

# COMMITTEE INTERDISCIPLINARY MAJOR, BA: COMPARATIVE ETHNIC STUDIES

Comparative Ethnic Studies is an interdisciplinary field that examines issues of social identity and power, in contemporary and historical contexts. The field centers on questions of race, gender, and sexuality. Students are free to select from a range of courses in the Ethnic Studies program, and to include coursework they do from around the university their academic programs.

Unique to UWM, our program offers courses covering the Hmong diaspora. Wisconsin is home to the third largest Hmong American population in the US, making UWM a great place to learn about this population.

The Committee Interdisciplinary Major with a focus in Comparative Ethnic Studies is also one of a handful of majors that requires an internship prior to graduation, thereby ensuring that students leave college with hands-on experience from the local community. The program is administered by the College of Letters and Science interdepartmental Comparative Ethnic Studies Advisory Committee.

A certificate in Comparative Ethnic Studies is also available for students seeking something closer to a minor.

## Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
	BA Degree Requirements (p. 1)	58-77
	Major Requirements (p. 3)	33
	General Electives	10-29
	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>120</b>

## Course of Study – Bachelor of Arts Degree

Complete 120 credits including 90 credits in the College of Letters & Science and with 36 of the 90 credits in L&S upper-level (numbered above 300) courses. The College requires that students must complete in residence at UWM at least 15 credits in upper-division (numbered 300 or above) courses in their major. Students are also required to complete University-wide General Education Requirements and the specific L&S requirements listed below.

To complete a major, students must satisfy all the requirements of the major as stated in this catalog. Students who declare their majors within five years of entering the UW System as a degree candidate may satisfy the requirements outlined in any catalog issued since the time they entered. Credits used to satisfy the major also may be used to satisfy other degree requirements.

### University General Education Requirements (GER)

Code	Title	Credits
	<b>Oral and Written Communication</b>	
	<i>Part A</i>	
	Achieve a grade of C or better in the following course:	

ENGLISH 102	College Writing and Research (or equivalent)
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#### *Part B*

Course designated as OWC-B; may be completed through a major-specific course requirement

#### **Quantitative Literacy**

#### *Part A*

Earn at least 3 credits with a grade of C or higher in one of the following courses or an equivalent course, or achieve a placement code of at least 30 on the mathematics placement test (or other appropriate test, as determined by the Mathematical Sciences Department)

MATH 102	Mathematical Literacy for College Students II
MATH 103	Contemporary Applications of Mathematics
MATH 105	Introduction to College Algebra
MATH 108	Algebraic Literacy II
MATH 111	Introduction to Logic - Critical Reasoning <sup>1</sup>
or PHILOS 111	Introduction to Logic - Critical Reasoning
MATH 116	College Algebra
	Or equivalent course

#### *Part B*

Course designated as QL-B; may be completed through a major-specific course requirement

#### **Arts**

Select 3 credits 3

#### **Humanities**

Select 6 credits 6

#### **Social Sciences**

Select 6 credits 6

#### **Natural Sciences**

Select 6 credits (at least two courses including one lab) 6

#### **UWM Foreign Language Requirement**

Complete Foreign Language Requirement through:

Two years (high school) of a single foreign language

Two semesters (college) of a single foreign language

Or equivalent

#### **UWM Cultural Diversity Requirement**

One course from the Arts, Humanities, or Social Sciences must also satisfy UWM's Cultural Diversity requirement

<sup>1</sup> Math 111 and Philosophy 111 are jointly offered and count as repeats of one another. Students cannot receive credit for both courses.

## College of Letters & Science Requirements

### I. English Composition Requirement

Students must satisfy the English Composition Requirement with one of the following options:

- 1) Completing ENGLISH 102 with a grade of C or higher; or
- 2) by placing beyond ENGLISH 102 on the English Placement Test (EPT) (or other assessment as determined by the English Department); or

3) transferring a course of at least 2.5 equivalent credits from another institution that is equivalent to English 102, or a UWM higher-level expository writing course, with a grade of C or higher.

**Note:** This requirement is the same as the University General Education Requirement for Oral and Written Communication Part A. The College of Letters & Science does not have a specific requirement for a writing course beyond English 102, but students must complete the university-wide requirement for Oral and Written Communication Part B listed above.

