Comparative Literature BA /

This dynamic programme examines world literature from diverse geographical and cultural perspectives and equips students for a career in today’s global society. Alongside cultural topics you will study up to two foreign languages, selected from an exceptional range of modern and ancient languages including Japanese, Arabic and Mandarin Chinese as well as European languages.

Key information

Programme starts
September 2018

Location
London, Bloomsbury

Degree benefits

// UCL, being London’s Global University, provides the ideal environment in which to undertake a comparative literature degree.

// You will study up to two foreign languages in any combination and will benefit from the very wide range of modern and ancient languages taught at UCL (over forty in total).

// Our programmes aim to transcend a sole focus on Western Europe. The Comparative Literature BA engages with the global East and South and within Europe, attention is paid to lesser-used languages.

// UCL is perceived as an important home for comparative studies. There are more than 50 full-time members of academic staff whose primary interests centre on literature and culture. We are frequently chosen to host high-profile public events.

Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014

The Research Excellence Framework, or REF, is the system for assessing the quality of research in UK higher education institutions. The 2014 REF was carried out by the UK’s higher education funding bodies, and the results used to allocate research funding from 2015/16.

// 74% rated 4* (‘world-leading’) or 3* (‘internationally excellent’)

Learn more about the scope of UCL’s research, and browse case studies, on our Research Impact website.

Degree structure

In each year of your degree you will take a number of individual modules, normally valued at 0.5 or 1.0 credits, adding up to a total of 4.0 credits for the year. Modules are assessed in the academic year in which they are taken. The balance of compulsory and optional modules varies from programme to programme and year to year. A 1.0 credit is considered equivalent to 15 credits in the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

In years one and two you will take modules in literary theory and cultural history, genres and forms. A wide range of optional language and literary modules are offered by SELCS.

You will select up to two foreign languages (choosing from SELCS, UCL Greek & Latin, and UCL Hebrew & Jewish Studies) in any combination, either at beginner’s or at a more advanced level.

Learning is research based and you will engage in independent critical inquiry across languages and cultures. You will also gain expertise in advanced textual analysis, creative critical writing and the use of new media.

You will advance your knowledge and skills, have insight into the global range of literature and culture, study with world-class experts and gain a solid foundation for a career in a connected and multilingual society.

YEAR ONE

Core or compulsory module(s)
// Research Methods in Literary Studies 1

Optional modules
// You will select at least 1.0 credit from a wide range of introductory comparative and literature options chosen from different periods and languages, including English. All texts will be available in English or in English translation as appropriate, but may also be read in the original language.
// You will select at least 1.5 credits of options requiring the use of a language other than English. This will normally consist of one language module plus one language-specific literature elective.

YEAR TWO

Core or compulsory module(s)
// Imitation, Invention, Authorship
// Word, Image, Sound

Optional modules
// You will select at least 1.0 credit from a wide range of intermediate comparative and literature options chosen from different periods and languages, including English. All texts will be available in English or in English translation as appropriate, but may also be read in the original language.
// You will select at least 1.5 credits of options requiring the use of a language other than English. This will normally consist of one language module plus one language-specific literature elective.

YEAR THREE

Core or compulsory module(s)
// Dissertation

Optional modules
// You will select at least 1.0 credit from a wide range of advanced comparative and literature options chosen from different periods and languages, including English. All texts will be available in English or in English translation as appropriate, but may also be read in the original language.
// You will select at least 1.5 credits of options requiring the use of a language other than English. This will normally consist of one language module plus one language-specific literature elective.
Your learning

Your learning will take place through lectures, seminars, tutorials, interactive groups and multimedia projects. All Comparative Literature students in the same year will take the same core module. Optional modules will be taught by specialist staff members across UCL and will provide you with an opportunity to learn alongside students on other programmes.

Assessment

You will be assessed through written examinations and essays. For language teaching you will be assessed by oral and written examinations. You will complete project work and a dissertation, both of which will contribute to your overall assessment. You will be required to give presentations, work on group and multimedia projects and actively participate in class discussion.

