

Masters in Comparative Literature

Taught Element:

80 credits: CO5001, CO5002, ML5001 and ML5004

40 credits: Subject to availability AP5013, AP5014, FR5013, FR5014, GM5013, GM5014, IT5013, IT5014, ML5006, ML5105, ML5201, RU5013, RU5014, SP5013, SP5014. Modules from other Schools may also be taken with the permission of the Course Co-ordinator and the Director of Postgraduate Studies of the School concerned.

MLitt:

120 credits as for Taught Element plus ML5099

MPhil:

120 credits as for Taught Element plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words

For all Masters degrees there are exit awards available that allow suitably-qualified candidates to receive a Postgraduate Certificate or Postgraduate Diploma.

Compulsory modules:

CO5001 Apples and Oranges: Issues in Comparative Literature				
SCOTCAT Credits:	20	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
This module will explore the most pressing questions which arise when different texts are put in contact, using pairings of texts to reflect on different kinds of relations, such as clashes, genetic, interdisciplinary and intermedial relations. Students are expected to find further texts to "prolong" the comparison in a meaningful way, drawing on their respective expertise in different languages, thus developing an in-depth understanding of methods and theoretical frameworks in Comparative Literature. The module will be based on three disciplines (including but not limited to Arabic, French, German, Italian, Russian, Spanish). Translations of the core texts discussed in class will be available.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for Comparative Literature and German and Comparative Literature Postgraduate Programmes. Optional for Crossways in Cultural Narratives Mundus Postgraduate Programmes.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2 hours (lectures and seminars)			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr S Talajooy			

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CO5002 The Contemporary Canon: Why Books Sell				
SCOTCAT Credits:	20	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
<p>The module analyses the meaning of the word 'contemporary' as applied to literary texts, exploring questions such as: does 'contemporary' signify '10 years ago' or '10 months ago'? Who decides? (e.g. which institutions and market forces?); Does this differ from one European country to another? From one genre to another? A range of theories of canon-formation are assessed in terms of their viability vis-à-vis contemporary literature: can there be a truly contemporary canon? What is the role of publishing houses, retailers, literary prizes, the internet and social networking sites in constructing 'today's canon'? The module will be based on three disciplines (including but not limited to Arabic, French, German, Italian, Persian, Russian, Spanish) and will combine theory with a number of case studies.</p>				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for Comparative Literature Postgraduate Programmes. Optional for Crossways in Cultural Narratives Mundus Postgraduate Programmes.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2 hours (lectures and seminars)			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr S Talajooy			

ML5001 Literary and Cultural Theory (1)				
SCOTCAT Credits:	20	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
<p>This module and its partner module ML5002 seek to provide the kind of research training now regarded as indispensable for all postgraduates by exploring a range of literary and cultural theories through which texts of all sorts may be conceptualised, criticised and analysed. We will study a broad chronological and national range of seminal thinkers and theories, which might typically include: Aristotle; Kant; Marxist theory; psychoanalytic theory; Benjamin; Adorno; structuralism, deconstruction and poststructuralism; feminist and queer theory; Fanon, Spivak and Bhabha; the posthuman.</p>				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for Comparative Literature, Cultural Identity Studies, French Studies, German Studies, Italian Studies, Middle Eastern Literary and Cultural Studies, Russian Studies, Spanish and Latin American Studies, Crossways in Cultural Narratives Mundus Postgraduate Programmes. Optional for German and Comparative Literature Postgraduate Programme. Optional for other MLitt students outside Modern Languages with permission of both Schools.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: Lecture/seminar.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr E Hugueny-Legér			

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ML5004 Research and Professional Skills				
SCOTCAT Credits:	20	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
<p>This module introduces students to a range of skills which are essential to advanced researchers and key to many other non-academic workplaces. We will focus on analytic and critical skills (for instance writing abstracts; critically reviewing articles and research seminar presentations; producing a research poster); oral skills (presentations; asking questions in research seminars); group work (planning a conference); IT research skills. The skills sessions will be tailored to suit modern linguists and comparatists. Seminar preparation and coursework will be directly linked to individual students' own research interests. First year PhD students are invited to audit some part of the programme, adding a valuable component of peer input to the module.</p>				
Programme module type:	<p>Compulsory for Comparative Literature, Cultural Identity Studies, French Studies, German Studies, Italian Studies, Middle Eastern Literary and Cultural Studies, Russian Studies, Spanish and Latin American Studies Postgraduate Programmes.</p> <p>Optional for Crossways in Cultural Narratives Mundus Postgraduate Programmes.</p> <p>Optional for other MLitt students outside Modern Languages with permission of both Schools.</p>			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2 hours (seminars and practical classes)			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Prof W Fowler			
Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):	various			

