Kent is one of the UK’s leading universities, ranked 16th in The Guardian University Guide 2016. In the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014, Kent is ranked 17th* for research intensity, outperforming 11 of the 24 Russell Group universities.

Comparative Literature at Kent was ranked 1st in the UK for overall student satisfaction in the National Student Survey 2014. This outstanding result is a reflection of our aim to encourage high academic standards in a supportive teaching environment.

World-leading research
Comparative Literature at Kent is taught within the School of European Culture and Languages (SECL), one of the largest schools in the University. Within SECL, the Department of Comparative Literature is a research-intensive community committed to work of the highest quality.

In the REF 2014, modern languages and linguistics at Kent was ranked 3rd in the UK for research quality. Our staff are all engaged in research that crosses national, linguistic and disciplinary borders.

Our activities range from individual research projects to collaborative enterprises. Staff within the School regularly publish books and articles in their fields and this level of expertise is allowing us to create a stimulating environment for all our students.

Passionate teaching
Our research experience feeds into our teaching. As a result, you are taught by lecturers with international reputations, who work at the cutting-edge of their field. We also have a policy of one-on-one essay return, to ensure high-quality feedback on your work.

Supportive community
The School is welcoming and friendly, so students and staff get to know each other very quickly. SECL also houses English Language and Linguistics, French, German, Hispanic Studies and Italian, so you become part of a community of language students, sharing interests and experiences. The close working relationships you develop with lecturers and seminar leaders help you to succeed in your studies.

Within SECL, we have a dedicated student support team, who are able to provide pastoral care and help you with your academic needs. The University also offers a variety of support services. For details, see: www.kent.ac.uk/studentwellbeing or www.kent.ac.uk/studentsupport

A global outlook
The range of our programme allows you to gain a global perspective on literature and to understand how different literary forms have evolved in various cultures and linguistic
A successful future

As part of your learning experience at Kent, we help you to acquire key skills that will stand you in good stead for future employment. Our programme teaches you to think critically about literature and to develop the skills of close reading and effective communication. Getting to grips with challenging ideas, writing well and gaining confidence and experience in expressing your thoughts in front of others are all important skills that you acquire during your degree.

For more on the careers help we provide at Kent, go to p8 or see: www.kent.ac.uk/employability or www.kent.ac.uk/secl/employability

traditions. For example: what makes a tragedy from ancient Greece so different from one written in 17th-century France? How does an English historical novel differ from a Russian one? How has the genre of science fiction developed in Europe?

We also offer you the chance to broaden your education by spending a year studying in mainland Europe, Hong Kong or the US. This chance to immerse yourself in another culture not only enriches your literary studies but also provides a fantastic opportunity for personal and career development. See p10 for details.

“It was an unforgettable intellectual adventure. It wasn’t just the literature that captured my attention, but the quality of the teaching and the lecturers’ enthusiasm.”

Jaine Bass
Comparative Literature graduate
SUPERB STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Based on a scenic campus within easy reach of both London and mainland Europe, you have first-rate academic and social facilities, as well as good student support services.

Excellent study resources
The study resources on the Canterbury campus are excellent. The Templeman Library has extensive print and electronic collections to support the courses and subject areas taught at Kent.

There are also over a thousand PCs on campus and a range of support services for help or advice. Kent’s Student Learning Advisory Service provides information on all aspects of effective learning and study skills. For more information, see www.kent.ac.uk/learning

International community
Kent has a diverse, international student population with around 149 nationalities represented on campus. We have strong links with universities in Europe and around the world, and Kent is only two hours by train from Paris and Brussels.

Beautiful green campus
The Canterbury campus is set in a stunning location. It has plenty of green and tranquil spaces, both lawns and wooded areas, and is set on a hill with a view of the city and Canterbury Cathedral. The campus has its own cinema, theatre and student nightclub. Kent has a reputation for being a very friendly university with a cosmopolitan environment. There are many restaurants, cafés and bars on campus, as well as a sports centre and gym.

Everything else you need on campus is within walking distance, including a general store, a bookshop, banks, a medical centre and a pharmacy.

