COMPARATIVE LITERATURE BA
UCAS CODE: Q200
2020 ENTRY
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 (one per year), 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 2020

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 work with both academics and fellow students from all over the world.
- You will study up to two foreign languages (one per year) 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.

Degree structure

In each year of your degree you will take a number of individual modules, normally valued at 15 or 30 credits, adding up to a total of 120 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 30-credit module 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 those available with SELCS, SSEES or CLIE, Greek, Latin or Hebrew, all 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)
- Cultural Encounters in World Literature
- Reading Texts

Optional modules
- You will study a total of 120 credits a year. In your first year, you will select at least 30 credits 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 45 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 30 credits 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 45 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 30 credits 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 45 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 modules. 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.

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 a Post Offer Open Day where you will meet members of our academic staff and current students.
Entry requirements

**A LEVELS**

**Standard Offer:** AAA. A humanities subject required.

**Contextual Offer:** ABB. A humanities subject required.

**GCSE**

English Language at grade B or 6, plus Mathematics at grade C or 5. For UK-based students, a grade C or 5 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**

**Standard Offer:** 38 points. A total of 18 points in three higher level subjects with no score lower than 5.

**Contextual Offer:** 34 points. A total of 16 points in three higher level subjects with no score lower than 5.

**CONTEXTUAL OFFERS – ACCESS UCL SCHEME**

As part of our commitment to increasing participation from underrepresented groups, students may be eligible for a contextual offer as part of the Access UCL scheme. For more information see www.ucl.ac.uk/prospectus

**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)**

UCL 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.

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**TUITION FEES**

The fees indicated are for undergraduate entry in the 2020/21 academic year. The UK/EU fees shown are for the first year of the programme at UCL only. Fees for future years may be subject to an inflationary increase. The Overseas fees shown are the fees that will be charged to 2020/21 entrants for each year of study on the programme, unless otherwise indicated below.

// UK & EU: £9,250 (2020/21)
// Overseas: £21,260 (2020/21)

Full details of UCL’s tuition fees, tuition fee policy and potential increases to fees can be found on the UCL Students website.

**FUNDING**

Modern European Languages Scholarship https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/scholarships/undergraduate/MELS

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**

Email: selcs.admissions@ucl.ac.uk

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7679 3096

Department: School of European Languages, Culture and Society

**Brexit**

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/brexit

**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