

# COMPARATIVE LITERATURE AND FOLKLORE STUDIES: FOLKLORE STUDIES, M.A.

Admissions to the Comparative Literature and Folklore Studies: Folklore Studies M.A. have been suspended as of summer 2018 and will be discontinued as of fall 2021. If you have any questions, please contact the department ([complit@lss.wisc.edu](mailto:complit@lss.wisc.edu)).

This is a named option within the Comparative Literature and Folklore Studies M.A. (<http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/comparative-literature-folklore-studies/comparative-literature-folklore-studies-ma/>)

## ADMISSIONS

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Applicants to the graduate program in the CLFS should submit to the department a statement of purpose for graduate study, transcripts, letters of recommendation, a writing sample (in English) of no more than 15 pages, a list of foreign language and literature coursework, and Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores. (International applicants should consult the department and the Graduate School website for information and additional application requirements regarding TOEFL, MELAB or IELTS tests.)

Admission to graduate study in the comparative literature named option requires advanced foreign language work at the literary level in at least one language other than English; the student's academic record should demonstrate the ability to work critically in at least two literatures (one of which may be English).

All entering students are admitted into one of the two named options in the M.A. program. Students are accepted into the Ph.D. program upon successful completion of the Second-Year Examination.

## FUNDING

## GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid. Further funding information (<https://grad.wisc.edu/funding/>) is available from the Graduate School. Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and restrictions related to funding.

## REQUIREMENTS

## MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements (<http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/>

#policiesandrequirements text), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

## NAMED OPTION REQUIREMENTS MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Face to Face	Evening/ Weekend	Online	Hybrid	Accelerated
Yes	No	No	No	No

### Mode of Instruction Definitions

**Accelerated:** Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students are able to complete a program with minimal disruptions to careers and other commitments.

**Evening/Weekend:** Courses meet on the UW–Madison campus only in evenings and/or on weekends to accommodate typical business schedules. Students have the advantages of face-to-face courses with the flexibility to keep work and other life commitments.

**Face-to-Face:** Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW-Madison Campus.

**Hybrid:** These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.

**Online:** These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.

## CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Requirements Detail	
Minimum Credit Requirement	30 credits
Minimum Residence Credit Requirement	16 credits
Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement	Successful completion of the master's degree requires 30 credit hours of coursework. This requirement includes that at least 50 percent of these credit hours must be received in graduate-level coursework; courses with the Graduate Level Coursework attribute are identified and searchable in the university's Course Guide.
Overall Graduate GPA Requirement	3.5 GPA required.
Other Grade Requirements	None.

**Assessments and Examinations** The required Second Year Examination is a written examination administered by the program followed by an oral defense.

In consultation with the student's supervisor, a student pursuing the Folklore named option may elect to produce an M.A. thesis. The thesis will be presented to a committee of three faculty members, including the supervisor, and defended in an oral examination. Depending on the length and nature of the thesis project, and subject to the supervisor's approval, this project may substitute for all or part of the second-year exam. If a student opts for the M.A. thesis option, that thesis project will be the subject of the master's oral examination. Otherwise, the second year examination will be the subject of the Master's Oral Examination.

Students who are not interested in pursuing the Ph.D. may elect to offer an M.A. thesis in place of the seminar requirement. In such cases, the student must work under the direction of a department faculty member who will act as supervisor of the thesis. The thesis will be presented to a committee of three faculty members, including the supervisor, and defended in an oral examination. A bound copy of the thesis must be deposited with the department. Otherwise, the Second Year Examination will be the subject of the Master's Oral Examination.

**Language Requirements** Second Language: An examination in a second language (other than English) must be taken by the end of the second semester of graduate study and before the Second Year Examination.

In the event that the linguistic tradition under examination cannot be covered by a member of the comparative literature and folklore studies faculty, the advisor will invite an appropriate member of the UW–Madison faculty to assist in the administration of the examination.

## REQUIRED COURSES

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required Courses</b>		
COMP LIT 702	Problems in Comparative Studies	3
FOLKLORE 510	Folklore Theory (or other Folklore course approved by advisor)	3

At least one graduate-level seminar in Comparative Literature and Folklore Studies

## POLICIES

### GRADUATE SCHOOL POLICIES

The Graduate School's Academic Policies and Procedures (<https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy/>) provide essential information regarding general university policies. Program authority to set degree policies beyond the minimum required by the Graduate School lies with the degree program faculty. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.