Attractive location
From campus, it is a 25-minute walk or a short bus-ride into Canterbury, a lovely city with medieval buildings, lively bars and atmospheric pubs as well as a wide range of shops. The attractive coastal town of Whitstable is close by, and there are sandy beaches further down the coast. London is under an hour away by high-speed train.

DID YOU KNOW?
In the National Student Survey 2014, Kent gained the 3rd highest score in the UK for overall satisfaction.
Joshua Gottlieb from Luxembourg is in his final year of his degree in Comparative Literature and Philosophy.

Why did you come to Kent?
I’ve always been interested in literature and didn’t want to be restricted to just English literature. The great thing about my degree is that the entire world of literature is open to you – you can study anything. Also the city of Canterbury is really well situated – you have London, which is very near, and you’re close to Paris and Brussels as well. The city is the perfect size. You have all the things that students need; but it’s not a huge place that you’ll get lost in.

How was your first year of studying at Kent?
It was a very smooth jump into university studies. You can take things slowly and the first year doesn’t count towards your final marks, which removes any pressure. The best thing is that, once you are here, you can study the things you’re passionate about. In my first year, I studied a wealth of literature and film and art, including some things I’d never heard of before and now feel very passionate about. For instance, postcolonial literature – that was really interesting. Or graphic novels – that was a real eye-opener. At first I thought that graphic novels didn’t count as serious literature, but actually some of them can be very powerful.

What aspects of your studies do you enjoy the most?
One thing about comparative literature is that it doesn’t put the focus on literature that is written by wealthy Westerners. And it doesn’t just do ‘high culture’. It looks at culture more broadly than that. It opens your eyes to many different genres and styles, and its approach is always to compare them with each other. That’s a great way to study.

How did you find the level of academic support?
It’s a great university, very supportive. Rather than lectures in a big hall, I go to small seminar groups where I can actually have a discussion with my lecturers and the other students. The lecturers are very approachable too. I had the feeling that the staff really cared about their students. And that has definitely helped me to progress.

And what about the resources?
The library resources are excellent and getting better with the new library extension being built. There are a lot of electronic resources available so there is always enough material to draw on.

Did you take a year abroad?
Yes, I did and I’d really recommend it. You’re able to study in a different system and you get to know a lot of people. And there are so many places you can go: I went to the Sorbonne in Paris and was given a lot of choice in the type of modules I could study there. It was really flexible and a great learning experience.

How is the social life at Kent?
People are very approachable here. I shared a kitchen in my first year at university so it was easy to meet new people. But I really liked living off campus too. Being social is something people want to do at Kent and there are plenty of societies. Whatever your interests, you can find people doing it.

What do you want to do after graduation?
I have a place to study for an MPhil at the University of Cambridge. After that, I’m not sure. Maybe I’ll go into an academic career or perhaps something that is media-related.

Any advice for potential students?
If you come with an open mind and a lot of motivation, the rest will be fine.
Kent equips you with essential skills to give you a competitive advantage when it comes to getting a job. Six months after graduation in 2014, less than 6% of Kent graduates were without a job or further study opportunity.

Many career paths can benefit from the analytical and writing skills you develop during your studies. Most of the University’s students are highly successful after graduation.

Comparative Literature graduates move into a variety of careers. The subject offers an excellent pathway into teaching. Other possibilities include publishing, journalism, education and the media. The broad, interdisciplinary approach to culture that the degree provides is highly valued by employers.

Gain transferable skills

As part of your learning experience at Kent, we help you to acquire key skills that will stand you in good stead for future employment. You learn to analyse information, to seek imaginative solutions to problems, demonstrate logical thinking and be sensitive to the values and interests of others. Getting to grips with challenging ideas, writing well and gaining confidence and experience in expressing your ideas in front of others are all important skills and ensure that our graduates will be strong candidates whatever career they wish to go into.

Year Abroad

Those who choose to take a Year Abroad often find that this provides a valuable opportunity for personal development and this extra experience can enhance their job prospects.

