The Department of Cultural Studies & Comparative Literature

Comparative Literature (CLT)

Fall 2017
NB: Some courses offered in Africana Studies (AFS), Art Studio (ARS), Art History & Criticism (ARH), Comparative Literature (CLT), Consortium for Digital Arts Culture and Technology (cDAC T), English (EGL), Technology & Society (EST), Music (MUS), Philosophy (PHI), Hispanic Languages and Literature (SPN), Theatre Arts (THR) and Women’s, Gender, & Sexuality Studies (WST) may also be used to fulfill the Cinema & Cultural Studies (CCS) major or minor requirements. Students are urged to consult with Dr. Andrea Fedi, Undergraduate Program Director, at andrea.fedi@stonybrook.edu.

CORE COURSES

CLT 101: INTRODUCTION TO WORLD LITERATURES
This course is a survey of world and global literatures from various cultural traditions, spanning Africa, Americas, Asia, and Europe. By focusing on modern and contemporary times, this course examines how modernity, colonialism, war, and migration contribute to the shaping of national, cultural, and global identities. A comparative study of narratives from various literary traditions will be engaged to explore the influence and implications of social categories such as gender, class, race, and ethnicity on literary and cultural productions. Together, we will embark on literary journeys to explore how individuals, communities, and nations experience the world.

DEC: B SBC: GLO, HUM
3 credits
LEC-01 TUTH 10:00 - 11:20 AM
Melville Lib. W 4550 EK Tan

CLT 121: DEATH AND AFTERLIFE IN LITERATURE
Through discussion of representative contemporary and classical texts, this course addresses the topic of how human beings have chosen to live with the one certainty of their existence, its eventual conclusion in death, and how various images of afterlife or denial of its possibility have shaped those choices.

DEC: B SBC: CER, HUM
3 credits
LEC-01 TUTH 4:00 - 5:20 PM
Javits Lecture 101 Timothy Westphalen

THEORY COURSE: UPPER-DIVISION WRITING REQUIREMENT

CLT 301-G THEORY OF LITERATURE
An introduction to the different modes of analyzing literature by periods, ideas, traditions, genres, and aesthetic theories. Stress is placed on classical theory and on developments in the 20th century.

Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing. Advisory Prerequisites: Two courses in Comparative Literature

DEC: B SBC: HFA+; SPK;
WRTD
3 credits
LEC-01 MW 2:30 - 3:50 PM
SBS S218 Sophia Basaldua

AREA ELECTIVES

CLL 215: CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY
This course investigates the theme of determination and free will through the intimate relationship between ancient Greek mythology and classical Greek tragedy in a selection of works by three of classical Greece’s most celebrated tragedians: Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides. While we will concern ourselves to some extent with the historical context of these tragedies, our primary concern will be to find ways to relate these texts to our own experience, to hear what they have to teach us about important issues of today. To this end, we will compare the classical tragedies we read with contemporary films that treat the thematic concerns of the course. Films include Clint Eastwood’s Unforgiven, Steven Spielberg’s
This course will run as a discussion-based online seminar. As such, you are required to engage in focused discussion of the texts at hand each week. The purpose of the seminar format is to broaden your understanding of the primary texts through exposure to the ideas of your classmates as you sharpen your critical analysis and presentation skills by sharing your own ideas in writing. My role as instructor is to help you to develop your analytical abilities so that you may produce well-founded, compelling interpretations of the classical Greek tragedies we will read and to facilitate the meaningful and, above all, considerate exchange of ideas.

Not for credit in addition to CLS 215.

Advisory Prerequisite: One course in literature

COMPARATIVE ELECTIVES:

Literature

CLT 334: OTHER LITERARY GENRES: CLASSIC FAIRY TALES: THEN AND NOW

This lecture course is designed to put the familiar genre, fairy tales, into cultural, historical, and geographical perspective. Individual fairy tales, originally designed to appeal to urban workers in Renaissance Venice, were transformed as they passed through the hands of authors in Baroque Naples and Enlightenment Paris before spreading into Europe as a whole. Fairy tale plots and characters have inspired numerous contemporary authors of works for adults and children alike, which will be integrated alongside the original texts translated from Italian, French, and German.

Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing

Advisory Prerequisites: Two courses in literature

CLT/EGL 266: THE 20TH CENTURY NOVEL

Writers of the twentieth-century novel often use the genre to explore coming of age. Such narratives follow a young protagonist as he or she matures and achieves self-awareness; at the same time, coming of age novels often assess the state of the protagonist’s culture and country and draw attention to changing social and economic conditions. The course will cover modern and postmodern fiction, including work by James Joyce, Virginia Woolf, James Baldwin, Jeanette Winterson, Jamaica Kincaid, and others. This course is offered as both CLT266 and EGL 266.

CLT 361: LITERATURE AND SOCIETY: TEXTS FROM THE 7 BANNED COUNTRIES

This course examines literary texts from the seven Muslim majority countries whose citizens were banned from entering the American soil by President Trump’s original executive order. It analyzes questions related to identity in exile, language, religious beliefs, women and gender issues, trauma and war, along with other thorny topics. It invites the reader to question the current political environment and to assess the value of human rights in the twenty-first century.
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 Literature and Society is the topic Literature and Psychology. May be repeated as the topic changes.

Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing
Advisory Prerequisites: Two courses in literature

DEC: G  SBC: HFA+
3 credits
LEC-01  TUTH 11:30 AM - 12:50 PM
Melville Lib. W4530  Mireille Rebeiz

CLT 362: LITERATURE AND IDEAS: GENDER STUDIES WITH MOLIÈRE

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to 17th-century France’s theatre genius, Molière, through the analysis of six of his comic plays focusing primarily on gender representations and issues: The Affected Young Women, The School for Husbands, The School for Wives, Dom Juan, The Misanthrope, and The Learned Ladies. These primary sources will be supplemented with contemporaneous theoretical writings feeding that historical debate around women and gender.

Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing
Advisory Prerequisites: Two courses in literature

DEC: G  SBC: HFA+
3 credits
LEC.01  W 2:30 - 5:20 PM
Harriman Hall 218  Mary Rawlinson

CLT 371: LITERATURE AND JUSTICE (III)

This course investigates the theme of justice in literature and the relation of literature to the law and to philosophical accounts of ethics, agency and responsibility. Questions for research include: What are the conditions of moral agency? What shapes agency -- education, family, culture, talent, luck? When can someone be held responsible? What kinds of obligations are owed to parents, children, friends, neighbors, or strangers? What
counts as justice in these relationships? How do race and gender shape agency? Is life, as Raymond Chandler argues, fundamentally unjust?

The only assignment outside of class is to read the texts. The course provides an opportunity for students to learn to read with discernment and pleasure and to develop long-term thinking skills and analytical capacities. Other assignments will be required in class as specified in the syllabus.

This course is offered as both CLT 371 and PHI 371.

Prerequisite: one D.E.C. B or HUM course; U3 or U4 status

DEC: G  SBC: HFA+
3 credits
LEC.01  TUTH 2:30 - 3:50 PM
LGT ENGR LAB 152  Timothy Westphalen

OTHER FORMS OF CULTURAL PRODUCTION

CCS 301: CINEMA AND MEDIA THEORY

Recent trends in critical theory applied to the study of film, television, literature, popular music, and other types of “cultural production.” In-depth
analyses of specific literary, visual, and musical texts are situated within structures of power among communities, nations, and individuals. Exploration of how identities of locality, gender, ethnicity, race, and class are negotiated through cultural forms.

