

25 May 2005

Professor Steven Fink, Chair
College of Humanities Curriculum Committee
105 Brown Hall
190 West Seventeenth Avenue
CAMPUS

Dear Steve and members of the committee:

Please find attached a revised proposal for a new college-wide major in World Literatures. Since the proposal was first submitted to the College curriculum committee we have had several productive discussions with you and other committee members. This revised proposal is intended to incorporate the suggestions made at those meetings, and to answer any concerns expressed.

We have attempted to state more clearly in our revised proposal the distinctiveness and educational value of the new major; the rationale section is substantially modified. The major's regional focus and its emphasis on questions of transmission and translation, cultural difference and multiculturalism, and transnational interactions distinguish it from other undergraduate literature programs. The major in World Literatures is an alternative to the traditional dual language approach of comparative literature programs, to an English major with a focus on world or ethnic literature, and to more broadly based global studies programs (such as OSU's global studies minor. This program will also prove an important resource for teacher training in middle school education and language arts, as new Ohio standards have begun to mandate coursework in world literature.

We have also modified the oversight procedures for the major, to reflect the fact that it is a College of Humanities initiative, have updated and reorganized the list of courses following suggestions from the committee, and have prepared new sample programs.

If you or other members of the committee have additional questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

David Horn
Professor and Chair

**PROPOSAL FOR AN UNDERGRADUATE MAJOR IN
WORLD LITERATURES**

May 2005

Proposed by:

Ad-Hoc Committee on World Literatures and Cultures

Nina Berman, Chair

Gene Holland

Margaret Mills

Ileana Rodriguez

Patricia Sieber

Convened by:

Advisory Group on Interdisciplinarity

David Horn, Chair

Nina Berman

Gloria Eyerly

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Dieter Wanner

Chris Zacher

I. TRANSMISSION OF PROPOSAL

This proposal for a new undergraduate major is transmitted by the college to the Office of Academic Affairs. The proposal must be accompanied by a letter from the dean(s) that describes college resources committed to the program and the relationship of the new major to other priorities of the college.

II. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. **Give the name of the proposed major:**
World Literatures
2. **State what degree students completing the major will receive:**
Bachelor of Arts, Deleted: in World Literatures
3. **State the proposed implementation date:**
Winter Quarter, 2006
4. **Identify the academic units (e.g., department, college, etc.) responsible for administrating the major program:**

College of Humanities
Department of Comparative Studies

This major is an interdepartmental program, drawing on courses taught in various academic units of the College of Humanities. The Department of Comparative Studies offers three core courses which may be taught by Comparative Studies faculty or by faculty members of other departments. An oversight committee, consisting of two faculty members from Comparative Studies and three faculty members from other units will be appointed by the Dean of the College of Humanities. The committee will oversee the curriculum and the advising process for the major. The advising will be facilitated by faculty and staff of the Department of Comparative Studies and by interested faculty in other departments within the College.

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III. RATIONALE/GOALS/OBJECTIVES

5. **Describe the rationale/purpose of the major:**

The major in World Literatures provides a curricular program in which undergraduates interested in literature and global issues can explore literary texts produced in different geo-political regions of the world. As students begin to study the literatures of the world, they will also develop critical and analytical skills, in part through close readings of representative literary texts, and in part through examining theoretical questions related to 1) the translation and transmission of literary works, 2) the cultural and historical contexts of literary production, and 3) the roles of literature in the contemporary world. Curricular requirements will include three courses in Comparative Studies that together introduce students to theoretical questions involved in the study of diverse literary traditions; remaining requirements comprise eight literature courses, including at least

one from each of five world regions (Africa, the Middle East, Europe/North America, Latin America/Caribbean, and East and South Asia/Pacific, chosen in part to encourage study of literatures with which students are likely to be unfamiliar). The major will help students develop the knowledge they will need to better understand complex interrelationships among societies with very different modes and habits of cultural expression, as well as within nations such as the U.S. that are themselves broadly multicultural. The College of Humanities, with its extraordinary faculty and curricular resources in African, East and South Asian, Middle Eastern, Latin American and Caribbean, as well as North American and European literatures, makes Ohio State a particularly promising site for this innovative new major.

The proposed major in World Literatures is distinct from other majors available to undergraduates within the humanities. It differs from the English major in its broader scope, focusing not only on literatures written in English, but also on a wide range of translated texts. Students in the major will not focus their studies on a particular region or historical period; rather, they will study a limited number of texts representing each of five geo-political regions and will concentrate their attention on the differences and interrelations (historical, aesthetic, political) among them. Chief among the questions students will be investigating is the subject of "world literature" itself, a question addressed explicitly in three progressively more sophisticated courses ("Introduction to World Literature," "Problems in Literary and Cultural Translation," and "World Literature: Theory and Practice").