Classroom modules

The School of European Culture and Languages (SECL) has developed unique classroom-based modules. These modules provide you with the option to combine study with work experience in a school, so you gain credit towards your degree while working. The modules provide you with an insight into teaching as a career option. Even if it is not your chosen career path, the modules can extend your experiences and abilities, enhancing future work opportunities.

Kent’s Q-Step Centre

You can benefit from Kent’s Q-Step Centre, which provides advanced training in quantitative methods in the social sciences to enhance your degree and your employability. For more information, see www.kent.ac.uk/qstep

SECL employability

SECL also has its own employability programme of events to enhance your job skills and vocational awareness during your studies. A large number of our students develop professional skills and gain hands-on experience through our wide range of paid and voluntary work opportunities. For more information on the employability support available within the School, see www.kent.ac.uk/secl/employability

Careers advice

Kent’s award-winning Careers and Employability Service can give you advice on how to choose your future career, apply for jobs, write a good CV and perform well in interviews and aptitude tests. The Service also provides up-to-date information on graduate opportunities before and after you graduate. For more details on what the Service offers, go to: www.kent.ac.uk/employability
Tia Ali graduated in Comparative Literature with a Year Abroad in 2014, and works for the publisher IB Tauris.

What made you choose to study at Kent?
I felt it was a university that would teach me how to think for myself. Kent also has a large proportion of international students, which makes for a diverse and interesting environment. Canterbury has history and character; countryside and coastline are both easily accessible; and it’s within striking distance of London. It’s a very easy and enjoyable place to live.

How did you find your studies?
We read contemporary novels alongside classics and studied literature from all over the world; this broad outlook and global perspective was what I appreciated in my degree. Many of the modules were based around concepts that made for interesting approaches to literature, for example Fiction and Power, Shakespeare’s Afterlives, Prize Winners, The Book and the Film. I was also able to pursue a year abroad at UCLA (University of California, Los Angeles), which was an extremely rewarding experience.

What about the teaching?
The lecturers were very international and brought a wealth of experience and knowledge to the classroom. They were passionate about their modules and always came at the subject matter from a new angle. Modules often involved the study of a book’s history or its grounding in theory or philosophy and this provided me with knowledge on many general topics.

What extra-curricular activities did you get involved with?
I went to some Film Society meetings and screenings and quite a few performances and films at the Gulbenkian. Otherwise, I could usually be found reading a book in one of Canterbury’s many cafes, or in Westgate Gardens.

How did your degree help you in your career?
Studying literature has equipped me with the knowledge and skills to unravel the narratives around me. I can think critically about the ideological/political narratives we are presented with in our daily lives, and the personal narratives that we constantly write and rewrite for ourselves and the people we encounter. I also gained practical skills in writing, time-management and organisational skills. My year abroad has made my CV stand out and given me an edge in terms of international experience and academic excellence – UCLA is currently ranked 12th in the world by the Times Higher Education. Achieving a first-class degree and getting a prize for my dissertation have also helped to get me interviews and job offers.

Could you describe your career path since leaving Kent?
After I graduated, I took advantage of Kent’s exchange programme with Naresuan University in Thailand and went there to teach English for a month in the summer. That was a fantastic experience. When I returned, I ended up securing a job as a Marketing and Publicity Assistant at IB Tauris publishers in London. I work on marketing and publicising all the academic books.

Could you describe a typical day in your current role?
A typical day involves writing press releases for key titles and pitching them for review; liaising with authors on publicity and marketing; handling submissions to book awards; making arrangements for our editors to attend conferences; and organising book launches and events. If I’m lucky I get to take a lunch break in Kensington Gardens or Hyde Park.

What are your future plans/aspirations?
I’m not quite ready to settle into a career path yet – I’d like to work abroad and expand my horizons. I was awarded a scholarship for an online TEFL course and have now been offered placements in Japan and India, so things seem to be working out well.

What advice would you give to someone coming to Kent?
Befriend your lecturers – they possess a wealth of knowledge and are delighted to share it with you. In my experience, they are sources of endless encouragement. I’d also say try to take advantage of the University’s international connections.
CHOOSING YOUR PROGRAMME

Not sure which degree programme to choose? Here is a quick guide to the Comparative Literature degrees on offer.

