

COMPARATIVE LITERARY STUDIES PHD

Degree Requirements

The following requirements are in addition to, or further elaborate upon, those requirements outlined in The Graduate School Policy Guide (<https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/tgs/academic-policies-procedures/>).

PhD

Total Units Required: 15-18

Course	Title
CLS theory sequence taken in first year (3 units)	
COMP_LIT 410-0	Theories of Literature
COMP_LIT 411-0	Critical Practices
COMP_LIT 412-0	Literary Studies Colloquium
Home department (6 units)	
Electives (in CLS, home department, or other graduate programs; 6-9 units)	

Other PhD Degree Requirements

- **Examinations:**
 - Theory exam by Fall quarter of second year;
 - Qualifying exam no later than Winter Quarter of third year. During year two, students select a committee of three members and develop three distinctive lists in consultation with them. The first list addresses the student's generally constructed teaching field. The second list addresses the student's specific area of expertise. The third list addresses the methodology or theoretical framework used by the student to engage with one or two sub-disciplines that are useful to the dissertation topic. The QE culminates in an oral examination based on the three lists.
- **Public Presentation:** following the successful completion of the QE and in order to advance to candidacy, students must present a public paper related to their proposed dissertation project
- **Dissertation Prospectus:** following the successful completion of the QE and in order to advance to candidacy, students must submit a 12-15 page Dissertation Prospectus
- **Language:** students must demonstrate proficiency in two languages other than their native language by end of the third year
- **PhD Dissertation:** the dissertation must demonstrate original, independent research
- **Final Evaluations:** dissertation defense