ENGL1042. World Englishes (6 credits)
ENGL1043. An introduction to 20th-century English Poetry (6 credits)
ENGL1047. The English lexicon (6 credits)
ENGL1048. Crime stories (6 credits)
ENGL1049. Early English sonnets (6 credits)
ENGL1050. An introduction to qualitative research methods in sociolinguistics (6 credits)
ENGL1052. Introduction to theatre studies (6 credits)
ENGL1053. Eighteenth century drama: The rise of celebrity culture (6 credits)
ENGL1054. Writing disaster: Literature, trauma, memory (6 credits)
ENGL1055. Language myths and realities (6 credits)
ENGL1061. Introduction to psycholinguistics (6 credits)
ENGL1064. Language, communication and media (6 credits)
[*Non-permissible combination with ENGL1064: ENGL2182/ LCOM2004. Language, communication and the media*
Note to students admitted in 2023-24 and before:
Students who have already completed "ENGL2182/ LCOM2004. Language, communication and the media" are not allowed to study "ENGL1064. Language, communication and the media" in the academic year 2024-25 and thereafter. But for those who have not completed ENGL2182/ LCOM2004 as an advanced course, they may still take ENGL1064 as an introductory course (List B) in the academic year 2024-25 and thereafter.]

List C: Introductory courses from other programmes

African Studies
AFRI1001. Foundations in African Studies (6 credits)
AFRI2004. Introduction to African linguistics (6 credits)

China Studies
SINO1003. Greater China: A multi-disciplinary introduction (6 credits)

Comparative Literature
CLIT1008. Ways of reading: Film, literature, and culture (6 credits)
CLIT1010. Ways of thinking about culture and society (6 credits)

European Studies
EUST1010. Foundations of European Studies (6 credits)

General Linguistics
LING1000. Introduction to language (6 credits)
LING1004. Language structure for language learning (6 credits)
LING2004. Phonetics: Describing sounds (6 credits)
LING2009. Languages of the world (6 credits)
LING2034. Psycholinguistics (6 credits)
LING2050. Grammatical description (6 credits)
LING2056. Sociolinguistics (6 credits)

Global Creative Industries
GCIN1001. Introduction to global creative industries (6 credits)

Hong Kong Studies
HKGS1001. Hong Kong's long twentieth century (6 credits)

Japanese Studies
JAPN1011. Introduction to Japanese studies (6 credits)

Korean Studies
KORE1021. Introduction to Korean culture and society (6 credits)

Translation
CHIN1311. Introduction to translation (6 credits)
CHIN2333. Culture and translation (6 credits)
CHIN2352. Language contrast and translation I (6 credits)
CHIN2364. Bilingualism and law: Perspectives from translation (6 credits)

Students should note that LING1000 is the pre-requisite for the five other introductory LING courses. However students who have completed any introductory course in List A may enroll in these LING courses without the pre-requisite LING course.

Advanced Courses

In order to enroll in any advanced courses in English Studies or Language and Communication, students must normally have completed 18 credits of introductory courses, with at least 6 credits from both List A and List B.

Students should note that they bear the responsibility of fulfilling the necessary pre-requisites, if any, for advanced courses in other programmes. Students who have completed any introductory course in List A may however enroll in some of the advanced LING courses in the list below without having to do the pre-requisite and/or introductory LING course(s), though it may still be preferable to do so.

American Studies
AMER2002. The road in American culture (6 credits)
AMER2014. A dream in the heart: varieties of Asian American culture (6 credits)
AMER2022. What's on TV? Television and American culture (6 credits)
AMER2033. Asia on America's screen (6 credits)
AMER2038. American film, from Golden-Age Hollywood to New Hollywood and beyond (6 credits)
AMER2040. Creating culture in the world: American creative industries in the age of globalization (6 credits)

AMER2041. How the West was won: The frontier in American culture and literature (6 credits)
AMER2042. Consuming culture: decoding American symbols (6 credits)
AMER2043. Born in the USA: U.S. youth cultures (6 credits)
AMER2045. Film beyond the mainstream: American art cinema (6 credits)
AMER2048. American literature (6 credits)
AMER2055. From slavery to the White House: African American history and culture (6 credits)
AMER2062. Disability and human rights in American Studies (6 credits)

China Studies
SINO2007. Creative Industries in China in a Global Context (6 credits)

Comparative Literature
CLIT2001. Comparative studies of literary and visual narratives (6 credits)
CLIT2025. Visual cultures (6 credits).
CLIT2026. Digital culture (6 credits)
CLIT2045. Colonialism/ Postcolonialism (6 credits)
CLIT2050. Globalisation and culture (6 credits)
CLIT2064. Hong Kong culture: Popular arts and everyday life (6 credits)
CLIT2074. Film and ideology in contemporary China (6 credits)
CLIT2083. Film art, language and culture (6 credits)
CLIT2096. Ethics of film and literature (6 credits)
CLIT2099. Anticolonialism and decoloniality (6 credits)
CLIT2100. Fugitive science: Science and technology studies (STS) approaches to facts and fakes (6 credits)

English Studies
ENGL2002. Language in society (6 credits)
ENGL2004. English syntax (6 credits)
ENGL2007. Literary linguistics (6 credits)
ENGL2030. New Englishes (6 credits)
ENGL2039. Gender, sexuality and discourse (6 credits)
ENGL2047. English discourse structures and strategies (6 credits)
ENGL2048. Language and jargon (6 credits)
ENGL2050. English corpus linguistics (6 credits)
ENGL2057. Text and image (6 credits)
ENGL2103. Language and digital media (6 credits)
ENGL2104. Language in the USA (6 credits)
ENGL2112. An introduction to the history of English (6 credits)
ENGL2115. Theories of language acquisition (6 credits)
ENGL2117. English phonology and morphology (6 credits)
ENGL2123. Language and identity in Hong Kong (6 credits)
ENGL2125. English construction grammar (6 credits)
ENGL2126. Law, meaning, and interpretation (6 credits)
ENGL2127. Language and the law (6 credits)
ENGL2129. English as a language of science (6 credits)
ENGL2130. Signs, language and meaning: Integrational reflections (6 credits)
ENGL2138. Language and globalization (6 credits)
ENGL2140. Ideologies of language in early modernity (6 credits)
ENGL2141. Doing discourse analysis (6 credits)
ENGL2146. Cognitive semantics (6 credits)
ENGL2158. Language processing and learning (6 credits)
ENGL2160. Sovereignty in law, theory and culture (6 credits)
ENGL2161. Language rights and linguistic justice (6 credits)
ENGL2166. English phonetics (6 credits)

ENGL2168. The law of signs: Interpretative controversies in legal semiotics (6 credits)
ENGL2188. Language and food (6 credits)

European Studies
EUST2010. European Identity (6 credits)
EUST2015. From cinema to society: Understanding Europe through film (6 credits)
EUST2016. Creative industries in Europe in a global context (6 credits)
EUST2017. World War I (6 credits)
EUST2030. The modern imagination in Europe (6 credits)
EUST3012. The EU as a global actor and EU-China relations (6 credits)
EUST3015. The dark side of European civilization: the Holocaust (6 credits)
EUST3018. European empire: Comparative British and French imperialism (6 credits)
EUST3020. The making of the West: From Descartes to Rorty (6 credits)

General Linguistics
LING2003. Semantics: Meaning and grammar (6 credits)
LING2013. Language typology: The study of linguistic diversity (6 credits)
LING2022. Pragmatics (6 credits)
LING2023. Discourse analysis (6 credits)
LING2036. Child language (6 credits)
LING2037. Bilingualism (6 credits)
LING2040. Languages in contact (6 credits)
LING2048. Language and cognition (6 credits)
LING2058. Topics in Cantonese linguistics (6 credits)
LING2060. Languages of China (6 credits)
LING2061. Linguistic fieldwork (6 credits)
LING2062. Linguistic research methods (6 credits)
LING2065. Endangered languages: Issues and methods (6 credits)
LING2069. Origins of language (6 credits)
LING2071. Introductory statistics for the humanities (6 credits)
LING2072. Advanced statistics for the humanities (6 credits)