**Single honours**
The single honours programme allows you to focus on Comparative Literature, although you do still have the option to take modules in other humanities subjects.

**Joint honours**
A joint honours programme enables you to combine literature with another subject. Study is divided evenly between your two subjects. For a list of programmes available as joint honours, see p19. To download a leaflet for the other subject, go to www.kent.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/leaflets

**Year Abroad programmes**
We also offer programmes with an added year abroad. These programmes are designed to provide students with a unique opportunity to experience cultural diversity first hand, to develop intercultural competence and to benefit from different approaches to the study of Comparative Literature. A foreign language is not required as the teaching is in English.

Students have the opportunity to study in a wide range of countries, including destinations in mainland Europe, America and Hong Kong. For location details, see the A to Z course list at www.kent.ac.uk/goabroad/opportunities

**International students**
If you are applying from outside the UK without the necessary English language qualifications, you may be able to take the Kent International Foundation Programme (IFP). The Kent IFP can provide progression to the Comparative Literature degree programme. For more details, see www.kent.ac.uk/ifp

**Placement Year**
The Placement Year provides you with the opportunity to spend a year in the workplace as part of your degree. It takes place between your second and final years of study, giving you work experience and the chance to acquire new skills and develop your confidence.

Previous students have found that the experience has enhanced their CVs and provided a valuable insight into their career potential. Some even end up working for their placement provider after graduation.
STUDYING AT STAGE 1

Stage 1 represents the first year of full-time study.

You attend weekly lectures and discussion seminars, typically of one hour and two hours respectively per module. Assessment is by coursework or by a combination of examination and coursework, typically in the ratio 50:50.

Please note that the module lists below are not fixed as new modules are always in development and choices are updated yearly. Please see www.kent.ac.uk/ug for the most up-to-date information.

All students study the core module:
• The Tale.

Single honours students choose two or three from the following:
• Childhood and Adolescence in Modern Fiction
• Classical Literature
• Classical Mythology: Themes and Approaches
• Freedom and Oppression in Modern Literature
• Guilt and Redemption in Modern Literature
• Introduction to Contemporary European and Hispanic Cinemas
• Post-War European Cinemas
• The Romantic Movement
• World Literature: An Introduction.

Alternatively, you may choose a module from any humanities subject. If you are on a joint honours programme, you take two modules from the list above, plus the required modules for your other subject.

Modules: Stage 1

The Tale
This core module deals with a wide range of selected international tales ranging from antiquity to the present day. It addresses issues such as the development of oral folk tales and fairy tales into written forms, and discusses various short prose genres, including Aesopian fables, myths, folk tales and fairy tales, as well as tales of the fantastic, 19th-century art tales and the modern short story.

Childhood and Adolescence in Modern Fiction
It has been argued that early modern Europe invented the idea of childhood as a separate human condition. This module is designed not to resolve that argument but to compare different attitudes to childhood and adolescence as represented in modern European, American and postcolonial fiction. The module also introduces you to different approaches in studying genre, character and narrative technique.

Classical Literature
This module offers a grounding in classical literature as a basis for the further study of Western literature. Major works of ancient Greek and Roman literature are studied in order to enable you to appreciate the literary engagement with the following in the classical world: myth (including the stories of the Trojan War, Oedipus, Jason and Medea, and the founding of Rome); the relationship between human beings and the gods, between the sexes, and between the human and the animal; and the journey motif. Themes explored included sexuality, violence, conceptions of justice, metamorphosis and madness.

Classical Mythology: Themes and Approaches
Scholarship on approaches to mythology informs the analysis of myth in both its ancient and modern setting. This module introduces a large repertoire of ancient mythology and its meanings and functions within its original context. Case studies are used to examine the interpretations and social functions of myth. You then explore subsequent responses to these myths; this might include, for example, the use of Greek myths in the Hellenistic, Roman and the modern periods, and could include the appropriation of myths across a range of media.

