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

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Minor 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

Nada Atanasoski, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., University of California, San Diego: U.S. and Eastern European film and media; race and popular culture; studies and critical theory.

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

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

Krin 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.

Ira Livingston, 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 Channon Deutsch, Hispanic Languages and Literature

William Chittick, Religious Studies

Izabela Kalinowska-Blackwood, European Languages, Literatures, and Cultures

Sachiko Murata, Asian and Asian American Studies

Adrian Perez-Melgosa, Hispanic Languages and Literature

Mary C. Rawlinson, Philosophy, Women’s Studies

Jacqueline Reich, European Languages, Literatures, and Cultures

Nicholas Rzhovsky, European Languages, Literatures and Cultures

Hugh J. Silverman, Philosophy

Adjunct Faculty

Advised by Jacqueline Reich

Estimated number: 16

Teaching Assistants

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 minor in Comparative Literature, described below, the Department offers major programs in Cultural Studies and Critical Theory, Modern Languages and Literature, East Asian Languages and Literatures, and the Program in East Asian Studies. 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.

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 235-K American Pluralism in Film and Literature

CLT 266-G The 20th-Century Novel

Estimated number: 6

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 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:

CLT 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.
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