



臺灣大學進修推廣學院
NTU SPECS

NTU School of Professional Education and Continuing Studies

從英文短篇故事談職場修煉： 管理、衝突、行為、關係

Workplace Lessons from Short Stories:
Management, Conflict, Behavior, and Relationship



傅友祥 教授
臺大外文系暨研究所

授課時間：每週四晚上7:00-9:45，2/24(四)開學

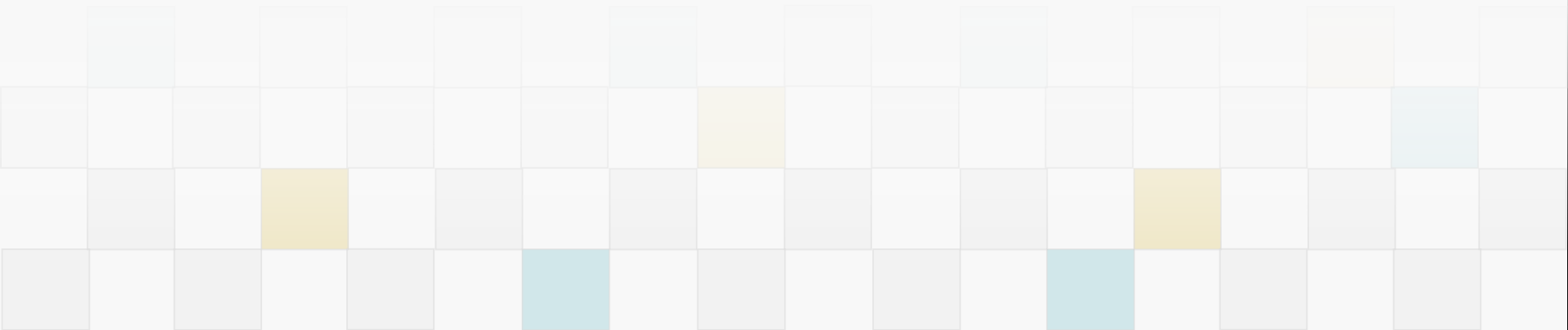
After starting to work in the real world, people realize that the management and business theories and concepts learned at school usually fail to help solve real “human” problems when conflictual ideas and behavioral differences take place in interpersonal communication. Problems arise mostly due to human behaviors and interactions in a workplace. To introduce the students to another new perspective of tackling these thorny “people” problems, this course focuses through literary analysis on characters and situations about their managements, behaviors, conflicts, and relationships. Certainly many other related issues such as handling pressure and communication problems are included under the four (overlapped) themes. How can literature facilitate our managerial ability and problem-solving skills? To be able to analyze and relate literary works allows one to cultivate empathy, creativity, and communication: three crucial elements in any workplace.

As the continuum of the innovative literature-commerce courses previously offered at the SPECS, “The Dialogue between Commerce and Literature” and “Leadership through Fiction and Storytelling,” this course provides another new angle and in-depth analysis to discuss the four crucial issues at the workplace and their correlations to literary works. Short fiction is an excellent genre – almost akin to a real case study in management – to help us connect and associate the stories with various workplace situations. The readings include widely anthologized canonical stories drawn from different sources and from different cultures and countries.

每學年分成三學期

COURSE DESCRIPTION (續)

The course is divided into four thematic categories or lessons: management, behavior, conflict, and relationship. The extended and related subthemes of each category further coalesce their relevance: in management – managing employees, managing oneself, and managing emotions; in behavior – judgement, change, and ethics; in conflict—intercultural difference and interethnic conflict; and in relationship—gender and race.



Lesson One: Management

- “Bartleby, the Scrivener” by Herman Melville
- “Job History” by Annie Proulx
- “Management of Grief” by Bjarati Mukherjee

Lesson Two: Conflict

- “The Rain Child” by Margaret Lawrence
- “The Man Who Was Almost a Man” by Richard Wright
- “Take All of Murphy” by Vincent Lam

