

Professor Neil H. Donahue

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HUHC 014, H7: M 9:05-10:00 Monroe 142 (lect.); WF 9:05-10:00 Davison 018 (section)

Office hours: M-F 9-5 by appointment. Honors College, 037 Axinn Library. Tel. x5442

Cross-Dressings: Constructing Eastern and Western Identities

This semester's Culture and Expression looks at the everyday matter of getting dressed (dressing up, down and across) as a metaphor for practices of establishing, maintaining and representing (or defying and subverting) cultural norms and practices in a given society, --especially in relation to gender. Clothing informs and shapes our understanding of gender roles while simultaneously underscoring the very fluidity of those roles, which may change as easily as the clothes on our backs. But the theme of cross-dressing in an expanded sense allows us to examine further this fluidity at the heart of identity formation, not only with respect to gender but also other factors of social and cultural identity: from discoveries in natural sciences to matters of nation, religion, class, race, and ethnicity in particular. To cross-dress, in this expansive sense of the term, means to transgress the customary boundaries and markers of (self-) identity that shape our daily existence, and to inhabit the space of an Other by simply changing the form of dress or outward appearance. From a variety of cultural perspectives and subject positions, and texts, we will explore the broad concept and practice of cross-dressing, or cross-cultural signification, or cultural drag! We will pay particular attention to the ways in which cross-dressing impacts the construction of Eastern and Western identities from the 16th through the 21st century. Historically, the terms East and West have come to represent and define, for many, radically disparate forms of social and cultural identity. However, when we turn to narratives of cross-dressing that negotiate that divide, we find a sense of continuity that reveals the ways in which Eastern and Western cultures shape one another throughout the modern period, often in interesting and surprising ways. This semester's Culture & Expression will explore both sides of this divide, paying attention to how the differences between East and West are represented and understood but also broken down and reconfigured by the practice of cross-dressing.

Texts: The textbooks are available at the University Bookstore (see the general syllabus on the HUHC website for the list). The remaining works can be found on in Blackboard or on e-reserve.

General Requirements:

Attendance will be taken at Lecture and in Section: more than 4 absences can cost a letter grade. *Make sure I see you at lecture and in class -Give a wave!*

Attendance without the text (book or printout) will count as ½ absence.

Completion of reading assignments: bring book to class!

Participation in section discussion (includes first 1-page writing assignment)

Two (2) short writing assignments (3-5 pages); one longer (5-7)

Individual meeting (after paper #2): bring papers.

Midterm and final exams (short answer and essay)

Grading Policy:

Writing assignment +/- counts toward participation

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|-----------------------|-----|---|
| Paper #1 | 10% | |
| Paper #2 | 15% | |
| Paper #3 | 20% | |
| Midterm / Final exams | 20% | |
| Participation | 15% | Includes individual meeting on your writing to date |

The first writing assignment (as opposed to Paper #1) will be a one-page exercise that will count toward participation and help toward the completion of the subsequent three papers. Please bring corrected papers to required individual meeting with instructor.

Attendance without the text will count as only partial 1/2 attendance. We will consult the book frequently and closely. Please remember that midterm and final exams will be based on the readings, section discussion and the lectures: you are responsible for terms, dates, characters, etc. that appear in discussion and lecture or in the readings.

Policy Notes:

Academic Dishonesty - Please be aware that you are responsible for knowing and understanding what constitutes plagiarism (or cheating of any kind). Any work submitted in this class is understood to be your own work only. In case of any uncertainty, discuss the matter with the professor. You are not allowed to use anyone else's ideas and wording without proper acknowledgment and citation. Of course this includes anything taken from books, articles, lectures and from electronic / Internet sources. Any instances will get reported, following University policy, to the Provost's Office. Plagiarism is a serious offense and, upon second incident, can cause expulsion from the university. All students are expected to abide by the University's Policy on Academic Honesty as stated in the Hofstra University Bulletin. Procedures for Handling Violations of Academic Honesty by Students at Hofstra University are detailed in Faculty Policy Series #11 (rev. 2004.) for undergraduates.

Students with Disabilities: If you have any documented disability-related concerns that may have an impact upon your performance in this course, please meet with me within the first two weeks of the current semester, so that we can work out the appropriate accommodations on an individualized, as-needed basis after the needs, circumstances and documentation have been evaluated by Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). SSD is located in 212 Memorial Hall and can be reached at 516-463-7075 or ssd@hofstra.edu.

