

MODERN THOUGHT AND LITERATURE

Chair: David Palumbo-Liu

Committee in Charge: Anthony Antonio, Joel Beinin, Richard Ford, Claire Fox, Theodore L. Glasser, Hans U. Gumbrecht, Karen Kenkel, Timothy Lenoir, David Palumbo-Liu, Renato Rosaldo, Michael Thompson, Robert Weisberg, Richard White, Yvonne Yarbro-Bejarano

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The Program in Modern Thought and Literature is administered through the office of Interdisciplinary Studies in Humanities. The program admits students for the Ph.D. and a very limited number for a coterminal A.M. Program.

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

Although Modern Thought and Literature has no formal undergraduate degree-granting program, undergraduate students who are interested in completing a major in this field may do so through the undergraduate major in Interdisciplinary Studies in Humanities (see that section of this bulletin). This undergraduate program is designed for students with a strong commitment to interdisciplinary study in the various humanities. Students may devise majors that incorporate modern literature (since the 18th century), cultural history, and critical theory. Students may also create majors in cultural studies, film studies, performance studies, popular culture, history of representation, politics and literature, etc. For specific course guidelines, see the undergraduate *Handbook for the Major in Interdisciplinary Studies in Humanities*. Students wishing to declare the major in Interdisciplinary Studies in Humanities must apply for admission to the Humanities honors program and for graduation with honors in Humanities.

COTERMINAL PROGRAM

Each year, one or two undergraduate students, who are exceptionally well-prepared in literature and at least one foreign language and whose undergraduate course work includes a strong interdisciplinary component, may petition to be admitted to the program for the purpose of completing a coterminal A.M. degree. Admission to this program is granted only on condition that in the course of working on their master's degree

they do not apply to enter the Ph.D. program in Modern Thought and Literature. The deadline for application is March 1.

To apply, applicants submit:

1. An unofficial grade transcript from AXESS.
2. A "Petition for Admission to the Coterminal Program" from Degree Progress, in the Registrar's Office.
3. A statement giving the reasons the student wishes to pursue this program and its place in his or her future plans. This statement should pay particular attention to the reasons why the student could not pursue the studies he or she desires in some other way.
4. A plan of study listing, quarter by quarter, each course by name, units, and instructor to be taken in order to fulfill the requirements for the degree, including 361, at least 20 units of advanced work in one literature, and at least 20 units in a coherent interdisciplinary program of courses taken in non-literature departments.
5. A writing sample of critical or analytical prose.
6. Two letters of recommendation from members of the faculty who know the applicant well and who can speak directly to the question of his or her ability to do graduate-level work.

REQUIREMENTS

The candidate for the A.M. must complete at least 45 units of graduate work, to be divided in the following manner:

1. The introductory seminar, 361, The Modern Tradition (5 units).
2. Twenty units of advanced course work in literature, to be approved by the chair.
3. Twenty units of course work in a coherent and individually arranged interdisciplinary program, to be approved by the chair.

By the end of the course of study, each candidate must also demonstrate a reading knowledge of at least one foreign language.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

The Ph.D. in Modern Thought and Literature is an interdisciplinary program combining work in modern literary/cultural studies with work in one or more other modern disciplines.

The Ph.D. program is designed specifically for students who have a strong interest in literature or culture, but whose approach or focus requires an interdisciplinary program—for example, students interested in anthropological or philosophical approaches to literature and culture; gender studies; ethnic studies; or in topics such as legal humanities, popular culture, and social or cultural theory.

Modern Thought and Literature is intended for students who plan to teach and write in literature departments or in interdisciplinary programs in the humanities, cultural studies, or humanistic social sciences, or for students intending to formulate cultural policy.

Course work in the program is divided about evenly between advanced courses in literature departments and advanced courses in non-literary departments.

