

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE, PH.D.

Admission

Applicants should have a minimum 3.00 GPA in their undergraduate major and 3.50 GPA in graduate course work. GRE scores are not required for the Comparative Literature PhD, although candidates are welcome to submit them should they wish to do so. An applicant whose native language is not English is required to submit a satisfactory score on the TOEFL or the IELTS Intl. Academic Course Type 2 exam. The minimum acceptable score on the TOEFL is 80 (iBT), or 570 (paper-based). The minimum acceptable overall band score on the IELTS Intl. Academic Course Type 2 exam is 6.5. Applicants are asked to submit a writing sample of 3,000 words and a statement of purpose (300 words maximum).

Application Procedure

- Students are invited to go to the Graduate School site (<http://www.gradschool.sc.edu/>) and apply online (<http://gradschool.sc.edu/prospective/apply-grad.asp?page=apply>). Paper applications are no longer available. All material should be sent to the graduate school in one packet. This material includes the following:
 - 3 letters of recommendation from instructors familiar with the student academic work, each sent confidentially
 - an undergraduate transcript
 - a 300 word statement of purpose: explain the connection between USC's programs and your personal goals
 - a writing sample (in the relevant language; English for non-natives of the English language) of about 3,000 words. This could be a paper written for an undergraduate course or an essay prepared specifically for the application.
- A five-minute sample of your spoken French, German, or Spanish is required of non-native speakers. Non-natives of English must also demonstrate proficiency in this language by a speech sample. The speech sample should be submitted as an mp3 file.
- Applicants who wish to be considered for an assistantship must apply by **January 15**.
- Candidates who do not wish to request financial assistance should complete the application process no later than **June 1**.
- Applications submitted to the Department after June 1 will not be processed.