

East Asian Comparative Cultural Studies

Code: 101544
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2500244 East Asian Studies	OT	4	2

Contact

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Use of languages

Principal working language: catalan (cat)
Some groups entirely in English: No
Some groups entirely in Catalan: No
Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

Other comments on languages

The Unit 1 will be taught in English by prof. Artur Lozano.

Teachers

Artur Lozano Mendez

Prerequisites

This subject is one of the subjects available in the 'Specialisation in Culture, Art and Literature of East Asia' and it develops and builds on contents offered in the 'Advanced Issues in East Asian Art and Popular Culture' subject, but you do not need to enrol in both subjects unless your goal is obtaining the Specialisation for the European Diploma Supplement (DS).

Objectives and Contextualisation

East Asian Comparative Cultural Studies is a course focusing on transnational and negotiated dimension of cultural processes and dynamics. It offers an approach based on the University of Birmingham's Centre for Contemporary Cultural Studies' approach, which focuses on the importance of agents involved in cultural practices and on political and fighting dimension of power regarding all the cultural processes' social regulation.

The students will become familiar with cultural studies from different authors from East Asian region and/or who considered cultural phenomena/aspects of the region's social realities. They will also assimilate origins and diversity of approaches and methodologies considered in Cultural Studies as a hybrid discipline.

The following elements are included in specific objectives:

- Acquire theoretical and methodological knowledge appropriate to the analysis of the construction and reproduction of cultural perceptions related to prescriptive social speeches.
- Know the origin of cultural studies basing on literary studies' different schools and the difference between United Kingdom and United States of America's schools. Knowing the field's main current figures and those figures being specialized in cultural contrastive studies from East Asian point of view.

- Integrate interdisciplinary knowledge acquired during the bachelor's degree in order to offer reasoning and studies historically placed and enriched by human multiplicity, and not to limit to a unique approach or an abstract and timeless analysis.
- Improve critical sense and individual analytical ability, as well as debate ability and intercultural and communicative abilities directed to exchange ideas and experiences.

Skills

- Developing critical thinking and reasoning and communicating them effectively both in your own and other languages.
- Developing self-learning strategies.
- Ensuring the quality of one's own work.
- Knowing and comprehending the foundations of the cultural comparative studies.
- Knowing and using the information and communication technology resources (ICT) in order to collect, produce, analyse and present information related to the East Asian Studies.
- Knowing, comprehending, describing and analysing the values, beliefs and ideologies of East Asia.
- Recognising the connotations of the specific cultural references in the field of East Asia and assessing the influence in the interlinguistic and intercultural communication.
- Respecting the diversity and plurality of ideas, people and situations.
- Respecting the gender equality.
- Solving problems of intercultural communication.
- Students must be flexible and capable of adapting to new circumstances.
- Understanding the referential universe of written and verbal texts in the languages of East Asia.
- Working in interdisciplinary and intercultural groups.

Learning outcomes

1. Assessing the obtained results in the information search process in order to update the knowledge about history, literature, linguistics, thought and art.
2. Carrying out the documentary search in the specific languages of East Asia.
3. Developing critical thinking and reasoning and communicating them effectively both in your own and other languages.
4. Developing self-learning strategies.
5. Ensuring the quality of one's own work.
6. Knowing and comprehending the foundations of the cultural comparative studies.
7. Knowing, comprehending, describing and analysing the values, beliefs and ideologies of East Asia.
8. Recognising the connotations of the specific cultural references in the field of East Asia and assessing the influence in the interlinguistic and intercultural communication.
9. Respecting the diversity and plurality of ideas, people and situations.
10. Respecting the gender equality.
11. Solving problems of intercultural communication.
12. Students must be flexible and capable of adapting to new circumstances.
13. Understanding the referential universe of written and verbal texts in the languages of East Asia.
14. Using the specific terminology of history, literature, linguistics, thought and art.
15. Utilising different tools for specific purposes in the fields of history, literature, linguistics, thought and art.
16. Working in interdisciplinary and intercultural groups.

Content

Unit 1.

- Introduction to cultural studies. What is meant by culture. Culture registers. Distinction and consumption. Introduction to the study of culture.
- Basics and origins of Cultural Studies: Birmingham School and Stuart Hall.
- Examples of applied Comparative Cultural Studies

Unit 2.

