Comparative Literary & Cultural Studies (CLCS) MA Course of Study

Degree Title: World Languages & Cultures MA – CLCS Specialization
Total hours: 33 course hours plus 6 thesis hours for a total of 39 hours
Grade required: MA courses require a minimum grade of B

I. Required Coursework

WLC 6600: Introduction to Research and Bibliography (first fall)
WLC 6410: L2 Methodology (first fall)
CLCS 6750: Trends in Comparative Literature
CLCS 6762: Literary Theory and Criticism: Contemporary

II. A minimum of four (4) additional graduate courses in CLCS

CLCS 6670: Studies in Theme
CLCS 6680: Studies in Genre
CLCS 6690: Studies in Language and Society
CLCS 6740: Studies in Film Criticism
CLCS 6880: Directed Reading
CLCS 6900: Special Topics
*These courses may be taken more than once, if the topic varies.

III. Area of Exploration

Three (3) courses outside of CLCS to explore special interests not covered by CLCS coursework, especially areas necessary to the student’s MA thesis.
*These courses should be determined in conjunction with CLCS Graduate Advisor.

IV. MA Thesis

In the second year of their program, students will register for 6 credits of the following course (can be taken in one semester or spread over two):
CLCS 6970: Thesis Research: Masters

V. Language Proficiency

Language 1: At least one course in the target language at the 3000 or 4000 level
Language 2: Completion of 2020 in a second language or a PhD Reading Course
*Both requirements can be met before beginning the MA Program

MA Thesis: completing your degree

Students may write a traditional thesis of approximately 60-100 pp. or a shorter (25-30 pp.) scholarly essay that must be deemed by the student’s advisory committee to be suitable for submission for publication in an academic journal. In exceptional cases, other forms of the thesis may be approved. In all cases, the thesis must meet scholarly standards of critical analysis, research, and proper use of secondary sources.

Students must establish a thesis committee and submit a Thesis Proposal during the spring semester of their first year. Students are expected to conduct substantial research during the summer semester between their first and second year. The student’s committee will be responsible for evaluating the acceptability of the student’s thesis work. Toward the end of the fourth semester, students will present themselves for a public thesis defense, which is conducted by their thesis committee.