Such a course of study not only differs substantially from the English major, but also from the Comparative Literature track within the Comparative Studies major. The latter emphasizes foreign language acquisition and requires students to take at least two courses in literature conducted in a foreign language; in contrast, the World Literature major requires no foreign language coursework beyond the GEC requirement (although such advanced study will be strongly encouraged). The study of the world's literatures in translation will allow students to combine the close analysis of literary texts with broader questions about cultural production and interaction and about the current state of global relations. This major will not only expose students to literary traditions that would otherwise be inaccessible to them without extensive foreign language study (particularly Asian and African literatures), but will also encourage them to explore historical and theoretical questions about the role of literature in both local and global contexts. (Currently, students need take only one literature course to satisfy their Arts and Humanities GEC requirements and one (not necessarily a separate course) to fulfill nonwestern/global focus requirements. Students who choose to take a literature course taught in English translation for GEC credit do so in relative isolation compared to the contextualized course of study proposed here for the World Literatures major.)

The insights and skills students in this major will develop in their study of cross-cultural differences and relations, both within the United States and globally, will serve them well in their future role as citizens who must cope with the economic, political, and cultural dimensions of contemporary globalization processes. As students begin to understand the distinctive literary and cultural histories of the world's regions, they will expand their ability to respond to the future challenges of an inextricably interdependent and conflicted world. A humanities major that increases students' awareness as citizens of that world is a timely response to these complex global problems. (For a longer exploration of the relevance of humanities knowledge to understanding, for example, global conflict, see the document, "Language, Culture, Media, and (Inter)national

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Security: A Humanities Response to National Security Documents," which was composed by humanities faculty convened by Dean Royster, and developed in dialogue with social scientists (<http://humanities.osu.edu/news/forums/spring04/index.htm>.)

In terms of University priorities, the proposed major will advance the implementation of specific aspects of two key University initiatives, that is, the Academic Plan and the Diversity Plan. As the American economy expands globally, employees are expected to have greater knowledge of other countries and cultures. In order to prepare our students for success in a more diverse nation and in a global economy, the Academic Plan calls for the enhancement and coordination of international studies and programs. The proposed major in World Literatures would put these recommendations into practice by enhancing students' awareness of the world's different literary and cultural histories and practices, and in doing so would enhance the University's aspirations to become a national model for the study and teaching of diversity.

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The proposed major reflects the teaching and research interests of the faculty based in the College of Humanities. It acknowledges and optimizes the global range and disciplinary breadth of the faculty's expertise by providing undergraduates with an innovative and forward-looking major that is particularly relevant to understanding global relations in the contemporary world.

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6. **State the general and specific goals and objectives of the major:**

The most general goals of the World Literatures major are for students to increase their awareness of the world's literary heritage and, in doing so, to develop productive ways of thinking about cultural differences and cross-cultural interactions within the context of globalization. The humanities approach that defines the major will be complemented by students' coursework in the social and behavioral sciences (through GEC and elective requirements and, for many students, through minors or double majors in Anthropology, Sociology, International or Global Studies, and other fields); and the major's emphasis on analyzing literary material will also enhance students' cultural literacy in a general way.

Other educational goals of the proposed major are:

- a) to provide students with an intellectual framework that enables them, through discussions of literature, to be better prepared to analyze cultural differences and current global developments in historical and comparative perspective
- b) to teach students to think critically about literatures as expressions that are meaningful comments on the human condition
- c) to provide students with a thorough grounding in the analysis of texts and enhance their awareness of the specific parameters of genres and discourses
- d) to develop in students the ability to read, critically evaluate, and synthesize information from texts produced in different geographical contexts
- e) to refine students' ability to communicate effectively about diversity, traditions, cross-cultural relations, and distinct cultural histories, both orally and in writing
- f) to develop in students the ability to appreciate the world's cultural diversity

g) to prepare students who are so inclined for admission to programs at the MA and PhD levels in related fields, such as English or interdisciplinary programs in the humanities or (for those who do pursue advanced foreign language study) other literature or comparative literature programs

h) to prepare students who are not seeking graduate education to compete successfully in the public or private sector.

In addition, the specific requirements of the major address central concerns of the proposed area of study:

a) by requiring that students take courses representing the literatures of five different global regions, the major ensures that the scope of the world's literary heritage is acknowledged

b) by exposing students to courses focusing on different literary forms, the major develops students' ability to recognize the implications and meanings of distinct genres and modes of expression

c) by requiring that students take three courses that together provide, at progressively sophisticated levels, theoretical grounding for the study of world literatures, the major constitutes a coherent course of study appropriate for undergraduates.

7. Identify any unique characteristics or resources that make it particularly appropriate for Ohio State to offer the proposed major.

The breadth of expertise and the distinction of the faculty teaching in the College of Humanities make the introduction of a World Literatures major particularly relevant. OSU is in the unique position of having departments and faculty members whose research foci cover almost the entire globe. In this regard, OSU is truly exceptional in comparison to many of its peer institutions (e.g. The University of Texas at Austin, The University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, The University of Wisconsin at Madison), who lack either components in African Studies, Asian Studies, Near Eastern Studies, or Latin American Studies.

Given this exceptional scope of expertise, the courses offered by College of Humanities faculty correspond to the conceptual framework of the proposed major. The proposed major thus creates a structure that brings together the resources present in the individual departments in optimal ways. It would allow students to make connections that use the existing resources in ways that are intellectually productive and fiscally beneficial.