Global Creative Industries
GCIN2002. Commercializing creativity: A cultural critique (6 credits)
GCIN2006. Fashion and luxury: Cultural and organizational dynamics (6 credits)
GCIN2007. Film and media: Cultural and organizational dynamics (6 credits)
GCIN2008. Advertising: Cultural and organizational dynamics (6 credits)
GCIN2011. Understanding Hong Kong TV industry (6 credits)
GCIN2014. Communication strategies in advertising (6 credits)
GCIN2018. Publishing industry in digital age (6 credits)

Hong Kong Studies
HKGS2001. Speaking of Hong Kong: Global voices (6 credits)
HKGS2002. Hong Kong identities in local, national and global contexts (6 credits)
HKGS2004. Hong Kong's economic growth: A modernisation and internationalisation miracle (6 credits)
HKGS2005. An anthropology of Hong Kong's belief systems and religious practices (6 credits)
HKGS2007. Geographic challenges: The 'space premium' and Hong Kong society (6 credits)

Japanese Studies
JAPN2031. The media and Japan (6 credits)
JAPN2045. Sex, gender, and technology in Japan (6 credits)
JAPN2050. Creative industries in East Asia (Hong Kong, Taiwan, Korea and Japan) (6 credits)
JAPN2058. Understanding popular culture in Japan (6 credits)
JAPN2081. Japanese literature (6 credits)

JAPN2082. Japanese film and society (6 credits)
JAPN2083. Contemporary Japanese society and culture (6 credits)
JAPN2084. Studies in Japanese culture (6 credits)
JAPN2090. Growing up in Japan: Youth, culture and society (6 credits)
JAPN2091. Introduction to pre-modern Japan (6 credits)
JAPN3035. Revolutionary origins of modern Japan (6 credits)
JAPN3036. Medicine and disease in Japanese history (6 credits)
JAPN3039. Japanese popular music and Hong Kong society (6 credits)

Korean Studies
KORE2026. Topics in Korean culture and society (6 credits)
KORE2027. Creative industries in Korea in a global context (6 credits)
KORE2033. Modern and contemporary Korea (6 credits)

Language and Communication
LCOM2001. Theories of language and communication (6 credits)
LCOM2002. Language in the workplace (6 credits)
LCOM2003. Language and politeness (6 credits)
LCOM2004. Language, communication and the media (6 credits)
[*Non-permissible combination with LCOM2004: ENGL1064. Language, communication and the media*
Note to students admitted in 2023-24 and before:
Students who have already completed "ENGL2182/ LCOM2004. Language, communication and the media" are not allowed to study "ENGL1064. Language, communication and the media" in the academic year 2024-25 and thereafter. But for those who have not completed ENGL2182/ LCOM2004 as an advanced course, they may still take ENGL1064 as an introductory course (List B) in the academic year 2024-25 and thereafter.]
LCOM2005. Language, communication and globalization (6 credits)
LCOM2007. Visual communication (6 credits)
LCOM2008. Health communication, 'healthy' communication (6 credits)
LCOM2009. Language and religion (6 credits)
LCOM2011. The language of news media (6 credits)

Philosophy
PHIL2075. The semantics/pragmatics distinction (6 credits)
PHIL2225. The philosophy of artificial intelligence (6 credits)
PHIL2230. Philosophy and cognitive science (6 credits)
PHIL2410. Mind and language in Chinese thought (6 credits)
PHIL2610. Philosophy of Language (6 credits)
PHIL2651. Bad language: the philosophy of non-ideal language use (6 credits)

Translation
CHIN2331. Choice of words in translation (6 credits)
CHIN2332. Translation in Hong Kong society (6 credits)
CHIN2339. Translation for administration and business (6 credits)
CHIN2340. Film translation workshop (6 credits)
CHIN2341. Translating writings on art (6 credits)
CHIN2342. Interpretation workshop II (6 credits)
CHIN2343. Legal interpreting (6 credits)
CHIN2344. Short stories: East and West (6 credits)
CHIN2345. Syntax-based translation (6 credits)
CHIN2346. From page to stage: A workshop on drama adaptation and translation (6 credits)
CHIN2347. World literature and translation (6 credits)
CHIN2348. Bilingual studies in media and popular culture (6 credits)
CHIN2351. Translation criticism (6 credits)

CHIN2356. Language contrast and translation II (6 credits)
CHIN2357. Bilingual communication in translation (6 credits)
CHIN2358. Journeys to the East: Translation and China in the literary imagination of the West (6 credits)
CHIN2363. Advanced translation workshop C-E (6 credits)
CHIN2366. Advanced theories of translation (6 credits)
CHIN2367. Advanced translation workshop E-C (6 credits)
CHIN3311. Translation and the study of Chinese literature (6 credits)
CHIN3312. Travel writing, literature, and translation (6 credits)

Capstone Courses

LCOM3001. Cultural dimensions of language and communication (capstone experience) (6 credits)
LCOM3004. Language and communication field trip (capstone experience) (6 credits)
LCOM3005. Internship in language and communication (capstone experience) (6 credits)
LCOM3006. Extended essay in language and communication (capstone experience) (6 credits)

Introductory Courses

ENGL1011. An introduction to the study of meaning (6 credits)

This course introduces the study of meaning in the English language. We will examine semantic meanings - meanings encoded in the language system itself - and also pragmatic meanings - meanings inferred from the communicative context of language use. Students will also be introduced to various theories of meaning and cognitive semantics.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1014. Imaginary geographies: The art of writing place (6 credits)

Through studying a wide range of landscape descriptions in poetry, travel writing, drama and the novel, students will learn about landscape description from aesthetic, historical, geo-humanist and geo-political perspectives. Students will learn to identify particular movements and styles, such as the picturesque, romanticism, modernism and environmentalism in selected descriptions of places. They will also learn how place description functions in literary texts to provide not only a realistic visual setting, but through metaphor, the thoughts and feelings of characters, and the cultural and ideological outlook of the writer. The course has a practical component in which students produce place descriptions of their own and discuss these within their groups.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1015. Introduction to English linguistics (6 credits)

This survey course offers a comprehensive first introduction to the linguistic study of English, covering the various levels of analysis (and the core branches of linguistics that study them): sounds (phonetics and phonology), words (morphology and lexicology), meanings (semantics and pragmatics), grammar (syntax), text and discourse (discourse analysis). It will also offer a first introduction to a number of key aspects of language use (and the linguistic disciplines dealing with them): language acquisition and processing (psycholinguistics), language change (historical linguistics), regional and social variation (sociolinguistics), [literary] style (stylistics). Finally, the course will introduce a number of methodological and theoretical approaches one can take in the academic study of a language, and consequently also in English language research.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1017. Introduction to sociolinguistics (6 credits)

This course introduces students to the field of sociolinguistics—a cross-disciplinary study of the relationship between language and society with insights from linguistics, sociology, psychology and linguistic anthropology. For decades, sociolinguists have looked for ways to understand human social behaviors and organization by studying what people do with language and why. This course provides a basic foundation for students who are interested in the scholarly research of language in social contexts, as well as for those who want an alternate perspective of their own social world.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1018. Language and gender (6 credits)

In this course, we explore how gender ideologies influence and are influenced by language use, in language about men and women, and in language use by men and women. We will discuss different approaches to and historical perspectives on the study of language and gender, reviewing both qualitative and quantitative studies in the early development of the field. We will consider gender as one of many social categories that interact with other social categories such as age, race, class, ethnicity, profession, sexuality, and others. Stereotypes and biases about the sexes, standard and vernacular norms, and power and authority will also be examined in the course. The course will survey the history of the field and identify major strands in the development of knowledge in the discipline. It also traces the historical progression of the field, with reference to key historical texts and debates.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1026. Adaptation: From text to screen (6 credits)

In this course, students will be introduced to literary and cinematic technique by studying recent film adaptations of English literature alongside the original text. We will take one period text, such as Jane Eyre, Pride and Prejudice, Bleak House or Mrs. Dalloway, and one contemporary text, such as Atonement, Cloud Atlas or Never Let Me Go. Students will confront the problems and possibilities of adaptation, the demands of fidelity to the original text, and the need to find contemporary resonances. As well as developing an awareness of the practical issues of moving from a textual to a predominantly visual medium, students will learn to identity aesthetic, cultural and political influences in the adaptation of literature. This course also allows students to think creatively about storyboards and visual techniques, by sketching alternative scenarios.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1027. Analyzing discourse (6 credits)

