



10 December 2007

David W. Pershing
Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
205 Park
Campus

Dear Vice President Pershing:

At its meeting of 29 October 2007, the Graduate Council voted to approve a proposal to change the name of Comparative Literature to Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies within the Department of Languages and Literature in the College of Humanities.

The proposed name reflects the program's mission and academic curriculum, and follows national trends in the discipline.

Internally, the change will make the graduate program consistent with the newly approved major and minor in Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies.

A copy of the proposal is attached for your approval and transmittal to the Academic Senate.

Sincerely,

David S. Chapman
Associate VP for Graduate Studies
Dean, The Graduate School

The Graduate School
302 Park Building
201 South Presidents Circle, Room 302
Salt Lake City, Utah 84112-9016
(801) 581-7642 • FAX (801) 585-6749
www.utah.edu/gradschool



Department of Languages & Literature

November 5, 2007

The Graduate School
302 Park Building
201 South Presidents Circle

Dear Graduate Council:

We are writing to request your approval to change the current name of our Comparative Literature graduate program to Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies (CLCS). The proposal has the full support of the faculty in the Department of Languages and Literature. During Spring 2006, the CLCS Advisory Committee discussed changes to the curriculum of the Comparative Literature Graduate Program. This committee decided that the current name of the program was outdated vis-a-vis the proposed curriculum changes. The Advisory Committee brought the matter to the department in early Fall 2007, explaining the logic behind the proposed change. With department approval, the Committee moved ahead with plans to commence the formal process of changing the name.

There are several reasons why we think that the new name will be a better reflection of the program's mission and academic curriculum.

1. CLCS is a better expression of recent trends in the discipline and is consistent with conversations about the future of comparative studies that are currently going on at a national
2. The current name, Comparative Literature, evokes historically Eurocentric connotations that are inconsistent with current trends in the field and the intended focus of our program. The new name implies and suggests a much broader scope of inquiry beyond the traditional understanding of literature, including cultural criticism, film studies, etc.
3. From an internal perspective, CLCS acknowledges the multicultural nature of our Languages and Literature department. The new focus will allow faculty from all 19 of our national traditions to contribute to the program.
4. Finally, on a more practical note, the change will make our graduate program consistent with our newly approved major and minor in CLCS.

We hope that you will approve our proposal.

Sincerely,

Jane Hacking, Co-Chair

Fernando Rubio, Co-Chair

Request for Name Change

of “Comparative Literature” to “Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies”

SECTION I: The Request

This is a request to change the name applied to all courses offered and degrees given within the “Comparative Literature” section, housed within the Department of Languages and Literature. “Comparative Literature” would change to “Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies.” The prefix applied to courses in the Schedule of Courses would change from “C Lit” to “CLCS.” This name change applies would affect the major, minor, MA, and PhD granted under the current title “Comparative Literature.”

SECTION II: Need

The new title, “Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies,” will better reflect the true nature of our courses and degrees, which in recent years have shifted from a focus primarily on the study of literature to the study of culture in all its contexts; our section now includes courses in religious studies, linguistics, film studies, cultural history, as well as traditional literature courses. Moreover, our courses have shifted from exclusive study of printed literature to include music, film, the visual arts, speech, religious texts, and cultural artifacts. Therefore, “Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies’ will better reflect our true mission and our course content.

Section III: Institutional Impact

This name change will have no financial impact on the Department of Languages and Literature, within which Comparative Literature is housed. There will be no negative impact on administrative structures, faculty, physical facilities or equipment. However, there will be a resulting *positive* impact on our national reputation. In the last decade, the term “Comparative Literature” has been rejected by many theorists, and the most innovative programs and departments have changed their names in response to a shift in approach to this field of study. The name change will more correctly reflect our recent curricular innovations and will position the section among the most innovative programs in Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies across the country. It will also better advertise our approach to the topic, sending the message to the University of Utah students that our classes offer the best place to study global culture on campus.

SECTION IV: Finances

There are no costs associated with this change. Advertising and informational materials are usually reworked every year and will simply be changed when we rework all such materials before the beginning of the school year.

10.4.1. Signature Page to Accompany Proposals Providing Board Notification - This signature page, with all appropriate signatures included, must be attached to proposals submitted for Board notification.

Institution Submitting Proposal: Department of Languages and Literature

College, School of Division affected: College of Humanities


Department(s) or Areas(s) affected: Department of Languages and Literature, Comparative Literature section


Change Description: This is a request to change the name applied to all courses offered and degrees given within the "Comparative Literature" section, housed within the Department of Languages and Literature. "Comparative Literature" would change to "Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies." The prefix applied to courses in the Schedule of Courses would change from "C Lit" to "CLCS." This name change would affect the major, minor, MA and PhD granted under the current title "Comparative Literature."