Freedom and Oppression in Modern Literature
The 20th-century imagination was marked by a spirit of doubt, especially of the Enlightenment faith in Reason’s capacity to advance mankind to happiness and freedom. This module focuses on some classic fictional and non-fictional explorations of these themes. You consider the texts as works of literature in their own right and also as vehicles for the ideas they interrogate and propagate: happiness, morality without God, personal and political freedom, the self and its responsibilities.

CONTINUED OVERLEAF
Guilt and Redemption in Modern Literature
The ‘knowledge of good and evil’ is unique to human beings. It informs the individual’s conscience and determines the moral systems on which societies are based. The violation of moral codes is expected to induce the experience of guilt, while the lack of any sense of guilt is considered to be psychopathic. You analyse literary texts that explore the experiences of guilt and redemption as a human quandary and as perceived against changing conceptions of morality. Texts engage with questions of personal and collective guilt in relation to hubris, cruelty, the violation of animal rights and genocide.

Introduction to Contemporary European and Hispanic Cinemas
This module introduces you to a wide range of films produced in different European and Latin American countries between the late 1980s and the present day. You focus on prevailing trends and dominant themes in contemporary European and Hispanic cinemas. The aim is to make you aware of the role that cinema has played and continues to play in the cultural life of Europe and Latin America, its importance in establishing national and supranational identity, and the ways in which international relations are expressed through film production.

Post-War European Cinemas
European cinema has a diverse and rich history, due to the range of different nations, film-makers and contexts in which films are produced. Here, you look at a number of post-war cinematic movements, such as Italian Neo-Realism, British Ealing comedy, British cinema of the 1960s, French New Wave, New German cinema and New Spanish cinema. Among the topics for consideration are the notions of European ‘art’ cinema and the ‘auteur’, European realism and the relationship between European cinema and Hollywood.

The Romantic Movement
In this module, you focus on the development of romanticism in France, Germany and Russia. We begin with the influences of Goethe and Rousseau and then concentrate on German romanticism. The second half of the module examines the work of French and Russian writers before concluding with Stendhal as both a review of romanticism and a foreshadowing of 19th-century realism.

World Literature: An Introduction
This module introduces you to theories of world literature, studied alongside a selection of literary examples. The theories include Johann Wolfgang von Goethe’s reflections formulated in the first decades of the 19th century. Goethe coined the term ‘world literature’ (Weltliteratur) to describe the circulation and reception of literary works in Europe. You reflect on the relationship between national literatures and world literature, and on the ways in which the literary market facilitates and complicates transnational exchanges of ideas. You also study a selection of ancient and modern world creation myths: these include texts from the Middle East, Asia, Africa, the Americas and Europe.
All single honours students take:
• The Text: Approaches to Comparative Literature (Stage 2)
• Comparative Literature Dissertation (Stage 3).

Comparative Literature students choose their remaining modules from the following:
• The Book and the Film: Adaptation and Interpretation (Stage 3 only)
• Comparative Literature and English Language and Linguistics in the Classroom (Stage 3 only)
• Creatures of the Night: Vampires in Literature and Film (Stage 3 only)
• Decadence in Fin-de-Siècle Europe (Stage 3 only)
• European Realism
• Fiction and Power
• Modern Arabic Literature and the Middle East
• Modernism and the European Avant-Garde
• Nordic Literature and Film
• Postcolonial Images of Africa and South Asia
• Postmodernism (Stage 3 only)
• Prize Winners
• Science Fiction: History and Innovation
• Second Thoughts: Women Novelists from Brontë to Jelinek
• Shakespeare’s Afterlives
• SWIPE Undergraduate Conference (Stage 3 only)
• Travel Literature.

STUDYING AT STAGES 2 AND 3

This represents the second and final years of full-time study.

You attend weekly lectures and discussion seminars, typically of one hour and two hours respectively per module. The Dissertation is based entirely on your independent research but is supervised by an academic.

Assessment varies from 100% coursework (extended essays or dissertation) to a combination of examination and coursework, typically in the ratio 50:50.

Please note that the module lists below are not fixed as new modules are always in development and choices are updated yearly. Please see www.kent.ac.uk/ug for the most up-to-date information.