The proposed major would also take advantage of the resources of the World Media and Culture Center in Hagerty Hall. The media resources available in Hagerty Hall classrooms are intended not only to facilitate language learning, but to enhance multi- and cross-cultural awareness. The creative use of these technologies will help students better understand the multiplicity of cultures in the world and the crucial need to develop productive modes of interaction among them. The World Literatures major could become a showcase program that makes optimal use of the new Hagerty Hall facilities.

The sheer number of students enrolled at OSU also increases the likelihood that this new major will be successful. For the many students who wish to expand their knowledge of literature and of other cultures in a broad way, rather than through the intensive study of a single literary tradition (whether through an English or foreign language major) or the comparative study of two traditions (through the comparative literature track in Comparative Studies), the World Literatures major will provide such an opportunity. The pool of individuals within OSU's very large student body who are potentially interested in the new major is likely to be substantial.

8. Cite the benefits for students, the institution, and the region or state.

Students: The proposed major will acknowledge the cultural heritage of the diverse student population enrolled at OSU. It will provide students with a chance to see their and their fellow students' particular heritages in the context of the world's cultural diversity. It will expand their horizons beyond the very minimal exposure the GEC curriculum requires, particularly to the literatures and cultures outside Europe and North America. It will educate students to become responsible citizens who have an awareness of the cultural heritage of others and a sense of the complexity of cross-cultural relations, both global and local. In terms of developing the analytical and critical writing and communication skills expected of humanities majors, the proposed major would be comparable to a major in English, as it trains students in reading, analyzing, and writing about literary material, skills that will serve them well in today's information-driven technological economy. The World Literatures major will allow students to pursue career paths similar to those of English and other liberal arts majors.

The institution: OSU would be in the unique position to offer a cutting-edge major that might serve as a model for peer institutions. The proposed major would enhance the university's goal of promoting an environment conducive to teaching about diversity and supporting an increasingly multicultural and diverse student population.

The region and the state: New curricular standards and licensure requirements in Ohio mandate training in world literatures for aspiring Reading and Language Arts teachers in the area of Middle Childhood Education (grades 4-9) and for Language Arts teachers in Adolescence Education (grades 7-12). This new mandate reflects the fact that literature courses offered by the English curriculum are not adequate to address the needs of today's secondary school teachers (and the fact that the English department recently added a course in World Literature attests to that change in perception). The new major will facilitate the fulfillment of those requirements. A 1-credit "shadow course" for education majors will be added to CS 273: "Introduction to World Literature" in winter quarter 2006, in order to meet the specific needs of those students.

In addition, both the state and the region will benefit from having individuals in the workforce familiar with the range of cultural diversity in the world and capable of responding to the cultural challenges of globalization. As Ohio, and the United States more generally, continues to welcome visitors and immigrants from across the globe, the University needs to take the lead in fashioning a curriculum appropriate for the 21st century. Graduates in the World Literatures major who enter Ohio's workforce would bring with them a mindset and background knowledge that would be useful in a number of settings, from companies engaged in foreign trade to multicultural educational institutions. The proposed major would thus contribute to making OSU into what the *New*

York Times called a "revving economic engine" that spurs strategic growth in the new Information Age economy.

9. **List similar majors offered in both public and private institutions in Ohio and the U.S. Explain how these majors compare to the one proposed.**

The proposed World Literatures major at OSU can be contrasted and compared to 113 programs that are offered under different names across the United States (Comparative Literature, World Literature, Literatures of the World, etc.). Comparative study of different literary and cultural traditions is typically offered through Comparative Literature programs and departments. Such programs almost without exception require advanced competency in a second language, and many offer degrees only at the graduate level.

Ohio:

Comparative or World Literature majors are offered at Case Western Reserve, Oberlin College, College of Wooster, Kent State, University of Toledo, and Ohio State University.

OSU offers a Comparative Literature track as an option in Comparative Studies.

US:

Private (selection):

Brown University; Bryn Mawr/Haverford; Dartmouth College; Yale University; University of Chicago; University of Pennsylvania; Columbia University; Stanford University

Public (selection):

University of California at Berkeley; University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; University of Virginia; University of Arizona; University of Washington; University of California Los Angeles; University of California at San Diego

The proposed major in World Literatures differs from the more typical comparative literary studies program by not requiring language training beyond the GEC foreign language requirement of four quarters. World Literatures students substitute knowledge of literature from the five major world regions (see below) for advanced knowledge of a second literary tradition.

A different type of program involves the interdepartmental study of different literatures without advanced knowledge of a foreign language. Few programs (and none in Ohio) offer a world literature program comparable to the one proposed here. Perhaps the closest example is the program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (description following).

Public:

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

The UIUC World Literature Major, sponsored by the Program in Comparative and World Literature and offered in addition to a traditional Comparative Literature Major, is an interdisciplinary undergraduate major that offers students a choice of concentration in Western or non-Western literature in translation. No foreign language is required beyond the standard requirements.

The programs listed above typically take a "great-books" approach to the core courses of their curriculum. In the case of UIUC, an institution comparable to OSU, such "masterpiece" courses cover Western and non-Western literatures in two separate sets of two core courses (four courses). At UIUC, students then focus on two area/cultural concentrations of their choice (six courses).

