

Extended Syllabus (Fantasy Literature and Film)

Course No.: AMC3058

Class Time: W/F 13:30~14:45

Instructor: Eui Kang (강의혁)

I. Course Overview

•Description

Fantasy has been one of the key words in cultural studies with the increasing popularity of films and novels with fantasy-based themes over the past decade. While this interest has been spiked by such films as The Lord of the Rings, The Chronicles of Narnia, the Harry Potter series, etc., popularity alone is not an important enough reason to offer this course. Various fantasy novels and films speak to the deep concerns of our contemporary society such as the nature of good and evil, the decisions people make to act with heroism or cowardice, the horrors of war, issues about the environment and the future of our planet, racism, gender, and political possibilities. Through stories set in "other worlds" writers/directors deal with controversial issues in our own world, which we don't usually discuss. This course is designed to help students to become critical reader and thinker. Students will critically engage with diverse communal issues and social settings surrounding Fantasy literature and film.

•Course Format

Lecture	Discussion	Presentations	Other
20%	40%	20%	20%

•Evaluation

Mid-term Exam	Final exam	Final Project Essay	Presentations/Assignments/Quizzes/ Participation/Attendance
20	20%	30%	30%

II. Course Objectives

•Knowledge: By the end of the semester, students should be able to draw a broad map of how fantasy literature and film constitutes our social experience. Based on each student's

mapping, they will be able to critically assess fantasy literature.

III. Course Format (* In detail)

- We will have many discussions, and students should come to class prepared to actively participate in various class activities.

IV. Course Requirements and Grading Criteria

- Students must satisfy all the requirements to pass the course
 - Mid-term exam: (N/A, as mid-term exam will be replaced with daily response paper.) Students will produce 13 short response papers throughout the semester.
 - Final exam (20%)
 - Participation/Presentation/Attendance/Quizzes/Assignments (50%): Students will sign up for presentations in week 2
 - Final Project Essay (30%)

V. Course Policies

- Attendance will be checked and reported from the very first class.
- Open discussion and group work will be a regular part of this class. As students, adults, and writers we are responsible for the environment created in this class. Racism, sexism, homophobia, religious slurs, etc. will not be tolerated. We must strive to keep our mind open and must be allowed to explore many angles and perspectives. This will enable us to refine our critical thinking skills and further our learning process. I don't expect everyone to have the same reaction to the texts or to the films we're going to study. The classroom atmosphere will be much more lively and interesting if there are serious intellectual debates.
- Plagiarism or cheating of any kind will not be tolerated and will result in an F for the course and immediate

VI. Materials and References

- All the reading materials will be posted at our class website at the beginning of the semester. (There will be some theoretical/introductory reading materials aside from the literary texts.)
- Students will watch films individually before coming to class.

VII. Special Accommodations

- Please let me know if you have any issues related to disabilities.

VIII. Course Schedule

Week 1	Day 1	Topic	Introduction: Introduce class objectives, structure, assignments, materials
		Assignments	N/A
		Material	Course Syllabus
		Class Work	Lecture on Response Writing, Q&A
	Day 2	Topic	The beginning of Modern Fantasy
		Assignments	Response paper
		Material	Edgar Allen Poe "The Black Cat"
		Class Work	Lecture on Modern Fantasy, Group Discussion
Week 2	Day 3	Topic	Classic Fantasy
		Assignments	Response paper
		Material	Grim Brothers "Hansel and Gretel"
		Class Work	Lecture on Modern/classic Fantasy, Group Discussion, Student Presentation
	Day 4	Topic	The Politics of Rewriting 1
		Assignments	Response paper
		Material	Neil Gaiman "The Price"/ Youtube Video: "The Price" animation
		Class Work	Lecture on "Rewriting" and the history of Fantasy Literature, Group Discussion, Student Presentation
Week 3	Day 5	Topic	Literary Fantasy (as opposed to Visual/cinematic Fantasy) 1
		Assignments	Response paper
		Material	Lewis Carroll "The Garden of Live Flowers"
		Class Work	Lecture on Fantasy Literature (history), Group Discussion, Student Presentation
	Day 6	Topic	Epic Fantasy 1
		Assignments	Response paper
		Material	The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King (film)
		Class Work	Lecture on Epic Fantasy, Student Presentation, Group Discussion on Cinematography and Visual Fantasy
Week 4	Day 7	Topic	Expressionism and Fantasy (Modern Fantasy) 1
		Assignments	Response paper
		Material	Franz Kafka "Metamorphosis"
		Class Work	Lecture on Psychological Fantasy and Expressionism, Student Presentation, Group Discussion
	Day	Topic	Expressionism and Fantasy (Modern Fantasy) 2

