

Comparative Literature (C L)

C L 301 Introduction to Comparative Literature 3 Hours
Reading and interpretation of literary texts in translation drawn from cultures around the world, focusing on methods of criticism and analysis.

C L 305 Topics in Comparative Literature 3 Hours
Study of masterpieces of world literature; of different literary genres; and the relationship between literature and other disciplines such as psychology, philosophy, and film.

C L 305.1 Forbidden Romance in Modern Chinese Literature 3 Hours
Introduction to modern Chinese literature from the late Qing Dynasty (latter half of the nineteenth century) to the present.

C L 305.2 The Vampire in Slavic Cultures 3 Hours
Examines the vampire in the cultures of Russia and Eastern Europe, including manifestations in literature, religion, art, film, and common practices from its origins to present.

C L 305.3 Movies Go To War 3 Hours
A comparison of films from various nations about major twentieth century wars to the historical facts of the conflicts as practicums in critical comparative analysis of histories as representations.

C L 305.4 Grimms' Fairy Tales 3 Hours
Reading and discussion of tales from the Grimms' collection, as well as some of the relevant secondary literature.

C L 305.5 Korean Literature and Film 3 Hours
Explore the literature and film of Korea from earliest times to the present.

C L 305C Dissent in Twentieth-Century Ukraine 3 Hours
Survey Ukrainian authors from the 1920s to the present, examining writings from "Executed Renaissance," underground literature, and postmodernism. Focus specifically on works that challenge the paradigm of socialist realism by discussing forbidden subjects (famine, religion, Gulag) or accentuating themes that are not considered "major" (personal life).

C L 305D Afro-Brazilian Diaspora 3 Hours

C L 305E Gods and Goddesses of India 3 Hours
Explore a variety of gods and goddesses who have dominated the sacred landscapes of India and beyond, especially North America, from the past until now. Examine various issues relating to patriarchy, power, gender, sexuality, social hierarchy, and devotion.

C L 305S The Soviet Hero in Literature and Culture 3 Hours
Consider Soviet Culture by examining "heroes" from both real life and works of literature, cinema, and folklore. Explore the period from the Russian 19th century throughout the Soviet Era.

C L 315 World Literature 3 Hours
Introduction to masterpieces of world literature, emphasizing historical, generic, and thematic connections.

C L 318Q Supervised Research 3 Hours

C L 320 Conference Course in Comparative Literature 3 Hours
Independent study of literary projects under supervision of professors in comparative literature.

C L 323 Topics in Comparative Literature 3 Hours
Study of masterpieces of world literature; of different literary genres; of the relationship between literature and other disciplines, such as psychology, philosophy, and film; and of special topics of a comparative nature.

C L 323.13 Introduction to Arabic Literature 3 Hours
General survey of major themes, genres, and artists in the Arabic literary tradition from the sixth century to the modern era.

C L 323.15 Israel Through Its Literature 3 Hours

C L 323.16 The Scandinavian Contribution to World Literature 3 Hours
Close readings of the most influential Scandinavian texts, including works by Nobel Prize-winning authors such as Knut Hamsun and Selma Lagerlof, as well as the playwrights August Strindberg and Henrik Ibsen while addressing important themes caused by the revolutionary transition to modernity in Scandinavia around 1900, including emancipation of women and sexuality.

C L 323.20 Rebels and Revolutionaries in Russian History and Literature 3 Hours
Study of fictional and real rebels and revolutionaries across almost a century of Russian literature.

C L 323.27 The Major Works of Tolstoy 3 Hours
Explores Russian writer Lev Nikolaevich Tolstoy, particularly his progression from idealizing family life and the Russian state to renouncing sexual love and national allegiances.

C L 323.29 The Russian Novel 3 Hours
A survey of classic Russian authors as well as experimental works from the nineteenth through the twenty-first century.

C L 323.3 Autobiography: A Modern Literary Species 3 Hours

C L 323.30 The Major Works of Dostoevsky 3 Hours
Explores the dilemmas of homicide, suicide, patricide, and redemption in the novels of Fyodor Dostoevsky.

C L 323.31 War and Revolution in Russian Literature and Culture 3 Hours
Examines Russian narratives of war and revolution as represented in fiction, cinema, and journalism.

