Comparative Literature and Folklore Studies

Administrative Unit: Comparative Literature and Folklore Studies
College/School: College of Letters & Science
Admitting Plans: M.A., Ph.D.
Degrees Offered: M.A., Ph.D.
Minors and Certificates: Doctoral Minor in Comparative Literature and Doctoral Minor in Folklore
Named Options: Comparative Literature (M.A./Ph.D.), Folklore Studies (M.A./Ph.D.)

Graduate study in the Department of Comparative Literature and Folklore Studies (CLFS) emphasizes the active research into and theorizing of the comparative, the literary, the folkloric, and the cultural in a global context. CLFS faculty and students investigate cultures within, across, and beyond linguistic, regional, and national boundaries. The comparative and pluri-lingual nature of CLFS at UW–Madison enables the careful and informed study of new and evolving theories and cultural methodologies as well as of prior, present, and emerging cultural and literary practices and phenomena.

CLFS students study problems and create public projects exploring culture, genre, literary and cultural movements, mode, performance, periodization, theory and criticism, tradition, translation, and transmission. They engage problems and questions concerning the interaction and shifting boundaries of ‘elite’ and ‘folk’ literatures and other forms of creative expression and their transformation in their interaction; folklore and literature with other arts or other disciplines; and the relationships between creative expression and economic, sociopolitical, traditional, and other historical structures and issues, including ideological and value formations.

In addition to professional research and communication in the academic fields of comparative literature and folklore studies, CLFS is committed to public humanities projects that place professional expertise in the service of communities and publics.

Graduate study leads to the M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in CLFS and must be in either a comparative literature named option or a folklore studies named option.

The department also offers doctoral minors in comparative literature and in folklore to interested Ph.D. candidates in other degree programs. At the beginning of study in the minor program, all students seeking a comparative literature or folklore doctoral minor should contact the CLFS director of graduate studies concerning coursework for the minor. Completion of the minor will be certified by either the director of graduate studies or the department chair.

DEGREES/MAJORS, DOCTORAL MINORS, GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATES

- Comparative Literature and Folklore Studies, M.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/comparative-literature-folklore-studies/comparative-literature-folklore-studies-ma)
- Comparative Literature and Folklore Studies, Ph.D. (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/comparative-literature-folklore-studies/comparative-literature-folklore-studies-phd)

PEOPLE

Faculty: Professors Dharwadker, Gilmore (also Landscape Architecture), Layoun, Livorni (chair, also French and Italian), Rosenblum (also Jewish Studies); Associate Professors Livanos, Statkiewicz; Assistant Professors Fielder, Grunewald, Neyrat, Wells. Affiliate Faculty: Adler (German, Nordic, and Slavic), Casid (Art History), Garlough (also Gender and Women’s Studies), Goodkin (French and Italian), Guyer (English), Kern (Asian Languages and Cultures), Longinovic (German, Nordic, and Slavic), Valentine (Linguistics); Associate Professors Kapust (Political Science), International Affiliate Faculty: Ramalho de Sousa Santos (University of Coimbra, Portugal). See also Faculty (http://clfs.wisc.edu/people/faculty) on the department website.