This course provides an introduction to the field of discourse, focusing on the analysis of spoken and written English. In this course, we will focus on exploring different approaches to the study of discourse, developing tools for analyzing particular texts, and understanding the relationship between discourse contexts and functions. Emphasis will be placed on data analysis in the course, which will give students the opportunity to apply concepts from the lectures to workshop discussions and assignments. Some units to be covered in the course include: narrative structure, rhetorical analysis, spoken versus written discourse, data collection and transcription, conversation analysis, and discourse in professional contexts.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1028. Awakenings: Exploring women's writing (6 credits)

This course will focus on close reading of passages from a selection of prose and poetry authored by women. As we read these texts, we will explore a few of the key issues that have concerned women writers. We will examine questions of the difference of the female point of view, the suppression of female subjectivity and autonomy as well as the renderings of an alternative worldview and culture.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1030. Dramatic changes: Versions of Renaissance literature (6 credits)

In this course we will read great plays of the English Renaissance in tandem with their non-dramatic sources (history, romance, chapbook, story cycle). In a couple of instances, the plays themselves will be considered as sources for contemporary representations (*Hamlet* for Stoppard's spinoff, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, and *Macbeth* for Kurosawa's film, *Throne of Blood*). For Renaissance speakers the word 'version' principally meant a 'translation' from one language into another. We will observe and evaluate, therefore, what happens when a well-known or 'true' story gets 'translated' into the conventions and genres of the theater. We compare notable variations in the telling of the tales, with attention to the following questions: How does the alteration of a plot element change a story's significance? How does the manner of presentation — the enactment of drama (*mimesis*) or the narration of prose (*diegesis*) — affect the way we understand characters?
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1031. English grammar(s) (6 credits)

This course is an elementary and practical introduction to the analytical and terminological distinctions that are relevant to the study of the structure of English words and sentences. It will pay due attention to variation in the way they are covered and distinguished in different grammar books. Topics include: Word structure and word-formation, lexical and phrasal categories, grammatical functions and semantic roles, coordination and subordination, clause types, tense and aspect, mood, information structure. All classes will involve practical analysis of linguistic material. A key part of the course will be an individual assignment in which students critically compare two grammar books with the prescribed course text.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1032. Late Victorian Texts and Contexts (6 credits)

This course reads representative late nineteenth-century texts, which may include novels, short stories, plays, poetry, or even musical hall songs and pantomime. The aim is to situate these texts in a society that is still very much embedded in Victorian ideas and ideals but that is at the same time looking towards the twentieth century and its changing views of life, the world and literature. Course themes alongside the regular issues of class, race and gender may include: social changes, the changing subject, devolution, degeneration, the reading public and the publishing industry, genre and modality (romance, realism, aestheticism), 'elite' and 'popular' art, and others.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1033. Intercultural communication (6 credits)

Intercultural communication can be defined as the study of cultural identity, difference and similarity as constructed through discourse, i.e. different ways of speaking, doing and being. In the ever-changing world defined by restructuring of economic, social and cultural relations, transnational migration, tourism, overseas study, and global media, more and more people from different backgrounds come

into contact with one another. Their communication faces many challenges which include the linguistic challenges of language learning, the discursive challenges of stereotyping and the social challenges of equal work opportunities, inclusion and justice. This course provides a critical understanding of intercultural communication from discourse analytic and sociolinguistic perspectives and demonstrates how people in different situations of intercultural contact position themselves linguistically and discursively, and how the linguistic codes and varieties they speak and write give them access (or not) to different resources such as mobility, education opportunities, jobs, and so on. We examine the notions of 'sameness', 'difference', ethno-cultural stereotyping, discrimination, exclusion and exploitation, and the underlying language ideologies (i.e. assumptions and beliefs about language) that normalize and naturalize the views we hold of ourselves and other people. We ask to what extent we can assume culture to be synonymous with language and nation, and how acts of intercultural communication are performed or represented in different contexts such as international business, marketing, and interpersonal relations.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1034. Language and prejudice (6 credits)

Prejudice is defined as "dislike, hostility, or unjust behaviour deriving from preconceived and unfounded opinions" (OED). Social prejudice and discrimination often manifest through language use, and/or attitudes and practice towards language users (who are considered as members of certain social/ethnic/gender/age categories), this course examines sociolinguistic case studies of language discrimination both locally and internationally.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1035. Language crimes (6 credits)

This course introduces the study of texts through utterances taken from criminal cases. Students will learn how to apply concepts such as types of meaning and speech acts to analyse the utterances in context, and formulate critical arguments about their observations.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1036. Meaning and metaphor (6 credits)

The course looks at different definitions of metaphor and reviews various theories that have been applied to figurative language. It presents the identification and analysis of metaphor as a tool in the study of texts of all kinds, and introduces approaches which see the study of metaphor as a key to understanding human cognition and experience. It shows how questions about metaphor are at the heart of debates about meaning and interpretation across the humanities and social sciences, and illustrates the role of metaphor in fundamental ideological discussions. Topics include: Definitions of metaphor; Literal vs. metaphorical meaning; Metaphor and metonymy; Nonlinguistic realizations of conceptual metaphors; The scope of metaphor; Metaphor, politics, and ideology; Metaphor in literature; Metaphor in education; Metaphor in music.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1037. Persuasion (6 credits)

This is a course about rhetoric, in which students will explore ways language can be used to convey, reinforce or change ideas. In theory and in textual practice we will work together to understand how persuasion works in English in a number of different language domains. The course explores discourse relations in writing and speech, through critical analysis and practice of strategies of persuasion in some

or all of the following domains: academic writing; advertising; the courtroom; polemic and propaganda; literary representation.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1038. Practice of criticism (6 credits)

This course introduces students to the development of criticism as a literary genre and as a space of engagement with creative literature. By studying a selection of key critical texts in conjunction with works of imaginative literature, the course will discuss the creative uses of criticism in the history of literature and the role criticism has played in our understanding of literature. There will be weekly lectures and workshops, in which we will discuss, and participate in, some of the most significant debates among major critical thinkers and to relate these debates to our own studies of literary texts.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1039. Realism and representation (6 credits)

In this introductory course we will examine and explore one of the most dominant modes of literary representation. We will begin by situating realism as a movement in literary history and investigate its theoretical and material underpinnings and the literary conventions that characterize it. We will consider different ways of defining realism and situate them in relation to different arguments about the nature and role of literary representation. With close attention to texts from different times, we will try to trace how realism distinguishes itself from other forms of writing and how it persists in contemporary literary practice alongside and even within movements against realism in art and literature. We will also consider the conventions of realistic representation in different genres, art forms and media, and their role and relevance in non-fictional discourses and genres. Finally, we will also examine and discuss the relevance of arguments about realism to the writing and rhetoric of critical essays.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1040. Rewriting and writing back (6 credits)

In this introductory course, we will study and explore the ways in which literary creativity and the practice of writing are motivated and shaped by the reading of other texts. With close attention to texts from different times and places, we will identify some of the major acts of rewriting by which authors have sought to distinguish themselves ever since Virgil chose Homer as his model. Distinguishing between different modes of rewriting such as allusion, translation, parody, and counter-discourse, we will examine their role in specific contexts of literary production. Apart from considering the importance of rewriting in the formation and critique of a literary canon, we will also discuss the value of rewriting in the critical study of literature and the forms it may take in the writing of essays, including summary, paraphrase, and plagiarism.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1041. Modernity and literary modernism (6 credits)

Literary Modernism has often been characterized as an inward turn: as a growing preoccupation with the workings of consciousness; the nature of subjective experience; and the constitution, and definition, of the subjective self. In this introductory course we will examine depictions of subjectivity in modernist literature, discussing topics such as the unconscious and psychic conflict, impersonality, sexual and racial difference, the role of the body in consciousness, and the dynamics of fantasy and memory. We will contextualize our close readings in contemporary psychological and scientific research, the rise of urbanism and cosmopolitanism, colonialism and post-colonialism, technological advancements and the

World Wars. Through response papers, presentations, and class discussions, students will learn to analyze textual details and techniques and organize their observations within cogent arguments.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1042. World Englishes (6 credits)