## II. Mathematics and Formal Reasoning

To satisfy the Mathematics and Formal Reasoning Requirement, students must satisfy the following two requirements:

1. Achieve a placement code of at least 30 on the mathematics placement test (or other appropriate test, as determined by the Mathematical Sciences Department) or earn at least 3 credits with a grade of C or higher in one of the following courses or an equivalent course:

Code	Title	Credits
MATH 102	Mathematical Literacy for College Students II	3
MATH 103	Contemporary Applications of Mathematics	3
MATH 105	Introduction to College Algebra	3
MATH 108	Algebraic Literacy II	3
MATH 111	Introduction to Logic - Critical Reasoning <sup>1</sup>	3
or PHILOS 111	Introduction to Logic - Critical Reasoning	
MATH 116	College Algebra	3
MATH 175	Mathematical Explorations for Elementary Teachers I	3

<sup>1</sup> Math 111 and Philosophy 111 are jointly offered and count as repeats of one another. Students cannot receive credit for both courses.

**Note:** This requirement is the same as the University General Education Requirement for Quantitative Literacy Part A, listed above.

2. Complete one course (at least 3 credits) at the 200 level or above chosen from courses in Mathematics, PHILOS 211, or Letters and Science statistics courses:

Code	Title	Credits
Complete one of the following:		
3 or more credits in any 200-level or above Math course		
AFRIC 220	Introduction to Statistics in African and African Diaspora Studies	
ANTHRO 568	Introduction to Anthropological Statistics	
ATM SCI 500	Statistical Methods in Atmospheric Sciences	
BIO SCI 465	Biostatistics	
ECON 210	Economic Statistics	
GEOG 247	Quantitative Analysis in Geography	
HIST 595	The Quantitative Analysis of Historical Data	
MTHSTAT 215	Elementary Statistical Analysis	

PHILOS 211	Elementary Logic
POL SCI 390	Political Data Analysis
POL SCI 392	Survey Research
PSYCH 210	Psychological Statistics
SOCIOL 261	Introduction to Statistical Thinking in Sociology

**Note:** This requirement is NOT the same as the University General Education Requirement for Quantitative Literacy Part B. To complete the BA, students must take one of the L&S approved courses. **Not all of the courses listed here will satisfy the QL-B requirement.**

## III. Foreign Language Requirement

Placement testing may be used to satisfy all or part of this requirement. Language courses (including American Sign Language) other than English taken in high school may be used to satisfy all or part of this requirement. One year of high school language equates to one semester of college work.

Completion of the L&S Language Requirement also satisfies the university-wide Foreign Language GER, but not vice versa.

Code	Title	Credits
Completed in one of the following ways:		0-18
Successful completion of the 4th semester of college work or equivalent in one language other than English (including American Sign Language)		
Successful completion of the 3rd semester of college work or equivalent in one language other than English (including American Sign Language) PLUS the 2nd semester of college work or equivalent in another language other than English (including American Sign Language)		

## IV. International Requirement

See Approved Courses for the L&S International Requirement (<http://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/approved-courses-international-requirement/>) for course options.

Code	Title	Credits
Completed in one of the following ways:		9
Complete 3 courses (min. 9 cr) in a single foreign language (not including literature-in-translation or American Sign Language) at the 3rd semester level and above		
Complete 3 non-language courses (min. 9 credits) with an international content chosen from at least 2 curricular areas.		
Complete 9 credits in combination of the two options above.		

## V. Breadth Requirement

Along with completing the University General Education Requirements of 3 credits in the Arts (A); 6 credits in the Humanities (HU), Social Sciences (SS), and Natural Sciences (NS/NS+); and a course with the Cultural Diversity (CD/+) designation, L&S students must complete the Breadth requirement.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Arts</b>		
Select 3 credits		3
<b>Humanities</b>		
Complete 12 credits of L&S courses with Humanities Breadth designation; no more than 6 credits from a single subject area. *		12

**Social Sciences**

Complete 12 credits of L&S Courses with Social Science Breadth designation; no more than 6 credits from a single curricular area. \*

**Natural Sciences**

Complete 12 credits of L&S Courses with Natural Sciences Breadth designation, including at least one laboratory or field course; no more than 6 credits from a single curricular area. \*

**Cultural Diversity**

Complete 3 credits in a course with Cultural Diversity (CD) designation. \*\*

\* Students should check their course selections carefully with the list of approved L&S Breadth Courses (<http://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/breadth-requirement-course-list/>). Students are advised to select at least 6 credits worth of courses in each of the Humanities, Social Science, and Natural Sciences areas that can satisfy both the campus-wide General Education Requirements and the L&S Breadth requirement.

\*\* Students are advised to select a course that satisfies the Cultural Diversity requirement as well as a Humanities or Social Science breadth/GER requirement.

