COURSE NUMBER: VR291	**COURSE TITLE: The Otherworlds of Fantasy** 奇幻文学的另类世界想象
CREDIT: 3	**PREREQUISITES:** Vy100/Vy200
TEXTBOOKS/REQUIRED MATERIAL: Tolkien, J.R.R., *"On Fairy-Stories"* Clute, John. *The Encyclopedia of Fantasy* **(selections)** Kang, Minsoo, **"Hwansang of Munmyeong"** Chu, John, **"An Analysis of the Barricade"** Gaiman, Neil, **"The Truth is a Cave in the Mountains"** Liu, Ken, **"Snow Train"** Anders, Charlie Jane, **"As Good as New"** Le Guin, Ursula K., *A Wizard of Earthsea* **Other Reading Excerpts as prepared by Instructor**	**PREPARED BY: Andrew Yang** **DATE OF PREPARATION: December 7, 2018** **DATE OF UC APPROVAL:** May 2019
INSTRUCTOR(S): Andrew Yang	**SCIENCE/DESIGN:**

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

This course explores the use of the fantastic in literature to create an otherworld, a world that operates upon laws markedly different from the laws that operate in our own world. Under these laws, characters behave in unique ways that also provide commentary and speculation on human behavior in our own world. This course focuses on 20th and 21st century fantasy novels and short stories, published within the United States. It begins by describing the structural characteristics of the otherworld, and how the otherworld intertwines with other generic conventions, such as the hero, the villain, magic, and the monstrous. It then follows up by examining ways in which these generic conventions allow readers to explore other areas, such as immigration (Liu), psychology (Le Guin), local mythology (Lee, Gaiman), intertextuality (Kang), or metatextuality (Anders). By applying a rigid structuralist theory to a set of texts, students will be able to articulate how a story employs generic conventions to encourage readers to think about the world and themselves in new ways.

COURSE TOPICS:

- Character
- Motive
- Obstacle
- Hero
- Villain
- Otherworld
- Magic
- Monstrosity

COURSE STRUCTURE/SCHEDULE: Lecture - two 90 minute periods

COURSE OBJECTIVES **[Course Outcomes in brackets]**	1. To introduce students to theories of genre in writing [1,2,3] 2. To expose students to elements of storytelling and narrative [1,2,3,5,6] 3. To encourage students to explore laws within an imaginary world [1,2,3,4,5,6] 4. To introduce students to components of character in narrative [1,2,3,5,6] 5. To demonstrate to students the complexity and diverseness of narrative [1,2,3,4,5,6] 6. To train students to perform close readings of texts [3,4,5,6,8,9] 7. To practice and improve communication skills through critical discussion [3,4,5,6,8,9] 8. To develop argumentative skills through researched, focused, and organized writing [3,4,5,6,7,8]
COURSE OUTCOMES **[ABET Student Outcomes in brackets]**	Students will be able to: 1. understand theories on literature and language and their importance [3,7] 2. apply theory to an understanding of literature and film [3,7] 3. deconstruct a text using principles from drama and theatre [3,7] 4. explore the natural laws of a world, including their function and purpose [3,7] 5. closely read descriptions, actions, symbols, and connotations in literature [3,7] 6. closely read actions and representation in film [3,7] 7. research major topics on literary works and film [3,7] 8. construct careful arguments based on evidence from primary and secondary sources [3,7] 9. host and maintain discussion in a carefully prepared seminar [3,7]
ASSESSMENT TOOLS **[Course Outcomes in brackets]**	Bibliography (2) [1,2,4,5,6,7] Essays (2) [1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8] Small Group Seminars [1,2,3,4,5,6,8,9] Participation: Tutorials [1,2,3,4,5,6,8]