ML5099 Dissertation for MLitt Programme/s				
SCOTCAT Credits:	60	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	Whole Year
Planned timetable:	At times to be arranged with the supervisor.			
<p>Student dissertations will be supervised by members of the teaching staff who will advise on the choice of subject and provide guidance throughout the research process. The completed dissertation of not more than 15,000 words must be submitted by the end of August.</p>				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for Comparative Literature and Cultural Identity Studies MLitt Postgraduate Programmes.			
Anti-requisite(s):	ML5199			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: Individual supervision.			
Assessment pattern:	Dissertation = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Head of relevant Department			

Optional modules:

AP5013 Middle Eastern Literary and Cultural Contexts (20)				
SCOTCAT Credits:	20	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
The module provides students with a comprehensive knowledge of important elements of classical and modern Arabic and Persian literatures and cultures from pre-Islamic times to the present. Students will be exposed to a greater variety of literary texts than at undergraduate level and some of these key texts will be explored in detail. Students will be expected to read some key texts in Arabic or Persian depending on their language choice.				
Programme module type:	Optional for Comparative Literature, Cultural Identity Studies, German and Comparative Literature and Crossways in Cultural Narratives Mundus Postgraduate Programmes. Optional for other MLitt students outside Modern Languages with permission of both Schools.			
Pre-requisite(s):	First degree in Arabic or Persian or similar knowledge of Arabic or Persian [classical and/or modern standard Arabic or Persian].			
Anti-requisite(s):	AP5011			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 seminar (x 11 weeks) and 2 lectures over the semester			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr S Talajooy			

AP5014 Specialised Research in Middle Eastern Literatures and Cultures				
SCOTCAT Credits:	20	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
This module provides the opportunity for postgraduate students to develop their skills of literary and textual analysis through directed reading on a topic of their choice. They will be able to study an author or selection of Arab or Persian authors from the classical or modern period and learn to generate original research questions on topics as varied as the pre-Islamic poetry and the Arab or Persian novel or drama.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for Middle Eastern Literary and Cultural Studies Postgraduate Programmes. Optional for Comparative Literature, Cultural Identity Studies and Crossways in Cultural Narratives Mundus Postgraduate Programmes. Optional for other MLitt students outside Modern Languages with permission of both Schools.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 6 tutorials.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr S Talajooy			

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FR5013 French Literary Revolutions (20)				
SCOTCAT Credits:	20	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
<p>This module will enable postgraduates actively to acquire advanced knowledge of contexts that have shaped literature and culture in the French-speaking lands from the Renaissance to the present day. It draws on the expertise of researchers in the Dept of French, and concentrates on the research-led study of major conflicts and continuities in the cultural, literary or intellectual history of the French-speaking lands. The conflicts and continuities studied will vary from year to year but may include: ancients and moderns in the Renaissance, C17th theatrical controversies, Enlightenment travel literature, the Romantic revolution, Symbolism and Decadence, C20th representations of war, literature and philosophy, autofiction and C21st movements such as littérature monde.</p>				
Programme module type:	<p>Optional for Comparative Literature, Cultural Identity Studies, German and Comparative Literature and Crossways in Cultural Narratives Mundus Postgraduate Programmes.</p> <p>Optional for other MLitt students outside Modern Languages with permission of both Schools.</p>			
Anti-requisite(s):	FR5011			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: Seminars and lectures.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr E Laügt			

FR5014 Specialised Research in French Studies				
SCOTCAT Credits:	20	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
<p>The module offers students the opportunity to draw on expertise in the Department of French for the exploration of a relevant topic in some depth. Potential subjects of study could include, for example, literature and culture of the Renaissance, C17th-C20th theatre, literature and ideas of the Enlightenment, C19th and C20th literature, culture, politics and society, music and poetry, autobiography, C21st literature, modern French thought, cinematic adaptations of French novels. Teaching and learning will proceed on the basis of a series of seminars and an agreed programme of readings.</p>				
Programme module type:	<p>Compulsory for French Studies Postgraduate Programme.</p> <p>Optional for Comparative Literature, Cultural Identity Studies and Crossways in Cultural Narratives Mundus Postgraduate Programmes.</p> <p>Optional for other MLitt students outside Modern Languages with permission of both Schools.</p>			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: Fortnightly tutorials.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr E Laügt			
Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):	various			

