M.A. in Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts

Brock University Policies and

Procedures Manual

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MA Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts
https://brocku.ca/humanities/modern-languages/programs/ma-scla/

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INTRODUCTION

General Course Policies and Procedures

Note that some program regulations are governed by the Brock University Faculty Handbook which can be updated at any time during the academic year. This program handbook is updated each year and as necessary. Therefore, it is always key to consult the Faculty Handbook for the latest policies. While some regulations may be grandfathered, some others as well as changes in process and administration of policy may not. Should the two documents differ, the Faculty Handbook will have precedence.

1.1 Objectives of the Program

The MA program in Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts is an interdisciplinary and inter-faculty program that focuses on the study of literature from different cultures and examines the ways in which literature enters into dialogue with the fine and performing arts. Students critically explore contemporary approaches to texts of various types, as well as the possibilities and problems that arise in comparative studies, including issues related to the translation and adaptation of works. Through coursework, students are encouraged to develop a cross-disciplinary understanding of how works of art or cultural production evolve, are received, and are interpreted.

The SCLA program is designed to challenge students with an interest in the multi- and interdisciplinary collision of ideas in the Humanities, particularly questions of comparison between different forms of creative expression. In the context of advanced interdisciplinary inquiry, it provides the opportunity for the conjunction of a range of different languages and theoretical perspectives. Literature and the languages of the Visual Arts, Music, and Dramatic Arts are investigated in the context of dynamic comparability. Such generative encounters provide students with the opportunity for the development of fresh insights, rich innovative methodological terrains, and the creation of new concepts and post-disciplinary ideas.

1.2 Graduate Program Director

The Program Director reports to the Chair of the Department of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures (MLLC) and to the Dean of Humanities, and usually occupies the position for a term of three years. She or he will normally be a tenured faculty member in the Department of MLLC where the program is administratively housed. The Graduate Administrative Assistant for the program is appointed by the Dean.

It is the duty of the GPD to oversee the graduate program. The GPD carries out all duties in consultation with the Program Committee and the Associate Dean of Humanities, Graduate Studies and Research, with the support of a Graduate Administrative Assistant, appointed by the Dean. The GPD receives a half course release per year.

Specific duties include:

- Serve as Chair of the Program Committee.

- Provide guidance to students who are enquiring about the program and/or about their options within the program.

- Provide guidance for resident graduate students with respect to their applications for external scholarships and fellowships.

- Be available as a source of guidance with respect to students' interactions with the program, including the selection of courses.

- Oversee the preparation and maintenance of graduate program materials, which include advertising posters, the program web page, the *Brock Graduate Calendar* and other university publications. Liaise with the Faculty of Humanities Social Media facilitator.

- Work with the Associate Dean of Humanities, Graduate Studies and Research, and with the Faculty of Graduate Studies to promote the program. Liaise with the Office of Research Services and the Vice-President, Research and Associate Vice-President, Research (Humanities and Social Sciences) to generate opportunities for students in the program.

- Oversee the Program budget.

- Co-ordinate course scheduling, teaching arrangements, course assessment and feedback, and course and curriculum development.

- Co-ordinate TA positions/funding for incoming students.

- Meet with the incoming students, review program policies and expectations, and post the most recent copy of the *Policies and Procedures Manual* on the program website.

- Oversee a program orientation and social occasion to welcome incoming graduate students in the Fall of each year.

- Ensure that all students' files are kept up-to-date with respect to their progress, grades, graduate record forms, and so on.

- Oversee students' progress through monitoring grades and arranging for their progress reports. The GPD brings any problems to the attention of the Program Committee.

- Bring students' concerns to the attention of the Program Committee and liaise with the Student Representative.

- Oversee arrangements for MA thesis oral defense as per the Faculty of Graduate Studies guidelines. This involves contacting all members of the MA defense examination committee, determining a time and room for the examination, advertising the examination (on the program website and where appropriate).

- Provide copies of the completed MA thesis to the External Examiner and all other members of the Examining Committee, and ensure that the written comments of the External Examiner are received at least one week prior to the thesis oral examination.

- The GPD is a member of the Graduate Council and attends its monthly meetings. The purpose of Graduate Council is to provide a forum for GPDs, and others involved in graduate programs, to meet and exchange ideas about administrative aspects of graduate programs.

- Provide a report of SCLA activities to the Chair of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures (MLLC) before departmental meetings in MLLC. The GPD will consult with the Chair of MLLC as needed.

1.2.1 Nomination of Program Director

The Department of MLLC will normally recommend to the Program Committee a nomination of a tenured member of the department; nomination may also come from the Program Committee. The nominee must have taught in SCLA or have been a member of the Graduate Core Committee. The nomination will be ratified by the Program Committee and will be shared with the Chair of MLLC for departmental support.

1.2.2 Nomination of Interim Program Director

When an Interim Program Director is needed the current Program Director will solicit nominations from the Program Committee subject to the same restrictions outlined in 1.2.1. Nominees will be ratified by vote by the Program Committee and will be shared with the Chair of MLLC for departmental support.

1.2.3 Procedures for Selection of Program Director

The Director will receive an administrative course relief of one half-course for each year she or he serves in this position. The Program Director will be selected according to the following procedure:
In October of the final year of her/his term, the Director will send out a call for nominations from participating members of MLLC. If there is more than one nominee, a vote by secret ballot will take place among all participating members of MLLC. If no participating member from MLLC is able to serve as Director, the outgoing Director will ask for nominations from faculty members from other departments who are members of the SCLA committee or are Core faculty members in the program.

1.3 Graduate Core Committee

1.3.1 Core Faculty members serve a three-year term and may apply for renewal. Colleagues who wish to renew their membership or to become members of the Core Faculty are asked to submit a brief letter and an up-to-date CV. In the letter, they should outline their interest in participating in the program as well as their research expertise relevant to the program. The Graduate Committee reviews all applications.

1.3.2 Adjuncts, including emeriti, will not be granted supervisory privilege but may be allowed to serve on supervisory committees at the discretion of the Program Committee.

1. 4 Graduate Program Committee

The Program Committee consists of the Graduate Program Director, at least 5 core faculty members including all core faculty members teaching in the program, the Chair of MLLC, and the Student Representative. The Student Representative is a voting member of the committee except on matters of admission, awards adjudication, and other confidential matters concerning students and faculty. Members serve a 3-year term. It is the duty of the Program Committee to oversee and monitor the graduate program and to plan for further program development when appropriate. It is also the duty of the Program Committee to consider feedback about the program provided by the students. On the basis of this feedback, the Program Committee is in the position to make recommendations that would deal with student concerns. These recommendations are forwarded to the appropriate individuals by the GPD.