A recent study conducted by the American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) shows that at present 113 programs offer majors in Comparative Literature and World Literature. (It should be added that the large number of anthologies on World Literature also reflect the fact that the idea of "world literature" is widely accepted. As mentioned before, OSU's English Department recently added an undergraduate course in World Literature, another testimony to the relevance of the concept.) Not one of these 113 programs achieves the breadth of coverage that this proposed major will achieve; this is due, for the most part, to the continuing eurocentrism that distinguishes most programs. A discussion at the March 2005 annual convention of the ACLA revealed great interest in the model outlined in this proposal. This reaction confirms that the conceptual framework of the major will be positively received and that the OSU World Literatures major has the potential to be acknowledged as a pertinent and innovative model for teaching world literature. This proposed major radically improves upon an oversimplified binary division of the world as "western" and "non-western." Instead, the World Literatures major divides the world into five macro-regions: Europe/North America; Latin America/Caribbean, Africa, the Middle East, and South and East Asia/Pacific. By requiring students to take courses in all five of these areas, the major makes good on the claim to expose students to "world" literature. Moreover, by taking existing courses in specialized literature departments, students will acquire greater knowledge of individual literary traditions than if they were to take Western and non-Western comparative "masterpiece" courses. Taking advantage of OSU faculty strengths in all major world literary areas, the World Literatures major compellingly combines the study of literatures with that of world regions.

10. Cite the enrollment patterns of similar majors in Ohio or in the United States.

Ohio:

Case Western Reserve (total undergraduate enrollment: 3,500): 3 majors currently enrolled in the "World Literature Program," which is a new program not comparable to the proposed WL major

Ohio State University: of the 94 Comparative Studies majors enrolled for Spring Quarter 2005, 7 are enrolled in the Comparative Literature track.

U.S.

Private:

Brown University (total undergraduate enrollment: 5,772): 90 majors, about 35 graduate each year

Bryn Mawr/Haverford (total undergraduate enrollment: 2,506): 35 majors, 8-12 graduate each year

Dartmouth College (total undergraduate enrollment: 4,098); 24 majors, about 8 graduate each year

Public:

University of California at Berkeley (total undergraduate enrollment: 22,880); 72 majors, about 30 students graduate each year

University of California at San Diego (total undergraduate enrollment: 20,339); 49 majors, about 15 graduating each year

World Literature Option in the Major in Comparative Literature, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (total undergraduate enrollment: 29,226); B.A. option first offered in 2002/03; 12 majors, 10 minors, 2 graduating this year

11. Describe career opportunities and/or opportunities for graduate or professional study available to persons who complete the major.

As noted in 8. above, the major would contribute to educating students to become responsible citizens who have an awareness of the cultural heritage of others and of the complexity of global, intercultural relations. An increasing need for cross-cultural awareness within the professions ensures that students who wish to continue with graduate or professional training will be fully competitive with graduates of traditional humanities departments. Students will be prepared for the kinds of positions in education, government, and business open to other students majoring in the humanities, in particular for careers involving aspects of globalization, diversity, and multiculturalism.

12. Describe any licensure or certification for which this major will prepare students.

N/A

IV. RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PROGRAMS

13. Describe current major and minor programs in the department(s) and how they relate to the proposed major.

Although the major is interdepartmental, with changes in the curriculum to be initiated by the Oversight Committee, it will be administered, at least initially, through the Department of Comparative Studies. Its three core courses will be offered by Comparative Studies (though frequently taught by faculty from other departments). Comparative Studies has several tracks in its undergraduate major; those closest to the World Literatures major are Comparative Literature and Comparative Cultural Studies. The proposed major differs from the Comparative Literature track in Comparative Studies in that it insists on broader coverage of the world's literatures and does not require study (beyond GEC requirements) of a foreign language. Comparative Literature requires only two geographical areas of concentration (versus five for World Literatures), and requires two literature courses to be taken in a foreign language.

The Comparative Cultural Studies track also differs from the proposed World Literatures major. Interdisciplinary rather than cross-cultural in focus, it has no geographical coverage requirement, and does not focus on literary texts. If World Literatures were to be designed as a track in Comparative Studies, one additional course requirement would

have to be fulfilled by students, namely CS 398, “Approaches to Comparative Studies.” This would necessitate reducing the number of literature courses students must take, thereby limiting the breadth the major requires. (The department has also proposed to add one additional class, a senior seminar, to all Comparative Studies tracks, adding five credits to the 55 currently required for the major. That proposal is under review.)

14. Identify any overlaps with other programs or departments within the University. Append letters of concurrence or objection from related units.

The World Literatures major does not duplicate any specializations within the English major. While the English Department offers an impressive range of options for undergraduates (students may focus on British or American literature of different historical periods, on critical theory, on 20th-century literature, on film studies, on African American studies, among others), the World Literatures major would provide an alternative and complementary program for students interested in literature and global studies, with the majority of courses (as many as eight of the eleven required) taught by the foreign languages and literatures departments.

