_The Hebrew University of Jerusalem_

_Syllabus_

# GHOSTWRITING: THE GHOST IN AND AS LITERATURE - 19512

Last update 10-10-2020

<u>HU Credits:</u>  2

<u>Degree/Cycle:</u> 1st degree (Bachelor)

<u>Responsible Department:</u> General & Compar. Literature

<u>Academic year:</u> 0

<u>Semester:</u> 1st Semester

<u>Teaching Languages:</u> Hebrew

<u>Campus:</u> Mt. Scopus

<u>Course/Module Coordinator:</u> Dr. Carola Hilfrich

<u>Coordinator Email:</u> [carola.hilfrich@mail.huji.ac.il](mailto:carola.hilfrich@mail.huji.ac.il)

<u>Coordinator Office Hours:</u> Wednesday 10-11 and on prior appointment

<u>*Teaching Staff:*</u>
  *Dr. Carola Hilfrich*


<u>*Course/Module description:*</u>
  *We explore ghostly appearances in modern and contemporary literatures, as well as the possibility to think of literature itself as a ghost who comes "to test us, remind us of our responsibility, demand justice" (D. Attridge). In view of the "spectral turn" in various fields in the humanities and social sciences (political theory, sociology, history, postcolonial studies, studies of gender, visual culture, and new media), we discuss the contribution of literary expression to this "science of ghosts." In a comparative perspective, we engage with theoretical, visual, and literary expressions of spectrality, with modern figurations of haunted subjectivities, with spectral housing and the ghosts of the global and local contemporary, as well as with new media spectrality. Furthermore, we ask how this engagement may help us to understand the contemporary "spectral turn" of our academic and everyday lives.*
*In an individual or group project, you develop an independent approach to the topic.*


<u>*Course/Module aims:*</u>
  *To enable students to use critical and theoretical thought in the analysis of works of modern fiction*


<u>*Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:*</u>
  *• Examine specific works of ghost fiction*
*• Analyze central elements of ghostwriting with regard to specific historical and social contexts*
*• Discuss different theoretical approaches to ghostwriting*


<u>*Attendance requirements(%):*</u>
  *100*


*Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: The seminar will be online. We'll combine synchronous meetings with asynchronous teaching and learning and guided individual and group meetings. Among the teaching and learning methods - synchronous and recorded lectures, peer learning and social learning (group presentations, social annotation, forums), and flipped classrooms for discussion. The*

moodle site for the course serves as platform to the course materials, further readings and useful links, assignments, recorded materials, and zoom meetings.


Course/Module Content:
  1: Introduction
2: The spectral turn: visual arts and the "science of ghosts"
3. Workshop "To Scan a Ghost:" the ontology of mediated vision (visual media, literature, digital culture)
4. Comparative case study: American ghostwriting
5. Spectral housing: Mumbai / Tel Aviv
6. Workshop "Zionist Phantom" (online architectural-photographic project, 2020)