	8	Assignments	Response paper
		Material	Franz Kafka "Hunger Artist"
		Class Work	Group Discussion, Student Presentation
Week 5	Day 9	Topic	No Class (Easter)
		Assignments	N/A
		Material	N/A
		Class Work	N/A
	Day 10	Topic	The Politics of Rewriting 2
		Assignments	Response paper on Rewriting
		Material	Bruno Shultz "Cockroaches"
		Class Work	Discussion on Rewriting: Why do writers rewrite? Student presentation, Class Discussion
Week 6	Day 11	Topic	Literary Fantasy (as opposed to Visual/cinematic Fantasy) 2
		Assignments	Response paper
		Material	Jorge Luis Borges "Pierre Menard, Author of Quixote"
		Class Work	Lecture on Magical Realism, Student Presentation, Group Discussion
	Day 12	Topic	Epic Fantasy 2
		Assignments	Response paper
		Material	Harry Potter and the Half-blood Prince (film)
		Class Work	Class Discussion: the characteristics of Epic Fantasy, Group Discussion, Class Discussion
Week 7	Day 13	Topic	Critiquing Classic Fantasy (gender)
		Assignments	Response paper
		Material	Grim Brothers "The Sleeping Beauty" & "Little Red Cap"
		Class Work	Group Discussion, Student Presentation, Class Discussion
	Day 14	Topic	The Art of Comics 1
		Assignments	Response paper
		Material	Allen Moore & David Lloyd "V for Vendetta" 1 (Comic Book)
		Class Work	Lecture: Comic book as a contemporary art form, In-class writing on "artistic element" of "V for Vendetta", Group Discussion, Student Presentation
Week 8	Day 15	Topic	The Art of Comics 2
		Assignments	Response paper
		Material	Allen Moore & David Lloyd "V for Vendetta" 2 (Comic Book)
		Class Work	Class Discussion on the characteristics of graphic "fantasy" novel,

			comparison of Comic book, novel, and cinema forms, Student presentation, group discussion
	Day 16	Topic	Individual Conference
		Assignments	Sign up for individual conference
		Material	N/A
		Class Work	One-on-one meeting with the instructor (discussion mainly on writing)
Week 9	Day 17	Topic	Mid-term Exam Week
		Assignments	N/A
		Material	N/A
		Class Work	N/A
	Day 18	Topic	Author Series 1: Margaret Atwood (1)
		Assignments	Response paper
		Material	Margaret Atwood "Lusus Naturae"
		Class Work	Exploring an Author and her literary style, Lecture on "literary style" and author's area of interest, group discussion
Week 10	Day 19	Topic	Author Series 1: Margaret Atwood (2)
		Assignments	Response paper
		Material	Margaret Atwood "Stone Mattress"
		Class Work	Exploring an Author and her literary style, Group Discussion, Student presentation
	Day 20	Topic	Author Series 1: Margaret Atwood (3)
		Assignments	Response paper
		Material	Margaret Atwood "Torching the Dusties"
		Class Work	Group Discussion: "What is Atwood style?" and "what are her concerns/topics?", Student Presentation, Group and Class Discussions
Week 11	Day 21	Topic	Human Psychology, Fantasy, and everyday life
		Assignments	Response paper
		Material	Zigmund Freud "Uncanny"
		Class Work	Q&A about the text, Student Presentation, Class Discussion on "I have an experience", Lecture on Zigmund Freud and psycho-analysis
	Day 22	Topic	Science Fantasy
		Assignments	Response paper
		Material	District 9 (film)

		Class Work	Lecture on Science Fantasy, Class discussion: What makes this movie special? (different from many popular movies with similar themes), Student Presentation, Group Discussion
Week 12	Day 23	Topic	Author Series 1: Christopher Nolan (1)
		Assignments	Response paper
		Material	Batman: Dark Knight (film)
		Class Work	Lecture: Who is Christopher Nolan?, Class Discussion on Power, Sovereignty, Hero, Law, etc. Group Discussion, Student Presentation
	Day 24	Topic	Author Series 1: Christopher Nolan (2)
		Assignments	Response paper
		Material	Inception 1 (film)
		Class Work	Student Presentation, Discussion on the border b/w reality and fantasy, guilty consciousness, time travel,
Week 13	Day 25	Topic	Author Series 1: Christopher Nolan (3)
		Assignments	Response paper
		Material	Inception 2 (film)
		Class Work	Student Presentation, Discussion on the peculiarities of this movie
	Day 26	Topic	Author Series 1: Christopher Nolan (4)
		Assignments	Response paper
		Material	Interstellar (film)
		Class Work	Student Presentation, Discussion on What is Nolan's style?
Week 14	Day 27	Topic	Student Presentations 1
		Assignments	Students will present their essay topics.
		Material	N/A
		Class Work	Presentations and comments
	Day 28	Topic	No Class (Memorial Day)
		Assignments	N/A
		Material	N/A
		Class Work	N/A
Week 15	Day 29	Topic	Student Presentations 2
		Assignments	Students will present their essay topics
		Material	N/A
		Class Work	Presentations and comments
	Day	Topic	No Class (National Election day)

	30	Assignments	N/A
		Material	N/A
		Class Work	N/A
Week 16		Final Exam	Final Exam