Quorum for Program Committee meetings shall be 3 members of the committee and the GPD. A simple majority vote is sufficient to pass motions.

2. PROGRAM REGULATIONS

2.1   General Information

Students admitted to the M.A. Program in Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts will normally come from undergraduate programs in the following disciplines: Canadian Studies, Classics, Communications Studies, Comparative Literature, Cultural Studies, Drama, English Language and Literature, Fine Arts, Film Studies, History, International Studies, Modern Languages and Literatures, Music, Philosophy, Political Science, Studies in Arts and Culture or Women and Gender Studies.

Students may have earned a B.A. (Honours) in a single discipline or a Combined Major degree (Honours) in any of the disciplines mentioned. Students interested in this degree may benefit from the opportunity to move towards an interdisciplinary and trans-cultural approach to the study of literatures and arts. The students benefit from the diversity of disciplines brought together in this program.

The M.A. Program is designed with this diversity of student background in mind. While they may complete their degree by writing either a Major Research Paper (40-50 pages) or a Thesis (75-100 pages), students are strongly encouraged to select the first option, as this will allow them to do more course work and, therefore, gain more extensive experience in the comparative analysis of literature and the arts.

Qualified students may choose the research-creation option.
The research creation option is available to cultural producers with an active

practice and/or academic qualifications in relevant disciplines (music, theatre, creative writing, visual arts. etc.) who choose to create a cultural product (work of art, performance, play, text, etc.) for their Major Research Paper or Thesis. Students choosing the research-creation option are required to provide an analytic-theoretical text related to the work they create. Its length and approach will be determined in consultation with their supervisors. Documentation and/or presentation of production should be taken into account at all stages. However, production components are not to be considered as over and above written components.

The feasibility of the project, timeline and logistics of the final presentation should be addressed at the proposal stage. It is possible to present the process of development or conceptual design of a project as the research-creation output.

2.2   Language Requirement

Applicants must have a reading knowledge of at least one language other than English. All languages are accepted. Except for native speakers of a language other than English, who do not need to provide proof of proficiency, transcripts indicating successful completion of at least one first-year language course at the university level will suffice to meet this language requirement. Students may elect to take their first-year language course during their program of studies in SCLA. In the absence of a transcript credit, students will be required to pass a reading skills test in a language other than English as part of the admissions process. Transcripts and/or proof of proficiency must be communicated to the Graduate Program Director. Those intending to pursue a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature are strongly encouraged to maintain, or further develop, second language proficiency in preparation for language requirement exams associated with Comparative Literature Programs at the doctoral level.

2.3   Admission Standards and Procedures

Applications for admission to the M.A. Program, on a full-time or part-time basis, will be accepted from applicants holding an Honours degree with an overall average of at least 75% in a relevant discipline or interdisciplinary program (See list in 2.1). Applicants should have completed several courses in literature or literary theory, the performing or visual arts as part of their undergraduate program. Applicants must supply a personal statement, outlining their research or study interests in the field of Comparative Literatures and Arts, and letters from two referees who can attest to the applicant's suitability for graduate studies.

The Program Committee, minus the student representative, will make decisions regarding admissions. Applications and accompanying materials will be submitted electronically to the Faculty of Graduate Studies. Committee members will be given access to the applications database, maintained by the Faculty of Graduate Studies, and can begin reviewing applications in advance of February 1, the closing date for applications.

After February 1, each Program Committee member will consider the applications and make a short list, taking into account the qualifications of each candidate, funding limitations, and program limitations due to teaching and other resources. Faculty members may be invited and/or may request to meet with the Committee during this process (e.g., a faculty member may wish to make a case

for accepting a particular applicant). In the interests of protecting potential students, faculty members, and the program, the Committee may also raise concerns about potential supervisors. In the event that concerns arise about a potential supervisor, the GPD will discuss those concerns with the faculty member identified as potential supervisor and report back to the Committee with a recommendation for resolution. The Program Committee will typically make its final selection in consultation with the potential supervisor and subject to the approval of the Dean of Graduate Studies. The GPD chairs admissions meetings and engages in discussion but does not vote on specific candidates. However, most decisions are made by consensus. Voting becomes necessary only if there are opposing views.

Offers of admission will not be made unless/until the applicant's file is complete: strong applicants, whose files are not complete, will be contacted by the GPD and informed of the program's interest, but no firm offer will be given until all documents are submitted.

2.3.1 Funding Policy

The Committee will be guided in its selection of new graduate students by a funding policy developed to ensure that:

1. All students in normal residence in the program are offered some financial support for the 12-month duration of the program. There are four general sources of funding for graduate students: a) Fellowships - administered by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and available to all full-time students; b) Graduate teaching assistantships – co-ordinated by the GPD and administered by the Department where the TAship takes place in the first year; c) Research grant contributions - from the student's supervisor or other faculty members, when available; d) External awards (e.g. OGS, SSHRC) - administered by the Faculty of Graduate Studies. The amount of all sources of funding is variable.

2. The distribution to students of financial resources such as Teaching and/or Research Assistantships is carried out in a fair and equitable manner, taking into account the interests and abilities of the student and the availability of funds.

2.3.2 Offers of Financial Support

Students offered admission in the program shall be informed of the normal completion time for the program, the level of financial support that is promised, the period of time over which this support will be provided, and any special conditions concerning continuation of the support.

Financial support may include amounts received from internal scholarships and as well as all four sources of funding mentioned in the funding policy, above. The source and amount of funds may vary over the period of graduate studies. As well, fellowship funds from the University may be used in a discretionary manner to entice highly qualified students.

2.3.3 Continuation of Financial Support

A student whose performance has been reviewed by the Program Committee and is judged to be unsatisfactory will normally receive written warning and suggestions for improvement. If the student's performance does not improve sufficiently within a reasonable time period or if a student fails to meet program requirements and is put on academic probation by a Program Committee decision, financial support may be reduced or discontinued. Written warning and an opportunity for improvement need not be given in cases of serious misconduct or serious neglect of duties.

It is recognized that difficulties may arise owing to inadequate transfer payments from the province, or to non-renewal of external research grants and contracts. However, the University will make every effort to maintain financial support for continuing graduate students at the levels promised.