This course introduces students to a study of varieties of English world-wide, surveying the development and classification of English varieties in both historical and contemporary eras. It explores both structural and sociolinguistic aspects of World Englishes, with particular attention to New Englishes. Through the critical reading of introductory texts and research papers in the field, this course examines some of the fundamental issues and debates in World/ New Englishes, involving concepts of 'mother tongue', 'nativeness' and ownership, issues of ideology, attitudes and identity, and challenges of creative expression, pedagogy and planning. Students will be expected to reflect critically on the readings and issues, and produce a written paper that engages with one of these issues in the field of World Englishes.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1043. An introduction to 20th-century English poetry (6 credits)

This course will introduce poems by such major 20th-century poets as T.S. Eliot, W.H. Auden, Dylan Thomas, Philip Larkin, Ted Hughes and Seamus Heaney as well as work by other English poets. The poems have been chosen not just for their intrinsic merits, but also to illustrate the patterns of sound, syntax, tone and figurative language poets use to achieve their effects. The classes will not be lectures on poetry but close readings and discussion of individual poems.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1045. "Community" in Sociolinguistics (6 credits)

The concept of "community" has been key to the study of language in society since the inception of sociolinguistics in the 1960s. In the course of the past half a century, various notions of community have been proposed and applied to the study of linguistic data. These include "speech community", "discourse community", "community of practice", "imagined community", "virtual community" and most recently "transnational community". In this course, we will explore how these various concepts have been applied and we will address salient similarities and differences between them. In doing so, we will discuss the various understandings of language, and the various understandings of the relationship between language and society which lie at the heart of these different types of community. Finally, we will question the validity of the concept of community today against the backdrop of globalisation, and the rising importance of migration and mobility.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1047. The English lexicon (6 credits)

The term *lexicon* can refer to a wordlist or dictionary. It is also a synonym of *vocabulary*, which refers to all the words of a language, or, as in "one's vocabulary", all the words a particular speaker of a language knows, sometimes referred to as "the mental lexicon". But what counts as a word in English? Is *driver's liability insurance* three words in English while the Dutch equivalent *bestuurdersaansprakelijkheidsverzekering* is one word? Are forms that can be bound by spaces, like *driver's, liability* and *insurance*, indivisible themselves, or can we identify constituent parts? Have these forms always been part of the English language or did they come about at different historical moments and in different ways? How do words, or so-called "entries" in the lexicon, relate to others meaningwise?

Are all words of the same kind, or can we arrange them in categories? When it comes to constructing sentences, words are often conceived as building blocks which are combined in accordance with the rules of grammar, but should lexicon and grammar really be seen as completely separate, or could their relationship also be conceptualized differently? How much grammar is there, or should there be, in a dictionary? How do speakers access their mental lexicon when they talk? These are some of the questions that will be addressed in this course on words in English which will approach its topic from a variety of perspectives: synchronic theoretical linguistics, diachronic linguistics, psycholinguistics and lexicography.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1048. Crime stories (6 credits)

In *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, Oscar Wilde famously compares criminal acts to art: "I should fancy that crime was to them [the lower classes] what art is to us, simply a method of procuring extraordinary sensations." Wilde asks us to think about the relationship between art and crime, and the role crime plays in the growing gap between popular culture and high literature. This course introduces students to the study of narrative through crime stories, and it will survey the origins of detective and crime fiction and its development into the twenty-first century. Students will examine how this self-reflexive genre uses narrative to reflect on acts of storytelling and interpretation. Course materials will include eighteenth-century broadsheets about famous criminals, nineteenth-century "penny dreadfuls," sensation fiction, and detective novels. Readings will include Edgar Allan Poe, Arthur Conan Doyle, Raymond Chandler, and others. The course will conclude with the growth of the detective genre in contemporary Hong Kong.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1049. Early English sonnets (6 credits)

The course provides an introduction to the study of the sonnet, an enduring lyric genre that began in 13th century Italy and became popular in England nearly three centuries later, when poets such as Wyatt and Surrey translated selected *Canzoniere* of Francesco Petrarca. Very often the expression of a suffering lover, a sonnet contains 14 lines that proceed according to a rhyme scheme — the typical Renaissance pattern is structured ABABCDCDEFEFGG. Beginning with Philip Sidney's Astrophil and Stella (composed between 1580 and 1584), sonnets in English sometimes were composed as a sequence, a collection of poems that features recurrent voices (speaker and addressee), develops thematically, and tempts the discovery of a narrative trajectory. In addition to the authors mentioned above, we read carefully some of the major sonnets of the English Renaissance from Spenser, Shakespeare, Donne, Milton, and others.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1050. An introduction to qualitative research methods in sociolinguistics (6 credits)

As access to the Internet has grown, it has become increasingly common for people to interact via different channels when going about their day-to-day affairs. For people who have access to the Internet, this can mean that they interact both online and offline alternatingly or even simultaneously. As a result it is sometimes difficult to separate online and offline spaces. This has implications for sociolinguistic research. Taking this as its starting point, this course introduces students to a core set of qualitative research methodologies used in sociolinguistic research on both online and offline spaces. These include discourse analysis, interviews and ethnography. In doing so, the course also highlights the interplay between research questions, data and methodology, thereby offering students a more general introduction into core components of the qualitative sociolinguistic research process (ethics, research questions, theoretical literature, data sampling, data analysis). To introduce these methods as part of the

more general process of conducting qualitative sociolinguistic research on online and offline spaces, the course draws on theoretical material and empirical research, while offering numerous possibilities in the form of activities in class to discuss and apply these methods to data samples.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1051. English sounds (6 credits)

This course offers an introduction to the study of speech sounds in the English language. We will examine how speech sounds can be studied in a scientific way (phonetics) and how English sounds are organised and represented (phonology). Students will be introduced to the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA), an essential tool for the description of speech sounds. While this course will focus on Southern British English (sometimes known as Received Pronunciation or BBC English), accent variation in English and contemporary sound changes will also be discussed.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1052. Introduction to theatre studies (6 credits)

This course will introduce students to the historical paradigms and methods specific to the field of Theatre Studies. It will provide an overview of several diverse genres of drama and performance, such as early modern, realist and intercultural theatre in a variety of geographical contexts. Simultaneously, the course focuses on concepts such as performers, audiences and space, the critical vocabulary required for performance analysis.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1053. Eighteenth century drama: The rise of celebrity culture (6 credits)

This course introduces students to the world of the bustling and controversial theatres of the Anglo-Atlantic Eighteenth Century. Taking a dramaturgical approach to a number of dramatic texts produced in this important period in the history of popular entertainment, this course will examine key developments in literary innovation such as character development and the rise of interiority from within the context of new theatrical technology, the rise of new forms of media, the growing power of government censorship, an emerging imperial identity, nationalism, and increased social mobility. We will also focus on the rise of celebrity culture in the period and examine the development of popular obsession with “stars” within the broader social contexts of shifting gender norms, new regimes of sexual expression, and the rise of consumer culture. We will also examine plays alongside other forms of texts such as published gossip, celebrity memoirs, newspaper advertisements, playbills, and acting manuals, making use of existing databases hosted at the Folger, Huntington, and the British Libraries. This course also aims to serve as a general introduction on how to read literary texts historically, and how the study of literature can benefit from an interdisciplinary approach that borrows insights from Language Studies; Cultural Studies; New Media Studies; and Gender/Sexuality studies. At the end of this course, students should have acquired a critical familiarity with the dramatic culture of the Eighteenth Century, as well as a set of analytical skills that will prepare them for the future study in literary criticism. Texts to be studied might include popular versions of Sentimental Comedy; Operas/Oratorios; Bourgeois Tragedy; Gothic Fantasy; Pantomime and Travel Drama. Authors to be studied might include Jonathan Steele; George Frideric Handel; Henry Fielding; Oliver Goldsmith; Susanna Centlivre; Hannah Cowley; and Elizabeth Inchbald.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1054. Writing disaster: Literature, trauma, memory (6 credits)

Broadly conceived, this course will explore the relationship between writing and loss. Its more concentrated concern is with how writing (and here we mean both literary and cinematic works) manages to represent the unthinkable, the unsayable, and the unmournable. This course will study the representational systems and generic instabilities of works that emerge from the aftermath of various disasters and catastrophes (war, ethnic violence, political turmoil, the annihilation of the ecosystem). In particular, it will look at how these works engage various clinical and legal discourses about trauma and testimony, paying close attention to moments when alternative ways of remembering, experiencing, and recounting disasters are imagined and performed. Focusing mostly on texts in the postcolonial literary canon, this course will take students through fictional writing, films, theoretical texts, and philosophical works in order to provide them with a better understanding of what it means "to write disaster" and to show how this writing unfolds over time and space through the words of those who survive what they often cannot endure.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1055. Language myths and realities (6 credits)

This course explores popular beliefs and misconceptions about language that are of broad interest, and discusses the extent to which they are consistent with empirical linguistic evidence.
Topics may vary in each offering of the course, and may address some of the following topics in sociolinguistics and psycholinguistics:

Is English declining or simply evolving?
Can we speak English without an accent?
Do people code-mix because they cannot speak either language well?
To what extent do men and women use language differently?
Does the language we speak determine the way we think?
Can children learn two or more languages well at the same time? Is this harmful to them?
Do bilinguals have a better brain than monolinguals?
Is our writing/voice unique?

