



Twin Cities Campus

Comparative Literature Ph.D.

Cultural Studies & Comparative Literature

College of Liberal Arts

Link to a [list of faculty](#) for this program.

Contact Information:

Department of Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature, 235 Nicholson Hall, 216 Pillsbury Dr SE, Minneapolis, MN (612-624-8099; fax: 612-625-4170).

Email: cscl@umn.edu

Website: <https://cla.umn.edu/cscl/graduate>

- Program Type: Doctorate
- Requirements for this program are current for Fall 2019
- Length of program in credits: 66
- This program does not require summer semesters for timely completion.
- Degree: Doctor of Philosophy

Along with the program-specific requirements listed below, please read the [General Information](#) section of the catalog website for requirements that apply to all major fields.

Comparative literature is the oldest field of literary criticism, dating back to the seventeenth century. Among the wide range of studies currently conducted in comparative literature nationally and internationally, this program focuses on theories of literary criticism and its explanatory bases; indeed the program is seen as one of the principal initiators of such fields of study. This program is likewise engaged in pushing the bounds of critical inquiry in related domains of literary studies, directing much of its energies toward the intersection of literature with other media (in various constellations of word, sound, and image) and literatures of the global North with those of the global South, engaging problems ranging from narrative to postcolonial studies. The curriculum emphasizes seminars and directed research.

Program Delivery

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)

Prerequisites for Admission

A BS and/or MA degree in a humanities or a social science discipline, or other relevant field.

International applicants must submit score(s) from one of the following tests:

- TOEFL
 - Internet Based - Total Score: 79
 - Internet Based - Writing Score: 21
 - Internet Based - Reading Score: 19
 - Paper Based - Total Score: 550
- IELTS
 - Total Score: 6.5
- MELAB
 - Final score: 80

Key to [test abbreviations](#)(TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB).

For an online application or for more information about graduate education admissions, see the [General Information](#) section of the catalog website.

Program Requirements

30 credits are required in the major.

12 credits are required outside the major.

24 thesis credits are required.

This program may be completed with a minor.



Use of 4xxx courses toward program requirements is permitted under certain conditions with adviser approval.

Language Requirement: Proficiency in two languages (other than English)

A minimum GPA of 3.50 is required for students to remain in good standing.

Coursework should include at least 12 8xxx-level course credits, excluding CSCL 8001 and CSCL 8002.

Application of 4xxx-level courses toward degree requirements requires approval of the advisor and director of graduate studies.

Required Courses (9 credits)

Take the following courses:

[CSCL 8001](#) - Basic Research Seminar in Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature I (3.0 cr)

[CSCL 8002](#) - Basic Research Seminar in Comparative Literature II (3.0 cr)

[CSCL 8901](#) - Intro to the Profession: Critical Methods of Research, Pedagogy, and Creative Work in the Humanities (3.0 cr)

Major Electives (12 credits)

Select 12 credits from the following in consultation with the advisor. Other courses may be applied to this requirement with advisor and director of graduate studies approval.

[CSCL 5281](#) ~~{Inactive}~~(3.0 cr)

[CSCL 5282](#) ~~{Inactive}~~(3.0 cr)

[CSCL 5302](#) - Aesthetics and the Valuation of Art (3.0 cr)

[CSCL 5305](#) - Vision and Visuality: An Intellectual History (3.0 cr)

[CSCL 5331](#) - Discourse of the Novel (3.0 cr)

[CSCL 5401](#) - Origins of Cultural Studies (3.0 cr)

[CSCL 5411](#) - Avant-Garde Cinema (4.0 cr)

[CSCL 5555](#) - Introduction to Semiotics (3.0 cr)

[CSCL 5666](#) - Film Music: Theory, History, Practice (4.0 cr)

[CSCL 5833](#) - Marx, Freud, Nietzsche: Intellectual Foundations (3.0 cr)

[CSCL 5910](#) - Topics in Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature (3.0 - 4.0 cr)

[CSCL 8910](#) - Advanced Topics in Comparative Literature (3.0 - 4.0 cr)

[CSCL 8992](#) - Directed Reading in Comparative Literature (1.0 - 4.0 cr)

[CSCL 8993](#) - Directed Study (1.0 - 4.0 cr)

[CSCL 8994](#) - Directed Research (1.0 - 4.0 cr)

Related Courses (9 credits)

Select 9 credits from the following in consultation with the advisor. Other courses, including courses from the Major Electives list not applied to that requirement, can be used with advisor and director of graduate studies approval.

[CSCL 5xxx](#)

[CSCL 8xxx](#)

[SCMC 5001](#) - Critical Debates in the Study of Cinema and Media Culture (4.0 cr)

[SCMC 5002](#) - Advanced Film Analysis (4.0 cr)

Outside Coursework (12 credits)

Select 12 credits outside the major in consultation with the advisor and director of graduate studies. Other courses can be applied to this requirement with advisor and director of graduate studies approval.

[MIMS 5910](#) - Topics in Moving Image Studies (2.0 - 4.0 cr)

[MIMS 8001](#) - Theories of the Moving Image (3.0 cr)

[MIMS 8003](#) - Historiography of the Moving Image (3.0 cr)

Thesis Credits

Take 24 doctoral thesis credits.

[CSCL 8888](#) - Thesis Credit: Doctoral (1.0 - 24.0 cr)