COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

This major studies literary works across linguistic, national, and historical boundaries. It takes a comparative perspective on different literary traditions, as well as other arts, such as painting, photography, film, and music. Comparatists also study the nature of literature across and between different language cultures including French, Spanish, Italian, and many more.

Opportunities for Students

- **Honors Program:** Students who satisfy the requirements for admission to the honors program have the option of performing research under the guidance of a professor within the Comparative Literature department.

- **Study Abroad:** Delve into world literature and foreign language in France, Italy, Brazil, or Japan.

- **Shape Your Studies:** Students can opt for the Literature/Media/Critical Thought track or the Foreign Language track, both of which accommodate semesters of study abroad.

- **Double Major:** Comparative Literature is ideal for pairing with your other diverse interests. Students have combined this program with other majors including Biology, Economics, Philosophy, and History.

Notable Courses


- **COLT 374: Women Writers in Europe and America** — Introduction to works of major women writers from the Middle Ages to the 20th century in their literary, social, and cultural contexts.

- **COLT 381: Psychoanalysis and the Arts** — Introduction to psychoanalytic literature on the arts, including classic texts by Freud, Jones, Lacan, Derrida, and others. Readings of theoretical and fictional works.

- **COLT 472: Los Angeles Crime Fiction** — The noir tradition in books and films set in Los Angeles. Emphasis on generic conventions, representations of the city, and discourses of class, gender, race.
Bachelor of Arts (BA) Requirements

Core Requirements*
- COLT 302: Introduction to Literary Theory
- COLT 303: Globalization: Culture, Change, Resistance

LITERATURE/MEDIA/CRITICAL THOUGHT TRACK REQUIREMENTS
- Select four (4) courses in one of the three (3) concentrations below.

Literature Concentration**
- COLT 312: Heroes, Myths, and Literatures in Literature and the Arts
- COLT 335: Decadence and Modernity
- COLT 346: Fictions of the First Person
- COLT 472: Los Angeles Crime Fiction

Media Concentration**
- COLT 357: The Avant-Garde
- COLT 379: Nationalism and Postcolonialism in Southeast Asian Cinema
- COLT 452: Representation and Cognition in Photography
- COLT 462: Soundtracks of Our Lives

Critical Thought Concentration**
- COLT 377: Literature, Theory, and Gender
- COLT 385: Literature and Justice
- COLT 487: Critical Image
- COLT 474: Desire, Literature, Technology

Elective Requirements*
- Four (4) additional COLT courses, at least two (2) of which must be 300/400-level

FOREIGN LANGUAGE TRACK REQUIREMENTS

Language Requirement*
- Three (3) 300/400-level literature or culture courses of a foreign language, with all readings in that language

Elective Requirement*
- Five (5) additional COLT courses, at least three (3) of which must be 300/400-level

*This information is offered as a partial overview only. For additional information, including all major requirements, please consult the USC Catalogue or http://dornsife.usc.edu/colt. Updated as of August 2015.

**This does not represent all options in this category. For a complete list, please consult the USC Catalogue.