COMPARATIVE LITERATURE AND CULTURE



ROYAL HOLLOWAY UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Undergraduate Studies

Welcome



Our unique, prestigious degrees enable you to study a world of literature and culture in the context of important critical and cultural debates. CLC may appeal if you have already enjoyed studying English, Drama, Film, History, History of Art, or Languages but wish to develop your understanding of these subjects by taking a more comparative global perspective.

Choose from Single Honours Comparative Literature and Culture or combine it with English, History of Art and Visual Culture, Drama, or Modern Languages. All our programmes offer the flexibility to discover literature and culture from across the world, from Greek myth to contemporary world fiction by authors from the Global South alongside those from Europe and North America, as well as the choice to explore visual arts such as film, painting, photography and sculpture. You can tailor your own studies by choosing from a wide range of options taught by leading experts in European and world literatures and cultures. We are passionate about sharing our expertise, and look forward to welcoming you into our inclusive, international community.

Dr Vicky Greenaway
Head of Department



Explore literature, film and art from around the world
All available in English

Contact details

Course enquiries

Dr Michael Hofer-Robinson
Michael.hofer-robinson@rhul.ac.uk

Connect with us

@LLC_RHUL **royalholloway.ac.uk/clc**

Comparative Literature and Culture at Royal Holloway

Comparative Literature and Culture and all our Joint and Major degree programmes provide the opportunity to explore literature as well as visual arts transnationally across different time periods, genres and media. Our students develop the important analytical skills, creative thinking, cross-cultural understanding and global outlook that are valued by employers in today's global marketplace.

Expanding literary and cultural horizons (and bringing new insights to the appreciation of famous texts), Comparative Literature and Culture combines flexibility and academic challenge. Taught by specialists in multilingual, transnational, and interdisciplinary research, you will explore a world of literature and culture, engaging diverse viewpoints, voices and debates. Comparative Literature and Culture is much more than the study of 'masterpieces' from around the world, however; it explores how texts and artworks both reflect and challenge the contexts in which they are produced and interrogates the power relations that influence how ideas and images circulate and evolve.

Modules taught on the Comparative Literature and Culture programmes cover cultural production in a variety of languages, spanning the Americas, Africa, the Middle East, Asia and Europe. No foreign language skills are needed, as everything is available in English translation. However, you can choose to study French, German, Italian or Spanish in combination with Comparative Literature and Culture. You can also combine the study of Comparative Literature and Culture with English, History of Art and Visual Culture, and Drama. You can apply to spend an international year at a partner university or choose to include an additional placement year in your degree.





"Studying Comparative Literature and Culture has helped me develop my critical skills and to consider ideas from multiple perspectives. What makes CLC different is its variety. Learning and discovering how the work of exciting artists intertwines with different literary trends is something that has really opened my eyes."

Isabella
BA Comparative Literature and Culture and Italian

Choosing your degree

A friendly and tailor-made experience

We are a diverse, international, friendly and supportive community, with excellent staff-student ratios and student satisfaction. Our Single Honours, Major or Joint degrees all feature a range of teaching and assessment methods. We are passionate about accessibility, and you will have your own Personal Tutor to guide you and make the most of your potential.

Expand your horizons

As a Single Honours, Joint or Major student of CLC you will gain valuable transferable analytical, critical and communications skills by comparing texts from across the world and exploring how different contexts, experiences and power structures are reflected and represented. Optional modules, which include literature, film, visual arts, and critical theory enable you to further expand your horizons, discovering and developing your passions.

Please visit **royalholloway.ac.uk/studying-here** for more information on our courses and **royalholloway.ac.uk/clc** to find out more about us.

Prize-winning, research-led teaching

Academic tutors in Comparative Literature and Culture are at the cutting edge of research. You will work with world-leading specialists in European and world literatures and cultures who share their expertise in an approachable way. Everyone you will study with is passionate about their research: we are proud to have been awarded an exceptional number of teaching prizes for innovation and excellence.

An inspiring working environment

We are located at the heart of Royal Holloway's beautiful campus where you can enjoy its dynamic cultural life and participate in a wide range of events, sports and societies.

