HL1005
INTRODUCTION TO
SINGAPORE LITERATURE

Week 1 Introduction

Week 2 Language and Voice: Poetry

Weeks 3-4 Writing History: Isa Kamari, 1819 (2013)*

Week 5 Transitions: Kuo Pao Kun, “Mama looking for her cat”

Week 6 Nostalgia: Poetry

Week 7 Nostalgia II: Mohamed Latiff Mohamed’s “Lost” and “Vanished”

Week 8 Writing from the Margins I: Alfian Sa’at, Corridor (1999)*

Weeks 9-10 Writing from the Margins II: Balli Kaur Jaswal, Inheritance (2013)*

Week 11 Migrant Communities: Yeo Siew Hua, A Land Imagined (2018)

Week 12 Horror Kelvin Tong, The Maid (2005) (Not examinable)

Week 13 Conclusion

*Please purchase these texts. Films are available in limited numbers in the library. All other texts will be made available on NTULearn.

**Schedule subject to change. Confirmed schedule will be released in Week 1.
This course introduces you to a diverse variety of Singapore literature from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, including poetry, prose, drama, and film. We will study these texts in relation to their socio-historical contexts, as well as autonomous works of art.

Recurring themes include the formation of Singapore as a nation state, the development of a national identity, tensions in the usage of “standard” and colloquial English, multiculturalism, and the negotiation of social constraints within different communities.

HL1005 is an online course. Please see NTULearn for more information.

Assessment
20% - Participation
30% - Coursework Essay (1200 words)
50% - Final Exam