

Comparative Literature

Academic Year: (2023 / 2024)

Review date: 22-05-2023

Department assigned to the subject: Humanities: Philosophy, Language, Literature Theory Department

Coordinating teacher: CHECA PUERTA, JULIO ENRIQUE

Type: Compulsory ECTS Credits : 6.0

Year : 2 Semester : 2

OBJECTIVES

This course is intended to introduce students to a range of theoretical approaches to Comparative Literary study. By the end of the course the student should be able to:

- Know the current place of Comparative Literature within the Literary and Cultural Studies.
- Develop the history of the discipline, its problems and subjects of study as well as its latest trends.
- Articulate from the comparative perspective, the emerging processes, the consolidation and the predominance of national literatures.
- Explain the international dynamics, essential elements to understand how modern literary and contemporary systems work.
- Identify several ways of reading (Hermeneutics) and empirical analysis that Comparative Literature uses to study cultural space, intersection and hybridization such as Colonial and Postcolonial Discourses, Images of the Other, Literary Travels, Multilingualism in National Literatures, etc.
- Assimilate instruments of analysis to study the complex field of Inter-Art relations: Literature and Visual Arts; Literature and Cinema; Literature and Media, etc.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

PROGRAM:

- Presentation and definition of Comparative Literature within the Literary and Cultural Studies.
- A brief history of Comparative Literature and the latest trends. World Literature. East & West and the concept of tradition.
- The construction of national literatures and the identity processes. Dialogical relationships between National literature and World literature.
- How Comparative Literature influences identity processes such as: Images of the Other, Gender Studies and Postcolonial Literatures.
- Inter-Art relations: Literature and Visual Arts; Literature and Cinema; Literature and Media.

SYLLABUS:

- Unit 1.- Origins of the Comparative Literature
- Unit 2.- The Concept of Comparative Literature and Literary Genre
- Unit 3.- Paradigms of Comparison. Themes and Myths
- Unit 4. Methods and Perspectives on Comparative Literature
- Unit 5.- Literature and the Arts
- Unit 6.- Literature and Philosophy. On the Beautiful and the Sublime
- Unit 7.- Otherness and Identity. The role of the 'doppelgänger' in Fantasy Literature
- Unit 8. Imagology, Postcolonialism and Gender Studies

READINGS AND AUTHORS

A selection of texts from, among others, the following authors: Charles Baudelaire, Joseph Conrad, Thomas Mann, Franz Kafka, Samuel Beckett, César Vallejo, Henry James, Jorge Luis Borges, Flannery O'Connor and Carson McCullers.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

- 1.- Practical lectures will focus the literary analysis of a particular text
- 2.- Theoretical lectures will focus the presentation of the theoretical framework

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

- 15%: Class attendance and participation (text reading for literary analysis, discussions, presentations and teamwork).
- 25%: Practicals: two essays.

- 20%: Final written assignment that will be done in groups of 1 to 4 students.
- 40% Final written exam. At the end of the course, all students will be examined of the contents seen throughout the term. No books or notes will be allowed in the exam.

GRADING SYSTEM

Practice	2,5 points
Attendance and participation	1,5 points
Essay	2 points
Exam	4 points

% end-of-term-examination:	40
% of continuous assessment (assignments, laboratory, practicals...):	60