



臺灣大學進修推廣學院
NTU SPECS

NTU School of Professional Education and Continuing Studies

十堂文學課的生命實踐：

Ten Lessons of Life Praxis in Literature



傅友祥 教授
臺大外文系暨研究所

授課時間：每週二晚上7:00-9:45，2/26(二)開學

This class invites active students to participate in ongoing debates, reflections, and discussions about 10 most (if not “most” then “quite”) difficult life situations in life. The university long serving as a site of knowledge production tends to forget that the higher learning should nurture, challenge, and empower both the students and teachers to learn how to “live a better life.” A better life has little to do with money, fame or power, but mainly entails the ability from the everyday praxis for an educated mind to reflect on our being and to heal our wounds. This course incorporates 10 crucial difficult words/situations in various literary genres (fiction, poetry, drama, lyrics) to our weekly discussion: trauma, boredom, absurdity, escapism illness, exclusion/isolation, betrayal/forgiving, disillusion/innocence, loss/love, and love/family

COURSE DESCRIPTION(續)

本課程讓學生有機會去思考及面對十個困難的生命情境，進而對其反思和討論。大學長期作為知識生產場所，往往忘了高等教育應該培養、挑戰並賦予學生和教師學習如何「過更好的生活」的能力。更好的生活與金錢、名譽或權力無關，而需透過教育，能夠從日常實踐中時時思考我們的存在價值並不斷自我療癒傷口。本課程在每週的討論中從各類文體（小說、詩歌、戲劇、歌詞）納入了十個至關重要的困難單詞：創傷、乏味、荒謬、老化、疾病、隔離與孤立、背叛與寬恕、幻滅與純真、失落與愛、愛與家庭

Objectives and Requirements

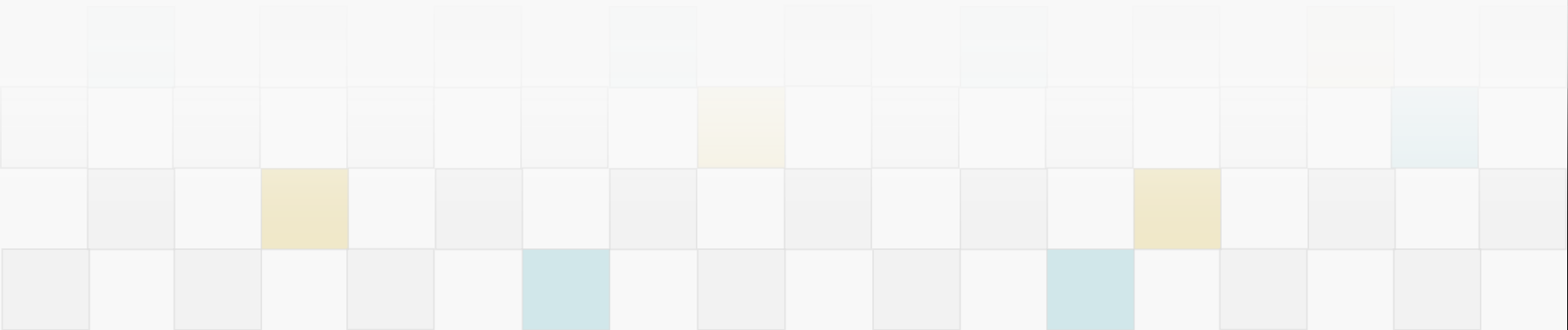
This course aims to help students to acquire a thorough scope of understanding of 10 difficult life lessons issues through reading-listening-speaking-writing selected literary topics with relevant themes and developments. This course intends to enhance students' sensitivity and self-reflection through the perspectives of different texts to help teach everyday life praxis and to improve communication skills through the analysis of each case and story to relate literature to life. 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 text, 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 topic (10 in total), the students will be required to write a short thematically-focused response journal in which the given issue will be analyzed from the weekly work.

Five 3-min audio oral journal on a chosen topic out of 10 topics: 30%

Presentation, participation and attendance: 50%

Self-evaluation: 20%



Weekly Schedule

- Week 1: Introduction and assignment and movie assignment “The Hours”
- Week 2: Discussion of movies and group division
- Week 3: Trauma: “The Royal Beatings” (short story) by Alice Munro
- Week 4: Boredom: “The Stranger” (novella) by Albert Camus
- Week 5: Absurdity: “The Stranger” (novella) by Albert Camus
- Week 6: Escapism: “The The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” (poem) by T.S. Eliot
- Week 7: Illness: “Wit” (play) by Margaret Edson
- Week 8: In-class Activity (TBA); sharing your journal
- Week 9: Exclusion/Isolation: “The Legend of Miss Sasagawara” (short story) by Hisaye Yamamoto
- Week 10: Betrayal/Forgiving: “The Famous Blue Rain Coat”; “Don’t Think Twice, It’s Alright”; “One of Us Must Know (Sooner or Later)” (song lyrics) by Leonard Cohen, Joan Baez, & Bob Dylan
- Week 11: Disillusion/Innocence: *The Little Prince* (novella) by [Antoine de Saint-Exupéry](#)
- Week 12: Loss/Love: *The Little Prince* (novella) by [Antoine de Saint-Exupéry](#)
- Week 13: Love/Family: “Neighbour Rosicky” (short story) by Willa Cather
- Week 14: In-class activity (TBA): sharing your journal
- Week 15: Roundtable and Review

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.