Contemporary cities present many phenomena related to the great changes that occurred in East Asian societies in the last decades. The urban planning follows decisions imposed by a hegemonic ideology that often neglects the individual. In these sessions we will see how the agents of the cultural production represented these great urban changes and how the individual reacted or adapted to them. We will see how photography and cinema contributed to creating the imagery of the contemporary city, and at the same time questioned the utopian vision of the urban planners.

Methodology

East Asian Comparative Cultural Studies classes will be basically based on a critical reading/analysis of texts chosen by the teachers and commented in class. Texts will be both written and audiovisual and will be shown during class.

Another material will also be shown in order to go deeper in topics discussed by means of the main texts. During debate and idea-sharing sessions, the teachers will guide the conversation and establish debate and analysis elements.

This course requires a high reading commitment in order to acquire relevant theoretical tools and the ability to add them in a productive way to intellectual and dialogical abilities. The type of critique and analysis to be developed by means of these classes is not like the media and informational critique model usually employed-both articles presentation and written work cannot be just argumentative summaries or comments from blogs having been recycled; they have to be supported in academic structure and argumentation.

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Type: Directed			
Analysis in class of texts of consecrated authors, theoretical documents and products / phenomena of culture.	10	0.4	1, 13, 6, 7, 4, 3, 2, 8, 11, 9, 10, 12, 16, 15, 14, 5
Type: Supervised			
Analysis of a product or phenomenon of popular culture based on the guidelines of one of the teachers.	10	0.4	1, 13, 6, 7, 4, 3, 2, 8, 11, 9, 10, 12, 16, 15, 14, 5
Type: Autonomous			
Reading of texts of consecrated authors, theoretical documents and products / phenomena of culture.	30	1.2	1, 13, 6, 7, 4, 3, 2, 8, 11, 9, 10, 12, 16, 15, 14, 5

Evaluation

Assessment tasks:

- Written practice on the history and methodology of cultural studies (Unit 1). (30%)
- Written practice on the contents of the Unit 2. (30%)
- One written essay. Students will have to follow one of the assignments that will be made available at the Campus Virtual (40%)

The information concerning student evaluation, namely the assessed tasks and their relative weighting in the final mark, is a general orientation only. The lecturer teaching this course will provide a detailed description and breakdown at the beginning of the semester.

Revision

Prior to formally entering final marks, the lecturer will publish the date / time for assessment revision and the final mark. The lecturer and student will agree on the day / time to revise any of the assessed course activities.

Recovery

Students have the right to resit or make up evaluated work providing they have submitted a minimum of 66.6% (two thirds), or more, of the formally assessed work which makes up the final grade and who have an average of 3.5 or more according to the evaluation criteria.

The lecturer will inform students of the procedure for resitting or making up evaluated work when they publish the final grade. This will be published before the final mark is entered into the system. The lecturer may require an individual assignment / test to make up for each failed evaluated task, or task not performed, or choose to combine failed assessed tasks for the same purpose. A make-up assignment only grants the option to pass the subject with a final grade of 5 (out of 10).

"No-evaluable" mark

A mark of *no-evaluable* (N/A Not Assessable) will be awarded if a student fails to hand in more than 25% of the assessed work used to calculate the final mark.

Plagiarism, copying, identity theft

In cases of plagiarism, copying, identity theft, etc. in an evaluation activity, a mark of "0" will be given. If such a case is detected over more than one of the evaluable exercises then the student will be given a final mark of "0" for the course.

A student does not have the right to resitting or making up work in cases of plagiarism, copying or identity theft.

Evaluation activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Written essay.	40%	40	1.6	1, 13, 6, 7, 4, 3, 2, 8, 11, 9, 10, 12, 16, 15, 14, 5
Written practice on the contents of the Unit 2.	30%	30	1.2	4, 3, 2, 8, 15, 14, 5
Written practice on the history and methodology of cultural studies (Unit 1).	30%	30	1.2	1, 13, 6, 7, 4, 3, 2, 8, 11, 9, 10, 12, 16, 15, 14, 5

Bibliography

Unit 1

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Unit 2

Abbas, Ackbar M., (1997). *Hong Kong: culture and the politics of disappearance*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

Braester, Yomi (2010). *Painting the city red: Chinese cinema and the urban contract*. Durham: Duke University Press.

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