

What can I do with a major in “Comparative Literature”?

The University of Georgia Career Center

Clark Howell Hall, 706-542-3375, www.career.uga.edu

Comparative Literature Department, 706- 542-2140, www.uga.edu/~cml/



This information describes typical occupations and employment settings associated with this major. Understand some of these options may require additional training. Moreover, you are not limited to these options when choosing a possible career path.

Description of Comparative Literature

Comparative Literature differs from other literature concentrations largely through its international focus and broad view of culture. With such a broad focus, students majoring in comparative literature can use their degree in a variety of ways. Generally speaking, anyone who is professionally interested in the interpretation of the written or spoken word—whether lawyer, businessperson, writer or humanities professor—can profit from the theory and methods of comparative literature. Opportunities for graduates include education, foreign-service, and international business. It provides students with sensitivity to international cultures and is particularly useful for careers in foreign-service and international trade. Careers in translating, editing, publishing, journalism, broadcasting, public relations, politics, writing, library work, and criticism are also possible career paths.

Research Careers

Georgia Career Information Center - <http://www.gcic.peachnet.edu> (accessible only on campus computers)

O*NET - <http://online.onetcenter.org> (click on Find Occupations)

Occupational Outlook Handbook - <http://www.bls.gov/oco> (type in general term for career of interest)

Alberta Occupational Profiles - <http://www.alis.gov.ab.ca/occinfo/frameset.asp> (click on Occupational Title Search)

Career Insider - powered by the Vault - http://career.uga.edu/resources/online_resources

*Please visit the Career Center Library or your Career Consultant for additional information or assistance.

Possible Job Titles of Comparative Literature Graduates

(*Jobs secured as reported by UGA Career Center post-graduate survey)

Actor / Actress	Columnist	Educator / Instructor
Advertising Assistant*	Commentator	Entertainment agent
Analyst	Congressional Aide Consumer	ESL Instructor
Announcer (Radio/TV)	Affairs	Geographic Researcher*
Assistant Manager*	Consultant*	Independent Distributor*
Assistant Professor*	Copywriter	International Coordinator*
Attorney	Correspondent*	Legal/Contracts Secretary*
Author	Court Reporter	Probation Officer*
Bibliographer	Critic	Program Manager*
Bibliographic Assistant*	Curator	
Book Store Manager	Editor	

Possible Employers of Comparative Literature Graduates

(*Jobs secured as reported by UGA Career Center post-graduate survey)

Advertising Firms	Film Companies	Political Action Groups
Bar Code Systems, Inc.*	General Motors Marketing*	Public Relation Firms
Berlitz*	Government Agencies	Publishing Companies
BI Incorporated*	Harbin Teacher's College*	Radio and TV Stations
Business Corporations	Kennesaw State University*	Research Firms
Colleges and Universities	Library of Congress	Riverside Military Academy*
Columbia University Libraries*	Literary Periodicals	Travel Agencies
Department Stores	LOMA*	Unisys Corporation*
Education Department	Magazine Companies	Vermont Counsel on the Humanities*
Educational Institutions	Newspapers	W.W. Norton & Company*

Career Center Library Resources

100 Jobs in Words by Scott Meyer

Career Opportunities for Writers and Artists by Shelley Field
Careers for Culture Lovers & Other Artsy Types by Marjorie Eberts & Margaret Gisler
Great Jobs for Liberal Arts Majors by Blythe Camenson
Keys to Liberal Arts Success by Figler, Careter, Bishop, & Kravits
Liberal Arts Jobs by Burt Nadler
Opportunities in Museum Careers by Blythe Camenson
The Liberal Arts Advantage by Gregory Giangrande
Top Careers for Liberal Arts Graduates by Ferguson

Campus Resources

Willson Center for Humanities and Arts - <http://www.cha.uga.edu/>

Employment Websites

Aviso Museum Careers - <http://www.aam-us.org/aviso/index.cfm>
Cultural Resource Network - <http://www.eculturalresources.com/jobs.php>
National Geographic Society - <http://sh.webhire.com/Public/521/>
National Public Radio - <http://www.npr.org/about/jobs/>
New York Foundation for the Arts - <http://www.nyfa.org/opportunities.asp?type=Job&id=94&fid=6&sid=17>
Non-Profit Career Network - <http://www.nonprofitcareer.com/>
Opportunity Knocks - <http://www.opportunitynocs.org/>
Public Broadcasting Service - http://www.pbs.org/aboutpbs/aboutpbs_jobs.html
Smithsonian Careers/Internships - <http://www.sih.si.edu/job.htm>
The Write Jobs - <http://www.writejobs.com/jobs/>

Additional Resources

American Comparative Literature Association - <http://www.acla.org/>
American Copy Editors Society - <http://www.copydesk.org/>
American Library Association - <http://www.ala.org/>
American Society of Journalists & Authors - <http://www.asja.org/>
Association of Literary Scholars and Critics - <http://www.alscw.org/>
National Writers Association - <http://www.nationalwriters.com/page/page/1963103.htm>