## NAMED OPTION-SPECIFIC POLICIES PRIOR COURSEWORK

### Graduate Work from Other Institutions

With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 9 credits of graduate coursework from other institutions, provided this coursework relates directly to the student's CLFS graduate studies. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master's degree may not be used to satisfy the CLFS degree requirements.

To apply credit for prior graduate coursework toward requirements the student should furnish the student's advisor and the director of graduate study with a transcript of the coursework and copies of work done in courses and syllabi, if available. This task should be completed in anticipation of the Second Year exam. Credits deemed eligible to apply toward requirements will be listed in the official form that the department provides to the Graduate School in preparation for the award of the master's degree.

### UW–Madison Undergraduate

No credits from a UW–Madison undergraduate degree are allowed to count toward the degree.

### UW–Madison University Special

With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 9 credits of coursework numbered 300 or above taken as a UW–Madison Special student. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a Master's degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

## PROBATION

The Graduate School regularly reviews the record of any student who earned grades of BC, C, D, F, or Incomplete in a graduate course (300 or above), or grade of U in research credits. This review could result in academic probation with a hold on future enrollment or in being suspended from the Graduate School.

1. Good standing (progressing according to standards; any funding guarantee remains in place).
2. Probation (not progressing according to standards but permitted to enroll; loss of funding guarantee; specific plan with dates and deadlines in place in regard to removal of probationary status).
3. Unsatisfactory progress (not progressing according to standards; not permitted to enroll, dismissal, leave of absence or change of advisor or program).

## ADVISOR / COMMITTEE

Every graduate student is required to have an advisor. An advisor is a faculty member from the major department responsible for providing advice regarding graduate studies. An advisor generally serves as the thesis advisor. An advisor is assigned to incoming students but can be changed. Students can be suspended from the Graduate School if they do not have an advisor.

## CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED

15 credits

## TIME CONSTRAINTS

The Second Year Examination must be taken in the fourth semester of graduate study. If a candidate enters the graduate program with an M.A. in comparative literature from another institution, the Second Year Examination must be taken in the second semester of graduate

study. Students entering with an M.A. in another discipline may take the examination in either the second or the fourth semester.

The thesis, written in consultation with the major professor, must be completed no later than two semesters after thesis work begins.

Master's degree students who have been absent for five or more consecutive years lose all credits that they have earned before their absence. Individual programs may count the coursework students completed prior to their absence for meeting program requirements; that coursework may not count toward Graduate School credit requirements.

## GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS

These resources may be helpful in addressing your concerns:

- Bias or Hate Reporting (<https://doso.students.wisc.edu/bias-or-hate-reporting/>)
- Graduate Assistantship Policies and Procedures (<https://hr.wisc.edu/policies/gapp/#grievance-procedure>)
- Hostile and Intimidating Behavior Policies and Procedures (<https://hr.wisc.edu/hib/>)
  - Office of the Provost for Faculty and Staff Affairs (<https://facstaff.provost.wisc.edu/>)
- Dean of Students Office (<https://doso.students.wisc.edu/>) (for all students to seek grievance assistance and support)
- Employee Assistance (<http://www.eao.wisc.edu/>) (for personal counseling and workplace consultation around communication and conflict involving graduate assistants and other employees, post-doctoral students, faculty and staff)
- Employee Disability Resource Office (<https://employee disabilities.wisc.edu/>) (for qualified employees or applicants with disabilities to have equal employment opportunities)
- Graduate School (<https://grad.wisc.edu/>) (for informal advice at any level of review and for official appeals of program/departmental or school/college grievance decisions)
- Office of Compliance (<https://compliance.wisc.edu/>) (for class harassment and discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence)
- Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (<https://conduct.students.wisc.edu/>) (for conflicts involving students)
- Ombuds Office for Faculty and Staff (<http://www.ombuds.wisc.edu/>) (for employed graduate students and post-docs, as well as faculty and staff)
- Title IX (<https://compliance.wisc.edu/titleix/>) (for concerns about discrimination)

Students should contact the department chair or program director with questions about grievances.

## OTHER

Because we are committed to supporting and working closely with our graduate students, we are able to accept only a limited number (2–3 students per year) of the many excellent applications we receive each year. The CLFS' admission form also serves as an application for fellowships and teaching assistantships. The deadline for all completed applications (and for fellowship consideration) for the fall semester is December 15.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Take advantage of the Graduate School's professional development resources (<https://grad.wisc.edu/pd/>) to build skills, thrive academically, and launch your career.

## PEOPLE

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