In regard to foreign language majors, while the proposed major draws extensively on courses taught in translation in the foreign language departments, foreign language requirements are minimal for the World Literatures major, and do not go beyond the GEC requirement. The major is designed to provide a curriculum for students who are interested in literature and in global and cross-cultural relations, rather than for students who are interested primarily in foreign language acquisition or in focused study of a particular literary or cultural tradition. The intellectual frame of the major (provided by three courses that will introduce students to theoretical issues relevant to the study of multiple literatures—“Introduction to World Literature,” “Problems in Literary and Cultural Translation,” and “World Literature: Theory and Practice”) will certainly engage students in questions about literary analysis and criticism in general. Most centrally, though, these courses will address issues and problems of cross-cultural translation and transmission; of the cultural and historical contexts of literary production; and of the various roles literature may play in global economic and political relations. The World Literatures major will challenge the many images and superficial descriptions of other cultures that are ubiquitous in American popular culture and provide students with more thoughtful ways of imagining other cultures. It is an alternative to, not a substitute for, both the study of literatures written in English and the indepth study of a foreign language literary tradition. The World Literatures major may also be a particularly desirable second major for foreign language students, but also for students majoring in History or English, in the social and behavioral sciences (especially Anthropology, International Studies, Sociology), as well as those in more distant areas like business or the sciences.

15. Indicate any cooperative arrangements with other institutions and organizations that will be used to offer this major.

N/A (All requirements are satisfied by courses offered at this University.)

16. Specify any articulation arrangements (direct transfer opportunities) with other institutions that will be in effect for the major.

N/A (No particular transfer opportunities are anticipated.)

- 17. Provide information on the use of consultants or advisory committees in the development of the major. Describe any continuing consultation.**

In Spring 2002, a videoconference was held with David Damrosch of Columbia University, who is currently chair of the American Comparative Literature Association and editor of the multi-volume *Longman's Anthology of World Literature*. Professor Damrosch's work has been helpful for thinking about the relation between canons of literary works coming out of the different areas of the world. His work addresses questions of how to navigate the tension between traditional pedagogies/knowledges and the vastly expanded field of available texts/cultures. In particular, his thoughts regarding texts in movement across national boundaries and historical time periods offer insights relevant to the discussions about the form and content of the new major.

- 18. Indicate whether this major or a similar major was submitted for approval previously. Explain at what stage and why that proposal was not approved or was withdrawn.**

N/A

- 19. Indicate where students will be drawn from, e.g., existing academic programs, outside of the University, etc. Estimate the mix of students entering the major internally and externally.**

Internally: Most students will be drawn from within OSU. Students who enroll in the proposed major are likely to be students with a compelling interest in all three areas the major addresses: literature, culture, and globalization. These are students who in all probability would otherwise major in English, a foreign language, history, or international studies.

Externally: If the major is successful, its unique features may attract students who would otherwise enroll at other universities to attend OSU.

V. STUDENT ENROLLMENT

- 20. Indicate the number of students you anticipate will be admitted to the major each year.**

It should be noted that many, if not most, students are likely to begin the major as juniors or even seniors. We would expect a few students, therefore, to graduate within two years of the introduction of the major. Using for comparison the history of the relatively new (since 1998) Comparative Studies major, which began with a core of about 15 Religious Studies majors (now an area of concentration within Comparative Studies) and has hovered around 100 for the past several years, we can expect slow but steady growth in the major.

Given the experience of the very small number of comparable programs (the closest is UIUC's), we believe that the World Literatures major would attract up to 10 students

during its first two years, and would level off at 25-30 (comparable to the numbers in the Religious Studies and Comparative Cultural Studies tracks in Comparative Studies) at the end of four years. It is likely to graduate 5-10 students per year after the first two years:

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	
Full-time	3-5	5-10	5-10	8-12	Total 25-30
Part-time	2-3	2-3	2-3	2-3	Total 5-10

Estimated Summer enrollments:

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	
Full-time	1-4	1-4	2-6	2-6	Total 8-10
Part-time	1-2	1-2	1-3	1-3	Total 2-3

VI. REQUIREMENTS

21. List the courses (department, title, credit hours, description) which constitute the requirements and other components of the major. Indicate which courses are currently offered and which will be new. Append a quarter-by-quarter sample program and all New Course, Course Change, and Course Withdrawal forms necessitated by the implementation of the proposed major.

All students are required to take one introductory course that introduces various questions and problems related to concepts of "world literature" and to basic literary criticism (CS 273: "Introduction to World Literature"); a course on the difficulties and limitations of translation, particularly of literary texts, and more generally of the transmission of cultural meanings and subtleties (CS 373: "Problems in Literary and Cultural Translation"); and a third course that will address issues related to the historical and cultural contexts of literary production and dissemination, in particular, the relevance of literature and literary studies in the context of contemporary processes of globalization (CS 573: "World Literature: Theory and Practice"). The remaining coursework (40 hours) is in literatures representing five global regions:

1. Africa
2. The Middle East
3. East and South Asia/Pacific
4. Europe/North America
5. Latin America/Caribbean

Students are required to take two courses in three areas, and one course in each of the remaining two areas. Their selection may include one cross-cultural course, but each of the five regions must be represented by at least one course.

Students may take no more than a total of two courses at the 200 level and three courses at the 300 level. In addition to CS 273, 373, and 573, students may not take more than one additional course in Comparative Studies.

