Comparative Literature (CLT)

Major and Minor in Comparative Literature

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Minors of particular interest to students majoring in Comparative Literature: Africana Studies (AFS), Art History (ARH), Cinema and Cultural Studies (CCS), Classics (CLS), English (EGL), French (FRN), German (GER), History (HIS), Italian (ITL), Interdisciplinary Arts (LIA), Japanese Studies (JNH), Judaic Studies (JDS), Korean Studies (KOR), Music (MUS), Spanish (SPN), Theatre Arts (THR), Women's Studies (WST)

Department Information - Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies

The Department of Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies integrates the efforts of a number of humanities programs centering on comparative literature, language, and culture. In addition to the major in Comparative Literature, described below, the Department offers major programs in Cinema and Cultural Studies as well as Humanities. Requirements for these programs appear under each program title elsewhere in the alphabetical listings of Approved Majors, Minors, and Programs. Further information is available in the Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies Office.

The Major in Comparative Literature

The Comparative Literature major brings the historical and intercultural resources of the Department together in a broadly based program for the student interested in comparative and general literature. It stresses the comparative study of world literatures from all historical periods, including the ability to read at least one literature in a language other than English, and emphasizes the relationship between literature and other disciplines. Individual programs can be adjusted to the special interests of the student through consultation with the director of undergraduate studies.

Requirements for the Major in Comparative Literature

The interdisciplinary major in Comparative Literature leads to the Bachelor of Arts degree. All courses offered for the major must be taken for a letter grade. All upper-division courses offered for the major must be passed with a grade of C or higher.

Completion of the major requires 36 credits.

A. Introduction
Two courses that survey a literary theme historically and cross-culturally, selected from the following:
HUM 109 Philosophy and Literature in Social Context
HUM 121 Death and Afterlife in Literature
HUM 122 Images of Women in Literature
HUM 123 Sin and Sexuality in Literature

B. Background
Three courses beyond the introductory level, chosen from the following:
CLL 215, CLT 211, CLT 212, CLT 220, CLT 266
-or one course per designator from the following: EGL 200-level, FRN 395, FRN 396, ITL 395, ITL 396, GER 344, HUR 341, JDH 261
-or one of the following classical language courses: LAT 112 or SKT 112

C. Literature in the Original Language
At least one course in literature in its original language (other than English)

D. Theory
CLT 301 Theory of Literature
or CCS 301 Theorizing Cinema and Culture

E. Advanced Study
Four upper-division courses, at least one from each of groups 1 and 2:

Group 1:
CLL 315 Gender and Sexuality in Ancient Greek Literature
CLT 330 Literary Genres
CLT 334 Other Literary Genres
CLT 391 African Comparative Literature
CLT 392 Multicultural Comparative Literature
CLT 393 European Comparative Literature
CLT 394 Asian Comparative Literature
Group 2:
CLT 335 Interdisciplinary Study of Films
CLT 361 Literature and Society
CLT 362 Literature and Ideas
CLT 363 Literature and the Arts
CCS 311 Gender and Genre in Film
CCS 312 Cinema and the Ancient World
CCS 313 Television Studies
CCS 390 Latin American Cinema
CCS 391 Contemporary African Cinema and Cultural Studies
CCS 392 American Cinema and Cultural Studies
CCS 393 European Cinema and Cultural Studies
CCS 394 Asian Cinema and Cultural Studies
CCS 395 Digital Cultural Studies

F. Senior Project
A directed study project (CLT 487 or for students in the honors program, CLT 495) for graduating majors, to be arranged with the major advisor and an instructor of the student's choice no later than the end of the first semester of senior standing.

G. Upper-Division Writing Requirement
For all majors, the term paper for required course CLT 301 or CCS 301 is evaluated by the instructor for its quality of writing. Students whose writing is satisfactory fulfill this requirement with that paper. Students who do not fulfill the requirement in CLT 301 must submit to the major advisor a portfolio of papers written for subsequent upper-division courses taken for the major, no later than the first semester of senior standing, and must achieve an evaluation of S (Satisfactory) on the portfolio. For further details consult the director of undergraduate studies or the major advisor.

Honors Program
Students who have maintained a grade point average of 3.50 in the major and 3.00 overall may attempt the degree in Comparative Literature with honors. The honors program requires one of the following options in addition to the requirements of the major:

A. A second course in literature in the original language used for Requirement C.
B. Study of a language other than that used for Requirement C through the intermediate level.
C. Fulfillment of the requirements for the minor in a cognate discipline (to be approved by the major advisor; minors in language or literature recommended).

In addition, students seeking the honors major must use CLT 495 to fulfill major Requirement F.