2.3.4 Full-time Students

Full-time graduate students are defined as students whose main purpose is graduate study for the purpose of obtaining a graduate degree. Graduate study differs from undergraduate study in that it is for most students an activity that is highly concentrated, demanding and all-consuming. Full-time graduate students are defined according to regulations as follows:

• they must be pursuing their studies as a full-time occupation and identify themselves as full-time graduate students in all documentation;

• they must be considered by the University to be in full-time study; they must maintain regular contact with their graduate program director and supervisor; they must be geographically available and visit the campus regularly. Without forfeiting full-time status, a graduate student, while under supervision, may be absent from the university (e.g. visiting libraries, doing field work, attending a graduate course at another institution, etc.) provided that, if any such absence exceeds four weeks in any one term, written approval of the student's absence by the Graduate Program Director is forwarded to the Faculty of Graduate Studies and approved by the Dean of Graduate Studies (or designate); (see brocku.ca/graduate-studies/current-students/student-forms)

• Full-time graduate students must limit University employment to no more than 520 hours of paid work per year, with a maximum of 240 hours per academic term. This applies to all paid employment on campus and includes Graduate Teaching Assistantships and Research Assistantships.

Exceptionally, students may request part-time status, however, part-time students do not qualify for the fellowship funding provided by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs. Part time status may impact other funding eligibility as well and can have implications for student visa status (if applicable). Any student considering applying for part time status is encouraged to discuss it with the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs before applying for this status.

2.3.5 Graduate Student Employment, Duties, and Rates of Pay

Normally, each graduate student will be assigned the equivalent of two Graduate Teaching Assistantships for one year of full-time study in the MA program. Each of these has a nominal workload of 120 hours (60 per term).

In some cases, students receive Research Fellowships and Research Assistantship support to work on their own thesis research. In such circumstances, requirements as to maximum hours of work do not apply. However, when payment is for assistance with research not closely related to the student's thesis research, the total hours worked per term must not exceed 240 hours per term or 520 hours per year.

Graduate Student Teaching Assistantship

GTA positions, including duties and rates of pay, are regulated in accordance with the CUPE 4207 Collective Agreement: https://brocku.ca/human-resources/wp-content/uploads/sites/81/Unit-1-1.pdf.

> Article 22.01.b
> Graduate Student Teaching Assistantship: Associated with a Graduate Student Teaching Assistantship is a nominal workload of 120 hours per term. The Graduate Student Teaching Assistantship can include Teaching Assistant, Marker-Grader, Course Coordinator and/or Lab Demonstrator duties. The Employer may assign Graduate Student Teaching Assistantships to full-time students enrolled in a master's degree or doctoral program at Brock University. Graduate students who are not offered a Teaching Assistantship under 27 Article 22.01 (b) may be assigned or apply to individual appointments under Article 22.01 (c), (d), (e) and/or (f). All hours worked by graduate students beyond the 120-hour Graduate Student Teaching Assistantship per term are paid in accordance with the rate assigned for that work. For clarity, additional Marker-Grader work is paid at the Marker-Grader rate of pay. The Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies may limit the number of hours a graduate student may work beyond the 120-hour Graduate Student Teaching Assistantship. Students who request additional hours will not be unreasonably denied.

The GPD arranges TAships in the student's fall and winter terms. Beyond the first fall and winter terms, students are required to apply for TAships. Positions are listed at various times of the year on the HR webpage: http://www.brocku.ca/hr/careers/positions.php?id=cupe. All applicants must fill out the CUPE application form and submit it along with a complete application package to the Department Chair. The CUPE form can be found on the job postings page. PhD /MA students are given preference in hiring according to the collective agreement: https://brocku.ca/human-resources/wp-content/uploads/sites/81/Unit-1-1.pdf

Before the beginning of the fall term, the Chair of the Department where the TAship is held and the Instructor shall inform GTAs of their assignments and the nominal hours of work expected over the term. The nominal hours of work are estimates of the time, including preparation, which would normally be required by a graduate student to carry out the assigned duties. It is the Instructor and Chair's responsibility to ensure that adequate preparation time is allowed; it is the graduate student's responsibility to be prepared. It is the Instructor's duty to meet with her/his TAs at the beginning of the term for advance discussion of the work expected, the methods to be used in evaluating the TA's work, and the scheduling of duties throughout the

term. TA duties extend from the date that lectures begin until the due date for course marks and may be distributed unevenly over the term. However, the maximum number of hours of work required in any one week should not normally exceed 20 hours per week. Anticipated excessive fluctuations shall be clearly identified at the time of course assignment. Graduate student employees shall identify to the employer any known academic obligations that may interfere with their duties. If unreasonable demands interfere with a student's own academic program, he/she should speak with the GPD. Except in emergencies, GTAs should receive at least one week's notice of special duties such as proctoring or lecturing.

2.4   Student Input/Evaluation

Students should express any concerns first to the course instructor, and then the Graduate Program Director. Failing a successful resolution of the matter, students may take their concerns to the Dean of Humanities and the Dean of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs. To consult appeal procedures, see https://brocku.ca/registrar/senate_appeals/. All new graduate students in SCLA will be invited to a general orientation session held each year before the program begins. All students will have an opportunity to evaluate their courses at the end of each semester.

3.   Graduate Supervision and Supervisory Committees

The Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts graduate program will ensure that a graduate advisor/Supervisor and Supervisory Committee are designated for each graduate student completing a required Major Research Paper or Thesis. The graduate Supervisor in consultation with the graduate student will propose the Supervisory Committee composition. The committee composition must be approved by the Graduate Program Director.

A _Thesis_ Supervisory committee must at minimum comprise three members, the graduate Supervisor (from the Studies in Comparative Literature and Arts participating faculty) and two additional faculty members. At least one of the latter two must be a full-time Brock University faculty. A _Major Research Paper_ Supervisory Committee must at minimum comprise the graduate Supervisor and a Second Reader (usually a faculty member previously approved by the Graduate Program Director in consultation with the student and Supervisor).

If a student's graduate Supervisor leaves Brock University during the student's program, the Graduate Program Director has the responsibility to ensure that the student can exercise one of the following options:

i)   Remain at Brock and change Supervisor and perhaps Major Research Paper or Thesis topic.

ii)   Remain at Brock and complete the existing Major Research Paper or Thesis even though the appropriate expertise may not be available at Brock for supervision. In this case, the Supervisory Committee may seek advice from experts off campus, or may arrange for the student to work off campus. It will be the responsibility of the Supervisory

Committee (augmented, if necessary, by outside expertise), to advise the student on all matters regarding the Major Research Paper or Thesis preparation. The student is not precluded from seeking advice from the former Brock faculty member, but the former Brock faculty member has no privileged position with respect to the Major Research Paper or Thesis. The Supervisory Committee will take precedence in all cases.

iii) Apply to transfer to the university to which the student's former Supervisor has moved.

iv) Any special arrangements described in ii) or iii) above must be approved by the Faculty Dean and the Dean of Graduate Studies.