C L 323.33 Feminism and Film: Women Filmmakers in Northern and Central Europe 3 Hours
An introduction to the work of women filmmakers from Scandinavia, Germany, as well as to the viewing and interpretation of films in general.

C L 323.34 Russian Myths and Folktales 3 Hours
Examination of the Russian folktale, its roots in ancient, pre-Christian Slavic religious tradition, its connections with other forms of folklore such as myth and legend, and its transformation in modern Russian literature. Subjects include the continuing influence of folklore explored through various aspects of Russian culture, including literature, music, ballet, film, and popular culture.

C L 323.36 Love in the East and West 3 Hours

C L 323.37 The Qur'an 3 Hours
Explore the history, language, style, and themes of the Qur'an.

C L 323.4 Self-Revelation in Women's Writing 3 Hours

C L 323.40 Holocaust Aftereffects 3 Hours
Explores the historical, political, psychological, theological, and cultural fallout of the Holocaust, as well as literary and cinematic responses in Europe and the United States.

C L 323.41 Decoding Classical Chinese Poetry 3 Hours
Introduction to the classical Chinese poetic tradition from the seventh century B.C.E. through the ninth century C.E., focusing on the literary, cultural, historical, social, political, philosophical, and religious background against which representative works arose. Conducted in English and all readings will be in English translation. Knowledge of the Chinese language is not required.

C L 323.42 Anti-Semitism in History and Literature 3 Hours

C L 323.44 Berlin 3 Hours

C L 323.49 Northern European Comics 3 Hours

A study of graphic novels from Scandinavia, Germany, and Holland to understand the art form of comics and the influence of the cultures in which they were produced. Readings, all in English, cover various genres and time periods.

C L 323.51 Viking Language: Runes and Sagas 3 Hours

C L 323.52 Bad Language: Race, Class, and Gender 3 Hours

C L 323.54 Russian Cinema From Potemkin to Putin 3 Hours

C L 323.55 Russian Fairytales 3 Hours

C L 323.58 Russian and Mexican Men in Popular Culture 3 Hours

Study representations of masculinity in products of Mexican and Russian popular culture at the end of the twentieth and the beginning of the twenty-first centuries.

C L 323.59 The Ancient Historians 3 Hours

Examines the main works of ancient historiography, and provides grounding in the central issues with which these works engage.

C L 323.6 Caribbean Literature 3 Hours

C L 323.60 Danticat and Diaz 3 Hours

C L 323.61 Classic Lyric Poems 3 Hours

C L 323.62 Forugh Farrokhzad and Her Poetry 3 Hours

C L 323.63 Iranian and Iranian-American Identity 3 Hours

C L 323.64 Israel and Palestine: A Cultural Perspective 3 Hours

C L 323.65 Youth and Violence in the Middle East and Eurasia 3 Hours

C L 323.66 Twentieth-Century Persian Literature 3 Hours

C L 323.69 The Arts of Hip Hop 3 Hours

C L 323.71 Russia Through American Eyes 3 Hours

Examine a wide array of American attitudes towards Russia and Russians. Using a variety of political, social, and cultural events and encounters, analyze the ways in which nationalism, imperialism, and geopolitics informed American narratives about Russia and Russians, assessments that range from enthusiasm and curiosity to condemnation and outright hostility.

C L 323.72 Performing LGBTQ+ 3 Hours

C L 323.73 Greek Tragedies and Postcolonial Dramas 3 Hours

Study the adaptation of great dramatic literature of the Greek civilizations to their phenomenal evolution into popular African performances. Putting classical writings from Ancient Greek in dialogue with texts that formed the background of African anti-colonial revolutions, analyze how Africans have used these works to re-shape literary canon and given their world and their histories universal purchase.

C L 323.74 Queer Eastern Europe 3 Hours

Explore LGBTQI stories and political struggles in Eastern Europe with a focus on the region's queer culture: literature, cinema, and the arts.

C L 323.75 Identity, Codes, and Culture 3 Hours

Explore how to read identities as patterns in literary texts, linguistic and cultural corpora with digital methods, and come to a deeper understanding of individual texts and textual phenomena. Examine digital research methods, tools, and use cases. Work hands-on with literary and linguistic sources.

C L 323.76 Humor and Hardship in Arabic Literature 3 Hours

Examine Arabic literary works (ninth through twentieth centuries) that display humor and its unspoken counterpart, hardship. Consult modern theories of humor and premodern Arabic-Islamic ideas of the jocular.