The goal of the course is to equip students with the linguistic knowledge and skills for debunking common languages myths and unravelling the underlying ideologies held by non-linguists.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1061. Introduction to psycholinguistics (6 credits)

This course explores key issues related to the psychology of language: how humans process, produce and acquire different aspects of language. Major psychological processes and factors involved in language perception and production will be discussed. We will also critically examine the range of methods used in psycholinguistic and language acquisition research. This course lays the foundation for advanced courses psycholinguistics and language acquisition (e.g., ENGL2115 Theories of language acquisition and ENGL2158 Language processing and learning).
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL1064. Language, communication and media (6 credits)

[Non-permissible combination with ENGL1064: "ENGL2182/ LCOM2004. Language, communication and the media"

Note to students admitted in 2023-24 and before:

Students who have already completed "ENGL2182/ LCOM2004. Language, communication and the media" are not allowed to study "ENGL1064. Language, communication and the media" in the academic year 2024-25 and thereafter. But for those who have not completed ENGL2182/ LCOM2004 as an advanced course, they may still take ENGL1064 as an introductory course (List B) in the academic year 2024-25 and thereafter.]

This course introduces students to the study of mass media discourse in today's society. The 'mass media' plays a central role in shaping how we produce, circulate, and interpret meanings about the world. Drawing on approaches from discourse analysis and critical sociolinguistics, the course examines how language and communication practices in media texts reflect, reproduce, and sometimes challenge social hierarchies and ideologies. Students will explore how power, identity, and cultural values are constructed through media representation, paying particular attention to cross-cultural dimensions and the interplay between global and local voices in Hong Kong's media landscape. Through analysis of examples from news, advertising, digital platforms, and popular culture, students will engage with questions about how discourse contributes to public knowledge, social change, and the negotiation of meaning in an increasingly mediated world.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

LCOM1001. Introduction to language and communication (6 credits)

This course introduces a range of theories, approaches and applications pertinent to the study of language and communication. In doing so, it aims to provide students with core knowledge needed to critically reflect upon the role of language as a social practice; and to apply this when reading texts and working with data. This entails familiarising students with theories and approaches (including the polysemy of core concepts like "language" and "communication", and the shift from structuralist to social constructionist approaches); methodologies (including ethics, ethnography, interviews and discourse analysis); and applications (including examples from scholarship and brief presentations by invited speakers highlighting different ways of doing language and communication). While the course will highlight the importance of interdisciplinary approaches to language and communication, it will strongly draw on themes and research from within the field of sociolinguistics. Structurally, the course will consist of a mix of frontal input, workshops, tutorials, and contributions by invited speakers. During the semester, students will thus be expected to be active listeners as well as participants in workshops and tutorials. The latter will entail students taking first steps in collecting and analysing small segments of data, with guidance, and using the theoretical and methodological knowledge provided.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

LCOM1002. Language, communication, society, field (6 credits)

In this introductory course to sociolinguistics, we address some fundamental topics in the positioning of language in human societies, from the beginnings in dialectology, and language variation, to code choice, and power, as well as consider applications in education and language policy and planning. We not only examine theories and issues, but also explore methods in conducting sociolinguistic research. Our investigation draws richly from both English as well as multilingual and non-English scenarios, critically examining classic sociolinguistic accounts from a contemporary perspective, and ultimately building a solid and comprehensive understanding of the workings of language and communication in society.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

LCOM1003. Theorizing communication (6 credits)

This course offers an overview of the major currents in linguistic theory of how the 'fact' of (human) communication is explained, what its prerequisites are, and how they align with everyday personal experience. Students will be introduced to the major theoretical schools and asked to engage and interact with each one of them by drawing on their critical reflection, their lay experience, and analyses of their personal communicational biographies.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

LCOM1004. Introduction to pragmatics (6 credits)

People do not always say what they mean. So, how do we manage to understand each other if speakers regularly mean something other than what they say? Why don't people just say what they mean? We shall answer these and many other questions in this introductory course to Pragmatics. Some of the topics we shall be concerned with in this course include different levels of meaning, speaker's intention, interpretation and understanding of utterances; the role of context in utterance interpretations; speech acts; conversational implicature; presupposition and politeness.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

Advanced Courses

ENGL2002. Language in society (6 credits)

This course will provide an introduction to the study of 'sociolinguistics', which deals with the relationship between language and society. Topics will vary, but may include the following: multilingualism, language varieties, language planning, language change, English in contact with other languages.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2004. English syntax (6 credits)

This course introduces the structure of English by investigating approaches to grammar, models of grammatical analysis, and the grammar of contemporary English. It is interested in the relationship between morphology and syntax, and grammar and linguistics.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2007. Literary linguistics (6 credits)

This course uses linguistic techniques to analyse literary texts by examining both the devices that literary authors employ and the literary effects they create in different styles and genres. It employs methods of structural linguistic analysis (looking at the syntax and phonology of texts) as well as socio-historical and pragmatic methods.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2030. New Englishes (6 credits)

This course explores both structural and sociolinguistic aspects of World Englishes, with particular attention to New Englishes, especially postcolonial Englishes of Asia. We will examine how the structural features found in these Englishes are not a consequence of a lack of ability to learn English perfectly, or pronounce it correctly, or express it clearly. Rather, such features are completely appropriate to the multilingual and multicultural ecologies in which the Englishes have evolved, ecologies in which numerous other languages of diverse typologies abound. We will also critically

consider issues and debates in World/ New Englishes, involving concepts of 'mother tongue', 'nativeness' and ownership, issues of ideology, attitudes and identity, and challenges of creative expression, pedagogy and planning.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2039. Gender, sexuality and discourse (6 credits)

This course offers an introduction to ways that language usage trends across society can be sensitive to social categories of sexuality and gender along with how speakers use language to project gender and sexuality. The course includes an historical view while bringing in cutting edge research, in this way highlighting emerging trends while keeping persistent themes in view. Project work will focus on discourse analysis of authentic data.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2047. English discourse structures and strategies (6 credits)

This course will provide an introduction to the analysis of English discourse from a linguistic perspective. Students will learn rhetorical methodologies and examine their effects on readers and listeners. Units include: spoken and written English discourse, global organization and cohesion, discourse markers, information structure, narrative, and non-verbal structures and strategies.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2048. Language and jargon (6 credits)

This course focuses on specialized sub-group languages or jargons, and uses texts from a range of historical period to examine the socio-cultural dynamics behind the creation, maintenance and disappearance of such jargons. Particular attention will be paid to the history of criminal jargon, prison jargon and other speech varieties associated with other marginal or criminalized sub-groups (e.g. drug addicts, 'tramps', etc.), as well as to the history of the study of such jargons and the inclusion of jargon and slang items in mainstream dictionaries. Students will read texts from different periods in the history of English, as well as considering the role of jargons in modern societies such as the United States, Britain and Hong Kong, as well as in 'cyber-space'.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2050. English corpus linguistics (6 credits)

Corpus linguistics is a rapidly-developing methodology in the study of language. It exploits the power of modern computer technology to manipulate and analyse large collections of naturally-occurring language ('corpora'). This course will introduce students to the use of computers and computerized corpora as tools for exploring the English language.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2057. Text and image (6 credits)