Requirements for the Minor

The minor in Comparative Literature is designed especially to interest students majoring in a foreign language, English, and other humanities fields. It provides a broad overview of the theory and techniques of comparative study, and an opportunity for the student to bring comparative breadth to his or her major field of study.

Completion of the minor requires 21 credits.

A. Introduction
One course that surveys a literary theme historically and cross-culturally, selected from the following:
HUM 109 Philosophy and Literature in Social Context
HUM 121 Death and Afterlife in Literature
HUM 122 Images of Women in Literature
HUM 123 Sin and Sexuality in Literature

B. Background
Two courses beyond the introductory level, chosen from the following:
CLL 215, CLT 211, CLT 212, CLT 220, CLT 266
or one course per designator from the following: EGL 200-level, FRN 395, FRN 396, ITL 395, ITL 396, GER 344, HUR 341, JDH 261
or one of the following classical language courses: LAT 112 or SKT 112

C. Literature in the Original Language
At least one course in literature in its original language (other than English)

D. Theory
CLT 301 Theory of Literature
or CCS 301 Theorizing Cinema and Culture

E. Advanced Study
Two upper-division courses, one from group 1, and one from group 2:

Group 1:
## Sample Course Sequence for the Major in Comparative Literature

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<th>Freshman Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
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<td>D.E.C. A</td>
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<td>One course from among: HUM 100-level, RLS 101 or RLS 102</td>
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<td>Group 1 or Group 2 course</td>
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**CLL**

**Classics of Literature**

**CLL 215 - I: Classical Mythology**
An introduction to ancient Greek religion, literature, and art. Special emphasis will be given to the presentation of myth in Classical Greek literature as well as to the influence of classical mythology on later literature, art, and philosophy. Not for credit in addition to CLL 215.

*Advisory Prerequisite: One course in literature*

**3 credits**

**CLL 315 - I: Gender and Sexuality in Ancient Greek Literature**
This course offers a comparative overview of the ways in which the roles of men and women were depicted in the literature and thought of ancient Greece. Major issues will include: the shift from matriarchal to patriarchal pantheons, sanctioned and unsanctioned homoeroticism, the sorceress and the hysteric as dominant tropes in the mythology of the period, and the role of women in the polis, among others. This course is offered as both CLL 315 and WST 315.

*Prerequisite: Completion of DEC G*

**3 credits**

**CLT**

**Comparative Literature**

**CLT 220 - J: Literature Beyond European Traditions**
A survey of the major themes and forms of non-Western literature, such as Asian, Indian, and African. May be repeated as topic changes.

*Advisory Prerequisite: Completion of D.E.C. category A*

**3 credits**

**CLT 235 - K: American Pluralism in Film and Literature**
A thorough examination of issues central to American history for nearly two centuries. How "others"—the Irish, Italians, African Americans, Latinos, and people from cultures outside Western Europe—have been portrayed in American literature and film. Readings include slave narratives from the 17th and 18th centuries and literary texts from the 19th and 20th centuries; films from the last 100 years are included. Particular emphasis on the historical period from the Civil War to the present.

*Advisory Prerequisites: Completion of D.E.C. categories I and J*

**3 credits**

**CLT 266 - G: The 20th-Century Novel**
Major works and developments in the modern and contemporary novel. This course is offered as both CLL 266 and EGL 266.

**3 credits**

**CLT 301 - G: Theory of Literature**
An introduction to the different modes of analyzing literature by periods, ideas, traditions, genres, and aesthetic theories.

**3 credits**

**CLT 330 - G: Literary Genres**
Historical, cultural, and analytical study of an important literary genre such as poetry, drama, epic, prose fiction, and autobiography. May be repeated as topic changes.

*Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing*

*Advisory Prerequisites: Two courses in comparative literature*

**3 credits**

**CLT 334 - G: Other Literary Genres**
A historical survey of the major themes and forms of non-Western literature, such as Asian, Indian, and African. May be repeated as topic changes.

*Advisory Prerequisite: Two courses in comparative literature*

**3 credits**

**CLT 335 - G: Interdisciplinary Study of Film**
An inquiry into the aesthetics, history, and theory of film as it relates principally to literature but also to disciplines such as art, music, psychology, and cultural history. May be repeated as the topic changes.

*Prerequisite: Completion of D.E.C. category B and one course from the following: CCS 101, CCS 201, CCS 204, CLL 215, CLT 235, HUF 211, HUG 221, HUI 231, HUM 201, HUM 202, HUR 241, THR 117*

**3 credits**

**CLT 361 - G: Literature and Society**
An inquiry, interdisciplinary in nature, into the relationship between the events and materials of political and social history and their effect on the form and content of the literature of a period. Also subsumed under the rubric of comparative literature but also to disciplines such as art, music, psychology, and cultural history. May be repeated as the topic changes.

