Mission Statement
We are a Catholic institution of learning dedicated to advancing the frontiers of knowledge in the theoretical and applied fields through quality graduate education that is comprehensive and responsive to the needs of society.

We are committed to the formation of scholars and high-quality professionals who are ethical, competent, compassionate, and committed to the service of their respective professions, the church, the nation, and the global community.

Vision Statement
We envision a Graduate School that stands for excellence and innovation and that is globally recognized for its distinct degree programs and quality research outputs.

Goals and Objectives
The Graduate School commits itself to develop:
1. competent professionals who, inspired by the ideals of St. Antoninus of Florence, promote excellence in the production, advancement, and transmission of specialized knowledge and skills in the sciences, the arts, and community service;
2. scholarly researchers and creative thinkers who, kindled by St. Thomas Aquinas’ ardour for truth, aspire to become fonts of intellectual creativity and, in their quest for quality research, are proficient and critical in assessing and communicating information in various fields that impact the professions, the church, the nation, and the global community;
3. professional Christian leaders who, touched by St. Dominic de Guzman’s apostolic fire and warmed by Mary’s motherly care, articulate ethics and truth, high level of moral maturity in resolving issues and promoting social justice and compassion for the poor, and care for the environment;
4. globally engaged citizens who, with ardent advocacy for life, promote a deeper understanding of tolerance and justice as well as linguistic, religious, and cultural diversities as a result of precise evaluation of modern problems and inquiries;
5. committed scholars who, nurtured by the dogmas of Christian faith and values, are dedicated to the pursuit of truth through the promotion of an intellectual culture that values academic rigor and freedom of scientific investigations; and
6. lifelong learners who, empowered by St. Antoninus of Florence’s zeal for learning, are committed to the advancement of a higher culture through a continuous search for intellectual inquiries and new knowledge as well as faithfulness to Catholic intellectual traditions.

Program Intended Learning Outcomes (PILO)
After completing the degree program, the student must be able to:
1. Demonstrate an updated knowledge of current developments in the discipline of literary and cultural studies;
2. Exhibit a higher level of analytical skills as literary and cultural scholars and critics, and generate new knowledge in the application of appropriate research methodology in their academic pursuits;
3. Demonstrate a high level of professionalism and ethical standards as literary and cultural scholars and critics, as well as take their place as leaders of the academic community, not just in the University but in the larger society;
4. Write their own books of literary and cultural criticism that best communicate their ideas to their intended audience;
5. Exhibit a deeper and broader understanding of the role of literary and cultural studies in the development of a just and humane society, both in the local and global contexts;
6. Demonstrate continuous acquisition of a richer and more formal knowledge of both traditional and current trends in literary and cultural studies (particularly Philippine literature), and apply these to their scholarly and critical work.

MASTER OF ARTS MAJOR IN LITERATURE

PRE-REQUISITE COURSES (6 UNITS)

GS 500 – St. Thomas and Critical Thinking
As the philosophical foundation of Research Methodology, it is a study of the principles of skills in critical thinking according to St. Thomas Aquinas in the three areas of mental cognition: simple apprehension, judgment, and reasoning; and of common fallacies towards the acquisition of the art of argumentation.

GS 501 – Literary Research (From Concept to Framework)
Methodical study and application of the historical, descriptive and textual and textual methods of literary investigation for the retrieval, authentication, interpretation and evaluation of literary texts in view of the goals of literary criticism and appreciation. By the way of framework and background, it involves familiarity with literary theory and Philosophy of Literature as bases for content and direction of research agenda.

CORE COURSES (12 UNITS)

LIT 600 (LIT 901) – Literary Theory and Criticism 1
This one-semester is designed to provide the students with an adequate background on Literary Criticism, exploring its history from Plato to T.S. Eliot, from Classical Criticism to New Criticism, or the beginning of Modern Criticism. It will also provide a substantial study on representative critics of each movement in the course of the development and evolving of Literary Crirical principles.

LIT 601 (LIT 902) – Literary Theory and Criticism 2
This course takes off from modern criticism (the last topic of Literary Criticism) and covers movements and theories under the overall head of Postmodernism, including structuralism, post-structuralism, etc. in the service of Contemporary Literary Theories.

LIT 602 – Literary Research 2 (Designs and Methods)
Designs and methods of literary research that engage literary theories, concepts from literary criticism, and some allied social science methodologies.

LIT 603 – Critical Writing
Supplementary course to literary research and thesis writing designed to reinforce knowledge of basic and advanced writing skills for the literature discipline.
LIT 707 - Asian Literature
Sampling of literature from South Asia, East Asia and Southeast Asia as they represent Asian religious systems and cultures.

LIT 708 - European Literature
Highlights of continental literature from the Renaissance to the contemporary times with emphasis on the literary movements they gave birth to.

LIT 709 - Latin American Literature
Sampling of literature from countries of Latin America with emphasis on their colonial and postcolonial experiences.

LIT 710 - African Literature
A critical study of selected writings in the 20th century of prominent poets, fictionists, playwrights, and essayists of the African Continent (3 Units).

LIT 712 - Contemporary Issues in Literary Study
Contemporary issues that can be addressed from various perspectives, like that of the academe, literary production and the social function of literature.

LIT 713 - Special Topics
In-depth discussion of specific areas or issues concerning literature, research and practice in the Philippine setting.

Cognates (3 units)
Any related course on English Language Studies, Communication, Philosophy and Psychology.

Other Requirements (9 units)
Written Comprehensive Examinations (WCE)
TW I - 3 units (Thesis Proposal)
TW II - 3 units (Research Colloquium)
TW III - 3 units (Thesis Defense)

Total = 42 Units

Summary of Program Requirements

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