C L 323.77 Cultural Translation 3 Hours

Examine theoretical readings and concrete examples of how translation politics, translation-induced reconstruction of literary systems, censorship, manipulation, and market dynamics affect the production, distribution, and reception of translated products in the realm of arts and entertainment, news media and politics, and various academic disciplines in the Middle East, United States, and beyond.

C L 323.78 Geography in Eastern Europe and Eurasia 3 Hours

Explore alternatives to nation-state imaginaries across Eastern Europe and Eurasia. Examine spatial thinking, utopia, dystopia, the history of geosciences, counter-mapping, and the decolonial geopoetics of space.

C L 323.79 Russia's Soul: Spiritual Traditions 3 Hours

Explore complex history of Orthodox Christianity, Judaism, Islam, and Buddhism in Russia. Examine important worship sites, including monasteries and pilgrimage destinations. Have discussions with Russian scholars of religion and practitioners of different faiths.

C L 323.8 Bulgakov's Master and Margarita 3 Hours

Explores the novel in the context of other literary works by Bulgakov and its varied sources in world literature, music, and the visual arts.

C L 323C Soviet Romance in Film 3 Hours

Examine the construction of the ideology of love, intimate relations, and gender roles, deemed appropriate for a Soviet citizen, as it is demonstrated in a selection of films.

C L 323D Representing Disaster in Japan 3 Hours

Explore a range of human-made conflicts and natural disasters in Japan from earliest times to the present through literature, film, and new media to consider questions of history, representation, and mourning and memorialization.

C L 323E The Environment and East Asia 3 Hours

Examine the relationship between humans and the environment through the literature, film, and media of East Asia.

C L 323F Animals in Asia 3 Hours

Focus on how historical and modern-day philosophy, religious texts, and legal systems in South and East Asia provide the framework for probing the human-animal encounter and the tensions that arise due to human-animal interdependence.

C L 323G History and Memory in Japan and Korea 3 Hours

Explore the fraught and entangled histories of modern Japan and Korea as depicted in literature and film to consider experiences of imperialism, rapid modernization, war, decolonization, and trauma.

C L 323I Translating Asia 3 Hours

Explore various ways to define translation in the Asian context through translation theory and translated texts and how translation impacts and represents different Asian identities.

C L 323J Germanic Novels: History, Culture, and Interpretation 3 Hours
Explore several representative novels by German, Scandinavian, or Dutch writers, along with representative texts and essays on the novel as a genre and interpretative strategies. Examine these works in their literary and cultural contexts via lectures and discussions.

C L 323K Literature, Culture, and Ecology in Northern and Central Europe 3 Hours

Explore a variety of texts, films, and artifacts from Northern and Central Europe for the insights they provide about the interrelationships between nature and culture and strategies for developing a sustainable relationship to the world around us.

C L 323L Nordic Noir 3 Hours

Uncover the dark side of the Nordic countries, from gritty streets to icy fjords, and explore the history, culture, literature, and movies these societies produce.

C L 323M Silent Film in Germany and Scandinavia 3 Hours
Explore silent film and filmmaking in Germany and Scandinavia.

C L 323N Germanic and Scandinavian Modernisms, 1870-1925 3 Hours
Explore the cultural renaissance between 1880 and 1925 in Northern and Central Europe, covering the period often called the Modern Breakthrough in Scandinavia, but also known as la belle époque in France and "the gilded age" in the United States.

C L 323O The Bhagavad Gita: Interpretation and Ethics 3 Hours
Explore one of the most influential books in Indian and global contexts, the Bhagavad Gita, through interpretations, commentaries, and scholarly materials. Navigate ethical dilemmas in the Bhagavad Gita and real-life situations.

C L 323P Korean Cinema 3 Hours
Explore Korean cinema, film history, and theory from the early twentieth century to the present.

C L 323Q Elena Ferrante: Politics and Passion 3 Hours

C L 323R Diasporic Magic: Literature and Performance 3 Hours

C L 323S Cultural Memory and the Classic Chinese Novel 3 Hours
Examine the metaphors and mythology from Chinese cultural memory that are present in classic novels, within literary and socio-historical contexts. Explore a cross-section of influential works from classical literature and the major founding schools of Chinese thought.