This interdisciplinary course explores relations between literature and various forms of image-based representation. It begins with 'painterly' descriptions in novels and poetry, and common strands in art and literary criticism, and proceeds to discussion of relations between film and literature, such as the presence of cinematographic form in modern literature. In the concluding module, we consider the shift in emphasis from text-based to image-based culture and its impact on postmodern society. Course material consists of critical essays, and examples from literature, the pictorial arts and the moving image.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2103. Language and digital media (6 credits)

Language is strongly influenced by the medium through which it is presented. When the medium itself is in wide use, norms emerge which determine not only the form that language can take, but also the pragmatic effects of any language use that either exploits or deviates from these norms. The nature of public language--that is, language generated by or for the public at large through various media--in turn influences public discourse (i.e., what is being talked about large-scale, and how it is talked about). When the nature of the medium is expressly exploited linguistically, then this change can achieve overwhelming and widespread effects.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2104. Language in the USA (6 credits)

This course addresses the problems (theoretical and practical) inherent in defining a variety of English as 'American'. Issues treated include the history of American English; dialectology; sociolinguistics; Black English; and the politics of American English.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2112. An introduction to the history of English (6 credits)

This introductory seminar will acquaint students with the main historical periods of the English language (Old English, Middle English, Early Modern English) and theoretical and methodological problems and approaches in studying these varieties. Students will also learn about language-internal and language-external explanations of linguistic change and apply them to historical varieties of English. We will also examine topics in the history of linguistics, with particular reference to linguistic schools and approaches that have been crucial to the development of historical linguistics as a discipline. Through the use of various media apart from academic literature (video, audio presentations, online sources, computer corpora), the seminar will offer students various modes of learning about the history of English, language change, and linguistic theory.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2115. Theories of language acquisition (6 credits)
[*Non-permissible combination: LING2036. Child language*]

This course offers an introduction to the central themes in language acquisition, covering first language acquisition, second/foreign language acquisition and bilingualism. Students are expected to gain from the course a broad understanding of how children acquire their first language, how second language learners learn a new language, and the potential differences in processing and outcome.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2117. English phonology and morphology (6 credits)

This course provides a comprehensive study of the sounds (phonemes) and building blocks (morphemes) of English words. Students will examine the phonemes of English as they occur separately and in context, and the processes involved in producing those sounds. The course involves problems that Cantonese speakers might have in mastering English phonemes (and why) and ways in which those problems can be overcome. Students will also develop an understanding of the foundation of English

words. In learning the various ways in which English words are formed, each student will be able to increase his/her own lexicon and develop an understanding of how and why words are constantly being added to or deleted from the English language, and who is generally responsible for those changes.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2123. Language and identity in Hong Kong (6 credits)

This course is a continuation of ENGL2002 Language in Society with a special focus on language and identity in Hong Kong. Students who have taken ENGL2002 will have a foundation in sociolinguistics, which certainly will be helpful, but ENGL2002 is not a prerequisite.
This course examines identity studies and related language ideology research in sociolinguistics and linguistic anthropology (including some relevant literature from sociology and social psychology). It specifically draws on research based in Hong Kong for comparison understanding, and application of currently available theoretical models.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2125. English construction grammar (6 credits)

This course will introduce students to two burgeoning paradigms in present-day linguistics: construction grammar and grammaticalization theory. The first of these is a general semantico-syntactic language theory; the second a (historical) linguistic discipline that focuses on how grammatical constructions come into being. The compatibility and complementarity of both approaches will be looked at through a detailed case study of English clausal complement constructions.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2126. Law, meaning, and interpretation (6 credits)

This course is concerned with meaning in verbal discourse. What makes the course distinctive, however, is that its interest in interpretation will be comparative, not between different languages but as regards how verbal discourse is interpreted in settings that bring different interpretive norms to bear on linguistic data: e.g. in literary and film interpretation, in religious interpretation, and in legal interpretation. The course begins with an introductory review of topics and approaches in semantics and pragmatics, then traces how meanings are ascribed differently in a selection of disciplinary and institutional settings. A final stage of the course is concerned with how approaches to interpretation engage with one another and the controversies and debates that arise when they do. No specialized knowledge of linguistics, law, or religious interpretation is needed; the course will provide a multidisciplinary introduction to the fields under discussion. In doing so, it will draw extensively on contributions made by students who are taking or have taken relevant courses in linguistics, literary criticism, and other cognate fields.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2127. Language and the law (6 credits)

Language plays an essential role both in creating law (e.g. in how specific laws are drafted) as well as in the implementation of law (e.g. in how language is deployed but also contested - in court). This course examines how language plays these important social roles, and addresses topics, including: different linguistic registers and genres which shape our concept of what legal language is; communicative strategies, adopted in the courtroom by speakers occupying different roles (judge, barrister, defendant, witness, etc.); how language is used and understood in in legal drafting and interpretation; submission of language data as evidence in some court cases; and linguistic and legal issues that arise in bilingual and multilingual jurisdictions (i.e. in systems that formulate and apply their

law in two or more different languages). Together, such aspects of language use form the subject matter of an increasingly researched and studied interdisciplinary field, known as 'language and law' or 'forensic linguistics', to which this course provides an accessible introduction.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2129. English as a language of science (6 credits)

English is sometimes called 'the' language of science. This could be more myth than reality, but there is no question that a great deal of academic communication takes place in English. Well-established notions like 'scientific English' or 'academic English' suggest that this is a special kind of English which has features that differ from 'general' English. This course will provide a context for reflection on the present role of English in a globalized academic world and the history of that role, as well as on the nature of English-language discourse in various academic disciplines. It is not an academic writing course, but an analytical course dealing, on the one hand, with the sociology and history of the language of science, and, on the other, with the textual and linguistic characteristics of the discourse produced in natural-scientific, social-scientific and humanities disciplines.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2130. Signs, language and meaning: Integrational reflections (6 credits)

This course introduces students to the basic tenets of integrational linguistics and integrationism. Integrational linguistics takes as its point of departure a theory of the sign which emphasizes the temporal, contextual and experiential dimensions of language and communication. Language users are also seen as language makers, in that they constantly create meaning and integrate and adapt their linguistic experience to novel situations. The course aims to provide insight into a wide range of topics, including the nature of memory, experience, consciousness, and other psychological and philosophical questions.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2138. Language and globalization (6 credits)
[*Non-permissible combination: LCOM2005. Language, communication and globalization]*

Globalization has been defined in a number of ways, for example as the increased interconnectedness of individuals, organizations and countries; intense flows of goods, services, capital, information, images, and people; a new 'world order' with privileged centres and disadvantaged peripheries; or a geography of unequal development. Whichever of these definitions is adopted, an understanding of how language is used as part of these networks, flows, and inequalities, or indeed to facilitate them, is crucial in theorizing language and communication in the contemporary world. Therefore, this course examines language through the metaphors of transition, flux, mobility and displacement. In a world where people's lives and identities are no longer so neatly bounded or easily located, with positions of power and authority no longer clearly defined, we ask questions about the role of language in shaping contemporary 'globalized' identities, relationships and communities. Some of the key areas of globalization that are considered from the perspective of language and communication are the new globalized economy; print, broadcast and new media; popular culture; tourism; and second language education.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2140. Ideologies of language in early modernity (6 credits)

We analyze early modern reflections on the power of language — in particular, the language of literary texts — to bring about cultural change. The course investigates how assumptions about language support arguments that promote a political or social vision. Topics to be explored include: the functions of speech — communication and persuasion; defenses of the vernacular as suitable for poetry and biblical translation; theories of poetic agency, or the capacity of fiction to shape readers' moral character; epic and the formation of national identity; deviant speech and language crimes.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2141. Doing discourse analysis (6 credits)

In the last fifty years or so, 'discourse' and 'discourse analysis' (DA) have firmly established themselves as key notions in many academic disciplines, including linguistics, literary studies, communication studies, and social sciences, to name a few. As a consequence, there currently exist at least 40 'tribes and sub-tribes' of discourse analysis, with new approaches still appearing and older approaches being re-conceptualized. This course aims at, first, providing the students with an accessible introduction to the theoretical underpinnings of discourse analysis, and, second, taking them through a step-by step process of doing discourse analysis. The particular focus of the course is on introducing the students to the analysis of context-specific use of language in written, spoken and multimodal communication. Examples for the course will be drawn from different authentic discourses, such as everyday conversations, media, politics, business and healthcare encounters, with some of the examples coming from the sociocultural context of Hong Kong.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2146. Cognitive semantics (6 credits)