Schedule of General Lectures and Section Meetings

| | HUHC 14 | HUHC 012 |
|-----------------|---|--|
| Week 1 | 9:05 | 10:10 |
| W Jan. 28 | Section discussion Syllabus – Change of A Dress | Lecture: Prof. Daniels Hoon. <i>Chinese Identity in Indonesia</i> |
| F Jan. 30 | Section discussion Syllabus – Identity, or Change of A Dress. | Section discussion |
| FEBRUARY | | |
| Week 2 | | |
| M 2/02 | Lecture: Prof. Sills Shakespeare <i>Twelfth Night</i> | Section discussion |
| W 2/04 | Section discussion Shakespeare <i>Twelfth Night</i> | Lecture: Prof. Slitt Marco Polo <i>The Travels</i> |
| F 2/06 | Section discussion Shakespeare <i>Twelfth Night</i> | Section discussion |
| Week 3 | | |
| M 2/09 | Lecture: Prof. Donahue Shakespeare <i>Twelfth Night</i> | Section discussion |
| W 2/11 | Section discussion Shakespeare <i>Twelfth Night</i> | Lecture: Prof. Frisina Neo-Confucianism |
| F 2/13 | Section discussion Shakespeare <i>Twelfth Night</i> | Section discussion |
| Week 4 | | |
| M 2/16 | President's Day – no classes | |
| W 2/18 | Conversion Day – Monday Schedule | |
| | Lecture: Prof. Caliendo R.Williams <i>Culture & Society</i> | Section discussion |
| F 2/20 | Section discussion R.Williams <i>Culture & Society</i> | Section discussion |
| Week 5 | | |
| M 2/23 | Lecture: Prof. Baehr Astell <i>A Serious Proposal to the Ladies</i> | Section discussion |
| W 2/25 | Section discussion Montagu <i>Turkish Embassy Letters</i> | Lecture: Prof. Sills Montagu <i>Turkish Embassy Letters</i> |
| F 2/27 | Section discussion Montagu <i>Turkish Embassy Letters</i> | Section discussion |
| MARCH | | |
| Week 6 | | |
| M 3/02 | Lecture: Prof. Donahue Voltaire <i>Candide</i> | Section discussion |
| W 3/04 | Section discussion Voltaire <i>Candide</i> | Lecture: Prof. Slitt Voltaire <i>Philosophical Letters</i> (selection) |
| F 3/06 | Section discussion Voltaire <i>Candide</i> | Section discussion |

Week 7

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| M 3/09 | Lecture: Prof. Carter Mozart (opera) <i>The Marriage of Figaro</i> | Section discussion |
| W 3/11 | Section discussion <i>The Marriage of Figaro</i> | Lecture: Prof. Carter Mozart <i>The Marriage of Figaro</i> |
| F 3/13 | Midterm Exam | Midterm Exam |
| MARCH 12-14 | <i>Darwin's Reach: A Celebration of Darwin's Legacy</i> <i>Across Academic Disciplines</i> (see your professor for extra credit possibilities) | |

Week 8

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| M 3/16 | Lecture: Prof. Baehr Burke <i>Reflections on French Revolution</i> | Section discussion |
| W 3/18 | Section discussion <i>Reflections on French Revolution</i> | Lecture: Prof. Kanatsu Maruyama "Nationalism in Japan" |
| F 3/20 | Section discussion <i>Reflections on French Revolution</i> | Section discussion |

Week 9

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| M 3/23 | Lecture: Prof. Krapp Wordsworth <i>Preface</i> and Poems | Section discussion |
| W 3/25 | Section discussion Wordsworth <i>Preface</i> and Poems | Lecture: Prof. Slitt Marx/Engels <i>Communist Manifesto</i> |
| F 3/27 | Section discussion Wordsworth <i>Preface</i> and Poems | Section discussion |

Week 10

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| M 3/30 | Lecture: Prof. Teehan "Darwin gets under your skin" (read Dawkins) | Section discussion |
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APRIL

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| W 4/01 | Section discussion Higuchi "Child's Play" (short story) | Lecture: Prof. Welch Higuchi "Child's Play" (short story) |
| F 4/03 | Section discussion Higuchi "Child's Play" (short story) | Section discussion |

Week 11

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| M 4/06 | Spring Recess | no classes |
| W 4/08 | Spring Recess | no classes |
| F 4/10 | Spring Recess | no classes |

Week 12

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| M 4/13 | Lecture: Prof. Krapp Nietzsche <i>Anti-Christ</i> | Section discussion |
| W 4/15 | Section discussion Nietzsche <i>Anti-Christ</i> | Lecture: Prof. Kanatsu Techno-Nationalism |
| F 4/17 | Section discussion Nietzsche <i>Anti-Christ</i> | Section discussion |

