

# LITERATURE (LIT)

## LIT 101 Ancient Greek Literature: The Rise of Athens (3 Credits)

### Arts & Sciences

Major genres (Epic; Lyric; Tragedy; Comedy) and authors (Homer; Sappho; Aeschylus; Euripides; Aristophanes) of Greek antiquity. All readings in English.

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>); Communication Skills (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/communication-skills/>)

## LIT 102 Roman Literature: Empire and Its Discontents (3 Credits)

### Arts & Sciences

Major genres (Epic; Oratory; Love Poetry; History; Comedy) and authors (Plautus; Cicero; Catullus; Livy; Vergil) of Ancient Rome. All readings in English.

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>); Communication Skills (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/communication-skills/>)

## LIT 131 Great Jewish Writers (3 Credits)

### Arts & Sciences

Cross-listed with JSP 131, REL 131

Introduction to fiction by Jewish authors. Topics include modernization, rebellion against authority, alienation, childhood, superstition, and the holocaust. Some films included.

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>); Ethics and Integrity (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/ethics-and-integrity/>)

## LIT 180 International Course (1-12 Credits)

### Arts & Sciences

Offered through SUAbroad by educational institution outside the United States. Student registers for the course at the foreign institution and is graded according to that institution's practice. SUAbroad works with the SU academic department to assign the appropriate course level, title, and grade for the student's transcript.

Repeatable

## LIT 200 Selected Topics (1-6 Credits)

### Arts & Sciences

Exploration of a topic (to be determined) not covered by the standard curriculum but of interest to faculty and students in a particular semester.

Repeatable

## LIT 203 Greek and Roman Epic: Heroes, Gods, and the Universe (3 Credits)

### Arts & Sciences

Iliad and Odyssey (Homer); Argonautica (Apollonius of Rhodes); On the Nature of Things (Lucretius); Aeneid (Vergil); Metamorphoses (Ovid). All readings in English.

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>); Communication Skills (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/communication-skills/>)

## LIT 204 Popular Culture in Modern Japan (3 Credits)

### Arts & Sciences

Considers expressions of "pop culture" in Japan from the 17th century through the present.

## LIT 205 Japan Today (3 Credits)

### Arts & Sciences

This course introduces Japanese society and culture, covering key topics such as history, family dynamics, education, religion, and work-life. It provides a comprehensive overview to help students understand Japan's social structures and cultural practices in a global context.

## LIT 206 Care of the Soul (3 Credits)

### Arts & Sciences

Survey of literary, religious, philosophical, and medical texts from Antiquity and the Middle Ages on various mental states, including happiness and sadness.

## LIT 211 Ancient Greek Drama: The Birth of Comedy and Tragedy (3 Credits)

### Arts & Sciences

Tragedy (Aeschylus; Sophocles; Euripides) and Comedy (Aristophanes; Menander). All readings in English.

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>); Communication Skills (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/communication-skills/>)

## LIT 222 Ancient Myth: Orestes (3 Credits)

### Arts & Sciences

## LIT 226 Dostoevsky and Tolstoy (3 Credits)

### Arts & Sciences

Lectures, readings, discussions, and reports on Dostoevsky's and Tolstoy's major novels.

## LIT 227 Pasternak and Solzhenitsyn (3 Credits)

### Arts & Sciences

The search for the meaning of human existence, for universal truths in life: the importance of individual freedom, morality, human affection and suffering in the caldron of twentieth-century Soviet socialism.

## LIT 231 Jewish Literature (3 Credits)

### Arts & Sciences

Cross-listed with REL 231, JSP 231

Survey of major works in the Jewish tradition, including Hebrew and Yiddish prose in translation. Themes include nature, culture, exile, humor, satire, and talking takhlis.

## LIT 235 Travel Narratives and Pilgrimages (3 Credits)

### Arts & Sciences

Cross-listed with REL 235, JSP 235

Study of secular and spiritual travel narratives, both factual and fictional. Included are tales of exploration, shipwreck, and pilgrimage to the Holy Land, which played a key role in literary history.

## LIT 237 Jewish Mysticism (3 Credits)

### Arts & Sciences

Cross-listed with REL 237, JSP 237

A literary and philosophical approach to Jewish mysticism (Kabbala), combined with close reading of Hasidic stories. In addition, students learn about meditation in the Judaic tradition and have an opportunity to experiment with contemplative techniques.