C L 323T Scandinavian Cinema Since 1980 3 Hours

C L 323U Films of Ingmar Bergman 3 Hours
An introduction to the films of Ingmar Bergman.

C L 323V Arendt and de Beauvoir 3 Hours

C L 323W Contemporary Scandinavian Stories 3 Hours
An analysis of contemporary Scandinavian literature and films, how they reflect Scandinavian reality, and how Scandinavian identity is created through sports, food, and politics.

C L 324C Hans Christian Andersen 3 Hours
Introduction to such Hans Christian Andersen tales as "The Little Mermaid," "The Ugly Duckling," and "The Emperor's New Clothes." Examination of their author and the romantic period in which they were written, as well as their historical, philosophical, and literary context.

C L 324D Isak Dinesen/Karen Blixen 3 Hours
An introduction to the twentieth-century Danish author Karen Blixen, focusing on her major themes such as gender and destiny, and examining her role as a literary figure.

C L 324E Nobel Prizes: Literature and Politics 3 Hours
An introduction to Nobel Prize winning authors from northern Europe in the context of literary prizes and the politics of literary reputation. Analyze and compare literary works, set novels into historical context, investigate what popular and scholarly reviews do, and research in both popular and scholarly sources.

C L 324F Social Dramas of Henrik Ibsen 3 Hours
A detailed introduction to Ibsen's social dramas (1877-1899), emphasizing their unity as a prolonged commentary on the society of his era and the variety of its human problems. Special emphasis on subjects such as: the family and the home; the public world of reputation, work, and citizenship; the predicaments of men and women in a male-dominated society; and the motives of our interventions into the lives of others.

C L 324G Vikings and Their Literature 3 Hours

C L 324I Women and the Holocaust 3 Hours
Introduction to both the history of Jewish and German women during World War II and the Holocaust, and to women's narratives and self-representations of this period. Historical sources, memoirs, films, and interviews will be used as source material.

C L 324J Exhibitions and Public Spectacle 3 Hours
Investigate exhibits, world's fairs, museum, monuments, theme parks, and historical reconstructions from Europe and the US, with attention to images of how their sponsoring nations or other entities want to be seen. Examine evidence for both the good and bad sides of national pride and identity. Explore examples of how large-scale culture projects and the public interact. Consider the lasting marks left on the cities and countries sponsoring them.

C L 324K Squaring the Vienna Circle 3 Hours
Traces the origin of the Vienna Circle of Logical Empiricism in nineteenth-century Europe, and introduces central texts and problems of intellectual history and historical epistemology at the roots of today's analytic philosophy.

C L 358Q Supervised Research 3 Hours

C L 380F Foundations of Literary Theory and Criticism 3 Hours
Explore a comparative study of theories of literary criticism in a broad historical perspective, including representative classic texts in critical theory.

C L 180K Introduction to Comparative Literature 1 Hour
One-credit-hour proseminar in methods of study and research in comparative literature.

C L 380M Topics in Problems in Translation 3 Hours
Detailed study of literary translations and of the translation process, and completion of one substantial translation.

C L 380P Literary and Cultural Theory since 1900 3 Hours
Explore a comparative study of major modern critical schools and figures in literary and cultural theory and criticism.

C L 381 Topics in The Comparative Study of Literary Periods and Movements 3 Hours
The study of literary periods, aspects of periods, or movements from a comparative point of view; topics include mystical literature of the Middle Ages and Renaissance humanism.

C L 381.1 Modernisms and Modernity 3 Hours

C L 382 Topics in Comparative Literature 3 Hours
Study of genres, literary forms, the relationships of literature and other disciplines from a comparative point of view; topics include comedy, sensibility, and the East and the West.

C L 382.1 World Literature and Globalism: Theory and Practice 3 Hours

C L 382.2 Women Writers and Intellectuals 3 Hours

C L 386 Topics in Literature in a Comparative Context 3 Hours
A study of topics with a single primary language focus, using a strongly comparative approach.

C L 391L Conference Course in Comparative Literature 3 Hours
Tutorial courses on individually designed basis available through the home departments of members of the comparative literature faculty.

C L 698 Thesis 6 Hours

C L 398R Master's Report 3 Hours
Preparation of a report to fulfill the requirement for the master's degree under the report option.

C L 399W, 699W, 999W Dissertation 3,6,9 Hours