

 FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY	NEW/CHANGE PROGRAM REQUEST Graduate Programs		UGPC Approval _____ UFS Approval _____ Banner Posted _____ Catalog _____
Department Comparative Studies College Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters			
Program Name Ph. D in Comparative Studies	☐ New Program ☒ Change Program	Effective Date (TERM & YEAR) Fall 23	
Please explain the requested change(s) and offer rationale below or on an attachment The intent is to add a concentration to the Ph. D. in Comparative Studies. Two tracks currently exist. The third will be called "Design, Aesthetics, and the Arts." The program provides a Ph. D. option for those interested in an interdisciplinary critical/theoretical/philosophical approach to the Fine Arts (including Music, Visual Art, Multimedia Studies, and Theatre), Design (including Graphic Design, Architecture, and Design more widely defined) and the philosophy of Aesthetics. It takes the place of the program's "Fine Arts" track which has been on hiatus for several years. Additions to the catalog are below/attached. There will also be some course change forms that will go through simultaneously and some course add forms that will be submitted at a later date. The added courses are electives and thus do not need to go through immediately. Participating Departments and Schools have been consulted (including the School of Architecture, the School of Communication and Multimedia Studies, the Department of Visual Art and Art History, The Department of Theatre and Dance, and the Department of Music) and are committed to providing coursework, advisement, and instruction. Students may take courses in the practical application of these arts, but the focus of the program will be on the theory and philosophy of these disciplines in an interdisciplinary context. Requirements of the program will include four core classes (12 credits) (already in the catalog, but with revisions submitted with this program change), 24 additional credits at the 5000, 6000, or 7000 level (maximum of 12 credits of which may be at the 5000 level). These 24 credits are divided between a primary and secondary concentration, typically 5 classes (15 credits) in the primary concentration and 3 (9 credits) in the secondary. In addition, students must take 12 dissertation credits. As detailed in the catalog copy below/attached, this concentration encourages non-traditional dissertation projects as approved by the dissertation committee.			
Faculty Contact/Email/Phone Eric Berlatsky/eberlats@fau.edu/561-297-0928		Consult and list departments that may be affected by the change(s) and attach documentation Music, Theater and Dance, Architecture, Communication and Multimedia Studies, Visual Art and Art History	
Approved by Department Chair _____ College Curriculum Chair _____ College Dean _____ UGPC Chair _____ UGC Chair _____ Graduate College Dean _____ UFS President _____ Provost _____		Date 2/14/22 2/14/22 2/14/22 Mar 3, 2022 Mar 3, 2022 Mar 3, 2022 _____ _____	

Email this form and attachments to UGPC@fau.edu one week before the UGPC meeting so that materials may be viewed on the UGPC website prior to the meeting.

Comparative Studies

Faculty: E. Berlatsky, Director; Associated College Faculty

Definition of Comparative Studies

Comparative Studies is the application of various approaches within the humanities, arts and social sciences to the study of significant issues. The Ph.D. in Comparative Studies also involves developing expertise in advanced interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary study: exploration of topics and materials from at least two traditional disciplines (e.g., political science and English literature; anthropology and history; art history, literature and communication). Students select a concentration from the following choices: **Design, Aesthetics, and the Arts**, [Culture, Society and Politics](#), [Cultures, Languages and Literatures](#), [Fine and Performing Arts](#), and [Public Intellectuals](#). The latter two concentrations are on hiatus and currently not accepting students.

Doctor of Philosophy with Major in Comparative Studies

Admission Requirements (for all concentrations)

1. A statement of intent that outlines the applicant's goals and objectives and how this interdisciplinary program can help the applicant achieve these.
2. Competitive scores on the verbal, quantitative and analytical writing portions of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). GRE must have been taken within the past five years.
3. A B.A., B.F.A., B.S., M.A., M.S., M.F.A., **B. Arch, M. Arch, M. Des. or M. M. degree. Students with other undergraduate or graduate degrees (like M.B.A. or J. D.) may also be considered.** An applicant must submit a paper, approximately 20 pages in length and with scholarly documentation, that will demonstrate the applicant's analytical and explanatory skills and command of the discipline in the area of the master's degree.
4. Three descriptive letters of recommendation, including at least two from professors whose course(s) the student has taken. These letters should be current and should attest to the applicant's intellectual qualifications for the Ph.D. in Comparative Studies.
5. Approval of Ph.D. executive committee.

Application Procedures

1. Applications may be obtained from the Graduate College.
2. All application materials, including letter of intent, transcripts, three letters of reference and writing sample, should be sent to the Graduate College, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL 33431.
3. Application deadline for Fall: January 15.

Design, Aesthetics and the Arts Concentration

The Design, Aesthetics and the Arts concentration of the Ph. D. Program in Comparative Studies is designed to foster interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary study in the philosophy/theory of aesthetics, design, and the fine arts. It is structured to allow students the opportunity to develop deep expertise in these areas, through the disciplines of Philosophy, Design, Architecture, Visual Art and Art History, Music, Film, Communication and Multimedia Studies and Theatre---and to bring their interests and scholarship related to these areas into conversation with one another and with other disciplines. At the heart of the program is a commitment to the belief that comparative models of inquiry lead to unique advancements in the production of new knowledge and a greater awareness of the larger implications of such knowledge generally.

As an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary program, the Comparative Studies: Design, Aesthetics and the Arts concentration draws on the strengths of the various departments and Schools in the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters, as well as the programs of the Shenkar College of Engineering and Design, with whom FAU has an MOU, and the broader graduate programs of Florida Atlantic University.

The program is structured so that students follow a cohesive plan of study that includes both an interdisciplinary core in Design, Aesthetics and the Arts and, in close consultation with their advisory committees, the development of two specific areas of specialization that might themselves be multidisciplinary. The program encourages students to address issues in design, aesthetics and the arts from multiple perspectives and to seek the convergence of these perspectives through the insights of interdisciplinary approaches.

This program invites students to explore the interplay among and within design, aesthetics, and fine arts cultures, as well as theories and methodologies, technologies and pedagogies. Toward this end, students are expected to attend Ph.D. Colloquia, when possible and available, in addition to their formal coursework. While many graduates of the program will prepare for the challenge of the academy in an increasingly globalized society, others will prepare for a variety of non-academic opportunities, including positions in public and private organizations, companies or corporations.

Degree Requirements

1. Minimum Standards

Ph.D. students will take a minimum of 48 credits if matriculating with a master's degree or 78 credits if matriculating with a bachelor's degree, 24 of them at the 7000 level. The concentration requires a minimum 36 credits of coursework and 12 dissertation credits. No grade lower than "B" may apply to the degree. To continue in the program, students must maintain a "B" (3.0) grade point average on all work attempted toward the degree.

2. Distribution Requirements

For students entering with a bachelor's degree, completion of the following requirements along with all requirements for earning a Master's *en passant* degree in their primary field of study (e.g., Graphic Design, Music, Theatre) are needed. Students entering with a bachelor's or master's degree are required to complete the following:

Core - 12 credits		
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Theory and Criticism	CST 7309	6 credits
Interdisciplinary Perspectives	CST 7936	6 credits
Electives - 24 credits		
<i>Select 24 credits at the 5000, 6000 or 7000 level. No more than 12 credits of these may be at the 5000 level</i>		
Research and Dissertation - 12 credits (minimum)		
Advanced Research and Study (as needed)	CST 7910	1-9 credits
Dissertation (12 credits minimum, may be taken over multiple terms)	CST 7980	12 credits

3. Qualifying Exams

Students begin the program as a doctoral student. After completing 18 credits of coursework in the distribution requirements for the program, students will be required to submit an Application for Qualification, which, if approved, will advance them to the status of Doctoral Scholar. Through the application, the Ph.D. Executive Committee will review the applicant's current progress to date through the program, their skills as a scholar/researcher and their progress in planning for the Comprehensive Examination. After its review, the committee will make one of two decisions: to advance the student to Doctoral Scholar or to deny advancement. If advancement is denied, the student may choose to reapply one more time the following semester. Failure to be advanced will result in dismissal from the program.

4. Comprehensive Exams

Comprehensive Exams consist of a written and oral component. In the semester after completing 32 graduate credits in the program, typically fall of Year 3, the student will typically take the Written Comprehensive Examination in the eighth week of the semester and the Oral Comprehensive Examination in the tenth week of the semester. The Comprehensive Examinations are usually administered and evaluated by the student's dissertation committee (see dissertation section below). In consultation with the student, the committee will compile a reading list from which the exams portfolio will be constructed. This list will not be based solely on the student's coursework, but will include as well readings that the exam committee deems foundational for the student's program of study. The successful completion of this written component is followed by the oral exam within two weeks, which examines, beyond the limits of the written exam, the extent of the student's mastery of the material. Students who fail the written exam may retake it one time only. Students who fail the oral exam may retake it one time only. Failure to pass either exam on the second attempt will initiate the dismissal process from the program, consistent with the Provost's policy.

5. Satisfactory Completion of a Dissertation

By the end of the second year of coursework, the student will ask a faculty member to serve as the major professor for the exams and dissertation. In consultation with the major professor, the student will ask at least two to three other faculty members to serve on the committee. The

student will defend his/her Dissertation Prospectus the semester after passing the comprehensive examinations, typically at the beginning of spring in Year 3. The dissertation will contain original research and will be defended before the student's committee and others.

Because of the unique nature of this program, the dissertation may be traditional scholarship but will more likely be something more innovative.

This will comprise of theoretical or empirical research, as well as innovative/experimental research

The proposed output for such a PhD endeavor will feature:

1. Strong written element (either proto-monograph, 3 essays or combination)
as well as
2. Audio-visual, interactive, spatial or performative element

Collaborative PhD work will be allowed in special cases (with academic peers, unique professionals or high-profile experts, as deemed appropriate by PhD committee)

UGPC

To: Eric Berlatsky
Subject: RE: CST Ph. D., Design, Aesthetics and the Arts

From: Eric Berlatsky <eberlats@fau.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, February 23, 2022 3:38 PM
To: UGPC <ugpc@fau.edu>; Paul Peluso <ppeluso@fau.edu>
Subject: FW: CST Ph. D., Design, Aesthetics and the Arts

Attached is the required memo.

From: Francis Lyn <flyn1@fau.edu>
Date: Wednesday, February 23, 2022 at 3:34 PM
To: Eric Berlatsky <eberlats@fau.edu>
Subject: Re: CST Ph. D., Design, Aesthetics and the Arts

Hi Eric:

The School of Architecture supports the new concentration (Design, Aesthetics and the Arts) for the Ph. D. program in Comparative Studies.

Let me know if you need anything else.

Thanks,

Francis

Francis E. Lyn
Associate Professor
Interim Director

School of Architecture
Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters
Florida Atlantic University
111 East Las Olas Blvd.
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
954-762-5608
flyn1@fau.edu

Pronouns: he, him, his

UGPC

From: Eric Berlatsky
Sent: Wednesday, February 23, 2022 3:38 PM
To: UGPC; Paul Peluso
Subject: FW: CST Ph. D., Design, Aesthetics and the Arts

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

From: Thomas Shorrock <shorrock@fau.edu>
Date: Thursday, February 17, 2022 at 11:34 AM
To: Eric Berlatsky <eberlats@fau.edu>, Paul Peluso <ppeluso@fau.edu>
Subject: RE: CST Ph. D., Design, Aesthetics and the Arts

Good morning Eric and Paul,

The department of Theatre and Dance fully supports and is developing plans to participate and recruit for this concentration.

Best—
Tom



Thomas M. Shorrock MFA

Chair, Department of Theatre and Dance
Joe Conaway Professorship in Theatre
Head of Production Programs
Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters
Florida Atlantic University
777 Glades Road, Boca Raton, FL 33431
Phone: 561.297.3810 | Fax: 561.297.2180
shorrock@fau.edu | Web site: www.fau.edu/theatre

My Pronouns: he, him, his ([*What is this?*](#)) ([*Why pronouns matter*](#))

From: Eric Berlatsky
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2022 7:57 PM
To: Carol Mills <millsc@fau.edu>; Thomas Shorrock <shorrock@fau.edu>; Kevin Wilt <wiltk@fau.edu>; Francis Lyn <flyn1@fau.edu>; Eric Landes <elandes1@fau.edu>; Paul Peluso <ppeluso@fau.edu>
Subject: CST Ph. D., Design, Aesthetics and the Arts

Dear colleagues,

I am attaching the recently approved at College GPC proposal/plan for the new Design, Aesthetics, and the Arts track. Though members of some of your departments (well, VAAH and SCMS, anyway) serve on the Exec Committee of the Ph. D., the GPC thought it best to get official support from all affected Departments/Schools.

If you could, can you please send me a quick email, cc'ing Paul Peluso (cc'ed here), expressing your support (or at least lack of objection) to the concentration? Unfortunately, I need this relatively quickly (by early next week). I did not ask previously because, of course, we had discussed all of this orally previously. But...having it in writing seems prudent at the moment. If you have questions, ask away!

Thank you,

--

Eric L. Berlatsky
Professor, Department of English
Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and
Director of the Ph. D. Program in Comparative Studies
Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters
Florida Atlantic University
561-297-0928
eberlats@fau.edu
masculine pronouns
[Mixed-Race Superheroes](#)
[The Real, The True, and The Told: Postmodern Historical Narrative and the Ethics of Representation](#)
[Alan Moore: Conversations](#)

UGPC

From: Eric Berlatsky
Sent: Wednesday, February 23, 2022 3:39 PM
To: UGPC; Paul Peluso
Subject: FW: CST Ph. D., Design, Aesthetics and the Arts

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

From: Carol Mills <millsc@fau.edu>
Date: Thursday, February 17, 2022 at 2:29 PM
To: Eric Berlatsky <eberlats@fau.edu>, Thomas Shorrock <shorrock@fau.edu>, Kevin Wilt <wiltk@fau.edu>, Francis Lyn <flyn1@fau.edu>, Eric Landes <elandes1@fau.edu>, Paul Peluso <ppeluso@fau.edu>
Subject: Re: CST Ph. D., Design, Aesthetics and the Arts

Dear Eric,

As you know from attending our meeting in January, our faculty do not have any overwhelming objections to this proceeding. We are hopeful that as it grows, the resources and timing for the courses will be more clearly defined.

Sincerely,
Carol

From: Eric Berlatsky <eberlats@fau.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2022 7:57 PM
To: Carol Mills <millsc@fau.edu>; Thomas Shorrock <shorrock@fau.edu>; Kevin Wilt <wiltk@fau.edu>; Francis Lyn <flyn1@fau.edu>; Eric Landes <elandes1@fau.edu>; Paul Peluso <ppeluso@fau.edu>
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Thank you,

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Eric L. Berlatsky
Professor, Department of English

Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and
Director of the Ph. D. Program in Comparative Studies
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masculine pronouns

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UGPC

From: Eric Berlatsky
Sent: Wednesday, February 23, 2022 3:56 PM
To: UGPC; Paul Peluso
Subject: FW: CST Ph. D., Design, Aesthetics and the Arts

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

From: Kevin Wilt <wiltk@fau.edu>
Date: Wednesday, February 23, 2022 at 3:54 PM
To: Eric Berlatsky <eberlats@fau.edu>
Subject: Re: CST Ph. D., Design, Aesthetics and the Arts

Dear Eric,

The Ph.D. in Design, Aesthetics, and the Arts has the support of the Department of Music.

Regards,

Kevin Wilt, DMA
Chair, Department of Music
Composer-in-Residence

email: wiltk@fau.edu
phone: +1.561.297.3821
office: Arts and Humanities 119C

Florida Atlantic University
777 [Glades Road](#)
[Boca Raton, Florida, 33431](#)

www.kevinwilt.com



From: Eric Berlatsky <eberlats@fau.edu>
Date: Wednesday, February 23, 2022 at 3:42 PM

To: Kevin Wilt <wiltk@fau.edu>

Subject: FW: CST Ph. D., Design, Aesthetics and the Arts

Dear Kevin,

I thought I got an email from you...but apparently not. Once again...I am looking for you to confirm your department's support (or at least lack of objection) to the new concentration (Design, Aesthetics and the Arts) for the Ph. D. program in Comparative Studies. Can you send me an email stating support (or lack of objection?). I'm now in a bit of a time crunch about it, as I need it within a week, or they will end up tabling the proposal until the next meeting (which I would like to avoid).

Sincerely....EB

From: Thomas Shorrock <shorrock@fau.edu>

Date: Thursday, February 17, 2022 at 11:34 AM

To: Eric Berlatsky <eberlats@fau.edu>, Paul Peluso <ppeluso@fau.edu>

Subject: RE: CST Ph. D., Design, Aesthetics and the Arts

Good morning Eric and Paul,

The department of Theatre and Dance fully supports and is developing plans to participate and recruit for this concentration.

Best—

Tom



Thomas M. Shorrock MFA

Chair, Department of Theatre and Dance
Joe Conaway Professorship in Theatre
Head of Production Programs
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