

Studies in World Literatures

Studies in World Literatures courses are conducted in English and use translations in English of literary texts originally written in another language. Most have no prerequisites and are open to all students. Those courses carrying a course number specifically designated as STWL consist of a comparative investigation involving the literatures of several cultural and/or linguistic communities. Those courses carrying a course number designating a specific language group — for example CHIN, FREN, GERM, ITAL, RUSS, etc. — consist of a study concentrating on one national literature.

Requirements for the major in Studies in World Literatures: 10 courses focusing on the study of non-Anglophone literatures and/or on a comparative study of literatures. Among these 10 courses, at least three must carry the STWL designation, and include:

- one semester of a survey course giving a historical and comparative overview of the development of the major Western literatures and/or of the major Non-Western literatures (e.g.: STWL 201, 202);
- a one-semester capstone project completed in the student's fourth year. This project will consist of a comparative study involving at least two distinct national literatures (STWL 441).

The remaining seven courses must include the concentrated study of a minimum of two distinct national literatures. No more than five courses may deal with any one single national literature.

STWL major credit may be applied to literature courses taken in the target, or original language, as well as to a maximum of two literature courses taken outside the Department of Modern Languages & Literatures, providing these courses are approved by the STWL program coordinator. Up to four courses taken in a College Study Abroad Program may be approved for STWL major credit.

In addition to the STWL courses listed below, the following courses, offered in English, are available for Studies in World Literatures major credit (descriptions of these courses may be found in the course listings of the appropriate Language Program.):

French 232: *Moulin Rouge: Intersections of Art & Popular Culture*

French 461: *Writing Madness in Africa*

German 250: *Metropolis Berlin*

Italian 251: *Renaissance Florence/History and Literature*

Italian 253: *Italian Women Writers*

Italian 257: *19th Century Italian Novel*

Italian 260: *Dante*

Russian 252: *Russian Short Story*

Russian 254: *Russian Drama*

Russian 255: *19th-Century Russian Literature*

Russian 257: *20th-Century Russian Literature*

Studies in World Literatures 201 — Landmarks of Western Literature: the Ancient World to the Renaissance

Alternate years

An introduction to major works of Western literature, and to the mechanisms of the creation of a canon of Western literature. Included are texts ranging from the Mesopotamian epic of Gilgamesh, to the works of Cervantes and of Montaigne. One unit each semester.

Studies in World Literatures 202 — Landmarks of Western Literature: The Modern World

Alternate years

An introduction to major works of Western literature, and to the mechanisms of the creation of a canon of Western literature. Included are texts from the 17th Century to the present. One unit each semester.

Studies in World Literatures 235 — Introduction to Postcolonial Discourses *Annually*
Contacts between Europe and the rest of the world, between colonizers and colonized people engendered profound social, cultural, economical, political and psychological transformations. A comparative examination and discussion of major ideas put forward by intellectuals who adapt a "Third World" perspective: Said, Fanon, Achebe, Ngugi, Spivak, Brathwaite, Babha and many others. One unit.

Studies in World Literatures 241 — Francophone Cross-Culturalities & Creolizations *Every third year*

A general introduction to the emergence of diverse francophone cultures in the world. The main focus is on North American, Caribbean, North African, and sub-Saharan cross-cultural encounters and creolizations. Topics considered include: colonialism, post colonialism, neocolonialism, diglossia, majority/minority conflicts, and the interplay of Western and indigenous traditions in the development or invention of "new" cultures. Authors to be read are: Chopin, Djébar, Fanon, Kerouac, Ousmane, Roy, Vallières, and Zobel. Films include: Black Robe, Chocolat, Battle of Algiers. One unit.

Studies in World Literatures 261 — Exile and Cultural Production in Africa and the Caribbean *Annually*

Exile is a universal phenomenon. It is generally understood as voluntary or forced expatriation, displacement. Exile may also be understood as inadequacy and irrelevance to function in specific world as compared to the "exile" of Prospero to Caliban island. They represent two extreme categories on the social spectrum: that of the natural ruler, and the naturally ruled. Explores "Caliban's" inadequacy to adjust to his own postcolonial society after a long sojourn in the Prospero's world. Most exiles end up writing books or producing films to "translate" their experiences. This course will study books and a few films produced by exile African and Caribbean artists. One unit.

Studies in World Literatures 265 — Existentialism in Literature *Every third year*

Studies Existentialism primarily as it is expressed in literary texts, but consideration is also given to its philosophical roots and evolution in Western Culture. Among authors read are Pascal, Kierkegaard, Dostoevsky, Unamuno, Gide, Mann, Kafka, Sartre, Camus, Updike, and Flannery O'Connor. One unit.

Studies in World Literatures 267 — (Post) Colonial Writing: African and the Caribbean Experience *Alternate years*

Read texts, watch films and discuss the vision proposed by artists from areas that entered modernity through imperialism. Problems such as dependency and appropriation of the other's language and culture are addressed. Important concepts such as Negritude (Senghor, Césaire); African Personality (Soyinka); Creoleness (Chamoiseau, Confiant); colonial education; violence, nationalism and resistance; postcolonial culture, modernity and identity are discussed. One unit.

Studies in World Literatures 299 — Special Topics *Annually*

Offered for the study of a particular literary genre, form, theme, etc. Topics announced in the preceding semester. One unit.

Studies in World Literatures 441 — Fourth-Year Capstone Project *Annually*

An individual research project involving a comparative study of at least two distinct national literatures. Must be directed by one principal faculty advisor, but must include consultation with at least two STWL faculty. A lengthy final paper and public presentation are expected. One unit.