**Comparative Literature**

**Course Title:** Comparative Literature

**Course Code: LR111**

**Semester:**

**Course Instructor:**

**Office location:**

**Counseling Hours:**

**Email:**

**Course Description**

The course of Comparative Literature provides students the opportunity to study literature in all its forms. While other literary disciplines focus on works of literature as parts of specific national or linguistic traditions, Comparative Literature draws on literature from all contexts in order to examine the nature of literary phenomena from around the globe and from different historical moments, while exploring how literary writing interacts with other elements of culture and society. The field studies literary expression through examinations of genres such as novels, epics, prose and poetry, and new aesthetic forms such as cinema and electronic media. Although Comparative Literature does not restrict its focus to single traditions or periods, it does investigate the complex interplay of the literary imagination and historical experience. Attention is also paid to questions of literary theory, aesthetic philosophy, and cultural interpretation.

Along with the traditional model of comparative literature that juxtaposes two or more national literary cultures, the department supports teaching and research that examine literary phenomena with additional tools of inquiry such as literary theory, the relationship between literature and philosophy, and the enrichment of literary study with other disciplinary methodologies. Comparative Literature also encourages the study of aspects of literature that surpass national boundaries, such as transnational literary movements or the dissemination of particular genres. In each case, students emerge from the program with enhanced verbal and writing skills, a command of literary studies, the ability to read analytically and critically, and a more global knowledge of literature.

**Objectives of the Course**

At the end of this course students will be able to

* Examine literature in all its forms
* Give critique on the different historical moments in context to what they have studied
* Explore literary writings and their interaction with culture and society
* Interpret literary theory, aesthetic philosophy and culture influence
* Prepares themselves for a lifetime of reading literature and the enrichment and enjoyment that entails

**RESOURCE MATERIAL**

* Susan Bassnett, Comparative Literature: A Critical Introduction, 1993 .
* Sandra Bermann and Michael Wood, eds., Nation, Language, and the Ethics of Translation, 2005
* Charles Bernheimer, ed., Comparative Literature in the Age of Multiculturalism, 1995 .
* Robert J. Clements, Comparative Literature as Academie Discipline, 1978.
* Haun Saussy, ed., Comparative Literature in an Age of Globalization, 2006 ..
* Hans-Joachim Schultz and Phillip H. Rhein, Comparative Literature: The Early Years, 1973 .
* Ulrich Weisstein, Comparative Literature and Literary Theory, 1973.

**REQUIREMENTS**

**In this course, students are expected to:**

* Attend all class sessions for requisite number of hours and participate in class activities
* Complete all assignments in time
* Prepare and appear in all announced/ unannounced quizzes
* Respect and benefit from diverse, often opposing, values and opinions
* Make use of the criticism offered by the instructor and peers positively by revising the work
* Make use of library, dictionary, take notes, and raise questions during reading tasks
* Fully participate in class discussions and help foster a discourse community by listening to the peers’ views and ideas as well as articulating their own in an effective manner
* Pass midterm and final term exam
* Demonstrate the skills and ability to succeed in the next level of the required English courses

**COURSE POLICIES**

* Late submission of assignments will not be entertained.
* **Academic honesty** should be assumed.
* **Avoid Plagiarism.** All the cases of plagiarism will be referred to controller’s office. Please click the link given below for university policy on plagiarism. (<http://www.uvas.edu.pk/news/HEC_PLIAGERISM_POLICY.pdf>)
* Students who miss more than six lectures will not be allowed to attend the final examination.
* Teacher reserves the right to make new rules and changes to the course, if required.
* Laptops and cell-phones must be switched off during lectures.
* No retake of missed quizzes.

**MODES OF COURSE DELIVERY**

* *Moodle* web-based course management
* Power point presentations, visuals
* Discussions (group, peer)
* Cooperative learning (group work)
* Articles reading from internet
* Handouts
* Activities (charts, paper strips, cards, etc)
* Documentaries/movies/video clips, audio

**ASSESSMENT CRITERIA**

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| --- | --- |
| **Tasks** | **Marks** |
| Quizzes | 10% |
| Assignments | 10% |
| Presentations | 10% |
| Attendance/ Class Participation | 5% |
| Mid Term | 30% |
| Final Exam | 35% |

**Weekly Course Break-up**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Weeks** | **Topics** | **Objectives** |
| Week 1 | Introduction to the course and comparative theory | Get familiar with the course outline and different schools of comparative literature |
| Week 2 | Introduction to the French School   * Literary schools and genres * Ideological Echoes * Image Echoes * Human Models and Heroes * Verbal Echoes | Get familiar with literary and non literary influence  Get familiar with direct and indirect influence  Discuss the concept of Imitation and Borrowing and concept of Reception |
| Week 3 | Theory years | Discuss in the context of different discourses ;women time and structuralist activity |
| Week 4 | Literature , nation and politics | Analyse the link between state and literature and the development of literary resources and their expansion |
| Week 5 | The American School | The parallelism Theory  The Intertextuality Theory |
| Week 6 | Comparative literature Beyond the Euro-American Literature | Importance and impact of literature beyond region, culture and language |
| Week 7 | Comparison of two stories written in an age of indo-pak partition and their translation | Give critique on the limitation of translation and impact of culture |
| Week 8 | Mid-terminal Examination |  |
| Week 9 | Comparison of Sonnets (Shakespeare, Milton and Surrey) | Evaluate the form and content of different sonnets |
| Week 10 | Comparison of Morrison and Conrad Novels | Evaluate the issues of identity and power influence |
| Week 11 | Comparison of Sylvia Plath poetry with Keats | Criticize the theories of Escapism versus realism |
| Week 12 | Comparison of Austen’s Novel with screen literature | Analyse the development of characters and plot and implicate theories of different schools |
| Week 13 | The Position of Translated Literature with in the polysystem | Discuss the socio-culture system |
| Week 14 | Presentations of their assigned tasks |  |
| Week 15 | Final Examination |  |