**Prerequisite:** CCS 101 or CCS 201

**DEC:** G  
**SBC:** CER, HFA+  
**3 credits**

**LEC-01**  
MW 11:00 - 11:53 AM

Melville Lib. W4530  
Patrice Nganang

**LAB-01**  
M 7:00 - 9:00 PM

Physics P112  
Patrice Nganang

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**CCS 311: GENDER AND GENRE IN FILM**

Associated primarily with the period directly before the Second World War through the late 1950s, film noir is frequently characterized as a style that refigures the masculine anxieties of the age. This course will examine masculinity and femininity in the context of the film noir as a modernist art form. Issues of race and sexuality will predominate, as intertwined with gender roles. May be repeated as the topic changes.

**Prerequisite:** One DEC B or HUM course and one course from the following: CCS 101, CCS 201, CLL 215, CLT 235, HUF 211, HUG 221, HUI 231, HUR 241, THR 117

**DEC:** G  
**SBC:** HFA+  
**3 credits**

**LEC-01**  
MW 12:00 - 12:53 PM

**SBS N436**  
TBA

**LAB-L01**  
W 7:00 - 9:00 PM

**Chemistry 128**  
TBA

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**CCS 392: TOPICS IN AMERICAN CINEMA AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

The history of cinema as art has been directly linked to the evolution and increment of multicultural societies. This course studies the ways in which film has either included or excluded representations of multiculturalism in the United States, and how films have discussed and participated in the different debates about cultural, ethnic, racial, sexual, gender and class difference within the United States. The course studies theoretical concepts such as difference, ethnicity, migration, incorporation and cultural contact zones. Repeatable as the topic changes, for a maximum of 6 credits.

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

**DEC:** K  
**SBC:** ESI, HFA+  
**3 credits**

**LEC.01**  
MW 12:00 - 12:53 PM

**LGT ENGR 152**  
Mark Pingree

**LAB.01**  
M 7:00 - 9:00 PM

**Chemistry 128**  
Mark Pingree

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**CLT 444: EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING**

This course is designed for students who engage in a substantial, structured experiential learning activity in conjunction with another class. Experiential learning occurs when knowledge acquired through formal learning and past experience are applied to a “real-world” setting or problem to create new knowledge through a process of reflection, critical analysis, feedback and synthesis. Beyond-the-classroom experiences that support experiential learning may include: service learning, mentored research, field work, or an internship.

**Prerequisite:** WRT 102 or equivalent; permission of the Instructor and approval of the EXP+ contract

**SBC:** EXP+  
1 credit, S/U grading

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**CLT 458: SPEAK EFFECTIVELY BEFORE AN AUDIENCE**

A zero credit course that may be taken in conjunction with any CLT course that provides opportunity to achieve the learning outcomes of the Stony Brook Curriculum’s SPK learning objective.

Pre-or corequisite: WRT 102 or equivalent; permission of the instructor
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CLT 459</td>
<td>WRITE EFFECTIVELY IN COMPARATIVE LITERATURE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLT 475</td>
<td>UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING PRACTICUM I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLT 476</td>
<td>UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING PRACTICUM II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLT 487</td>
<td>INDEPENDENT READING AND RESEARCH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLT 495</td>
<td>COMPARATIVE LITERATURE HONORS PROJECT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CLT 459: WRITE EFFECTIVELY IN COMPARATIVE LITERATURE**

A zero credit course that may be taken in conjunction with any 300- or 400-level CLT course, with permission of the instructor. The course provides opportunity to practice the skills and techniques of effective academic writing and satisfies the learning outcomes of the Stony Brook Curriculum's WRTD learning objective.

**Prerequisites:** CLT 102; permission of the instructor

**SBC: EXP+** 3 credits, S/U grading

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**CLT 475: UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING PRACTICUM I**

Work with a faculty member as an assistant in one of the faculty member's regularly scheduled classes. The student is required to attend all the classes, do all the regularly assigned work, and meet with the faculty member at regularly scheduled times to discuss the intellectual and pedagogical matters relating to the course.

**Prerequisites:** U4 standing; permission of instructor and Chairperson

**SBC: EXP+** 3 credits, S/U grading

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**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

**SBC: EXP+** 3 credits, S/U grading

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**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

**SBC: CER; ESI** 0-6 credits

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**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

**SBC: ESI** 3 credits