

Course TITLE: Asian Soap Operas

Instructor: Liliék Soelistyo

Title/Position : Lecturer

Institution : Petra Christian University



Course Overview:

The television landscape has changed drastically in the past few years. Soap operas, especially Asian soap operas have overwhelmed the contents of television. It is no surprise that the study of soap opera has been particularly important in the discussion of television genre as a whole.

The fact that soap operas have been studied and defined has influenced the development of television studies and the way we look at certain kinds of issues. Besides, with the premise that the story is ongoing, with no planned ending; and its cultural positioning in the daytime television timeslot, it provides the basis of cross-cultural understanding of considerable richness.

This course introduces students to the history of these soap operas and their audiences by focusing on the production, consumption, and media texts of soaps. This course also explores the different kinds of Asian soap operas with their own characteristics as well as comparisons between them. The topics will cover the forms of the soap operas, the history of the genre, the plot and the storylines, story and episode structures, the audience, including the online audience. Therefore, it is expected that the course promotes awareness, appreciation, and mutual understanding of each culture through the elements of Asian soap operas.

Course Outcome:

Students will be able to:

1. Understand the basic forms and elements of the study of soap operas.
2. Understand the different characteristics of Asian soap operas.
3. Examine the plots, storylines, and episode structures.
4. Understand the audience.
5. Understand the different cultures that shape these Asian soap operas.

Grading:

1. Attendance: 10%
2. Discussion and participation: 20%
3. Presentations: 40%
4. Test: Short Essay/Paper : 30%