

## **Introduction of new course(s)**

### **COURSE CONTENT**

Date :

Academic Year : 2017/2018 (Semester 2)

Study Year (if applicable) : N.A

Course Code & Title : HL 0201 Images of Singapore – Literature, Film and Culture

Academic Unit : 3 AU

Pre-requisite : NIL

#### **HL 0201: Images of Singapore – Literature, film and culture**

[Lectures: 39 hours; Pre-requisites: Nil; Academic Unit: 3.0]

2017/2018 (Semester 2)

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**Lecturer:** Dr Jiaying Sim

#### **Content:**

This course will explore filmic and literary texts that construct narratives about Singapore cultural and identity. We will consider the importance of transnational, socio-political and historical contexts in producing images of Singapore, and interrogate race, class and gender discourses through Singapore films and literature. Specifically, we will attend to historiosocial and political conditions that come into dialogue with the types of films and literature produced at any one point.

By the end of the course, students will have acquired fundamental techniques of filmic and textual analysis through close reading of a range of primarily local films, and literary texts. Close analysis of these texts will illuminate the close relationship between cultural products and cultural production. Students are advised to read the required readings and watch the film before each lecture and to attend the session prepared to discuss the readings.

#### **Student Assessment Students will be assessed by:**

- a. Final 2-hour written examination (50%)
- b. Mid-Term essay, 1000 word essay. (50%)

#### **Primary Filmography List**

Peter Bodagnovich, *Saint Jack* (1979)

Eric Khoo, *12 Storeys* (1997)

Kelvin Tong, *Eating Air* (1999)

Jack Neo, *I Not Stupid* (2001)

Ken Kwek, *Unlucky Plaza* (2014)

Royston Tan, *Hock Hiap Leong* (2002)

*7 Letters* (2015)  
 Boo Junfeng, *Ilo Ilo* (2016)  
 Loo Zihan, *Solos* (2007)  
 Djinn, Ong Lay Jinn, *Perth: The Geylang Massacre* (2004)

Primary Reading List

Carissa Foo, *If it were up to Mrs Dada* (2018)

Secondary Reading(s):  
 To be uploaded on iNTU

Week	Topic	Lecture
1	Introduction (16 Aug 2018)	Course Structure/Course Skills/ Expectations
2	Foreign Gaze (23 Aug 2018)	Film: Peter Bodagnovich, <i>Saint Jack</i> (1979)
3	Pragmatism of Singapore Images (30 Aug 2018)	Film: Eric Khoo, <i>12 Storeys</i> (1997)
4	Intertextuality in Singapore films (6 Sep 2018)	Film(s): Kelvin Tong, <i>Eating Air</i> (1999)
5	Satirical voices (13 Sep 2018)	Film: Jack Neo, <i>I Not Stupid</i> (2001)
6	Images of systems (20 Sep 2018)	Film: Boo Junfeng, <i>Ilo Ilo</i> (2013)
7	Collective Voices (27 Sep 2018)	Film: <i>7 Letters</i> (2015)
RECESS WEEK (4 Oct 2018)		
8	Alternative Memories (11 Oct 2018) Mid Term Essay Due.	<i>Film:</i> Royston Tan, <i>Hock Hiap Leong</i> (2002) <i>Text:</i> Carissa Foo, <i>If it were up to Mrs Dada</i> (2018)

9	Transnational Singapore (18 Oct 2018)	Film: Ken Kwek, <i>Unlucky Plaza</i> (2014)
10	Queer Voices (25 Oct 2018)	Film(s): Loo Zihan, <i>Solos</i> (2007)
11	Images of Escape (1 Nov 2018)	Film: Djinn, Ong Lay Jinn, dir. <i>Perth: The Geylang Massacre</i> (2004)
12	Images of Singapore through Independent short films (8 Nov 2018)	Films: TBC
13	Conclusion/Course Revision (15 Nov 2018)	