

*** INFORMATION FOR LITERATURE MAJORS ***

Department of Literature literature.ucsc.edu litdept@ucsc.edu (831) 459-4778

Welcome to the Literature Department at UC Santa Cruz! The Literature Department staff and faculty look forward to meeting with you, and to assisting you in shaping a personally tailored plan of study. The Literature Department recommends that you take the two required lower-division courses for the major (Literature 1 and a 61 or 80-series course) in your first or second year at UCSC. The Department also recommends that you satisfy the Literature language proficiency requirement—one year (three quarters or the equivalent) of college level study of a non-English language or demonstrated reading ability at this level—by the end of your sophomore year.

Transfer Students. Students who have taken literature courses at other colleges or universities may satisfy UC Santa Cruz's lower-division Literature requirements with the following courses:

- an introduction to literature course (similar to UCSC's Literature 1)
- one additional literature course

Transfer students may also complete the Literature language proficiency requirement—one year (three quarters or the equivalent) of college level study of a non-English language or demonstrated reading ability at this level—at another college or university. Please bring an unofficial copy of your college transcript to a Literature orientation in order to determine which of your courses satisfy UCSC literature requirements.

Scope. The study of literature at UCSC is organized as an interdisciplinary field coordinated through a single Department of Literature, rather than through separate departments of English, modern languages, and classics. This structure fosters innovative and comparative approaches to literature among both faculty and students. Courses in the major encompass traditional literary history and interpretation as well as cross-cultural inquiry and current theoretical debates.

The purpose of the upper-division area of concentration is to help students shape a coherent program of study. The department provides several defined concentrations, described below. For all concentrations except national/transnational literatures, texts may be read in the original or in translation. Students may select from the following concentrations:

• **National/Transnational Literatures.**

English Language Literatures. The study of American and British literature, as well as literatures of other English-speaking peoples around the world.

French Literature. The study of French and Francophone literatures, languages, and cultural practices of France, Africa, and the Caribbean.

German Literature. The study of the literature, language, and cultural practices of the German-speaking areas of central Europe, including Germany, Austria, and Switzerland.

Greek and Latin Literatures. The study of the literatures, languages, and cultural practices of ancient Greece and Rome. Students may choose to concentrate in Greek or Latin or both.

Italian Literature. The study of Italian literature, language, and cultural practices from the Middle Ages to the present.

Spanish/Latin American/Latino Literatures. The study of the literatures, language, and cultural practices of Spain, Latin America, and Latino populations in the United States.

• **Creative Writing.** The concentration in Creative Writing offers a sequence of workshops, from introductory through advanced levels, in both poetry and fiction. Creative Writing is the only Literature concentration that is selective. Interested students are required to take one lower-division workshop at UC Santa Cruz before applying to the Creative Writing concentration.

• **Modern Literary Studies.** The study of literature of the eighteenth, nineteenth, twentieth, and twenty-first centuries. This concentration examines ways in which modernity in general and literary modernism and postmodernism in particular emerge and develop in different countries and cultures.

• **Pre- and Early Modern Studies.** The interdisciplinary study of literatures and cultures from antiquity through the early eighteenth century, especially in Europe. This concentration includes the study of popular culture and everyday life as well as readings in masterpieces of classical, medieval, early modern (Renaissance), and neo-classical literature.

• **World Literature and Cultural Studies.** The study of literature and cultural production both within a global context and within specific histories and economies. Courses move beyond the literary text to include nonverbal forms of representation such as social movements and everyday life practices.

The Major. Students wishing to major in Literature may choose either the Literature major or the Intensive Literature major. The Intensive Literature major is recommended particularly for students who plan to continue their studies in graduate school. Students must successfully complete Literature 1, Literary Interpretation, or its equivalent prior to declaring the Literature major. Lower-division courses number 1-99; upper-division courses are numbered 100-199.

Major Requirements. *The Literature Major*

- Twelve courses are required: two lower-division and ten upper-division courses.
- Satisfaction of the Literature language proficiency requirement: one year (three quarters or the equivalent) of college level study of a non-English language or demonstrated reading ability at this level.

Lower-Division Courses

- Literature 1: *Literary Interpretation*: close reading and analysis of literary texts
- One Literature 61-series course: categories, methodologies, and problems of literary study, **or**
- One Literature 80-series course: topical, thematic, and comparative study of literary texts

Upper-Division Courses

- Literature 101: *Theory and Interpretation*: contemporary approaches to literary and cultural theories
- Literature 102: *Translation Theory*: an examination of translation and its role in redefining meanings across epochs and cultures
- Six upper-division courses in an area of concentration
- Two upper-division elective courses in literature

Upper-Division Distribution Requirements. Among the ten upper-division courses, at least two must focus on literature written prior to the year 1750; one on non-Western literature or literature in a global perspective; and one on the study of poetry.

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**Major Requirements. *The Intensive Literature Major***

- Fourteen courses are required: two lower-division and twelve upper-division courses. Students who choose the Intensive Literature major are required to achieve competence in a language other than English, as demonstrated by completion of a lower-division language sequence or the equivalent.
- Among the twelve upper-division literature courses, students must complete at least two courses in a second-language literature studied in the original language.

**Lower-Division Courses**

- Literature 1: *Literary Interpretation*: close reading and analysis of literary texts
- One Literature 61-series course: categories, methodologies, and problems of literary study, **or**
- One Literature 80-series course: topical, thematic, and comparative study of literary texts

**Upper-Division Courses**

- Literature 101, *Theory and Interpretation*: contemporary approaches to literary and cultural theories
- Literature 102: *Translation Theory*: an examination of translation and its role in redefining meanings across epochs and cultures
- Six upper-division courses in an area of concentration
- Four upper-division elective courses in literature

**Upper-Division Distribution Requirements.** Among the twelve upper-division courses, at least two must focus on literature written prior to the year 1750; one on non-Western literature or literature in a global perspective; and one on the study of poetry. In addition, students must complete at least two courses in a second-language literature studied in the original language.

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Pass/NoPass or Letter Grades? Students majoring in Literature must take 75% of their courses in the major for letter grades, and may take up to 25% of their courses in the major for Pass/No Pass grades. Additionally, the senior exit requirement (seminar or thesis) must be taken for a letter grade.

What Can I Do With a Bachelor's Degree in Literature? Literature majors at UC Santa Cruz are trained in critical reading, writing, and thinking, as well as in literary interpretation. These skills have wide applicability: they may lead to careers in other media such as film, theater, video, the visual arts, and electronic media, and they offer avenues into related disciplines such as history, philosophy, psychology, sociology, anthropology, politics, and history of art and visual culture. Literature majors traditionally enter a wide variety of careers ranging from law and journalism to management, government, international studies, publishing, technical writing, and teaching at all levels.

Literature Major Advising. The Literature Department office is open Monday through Friday from 9:00am to 12:00 noon and 1:00pm to 3:00pm throughout the year. Staff advisors are available during the Department's open hours. During the academic year faculty members are available to provide students with information on the major, recommend specific courses and areas of study, assist in the organization of students' overall plan of study, and offer graduate school and career advising.

Once again, welcome to the Literature Department. We look forward to seeing you in Literature classes!