MASTER OF ARTS

The Master of Arts is available to students who are admitted to the doctoral program. Students are not admitted into the program for the purpose of earning a terminal Master of Arts degree. Candidates for the Ph.D., who satisfy the committee of their progress and satisfactorily complete 45 units of course work forming a coherent program of study, may apply for an A.M. in Modern Thought and Literature.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

University requirements for the Ph.D. are discussed in the "Graduate Degrees" section of this bulletin.

A candidate for the Ph.D. degree in Modern Thought and Literature must complete three years (nine quarters) of full-time work, or the equivalent, in graduate study beyond the A.B. degree. He or she is expected to complete at least 18 courses of graduate work in addition to the dissertation. At least three consecutive quarters of graduate work must be taken at Stanford. Students may spend one year of graduate study abroad.

Requirements for the Ph.D. in Modern Thought and Literature are:

1. An introductory seminar (361), The Modern Tradition (5 units, autumn) followed by 361B, The Modern Thought and Literature Colloquium (1 unit, winter).
2. Nine courses of advanced work in literary studies in one language. Of the nine courses, at least six must be regularly scheduled courses in literary studies focused on the period from 1750 to the present, of which at least two must be regularly scheduled seminars. Courses in the teaching of composition (English 396, 397), ad hoc graduate seminars (395), research courses (398), and thesis registration (802) may not be counted among these six courses; 396, 397, 399, 802 may not be counted toward these requirements under any circumstances.
3. Eight courses of advanced work in non-literature departments, the core of which is completion of either a departmental minor or an interdepartmental concentration, typically consisting of six courses. Department minors are available from the departments of Anthropology, Art and Art History, Communication, History, Philosophy, Political Science, Religious Studies, and Sociology (see the relevant information in those sections of this bulletin). Approved interdepartmental concentrations have been established in popular culture, ethnic studies, feminist and gender studies, and science and technology studies (specific course requirements are available from the program office). Individually designed concentrations may be approved by petition to the director. In addition to the required six courses in a minor or a concentration, two additional courses from non-literature departments are chosen in consultation with each student's academic adviser. Course restrictions noted above in item '2' also apply.
4. *Qualifying Paper*: this certifies that students are likely to be able to undertake the quality of research, sustained argumentation, and cogent writing demanded in a doctoral dissertation. Qualifying papers should embody a substantial amount of independent research, develop an intellectual argument with significant elements of original thinking, and demonstrate the ability to do interdisciplinary work. Each paper is evaluated by two or three readers (designated before the end of the first year of graduate study), one of whom must be a member of the Committee in Charge. Qualifying papers must be submitted to the program office no later than the end of the third week of the fifth quarter of enrollment, normally, winter of the second year.
5. Teaching, an essential part of the program, is normally undertaken in conjunction with the Department of English. Candidates are required to demonstrate competence in teaching.
6. Students must demonstrate, by the end of the third quarter of the first year, a reading knowledge of one foreign language and, by the beginning of the first quarter of the third year, a reading knowledge of one other foreign language. Reading knowledge means the ability to make a genuine scholarly use of the language: that is, to read prose of ordinary difficulty.
Students may not take the University oral examination before completion of the foreign language requirement.
7. *Candidacy*: at the end of the second year, students apply for candidacy. The following qualifications are required before candidacy can be certified: the earlier submission of a satisfactory qualifying paper, demonstration of a reading knowledge of one foreign language; satisfactory progress in course work; a list of courses applicable to the degree, distinguishing between courses appropriate to the literary component and courses appropriate to the interdisciplinary component; and the submission of a statement outlining the scope and coherence of the interdisciplinary component of the program in relation to the literary component and noting the relevance of the course work to that program.
8. *Annual Review*: the program and progress of each student must be approved by the Committee-in-Charge at the end of each academic year.
9. *University Oral Examination*: this examination, covering the student's areas of concentration, normally is taken in the third year of graduate study. It is a two-hour oral examination administered by four faculty members specializing in the student's areas of concentration,

and a chair from another department. The exam is based on a substantial reading list prepared by the student in conjunction with the faculty committee and designed to cover the areas of expertise pertinent to the student's dissertation project.

