On this degree you will examine in detail the similarities and differences between literature written in different places and at different times. The Department of Comparative Literature at King’s covers 12 languages, six continents, and spans over 2,500 years.

Focus extends beyond the modern works of literature of Europe to the Americas, Australia, China, the Middle East, South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa. Where else in the UK can you study African literature in English and French alongside Greek modernist poetry, or modern Indian literature alongside the eighteenth-century European novel? All in a central London location that opens the doors to endless world-class libraries, institutes, galleries, concert halls and theatres.

Key benefits

• All modules are taught in English translation, though you are encouraged to read in the original language, where possible.
• Centrally located offering opportunities to benefit from London’s unique literary and cultural resources.
• Our flexible study courses allow you to pursue your research interests and choose from a wide variety of modules across a number of departments.
• Study abroad is available at a wide number of partner institutions in Europe, the USA, Asia and Australia.

• You will acquire analytical and presentational skills valued by employers in heritage-related professions, the media, education, civil service and the performing arts.

Course details

Comparative Literature is the study of the similarities and differences between literature written in different places and at different times. The Comparative Literature BA degree is a three-year study course that comprises modules totalling 360 credits. Each year, you will take modules totalling 120 credits, with enough variety in the range of optional modules to allow you explore the comparative aspects of literary themes, genres, and historical periods of your choice. You will also have the opportunity to study specialist subjects in-depth. Your first year of study will consist of modules covering conceptions, methods and theoretical foundations of Comparative Literature. This will provide you with a rounded introduction to the subject, develop your analytical skills and introduce you to advanced historical theory and methodology. You will cover a range of optional modules that will reflect your study interests. In the second and third years, you will study further required and optional modules, allowing you to explore in-depth your chosen research pathway. The optional modules you study will reflect the current research and expertise of staff in the department, providing you with the opportunity to study specialist subjects in-depth.
Teaching
We use lectures, seminars and group tutorials to deliver most of the modules on the course. You will also be expected to undertake a significant amount of independent study. You will be assigned a personal tutor who will provide support and guidance for your studies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course stage</th>
<th>Percentage of time in scheduled learning and teaching activities</th>
<th>Percentage of time in guided independent study</th>
<th>Percentage of time on placements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Typically, one credit equates to 10 hours of work.

Assessment
Assessment methods will depend on the modules you have selected to study. The primary methods of assessment for this course are coursework, assessed essays, written examinations and individual and group presentations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course stage</th>
<th>Percentage of assessment by written exams</th>
<th>Percentage of assessment by practical exams</th>
<th>Percentage of assessment by coursework</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course structure

Year 1
Required modules
You are required to take the following modules:
- What is Comparative Literature? Conceptions & Methods (15 credits)
- The Writer in the Text (15 credits)
- Comparative Literature: Theoretical Foundations (15 credits)
- Genres of World Literature (15 credits)

You are also required to take modules totalling at least 15 credits that require the use of another language, including language study at the Modern Language Centre (MLC) or an approved modern languages module.

Optional modules
You are required to study three further 15-credit Comparative Literature modules from a selection which may typically include:
- Romantic Britain & Italy (15 credits)
- The Book in the Modern World (15 credits)
- The Canon (15 credits)
- Writing Africa (15 credits)
- Caribbean Drama (15 credits)
- Palestinian & Israeli Literature (15 credits)
- Forms of Discovery: Hardy, Cavafy, & the modern short poem (15 credits)
- The Faust Tradition: Dramatic Transformations (15 credits)

Additionally, you are required to select a further 30-credit module from Comparative Literature or optional modules within the Faculty of Arts & Humanities.

Year 2
Required modules
You are required to take the following modules:
- Literature of Empire (15 credits)
- Ideas of Nation (15 credits)
- The Book in the Modern World (15 credits)
- OR The Canon (15 credits)

You are also required to take modules totalling at least 15 credits that require the use of another language, including language study at the Modern Language Centre (MLC) or an approved modern languages module.

Optional modules
You are required to study three further 15-credit Comparative Literature modules from a selection which may typically include:
- Romantic Britain & Italy (15 credits)
- The Book in the Modern World (15 credits)
- The Canon (15 credits)
- Writing Africa (15 credits)
- Caribbean Drama (15 credits)
- Palestinian & Israeli Literature (15 credits)
- Forms of Discovery: Hardy, Cavafy, & the modern short poem (15 credits)
- The Faust Tradition: Dramatic Transformations (15 credits)

Additionally, you are required to select a further 30-credit module from Comparative Literature or optional modules within the Faculty of Arts & Humanities.

