



This is an abridged sample syllabus. Information is subject to change. Full syllabus will be distributed to registered students when term begins.

ASIA_V 363 - Fiction and Film from Modern Taiwan

Jiaqi Yao

This course surveys the literary and cinematic culture of Taiwan from the 20th century to the present. Using “displacement” as our framework, we will explore representations of exile, alienation, and (un)belonging in relation to colonialism, nativism, historical trauma, identity crisis, queer, gender, indigeneity and more. Students will consider: What factors underlie how identities form? What constituted the divergent historical experiences between generations in Taiwan? How did identity formations rearticulate how people recall history and imagine the future? How may attention to literary and filmic revelations, representations and reflections of historical events and individual experiences transform our understanding of Taiwan’s past and present? No background in Taiwan literature or film studies is required. All readings are in English. Students will be guided on how to analyze fiction and film. Students will be graded on input and progress during the term.

Mode of Delivery: In Person

Sample Readings

Joseph R. Allen, 2011 “Naming the island.” in Taipei: City of Displacements. University of Washington Press. 3-16

Film: A City of Sadness (Hou Hsiao-hsien, dir., 1989, 157min)

Chu Tien-hsin, 1998 “In Remembrance of My Buddies from the Military Compound” (Course Reserve)

Assignments

Group Presentation Project|20

Final critical/creative project|30

In-class quizzes|15

Participation|15

Weekly reflective journals|15

Other activities|5