COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE:
Mary Addis (Spanish), Chair
Yuri Corrigan (Russian Studies) (on leave Fall 2012)
Carolyn Durham (French)
Monica Florence (Classical Studies)
Beth Ann Muellner (German Studies)
Debra Shostak (English)
Rujie Wang (Chinese)

The discipline of Comparative Literature promotes the study of intercultural relations across linguistic and cultural boundaries. Appealing to the desire to transcend a merely national point of view, it enables the student to develop a uniquely transnational perspective on imaginative works from antiquity to post modernity. The program at The College of Wooster is interdepartmental in character and includes both explicitly comparative courses and courses that focus on a particular national literature, both in the original and in translation.

Major in Comparative Literature

Consists of fifteen courses:

- ENGL 12000-12018
- Two courses from Group I
- Four courses beyond the 10200-level in a foreign language department. (One of the four courses may be in translation. When department offerings allow, at least two should be from Group II or III.)
- Two courses from national literatures other than the four courses beyond the 10200-level above. (These may be selected from Groups II and III.)
- Three electives, selected from Groups I, II, and III and/or from beyond the 10200-level in a foreign language.
- Junior Independent Study: CMLT 40100
- Senior Independent Study: CMLT 45100
- Senior Independent Study: CMLT 45200

Minor in Comparative Literature

Consists of six courses:

- Three courses from Group I
- Three courses from Groups II and III

Special Notes

- CMLT 40100, 45100, and 45200 will all involve projects of a comparative character; the student may select an adviser from any of the departments that participate in the program; the project must be approved by the chair of the Comparative Literature Curriculum Committee by the end of the second week of the semester in which the student is enrolled in CMLT 40100 and 45100.
- Courses applied toward a Comparative Literature major may not be taken on an S/NC basis.
- Only grades of C- or better are accepted for the major or minor.

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE COURSES

Group I: COMPARATIVE COURSES

ENGL 12000-12018. INVESTIGATIONS IN LITERARY AND CULTURAL STUDIES (Comparative Emphasis) *[AH]*

CMLT 22001. THEORY AND PRACTICE OF TRANSLATION
Taught in English. This is primarily a theory course in translation studies with practical application. We will think carefully and critically about both the process and reception of translation, and cover a variety of approaches to help us better analyze, read, and perform translations. The class will examine major approaches to translation, including: the process of translation, especially literary translation; the science of translation, including functional approaches; descriptive translation studies; deconstruction; and postcolonial theories of both cultural and linguistic translation. We will read, analyze, and respond to a variety of translation theories and experiment with short translation assignments in which we apply the theoretical frameworks. The final project for this course is a paper in which the students develop their own translation method based on the theories we have read during the semester. *Alternate years. Not offered 2012-2013. [C, AH]*

CMLT 23000. COMPARATIVE SEXUAL POETICS (Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies)
An exploration within the framework of contemporary feminist theory of notions of gender-specific culture, aesthetics, and language. Extensive comparison of similar texts of men and women writers to test the validity of key theoretical assumptions. Readings from multiple genres and national literatures to allow analysis of differences attributable to gender, culture, and textual context. Comparative pairings may include the following: García Márquez and Allende; Sartre and Beauvoir; Whitman and Dickinson; Von Trotta and Schloendorff; Bâ and Laye; Montaigne and Woolf; Miller and Nin; Hellman and Hammett. *Alternate years. Spring 2013. [W, AH]*

CMLT 23600. COMPARATIVE FILM STUDIES (Film Studies)
A special topics course focusing on various aspects of film history, theory, or analysis. Introduction to basic concepts and skills necessary for the exploration of technical, stylistic, narrative, and ideological articulation in cinema. Possible categories of inquiry include national cinemas, genres (film noir, melodrama, etc.), representation and spectatorship, feminist cinema, African American film; documentary, political cinema, the avant garde, experimental film, etc. Extensive readings of theory and criticism as well as regular film screenings. *Alternate years. Not offered 2012-2013. [C, AH]*

