COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

http://www.complit.illinois.edu/Welcome.html

Director of the Program: Liyla Kaganovsky
Director of Graduate Studies: Eric Calderwood
3080 Foreign Languages Building
707 South Mathews Avenue
Urbana, IL 61801
(217) 333-4987
Email: complit@illinois.edu

Major: Comparative Literature

Degrees Offered: M.A., Ph.D.
Graduate Minors, Certificates, and Concentrations: Medieval Studies
(Greatology.illinois.edu/graduate/graduate-majors/medieval-studies/#concentrationtext) (available to all degrees); Criticism
and Interpretive Theory (http://criticism.english.illinois.edu/
affiliation.html#Cert) (available to all degrees); Gender and Women’s
Studies (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/graduate-minors/gender-
womens-studies/gender-womens-studies) (available to all degrees);
Cinema Studies (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/graduate-minors/
cinema-studies/#minortext) (available to all degrees). For a full list,
please see the Director of Graduate Study.

Graduate Degree Programs

The Program in Comparative & World Literature offers graduate programs
leading to the degrees of Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy and
is designed to provide a systematic study of subjects and problems
common to several literatures. Its purpose is to enable students who
have varied linguistic competence and preparation to explore the theory
of literature and criticism; the interrelations of several literatures;
the main currents, periods, and movements in literary history; the
development of literary themes and types; and the relations between
literature and the other arts.

Admission

A student entering the program should have an undergraduate major
in Comparative Literature, English, the classics, or a foreign language.
Majors in history and philosophy or other humanistic areas that
present suitable linguistic and literary competence may also be granted
admission by the Admissions Committee. All students are admitted
at the MA level. Students entering with a recognized Masters degree
from another university or from another department of this University
have the option of taking the comparative literature and critical theory
component and a literary component of this program’s regular Master
of Arts examination at the end of the first year as a qualifying test.
For internal applicants to the Ph.D. curriculum, the Master of Arts will
function as the qualifying test.

Applicants should apply online (www.grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/
(http://www.grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply)), submit a statement of
purpose, three letters of recommendation and a writing sample.

Original transcripts showing all undergraduate and graduate work
completed should be sent to SLCL Graduate Student Services, 3070
Foreign Languages Bldg., 707 S. Mathews Ave., Urbana, IL 61801.
Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores are required and should
be submitted to institution code 1836. Applicants whose native
language is not English are required to take the Test of English as
a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and must score at least 105 on the
internet-based test (iBT); they must also pass the speaking sub-section
of the iBT with a minimum score of 24 (see www.grad.illinois.edu/
Admissions/instructions/04c). Applications are accepted for fall admission only.
Application questions may be directed to SLCL Graduate Student
Services at slclgradservices@illinois.edu

Graduate Teaching Experience

Although teaching is not a general Graduate College requirement,
experience in teaching is considered an important part of the graduate
experience in this program. Non-native English speakers must first pass
a test of their oral English ability (see www.grad.illinois.edu/admissions/
taengprof.htm (http://www.grad.illinois.edu/admissions/taengprof.htm)).

Financial Aid

The Program aims to support all graduate students for five years through
a combination of fellowships, teaching, and other means, but support is
always contingent on the student making timely progress to the degree.
Such progress is measured by course load, taking exams on time, grades,
and other factors.

Master of Arts in Comparative Literature

The candidate must demonstrate a competency in at least two foreign
languages as well as in English. Latin is required for students specializing
in European and/or American literatures before 1800. Competence in the
languages offered is measured either by the successful completion of
one advanced course in the literature of each of the languages chosen or
by passing an examination administered by the program in comparative
literature with the assistance of an expert in the language concerned.
This choice is intended to provide for languages that may not be taught in
regular departments.

The candidate must complete a minimum of 32 gh of credit, including
two courses in the theory of literature (CWL 501 and CWL 502), and two
seminars in comparative literature selected from CWL 551, CWL 561,
CWL 571, and CWL 581. At least 12 of the other 16 gh should be taken in
two or three national literatures in a distribution approved by the adviser.
The candidate must pass a written examination based on a reading list,
which is designed to test knowledge of literary history as well as ability to
interpret a literary or critical text.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CWL 501 &amp; CWL 502</td>
<td>Theory of Literature and Methods of Comparative Lit</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Select two of the following:</td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>CWL 551</td>
<td>Seminar Lit Movements</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CWL 561</td>
<td>Seminar Genres - Forms</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CWL 571</td>
<td>Seminar in Literary Relations</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>CWL 581</td>
<td>Seminar Lit Themes</td>
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<tr>
<td>One or two courses in the major literature</td>
<td></td>
<td>4-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>At least one course in the minor literature</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>One or two courses from the above categories. (A student may take one course in a non-literary field that will provide cultural and historical contexts for the study of the student’s literature.)</td>
<td></td>
<td>4-8</td>
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</tbody>
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Total Hours | 32  |
Other Requirements ¹

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Other requirements may overlap</td>
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<tr>
<td>The candidate must pass a written examination based on a reading list,</td>
<td>which is designed to test knowledge of literary history as well as ability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>which is designed to test knowledge of literary history as well as ability</td>
<td>to interpret a literary or critical text.</td>
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<tr>
<td>to interpret a literary or critical text.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum 500-level Hours Required Overall:</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>Minimum GPA:</td>
<td>3.25</td>
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</table>

¹ For additional details and requirements refer to the department’s graduate handbook (http://www.complit.illinois.edu/Graduate_files/Grad%20Handbook.pdf) and the Graduate College Handbook (http://www.grad.illinois.edu/gradhandbook).

Doctor of Philosophy in Comparative Literature

A candidate for the Doctor of Philosophy degree must fulfill the general requirements of the Graduate College in addition to those specified for the master’s degree. At least 12 additional gh of work, normally at the 500 level, should be taken in courses regularly offered by the literature departments; among these, courses cross listed with the program in comparative literature are especially recommended. The candidate is responsible for a knowledge of the history of the literature in one modern language. The student also selects a period of major interest and is responsible for a knowledge of two other literatures in this period, which are considered as minors. The periods may be the Middle Ages, Renaissance, Neoclassicism and the Enlightenment, or the modern (nineteenth and twentieth centuries). Some chronological variations in coordinating the minors will be allowed for students studying non-Western literatures. A preliminary examination, i.e. a four-part written examination based on the individual program, and an oral examination with emphasis on the thesis project must be passed. The candidate must present an acceptable thesis embracing several national literatures and pass a final oral examination on the thesis.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CWL 582</td>
<td>Proseminar</td>
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<td>Select three of the following:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CWL 551 Seminar Lit Movements</td>
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<td></td>
<td>CWL 561 Seminar Genres · Forms</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CWL 571 Seminar in Literary Relations</td>
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<td></td>
<td>CWL 581 Seminar Lit Themes</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Two courses in the major literature</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>One course in each of the minor literatures of specialization</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Language Requirement: Command of at least three languages besides English. Three of these four languages must coincide with the student’s areas of specialization and with the dissertation field.</td>
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<tr>
<td>CWL 599</td>
<td>Thesis Research (min/max applied toward degree)</td>
<td>24:32</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Total Hours</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
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Information listed in this catalog is current as of 05/2019