DEGREE PROGRAMMES	UCAS code
BA Comparative Literature and Culture	Q200
BA Comparative Literature and Culture with an Integrated Foundation Year	Q20F
JOINT AND MAJOR DEGREES	
BA Comparative Literature and Culture and Drama	Q2W4
BA Modern Languages and Comparative Literature and Culture	RQ92
BA Comparative Literature and Culture and English	QQ23
BA Comparative Literature and Culture and History of Art and Visual Culture	QW26
BA Modern Languages and History of Art and Visual Culture	R9W6

Studying here

Royal Holloway offers an exceptionally high-quality university experience and our University of London degrees are internationally recognised for their academic excellence. Our vibrant campus is one of the most beautiful in the world. You will enjoy a unique, green, safe, friendly community with wonderful grounds, Gothic architecture and state-of-the-art facilities and accommodation. All this is set in 135 acres of stunning parkland, where a close-knit community thrives.

You will also be ideally placed to use the University of London's excellent resources and to enjoy the museums, galleries, cinema, visitor attractions and nightlife of central London. Royal Holloway is wonderfully accessible, with excellent train and bus links. We are just off the M25, and our proximity to Heathrow, Waterloo and St Pancras makes trips to Europe and beyond extremely convenient.





Associated Architects/Ben McPhee

Student life

With their lively minds and broad range of interests, CLC students are some of the most engaged and thrive in our international community. You can join CLC students in getting involved in student and academic cultural initiatives, volunteering, writing for Royal Holloway's student newspapers and broadcasting on our 24-hour radio station. You can also take advantage of the Students' Union with its social events and wide range of societies, which cover a wealth of interests including sports, politics, creative arts, culture and languages. Of course, as a member of the Comparative Literature and Culture course you can also join one of our associated student societies and take part in a range of activities including film screenings, gallery visits, plays, book clubs and parties.

3rd

in the UK for satisfied with assessment

(out of 48, The Guardian University Guide, 2027)





Your future career

Global citizens with a critical edge

Comparative Literature and Culture trains global citizens to develop critical perspectives on – and the ability to use – the power of words and images.

CLC graduates stand out because they think flexibly, communicate effectively, are culturally aware and possess excellent analytical skills.

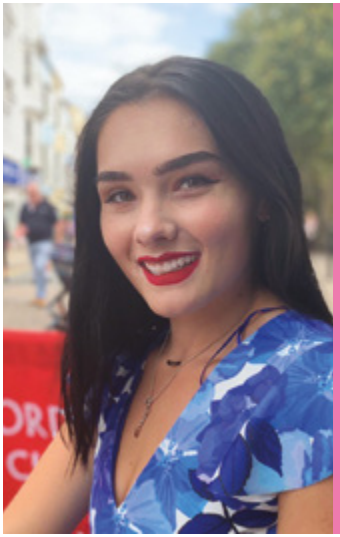
Combining cross-cultural perspectives with intellectual challenge, CLC will prepare you for the demands of today's world and workplaces as you:

- develop critical and analytical thinking and inter-cultural awareness
- learn to analyse, evaluate and process different kinds of information
- hone impressive communication skills (written and oral)
- solve problems in sophisticated and flexible ways
- develop independent research skills
- acquire teamwork and leadership skills
- gain appreciation of cultural life and cultural diversity

CLC students are snapped up by employers in diverse fields that include marketing, journalism, publishing, digital content, curating, public relations, teaching, the civil service and not-for-profit organisations. Others choose to go on to postgraduate study in a wide range of subjects.

Careers Advice and Work Experience Opportunities

Our Careers and Employability Service provides tailored events and advice, and you can also take advantage of work experience opportunities including our Community Action volunteering programme. In your second year, you can apply for micro-placements, helping you fine-tune your job-seeking skills and boost your career by competing for prestigious two-week internships which offer invaluable experience and great networking opportunities.



"Studying Comparative Literature and Culture at Royal Holloway was a truly enriching experience. This course is ideal for those who enjoy working across various media (including art, film, photography, poetry and world literature). I loved every second of my degree and cannot recommend enough the fantastic modules!"

Tamsin
Account Manager, Selecta UK
BA Comparative Literature and Culture

This brochure was produced in November 2026 and information was correct at that time.
Please make sure you check our website or contact us directly for the very latest information if you are considering an application.



ROYAL HOLLOWAY, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

- Learn from world-leading experts
- Highly ranked for student satisfaction
- Beautiful campus in a safe location
- Vibrant and active community
- Award-winning careers service

Visit us to find out more

Our Open Days are a great way to get a feel for life at Royal Holloway. Look around the campus, meet our students and staff, and find out more about studying and living here.

Find out more and register to attend at **Royalholloway.ac.uk/opendays**

Royal Holloway, University of London
Egham, Surrey, TW20 0EX
+44 (0)1784 434455
royalholloway.ac.uk

royalholloway.ac.uk/clc

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