Modules: Stages 2 and 3

The Text: Approaches to Comparative Literature
This module is designed to cultivate modes of critical reading and an understanding of the history and nature of literary production. Topics for discussion include: the nature and function of the literary text; genre; narrative; poetic form; realism and romance; and the avant-garde, modernist and postmodernist text. Among the ways of reading explored in this module are Russian formalism, structuralism, psychoanalytic criticism and deconstruction. You have the opportunity to study short literary texts by a wide range of authors in a comparative manner.

Comparative Literature Dissertation
Writing a dissertation in your final year gives you the opportunity to gain experience of independent research. You choose a topic on which to write a dissertation under the supervision of a member of staff. Topics may range from
classical literature to the most recent work of living writers, and from European, American, African and Asian literature.

**The Book and the Film: Adaptation and Interpretation**

This module seeks to explore how novels and plays are adapted and interpreted for the screen. You look at how certain texts lend themselves to multiple reshaping, such as Laclos’ *Dangerous Liaisons* and Henry James’ *The Turn of the Screw*, both of which have been adapted for the screen more than once. You also analyse lesser-known works that have gone on to become feature films, such as Arthur Schnitzler’s short work ‘Dream Story’, filmed as *Eyes Wide Shut*. Adaptations directed by widely recognised film-makers such as De Sica, Max Ophüls, Kubrick and Pier Paolo Pasolini are also examined with a view to eliciting and understanding their approach to, and filmic vision of, written texts.

**Comparative Literature and English Language and Linguistics in the Classroom**

Providing you with the opportunity to enter the workplace and acting as a taster for a teaching career, this module involves teaching experience in a secondary school classroom. For one term, you spend half a day each week in a local school under the supervision of a teacher who acts as your mentor. Not only does this provide invaluable work experience, but the teaching will also inform and shape your academic studies.

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**Creatures of the Night: Vampires in Literature and Film**

Suspended between life and death, and equipped with superhuman powers, immortality and eternal youth, vampires have a lasting allure in popular culture and fiction. The emergence and popularity of vampire tales in modern societies is intricately bound up with changes in public consciousness, as vampires frequently act as potent symbols of cultural anxieties and hidden desires. This module charts the ways in which vampires are used to address contentious questions about sexuality, class, gender, race and addiction.

**Decadence in Fin-de-Siècle Europe**

Exploring the development of decadence as an artistic response, a philosophic expression and a social critique, this module takes the work of Charles Baudelaire and the failed revolutions of 1848 as its starting point. Decadence was both a symptom of political and artistic frustration and a psychological investigation. Key themes include the role of the artist, death, nature versus artifice, fantasy and desire, sexuality and social morality versus personal freedom.

**European Realism**

Realism was an artistic movement that rejected romanticism and exaggerated emotion in fiction. This module explores the growth and flowering of the realist movement in European fiction of the 19th century. You analyse the connections between romanticism and realism in the early decades of the century, as well as the possible reasons for the decline of the realist
movement at the end of the century. Links between developments in science and technology, religion and philosophy, the social and economic evolution, and new trends in literature are also examined.

Fiction and Power
This module looks at a group of politically inspired novels and films, some of which were produced under the totalitarian regimes that held sway in Europe between 1917 and 1989. Others deal with Latin American political unrest, conflict in the Middle East and the Islamic revolution in Iran. Most explore ways of challenging and subverting authoritarian power structures and of articulating a critique in what Bertolt Brecht called ‘dark times’.

Modern Arabic Literature and the Middle East
Exploring how recent Arabic fiction prefigures the 2011 Arab Spring, this module introduces you to one of the richest and most stimulating eras of Arabic literary innovation. It gives you the opportunity to study works in English translation by analysing the creative trends and movements that currently resonate around the region. In addition, you explore how emerging Arab voices negotiate links to the past in relation to texts such as The Thousand and One Nights. The module combines the methodological approaches of comparative literature, the sociology of literature and postcolonial theory, and explores concepts such as cultural identity, gender, diaspora and historiography.