Year 3
Required modules
You are required to take the following module:
- Dissertation (30 credits)

You are required to take modules totalling at least 15 credits that require the use of another language, including language study at the Modern Language Centre (MLC) or an approved modern languages module.

Regulating body
King’s College London is regulated by the Higher Education Funding Council for England.
Optional modules
You are also required to study a further three 15-credit Comparative Literature modules from a selection that may typically include:

• Surrealism (15 credits)
• Imaginary Geographies (15 credits)
• The French Revolution Effect (15 credits)
• Testimony: The Holocaust and Rwanda (15 credits)
• Listening across the Channel (15 credits)
• Modern Arabic Literature (15 credits)

You are also required to select further credits from Comparative Literature topics or from optional modules within the Faculty of Arts & Humanities (approved by the Comparative Literature Teaching Committee) to bring your total for the year to 120 credits.

You will have the opportunity to study abroad in the first semester of the third year. Partner universities currently include:

• University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
• Hong Kong University
• University of Bologna (Italian language required)
• University of Sydney
• Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München (German language required - this is a German department exchange which Comp Lit students can access where space is available)
• Université Paris-Sorbonne French language required - this is a French department exchange which Comp Lit students can access where space is available)

King’s College London reviews the modules offered on a regular basis in order to provide up-to-date, innovative and relevant programmes of study. The optional modules offered may therefore change. We suggest that you keep an eye on the course finder on our website for updates.

Location
The majority of learning for this degree takes place at the King’s College London Strand Campus. Please note that locations are determined by where each module is taught and may vary depending on the optional modules you select.

Career prospects
Our graduates go on to work in a range of professions including accountancy, administration, banking, broadcasting, the civil service, journalism, law, marketing, teaching (in the UK or abroad) and the tourism industry. Others choose to continue their studies at graduate level.

Fees and funding
Full time tuition fees UK
The UK tuition fees for the 2018-2019 academic year are available on the course web page: kcl.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/comparative-literature-ba.aspx

Please note that the UK tuition fees and the fees for subsequent years of study may be subject to increases in line with King’s terms and conditions.

Full time tuition fees International
The international tuition fees for the 2018-2019 academic year are available on the course web page: kcl.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/comparative-literature-ba.aspx

Please note that the tuition fees for subsequent years of study may be subject to increases in line with King’s terms and conditions.

Full time tuition fees EU
Current regulations allow some students to pay UK tuition fees on the basis of their EU citizenship or residency. Until these eligibility criteria are changed, the EU tuition fee will remain the same as the UK tuition fee.

The UK tuition fees for the 2018-2019 academic year are available on the course web page: kcl.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/comparative-literature-ba.aspx

Please note that the UK tuition fees and the fees for subsequent years of study may be subject to increases in line with King’s terms and conditions.

For further information, please visit the fees and funding section of our website: kcl.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/fees-and-funding/index.aspx
Additional costs/expenses

If you choose the study abroad option with one of King’s partner universities, you will not be charged tuition fees by the host university (although some partners do charge a small administration fee for applying). Please see the Study Abroad webpages for details of the relevant partner universities. King’s will continue to invoice for a proportion of King’s tuition fees. At present these are as follows:

- Home students studying for a semester abroad will receive an invoice for £6,000 for King’s tuition fees for the year.
- Overseas students studying for a semester abroad will receive an invoice for two thirds of the King’s tuition fees for the year.

You should also budget to pay for the associated subsistence costs, such as travel, visas, accommodation and food as well as any vaccination/immunisations required by the country to which you are travelling. In addition to the costs above, you can also expect to pay for:

- books
- clothing for optional course related events and competitions
- library fees and fines
- personal photocopies
- printing course handouts
- society membership fees
- stationery
- graduation costs
- travel costs for travel around London and between campuses.

Disclaimer

This PDF was produced in August 2017. Although it was up-to-date at the time it was produced, please make sure you check our website or contact us directly for the very latest information before you commit yourself to any of our courses:

kcl.ac.uk/study

Contact us

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