

# COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

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Comparative literature (formerly literary studies) is a bi-campus, interdepartmental, interdisciplinary program housing the comparative literature major. The program is co-directed, with the assistance of an executive committee. The program periodically consults a board of advisers made up of prominent scholars from various academic institutions.

The comparative literature major is concerned with the study of literature from a broad range of cross-cultural and interdisciplinary perspectives. Students may concentrate on the study of literature in at least two modern or classical languages, or in a different comparative context, such as literature and a textual discipline in the humanities or social sciences (e.g., anthropology, philosophy, political science, and others), literature and film, or literature and the creative arts, among others. The comparative literature major requires advanced proficiency in at least one classical or modern foreign language, and advanced coursework in at least one Western or non-Western literary tradition other than English.

## Program Activities

The Program offers a broad range of activities for undergraduates: *Bricolage*, Fordham's journal of literary studies, is edited by comparative literature majors and minors, under the guidance of a faculty adviser, and showcases critical essays by students on literature, culture, film, the arts, and theory; the Comparative Literature Club organizes social activities (e.g., theater outings); invited speakers offer lectures, talks, and seminars, either designed for or open to undergraduates; the program regularly sponsors film screenings in conjunction with courses and lectures.

## Awards

Theses written by comparative literature majors and minors are eligible for the Katie Fraser Prize for Excellence in comparative literature (for majors) and the Literary Studies Prize for Work in Comparative Literature (for minors).

## Internships

Students who wish to pursue an internship and receive college credit for it should contact the Comparative Literature major adviser and Career Service to identify internship opportunities relevant to their field of study and professional interests. To receive college credit, students sign up for a two-credit tutorial with the major adviser, and provide weekly reports on their experience, in addition to meeting with the adviser on a regular basis during the semester. Requirements may vary depending on the type of internship. In some cases, students may be eligible for more credits depending on the relevance of the experience to their course of study, and contingent on the completion of a substantial final project.

## Honors in Comparative Literature

Honors in Comparative Literature is awarded on the basis of grade point average in the major (3.5), and the quality of the senior thesis and its presentation at the Senior Project Roundtable.

## For more information

Visit the Comparative Literature program web page.