3.1 Student Responsibilities

All M.A. students are urged to read carefully the sections of the graduate calendar that explain university regulations governing M.A. studies at Brock University, as well as Brock University's policies on Research and Academic Misconduct. Graduate students are held to a higher standard than undergraduates in these matters. The Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts faculty are bound by all university- wide academic regulations adopted by the Brock University Senate. All graduate students must read these sections of the Faculty Handbook and adhere to the policies laid out in the Graduate Calendar.

While the Graduate Program Director is there to assist students and answer their questions, it is the responsibility of the students, not the graduate program, to ensure that their courses of study meet all university requirements for the degree sought. The purpose of this handbook is to clarify university policy regarding certain matters that fall under the Faculty of Graduate Studies jurisdiction and are of concern to our graduate students.

3.1.1 Full-time Studies and Approval for Extra On-Campus Employment

As per the Faculty Handbook 3.B.7.1, "Full-time graduate students are defined as students whose main focus is graduate study for the purpose of obtaining a graduate degree. Graduate study differs from the undergraduate study in that it is, for most students, an activity that is highly concentrated, demanding and all-consuming. Full-time graduate students must be pursuing their studies as a full-time occupation and identify themselves as full-time graduate students in all documentation."

Students "must limit their paid University employment to a maximum of 520 hours per year, with a maximum of 240 hours per academic term. This includes all paid employment on campus including Graduate Teaching Assistantships and Research Assistantships."

However, the graduate program strongly recommends that so far as possible students should not undertake any additional part-time work over and above their standard TA duties while attempting to complete their Major Research Paper or Thesis. Students should be aware that interference from part-time employment might occasion deficiencies with respect to the timing, volume or quality of work.

It is important to make every effort to avoid such conflicts. Success depends on giving top priority to completion of the Major Research Paper or Thesis.

Beyond the 520 hours, the graduate student must have *prior* approval from the Thesis/MRP Supervisor, the Graduate Program Director, and the Dean of Graduate Studies by completing the Request for [Approval of Extra On-Campus Employment Hours form](). Students who are not on track with their program requirements and/or who are on probationary status will not be given permission to work extra hours.

3.1.2 Permission for Full-time Study Off Campus

As per the Faculty Handbook 7.1, students "must be geographically available and visit the campus regularly. Without forfeiting full-time status, a graduate student while under supervision, may be absent from the university (e.g., visiting libraries, doing field work, attending a graduate course at another institution) provided that, if any such absence exceeds four weeks in any one term, written approval of the student's absence by the Graduate Program Director is forwarded to the Faculty of Graduate Studies for approval."

3.1.3 Communication with Supervisor

Students will enter into regular contact with their supervisors beginning no later than the last week of April after their courses end, and from that point they are expected to follow a reasonably firm time-line for the main steps towards completion of the Major Research Paper or Thesis. Scheduling lapses will probably jeopardize the goal of finishing the writing, submission, grading and proofreading process by the end of August. Thus, the Supervisor will work with the student to establish a practical time-line reflecting both the particularities of each individual student's Major Research Paper or Thesis, and the schedule of that professor's other activities (for instance, conferences, research, travel, and annual vacation). This time-line will also take into account the schedule of the proposed committee members. Additionally, for the agenda to function smoothly, students must appreciate such logistical concerns as the turn-around time required for comment and advice on the work that is submitted. Students can contribute to overall efficiency by promptly submitting whatever documentation their supervisors require for the most effective monitoring of their progress: this may entail email attachments, hard copies or disk copies of written work, hard copies of research materials, or whatever the Supervisor judges to be necessary.

As per the Faculty Handbook 3.B.7.10, "Graduate students must maintain continuous registration in each successive term from the time of initial admission until degree requirements are complete. Students must be registered to the end of the term in which they complete the degree requirements, including the term during which the thesis defence is scheduled. Students are responsible for ensuring that they register at the appropriate time for each term, as indicated in the graduate calendar."

3. 2. Supervisor Responsibilities

Supervisors will provide students with discussion and guidance on their evolving

Major Research Paper or Thesis, including advice on such matters as starting points for research, narrowing of the topic, refinement of the Thesis, and steps to be taken in the writing process. Supervisors and committee members will provide feedback both on the quality of their students' work and progress towards completion. When the supervisory committee is satisfied that a Major Research Paper or Thesis is ready for second reading, he or she will arrange with the Graduate Program Director for that to take place within a reasonable time. However, Supervisors will quite possibly not be able to facilitate prompt second reading of a Major Research Paper or Thesis if the final draft is submitted late.

The Supervisor, in consultation with the individual student, will establish the basic schedule for work on each Major Research Paper or Thesis. After that, Supervisors will rely on students to follow the agreed upon timeline (or to negotiate changes if justified, within the limits of the Supervisor's ability to accommodate them), to prepare appropriately for scheduled meetings, and to request additional meetings as necessary on their own initiative. Because various commitments may take Supervisors away from Brock for periods of time during the spring-summer period, they will arrange a timeline for meetings and for submission of work that takes account of such absences.

It is recognized that when faculty members agree to supervise a graduate student, they thereby assume a number of responsibilities. Major Research Paper and Thesis Supervisors are expected to be actively engaged in scholarly activity and linked to a wider scholarly network. The student has the right to expect from the Supervisor scholarly expertise, accessibility and assistance with the design, planning and conduct of feasible research projects. The following non-exhaustive list details specific responsibilities:

i. Be reasonably accessible to the student for consultation and discussion of academic progress and research problems and give timely response to written work with constructive suggestions for improvement.

ii. Offer supervision and advice appropriate to the stage of the student's work (proposal stage, research stage, analysis and writing stage, oral defense stage if necessary and if appropriate, with the publication of results).

iii. Help the student establish and maintain a suitable timetable for completion of the various stages of the Major Research Paper/Thesis requirements (i.e., selection of Supervisory Committee, approval of Major Research Paper/Thesis Proposal*, preparation for defense if required, etc.).

iv. Review the student's progress in preparation for the mid-December, mid-April and mid-August progress reports, which may take the form of a brief email to the Graduate Program Director assessing the student's progress through the program.

v. Conform to basic principles of academic integrity and professionalism in the supervisory role.

vi. Make a suitable alternative arrangement for supervision when on extensive leave or absence from the university.

vii. The Supervisor, as an active member of a research community within Brock University and beyond, necessarily serves as a role model for students, and must be prepared to devote the time required to share his or her knowledge and skills with students and other colleagues. In order to ensure this, the Supervisor must undertake to be available as a resource person for students interested in his or her areas of

expertise, and endeavor to attend academic and social activities organized by the program.

viii. Ensure the student is aware of University and Faculty requirements and standards for the graduate program as available in this document and in the Graduate Studies Calendar. Ensure that regulations on Intellectual Property are followed before a student is permitted to begin working in any research capacity associated with the University. See web page: https://brocku.ca/academic-integrity/graduate-studying-with-integrity/

* The Supervisor should be aware that full-time students may apply for reduced tuition for one term if both the Supervisor and Graduate Program Director agree that the Major Research Paper or Thesis requires no further research, or additional chapters/sections and therefore qualifies for Final Stage status.

