

## MASTER'S DEGREE IN COMPARATIVE CANADIAN LITERATURE

### Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies Stream

#### 1. PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

##### 1.1. Overview

The Master's Degree in Comparative Canadian Literature has two research streams (Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies; Literary Translation and Translation Studies).

The Master's Degree in Comparative Canadian Literature enables students to deepen their knowledge of the literatures of Canada and Quebec.

The **Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies** stream introduces students to research in comparative Canadian literature and allows them to undertake a specialization in comparative Canadian literature by drawing comparisons between Canadian and Quebec cultural productions (including those of Indigenous peoples and diasporas—available in French or in English) or between these and other national cultural productions.

##### 1.2. Educational activities and length of studies

The Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies track is a 45-credit program, comprised of 33 credits of compulsory activities and 12 program electives. A list of these activities can be consulted at: <https://www.usherbrooke.ca/admission/programme/626/maitrise-en-litterature-canadienne-comparee#structure&acc-000-0>.

The Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies Stream is a full-time program that can be completed in two years. Students must complete the program within a maximum of four years from their initial date of enrolment.

#### 2. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies stream of the Master's Degree in Comparative Canadian Literature consists of three terms in which students enroll in and complete seminars, followed by research and writing terms and finally, an evaluation period.<sup>1</sup> Following is the typical schedule for students enrolled in the program in the fall semester.

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<sup>1</sup> Enrolment status has a financial impact; the tuition, writing and evaluation fees are not the same. For details on the cost of studies, see <https://www.usherbrooke.ca/admission/couts-et-aide-financiere/>.

1st year Studies	1st term – Fall	2nd term – Winter	3rd term – Summer
Activities	1 seminar chosen from among the following: ANG720 – La critique canadienne comparée or ANG731 – Théorie de la littérature comparée, and 1 program-elective ANG or TRA seminar	2 program-elective ANG or TRA seminars	ANG701 – Tutorial I
Tasks <sup>2</sup>		Choose thesis supervisor Choose subject Fill out the forms <sup>3</sup> <i>Demande d'approbation d'un sujet d'essai, de mémoire ou de thèse and Déclaration de recherche avec des êtres humains</i>	Fill out the form <sup>4</sup> <i>Autorisation pour l'inscription d'une activité sous forme tutorale</i>
2nd year Writing-Evaluation	4th term – Fall	5th term – Winter	6th term – Summer
Activities	ANG749 – Projet de mémoire		ANG746-747-748 – Activités de recherche I-II-III ANG750 – Mémoire
Tasks	Submit thesis proposal		Submit thesis (initial submission, evaluation, and then final thesis submission)

### 2.1. ANG and TRA seminars

During the first two terms, the student should attend at least one of these two **compulsory seminars** (ANG720 or ANG731) and three **elective ANG or TRA seminars** (typically two seminars per semester). For each seminar, a minimum of 12 hours of work per week is to be expected.

During this period, it is recommended that the student contact the program librarian ([Sophie.St-Cyr@USherbrooke.ca](mailto:Sophie.St-Cyr@USherbrooke.ca)) to learn more about relevant research and bibliographic tools at their disposal.

<sup>2</sup> All forms are available at: <https://www.usherbrooke.ca/flsh/etudiants/documents-officiels-guides-et-formulaires/formulaires/>. Some of them can be filled via the [Gestform](#) website.

<sup>3</sup> These forms are sent to the student at the end of the term.

<sup>4</sup> This form is sent to the student at the beginning of the term.

## 2.2. Choice of thesis supervisor and subject

By the end of the second term, the student must have determined with which professor they wish to complete their thesis. The role of the thesis supervisor is to provide advice and to guide the student in his or her research. In some cases, the thesis may be co-supervised.

Following are the steps to follow in order to choose a research supervisor:

- Consult the list of faculty members to find out their areas of interest or research (<https://www.usherbrooke.ca/dall/nos-expertises/>).
- Make an appointment with a professor. It is strongly suggested that students approach several faculty members to help narrow down their personal priorities and the professor's areas of interest and research. Faculty members expect to receive your requests.
- Secure the professor's agreement to act as your supervisor. If more than one faculty member shows an interest, the decision is up to the student; faculty members give priority to the student's choice, without prejudice.

The area of research that the student is addressing in their research does not necessarily need to be the same as the supervisor's, but may be similar or share common aspects.

At the end of the second term, once the research subject has been determined, the student must complete the forms *Demande d'approbation d'un sujet d'essai, de mémoire ou de thèse* and *Déclaration de recherche avec des êtres humains*, have them signed by their supervisor, and submit them to the *Secrétariat des études supérieures*.

## 2.3. ANG701 – Tutorial I

In the third term, the student must register for **ANG701 - Tutorial I**, a reading seminar supervised by their research supervisor. The purpose of the seminar is to prepare for the presenting of the thesis proposal (ANG749).

## 2.4. Preparation and presentation of the thesis proposal

The research proposal is presented in a 15-page document accompanied, if applicable, with an essay or an annotated bibliography. A *Guide de présentation du projet de mémoire et du mémoire* will be provided to clarify what is expected.

When the supervisor feels the proposal is ready to be presented, the document is sent in digital format by the supervisor to the jury members. The supervisor will notify the *Secrétariat des études supérieures* of the thesis proposal presentation date and the composition of the jury. The jury includes the research supervisor, the co-supervisor if applicable, and two other professors qualified to supervise research in the discipline.