GEC courses taken to fulfill the GEC requirement cannot also be counted to fulfill the requirements of this major.

Students are not required to take additional courses in foreign languages beyond the GEC foreign language requirement (101, 102, 103, and 104); however, students are encouraged to take courses in foreign languages that are beyond the language learning level. Advanced foreign language literature courses may count toward the major, and can be taken instead of courses taught in English. The numbers for such courses vary from department to department. Students must consult with their advisor to select the appropriate courses.

While students cannot be expected to develop substantial expertise in the literatures or cultures of any single region on the basis of one or two courses, the premise of this major is that students will, by virtue of their exposure to significant literary texts representing each of these five regions, begin to develop productive ways of thinking about the relationships and interconnections among the very different (and multiple) cultures that flourish within each area.

The most capable students who will be attracted to this major will be strongly encouraged to complete double majors in any number of other areas—History, Women’s Studies, International Studies, Comparative Studies/Religion—but most particularly in one of the foreign languages. Faculty who designed this major are based in foreign language departments and deeply appreciate the need to know a foreign language in order to understand and appreciate the culture in which it is spoken. Students in the World Literatures major will be encouraged to acquire fluency, as well. This major, however, assumes that all of our students profit when they develop skills and insights they can use to engage productively with the globalized world they will inherit. That opportunity should be made available to them within a focused and coherent curricular program, in addition to the minimal and quite diffuse requirements of the GEC in these areas. The World Literatures major is neither a substitute for an English major that might include several courses in world literature nor a less rigorous alternative to foreign language study, but an opportunity for students to comprehend the rich diversity of literatures and cultures in the world and, in doing so, begin to understand the complexity of globalization and the kinds of problems that will need to be addressed in the future.

22. **State the minimum number of credits required for completion of the major.**
World Literatures majors are required to complete a minimum of 55 hours of coursework.
23. **State the average number of credits expected for a student at completion of the major.**

55-60 credit hours
24. **Give the average number of credits taken per quarter by a typical student. Estimate the average for each year.**

Full-time 15-20 credits/quarter 45-50 credits/year

Part-time 5credits/quarter 20 credits/year

25. Give the number of credits a student is required to take in other departments.

This major is interdepartmental, a program of the College of Humanities housed (at least initially) within the Department of Comparative Studies. It requires 15 credits in Comparative Studies and at least 35 credits in other departments; five additional credits may be taken either in Comparative Studies or in another department (total 55).

26. Give number of credits a typical student might take as electives in other departments.

See 25.

27. Describe other major requirements in addition to course requirements, e.g., examinations, internships, final projects.

N/A

28. Identify from which specialized professional association(s) accreditation will be sought. List any additional resources that will be necessary to gain such accreditation.

N/A

29. Describe the number and qualifications of full-time and part-time faculty. List current faculty and areas of expertise. Describe the number and type of additional faculty needed.

CURRENT:

Potentially includes the many faculty members in the College of Humanities who teach the course listed in the appendix. They represent every department in the College: African American and African Studies, East Asian Languages and Literatures, English, French and Italian, Germanic Languages and Literatures, Greek and Latin, Linguistics, Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures, Spanish and Portuguese, and Women's Studies.

PROPOSED ADDITIONAL FACULTY

None

30. Describe existing facilities, equipment, and off-campus field experience and clinical sites to be used. Indicate how the use of these facilities, equipment, etc. will impact other existing programs.

The new World Media and Culture Center at Hagerty Hall offers resources that can be used by faculty interested in adding a global component to their classes. Video conferences with students at institutions in the Middle East, for example, have been

successfully carried out, and more activities along these lines are in the planning stage. The classrooms in Hagerty are equipped with state-of-the-art technology, which allows faculty members to, for example, work with the web and to have access to databases from across the globe which facilitates the teaching of issues addressed by world literature.

31. Describe additional University resources, including libraries, that will be required for the new major.

The success of the proposed major will depend in part on the kind of advising available to students. Advising is crucial in that it will enable students to create a coherent program of study by drawing on the eligible course offerings. Students will be able to develop a focus by, for example, pursuing a specific genre (e.g., narrative) or theme (e.g., women's literature). The Department of Comparative Studies' current staff is sufficient to advise students. Only if enrollment exceeds expectations would an additional advisor be necessary.

32. Describe the major as it would appear in the appropriate college bulletin

The Ohio State University Bulletin: College of Humanities (description will be made available on the Comparative Studies website):

World Literatures major

The World Literatures major is designed for students interested in both literature and global issues. Students study the literatures produced in different geo-political regions of the world. Distinct literary traditions are studied through the careful reading and analysis of representative literary texts and through the critical study of a number of issues including the complexity of translating literature; the transmission of cultural values within and across national boundaries; the cultural and historical contexts of literary production; the role of literature in the contemporary world, globally and locally; and other issues relevant to literary and global studies.

All students are required to take one introductory course (CS 273: "Introduction to World Literature"), a course on translation (CS 373: "Problems in Literary and Cultural Translation"), and a third course (CS 573: "World Literature: Theory and Practice"). The remaining coursework (40 hours) will include courses in literature in translation from five different regions:

1. Africa
2. The Middle East
3. East and South Asia/Pacific
4. Europe/North America
5. Latin America/Caribbean

Students are required to take two courses in three areas, and one course in each of the remaining two areas. Their selection may include one cross-cultural course, but all five regions must be represented by at least one course.