In general, the Supervisor's goal is to create a work environment in which students can function as mature, independent academic researchers and writers with access to guidance. Students can rely on their Supervisors for expert advice and encouragement; Supervisors, in turn, will expect their students to take responsibility for the day-to-day progress of their own work.

3.2.1 Supervisory Committee Member Responsibilities

Supervisory Committee Members are expected to follow the *guidelines laid down for the primary Supervisor* with the exception that they do not have primary responsibility for the student (see above). It will be the responsibility of the Supervisory Committee Members to:

i. Offer advice appropriate to the stage of the student's work.

ii. For students proposing to undertake the Thesis option the Supervisory Committee member would meet with the Supervisor and student at least once to attend a formal proposal presentation by the student and, if satisfied, to sign the Proposal Approval Form indicating that they have approved the proposal and that the student can proceed.

iii. Committee members should use the Thesis proposal defense to suggest improvements and to record their ideas about the work before it is undertaken. The formal research is not to proceed until the Proposal Approval Form is signed.

iv. Approve the final draft of the Thesis and participate as a member of the Examining Committee (see below).

3.3 Graduate Research Proposals

Graduate students completing a Major Research Paper or Thesis must submit and have approved by their Supervisory Committee a proposal of research in accordance with the Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts graduate program's procedures (see below).

3.4 Graduate Documents: Major Research Paper and Theses

Master's Thesis and Major Research Paper documents must adhere to the minimum format requirements outlined on the Faculty of Graduate Studies website. Specific regulations regarding Thesis format standards for the Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts graduate program are outlined in this program's procedures (see below). All Thesis documents must be submitted and deposited according to the regulations specified in FHB 14.7.5. All Major Research Paper documents must be preserved and deposited for public display in the Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts Graduate Program Director's office.

4.   MAJOR RESEARCH PAPER

4.1   Requirements for Students Completing a Major Research Paper
(**SCLA 5F91)** Students pursuing the major research paper option are required to take six half-courses: the three core courses (SCLA 5P01, SCLA 5P02, and SCLA 5P03) and three elective courses. Two of these electives must be selected from SCLA 5P60-5V99 and the third from a graduate level course in another graduate program. The third elective will be arranged in consultation with the Graduate Program Director and the student's MRP supervisor. In addition to the courses, each student must complete a major research paper (SCLA 5F91) of 40-50 pages or, if applicable, a research-creation project. Full-time students normally complete the program in three terms.

4.2   Guidelines for Preparation of the Major Research Paper

The purpose of the Major Research Paper is to allow students to treat a subject with greater breadth and depth than would be possible in a single course. Completing the paper assumes superior academic skill and self-discipline.

The calendar description for the Major Research Paper reads as

follows: SCLA 5F91
Major Research Paper
A research project on a subject determined in consultation with the Graduate Program Director and faculty Supervisor. The project should give evidence of original thought as well as command of primary and secondary sources. It is expected that the project will be comparative in scope, and therefore engage with both literary texts and works from at least one of the other arts.

4.2.1   Proposal

By mid-March, the student will be expected to have identified a topic and to have communicated this area of research to their Supervisor. This process should include providing a proposal of about 500 words that defines the topic, determines the scope and approach taken and demonstrates the way in which both literature and one of the other arts will be studied comparatively. A list of references should accompany the proposal, which must be approved by Graduate Program Director by the end of March.

The process of defining a topic and identifying a Supervisory Committee may take some time and should begin well before the end of March. Defining a workable topic and finding a supervisor is a matter of mutual negotiation. It should be noted that faculty members are under no obligation to supervise any particular topic.

4.2.2 Length and Formatting

The Major Research Paper should be approximately 40-50 pages and must be written in accordance with the MLA style sheet; printed on letter-size paper; double- spaced for the body and triple spaced for headings/subheadings; Times New Roman font size 12; 1 inch margins all round. The page length will be adapted for research-creation project in consultation with the Supervisor and the GPD.

4.2.3 Revision and Submission

An inadequate paper must be revised and re-submitted for evaluation, although only a limited number of drafts will be accepted for revision. Full-time students intending to receive their Master's degree in the Fall convocation are expected to have submitted a readable draft of the Major Research Paper by August 1st. Final grades must be submitted by the first week of September for Fall convocation. A copy of the final version of the Major Research Paper will be kept in the Department of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures.

Should the revision of the draft not be completed by the end of August, students may choose to submit a First Draft Form to the Director and Supervisor before Fall Term starts in order to pay reduced tuition for Fall. If accepted, students will be eligible for convocation in the following Spring.

4.2.4 Role of the Supervisor

The Supervisor will guide the student through the process of producing an acceptable draft of the Major Research Paper. The Supervisor is expected to provide feedback to the student within three weeks of receiving the draft document. When she or he is satisfied that the paper is in its more or less final form, the Supervisor will ask the student to provide a copy to the Second Reader. (see also 3.2)

4.2.5 Role of the Second Reader

While the Second Reader may make suggestions for improvement, her or his primary role is to consult with the Supervisor in order to arrive at an appropriate grade for the paper.

4.2.6 Assignment of Final Grade

If there is agreement on the grade to be assigned, the Supervisor communicates the grade to the Graduate Program Director. If there is disagreement, it is the responsibility of the Director to determine the grade to be assigned, taking into consideration the rationale provided by both readers.

The Supervisor and Second Reader will have the following options open to them:

A+ - 90 to 100
A - 80 to 89
B - 70 to 79
C - 60 to 69
F - 59 or lower

If major revisions are necessary, the Supervisor and Second Reader will specify the areas for revision and the date by which the revised, typed MRP is to be completed. This date will normally be within one month of this decision. The Supervisor and Second Reader may also determine whether the revisions require acceptance by the Supervisor or by both the Supervisor and Second Reader. Students should typically be given one to two weeks to complete minor revisions which are to be approved by the student's Supervisor, and two to four weeks to complete major revisions which are to be approved by the Supervisor (and Second Reader as is deemed necessary).

In the instance of a failed MRP (see above C.4-5), the student may, at the discretion of the Supervisor and Second Reader, be permitted a second and final MRP submission. This will be submitted no later than one-month year after the original submission. In the preparation of the MRP for re-submission, the student will be guided by the written criticisms of the Supervisor and Second Reader. Under normal circumstances the Supervisor and the Second Reader of the second MRP submission will be identical to that of the original two faculty members. If a failing grade is again awarded for a MRP after re-examination, the student will be withdrawn from the program.