10. *Colloquium on the Dissertation Proposal*: several weeks after the University oral examination, or in conjunction with that examination, the dissertation committee assembles for up to one hour to discuss the dissertation proposal with the student. Prior to this meeting, the student should have consulted each member of the committee to discuss the proposal and compile a bibliography.
11. *Dissertation*: the fourth year is devoted to the dissertation, which should be a substantial and original contribution acceptable to the Committee on Modern Thought and Literature. The subject is drawn from the literature of specialization and the area of nonliterary studies.

HUMANITIES

The program participates in the Graduate Program in Humanities leading to a joint Ph.D. degree in Modern Thought and Literature, and Humanities. For a description of the Humanities program, see "Interdisciplinary Studies in Humanities" section of this bulletin.

COURSES

The courses listed below are specifically sponsored by the Program in Modern Thought and Literature or are required for the doctoral program. For literature courses, students should consult the listings of the various literature departments at Stanford. For other offerings, students should consult listings in the individual departments of interest. Consent of instructor is often required.

Students in the doctoral program in Modern Thought and Literature are advised to read through the offerings in the Department of English (or in their foreign literature of choice) as well as offerings of the non-literature departments in which they wish to concentrate: for example, courses dealing with culture listed under Cultural and Social Anthropology, courses dealing with film under Communication or Art and Art History, courses in intellectual and cultural history under History. If the area of nonliterary interest is thematic rather than disciplinary, doctoral students should look under various program listings, such as Feminist Studies, African and African American Studies, or Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity.

75P/175P. Modern South Asia: History, Society, Cultures—(Enroll in Cultural and Social Anthropology 75/175, History 186A.)

5 units, Win (Mancall, Pandya)

175. Individual Work—Directed reading or research for undergraduates. Individual work does not count towards unit requirements for the undergraduate major in Interdisciplinary Studies in Humanities.

2-5 units, any quarter (Staff)

190P. Sex and Gender in Classical Hollywood Cinema: Making Woman Asian—(Enroll in Feminist Studies 140S.)

5 units, Spr (Parreñas)

190W. Humanism, Anti-Humanism, Posthumanism—Surveys critiques of humanism central to contemporary cultural studies, literary studies, philosophy, and political theory, approaching Western humanism as a series of appropriations of an imagined Hellenistic past. The post-WW II response to fascism and the links made between humanism, colonialism, and fascism by progressive scholars and philosophers. How concepts of the human are changing at the nexus of poststructuralism, technoscience, and contemporary socio-political movements. Readings: Plato, More, Bacon, Marx, Nietzsche, Forster, Homi Bhabha, Heidegger, Adorno, Foucault, Derrida, Haraway, Deleuze and Guattari, Trinh Minh-ha, Rey Chow.

5 units, Spr (Weinstein)

261B. Theories of the Postcolonial—(Enroll in Cultural and Social Anthropology 261B.)

5 units, Spr (Pandya)

361. Graduate Colloquium: The Modern Tradition—(Same as Comparative Literature 361C.) Methodological issues regarding the interdisciplinary study of society and culture. How different disciplines have approached ideas of modernity and postmodernity, their particular methodological rationales, debates within disciplines, and, how interdisciplinary work might take place in the interstices of traditional disciplines. Prerequisite: first- or second-year MTL graduate students, or consent of instructor.

5 units, Aut (Palumbo-Liu)

361B. Modern Thought and Literature Colloquium—Required of first-year graduate students in the program; others by consent of instructor. Weekly meeting of students in the program discusses current scholarship and issues. Presentations by affiliated faculty and by student panels.

