Comparative Literature

Phone: 314-935-5170
Email: complit@wustl.edu
Website: http://complit.wustl.edu

Majors
The Major in Comparative Literature

Total units required: 27

Required courses:
• 27 units of Comparative Literature courses, including the following:
  • Comp Lit 211 World Literature (3 units)
  • Comp Lit 3050 Literary Modernities in Europe and America: Text and Tradition
  • Seven additional courses in Comparative Literature at both the 300 and 400 levels (21 units). With permission of the director of undergraduate studies, the student may substitute up to 6 units of appropriate foreign literature courses at the 300 or 400 level.

• The major also requires the completion of a capstone experience. Students who are double majoring may elect to complete their capstone in the other major.

• Students of Comparative Literature are also expected to have had substantial college-level experience with foreign language study as demonstrated by the completion of either one 400-level foreign language course or two 300-level courses. They are also expected to pursue work in an applied art form — music, fine arts, drama, dance or creative writing — for four semesters. This course work need not be conducted at the 300 or 400 level.

Note: Students should be aware that courses satisfying the major requirements in another department cannot also be counted toward the major requirements of Comparative Literature or Comparative Arts.

The Major in Comparative Arts

Total units required: 27

Required courses:
• 21 units of Comparative Literature courses, including the following:
  • Comp Lit 211 World Literature (3 units)
  • Comp Lit 313E Introduction to Comparative Arts (3 units)
  • Five additional courses in Comparative Arts at both the 300 and 400 levels (15 units), including one course on interrelations between literature and other art forms. With permission of the director of undergraduate studies, the student may substitute up to 6 units of appropriate foreign literature courses at the 300 or 400 level.
  • 6 units of advanced study (300 level or above) in theoretical or historical courses in aesthetics, art history, dance, drama, film or music. (Students with minors or majors in one of these fields may elect to substitute 6 units of Comparative Literature.)

Additional Information

Senior Honors: To be considered for honors, a student must have a grade point average of at least 3.7 by the end of the sixth semester and must be approved to write a Senior Honors thesis by either the Director of Comparative Literature or the Director of Undergraduate Studies. Honors courses (Comp Lit 497 Independent Work for Senior Honors and Comp Lit 498 Independent Work for Senior Honors) supplement the major and do not satisfy any of the above requirements.