4.2.7 Extension of Times to Completion

This policy applies to both Major Research Papers and Theses. The Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts graduate program is designed as a three-term (12 months) degree. Students can continue to work beyond the three terms, However, this decision is made by the MA in Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts Program Committee as to whether or not to allow the continued course enrolments and supervision for another term or two of a student who is not yet finished.

As per the Faculty Handbook 3.B.7.9, "For master's degrees, full-time students must complete all degree requirements within three years from the date of first registration. part-time MA […] students must complete all degree requirements within five years from the date of first registration."

In exceptional circumstances, an extension of time permitting further registration beyond the three year limit may be granted. The Faculty of Graduate Studies must receive extension requests, detailing the exceptional circumstances, within the first month of the term in which the completion date expires, only then can they

be considered for approval by the Dean of Graduate Studies. An extension will only be considered for approval after completing the following procedure:

1) The student fills in a Request for Extension of Degree Time Limits Form, and submits it to his/her Supervisor (or the Graduate Program Director if s/he does not have a Supervisor) at least one month prior to the expiry of the degree time limit, outlining
   (i) the reason(s) for the delay in completing the degree requirements;
   (ii) the current status of his/her program;
   (iii) what remains to be completed; and
   (iv) how much additional time they require to complete the program.

The extension depends on individual circumstances and is typically limited to one additional term. The student will outline planned progress giving specific dates of expected completion, and ensure his/her availability to work full time throughout the requested extension period.

2) The Supervisor (or Graduate Program Director) will complete the designated section of the above-mentioned form, specifying
   (i) the present state of the student's work and what remains to be done;
   (ii) the amount of additional time required for the student to complete;
   (iii) what extra monitoring of progress will be implemented; and
   (iv) whether approval of the student's request is recommended, and if yes, for how many terms, but if not, why not.

3) The Graduate Program Director will review the request for extension, make a recommendation whether to approve the request, and submit the case to the Faculty of Graduate Studies; the Dean of Graduate Studies will decide whether to approve the request for extension.

4) The Faculty of Graduate Studies will inform the student of the Dean's decision.

5) Upon notification of approval by the Dean of Graduate Studies, students will pay the re-registration fee to maintain active student status.

5 M.A. THESIS

5.1 Requirements for Students Completing a Thesis (SCLA 5F90)

The course work requirement for the M.A. Thesis option is five half-courses, consisting of the three core half-courses (SCLA 5P01, 5P02, and 5P03) and two elective courses (selected from SCLA 5P60-5V99). Full-time students take the three core courses in the Fall term, the electives in the Winter term. In addition to the courses, each student must complete and defend at a public oral examination a thesis (SCLA 5F90) of 75-100 pages. For research-creation projects, page length will be determined in consultation with the Supervisor and the Graduate Program Director. Full-time students normally complete the program in four terms.

5.2 Thesis Entry Route

General qualifications for writing a Thesis are the following: proven ability—through course work and other academic achievement—to undertake a major research project; and sufficient time to complete a Thesis (which can only be determined in conjunction with the student's Thesis Supervisor). The Graduate Program Director will consult with the Supervisor to ensure their continued availability to supervise for the duration of the degree.

A student who applies for the Thesis route must, on application, present a *statement of research interests* as part of the admission documents that will be reviewed by the proposed Supervisor and Graduate Program Director. If the research statement is acceptable (please note: Thesis-route admission will be immediately denied if no Thesis Supervisor is available or willing), the student may register for two courses in his/her first term of study, but is not allowed to register formally for the Thesis guidance course (SCLA 5F90) until the student's *Thesis Supervisory Committee* gives permission (see below). The permission to register for SCLA 5F90 can only be given after the completion of the student's first term of enrolment, and the preparation of an acceptable *Thesis proposal*. The student will then complete his/her course work in the second term while beginning to lay further foundations for the Thesis. However, if the results of the Thesis proposal defense (by December in term of the first year of study) indicate that the student is unlikely to be successful, he or she will be re-assigned to the Major Research Paper route, which is an equally rigorous program of study (see above). In addition, if a student at any point along the Thesis route encounters insurmountable difficulties, he/she can opt to change to the Major Research Paper route, with the attendant extra costs and time and the realization that he/she has entered into this change of his/her own accord.

5.3 Steps for Successful Completion of the Thesis

The process of writing a Thesis involves the undertaking of the following steps:

A. *Thesis Proposal*: A Thesis proposal must be approved by the end of the first term of course work (December). Students, with the advice and direction of their Supervisor and Thesis committee, will need to write a Thesis proposal that meets academic standards within the discipline of Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts. The Thesis proposal must include the following:
   a. rationale for the proposed research;
   b. initial research questions and/or hypothesis;
   c. a preliminary review of related research;
   d. a description of the research methodology;
   e. a bibliography of research consulted to this point;
   f. a time line indicating steps toward completion of the project;

B. *Approval of Thesis Proposal*: The Thesis Supervisor and the student will establish a Supervisory Committee: this committee is composed of the Supervisor (a faculty member from the participating faculty in Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts) and two other faculty members who shall serve as readers for the Thesis. The Thesis Supervisor will provide the student with discussion and guidance throughout the Thesis process, and will have the same responsibilities as outlined for the Major Research Paper (see above). The Supervisory Committee will meet with the student and discuss the Thesis

proposal, and if all agree, sign the Proposal Approval Form that will be forwarded to the Graduate Program Director. In the event that the majority of the committee is not in agreement that the Thesis proposal is adequate, the Supervisor may request additional meetings until the proposal has been approved or may request to have the student re- assigned to the Major Research Paper route.

5.4   The Supervisory Committee

In consultation with the graduate student, the Graduate Program Director will appoint a Supervisory Committee consisting of a Supervisor and two other faculty members.

Should a Supervisor leave the University or go on sabbatical leave, the Director will be responsible for:

i) appointing a substitute from the permanent faculty associated with the program, having first consulted with the student and with the other members of the Supervisory Committee.

ii) if circumstances warrant, appointing to the Supervisory Committee a qualified faculty member from another university.

Students wishing to graduate in the fourth term of their program (October) must deliver the final version of the Thesis by mid- July, so that the external examiner may have four to six weeks to evaluate the work. The defense would be scheduled for a date no later than the last week of August.

5.5   Degree Exit Requirements

In addition to course requirements, each student must complete, and defend at a public oral examination, a Thesis that demonstrates capacity for independent work and original research or thought (see XIII of the Graduate Calendar on Academic Regulations and University Policies for information on proper formatting of the document).