Lesson Three: Behavior

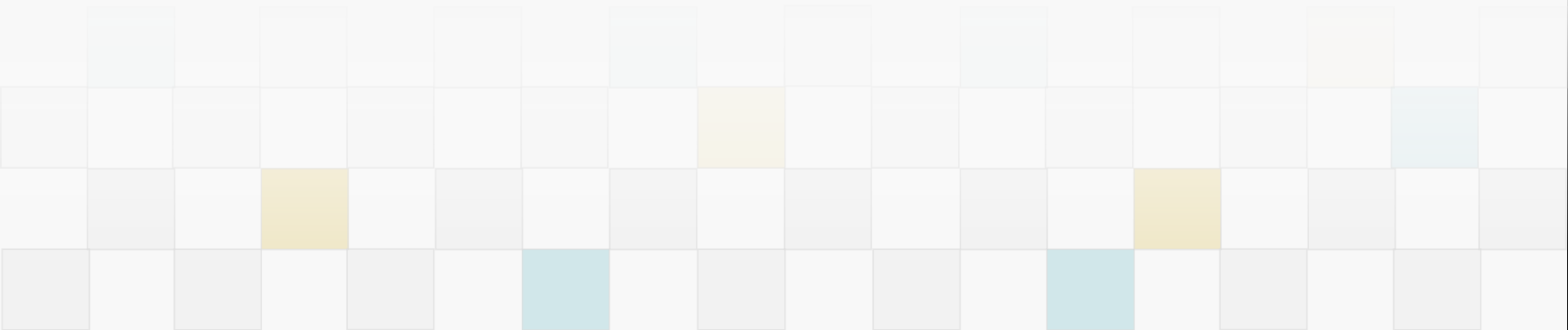
- “A Good Man Is Hard to Find” by Flannery O’Connor
- “The Model Millionaire” by Oscar Wilde
- “The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas” by Ursula K. Le Guin

Lesson Four: Relationship

- “Bluebeard’s Egg” by Margaret Atwood
- “Sweetheart Sorrow” by David Hoon Kim
- “The Lone Night Cantina” by Dong Lee

COURSE DESCRIPTION (續)

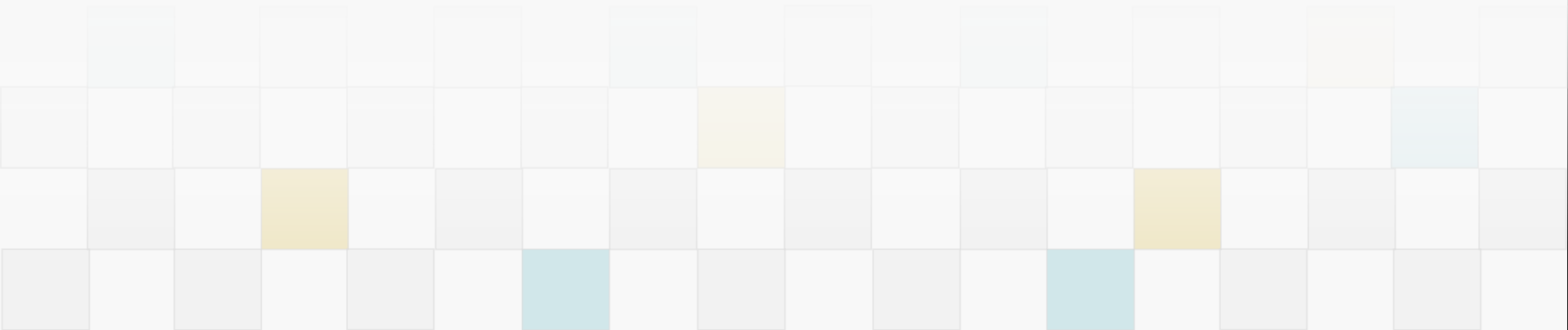
We will situate the reading with working in a transnational, transcultural global setting, attempting to think of problem solving as a form of wisdom, which could be read as a totality of IQ (intelligence quotient), EQ (emotional quotient), AQ (adversity quotient), and MQ (moral quotient). This course aims to gradually lead the student to wisdom and compassion.



Objectives and Requirements

This course aims to help students to acquire a thorough scope of understanding of workplace issues through reading-listening-speaking-writing short stories with relevant themes and developments. This course intends to enhance students' empathy through the perspectives of different characters to help teach ethical business practices, to inspire more creativity through plot movement and varied vocabulary to develop problem solving necessary for business, and to improve communication skills through the analysis of each case and story to elevate managerial concepts.

每學年分成三學期



Responding to the national policy of The Bilingual Nation 2030 and NTU as the designated university by the Ministry of Education for EMI (English as a Medium of Instruction), this course is conducted entirely in English. Participation and presentation are compulsory. The instruction will be conducted in a similar Harvard Business Study Method, in the case study format through a weekly individual or group presentation (depending on the enrollment) and the following Q&A and dialogue. The first hour is for the presentation of each assigned story, the second hour for feedback and further references to the reading, and the third hour for classroom discussion and brainstorming based on real-life situations. Concerning each category, the students will be required to write a short thematically-focused response journal (approximately 700 words) in which a workplace case study will be analyzed from a chosen literary work, with four journals to fulfill the requirement.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1: Introduction and Assignment

Week 2: Introduction to Short Fiction; Overview of the Selected Stories

Week 3: Management: “Bartleby, the Scrivener” by Herman Melville

Week 4: Management: “Job History” by Annie Proulx

Week 5: Management: “Management of Grief” by Bjarati Mukherjee

Week 6: Conflict: “The Rain Child” by Margaret Lawrence; Journal 1 Due

Week 7: Conflict: “Take All of Murphy” by Vincent Lam

Week 8: Conflict: “The Man Who Was Almost a Man” by Richard Wright

Week 9: Behavior: “The Model Millionaire” by Oscar Wilde Journal 2 Due

Week 10: Behavior: “A Good Man Is Hard to Find” by Flannery O’Connor;