**VI. The Major**

The College of Letters and Science requires that students attain at least a 2.0 GPA in all credits in the major attempted at UWM. In addition, students must attain a 2.0 GPA on all major credits attempted, including any transfer work. Individual departments or programs may require higher GPAs for graduation. Some departmental majors require courses from other departments. Contact your major department for information on whether those credits will count as part of the major GPA. The College requires that students must complete in residence at UWM at least 15 credits in upper-division (numbered 300 or above) courses in their major.

**Research Requirement**

Within their majors, students must complete a research experience approved by the L&S faculty. A list of courses satisfying the research requirement in each major can be found here (<http://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/approved-courses-research-requirement/>).

**VII. The Minor**

The College of Letters and Science requires that students attain at least a 2.0 GPA in all credits in the minor attempted at UWM. In addition, students must attain a 2.0 GPA on all minor credits attempted, including any transfer work.

**Major Requirements**

The Committee Interdisciplinary Major submajor in Comparative Ethnic Studies requires completion of at least 33 credits in approved Comparative Ethnic Studies and Comparative Ethnic-related courses. Students may count towards the major a maximum of 9 credits in a single curricular area outside of Comparative Ethnic Studies. A minimum of 18 credits must be completed in L&S courses, and at least 15 credits must be at the upper-division level (courses numbered 300 and above) taken in residence at UWM. Completion of the College's research experience in the major is required. ETHNIC 550 or another suitable course approved by the coordinator satisfies this requirement. Students must attain at least a 2.0 GPA on all major credits attempted at UWM. In addition, the College requires that students earn a 2.0 GPA on all credits in the major, including transfer work.

The following are required:

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Survey</b>		
ETHNIC 101	The Multi-Racial Origins of American Cultures	3
ETHNIC 102	Transnational Migrations: People on the Move	3
<b>Comparative Methods</b>		
Select at least 3 credits from the following: <sup>1</sup>		3
ETHNIC 275	Queer Migrations	
ETHNIC 350	Advanced Topics in Comparative Ethnic Studies: (subtitle)	
*** 150	Multicultural America <sup>2</sup>	
<b>Track Electives</b>		
Select option A or B below		18
<b>Internship</b>		
ETHNIC 489	Internship in Ethnic Studies, Upper Division	3
or HMONG 489	Internship in Hmong Studies, Upper Division	
<b>Capstone</b>		
ETHNIC 550	Senior Seminar in Comparative Ethnic Studies:	3
Total Credits		33

<sup>1</sup> Students may count a maximum of three courses from this group toward the major requirements.

<sup>2</sup> Offered in the following curricular areas: Anthropology, Art, English, Film, History, Sociology, Urban Studies, Women's and Gender Studies.

**Track Electives****A. Hmong Studies**

Code	Title	Credits
ETHNIC/HMONG 265	Hmong Americans: History, Culture, and Contemporary Life	3
ETHNIC 250	Selected Topics in Ethnic Studies:	3
HIST 287	The Vietnam War	3
Select nine additional credits in consultation with the Program Coordinator		9
Total Credits		18

**B. Student-Created Focus**

Students complete 18 credits selected in consultation with the coordinator from the list of approved courses.

**Approved Electives**

Code	Title	Credits
ANTHRO 203	Indigenous Religions	3
AFRIC 100	Black Reality: Survey of African-American Society	3
AFRIC 102	Survey of African-American Literature	3
AFRIC 111	Introduction to African-American History to 1865	3
AFRIC 112	Introduction to African-American History, 1865 to the Present	3
AFRIC 125	Economics of the Black Community	3