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GM5013 German Literary and Cultural Contexts (20)				
SCOTCAT Credits:	20	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
<p>This module seeks to enable postgraduates actively to acquire advanced knowledge of contexts that have shaped literature and culture in the German-speaking lands from the Middle Ages to the present day. It draws on the expertise of academic teachers in the Department of German, and concentrates on the research-led study of selected turning points in the cultural, literary or intellectual history of the German-speaking lands. The turning points studied will vary but may include: Early Modern print culture, the making of German letters, the 'Sattelzeit' around 1800, urban modernisms around 1900, the Weimar Republic, Stunde Null and the radical contemporary.</p>				
Programme module type:	<p>Optional for Comparative Literature, Cultural Identity Studies, German and Comparative Literature and Crossways in Cultural Narratives Mundus Postgraduate Programmes.</p> <p>Optional for other MLitt students outside Modern Languages with permission of both Schools.</p>			
Anti-requisite(s):	GM5011			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: Seminars and occasional lectures.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr A Cusack			
Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):	various			

GM5014 Specialised Research in German Studies				
SCOTCAT Credits:	20	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
<p>This module provides the opportunity for postgraduate students to develop their skills of literary and textual analysis through directed reading on a topic of their choice. They will be able to study an author, discursive genre, or school in German literature, cultural studies or theory from the Medieval age to the modern day, and learn to generate original research questions on their chosen topic.</p>				
Programme module type:	<p>Compulsory for German Studies Postgraduate Programme.</p> <p>Optional for Comparative Literature, Cultural Identity Studies, Crossways in Cultural Narratives Mundus Postgraduate Programmes.</p> <p>Optional for other MLitt students outside Modern Languages with permission of both Schools.</p>			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: Fortnightly tutorials.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr A Cusack			
Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):	various			

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IT5013 Italian Literary and Cultural Contexts (20)				
SCOTCAT Credits:	20	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
<p>Italians: who are they and how is that decided? A young country with a long history, the problem of Italian identity predates the formation of the Italian State and remains unresolved in the twenty-first century. This module investigates the issue through seminal works by Italian writers from the thirteenth century to the present day. The idea of Italy and Italians has been largely located in literature and culture, the study of which is fundamental for any understanding of the reality of Italy, and forms an exemplary case study in the often contested construction of a national identity.</p>				
Programme module type:	<p>Optional for Comparative Literature, Cultural Identity Studies, German and Comparative Literature and Crossways in Cultural Narratives Mundus Postgraduate Programmes.</p> <p>Optional for other MLitt students outside Modern Languages with permission of both Schools.</p>			
Anti-requisite(s):	IT5011			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: Seminars and occasional lectures.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	TBC			
Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):	various			

IT5014 Specialised Research in Italian Studies				
SCOTCAT Credits:	20	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1 & 2 (taught twice)
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
<p>This module allows students to pursue in greater depth more particular interests which fit with areas of expertise among the academic staff in Italian. This will take the form of extended study of individual authors, or topics, in or across historical periods. Typical areas of study might be Renaissance humanism, 20th Century Italian poetry, Postcolonial Italy, Freudian and post-Freudian psychoanalytic literary theory, Love in Early Italian literature, gender and sexuality in Italian film; or the in-depth study of individual writers or directors.</p>				
Programme module type:	<p>Compulsory for Italian Studies Postgraduate Programme.</p> <p>Optional for Comparative Literature, Cultural Identity Studies and Crossways in Cultural Narratives Mundus Postgraduate Programmes.</p> <p>Optional for other MLitt students in outside Modern Languages with permission of both Schools.</p>			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: Fortnightly tutorials.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	TBC			
Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):	various			

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ML5105 Europe and America: Dialogues and Identity Formation in Text, Film and Theory				
SCOTCAT Credits:	20	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1 or 2
Planned timetable:	11.00 am Tue and Wed			
<p>This module will focus on the relationship between Europe and the Americas (i.e. Latin and North America, including Canada). It will explore the ways in which European authors and thinkers encounter, embrace, oppose or reject American cultures, politics and values, and how American authors in turn react to European influences. The subject will be studied through a range of literary, filmic and theoretical approaches generated in France, Germany, Spain, Italy and Russia, as well as in Latin and North America, from the discovery of the New World to the 21st century. More particularly, this module will invite students to further their awareness and understanding of the notions of identity and power at play in the many different discourses generated in Europe about America as well as different axes or networks of dialogue between North America, Latin America and Europe.</p>				
Programme module type:	<p>Optional for Comparative Literature, Cultural Identity Studies and Crossways in Cultural Narratives Mundus Postgraduate Programmes.</p> <p>Optional for other MLitt students outside Modern Languages with permission of both Schools.</p>			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1.5 hours comprising a combination of lectures and seminars.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	TBC			