Modernism and the European Avant-Garde
Beginning with an introduction to the cultural currents that influenced the avant-garde and modernism, you study writers such as Thomas Mann, Franz Kafka, James Joyce, Virginia Woolf, Marcel Proust, T S Eliot, Luigi Pirandello and Samuel Beckett. You also study some of the main avant-garde movements of the early 20th century, such as Futurism, Dada and surrealism with consideration of the theoretical and political issues at stake in the modernist ‘revolution of the word’.

Nordic Literature and Film
Nordic literature is made up of works written in the principal Nordic languages, Danish, Finnish, Norwegian and Swedish. In this module, you examine literary works ranging from folk tales and sagas through the respective periods of national romanticism to the present day, as well as examining films from the region. The texts are studied in English translations, and the films with English subtitles. You explore themes such as romanticism, exile, nationalism and post-nationalism, world literatures, translation and adaptation. You also examine the current wave of Nordic crime fiction and its adaptation into TV dramas and films, exploring reasons for the genre’s popularity, both within and beyond the region.

Postcolonial Images of Africa and South Asia
Taking literature from Algeria, Nigeria, Morocco, Zimbabwe, India and Sri Lanka, you examine a range of genres, from the period 1940-2010, to explore the overlap between identity politics, feminism
and anti-colonial resistance. You explore to what extent this literature is representative of notions of nationhood and national consciousness, hybridity and assimilation, and exile and alienation. You pay particular attention to the works of the writer, philosopher and revolutionary Frantz Fanon.

Postmodernism
Postmodernism defies conventional definition, critiquing commonly held ideas of progress and knowledge and exposing reality as an artificial construction. In this module, you study early postmodern writers such as Samuel Beckett, Vladimir Nabokov and Alain Robbe-Grillet and follow up your understanding with a comparative study of later writers such as Italo Calvino and Thomas Pynchon. You also engage with postmodernism in other genres, including Pop Art and the Free Cinema movement.

Prize Winners
The award of literary prizes is a highly potent tool of cultural policy and several major literary awards have achieved global significance, such as the Nobel Prize in Literature, the Man Booker Prize, the Pulitzer Prize (for Fiction), the Prix Goncourt and the Friedenspreis des Deutschen Buchhandels. You develop a historical perspective by analysing past and present winners and the contexts of their production, marketing and reception.

Science Fiction: History and Innovation
Science fiction has developed via the interaction of different genres, media and national cultures. This module allows for a comparative analysis of science fiction from the Americas, Western and Eastern Europe, and the former Soviet Union, starting with the seminal works of Jules Verne and H G Wells. You also explore the relationship of literature to film, especially topics such as aliens and alienation, genetic engineering, artificial intelligence, dystopia and apocalypse.

Second Thoughts: Women Novelists from Brontë to Jelinek
This module investigates representations of love, desire and the body in a selection of texts by women writers from different temporal, cultural and linguistic backgrounds. You engage with images and representations of women through literature: how they provide or question role models, and perpetuate or problematise stereotypical versions of feminine goals and aspirations.

Shakespeare’s Afterlives
How have 20th-century writers negotiated and appropriated Shakespeare’s cultural influence? How have they reimagined his legacy in Europe, Asia and the Americas? This module focuses on some of Shakespeare’s most influential plays (Hamlet, King Lear, Macbeth, and The Tempest) and examines how thematic, historical, and cultural concerns have been transplanted to a range of global locations. You also explore theoretical notions such as intertextuality, the Benjaminian concept of the ‘afterlife’ of a text, and Genette’s study of the ‘palimpsest’ as a text derived from a pre-existent text.

SWIPE Undergraduate Conference
The SWIPE (Student Work-in-Progress Exposition) module is designed for students working on final-year dissertations or other extended coursework, but is open to all third year students. The conference provides an opportunity to conduct independent research and gives you a chance to discuss your work (and your fellow students’ work) within the School and the wider scholarly community.

Travel Literature
From Homer’s epic account of Odysseus’ wanderings in the Mediterranean to the hazardous journeys undertaken by today’s economic migrants, this module spans 3,000 years of travellers’ stories, some real and others fictitious. The genre encompasses quests and holidays, military campaigns and journalists’ assignments, missionary endeavour and social satire.
VISIT THE UNIVERSITY

Come along for an Open Day or an Applicant Day and see for yourself what it is like to be a student at the University of Kent.