5.6   Thesis Examination Policies

The M.A. Thesis will enable students to pursue in some depth a particular line of inquiry in the study of Comparative Literatures and Arts. The Thesis will normally combine an overview of a given topic along with the critical and theoretical debates pertinent to it, as well as provide original insight and methodological rigour.

i) The Examining Committee will be composed of the Supervisory Committee, the Associate Dean of Humanities, an external examiner and the Graduate Program Director.

ii) The external examiner will be appointed by the Dean of Humanities from a list of names supplied by the Supervisory Committee, based on the research profile pertinent to the Thesis. While the external examiner need not be a faculty member, professional and scholarly competence in the field of the Thesis is required. The Dean of

Humanities will contact the external examiner and will request a written evaluation prior to the defence. The external examiner is normally expected to be present at the defence.

iii) The Thesis must be approved by the Supervisory Committee before being forwarded to the external examiner.

iv) The external examiner shall, as part of their report, determine whether the Thesis is ready for defence and whether the Thesis is to be recommended for submission to internal/external Thesis award competitions.

v) A Thesis defence will typically occur four to six weeks following the external examiner's receipt of the Thesis document. External examiners shall submit their report no later than one week prior to the defence.

vi) If the external examiner reports that the Thesis is not ready for defence, the student must revise the Thesis within a reasonable period of time in response to the examiner's comments and the Thesis will then be resubmitted to the external examiner. A decision by the external examiner that the Thesis is not ready for defence is binding.

vii) The external examiner's report will be shared with the Examining Committee and the student prior to the defence.

viii) Prior to the defence, six copies of the final version of the Thesis must be submitted to the Graduate Program Director. The student is expected to bring an additional copy of the Thesis to the defence. All typing and other costs of preparing the Thesis are the responsibility of the student.

ix) In general, the format for the Thesis defence is as follows: The candidate will make a twenty-minute public presentation outlining the study. This will be followed by a period of questions from the external examiner, the Supervisor, and the second and third readers. The candidate will then be asked to leave the room, during which time, the Examining Committee will evaluate the Thesis and defence. The Committee will specify any areas for revision and the date by which the Thesis is to be returned to the Graduate Program Director.

Rejected: Defence and Thesis Unacceptable

If major revisions are necessary (option 3), the Examination Committee will specify the areas for revision and the date by which the revised, typed Thesis is to be completed. This date will normally be within three months of the examination or within six months if additional research is required. The Examining Committee may also determine whether the revisions require acceptance by the Supervisor or by both the Supervisor and the External Examiner. Students should typically be given two to four weeks to complete minor revisions which are to be approved by the student's

Supervisor, and four to twelve weeks to complete major revisions which are to be approved by the Supervisor (and any of the other members of the Examining Committee as is deemed necessary).

5.7 Grading System

Neither the defence nor the Thesis receives a numerical grade. The Thesis defence is either satisfactory or unsatisfactory. The options open to the Committee for grading the Thesis are Pass or Fail. The criteria for these grades are also specified in the *Faculty Handbook*:

i) *Pass* grade will be awarded in all circumstances (see above F.1-3), except those described below in ii).

ii) *Fail* grade will be awarded if more than one-third of the Committee finds the Thesis unacceptable or if the External Examiner does not approve the Thesis (see above F.4-5). If the re-examination of the Thesis ends with the same evaluation, the graduate student will be withdrawn from the program.

5.8 Thesis Submission

A candidate submitting a thesis in partial fulfillment of the requirements governing the award of advanced degrees must deposit the approved thesis with the Brock University Digital Repository before the degree will be conferred.

When the thesis is in its final form (following defence), has been approved by the graduate program, and meets Faculty of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs (FGSPA) Thesis Format Specifications, the student will submit the thesis to the Brock University Digital Repository. The student must also submit to the Faculty of Graduate Studies the Certificate of Approval, the Library and Archives Canada (LAC) Non-Exclusive License to Reproduce Theses, and the Brock University Thesis and Major Research Paper Copyright Licence.

Under certain circumstances, (e.g. to protect confidential commercial information, patentable material, pending application, or where immediate commercial publication is anticipated), a graduate student may request a restriction on the circulation of the thesis for up to a period of twelve months. For the applicable form see the FGSPA website:.https://brocku.ca/graduate-studies/wp-content/uploads/sites/181/12-REQUEST-TO-RESTRICT-CIRCULATION-OF-THESIS-Sep-2021.pdf

6. LENGTH OF PROGRAM

6.1 Full-Time Study

For full-time students choosing to write a Major Research Paper, financial support is awarded for one calendar year (three terms) of full-time study. Students complete their course work in the Fall and Winter semesters of the first year, and complete their Major Research Paper in the Spring/Summer term. If a student requiresa fourth term to complete their Major Research Paper, financial support

will not be provided for the extra time needed to complete their exit requirement. Students must register for SCLA 5F91 in Spring/Summer of their first year, and every subsequent semester, until the Major Research Paper has been awarded a final mark. Full-time students must complete all degree requirements no later than three years after the date of first registration.

For full-time students choosing to write a Thesis, financial support is provided for four terms of study. Students complete their course work in the Fall and Winter semesters of the first year and complete their Thesis by the end of the Fall term of the second year. If a studentrequires a subsequent term to complete their Thesis, financial support will not be provided for the extra time needed to complete the exit requirement. Students must, register for SCLA 5F90 in Spring/Summer of their first year, and in every subsequent semester, until the Thesis has been successfully defended. Full-time students must complete all degree requirements no later than three years after the date of first registration.

6.2.1 Part-Time Study

The M.A. Program in Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts offers a part-time option for those students who meet the normal admission standards, but whose work and/or family responsibilities prevent them from studying full time. Graduate funding is not normally available to students enrolled on a part-time basis.

Part-time students completing a Major Research Paper are expected to complete six half- credit courses, (including SCLA core courses 5P01, 5P02, and 5P03) within the first three years of study and to submit the Major Research Paper within four years of entering the program.

Part-time students completing an M.A. Thesis are expected to complete four half-credit courses, (including SCLA 5P01, and 5P02 or 5P03) within the first two years of study and to submit the M.A. Thesis within four years of entering the program.

