



אוניברסיטת בן-גוריון בנגב
הפקולטה למדעי הרוח והחברה

המחלקה לספרויות זרות ובלשנות, תש"פ 20-2019

Name of the course: Detective Fiction (ספרות בלשית)

Lecturer name: Dr. Hana Saliba-Salman

Course number:

Office hours: Tuesdays: 11:00-12:00

Short course description

This course discusses three major detective formulas; classical, hard-boiled and anti-detective, to emerge over the history of the detective genre since its invention by Edgar Allan Poe in 1841 until the present. The course will also discuss two subgenres in detective cinema that emerge since the late 1920s until the present: the *film noir* and *neo-film noir*. The characteristics of the detective figure and his/her detective method are significant factors for distinguishing the detective sub-genres. Another significant factor is whether the conundrum is finally resolved or not, which determines the overall orientation of the detective plot.

Key words: detective fiction, classical, hard-boiled, anti-detective, detective figure, *film noir*, *neo-film noir*

תקציר

הקורס עוסק בהתפתחות הז'אנר הבלשי מאז המצאתו על ידי הסופר האמריקאי אדגר אלן פו במאה ה-19 עד להווה. קיימים בעיקר שלושה תת-סוגים בספרות הבלשית: קלאסי, ריאליסטי קשוח, ואנטי-בלשי. במקביל, הקורס ידון בהתפתחות הקולנוע הבלשי אשר הופיע לראשונה בתחילת המאה העשרים בצורה "הסרט השחור" והתפתח לסוג אחר שנחשב ל"סרט השחור החדש". שני מאפיינים חשובים להשוואה בין תת הסוגים של הז'אנר הבלשי הם: דמות הבלש ושיטת החקירה. מעבר לכך, הסיום של העלילה אם זה סוף שמח או פתוח הינו המרכיב הכי מכריע בקביעת סוג הטקסט הבלשי. מלות מפתח: ספרות בלשית, קלאסית, ריאליסטית-קשוחה, אנטי-בלשי, סרט שחור, סרט שחור חדש.

Course requirements:

Attendance required yes

1. A Paper 55 %
2. Two quizzes---40 %
3. Participation in class discussions 5 %

דרישות הקורס:

נוכחות חובה: כן

1. עבודת סיום 55%
2. שני בחנים 40%
3. השתתפות פעילה בקורס 5%

Course Plan:

| Lesson | Subject of the Lesson | Assigned Reading |
|--------|---|---|
| 1-2 | -Introducing the standards of the classical detective story. -Introducing Edgar Allan Poe's first English Language detective story | |
| 2-3 | Poe's "The Purloined Letter" | A short story: "The Purloined Letter" |
| 3-4 | Arthur Conan Doyle's "The Adventure of Silver Blaze." | A filmic adaptation to "Silver Blaze" |
| 5 | An Introduction to Hard-boiled detection and <i>Film noir</i> | Selected scenes from the <i>film noir: The Maltese Falcon</i> |
| 6 | Quiz # 1 (45 minutes) <i>The Maltese Falcon</i> continued | Selected scenes from the <i>film noir: The Maltese Falcon</i> |
| 7-9 | Hard-boiled fiction and the Afro-American detective | A novel: <i>Black Betty</i> |
| 10 | Anti-detective fiction & <i>Neo-noir film</i> | Selected scenes from the film <i>Chinatown</i> |
| 11 | Quiz #2 (45 minutes) <i>Neo-noir film & Chinatown</i> continued | <i>Chinatown</i> continued |
| 12 | The metafictional detective genre | "The Locked Room" from The New York Trilogy: |
| 13 | The metafictional detective genre | "The Locked Room" |

**Bibliography
Required**

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