AFRIC 163	African-American Concept of Self	3	ANTHRO 335	American Indians of the Southeast	3
AFRIC 205	The Poetry of African, African-American, and Caribbean Writers	3	ANTHRO 355	Globalization, Culture, and Environment	3
AFRIC 210	The African-American Novel	3	ANTHRO 441	Nature, Knowledge, and Technoscience in Anthropological Perspective	3
AFRIC 215	Introduction to Black Social and Cultural Traditions	3	ANTHRO 442	Humanitarianism in Global Perspective	3
AFRIC 235	African Americans and South Africa	3	ANTHRO 443	Medicine and Pharmaceuticals in the Global Age	3
AFRIC 250	Black Women and White Women in the Contemporary United States	3	ANTHRO 447	The Global Politics of Human Rights	3
AFRIC 261	Survey of African-American Political Philosophy	3	COMPLIT 365	Literatures and Cultures of the Americas:	3
AFRIC 300	Urban Violence	3	ENGLISH 209	Language in the United States	3
AFRIC 314	The School in African-American Life	3	ENGLISH 210	Global Englishes	3
AFRIC 319	African American Urban History	3	ENGLISH 276	Introduction to American Indian Literature:	3
AFRIC 320	Black Cultures in Latin America and the Caribbean	3	ENGLISH 277	Introduction to Ethnic Minority Literature:	3
AFRIC 322	Order and Disorder: The Quest for Social Justice	3	ENGLISH 278	Introduction to World Literatures Written in English:	3
AFRIC 334	Survey of Black American and Black Brazilian Societies	3	ENGLISH 279	Introduction to U.S. Latino/a Literature:	3
AFRIC 341	Black Politics and City Government	3	ENGLISH 280	Introduction to Asian-American Literature:	3
AFRIC 344	Global Black Social Movements	3	ENGLISH 281	Introduction to African-American Literature:	3
AFRIC 350	The Black Family	3	ENGLISH 285	Modern Irish Language and Literature in Translation	3
AFRIC 351	Sexuality, Gender, and Health in Africa and the Diaspora	3	ENGLISH 332	Gay and Lesbian Literature:	3
AFRIC 369	Black Images and Mass Media	3	ENGLISH 372	Survey of American Indian Literature	3
AFRIC 372	African-American Literary Movements: The Harlem Renaissance	3	ENGLISH 373	Survey of Ethnic Minority Literature	3
AFRIC 411	Change in African-American Communities	3	ENGLISH 374	Survey of U.S. Latino/a Literature	3
AFRIC 412	Blacks and the United States Constitution	3	ENGLISH 375	Survey of Asian American Literature	3
AFRIC 414	The Black Woman in America, Africa, and the Caribbean	3	ENGLISH 376	Survey of African-American Literature to 1930	3
AFRIC 416	Race and Social Justice in the United States	3	ENGLISH 377	Survey of African-American Literature, 1930 to the Present	3
AFRIC 417	Race, Class and Gender in Southern Africa	3	ENGLISH 463	Writers in African-American Literature:	3
AFRIC 418	Race, Class, and Gender in Latin America and the Caribbean	3	ENGLISH 517	Studies in African-American Literature:	3
AFRIC 420	The Political Economy of Slavery	3	ENGLISH 518	Studies in Irish Literature:	3
AFRIC 450	Cultural Transmissions: Black Africa and Black America	3	ENGLISH 520	Studies in American Indian Literature:	3
AFRIC 451	Rites of Passage in Black Societies	3	ENGLISH 521	Studies in Ethnic Minority Literature:	3
ANTHRO 213	American Indian Peoples of Wisconsin	3	ENGLISH 522	Studies in World Literature Written in English:	3
ANTHRO 225	The Aztec Empire	3	ENGLISH 523	Studies in U.S. Latino/a Literature:	3
ANTHRO 310	Archaeology of Middle America	3	ENGLISH 524	Studies in Asian-American Literature:	3
ANTHRO 311	The World of the Ancient Maya	3	ENGLISH 525	American Indian Literature, Culture, and Creative Arts	3
ANTHRO 314	American Indian Societies and Cultures	3	ENGLISH 631	Seminar in African-American Literature:	3
ANTHRO 320	Peoples and Cultures of Africa	3	ENGLISH 632	Seminar in American Indian Literature:	3
ANTHRO 322	Europe in Anthropological Perspective	3	GEOG 114	Geography of Race in the United States	3
ANTHRO 325	Japanese Culture and Society	3	GEOG 309	Nationalities and Nations of the World	3
ANTHRO 326	Peoples and Cultures of South Asia	3	GEOG 400	Population, Environment, Development	3
ANTHRO 328	Comparative Studies of Music, Race, and Gender in Nationalism	3	GEOG 410	Gendered Geographies	3
			HIST 175	East Asian Civilization to 1600	3
			HIST 176	East Asian Civilization Since 1600	3
			HIST 180	Latin American Society and Culture	3