Imagination gives us the ability to invent new concepts so we can develop arts, science, religion, culture, sophisticated tools, and language. In this course, we focus on how the human mind operates largely behind the scenes to create new meaning. Almost invisibly to consciousness, we create meaning every day. As opposed to the general view that meaning is given or prepackaged in linguistic expressions, meaning construction should be understood as something that we actively participate in as a product of interaction with others in specific contexts. We perform it with lightning speed. More often than not, we do not find it difficult at all to produce and understand language we have not heard before when we communicate with others. The construction of meaning is also crucial to the understanding of our own culture. Cultural models are not only ideas that reside in our minds. They are often embodied in a wide array of material artefacts. This course will look at examples of thinking strategies that involve the interaction of mental structure and material structure.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2158. Language processing and learning (6 credits)

The course provides an overview of the cognitive approaches to first and second language processing and learning. Students will gain a broad understanding of how different components of language (words, meaning and syntax) are processed and represented in the mind, how fundamental principles of learning and memory may be relevant to first and second language learning, and how language patterns may be learnt without intention and awareness.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2160. Sovereignty in law, theory and culture (6 credits)

Sovereignty is a centrally important concept for both law and politics, to which recent debates in Hong Kong testify. In this course we will assess the meaning and significance of sovereignty by drawing on resources from across the arts, humanities and social sciences. We will read and discuss materials from law, political theory, philosophy, urban studies, literature and the visual arts in order to answer the following questions: What is sovereignty and how is it related to the history of the state? How is our understanding of sovereignty changing in the context of contemporary challenges like globalization, climate change and international terrorism? And what would law and politics looks like without sovereignty? The course takes a broad historical sweep, from early-modern conceptions to the present day. We will look at key theorists of sovereignty like (the authoritarian) Thomas Hobbes, (the Nazi-sympathizing) Carl Schmitt and (the anarchist philosopher) Giorgio Agamben as well as explore thinkers who are trying to imagine law and politics 'without' or 'beyond' sovereignty. Throughout the course, we supplement theoretical and legal debates with insights from literature and the visual arts. The plays of William Shakespeare; poetry written by inmates within the Guantanamo detention centers; 17th century emblems and images; and an early-twentieth century novel will all help us understand the meaning of sovereignty and explore possibilities for its critique.
The course will be of particular interest to students who have enjoyed classes in legal theory, law and literature, law and film, or constitutional law. But the course is open to all who are excited to explore the possibilities of interdisciplinary scholarship and want to find out more about the elusive but crucially important notion of sovereignty. This course hopes to broaden the scholarly horizons of students by bringing students together from different disciplinary backgrounds. The course will provide participants with valuable cross-disciplinary reading, rhetorical and evaluative skills.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2161. Language rights and linguistic justice (6 credits)

The first part of the course offers a broad picture of linguistic diversity and cultural preservation, traces the evolution of language rights and explores the historical connections of such evolution with nation states, warfare, and globalization. The second part of the course surveys international and national legal regimes in the protection of language rights, covering both minority language rights and official language rights, and their manifestations as negative and positive rights. We will examine how some of these rights are realized in the domains of education, legal processes and public services across jurisdictions, as well as the limitations of their reach. The third part of the course focuses on the philosophical and moral basis of language rights, addresses sources of contention, and queries the concept of 'linguistic justice'. Such discussions provide a lens through which tensions between liberalism and diversity may be probed.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2166. English phonetics (6 credits)

This course introduces students to the theoretical advancements in the study of speech. In the first half of the course, we will look at the acoustic nature of different 'components' of speech: vowels, consonants, stress and accent, intonation, and voice quality. The second half of the course will focus on how the study of speech can be applied various areas of inquiry such as speech perception and production, the learning of new sounds, sociophonetics, and forensic phonetics. Students will get hands-on experience with Praat, a free computer software package for analysis of speech in phonetics. Prior knowledge of phonetics and/or phonology will be helpful but not obligatory. Students with little background on the study of speech are encouraged to read the recommended introductory textbooks before the course starts.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2168. The law of signs: Interpretative controversies in legal semiotics (6 credits)

This course investigates the way that law treats verbal and visual signs. The study of signs is termed semiotics. By sign is meant here the visual and verbal bearer of contentious meanings and/or of disputed cultural significance. Through the study of decided cases, the courses analyzes how verbal and visual signs encounter law's definitions, registration regimes, prohibition, censorship, or protection. Among the legal domains involved are: trademark and copyright law; employment and discrimination law; censorship, free speech and obscenity law; blasphemy; public order law; human rights law. The course will be divided into sections by topic (not all of which will be taught for each iteration): (i) names and marks (legal limits on the right to choose, registration regimes in relation to personal and corporate names, marks, titles, licence plates, domain names); (ii) art (art works and customs regulations, legal definitions of art; art works and forgery, e.g. artistic images of currency; art works and parody; art and taboo; song lyrics and taboo meanings); (iii) flags, insignia and symbols (laws against flag desecration; banned political symbols; triad society symbols; gang insignia); (iv) speech versus conduct (gestures; public order offences involving swearing, insulting language or behaviour; contempt of court; the definition of speech under the First Amendment); (v) clothing and hair-styles (e.g. employment law; sumptuary laws; contempt of court); (vi) cultural appropriation and identity (the commercial use of indigenous linguistic materials and cultural symbols); (vii) language in public spaces (regulations on signage; noise and nuisance; the definition of public). The course focuses on the underlying legal, socio-political, and semiotic doctrines that are at play, but also the implicit or explicit theory of the sign, the understanding of how signs communicate, how the ownership of signs and images is understood, and how law assigns authorial and interpretative responsibility for meanings.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENGL2188. Language and food (6 credits)

Food is never just food. Food holds sociocultural significance based on taste, preference, ritual, tradition, gender, race and ethnicity, social class, and even its origin of place. This course studies how language, culture, and identity are linked to each other through food. It examines the connection between everyday sensory experience and cross-cultural and -linguistic understanding of food. We will read and discuss a range of research on language use in food-related contexts, applying approaches to various data sources such as restaurant menus, recipes, mealtime conversations, food packages, mukbang (livestream of eating), food advertisements & informercials, and reality TV shows. Students will conduct small-scale research projects by collecting and analyzing a body of data concerning any language-and-food topic, while also applying course concepts to the collected data.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

LCOM2001. Theories of language and communication (6 credits)

This course examines theoretical discussions of language and communication, with special reference to underlying assumptions about language (i.e. their metatheory) and the respective philosophies of language they are based on, their merits and shortcomings, as well as possible points of contact between them. These assumptions will also be critically discussed on the basis of exemplary linguistic studies presented in class. We shall hence consider the various traditions contributing to language and communication theory, among which are the semiotic, the phenomenological, and the sociocultural traditions. Particular emphasis will be placed on how sociolinguistic theory has dealt with the phenomena of language and communication.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

LCOM2002. Language in the workplace (6 credits)

People spend a considerable amount of time at work. The workplace thus provides a useful site for investigating various aspects of language and communication. This course will discuss a range of features of workplace discourse and illustrate the impact social factors may have on the ways in which

language is used in this context. We will also discuss and compare different methodological approaches and a variety of theoretical frameworks used for an analysis of workplace discourse. These tools will then be used by the students to analyse naturalistic data.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

LCOM2003. Language and politeness (6 credits)

This course will discuss various approaches to linguistic politeness. Students will be introduced to a number of theoretical frameworks that have been developed in order to capture and assess this complex concept. A particular focus will be on the question of universality and culturally influenced perceptions of politeness. Moreover, the impact of various social factors (including power, gender and ethnicity) on the performance and perception of linguistic politeness is discussed, and the topic of impoliteness is covered.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

LCOM2004. Language, communication and the media (6 credits)
[Non-permissible combination with ENGL2182/ LCOM2004: ENGL1064 Language, communication and the media
Note to students admitted in 2023-24 and before:
Students who have already completed "ENGL2182/ LCOM2004. Language, communication and the media" are not allowed to study "ENGL1064. Language, communication and the media" in the academic year 2024-25 and thereafter. But for those who have not completed ENGL2182/ LCOM2004 as an advanced course, they may still take ENGL1064 as an introductory course (List B) in the academic year 2024-25 and thereafter.]