Your career

On graduation you will have gained a breadth of knowledge, cultural awareness, writing skills, and a familiarity with advanced textual analysis. You will have a detailed and effective understanding of at least one language other than English and will be able to work flexibly and creatively across cultures and in a range of fields.

The first cohort of students admitted to the Comparative Literature BA are due to graduate after 2018. Therefore, information about career destinations for students on this programme is not yet available. Please see first destinations of recent graduates (2013-2015) from School of European Languages and Culture programmes at UCL for a selection of representative careers.

Your application

Application for admission should be made through UCAS (the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service). Applicants currently at school or college will be provided with advice on the process; however, applicants who have left school or who are based outside the United Kingdom may obtain information directly from UCAS.

Your personal statement is very important. We expect a very full account of your literary interests, including extracurricular readings. We want you to reflect on your familiarity with different cultures and on your ability to think critically and creatively across languages and cultures. We particularly welcome applicants with a good knowledge of at least one other language.

We may interview candidates by telephone to assess linguistic ability in another language (if asserted), cultural awareness and intellectual potential. If you meet our entry criteria and show the required level of motivation, we will invite you to an offer-holder open day where you will meet members of our academic staff.
**Entry requirements**

**A LEVELS**

**Grades**
AAA

**Subjects**
A humanities subject required.

**GCSE**

English Language at grade B, plus Mathematics at grade C. For UK-based students, a grade C or equivalent in a foreign language (other than Ancient Greek, Biblical Hebrew or Latin) is required. UCL provides opportunities to meet the foreign language requirement following enrolment, further details at: www.ucl.ac.uk/ug-reqs

**IB DIPLOMA**

**Points**
38 overall.

**Subjects**
A total of 18 points in three higher level subjects with no score lower than 5.

**OTHER QUALIFICATIONS**

UCL considers a wide range of UK and international qualifications for entry into its undergraduate programmes. Full details are given at: www.ucl.ac.uk/otherquals

**UNDERGRADUATE PREPARATORY CERTIFICATES (International foundation courses)**

The Undergraduate Preparatory Certificates (UPCs) are intensive one-year foundation courses for international students of high academic potential who are aiming to gain access to undergraduate degree programmes at UCL and other top UK universities.

Typical UPC students will be high achievers in a 12-year school system which does not meet the standard required for direct entry to UCL.

For more information see: www.ucl.ac.uk/upc.

**TUITION FEES**

The fees indicated are for undergraduate entry in the 2017/18 academic year and are for the first year of the programme at UCL only. Fees for 2018 entry will appear here as soon as they are available.

- UK & EU: £9,250 (2017/18 - see below)
- Overseas: £17,710 (2017/18)

The UK/EU fee quoted above may be subject to increase for the 2018/19 academic year and for each year of study thereafter and UCL reserves the right to increase its fees in line with UK government policy (including on an annual basis for each year of study during a programme). Fees for overseas students may be subject to an annual increase in subsequent years of study by up to 5%.

Please see the full details of UCL’s fees and possible changes on the UCL Current Students website.

**FUNDING**

Various funding options are available, including student loans, scholarships and bursaries. UK students whose household income falls below a certain level may also be eligible for a non-repayable bursary or for certain scholarships. Please see the Fees and funding pages for more details.

**CONTACT**

Jo Wolff

Email: selcs.admissions@ucl.ac.uk

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7679 3096

Department: School of European Languages, Culture and Society

**EU referendum**

For up-to-date information relating to specific key questions following the UK’s decision to leave the EU, please refer to: www.ucl.ac.uk/eu-referendum

**Disclaimer**

This information is for guidance only. It should not be construed as advice nor relied upon and does not form part of any contract. For more information on UCL’s degree programmes please see the UCL Undergraduate Prospectus at www.ucl.ac.uk/prospectus