HIST 210	The Twentieth Century: A Global History	3
HIST 215	History of Capitalism	3
HIST 229	History of Race, Science, and Medicine in the United States	3
HIST 243	History of Women in American Society	3
HIST 262	North American Indian History to 1887	3
HIST 263	North American Indian History Since 1887	3
HIST 267	The History of Latinos in the United States	3
HIST 268	History of the American West	3
HIST 269	Asian Americans in Historical Perspective	3
HIST 271	The 1960s in the United States: A Cultural History	3
HIST 287	The Vietnam War	3
HIST 358	The Jews of Modern Europe: History and Culture	3
HIST 363	Germany: Hitler and the Nazi Dictatorship	3
HIST 364	The Holocaust: Anti-Semitism & the Fate of Jewish People in Europe, 1933-45	3
HIST 379	Introduction to Jewish History	3
HIST 380	Buddhism: A Cultural History	3
HIST 386	Africans in World History: Communities, Cultures, and Ideas	3
HIST 387	Africa: Imperialism and Independence Since 1880	3
HIST 392	The History of Southern Africa	3
HIST 393	History of Mexico	3
HIST 394	History of Japan to 1600	3
HIST 395	History of Japan Since 1600	3
HIST 435	Ethnic America: To 1880	3
HIST 436	Immigrant America Since 1880	3
HIST 445	African Americans from Slavery to Freedom	3
HIST 446	African Americans Since the Civil War	3
HIST 460	The History of Poverty in America	3
HIST 463	History of the American City	3
HIST 468	The American Feminist Movement	3
HIST 473	History of Wisconsin Indians	3
HIST 474	Topics in North American Indian History	3
JAMS 111	Gender and the Media	3
LINGUIS 430	Language and Society	3
LINGUIS 432	Urban Dialects	3
POL SCI 215	Ethnicity, Religion and Race in American Politics	3
POL SCI 388	Latino Politics	3
PSYCH 578	Psychology of Race, Ethnicity, and Health	3
SOCIOL 233	Social Inequality in the United States	3
SOCIOL 235	Social Change in the Global Economy	3

SOCIOL 321	Contemporary Issues of the American Indian	3
SOCIOL 323	Perspectives on Latino Communities	3
SOCIOL 324	Race and Ethnicity in Global Contexts	3

## Learning Outcomes

Students who complete the major will be able to do the following:

- Discuss the complexities of social identity for public policy as well as cultural formations;
- Provide interdisciplinary explanations for historical and contemporary conflicts based in race, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality; and
- Identify and assess different theoretical frameworks for explaining social change and relationships between actors, institutions, and ideas of identity.

## Letters & Science Advising

The College of Letters and Science provides general academic advising for all students with a major in the College, particularly as it relates to campus' general education requirements and the College's degree requirements. We also provide specialized advising for pre-professional students (pre-med, pre-dental, pre-pharmacy, etc.) regardless if their major is in Letters and Science or not. Prospective students, including high school students and students seeking to transfer to a program in Letters and Science may also receive advising from our admissions counselors.

Upon admission, students are assigned an advisor in the College advising office. Academic advising is available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. by appointment. Appointments outside of these times may be available and phone appointments are available for online students. The advising office (<https://uwm.edu/letters-science/advising/contact-advising/>) is located on the first floor of Holton Hall. Current students should call (414) 229-4654 to schedule an appointment or use the Navigate website (<https://uwmilwaukee.campus.eab.com>) to make an appointment with your assigned advisor; online scheduling is only available if you already have a Letters & Science advisor assigned to you. Prospective students should call (414) 229-7711 or email [let-sci@uwm.edu](mailto:let-sci@uwm.edu).

When students declare a major, they will receive an additional faculty advisor located within the major department who will assist with requirements for that major. Students should read the "Declaration of Major" information on the website of the major that they are interested in. In some cases, the student will need to choose a faculty advisor as part of the declaration process.

All students are cautioned to consult their Letters & Science academic advisor AND their major advisor prior to each registration period to ensure they understand all requirements. Do not rely on pre-printed sample plans, as they are intended to be samples only and may not be right for your particular situation.

## Honors in the College of Letters and Science

### Dean's Honor List

GPA of 3.750 or above, earned on a full-time student's GPA on 12 or more graded credits in a given semester.

## **Honors College Degree and Honors College Degree with Distinction**

Granted to graduating seniors who complete Honors College requirements, as listed in the Honors College (<http://catalog.uwm.edu/opportunities-resources/honors-college/>) section of this site.

## **Commencement Honors**

Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.500 or above, based on a minimum of 40 graded UWM credits earned prior to the final semester, will receive all-university commencement honors and be awarded the traditional gold cord at the December or May Honors Convocation. Please note that for honors calculation, the GPA is **not** rounded and is truncated at the third decimal (e.g., 3.499).

## **Final Honors**

Earned on a minimum of 60 graded UWM credits: Cum Laude - 3.500 or above; Magna Cum Laude - 3.650 or above; Summa Cum Laude - 3.800 or above.

## **Contact Information**

Current Students contact Professor Rachel Buff, [rbuff@uwm.edu](mailto:rbuff@uwm.edu)  
Prospective Students contact a Letters & Science Admissions Counselor at  
(414) 229-7711 or [let-sci@uwm.edu](mailto:let-sci@uwm.edu)

<https://uwm.edu/comparative-ethnic-studies/undergraduate/>