Week 13

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| M 4/20 | Lecture: Prof. Welch Tanizaki <i>Some Prefer Nettles</i> | Section discussion |
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| W 4/22 | Section discussion Tanizaki <i>Some Prefer Nettles</i> | Lecture: Prof. Caliendo Said <i>Orientalism</i> |
| F 4/24 | Section discussion Tanizaki <i>Some Prefer Nettles</i> | Section discussion |
| Week 14 | | |
| M 4/27 | Lecture: Prof. Daniels Bowen. <i>Headscarves in France</i> | Section discussion |
| W 4/29 | Section discussion Satrapi <i>Persepolis</i> | Lecture: Prof. Sills Satrapi <i>Persepolis</i> |
| MAY | | |
| F 5/01 | Section discussion Satrapi <i>Persepolis</i> | Section discussion |
| Week 15 | | |
| M 5/04 | Lecture: Prof. Teehan Amartya Sen <i>Identity and Violence</i> | Section discussion |
| W 5/06 | Section discussion | Lecture: Open Discussion All faculty on stage |
| R-F 5/7-8 | Reading Days | |

May 12-17 Final Exams

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|----------|----------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| W May 13 | HUHC 012 | C & E Social Science | Final exam 8:00-10:00 am |
| F May 15 | HUHC 014 | C & E Humanities | Final exam 8:00-10:00 am |

HCLAS General Education Learning Goals and Objectives
(for Liberal Arts Distribution credit)
Applicable to HUHC Culture & Expression

Goal 1. Students will demonstrate the ability to think critically and creatively.

Learning Objectives:

- 1.a Clearly and accurately summarize and evaluate the facts, presumptions, viewpoints, values, and arguments presented in a text or creative work.
- 1.b Gather and assess relevant information, and apply appropriate cognitive methods in solving problems or answering questions raised in a text or creative work.
- 1.c Construct well-reasoned solutions or conclusions; test and defend conclusions against relevant criteria and standards.
- 1.d Critically analyze one's own thinking by identifying one's presumptions, values, and viewpoints as well as problems, inconsistencies, and unanswered questions.
- 1.e Conceive and defend alternative hypotheses and viewpoints; offer and explain reasons for provisionally rejecting or accepting them.

Goal 2. Students will apply analytical reasoning across academic disciplines.

Learning Objectives:

- 2a. Read with comprehension, and critically interpret written work in discipline-specific contexts.
- 2b. Critically interpret and analyze aesthetic qualities of works in literature and the fine or performing arts.
- 2c. Apply quantitative, inductive, and deductive reasoning.
- 2d. Apply abstract thinking and conceptual modeling.
- 2e. Apply the methods of social science to ethically investigate and analyze human social behavior.
- 2f. Describe, comprehend, and analyze the role of philosophical ideas, historical movements, or ethical debates in the development of civilizations.

Goal 3. Students will demonstrate proficiency in written communication.

Learning Objectives:

- 3a. Compose grammatical sentences.
- 3b. Use various sentence forms to effectively modulate style and tone.
- 3c. Compose a sequence of paragraphs that develop a point.
- 3d. Summarize, quote, and respond to reliable texts to support and develop claims; apply relevant standards for citation.
- 3e. Write an effective argumentative essay.
- 3f. Respond to writing assignments using appropriate style, structure, and voice.
- 3g. Apply editing, proofreading, and revising strategies.

Goal 4. Students will demonstrate proficiency in oral communication.

Learning Objectives:

- 4a. Demonstrate skill in oral communication for purposes such as informing, persuading, and/or defending.

- 4b. Compose and deliver effective, audience-appropriate oral presentations that develop and support a point; or participate in formal debates; or lead or participate in collaborative discussion of a question or a text.
- 4c. When appropriate, use visual, auditory, and/or technological aids.

Goal 5. Students will develop an awareness of and sensitivity to global issues.

Learning Objectives:

- 5a. Provide and understand information on simple concrete subjects in a language other than English in both oral and written form.
- 5b. Demonstrate knowledge of the intellectual, social, political, economic, or cultural practices of at least one of the peoples in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America, or of the indigenous peoples of the Americas and Australia.

Goal 6. Students will demonstrate information literacy.

Learning Objectives:

- 6a. Conduct research using the variety of information sources available to them.
- 6b. Demonstrate the ability to evaluate the relevance and utility of different sources.
- 6c. Integrate sources effectively and ethically through proper citation.

Goal 7. Students will demonstrate technological competency.

Learning Objective:

- 7a. Demonstrate the ability to use general or discipline-specific technologies to identify, retrieve, analyze, and communicate ideas and information.