**LIT 239 Jewish Humor and Satire (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with REL 239, JSP 239

Introduction to Jewish humor and satire, focusing on American and Yiddish fiction and film. Informed by Freudian theories, analysis of literary works, stand-up comedy, early Yiddish movies, and American films.

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>)

**LIT 241 Dante and the Medieval World (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Passages from the Divine Comedy as an encyclopedic work illuminating vital historical, intellectual, and cultural forces in the medieval world.

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>); Communication Skills (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/communication-skills/>)

**LIT 242 Petrarch and the Renaissance World (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

This course is a sequel to LIT 241. Petrarch's poetry and prose will provide the point of departure for an examination of issues and problems in the Renaissance.

**LIT 243 Cultures of Italy from the Middle Ages to the Present (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Historically based survey of life in Italy from the time of Dante to our time with emphasis on political, social and art histories.

**LIT 245 Florence and Renaissance Civilization (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Florence as the linguistic, literary, and cultural center of early medieval and modern Italian civilization.

**LIT 246 Machiavelli and Modernity (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

This course focuses on Machiavelli, his historical period, and his influence in modernity, by discussing selections of his political-historical writings (The Prince and the Discourses on Livy), selected letters, short stories, and plays.

**LIT 247 Science and Revolution in Italy from Dante to Modernity (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

This course focuses on the intersections between literature and science as they relate to Italy and radical changes in knowledge and power across centuries.

**LIT 255 Cervantes in English (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Analysis and interpretation of Don Quixote and selected shorter works. Not recommended for Spanish majors.

**LIT 256 Blood: A Cultural History (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

This writing intensive course explores blood's often contradictory meanings in various genres and mediums from Ancient Greece to the present day, from Latin epics to vampire films, medieval Christian iconography to medical treatises.

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>); Communication Skills (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/communication-skills/>); Ethics and Integrity (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/ethics-and-integrity/>)

**LIT 257 Italian Cinema and Culture Since World War II (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Selected films of DeSica, Fellini, Visconti, and others as significant documents of Italian life in the post-war period and beyond.

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>); Civic and Global Responsibility (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/civic-and-global-responsibility/>); Ethics and Integrity (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/ethics-and-integrity/>)

**LIT 262 Afterlives: from Dante to The Good Place (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

This course explores representations of afterlives in literature and TV shows from ancient Rome to medieval Italy to the American present. Discussions and texts are in English, with the option to read them in the original language.

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>); Communication Skills (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/communication-skills/>)

**LIT 280 International Course (1-12 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Offered through SUAbroad by educational institution outside the United States. Student registers for the course at the foreign institution and is graded according to that institution's practice. SUAbroad works with the S.U. academic department to assign the appropriate course level, title, and grade for the student's transcript.

Repeatable

**LIT 290 Independent Study (1-6 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Exploration of a problem, or problems, in depth. Individual independent study upon a plan submitted by the student. Admission by consent of supervising instructor(s) and the department.

Repeatable

**LIT 300 Selected Topics (1-6 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Exploration of a topic (to be determined) not covered by the standard curriculum but of interest to faculty and students in a particular semester.

Repeatable

**LIT 301 French Cinema Vs. Hollywood (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

A comparative study of French and American cinema across various themes and genres. Offered in Strasbourg only.

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>); Communication Skills (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/communication-skills/>)

**LIT 303 Culture and Crisis in Contemporary Japan (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

An introduction to the cultural history of contemporary Japan (1980s to the present). Focuses on the representation of social and ecological problems in literature, film, and visual culture.

**LIT 304 Japanese Literature, Film and Culture (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Examines aspects of modern Japanese cultural history through the lenses of literature and film.

**LIT 311 Chinese Literature (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

A survey course of Chinese literature covering historical, cultural, political, and aesthetic elements up to the modern era.

Shared Competencies: Communication Skills (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/communication-skills/>); Ethics and Integrity (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/ethics-and-integrity/>)

**LIT 312 Chinese Film (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

A survey course of contemporary Chinese films. Historical, cultural, political, and aesthetic elements are considered, providing a portal to issues on China and the Chinese culture.

Shared Competencies: Communication Skills (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/communication-skills/>); Ethics and Integrity (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/ethics-and-integrity/>)

**LIT 316 Italian Fashion and Food Stories (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Offered only in Florence. Examines the role of food and fashion in the construction of Italian identity through literature. Rooted in the Renaissance when Italy began to establish norms for eating and dressing, food and fashion are distinguishing marks of Italy and have become major components of its international image and creative imagination.

