Comparative Literature at Kent provides an excellent environment for the advanced study of literature beyond national, linguistic and disciplinary borders. The research interests of our staff are comparativist in nature and include the European avant-garde, modernism and postmodernism, postcolonial literature, literary theory, and the relationship between literature and the visual arts, and literature and medicine.

Taught programmes
Our MA programmes are either based entirely in Canterbury, or offer a term at Kent’s Paris School of Arts and Culture.

MA in Comparative Literature
Canterbury; Canterbury and Paris
The MA in Comparative Literature explores major writers, theories and key themes in European literature and its interactions with Asian, African and Latin American literatures and cultures. It is designed for graduates in modern languages who are seeking to consolidate their knowledge in a wider context; graduates in English and/or American literature wishing to diversify their interests; and graduates in a range of other humanities subjects (including history, philosophy and theology) who would like to apply techniques from their own disciplines to literary material.

MA in French and Comparative Literature
Canterbury; Canterbury and Paris
Taking the postgraduate study of literature beyond national and linguistic borders, this MA programme contains a particular focus on French culture. A variation in the programme also enables you to spend a term at Kent’s centre in the heart of Paris to enhance your cultural experience.

Research programmes
A PhD in Comparative Literature enables you to undertake a substantial piece of supervised research that makes an original contribution to knowledge and is worthy of publication. One variation of the PhD in Comparative Literature enables you to spend a year at Kent’s Paris School of Arts and Culture to enhance your cultural experience.

PhD in Comparative Literature
Canterbury; Canterbury and Paris
Ongoing doctoral theses in the Department include: ‘Representations of the Jew in the Nineteenth-Century Novel in France, Germany, and England’; ‘Body and Mind in Dystopian Fiction: From the Late-Nineteenth Century to the Twenty-First’; ‘The Case of the Seventh Circle: British Detective Fiction and Transcultural Genre Seeding in 1940’s Argentina’; and ‘Nihilism and Narrative Form in Twentieth-Century European and Latin American Literature’.

PhD in French and Comparative Literature
Canterbury
This new programme enables you to undertake comparative research with a particular focus on French literature, benefiting from the expertise of staff in the Department of Modern Language who specialising in French language, culture and history.

PhD in German and Comparative Literature
Canterbury
This research programme has a particular focus on German literature. Recent and ongoing projects include: ‘The Development of the Concept of Wandering from 1770 to 1930’; ‘Expatriate Writing: Post-trauma, Post-memory and the Postcolonial’; and ‘Literature without Quotation Marks: Adaptation, Appropriation, and Plagiarism in the Contemporary French and German Novel’.

Research-led department
The Comparative Literature Department is a research-intensive community committed to work of the highest quality. Comparative Literature formed part of Kent’s Modern Languages and Linguistics submission to the most recent Research Excellence Framework, which was ranked 3rd in the UK for research quality.
Our activities range from individual research projects to collaborative enterprises, and staff regularly publish books and articles in their areas of specialisation.

Comparative Literature is part of the School of European Culture and Languages (SECL), which embraces five other disciplines: Classical & Archaeological Studies, English Language and Linguistics, Modern Languages, Philosophy and Religious Studies. This enables you to draw on the excellent resources of a diverse team of teachers and researchers with expertise in many key areas of European culture.

A global outlook
Kent is known as the UK’s European university and has developed international partnerships with a number of prestigious institutions. We have a great international reputation, attracting academic staff and students from around the world: 42% of our academics come from outside the UK and students on campus represent 158 nationalities.

Our academic schools are engaged in collaborative research with universities worldwide and we offer a range of opportunities to study abroad and an approach that is truly global. We celebrate intellectual and cultural diversity with a commitment to educate our students to be the global citizens of tomorrow.

Impressive career prospects
Kent has an excellent postgraduate employment record: 98% of our postgraduate students who graduated in 2016 found a job or further study opportunity within six months. Whatever your chosen career path, we will equip you with an impressive portfolio of skills, specialist knowledge and practical experience to help you succeed in a competitive environment. For more information on the careers help we provide at Kent, see www.kent.ac.uk/employability

Funding opportunities
Kent provides a variety of financial support opportunities for postgraduate students. For the most up-to-date information on postgraduate funding, see www.kent.ac.uk/scholarships/postgraduate/

How to apply
www.kent.ac.uk/courses/postgrad/apply

Further information
E: secl@kent.ac.uk
www.kent.ac.uk/secl/complit/postgraduate

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www.kent.ac.uk/visit