This course introduces students to the study of mass media discourse in today's society. The 'mass media' phenomenon deserves particular attention because, as sociologists and sociolinguists point out, it has a deep impact on our knowledge of and on how we communicate about the world. The course considers cross-cultural issues of mediated discourse and looks how eastern and western ideologies amalgamate to form new local ideological discourses, with particular attention to Hong Kong. The course will take as its foundation the field of (social) semiotics, and will look more closely at how this field's theoretical premises match with our personal experiences as communicating members of society. The course also introduces students to philosophical-semiotic questions about epistemology and ontology.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

LCOM2005. Language, communication and globalization (6 credits)
[*Non-permissible combination: ENGL2138. Language and globalization*]

This course, centring on the phenomenon of 'globalization' in relation to language and communication, critically examines some widely held notions, such as the view that globalization has resulted in the homogenization of cultures and languages, and in the hegemony of English, and is organized along three main lines. It investigates the *politics* of language and globalization, in how various nations, particularly those in Asia, struggle with the balance between their indigenous languages and languages of global import and/or wider local significance, e.g. English or Mandarin. It addresses the phenomenon of globalization bringing communities and languages into contact, the consequences of which are often viewed as situations of *peril*, involving the endangerment of languages, as well as the evolution of new linguistic varieties such as World/New Englishes. It identifies a number of communicative practices in *pop* culture that are ubiquitous in and representative of today's global world, such as SMSes, e-mail and other electronic communication, hiphop, and callcentres, and explores how languages are appropriated by users in managing their own local identity alongside wider global needs.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

LCOM2007. Visual communication (6 credits)

All visual texts such as photographs, advertisements, magazine covers and websites are carefully designed and create specific effects. Designers use different semiotic tools such as colour, framing, focus, font style and positioning of elements to communicate with the viewer. Taken together, this visual vocabulary makes up a visual language that we can analyse. More broadly, this course is concerned with 'visuality' – the different ways in which we are capable of seeing (our 'vision') are constructed: how we see, how we are able, allowed, or made to see, and how we relate to these acts of seeing (or not seeing). We will examine a wide range of visual examples from everyday life including photographs, advertisements, cartoons, magazine covers, artworks and websites.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

LCOM2008. Health communication, 'healthy' communication (6 credits)

Health communication extends from patient-doctor interactions to inter-professional encounters and media campaigns. While research has shown that effective communication is an indispensable part of delivering quality healthcare, technological advances in modes of communication, together with increasingly complex social environments, are presenting professionals and patients alike with multiple challenges. This course pursues two main interrelated objectives (as reflected in the course title). First, it is aimed at introducing the students to one specific area of inquiry within the so-called 'applied linguistics of professions' (Sarangi, 2005). The students will learn about different analytical approaches to healthcare communication, namely micro- and macro-perspectives on the analyses of spoken and written discourse data. Second, it is intended as a course with a more 'practical' aim of developing the students' understanding that effective health communication strategies may significantly improve the healthcare quality and outcomes. To achieve these two objectives, the students will engage with authentic data from a variety of healthcare sites (from primary care encounters to specialist clinics to genetic counseling) to examine some critical issues of health communication such as shared decision-making between healthcare professionals and patients; delivery of accurate and accessible healthcare information; communicating health risk and uncertainty (that is very common in modern medicine).
Assessment: 100% coursework.

LCOM2009. Language and religion (6 credits)

In this course we will explore the complex relationship between language and religion by focusing on four main questions: 1) What is religion? 2) What is language? 3) How is the relationship between language and religion conceptualised in sociolinguistics, and what does this conceptualisation imply? 4) How can language be used to perform religious identities? We will address the first two questions by focusing on the historical emergence of religion as a universal category; and on conceptualisations of language as a practice. The third question will be examined on the basis of theoretical literature and case studies which discuss the relationship between language and religion, and the use of language for the performance of religious identities. This will lead to a consideration of the various ways language is used as a resource to perform these same identities; and of the interaction between religion and other social categories. Since the Internet and English have become important ways of spreading and sharing knowledge, we will also tackle this fourth question by working with computer-mediated data taken from English-language websites used by religious communities.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

LCOM2011. The language of news media (6 credits)

As a natural concomitant of the mass media, the consumption of news has become a staple of modernity. We encounter and attend to different kinds of news discourse on a daily basis – for example, print newspapers; news documentaries, current affairs programmes, news interviews, or investigative journalism programmes on television and radio; online news from digitised newspapers, news blogs, news updates or news feeds from social networking sites (e.g. Facebook/Twitter), Google news, YouTube news videos. In this course, we will examine the ways in which meanings are discursively construed in the news. We will also critically reflect and debate on issues of power relations and ideologies of the news media: the influence they exert both on our governments and major institutions as well as their ability to shape our ideas, beliefs and behaviours through the news discourse that we immerse ourselves in. Adopting a linguistic/semiotic perspective, this course offers detailed insights into the language of the news by discussing the main characteristics of news discourse and exploring theoretical frameworks to research and analyse the use of text and image in the construction of news and the manifestations of power, control and ideology in the press.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

Capstone Courses

LCOM3001. Cultural dimensions of language and communication (capstone experience) (6 credits)

Taking its cue from the view of communicative practices as constitutive of the culture of everyday life, this fieldwork-based course has as a focus the speakers and cultures involved in language and communication. As a capstone course, the overarching goal is to have students (a) bring together the theoretical knowledge and methodological skills acquired in this and previous courses in this (and other) programmes, (b) with a focus on the local and contemporary in multilingual, globalised contexts, and (c) with an emphasis on issues of linguistic and cultural diversity and the responsibility that each individual has to make informed and significant contributions to society, for sustainability and the advancement of the human condition. Topics of linguistic diversity and multilingualism, and language maintenance, shift and endangerment in minority communities will be explored, as well as related issues for education, policy and economic development. The course addresses not only the theories involved but just as importantly the methods for intellectual investigation. Activities and assignments, which aim to cultivate an understanding of the complexities of contemporary social and political issues, will involve investigative fieldwork projects on speech communities in Hong Kong, including local Hongkongers as well as other 'minority' groups such as ethnic minorities and domestic workers.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

LCOM3004. Language and communication field trip (capstone experience) (6 credits)
[Course offering will be subject to student enrolment]

The LCOM field trip provides students with a valuable international experience and a perfect opportunity for experiential learning: in this course, students of language and communication witness first-hand, engage in and intellectually reflect on communicative practices in multilingual settings (such as Singapore, Switzerland, Sri Lanka, South Africa, etc), where languages of global import are used – in complementary or competing fashion – alongside languages of local significance.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

LCOM3005. Internship in language and communication (capstone experience) (6 credits)

This course offers students a capstone learning experience by allowing them to take their classroom knowledge into the community. In accordance with Language and Communication's focus on real-

world contexts in the multilingual, globalized world of today, the internship encourages the use and appreciation of communicative competence while contributing to the honing of transferable skills for a wide range of careers, including education, editing and publishing, public administration, public relations, marketing, the media, tourism, and cultural affairs. Students are responsible for identifying and securing a suitable internship opportunity, in consultation with the course coordinator. The duration of the internship will depend on the arrangement between the student and the organization, but should involve at least 36 contact hours of service for the organization. Assessment will be graded on a pass/fail basis, based on a written report as well as feedback from the organization contact.
Assessment: 100% coursework (graded on a pass/fail basis).

LCOM3006. Extended essay in language and communication (capstone experience) (6 credits)

The Extended Essay in Language and Communication offers students an opportunity to undertake an undergraduate research project in a particular area of Language and Communication under the guidance and instruction of a supervisor. The extended essay course can only be taken in conjunction with another advanced LCOM course, and students will be required to attend the classes for that course, as part of a 12-credit combination. The supervisor of the extended essay will normally be the teacher of the conjoined course and students intending to enrol in an extended essay course must first seek approval from the prospective supervisor. Subject to the teacher's approval, students can enrol in the extended essay course either concurrently with the conjoined course or after they have completed the conjoined course. Assessment will normally consist of an extended essay of approximately 5,000 words in addition to the coursework of the conjoined course, or it may involve completing alternative pieces of coursework, including a research paper, for the taught and research courses together.
Assessment: 100% coursework.