Students may take no more than a total of two courses at the 200 level and three courses at the 300 level. In addition to CS 273, 373, and 573, students may not take more than one additional course in Comparative Studies.

GEC courses taken to fulfill the GEC requirement cannot also be counted to fulfill the requirements of this major.

Students are not required to take additional courses in foreign languages beyond the GEC foreign language requirement (101, 102, 103, and 104); however, students are strongly encouraged to take courses in foreign languages that are beyond the language learning level. These advanced foreign language literature courses may count toward the major, and can be taken instead of courses taught in English. The numbers for such courses vary from department to department. Students must consult with their major advisor to select the appropriate courses.

List of Courses

Course offerings in the respective areas are uneven; this is not ideal, but a situation that we believe is workable. Since this is an interdepartmental major, the development of specific new courses would be recommended by the oversight committee or by faculty connected to the program through teaching and research interests. Individual departments would, of course, initiate any proposals for new courses in keeping with departmental needs.

Africa

African American and African Studies

- 251: Introduction to African Literature
- 271: Contemporary Black Drama
- 367.04: Black Women Writers: Text and Context
- 460: Political Thought in African Literature
- 581: Philosophy in Contemporary African Literature
- H584: Literature and Modern Experience in Africa

East and South Asia/Pacific

Chinese

- 251: Chinese Literature in Translation
- 501: Chinese Poetry in Translation
- 502: Chinese Fiction in Translation
- 503: Modern Chinese Literature in Translation
- 504: Chinese Drama in Translation
- 651: History of Chinese Literature I
- 652: History of Chinese Literature II

East Asian

- 675: Women Writers, Culture, and Society in East Asia

Japanese

- 251: Japanese Literature in Translation
- 252: Modern Japanese Literature in Translation
- 501: Japanese Literature in Critical Perspective
- 654: Japanese Literature: Classical Period
- 655: Japanese Literature: Medieval and Edo Periods
- 656: Japanese Literature: Modern Period

Korean

- 251: Korean Literature in Translation
- 654: Korean Literary Traditions

Latin America/Caribbean

African American and African Studies

- 351: Caribbean Literature in English

Portuguese

330: Introduction to Brazilian Culture

Spanish

330: Reinventing America
 321: Caribbean Cultures
 520: Latin American Literatures (in translation): Fiction and Reality

Middle East

Arabic

371: Classical and Medieval Arabic Literature in Translation
 372: Modern Arabic Literature in Translation (cross-listed with Women's Studies)
 671: The Qur'an in Translation
 672: Arabic Folk Narrative in Translation

Hebrew

370: Biblical and Post-Biblical Hebrew Literature in Translation
 371: Medieval Hebrew Literature in Translation
 372: Modern Hebrew Literature in Translation
 373: Prophecy in the Bible and Post-Biblical Literature
 374: Women in Biblical and Post-Biblical Literature
 376: The Jewish Mystical Tradition
 378: Biblical and Post-Biblical Wisdom Literature
 671: The Problem of Evil in Biblical and Post-Biblical Literature

Persian

370: Persian Mythology and Folklore
 371: Persian Literature in Translation

Turkish

371: Turkish Sufism
 372: Turkish Literature in Translation
 641: Travels in Turkey

Near Eastern Languages and Cultures

271: Sacred Texts of the Near East
 272: Masterpieces of Near Eastern Literature in Translation
 370: Mythology of Ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia
 371: Songs of Kings and Lovers: Literature of the Ancient Near East
 372: Literatures and Cultures of the Islamic World
 374: The Novel in the Middle East
 671: Canon and Communities in the Near East

Women's Studies

372: Modern Arabic Literature in Translation (cross-listed with Arabic)

North America and Europe

African American and African Studies

254: Themes in African-American Literature
 255: African-American Life through Autobiographies
 271: Contemporary Black Drama

- 367.02: African-American Theatre History
 367.03: African-American Voices in U.S. Literature
 367.04: Black Women Writers: Text and Context

Arabic

- 367: Issues in Arab-American Society, Culture, and Literature

Chinese

- 678: Studies in Chinese-American Literature (cross-listed with Comparative Studies and English)

Classics

- 222: Classical Mythology
 H223: Topics in Ancient Literature and Society
 301: Greek & Roman Epic
 302: Greek & Roman Drama
 303: Comic Spirit in Antiquity
 310: Topics in Ancient Literature & Culture
 322: The Hero in Classical Mythology
 323: Religion in the Greco-Roman World
 324: Magic in the Ancient World
 326: Christian Heroes: Byzantine Saints' Lives
 508: Gender and Sexuality in Antiquity

Chinese

- 678 Studies in Chinese American Literature (cross-listed with English and Comparative Studies)

Comparative Studies

- 205: Literature and Ethnicity
 314 Women in East Asian and Asian-American Literature
 543: Studies in Asian American Literature and Culture
 544: Studies in Latino/a Literature and Culture
 645: Studies in Korean-American Literature (cross-listed with Korean and English)
 665: Studies in Japanese-American Literature (cross-listed with Japanese and English)
 678 Studies in Chinese-American Literature (cross-listed with Chinese and English)

