

NARRATIVE STUDIES

This innovative major lets students study in many disciplines and specialize where they choose. Nineteen departments contribute to develop and evaluate storytelling in fiction, poetry, song, theatre, cinema, television, and other platforms. Cultural and historical understanding of narrative, combined with practical techniques of construction, prepare students for a range of opportunities from literature and performing arts to any profession that depends upon narrative.

BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA) GENERAL OVERVIEW

One course from each of the following categories:

- Introduction to Narrative Media (e.g. American Literature; Narrative Medicine)
- Writing and Narrative Forms (e.g. Introduction to Screenwriting; Writing Narrative)
- Popular Culture and Ethnicity (e.g. American Popular Culture; Hip-Hop Music and Culture)
- Narrative in Cross-Cultural Perspective (e.g. Interpretation of Myth and Narrative; Native American Literature)
- Western Narrative in Historical Perspective (e.g. Approaches to Myth; Modern Russian Literature)
- Contemporary Fiction and Drama (e.g. Politics and the Novel; Science Fiction)

Additional requirements:

- Introductory course: Studying Narrative
- Two additional upper-division courses from the category lists
- Final course: Narrative Studies Capstone Seminar

ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES

Interdisciplinary Approach: Students can take courses in the Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences, as well as in the School of Dramatic Arts, the Roski School of Fine Arts, the School of Cinematic Arts, and the Thornton School of Music.

Capstone Experience: Each student develops an independent research project of their own design that represents the culmination of an individual course of study, under the guidance of a faculty member or professional in a relevant discipline.

Study Abroad: Enrich the interdisciplinary nature of your major in the location best suited to your interests — Prague for Czech New Wave cinema, Tokyo for Japanese literature, Cape Town for South African theatre and dance — it's up to you!

Maymester: Spend part of your summer studying Native American culture on a reservation or immersing yourself in regional literature while bookpacking through this innovative program.

Honors Program: Departmental Honors are awarded at graduation to seniors who complete a thesis on their own independent literary research. This competitive program attracts our very best students.