*Prerequisite: Completion of D.E.C. category B and one course from the following: CCS 101, CCS 201, CCS 204, CLL 215, CLT 235, HUF 211, HUG 221, HUI 231, HUM 201, HUM 202, HUR 241, THR 117*

**3 credits**

**CLT 362 - G: Literature and Ideas**
An inquiry into the primary writings and significant documents in the history of ideas and their effect on the form and content of the
literature of a period. May be repeated as the topic changes.

**Prerequisite:** U3 or U4 standing

**Advisory Prerequisites:** Two courses in literature

3 credits

**CLT 363 - G: Literature and the Arts**

An inquiry into the aesthetic milieu (including the plastic arts, theatre, and music) and its relationship to the form and content of the literature of a period. Semester Supplements to this Bulletin contain description when course is offered. May be repeated as the topic changes.

**Prerequisite:** U3 or U4 standing

**Advisory Prerequisites:** Two courses in literature

3 credits

**CLT 371 - G: Literature and Justice (III)**

This course focuses on the theme of justice in literature and investigates the relation of literature to the law and to philosophical accounts of justice. Readings include literary texts centered on questions of justice, fairness, and moral agency, as well as theoretical works that analyze the role of literature in legal education and judicial decision-making. This course is offered as both CLT 371 and PHI 371.

**Prerequisite:** Completion of DEC B; U3 or U4 status

3 credits

**CLT 391 - J: African Comparative Literature**

Intensive study of multiple African traditions through their history, culture, and literature. The course will insist particularly on novels that address the shifting boundaries of the African continent, both in terms of ideology and of geo-political reality. As such, Ancient Egyptian texts will be confronted with literary productions from Classical Romance culture, and with slave narratives, to address the way through which literature is influenced by the general politics of mobility.

**Prerequisite:** Completion of D.E.C. B and one lower-division course from one of the following subject designators: CLT, CCS, EGL, or HUM

3 credits

**CLT 392 - K: Multicultural Comparative Literature**

This course will examine the various strategies deployed by U.S. writers to incorporate languages and dialects other than English and non-W.A.S.P. cultural experience into their literary work. In their different ways, these authors celebrate the intellectual diversity of the U.S. and resist the temptations of monolingual culture.

**Prerequisite:** Completion of D.E.C. B and one lower-division course from one of the following subject designators: CLT, CCS, EGL, or HUM

3 credits

**CLT 393 - I: European Comparative Literature**

European literature developed through constant interaction across frontiers rather than through discrete national histories. Poetry, fiction, and drama in every nation were heavily influenced by those of other nations, which they helped shape in their turn. The course examines this reciprocal impact on different genres in different countries across the centuries.

**Prerequisite:** Completion of D.E.C. B and one lower-division course from one of the following subject designators: CLT, CCS, EGL, or HUM

3 credits

**CLT 394 - J: Asian Comparative Literature**

This course is an overview of the development of Asian literature and thoughts, spanning across the early 20th century to the present. By covering short stories, novels, and poems from Asian traditions, such as China, Taiwan, Japan, and Korea, the course will examine how modernity, coloniality, and war contribute to the shaping of national, and cultural identities. A comparative study of narratives from the various traditions will be engaged to explore the influence and implications of social categories such as gender, class, race, and ethnicity.

**Prerequisite:** Completion of D.E.C. B and one lower-division course from one of the following subject designators: CLT, CCS, EGL, or HUM

3 credits

**CLT 475: Undergraduate Teaching Practicum I**

Work with a faculty member as an assistant in one of the faculty member’s regularly scheduled classes. Students assume greater responsibility in such areas as leading discussions and analyzing results of tests that have already been graded. Students may not serve as teaching assistants in the same course twice.

**Prerequisites:** CLT 475; permission of instructor and chairperson

3 credits, S/U grading

**CLT 476: Undergraduate Teaching Practicum II**

Work with a faculty member as an assistant in one of the faculty member's regularly scheduled classes. Students assume greater responsibility in such areas as leading discussions and analyzing results of tests that have already been graded. Students may not serve as teaching assistants in the same course twice.

**Prerequisites:** CLT 475; permission of instructor and chairperson

3 credits, S/U grading

**CLT 487: Independent Reading and Research**

Intensive reading and research on a special topic undertaken with close faculty supervision. May be repeated.

**Prerequisites:** Permission of instructor and department

0-6 credits, S/U grading

**CLT 495: Comparative Literature Honors Project**

A one-semester project for comparative literature majors who are candidates for the degree with departmental honors. The project involves independent study under close supervision of an appropriate faculty member, and the written and oral presentation to the department faculty colloquium of an honors thesis.

**Prerequisites:** Permission of instructor and department

3 credits