Master’s in Literary Studies

Literature, Culture and Society

uva.nl/ma-literature-culture-society
Do you have an affinity with language and literature? Would you like to contribute to contemporary cultural debates on topics as wide-ranging as national identity, education and citizenship? This unique programme draws on the fields of literature, cultural studies and intellectual history, providing you with the knowledge and skills necessary to specialise in a major European literary tradition in its broader intercultural contexts. Areas of specialisation include: English, French, German, Italian, Scandinavian, Slavonic and Spanish.

Amsterdam is an international urban hub with a vibrant literary culture. Drawing inspiration from your surroundings, you’ll benefit from our connections to and partnerships with, among others, publishers, theatres, poetry stages, museums and bookstores.
Career prospects

After graduating from the programme, you will have developed excellent writing and public speaking skills. You will be qualified for positions with analytical and communicative components. Possible careers include:

• education (educational sector);
• communications and start-ups;
• the civil service;
• embassies;
• (international) enterprises.

If you would like to pursue an academic career, it is advisable to discuss the possibility of joining the Research Master’s in Literary Studies at the UvA.

How Literature shapes Society

In this course we explore how literature, literary concepts and literary theory relate in multiple ways to a wide scope of social and societal themes and problems. One can think of discussions concerning canon formation and school curricula in current debates on national or European identity, or power relations in the intimate or social sphere. We will investigate how literature is used to shape the collective imagination or memory of past events. And how literature can provide viewpoints on how we deal with digitalisation and with our global climate.
Entry requirements
This Master’s is open to all students with a university Bachelor’s degree in:
• One of the languages you wish to specialise in.
• Other Bachelor’s programmes in the Humanities, provided that you have completed at least 30 ECTS in the language you wish to specialise in and have written a thesis connected with your specialised language.
If you do not (yet) meet the entry requirements, for example if you have a degree from a Dutch University of Applied Sciences (hbo), you may be eligible for admission after completing the pre-Master’s in Literary Studies. Please see:
[link]

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