CMLT 24801: THE PERILS OF ROMANTICISM: NINETEENTH CENTURY EUROPEAN LITERATURE (German Studies, Russian Studies)
This course will examine some of the major issues that arose from European Romanticism (German, French, English and Russian) – the rebellion against rationalism, new notions of selfhood and individuality, the rejection of traditional morality and models of authority, and the longing for a reintegration with nature. We will study these questions in the works of major nineteenth-century authors, and we will consider the commentaries of some twentieth-century artists, philosophers and critics on this period. The goal will be to understand how European writers engaged in a complex cross-cultural intellectual dialogue not simply on a discursive level but through the use of symbolic, dramatic and formal paradigms. Authors include Goethe, Hoffman, Shelley, Flaubert, Maupassant, Dostoevsky, Tolstoy, Chekhov, and Thomas Mann. Supplementary selections of philosophy will be provided – from Rousseau and Schlegel to Simone Weil and Hannah Arendt. *Every three years. Not offered 2012-2013. [C, AH]*

CMLT 29000. SEMINAR IN COMPARATIVE STUDIES (some sections cross-listed with Classical Studies)
An advanced seminar offering in-depth study of selected issues in comparative literature. Although the topic will vary, the course will include an exploration of current theories and methodologies of textual and contextual comparison. Focus may involve comparative studies of particular texts, genres, or historical periods, or address broader questions of ideology, aesthetics, influence, or language within a comparative framework. Topics announced in advance by faculty member teaching the course. *Prerequisite: ENGL 12000-12012 or permission of the instructor. Not offered 2012-2013.*

Group II: NATIONAL LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION

CHINESE STUDIES

CHIN 22000. REBELS, ROMANTICS, AND REFORMERS: BEING YOUNG IN CHINA *[C, AH]*
CHIN 22200. WOMEN IN CHINESE LITERATURE *[C, AH]*
CHIN 22300. CHINESE CINEMA AS TRANSLATION OF CULTURES *[C, AH]*

CLASSICAL STUDIES

AMST 22000. MYTHOLOGY OF THE ANCIENT WORLD *[AH]*
AMST 22100. ANCIENT THEATER: TRAGEDY AND COMEDY *[AH]*
AMST 22300. GENDER AND SEXUALITY IN CLASSICAL ANTIQUITY *[AH]*

FRENCH

FREN 25300. TOPICS IN FRANCOPHONE LITERATURE AND SOCIETY: FRANCOPHONE FILM

GERMAN STUDIES

GRMN 22700. GERMAN LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION
GRMN 22800. TOPICS IN GERMAN SOCIETY AND CULTURE (GERMAN FILM AND SOCIETY) *[C]*

RUSSIAN STUDIES

RUSS 21000. RUSSIAN CIVILIZATION: FROM FOLKLORE TO PHILOSOPHY *[W, C, AH]*
RUSS 22000. RUSSIAN CULTURE THROUGH FILM *[C, AH]*
RUSS 23000. RUSSIAN DRAMA PRACTICUM *[C, AH]*
RUSS 25000. RUSSIAN LITERATURE IN THE AGE OF DOSTOEVSKY AND TOLSTOY *[C, AH]*
RUSS 26000. THE ARTIST AND THE TYRANT: TWENTIETH-CENTURY RUSSIAN LITERATURE *[C, AH]*

SPANISH

SPAN 21200. LITERATURE AND CULTURE OF THE HISPANIC CARIBBEAN *[C, AH]*
SPAN 21300. U.S. LATINO LITERATURES AND CULTURES *[C, AH]*
SPAN 28000. HISPANIC FILM *[C, AH]*
SPAN 39900. DON QUIXOTE: METAFICTION AND THE DAWNING OF THE MODERN NOVEL *[C, AH]*