Open Days
Kent runs Open Days during the summer and autumn. These provide an excellent opportunity for you to discover what it is like to live and study at the University. You can meet academic staff and current students, find out about our courses and attend subject displays, workshops and informal lectures. We also offer tours around the campus to view our sports facilities, the library and University accommodation. For further information and details of how to book your place, see www.kent.ac.uk/opendays

Applicant Days
If you apply to study at Kent and we offer you a place (or invite you to attend an interview), you will usually be sent an invitation to one of our Applicant Days. You can book to attend through your online Kent Applicant Portal. The Applicant Day includes presentations in your subject area, guided tours of the campus, including University accommodation, and the opportunity to speak with both academic staff and with current students about your chosen subject. For further information, see www.kent.ac.uk/visit

Informal visits
You are also welcome to make an informal visit to our campuses at any time. The University runs tours of the Canterbury and Medway campuses throughout the year for anyone who is unable to attend an Open Day or Applicant Day. It may also be possible to arrange meetings with academic staff, although we cannot guarantee this. For more details and to book your place, see www.kent.ac.uk/informal

Alternatively, we can provide you with a self-guided tour leaflet, which includes the main points of interest. For more details and to download a self-guided tour, go to www.kent.ac.uk/informal

On the web
For updates and news stories from the School, please see:
www.kent.ac.uk/secl
www.facebook.com/unikentsecl
www.twitter.com/unikentsecl
www.youtube.com/unikentsecl

Comparative Literature
More information
If you have any further queries on how to choose your degree, our admissions procedures, how to prepare for your studies or would like information about the University of Kent’s facilities and services, please contact us.
T: +44 (0)1227 827272
Freephone (UK only): 0800 975 3777
www.kent.ac.uk/ug

Location
Canterbury

Award
BA (Hons)

Programme type
Full-time and part-time

Degree programmes

Single honours
• Comparative Literature (Q200)
• Comparative Literature with a Year Abroad (Q202)

Joint honours
• Asian Studies (TQ42)
• Classical & Archaeological Studies (QQ28)
• Cultural Studies (QQ29)
• Drama (QW24)
• English, American and Postcolonial Literature (QQ2J)
• English and American Literature (QQ32)
• English Language and Linguistics (QQ32)
• Film (WQ62)
• French (RQ12)
• German (RQ22)
• Hispanic Studies (QR24)
• History (VQ21)
• History and Philosophy of Art (VQ32)
• Italian (QR23)
• Philosophy (VQ52)
• Religious Studies (VQ62)
• World Literature (subject to approval)

Year abroad
Students who choose the Comparative Literature with a Year Abroad programme can spend a year in the Europe, Hong Kong or the US. See p10 for details.

Offer levels
ABB at A level, IB Diploma 34 points or 16 points at Higher.
Joint honours: ABB-BBB at A level, IB Diploma 34 points or 15-16 points at Higher.

Required subjects
There may be other required subjects for joint honours programmes; please see the website below for details.

Scholarships and bursaries
For details of scholarships and bursaries at Kent, see www.kent.ac.uk/ugfunding

Offer levels and entry requirements are subject to change. For the latest information, see www.kent.ac.uk/ug

This brochure was produced in June 2015. The information contained within this brochure was correct at the time of going to press. For the most up-to-date information, please see www.kent.ac.uk/ug

Terms and conditions: the University reserves the right to make variations to the content and delivery of courses and other services, or to discontinue courses and other services, if such action is reasonably considered to be necessary. If a programme is discontinued, the University will make every effort to provide a suitable alternative, but cannot guarantee it will be able to do so. For full terms and conditions, see www.kent.ac.uk/term sandconditions

To register for a programme of study, all students must agree to abide by the University Regulations (available online at: www.kent.ac.uk/regulations).

Data protection and consent to process: for the University to operate efficiently, it needs to process information about you for administrative, academic and health and safety reasons. Any offer this institution makes to you is subject to your consent to process such information and is therefore a requirement before we can register you as a student.

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COME AND VISIT US

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www.kent.ac.uk/visit