Comparative Literature

The Comparative Literature major and minor allow students to study literature across national, linguistic, and disciplinary boundaries, focusing on the global movement of people, ideas and cultures and stressing the ability to read literature in a language other than English. Students have the opportunity to examine literature’s relation to more recent forms of communication, such as cinema, digital media, and new media, and to cultural and intellectual phenomena including colonialism, postcolonialism, diaspora, migration, urbanization, feminism, and queer studies. The goal of this interdisciplinary and comparative approach is to equip students with cultural literacy so that they may exercise global citizenship within a broad historical perspective. The program of study is organized around core courses in Comparative Literature, which students supplement with courses relevant to their interests in the Department of Cultural Analysis and Theory’s majors in Cinema and Cultural Studies and Women’s and Gender Studies, as well as in relevant outside programs and departments. This major is ideal for students seeking a flexible, yet focused program of study that will allow them to explore literature’s relation to pressing social, cultural, and historical issues.

Transferable Skills

- Thinking critically and analytically
- Rhetorical skills
- Extensive technical and creative writing experience
- Didactic skills
- Understanding of different cultures/worldliness
- Public speaking and presenting
- Technical writing and communication
- Ability to make detailed observations

Career Communities to Consider

- Education & Helping Profession
- Arts & Communication
- Public Service
- Business