Comparative Literature (CLT)

Major and Minor in Comparative Literature

Department of Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies, College of Arts and Sciences

CHAIRPERSON: Robert Harvey  DIRECTOR OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES: Jacqueline Reich  ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Mary Moran-Luba

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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)

Faculty

Ruth S. Bottigheimer, Adjunct Professor, D.A., Stony Brook University: German literature; fairy tales.

Robert Chi, Assistant professor, Ph.D., Harvard University: Modern Chinese literature, cinema, and culture; history and memory.

Román de la Campa, Professor, Ph.D., University of Minnesota: Theory; Latin American literature.

Kim Gabbard, Professor, Ph.D., Indiana University: The arts and their interrelations; film; jazz.

Robert Harvey, Professor, Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley: Contemporary French and Francophone literatures; theory; relation between philosophy, literature, and film.

E. Ann Kaplan, Professor, Ph.D., Rutgers University: Theory; psychoanalysis; gender and cultural studies.

Izabela Kalinowska-Blackwood, Associate Professor, Ph.D., Yale University: Polish and Russian 19th-century literatures; East-Central European cinemas.

Ira Livingstone, Associate Professor, Ph.D., Stanford University: Poetics; cultural theory; science study; romanticism.

Sandy Petrey, Professor, Ph.D., Yale University: 19th-century French literature.

Ilona Rashkow, Associate Professor, Ph.D., University of Maryland at College Park: Literature and politics; Hebrew Bible and literary theory.

Affiliated Faculty

Lou Charnon Deutsch, Hispanic Languages and Literature

William Chittick, Religious Studies

Sachiko Murata, Asian and Asian American Studies

Mary C. Rawlinson, Philosophy, Women’s Studies

Jacqueline Reich, European Languages, Literatures, and Cultures

Nicholas Rzhevsky, European Languages, Literatures and Cultures

Hugh J. Silverman, Philosophy

Adjunct Faculty

Estimated number: 6

Teaching Assistants

Estimated number: 16

The Department of Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies integrates the efforts of a number of humanities programs centered 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 (CLT)

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

Courses in Comparative Literature

See the Course Descriptions listing in this Bulletin for complete information.

CLT 211-I Literary Survey: Medieval through Late Renaissance

CLT 212-I Literary Survey: Enlightenment through Modern

CLT 220-J Non-Western Literature

CLT 233-K American Pluralism in Film and Literature

CLT 301-G Theory of Literature

CLT 331-G Literary Genres: Poetry

CLT 332-G Literary Genres: Drama

CLT 333-G Literary Genres: Novel

CLT 334-G Other Literary Genres

CLT 335-G Interdisciplinary Study of Film

CLT 361-G Literature and Society

CLT 362-G Literature and Ideas

CLT 363-G Literature and the Arts

CLT 475, 476 Undergraduate Teaching Practica I, II

CLT 487 Independent Reading and Research

CLT 495 Comparative Literature Honors Project

http://www.sunysb.edu/complit
B. Background

Three courses beyond the introductory level, chosen from the following:

CLS 215, CLT 211, 212, 220, 266

or one course per designator from the following: EGL 200-level, FRN 395, 396, ITL 395, 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

or EGL 365 Literary Criticism and Theory

E. Advanced Study

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

Group 1:
- CLT 331 Literary Genres: Poetry
- CLT 332 Literary Genres: Drama
- CLT 333 Literary Genres: Novel
- CLT 334 Other Literary Genres

Group 2:
- CLT 335 Interdisciplinary Study of Films
- CLT 361 Literature and Society
- CLT 362 Literature and Ideas
- CLT 363 Literature and the Arts

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 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 in Comparative Literature

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.

Sample Course Sequence for the Major in Comparative Literature

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<td>Upper-Div. Adv. Study Group 1 course</td>
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<td>Group 1 or Group 2 course</td>
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Requirements for the Minor in Comparative Literature (CLT)

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:
- CLS 215, CLT 211, 212, 220, 266
- or one course per designator from the following: EGL 200-level, FRN 395, 396, ITL 395, 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
- or EGL 365 Literary Criticism and Theory

E. Advanced Study

Two upper-division courses, one from group 1, and one from group 2:

Group 1:
- CLT 331 Literary Genres: Poetry
- CLT 332 Literary Genres: Drama
- CLT 333 Literary Genres: Novel
- CLT 334 Other Literary Genres

Group 2:
- CLT 335 Interdisciplinary Study of Film
- CLT 361 Literature and Society
- CLT 362 Literature and Ideas
- CLT 363 Literature and the Arts