1 unit, Win (Palumbo-Liu)

395. Ad Hoc Graduate Seminars—Graduate students (three or more) who wish to study a subject or an area not covered by regular courses and seminars may plan an informal seminar and approach a suitable member of the faculty to supervise it.

any quarter

396L. Laboratory in Pedagogy—(Enroll in English 396L.) Required for first-year Ph.D. students in English, Modern Thought and Literature, and Comparative Literature (except for students doing their teaching in a foreign language). Preparation for TA in undergraduate literature courses. Focus is on leading discussions and grading papers.

2 units, Aut (Staff)

398. Research Course—Students pursue a special subject of investigation under supervision of a member of the committee or another faculty member. Thesis work is not to be registered under this number.

any quarter

AFFILIATED DEPARTMENT OFFERINGS

The following courses, offered in 2000-01 by faculty on the Committee in Charge of Modern Thought and Literature, may be of interest to students in the program. Course descriptions can be found in the sponsoring department's section of the *Stanford Bulletin*. This is not by any means an inclusive list of courses that can be applied to Modern Thought and Literature. The list is merely intended to provide information about the breadth of interest of faculty who are on the Committee in Charge, thereby showing the interdisciplinary nature of the program.

COMMUNICATION

125/225. Perspectives on American Journalism
(Glasser)

131/231. Media Ethics and Responsibility
(Glasser)

333G. Seminar in Communication and Culture
(Glasser) not given 2000-01

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

24Q. Stanford Introductory Seminar: Ethnicity and Literature
(Palumbo-Liu)

115Q. Stanford Introductory Seminar: Thinking in the Present—Discussions about 20th-Century European Philosophy
(Gumbrecht)

168. Introduction to Asian American Culture
(Palumbo-Liu)

202. Comparative Ethnic Autobiography
(Palumbo-Liu)

325. Politics and Culture
(Palumbo-Liu)

369E. The Disciplines of Literature
(Gumbrecht, Schnapp)

395A. Philosophical Reading Group
(Gumbrecht)

CULTURAL AND SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY

94. Postfield Research Seminar
(Rosaldo)

150C. Introduction to Chicana/o Life and Culture
(Rosaldo, Yarbrow-Bejarano)

210. Reading Theory through Ethnography
(Rosaldo)

GERMAN STUDIES

133. 20th-Century Literature and Culture: German Modernism
(Kenkel)

167N. Stanford Introductory Seminar: German Film to 1945
(Kenkel)

171A. Feminist Media Theories
(Kenkel)

279. Naturalism
(Kenkel)

HISTORY

18N. Stanford Introductory Seminar: Confronting Islam—The United States in the Middle East since 1967
(Beinin)

150A. African-American History to the 20th Century
(M. Thompson)

165B. 19th-Century America
(White)

187B. The Middle East in the 20th Century
(Beinin)

250. Undergraduate Colloquium: American Popular Culture
(M. Thompson)

255A. Undergraduate Colloquium: Culture and Ideologies of Race
(M. Thompson)

262S. Undergraduate Research Seminar: Science and High Technology in Silicon Valley, 1930-1980
(Lenoir)

270S. Undergraduate Research Seminar: North American Wests
(White)

274A. Undergraduate Colloquium: Body Works—Medicine, Technology, and the Body in Late 20th-Century America
(Bender, Lenoir, Taylor)

286/386. Undergraduate/Graduate Colloquium: Economic and Social History of the Modern Middle East
(Beinin)

288/388. Undergraduate/Graduate Colloquium: Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict
(Beinin)

458,458A. Graduate Seminar: Environmental History
(R. White)

SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE

110N. Stanford Introductory Seminar: Introduction to Chicana/o Literature and Visual Art
(Yarbro-Bejarano)

112N. Stanford Introductory Seminar: The U.S.-Mexico Border Region in Film and Literature
(Fox)

161. Latin American Literature
(Fox)

180E. Introduction to Chicana/o Cultural Studies
(Rosaldo, Yarbro-Bejarano)

298. Senior Seminar: Pan-American Movements
(Fox)

369. The U.S.-Mexico Border Region
(Fox)

380E. Critical Concepts in Chicana/o Literature
(Yarbro-Bejarano)