for details on texts see Hebrew version


Required Reading:
 see Hebrew version course content


 Additional Reading Material:
  Abraham, Nicolas, "Notes on the Phantom: A Complement to Freud's Metapsychology," (1975) in: Nicolas Abraham and Maria Torok, The Shell and the Kernel. Renewals of Psychoanalysis Volume 1, ed. by Nicholas T. Rand, Chicago: The University of Chicago Press 1994: 170-177
Bennett, Gillian, Alas, Poor Ghost! Traditions of Belief in Story and Discourse. Logan: Utah State University Press 1999
Brogan, Kathleen, Cultural Haunting: Ghosts and Ethnicity in Recent American Literature. Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia 1998
Buse, Peter and Scott, Andrew (eds), Ghosts. Deconstruction, Psychoanalysis, History. London: Macmillan and New York: St. Martin's 1999
Calvino, Italo, "Cybernetics and Ghosts," in: The Uses of Literature. San Diego, New York, London. Harcourt Brace & Company 1986: 3-27 [http://interactive.usc.edu/members/akratky/W8_Cybernetics_and_Ghosts.pdf]
Castricano, Jodey, "Cryptomimesis. The Gothic and Jacques Derrida's Ghost Writing," Gothic Studies 2, 1 (2000): 8-22
Cheah, Pheng, Spectral Nationality: Passages of Freedom from Kant to Postcolonial Literatures of Liberation, New York: Columbia University Press 2003
Cixous, Hélène, "Fictions and Its Phantoms: A Reading of Freud's "Das Unheimliche" ("The Uncanny"), New Literary History 7: 3 (Spring 1976): 525-548
Cox, Michael and Gilbert, R.A. (eds.), The Oxford Book of Twentieth Century Ghost Stories. Oxford: Oxford University Press 1996
Davis, Kimberly Chabot, "Generational Hauntings. The Family Romance in Contemporary Fictions of Raced History," Modern Fiction Studies 48, 3 (Fall 2002): 727-36.
Davis, Colin, Haunted Subjects: Deconstruction, Psychoanalysis, and the Return of

the Dead. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan 2007

Derrida, Jacques, Specters of Marx: The State of the Debt, the Work of Mourning, & the New International (1993), transl. by Peggy Kamuf. New York & London: Routledge 1994

Finucane, R.C., Appearances of the Dead: A Cultural History of Ghosts. London: Junction Books 1982

Ghosh, Bishnupriya, "On Grafting the Vernacular: The Consequences of Postcolonial Spectrology," boundary 31, 2 (2004):197-218

Goodall, Jane, "Haunted Places," in: McAuley, Gay (ed) Unstable Ground: Performance and the Politics of Place. Brussels: Peter Lang; 2008: 111-123

Hall, Melissa Mia, "Ghosts," in: Icons of Horror and the Supernatural: An Encyclopedia of Our Worst Nightmares. Ed by S.T. Joshi. Westport: Greenwood 2007: 215-242

Hilfrich, Carola, "The Self is a People: Autoethnographic Poetics in Hélene Cixous's Fictions," New Literary History 37, 1 (Winter 2006): 217-235

Holmgren, Maria and Wennö, Elisabeth (eds), Space, Haunting, Discourse. Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars; 2008

Lane, Christopher, "The Testament of the Other: Abraham and Torok's Failed Expiation of Ghosts," Diacritics: A Review of Contemporary Criticism, 27, 4 (Winter 1997): 3-29

Monleón, José B., A Specter is Haunting Europe. A Sociohistorical Approach to the Fantastic, Princeton: Princeton University Press 1990

Price, Leah, "From Ghostwriter to Typewriter: Delegating Authority at Fin de Siècle," in: The Faces of Anonymity: Anonymous and Pseudonymous Publications from the Sixteenth to the Twentieth Century. Ed. by Robert Griffin New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan 2003: 211-231

Ronell, Avital, Dictations. On Haunted Writing. Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press (1986) 2006

Spivak, Gayatri Chakravorty, "Ghostwriting," Diacritics 25, 2 (Summer 1995): 65-84

Stallybrass, Peter, "Hauntings. The Materiality of Memory on the Renaissance Stage," in: Finucci, Valeria (ed. and introd.); Brownlee, Kevin (ed.) Generation and Degeneration: Tropes of Reproduction in Literature and History from Antiquity through Early Modern Europe. Durham: Duke University Press 2001: 287-316

Sword, Helen, Ghostwriting Modernism. Ithaca: Cornell University Press 2002

Wolfreys, Julian, Victorian Hauntings: Spectrality, Gothic, the Uncanny and Literature Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan 2002

 Course/Module evaluation:
 End of year written/oral examination 50 %
 Presentation 25 %
 Participation in Tutorials 0 %
 Project work 0 %
 Assignments 25 %
 Reports 0 %

*Research project 0 %*
*Quizzes 0 %*
*Other 0 %*

*Additional information:*
  *none*