English

- 513: Introduction to Medieval Literature
 514: Middle English Literature
 515: Chaucer
 520: Shakespeare
 521: Sixteenth-Century Literature
 522: Early 17th-Century Literature
 531: Restoration & Early 18th-Century Literature
 533: Literature of the 18th Century
 535: The Early British Novel: Origins to the 1830s
 540: Poetry and Poetics of the British Romantic Period
 541: Victorian Poetry & Poetics
 542: The Victorian Novel
 543: 20th-Century British Fiction
 547: 20th-Century Poetry
 549: Modern Drama
 550: Colonial and U.S. Literature to 1830
 551: U.S. Literature, 1830-1865
 552: U.S. Literature, 1865-1914
 553: 20th-Century U.S. Fiction
 560: Special Topics in Poetry

- 561: Special Topics in Fictional and Nonfictional Narrative
- 562: Special Topics in Drama
- 563: Contemporary Literature
- 575: Special Topics in Literary Forms and Themes
- 580: Special Topics in Gay and Lesbian Literature
- 581: Special Topics in U.S. Ethnic Literatures
- 582: Studies in African American Literature
- H590: Honors Seminar: Major Periods in Literary History
- H591: Topics in English Studies
- 592: Special Topics in Women in Literature
- H598: Honors Seminar: Selected Topics in Literature and Literary Interpretation
- 681.01: Studies in Korean-American Literature (cross-listed in Korean and Comparative Studies)
- 681.02: Studies in Japanese-American Literature (cross-listed in Japanese and Comparative Studies)
- 681.03: Studies in Chinese-American Literature (cross-listed in Chinese and Comparative Studies)

German

- 250: German Literature and Popular Culture
- 261: German Classics in Translation
- 262: Modern German Literature in Translation
- H263: The Faust Theme
- 291: Early German Literature in Cultural Context
- 292: Modern German Literature in Cultural Context
- 299: Weimar and the Third Reich in German Literature and Film
- 399: The Holocaust in Literature and Film

Japanese

- 665: Studies in Japanese-American Literature (cross-listed in Comparative Studies and English)

Korean

- 645: Studies in Korean-American Literature (cross-listed in Comparative Studies and English)

Modern Greek

- 371: Modern Greek Literature in Translation

Medieval and Renaissance Studies

- 504: Arthurian Legends

Near Eastern Languages and Cultures

- 672: Poetry and Politics in the 20th-Century Mediterranean

Polish

- 630: Polish Literature to 1900
- 631: Polish Literature 1900 to Present

Russian

- 250: Masterpieces of Russian Literature in Translation
- 520: Russian Literature in English Translation: From Pushkin to Turgenev
- 521: Russian Literature in English Translation: From Dostoevsky to Chekhov
- 522: Russian Literature in English Translation: 20th-Century Literature, 1900-1928
- 523: Russian Literature in English Translation: 20th-Century Literature, 1928-2000
- 644: Russian Folklore
- 650: Dostoevsky
- 651: Tolstoy
- 653: Russian Drama
- 656: Russian Women Writers

Scandinavian

- 222: Nordic Mythology and Medieval Culture
 500: Masterpieces of Scandinavian Literature

Slavic

- 245: Introduction to Slavic Literature and Culture
 367: The East European Experience in America

Spanish

- 320: Don Quixote in Translation
 321: The Spanish Don Juan Theme in the Theatre

Women's Studies

- 367.01: U.S. Women Writers: Text and Context
 367.02: U.S. Latina Writers: Text and Context
 367.04: Black Women Writers: Text and Context
 540: Studies in Women of Color Writing Culture

Yiddish

- 367: Jewish-American Voices in U.S. Literature
 371: Yiddish Literature in Translation
 399: The Holocaust in Literature and Film
 641: Places in Ashkenaz

Cross-cultural Courses (only one course may be chosen and counted toward one of the regions)**African American and African Studies**

- 451: Black Experience in Caribbean, African, and African-American Literatures
 551: Selected Topics in African-American and Related Literatures

Comparative Studies

- 201: Literature and Society
 202.01: Literature and Religion
 203: Literature and the Self
 204: Literature, Science, and Technology
 301: Love in World Literature
 306: The Quest in World Literature
 308: Representations of the Experience of War
 314: Women in East Asian and Asian-American Literature
 358: Film and Literature as Narrative Art
 508: Utopia and Anti-Utopia
 510: The Twentieth-Century Novel: Transnational Contexts
 660: Modernism: Its Origins and Development in 20th-Century Culture and Politics
 672: Poetry and Politics in the 20th-Century Mediterranean (cross-listed with NELC)

East Asian Literatures and Languages

- H399: East Asian Thought in the Western Imagination, 1600-2000

English

- 583: Special Topics in World Literature in English

Linguistics

- 365: Language across Cultures

Near Eastern Languages and Cultures

672: Poetry and Politics in the 20th-Century Mediterranean (cross-listed with Comparative Studies)

Women's Studies

215: Reading Women Writers