Shared Competencies: Communication Skills (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/communication-skills/>)

**LIT 318 Rise of the French Novel (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences***LIT 321 Korean Short Stories (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with KOR 321

This class introduces the student to the literary genres of Korean short stories. It emphasizes literature as a reflection of culture and focuses on developing students' abilities to respond to and interpret literary texts as well as on understanding the Korean language and culture.

Prereq: KOR 202 or instructor's permission

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>); Civic and Global Responsibility (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/civic-and-global-responsibility/>); Ethics and Integrity (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/ethics-and-integrity/>)

**LIT 322 Korean Poetry: Sijo (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with KOR 322

This class introduces Sijo, a traditional form of Korean poetry. Sijo is a form of Korean poetry with a far-reaching history, tied heavily to the shifting cultures of the Korean peninsula and holds immense cultural and historical significance, offering insights into Korean language, philosophy, and aesthetics. This class emphasizes Sijo as a reflection of culture and focuses on developing students' abilities to interpret, respond to, and create Sijo forms as well as on understanding Korean language and culture.

Prereq: KOR 202

**LIT 331 Russian Culture Through Fiction and Film (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with RUS 331

Documentary films and readings of short fiction. Elements of Russian culture and provides an understanding of Russian national identity as it has developed from Kievan Russian to the present day.

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>)

**LIT 332 Russian Fairy Tales and Folklore (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with RUS 332

The history and development of fairy tales in Russia. Begins with oral tales, influenced by early folklore and pagan rituals, and progresses through literary fairy tales and film versions.

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>); Communication Skills (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/communication-skills/>)

**LIT 333 Yiddish Literature in Translation (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with REL 333, JSP 333

Survey of Yiddish literature, with special attention to the classic Yiddish authors, Yiddish theater, modernism, and Yiddish women writers. Themes of minority culture, class struggle, hasidism, and the decline of the Shtetl.

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>); Ethics and Integrity (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/ethics-and-integrity/>)

**LIT 335 Israeli Literature and Culture (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with JSP 335, REL 335, MES 335

Literary and cultural approach to the modern history of Israel, with special attention to conflicts that have arisen during the Zionist project.

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>); Civic and Global Responsibility (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/civic-and-global-responsibility/>)**LIT 336 Arabic Cultures (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with MES 336, ARB 336

Arabic culture through geography, literature, religion (Islam and other religions), ethnic groups, social divisions, films, the media, music, art, food, gender issues, and everyday life.

University Requirement Course: IDEA Requirement Eligible

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>); Civic and Global Responsibility (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/civic-and-global-responsibility/>); Ethics and Integrity (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/ethics-and-integrity/>)**LIT 343 Latina Feminist Theories (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with WGS 343, LAS 343

Examines Latina feminist and queer thought and methods for social transformation; places US women of color feminisms in conversation with Latina/o and Latin American histories, identities, cultural productions, and activism.

University Requirement Course: IDEA Requirement Eligible

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>); Civic and Global Responsibility (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/civic-and-global-responsibility/>); Ethics and Integrity (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/ethics-and-integrity/>)**LIT 350 Masters of Romance Lit (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Repeatable

**LIT 360 Masters of Romance Lit (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Repeatable

**LIT 361 Russian Literary Film Adaptations (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with RUS 361

Study of film adaptations of Russian literary classics.

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>); Communication Skills (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/communication-skills/>)**LIT 362 Russia Today (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with RUS 362

Using scholarly texts, newspapers, blogs, digital audio, film, recent literature, and web videos, we will investigate topics that define contemporary Russia and make it seem familiar yet different to us in the West.

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>)**LIT 363 Revolution and the Avant-garde in Russia (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with RUS 363

Russian avant-garde response to the 1917 Revolution. Literary, artistic, cinematic responses from 1917 to 1932. Includes original research in Bird Library's Special Collections.

**LIT 364 Russian Food Culture and History (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with RUS 364

Study of the history and culture of food, flavors, and drink in Russia.

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>)**LIT 365 Russian Short Stories (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with RUS 365

The genre of the Russian short story from the 19th through the 21st centuries. Historical and cultural contexts. Themes, structure, stylistics, inter-textuality, and translation.