Group III: NATIONAL LITERATURE IN THE ORIGINAL

CLASSICAL STUDIES

GRK 20000. SEMINAR IN GREEK LITERATURE (INTERMEDIATE I) *[AH]*
GRK 25000. SEMINAR IN GREEK LITERATURE (INTERMEDIATE II) *[AH]*
GRK 30000. SEMINAR IN GREEK LITERATURE (ADVANCED I) *[AH]*
GRK 35000. SEMINAR IN GREEK LITERATURE (ADVANCED II) *[AH]*
LAT 20000. SEMINAR IN LATIN LITERATURE (INTERMEDIATE I) *[AH]*
LAT 25000. SEMINAR IN LATIN LITERATURE (INTERMEDIATE II) *[AH]*
LAT 30000. SEMINAR IN LATIN LITERATURE (ADVANCED I) *[AH]*
LAT 35000. SEMINAR IN LATIN LITERATURE (ADVANCED II) *[AH]*

ENGLISH

ENGL 21000. GENDER, RACE, AND ETHNICITY *[AH]*
ENGL 22000. WRITERS *[AH]*
ENGL 23000. HISTORY *[AH]*
ENGL 24000. TEXTUAL FORMATION *[AH]*
ENGL 25000. READERS'RESPONSES TO TEXTS *[AH]*
ENGL 30000-30007. SPECIAL TOPICS IN LITERARY STUDIES *[AH]*

FRENCH

FREN 22000. INTRODUCTION TO FRANCOPHONE TEXTS *[C, AH]*
FREN 23000-23004. TOPICS IN FRANCOPHONE LITERATURE AND SOCIETY
FREN 23500. LITERATURE AND CULTURE OF FRANCOPHONE AFRICA *[C]*
FREN 32000. STUDIES IN THE MIDDLE AGES AND THE RENAISSANCE
FREN 32200. STUDIES IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY
FREN 32400. STUDIES IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY *[C, AH]*
FREN 32800. STUDIES IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY
FREN 32900. STUDIES IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY *[C, AH]*

GERMAN STUDIES

GRMN 26000. KULTURKUNDE: INTRODUCTION TO GERMAN STUDIES *[W, C, AH]*
GRMN 30000. MAJOR EPOCHS OF GERMAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE
GRMN 32000. MAJOR AUTHORS IN GERMAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE
GRMN 33000. GENRES OF GERMAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE *[C]*
GRMN 34000. MAJOR THEMES IN GERMAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE *[Depending on the topic, C, AH]*

SPANISH

SPAN 21100. INTERMEDIATE SEMINAR: SPECIAL TOPICS IN HISPANIC LANGUAGE, LITERATURE, & CULTURE *[Depending on the topic, C, AH]*

SPAN 24700. TWENTIETH AND TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY SPANISH PENINSULAR WRITERS *[C, AH]*

SPAN 24800. TWENTIETH AND TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY SPANISH AMERICAN WRITERS *[C, AH]*

SPAN 30100. CERVANTES: DON QUIXOTE *[C, AH]*

SPAN 30200. GOLDEN AGE LITERATURE *[C, AH]*

SPAN 30500. THE CONTEMPORARY LATIN AMERICAN NOVEL *[C, AH]*

SPAN 30900. TRENDS IN SPANISH AMERICAN LITERATURE *[C, AH]*

INDEPENDENT STUDY

CMLT 40000. TUTORIAL

Prerequisite: The approval of both the supervising faculty member and the chairperson is required prior to registration.

CMLT 40100. JUNIOR INDEPENDENT STUDY

A one-semester course that focuses upon the research skills, methodology, and theoretical framework necessary for Senior Independent Study.

CMLT 45100. SENIOR INDEPENDENT STUDY – SEMESTER ONE

The first semester of the Senior Independent Study project, in which each student engages in creative and independent research guided by a faculty mentor and which culminates in a thesis and an oral examination in the second semester. *Prerequisite: CMLT 40100.*

CMLT 45200. SENIOR INDEPENDENT STUDY – SEMESTER TWO

The second semester of the Senior Independent Study project, which culminates in the thesis and an oral examination. *Prerequisite: CMLT 45100.*