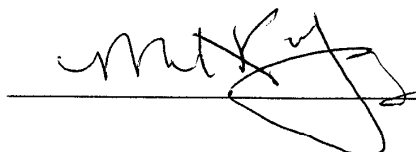
Proposed Beginning Date: Fall 2008

Institutional Signatures (as appropriate):


 _____, Department Chair

 _____, Dean or Division Chair

 _____, Chief Academic Officer

 _____, President

December 13, 2007 _____, Date

 _____, Dean, Graduate School

November 7, 2007

Graduate Council
The Graduate School
302 Park Building
201 South Presidents Circle
CAMPUS

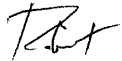
Dear Graduate Council,

I am pleased to support the proposed name change to the Comparative Literature Graduate Program in the Department of Languages and Literature from “Comparative Literature” to “Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies.”

I agree with the Chairs that the new name, Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies (CLCS), reflects important shifts in the discipline over the last 20 years and puts the department at the forefront of a national conversation on the future of comparative work. This is also the name under which the Major and Minor were proposed and approved in Spring 2006. Changing the name at the graduate level is important now if the program is to appear as a coherent course of study. The name change is timely, as the new General Catalog is being printed for 2008.

I strongly recommend that you approve the name change for the Comparative Literature Graduate Program.

Sincerely,



Robert Newman
Dean, College of Humanities
Associate Vice President for Interdisciplinary Studies

RN/cj



College of Humanities

THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

March 10, 2006

Undergraduate Council
110 Sill Center
CAMPUS

Dear Undergraduate Council:

I am pleased to support the department of Languages and Literature's proposal to create a major and minor degree program in Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies.

This program will provide a unique opportunity for students to combine their language and literature studies into one degree. This program will not require additional funding and will be implemented using existing department resources. I agree with Professor Eid's assessment that this program is timely in view of the University's increased emphasis on internationalism.

I strongly recommend your approval of this new major and minor degree program in Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies.

Sincerely,

Robert Newman
Dean and Professor of English



Department of Languages & Literature

March 10, 2006

Dean Robert Newman
College of Humanities

Dear Dean Newman:

I am writing to request your support for the enclosed proposal from the Department of Languages & Literature for a Major and Minor in Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies. The Letter of Intent has already been approved. The proposal has the full support of the faculty.

The Major and Minor in Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies allows students to integrate their study of multiple languages and literatures into a single degree that stresses the points of contact and divergence between the students' chosen areas. In addition to providing students with the tools to interpret literatures individually and in comparison to each other, the Major/Minor will also develop students' skills in critical thinking, cross-cultural analysis, and close reading of diverse sign systems overall. The proposal requires students to take a specified number of comparative literature core theory courses but gives two options for students to focus their program of study: option A to focus on one language area in the Department and option B to focus on two language areas in the Department. The two options differ in terms of course distribution.

The proposed major and minor fit the University's mission, in particular its increased emphasis on global and international studies and the newly proposed International Requirement for undergraduate students. They also fit the Department's vision and its commitment to educating students to become critically-minded and responsible global citizens.

I hope you endorse the proposal, and I look forward to your support.

Sincerely,

Mushira Eid, Chair
Professor of Arabic & Linguistics



March 27, 2006

Mushira Eid, Chair
Department of Languages and Literature
University of Utah
1419 LNCO

Dear Dr. Eid:

The University of Utah Libraries appreciate your request to comment on our ability to support students in a new major and minor in comparative literary and cultural studies. The Libraries are committed to supporting the university and its faculty as they develop programs needed by our students.

As the curriculum will be comprised of existing courses, current collections should be sufficient. We will pay special attention to the topics covered by these courses and to suggestions from faculty and students for new purchases as the budget allows.

The University of Utah Libraries rank 40th in the Association of Research Libraries. A collection of this size and depth satisfies most student needs. Marriott has an approval plan for automatic receipt of many English language scholarly books, funds for non-Anglophone acquisitions, and a core collection of print and electronic journals.

Thanks to the state-wide funding received by the Utah Academic Library Consortium (UALC) and to campus Student Computing Task Force funds, our electronic collection is unusually strong in indexes, abstracts, and full-text online databases.

Student difficulties in locating materials often stem not from collection weaknesses, but from the complexities of using a large research library. We offer class presentations and one-to-one consultations with library specialists who will help students find the most relevant works and suggest the most appropriate search strategies.

We look forward to working with the students and faculty in this program.

Sincerely,

Joyce L. Ogburn, Director
J. Willard Marriott Library