ML5201 Film and Issues of European Identity				
SCOTCAT Credits:	20	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	2.00 pm Tue and Wed			
<p>A team-taught interdisciplinary module, designed to give an introduction to some central issues in the theory and practice of cinema. Issues covered characteristically include identities, the relation of political power to the cinema, film narrative, gender issues and representation, cinema realism and semiotics. The topics will be drawn from a list including film theory and the philosophy of film, and from aspects of French, Italian, Spanish, German and/or Soviet film. The availability of the module in any given year will be conditional on adequate student numbers.</p>				
Programme module type:	<p>Optional for Comparative Literature, Cultural Identity Studies and Crossways in Cultural Narratives Mundus Postgraduate Programmes.</p> <p>Optional for other MLitt students outside Modern Languages with permission of both Schools.</p>			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 22 hours over semester.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	TBC			

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RU5013 Generations in Russian Literature and Culture (20)				
SCOTCAT Credits:	20	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
<p>Generations in Russian Literature and Culture: Metaphors of kinship have proven remarkably robust in the history of pre-revolutionary Russia and the Soviet and post-Soviet states, providing means for writers to conceptualise their relationship with their literary predecessors (father/son, uncle/nephew, for example), to imagine the nation in either epic (fatherland) or lyrical (motherland) terms, and, in the Soviet period, for the political authorities to develop discourses of (filial) loyalty and betrayal. This module investigates issues in Russian culture and history through the lens of genealogy, drawing on the expertise of researchers in the Department of Russian in order to broaden and deepen students' understanding of the Russian experience from the nineteenth century to the modern day.</p>				
Programme module type:	<p>Optional for Comparative Literature, Cultural Identity Studies, German and Comparative Literature and Crossways in Cultural Narratives Mundus Postgraduate Programmes.</p> <p>Optional for other MLitt students outside Modern Languages with permission of both Schools.</p>			
Anti-requisite(s):	RU5011			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: Seminars and occasional lectures.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	TBC			
Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):	various			

RU5014 Specialised Research in Russian Studies				
SCOTCAT Credits:	20	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
<p>The module offers students the opportunity to draw on expertise in the Department of Russian for the exploration of a relevant topic in some depth. Potential subjects of study might cover, for example, the work of a single author like Anton Chekhov or Andrei Belyi, the development of a single genre like the historical novel or political drama, or the ramifications of a period concept like the Russian Golden Age or the Silver Age. Teaching and learning will proceed on the basis of a series of seminars and an agreed programme of directed reading.</p>				
Programme module type:	<p>Compulsory for Russian Studies Postgraduate Programme.</p> <p>Optional for Comparative Literature, Cultural Identity Studies, and Crossways in Cultural Narratives Mundus Postgraduate Programmes.</p> <p>Optional for other MLitt students outside Modern Languages with permission of both Schools.</p>			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: Fortnightly tutorials.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr E Finer			
Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):	various			

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SP5013 Patterns in Hispanic Literature and Film (20)				
SCOTCAT Credits:	20	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
<p>The module is a high-level introduction to research areas of Hispanic literature and film. The approach is through “national themes”, which may vary from year to year, traceable within Spanish and Spanish American culture. One such theme is the journey, a subject associated with some of the greatest texts in Spanish, such as Poema de Mio Cid, a story of reconquest and honour retrieval set at the start of Spain and the Castilian language; Don Quijote, a journey of self-realisation in the face of modernity; or Pedro Páramo, a pilgrimage to the personal roots of the protagonist as well as of Mexico. This module is a 20-credit version of SP5011.</p>				
Programme module type:	<p>Optional for Comparative Literature, Cultural Identity Studies, German and Comparative Literature and Crossways in Cultural Narratives Mundus Postgraduate Programmes.</p> <p>Optional for other MLitt students outside Modern Languages with permission of both Schools.</p>			
Anti-requisite(s):	SP5011			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: Seminars and occasional lectures.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr C O’Leary			
Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):	various			

SP5014 Specialised Research in Spanish and/or Latin American Studies				
SCOTCAT Credits:	20	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
<p>The module offers students the opportunity to draw on expertise in the Department of Spanish for the exploration of a relevant topic in some depth. Potential subjects of study could include, for example, the work of a single author such as Juan Carlos Onetti, Gertrudis Gómez de Avellaneda or Jorge Luis Borges, or topics such as slavery in nineteenth century Spanish literature or the representation of the city in Latin American film, art and texts. Teaching and learning will proceed on the basis of a series of seminars and an agreed programme of readings.</p>				
Programme module type:	<p>Compulsory for Spanish and Latin American Studies Postgraduate Programme.</p> <p>Optional for Comparative Literature, Cultural Identity Studies and Crossways in Cultural Narratives Mundus Postgraduate Programmes.</p> <p>Optional for other MLitt students outside Modern Languages with permission of both Schools.</p>			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: Fortnightly tutorials.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr C O’Leary			
Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):	various			