6.3 Program Structure for Full-Time Students

Major Research Paper Option:

Year 1	Fall term:	SCLA 5P01, SCLA 5P02, SCLA 5P03
	Winter term:	Two elective courses from SCLA (5P60 – 5V99) and one elective course from a graduate level course in HUMA.
		SCLA 5F91 Major Research Paper
	Spring/Summer term:	

M.A. Thesis Option:

Year 1:   <u>Fall term</u>:   SCLA 5P01, SCLA 5P02, 5P03

                <u>Winter term</u>:   Two of SCLA (5P60 – 5V99)

                <u>Spring/Summer term:</u> SCLA 5F90 Thesis

Year 2:   <u>Fall term</u>:   SCLA 5F90 Thesis

6.4   Program Structure for Part-Time Students <u>Major Research Paper Option</u>:

Year 1:   <u>Fall term</u>:   SCLA 5P01

                <u>Winter term</u>:   One of SCLA (5P60-5V99)

Year 2:   <u>Fall term</u>:   SCLA 5P02

                <u>Winter term</u>:   One of SCLA (5P60-5V99)

Year 3:   <u>Fall term</u>:   SCLA 5P03

                <u>Winter term</u>:   One of SCLA (5P60-5V99)

                <u>Spring/Summer term:</u> SCLA 5F91 Major Research Paper

<u>M.A. Thesis Option</u>:

Year 1:   <u>Fall term</u>:   SCLA 5P01

                <u>Winter term:</u>   One of SCLA (5P60-5V99)

Year 2:   <u>Fall term</u>:   One of SCLA 5P02, 5P03

                <u>Winter term:</u>   One of SCLA (5P60-5V99)

Year 3:   <u>Fall term</u>:   SCLA 5P90 M.A. Thesis

                <u>Winter term:</u>   SCLA 5P90 M.A. Thesis

7. COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Note: Not all courses are offered in every session. Students must have their course selections approved by the Graduate Program Director each term. Refer to the Timetable for scheduling information: https://brocku.ca/registrar/guides-and-timetable/graduate-students.

SCLA 5F90
MA Thesis
An extended research project which meets the conditions specified in the description for SCLA 5F91. The Thesis involves a more substantial level of research and a fuller treatment of the selected subject. It will be examined by an External Reader and will require a public defence.

SCLA 5F91
Major Research Paper
A research project on a subject determined in consultation with the Graduate Program Director and faculty Supervisor. The paper should give evidence of original thought as well as a command of primary and secondary sources. It is expected that the project will be comparative in scope, and therefore engage with both literary texts and works from at least one of the other arts.

SCLA 5P01
Comparative Critical Theory in Literature and the Arts
Contemporary approaches to texts of various types, discursive and aesthetic traditions, possibilities and problems arising from comparative studies. Theories of translation and adaptation.

SCLA 5P02
Comparative Methodologies
Applications of critical theory to the interdisciplinary study of theatre, visual arts, and music.

SCLA 5P03
Critical Theory and the Arts
An examination of the modes of production, reception and analysis of art from its inception to its cultural, institutional or ideological transformation. Workshop format. Note: field trips may be required.

SCLA 5P64
Space and the Social Ecology of Art
How we construct and adapt to our human or natural environment, how we determine the cultural value or social production of space, and how art, environment, and aesthetics interrelate. Topics include urban, suburban and exurban spaces; natural, "naturalized" and simulated environments; site specific, public and installation art.

SCLA 5P65
Violence and Discourses of Otherness in Early Modern Europe
Early modern European literary engagements with discourses of colonial, ethnic, religious and sexual otherness, their cultural functions, and their violent

imposition. Selected 16th and early 17th-century English, French and Spanish poetry, prose and drama.
Contemporary theoretical examinations of otherness and violence.

SCLA 5P68

Word Painting and Text Setting in Music from the 12th to the Early 17th Centuries Methods used to highlight, exalt and illustrate words in music, from Biblical texts set in plainchant to secular poetry set by the 16th-century Italian madrigalists. Ability to read music a strong asset, but not absolutely essential.

SCLA 5P69
Disability in Literature and the Arts: Sites of Resistance
Disability as a site of resistance and creativity in literature and the visual arts. Readings in disability studies. Texts and films from a variety of cultural backgrounds.

SCLA 5P74
Performance and Performativity
Notions of performance and performativity from various sources in the fields of anthropology, theatre studies, cultural studies, and philosophy. Modes of artistic and cultural expression in a world that is increasingly performative in nature.

SCLA 5P75
Advanced Studies in Aesthetics

An in-depth examination of a specific aesthetic question explored by artists and thinkers of a specific time period (19th century, contemporary, late or early 20th century). Questions include: the function of art, art as representation, the role of theory in the production of art, the role of art in the development of theory.

SCLA 5P76
Literary Translation: Theory and Experimentation
Definitions and purposes of translation from the past century. Readings by Benjamin, Jakobson, Nabokov, Ortega y Gasset, and Spivak.
Note: Students need not have a background in translation.

SCLA 5P77
Religion and Iconography: The Power of the Image
An examination of religious imagery and iconography from a comparative perspective, employing an array of interdisciplinary methodologies. The power of devotional images and para-liturgical objects, whether depictive, performative, or evocative will be explored.

SCLA 5P79
The Depiction of the Caribbean and African Exotic
Examination of exoticism in French/Francophone literature and the arts. What makes a literary text or a work of art "exotic"? Critical readings in Alterity and Orientalism. Novels, short stories, poetry, paintings, and/or films from French/Francophone sources.

SCLA 5P80

Transgression, Interdiction, and the Limits of Expression
Death, eroticism, and other limit-experiences in 20th century literature and the arts. Works that attempt to speak, write, and depict that which resists or forbids expression.

SCLA 5P90
Directed Reading
Research course with directed study and regular meetings with a faculty member, covering topics not offered in a designated course, and with permission of the Graduate Program Director.

SCLA 5P92
2017-2018 Through the Looking Glass: The Past and Future of Virtual Worlds
Reality TV, virtual reality, real talk, @realDonaldTrump; how do we make sense of the relationship between technology and reality? A comparative examination of aesthetic shifts in the early twentieth and twenty-first centuries that emerge from, and respond to, changing modes of political representation. Course materials may include novels, theory, television shows, and videogames.

SCLA 5P94
Literatures and the arts in digital expressions
Interdisciplinary study of digital art. Examination of literary texts and artworks adapted for digital expression. Study of literary devices applied to digital art. Curating perspectives in digital art.

SCLA 5P95
Fashion and Luxury: Repressive Desublimation or Sublimated Revolt?
This course will examine fashion and luxury from the 19th century to the contemporary moment via literature, film, music, advertising, contemporary fashion practices and a number of critical theories related to fashion, luxury, production and consumption.

SCLA 5P90
Directed Reading
Research course with directed study and regular meetings with a faculty member, covering topics not offered in a designated course, and with permission of the Graduate Program Director.

SCLA 5P96
Portraying Displacement
Depicting contemporary displacement in texts, art, and the media. Publishing/curating challenges and ethical questions. Readings in the fields of Postcolonial Studies and Refugee Studies.

SCLA 5V90-5V99
Special Topics in Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts
Special topics and/or themes in Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts.