BLOCK 5: CO255 World Lit/Comp Lit

Are you tired of the cultural imperialism of the English language, disseminated across the globe as if all literature, poetry, and song were somehow the domain of "English"? Are you open to the experience of comparative, global, literature of the world? In Comparative Literature 255—"What is World Literature, What is Comparative Literature?"—we will examine the origins and significance of these two interrelated disciplines that challenge English hegemony and call for opening up the study of literature to a wider world.

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This course also engages questions of the production and consumption of literary texts such as who is able to author or access literary works and the ways in which literature reflects social forces in the real world, including issues of sexuality, gender identity, religious practices, and many other systems of difference. Engaging with literary texts from multiple, global cultures and languages, students will be required reflect on their positionality in relation to these texts and the social worlds they represent, challenging their own cultural biases and assumptions.

Fulfills the requirement for Equity and Power: Global (EPG) as well as Analysis and Interpretation of Meaning (AIM).