

LITERATURE (MINOR)

Program Description

Literature has been central to the formation of collective identities across cultures, nations, and historical epochs. Though literary works are anchored in a particular time and place, many of them are read widely in other times and other places, and by cultures to which they would seem not to belong. The Literature and Creative Writing major at NYU Abu Dhabi is uniquely organized around problems presented by translation, adaptation, and circulation. Unlike many college literary curricula that restrict majors to the study of works in a single language or from a specific national tradition, this major engages students in critical conversations that cut across fields, and in doing so help to rethink the very foundations of literary studies and creative writing.

How are literary forms and the histories of literature and literary exchanges shaped by translation, by military victory and defeat, by colonization and postcolonialism, and by the rise of an economic world system? How do new forms and traditions of literature arise and is there such a thing as an emergent world or global literature? How might the imaginative encounter with other cultures renew our engagements with ourselves and our world? How do cultural, political, class, racial, or sexual differences inform and sustain a vision of a common world? How are literary studies and creative writing in dialogue with the other arts as well as with cultural analysis and theory? What is the role of literary writing in contemporary local and global contexts? What is the relationship between the written, the oral, and the performance? How do we define aesthetic significance across different cultural traditions and different literary modes? Students discuss these and other questions intensively with a distinguished faculty of scholars and writers who come from and work across a wide variety of literary cultures.

The Literature and Creative Writing Program teaches students to become effective analysts of culture, history, and politics, and to become confident writers across a wide range of genres. Creative writing seminars—open to the entire NYUAD student body—include instruction in poetry, fiction, non-fiction, literary journalism, and writing for stage and screen.

The minor in Literature, open to all NYUAD students, offers a solid introduction to literary scholarship and critical thinking by building on the skills acquired in the first-year writing courses. By learning to read critically and write with analytical precision, students in this minor prepare themselves to participate intelligently in world culture while forging a lifelong, enriching relationship with literature.

Program Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
LITCW-UH 1000	Literary Interpretation	4
Electives		
Select three Literature electives from (Histories, Geographies, and Topics)		12
Total Credits		16

Literature: Histories

Code	Title	Credits
ACS-UH 1214X	Quran as Literature	4
ACS-UH 2212X	Introduction to Islamic Texts	4
CCEA-UH 1009X	A Thousand and One Nights	4
CCEA-UH 1055	Global Shakespeare	4
CCEA-UH 1056	Tragedy	4
CCEA-UH 1074	Race, Racialization and Narration	4
CCEA-UH 1082	Literature of Migration	4
CCEA-UH 1102	Culture and Citizenship	4
CCEA-UH 1125	Nation and Narration	4
CSTS-UH 1101	Cultures & Contexts: The Black Atlantic	4
LITCW-UH 1508	Shame and Shamelessness: The Craft of Confessional Writing	4
LITCW-UH 2312X	Masterpieces of Pre-Modern Arabic Literature in Translation	4
LITCW-UH 2332	Literature and Revolution	4
LITCW-UH 2340	Inventions of Love: East and West	4

Literature: Geographies

Code	Title	Credits
CCEA-UH 1082	Literature of Migration	4
CSTS-UH 1101	Cultures & Contexts: The Black Atlantic	4
LITCW-UH 1509	The City and the Writer: New York City and Abu Dhabi	4
LITCW-UH 2312X	Masterpieces of Pre-Modern Arabic Literature in Translation	4
LITCW-UH 2332	Literature and Revolution	4
LITCW-UH 2333	Translation and Colonization	4
LITCW-UH 2340	Inventions of Love: East and West	4
LITCW-UH 2341	Asian and Arab Diaspora in the Arts	4
LITCW-UH 3317	Migrant Poetics, Narratives of Flight	4
LITCW-UH 3350X	Literatures of the Middle East and the Maghreb (North Africa)	4

Literature: Topics

Code	Title	Credits
ACS-UH 1011X	Introduction to Modern Arabic Literature	4
ACS-UH 1214X	Quran as Literature	4
ACS-UH 2212X	Introduction to Islamic Texts	4
ACS-UH 2213X	Modern Arabic Short Stories	4
ANTH-UH 2113	Memoir and Ethnography: Understanding Culture Through First-Person Narrative	4
CADT-UH 1021	Art of Narrative Science	4
CADT-UH 1027	Memoir and Anti-Memoir: Experiments in Text and Image	4
CCEA-UH 1009X	A Thousand and One Nights	4
CCEA-UH 1011	Law and the Imagination	4
CCEA-UH 1063	Literary Translation	4
CCEA-UH 1074	Race, Racialization and Narration	4
CCEA-UH 1092	Reaching for the Stars	4
CCEA-UH 1107	Once Upon a Time: Folk and Fairy Tales Reconsidered	4

CCEA-UH 1123	Noise in Literature	4
CCEA-UH 1136	Encountering the Other	4
FILMM-UH 1012	Forms of Writing for the Screen	4
FILMM-UH 3110	Archives, Methods, Screens	4
IM-UH 2316	Software Art: Text	2
LITCW-UH 1101	Rotten Englishes: Postcolonialism and the Politics of Language	4
LITCW-UH 1105	Politics of Writing	4
LITCW-UH 1160X	Global Women Writing	4
LITCW-UH 1501	Feature Writing	4
LITCW-UH 1503	Letters From Afar: Travel Writing Abroad	2
LITCW-UH 1506	Today We Wrote Nothing	4
LITCW-UH 1508	Shame and Shamelessness: The Craft of Confessional Writing	4
LITCW-UH 2101	Literary and Cultural Theory	4
LITCW-UH 2315X	Postcolonial Turn	4
LITCW-UH 2503	Advanced Creative Writing: Nonfiction Essay	4
LITCW-UH 2504	Creative Writing: How to Read a Poem	4
LITCW-UH 2510	Intermediate Creative Writing: Narrative Prose - Form and Style	4
LITCW-UH 3319	Sound and Fury: The Noise of Literature	4
LITCW-UH 3501	Advanced Creative Writing: Documentary Forms	4
LITCW-UH 3502	Advanced Creative Writing: A Novel in Fourteen Weeks	4
LITCW-UH 3504	Advanced Creative Writing: Workshop in Poetry	4
THEAT-UH 1112	Fundamentals of Playwriting	4
THEAT-UH 1129	Faith, Ideology and Power: Writing a play as an examination of contemporary times	4
THEAT-UH 1521	Women Who Kill	4

Policies

NYU Policies

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy pages (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/>).

NYU Abu Dhabi Policies

A full list of relevant policies can be found on NYU Abu Dhabi's undergraduate academic policies page (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/undergraduate/abu-dhabi/academic-policies/>).