

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

Integrated Undergrad-Grad Programs Integrated B.A. in Comparative Literature and M.A. in Comparative Literature

Requirements listed here are in addition to requirements listed in GCAC-210 Integrated Undergraduate-Graduate (IUG) Degree Programs (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-210-integrated-undergraduate-graduate-degree-programs/>).

The Department of Comparative Literature offers an integrated B.A./M.A. program that is designed to allow academically superior baccalaureate students to obtain both the B.A. and the M.A. degrees in Comparative Literature within five years of study. The first two years of undergraduate course work include the University General Education and Liberal Arts requirements in addition to language and literature study in the major. In the third year, students are expected to define areas of interest in two primary literatures in different languages. In addition, students in the B.A./M.A. program should begin to undertake work in a second foreign language. The fourth year includes graduate-level work in methodology and the student's selection of primary literatures, which replaces comparable 400-level senior year courses. The fifth and final year of the program typically consists of graduate work in Comparative Literature courses as well as the chosen literatures. The program culminates with an M.A. paper.

By encouraging greater depth and focus in the course of study beginning in the third undergraduate year, this program helps students more clearly define their area of interest and expertise in the otherwise vast field of international literatures. As a result, long-range academic planning for exceptional students pursuing doctoral degrees after leaving Penn State, or other professional goals, will be greatly enhanced. The student may also be more competitive in applying for admission to Ph.D. programs as well as for institutional and national grant monies and scholarships.

Admission Requirements

Applicants apply for admission to the program via the Graduate School application for admission (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-admissions/how-to-apply/>). Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-300 Admissions Policies (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/>).

The number of openings in the integrated B.A./M.A. program is limited. Admission is selective based on specific criteria and the unqualified recommendation of faculty. Applicants to the integrated program:

1. Must be enrolled in the Comparative Literature B.A. program.
2. Must have completed entrance to their undergraduate major and have completed no less than 60 credits. Students must be admitted no later than the end of the second week of the semester preceding the semester of expected conferral of the undergraduate degree. It is strongly suggested that students apply to the program prior to completing 100 credits. Transfer students must have completed at least 15 credits at Penn State to enroll in an IUG.
3. Must be accepted without reservation into the M.A. program in Comparative Literature. Students must apply to the program via the Graduate School application for admission (<http://www.gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply/>), and must meet all the admission requirements of the Graduate School

and the Comparative Literature graduate program for the Master of Arts degree, listed on the Admission Requirements tab.

4. Should have a recommended overall GPA of 3.2 (on a 4.0 scale) in undergraduate coursework and a minimum GPA of 3.5 in all coursework completed for the major.
5. Must present a departmentally approved plan of study in the application process. The plan should cover the entire time period of the integrated program, and it should be reviewed periodically with an adviser as the student advances through the program.
6. Must be recommended by the chairs of the Department's undergraduate and graduate committees.

Degree Requirements

A typical sequence of course work for the integrated program would appear as follows:

- Students must fulfill all requirements for each degree in order to be awarded that degree, subject to the double-counting of credits as outlined below. Degree requirements for the B.A. in Comparative Literature are listed in the Undergraduate Bulletin (<http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/>). Degree requirements for the M.A. degree are listed on the Degree Requirements tab. Up to 9 credits may be double-counted towards the degree requirements for both the graduate and undergraduate degrees; a minimum of 50% of the double-counted courses must be at the 500 or 800 level. Independent study courses and credits associated with the culminating experience for the graduate degree cannot be double-counted. Because the B.A./M.A. is an *integrated* (rather than a sequential) degree program students are encouraged to gradually increase the number of graduate courses taken for credit. (See chart of suggested progress below.) Still, students should satisfy all of the B.A. requirements (including double-counted classes), before taking courses that count *only* toward the M.A. Students must sequence their courses so all undergraduate degree requirements are fulfilled before taking courses to count solely towards the graduate degree. Students are expected to complete the undergraduate degree requirements within the typical time to degree for the undergraduate major. In the semester in which the undergraduate degree requirements will be completed, IUG students must apply to graduate, and the undergraduate degree should be conferred at the next appropriate Commencement. If students accepted into the IUG program are unable to complete the M.A. degree, they are still eligible to receive their undergraduate degree if all the undergraduate degree requirements have been satisfied.
- CMLIT 501 will double-count for both degrees, and will replace CMLIT 400Y (a core requirement of the B.A.-only program). Students enrolled in the Integrated B.A./M.A. program can also double-count two further 500-level courses (CMLIT 502 and CMLIT 503) toward both the B.A. and the M.A. degrees.

First Year	Credits
CMLIT 10	3
CMLIT 100	3
	6
Second Year	Credits
Foreign Language (beyond the 12-credit level)	6
Courses in Literature	6
	12
Third Year	Credits
400-level courses in Literature	6

CMLIT 501	3
Work in foreign language (credits do not count towards the major, but reading proficiency is required for the M.A. degree)	
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9	
Fourth Year	Credits
CMLIT 502 or 503	3
Comparative Literature courses	6
500-level courses in Literatures (at least 3 credits in non-Anglophone literature)	6-9
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15-18	
Fifth Year	Credits
CMLIT 502 or 503	3
500-level courses in Literatures (at least 3 credits in non-Anglophone literature)	9-12
500-level Comparative Literature Courses M.A. paper	6
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18-21	
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Total Credits 60-66	