**ANG749 Projet de mémoire** is undertaken at the beginning of the fourth term and consists in a public oral presentation of the research proposal before a jury. The student has twenty minutes to present each component of their research proposal after which the jury comments on the proposal and makes recommendations. Finally, the supervisor summarizes the recommendations of the jury. ANG749 is evaluated in terms of “Pass,” “Adjourned,” or “Failed.” “Adjourned” means the oral examination can be reconvened at a date to be determined by the jury. Failure of ANG749 means the student can no longer continue in the program.

## 2.5. Writing

During this period, the student has no concurrent seminars. The fifth and sixth terms are devoted to research as well as thesis writing. A work schedule is drawn up with the supervisor for the submission of chapters.

In the second year (or exceptionally in the previous year), the student must attend five proseminars **and** organize or present their work at a colloquium. Once completed, **research activities ANG 746, ANG 747, and ANG 748** can be entered together in the student’s record all at once; there is no need for the student to enrol in them.

## 2.6. Thesis

The thesis must be between 100 and 120 pages long. A *Guide de présentation du projet de mémoire et du mémoire* will be provided to clarify what is expected.

Once writing is completed, and upon approval by the supervisor, a digital version of the thesis is submitted to the Secrétariat des études supérieures: this is the **initial submission**. After the initial submission, the “evaluation” period begins.<sup>5</sup>

**ANG750 – Mémoire** refers to submission of the thesis and evaluation by the jury.<sup>6</sup> After the initial submission, save exceptions, jury members have four weeks to submit their respective evaluation reports. In their reports, the jury members must determine, in its content and its formal presentation, if the thesis is “Accepted as Submitted,” “Accepted with Minor Modifications,” “Accepted with Major Modifications,” or “Rejected.” They must also provide a detailed report setting out the requested modifications.

- In the case of **minor modifications**, the student has four months, from receipt of the reports, to revise and submit the final version.

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<sup>5</sup> For evaluation purposes, the deadline for the initial submission is January 21 in the winter term, May 21 in the summer term, and September 15 in the fall term; if any of these dates falls on a holiday, it will be carried over to the next working day. The student is granted one “evaluation” term. If, after receiving the evaluation reports, the student is unable to make all the modifications requested in the course of the term, he or she will have to enrol in thesis writing for the following term and until final submission of the thesis.

<sup>6</sup> The thesis jury is usually composed of the same members as the thesis proposal jury.

- In the case of **major modifications**, the student has twelve months to revise the thesis. The student must then proceed to a second submission of the thesis, accompanied with a document explaining the modification that were made. Jury members must then proceed to a second evaluation.

In all cases, after the evaluation the student, with the approval of the supervisor, moves on to the **final submission**. A digital version (in PDF format) of the thesis is submitted on the [Savoir UdeS](#) website.<sup>7</sup>

## 2.7. Extension requests

Any student who is unable to meet the deadlines for completing the thesis proposal presentation document, whether for the purposes of the oral presentation or the initial thesis submission, must notify their supervisor, complete the appropriate deadline request form, and submit the form to the *Secrétariat des études supérieures*. All extension request forms can be found at: <https://www.usherbrooke.ca/flsh/etudiants/documents-officiels-guides-et-formulaires/formulaires/>.

## 3. GENERAL INFORMATION

### 3.1. Policies and regulations

- [Politique sur la protection de la propriété intellectuelle des étudiantes et des étudiants](#)
- [Règlement des études de l'Université de Sherbrooke](#)
- [Politiques et règlements de la Faculté des lettres et sciences humaines](#)

### 3.2. Financial support for students

#### *Loans and bursaries*

For information on loans, bursaries and financial assistance, see: <https://www.usherbrooke.ca/admission/couts-et-aide-financiere/aide-financiere/prets-bourses>

#### *Research and teaching assistantships*

Whenever possible, Faculty members in the Department offer qualified students research or teaching assistantships to enrich their graduate experience. For information on

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<sup>7</sup> Training on this topic is offered by the Service des bibliothèques et archives: <https://www.usherbrooke.ca/biblio/services-offerts/formations/>

research and teaching assistantships, see:

<https://www.usherbrooke.ca/srh/emplois/emplois-disponibles/auxiliaires/>.

### *Scholarships and promotion of student work*

Institutional scholarships may be awarded on the basis of academic excellence.

Conference scholarships are available annually, subject to the availability of funding, to cover travel and accommodation costs for students wishing to present their work at conferences. For scholarship details, see:

<https://www.usherbrooke.ca/flsh/etudiants/bourses/#c85421-1>

### 3.3. Useful links

- [Centre Anne-Hébert](#)
- [Centre de recherche interuniversitaire sur le français en usage au Québec \(CRIFUQ\)](#)
- [Groupe de recherche et d'études sur le livre au Québec \(GRÉLQ\)](#)
- [VERSUS](#)
- [Queer Studies in Quebec Research Group \(ÉÉRÉQQ\)](#)
- [Service des bibliothèques et archives](#)
- [Student associations](#)

### 3.4. Contact us

#### Department of Arts, Languages and Literatures

Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

2500 De l'Université Blvd.

Sherbrooke, Qc J1K 2R1

#### **Secrétariat du département**

Room: A3-201

Phone: 819-821-7266

Toll-free: 1-800-267-UdeS, ext. 67266

Fax: 819-821-7285

[dall@USherbrooke.ca](mailto:dall@USherbrooke.ca)

#### Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

2500 De l'Université Blvd.

Sherbrooke, Qc J1K 2R1

**Secrétariat des études supérieures**

Room: A4-161

Phone: 819-821-7210

Toll-free: 1-800-267-UdeS, ext. 67210

Fax: 819-821-7238

[etudes.superieures.flsh@Usherbrooke.ca](mailto:etudes.superieures.flsh@Usherbrooke.ca)