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>)**LIT 366 Russian Dystopian Fiction (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with RUS 366

The genre of Russian dystopia from the 19th through the 21st centuries. Historical and cultural contexts.

**LIT 370 Masters Of Spanish Lit (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Repeatable

**LIT 380 International Course (1-12 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Offered through SUAbroad by educational institution outside the United States. Student registers for the course at the foreign institution and is graded according to that institution's practice. SUAbroad works with the SU academic department to assign the appropriate course level, title, and grade for the student's transcript.

Repeatable

**LIT 381 Italian and European Theater 1500-1700 (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with DRA 381, WGS 381

Secular and professional drama as it emerged in Renaissance Italy and spread to Spain, England, and France. Selected works of Machiavelli, Monteverdi, Cervantes, Calderon, Shakespeare, Molière, Behn and others (in English). Offered only in Florence.

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>); Communication Skills (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/communication-skills/>)

**LIT 382 Asian Cinema (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Offered only in Hong Kong. Selection of classic and contemporary films by Asian filmmakers that exemplify cultural and aesthetic traditions, values, and trends.

**LIT 390 Masters Of French Lit (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Repeatable

**LIT 400 Selected Topics (1-6 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Exploration of a topic (to be determined) not covered by the standard curriculum but of interest to faculty and students in a particular semester. Repeatable

**LIT 421 Classical Mythology (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with CLA 421, REL 421

Myths and rituals of Greek mythology and religion. Ancient poets/playwrights and important mythological themes found in later Western religious/artistic traditions. Offered only in Florence.

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>); Information Literacy and Technological Agility (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/information-literacy-and-technological-agility/>)

**LIT 423 Italian Film Now (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with FIL 423

Offered only in Florence. By paying special attention to how certain themes are addressed; immigration, organized crime, and family life; this course provides a critical perspective on today's Italian society and culture. It also examines how contemporary Italian film has challenged traditional cinematic language and transgressed genre boundaries.

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>); Communication Skills (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/communication-skills/>)

**LIT 424 Sex, Politics, Religion in Italian Literature (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Offered only in Florence. Sex, politics, and religion in Italian literature from the fourteenth to the twenty-first centuries, using various theoretical approaches. Explores the influence of Italian writers on British and American literature.

University Requirement Course: IDEA Requirement Eligible

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>)

**LIT 441 Medieval Germanic Lit (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences***LIT 442 From Dante to Calvino: Italian Literature in Translation (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Italian writers from the 14th century to the 20th century. Offered only in Florence.

**LIT 443 Dante, Petrarch, and Boccaccio (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Early, central Italian literature and society. Dante's "Comedy," Petrarch's "Canzoniere," Boccaccio's "Decameron." Offered only in Florence.

**LIT 445 Comedy in Italy: From Ancient to Modern Times (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with DRA 325

Offered only in Florence. Explore the lively comedic tradition that began in the late Roman Republican era and continues to flourish. From the commedia dell'arte of the Renaissance to comedies of manners in the 17th to 19th centuries to experimental drama during the 20th and 21st centuries.

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>)

**LIT 470 Experience Credit (1-6 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Participation in a discipline or subject related experience. Student must be evaluated by written or oral reports or an examination. Permission in advance with the consent of the department chairperson, instructor, and dean. Limited to those in good academic standing.

Repeatable

**LIT 480 International Course (1-6 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Offered through SUAbroad by educational institution outside the United States. Student registers for the course at the foreign institution and is graded according to that institution's practice. SUAbroad works with the S.U. academic department to assign the appropriate course level, title, and grade for the student's transcript.

Repeatable

**LIT 490 Independent Study (1-6 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Exploration of a problem, or problems, in depth. Individual independent study upon a plan submitted by the student. Admission by consent of supervising instructor(s) and the department.

Repeatable

**LIT 499 Honors Capstone Project (1-6 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Completion of an Honors Capstone Project under the supervision of a faculty member.

Repeatable

**LIT 500 Selected Topics (1-6 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Exploration of a topic (to be determined) not covered by the standard curriculum but of interest to faculty and students in a particular semester. Repeatable

**LIT 510 Studies in Greek and Roman Literature in Translation (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Selected topics in Greek or Roman literature studied in English. No knowledge of Greek or Latin required.

Repeatable

**LIT 521 Mythology (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Greek, Roman, and Norse myths. Knowledge of foreign languages not required.