Week 11: Behavior: “The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas” by Ursula K. Le Guin

Week 12: Relationship: “Bluebeard’s Egg” by Margaret Atwood; Journal 3 Due

Week 13: Relationship: “Sweetheart Sorrow” by David Hoon Kim

Week 14: Relationship: “The Lone Night Cantina” by Dong Lee

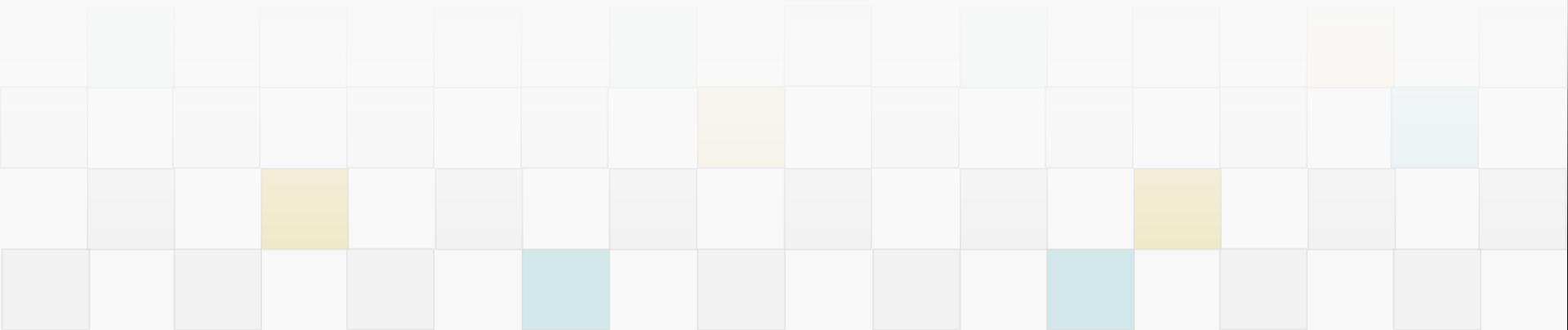
Week 15: Review and Roundtable; Journal 4 Due

本課程旨在藉由閱讀短篇小說，探討相關主題和情境發展，幫助學生一窺常見的職場議題，希望從不同小說人物的視角增強學生的同理心進而實踐商業品德，透過情節和詞彙激發創造力進而培養解決問題能力，從個案分析進而提高溝通技巧以及提升管理理念。為因應2030雙語國家政策及國立臺灣大學雙語化學習計畫，本課程全程以英語授課，以哈佛個案討論模式進行。修課學生需要積極參與課堂討論及報告。報告以每週個別或小組方式報告(看實際註冊人數而定)，時間分配前段以學生報告，中段教師評論補充，後半段分組討論為主。對於每個主題，每位學生需個別寫一小篇單一主題心得報告(約700字英文)，一學期共四篇，書寫主題需從所選的故事作為分析職場案例研究。

四篇兩頁報告 40%

口頭報告、課堂參與、出席率 50%

自我評量 10%



Instructor's Bio

Dr. Bennett Yu-Hsiang Fu is Professor in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures at National Taiwan University. He earned his master's degree in English and American Literature from the University of Rochester (USA) and McGill University, and his doctorate in English from the University of Montreal. Before joining NTU, he had taught English writing and American literature at McGill University, University of Montreal, and Concordia University in Montreal. A trilingual scholar in English, French, and Chinese, he researches on a variety of areas in Asian North American Literature, Contemporary Canadian Anglophone and Francophone Literatures, and 20th-century American Literature. Apart from literary research and teaching, he also has been teaching commerce and literature, English public speaking, proposal writing, leadership through fiction and storytelling in the SPECS of NTU since 2007.

Over the past decade he has presented over 50 academic conference papers and 30 presentations on global higher education strategies and development, and published over 25 essays in such areas as race/ethnicity studies, comparative literature, pedagogical innovation, and postcolonial studies. These critical essays have been published in 10 countries: USA, UK, Canada, Poland, Germany, Portugal, Spain, Netherlands, Korea, and Taiwan. He is the author of the book *Transgressive Transcripts* (New York/Amsterdam: Rodopi Press) published in 2012. He served as Deputy Vice President of International Affairs (2013-18) of NTU, taking charge of NTU's global collaborations, strategic internationalization, and student mobility programs. Dr. Fu is currently the English Editor-in-chief of National Taiwan University Press (NTUP) for the Book Series on East-West Cultural Encounters in Literature & Cultural Studies, jointly published with the University of South Carolina Press (USCP). He sits on the editorial boards of several prestigious international academic journals in literary studies.