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M.A. in Literary and Cultural
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Why did you choose the LCS M.A. program at CMU?

I chose the M.A. in LCS because I wanted to push beyond my English literature background into Cultural Studies and critical theory, without losing the opportunity to still study literature. The LCS program is a rigorous graduate program, and it has challenged me and delighted me in ways I couldn't have imagined. It changed my trajectory, nudging me toward academia, and introduced me to some of the most incredible, smart, interesting, and supportive people—colleagues and faculty alike—with whom I've ever been fortunate enough to find myself in one place.

Why did you choose How did your time in the LCS M.A. program prepare you for your Ph.D.?LCS M.A. program at CMU?

My experience in LCS is the entire reason I'm pursuing a Ph.D. I didn't originally intend to pursue further graduate study, but half a semester of coursework here was enough to convince me that an academic environment like LCS was exactly what I wanted. My classes were challenging and unexpected; my professors were willing to push me to engage with new material and ideas. I gained an astonishing amount of knowledge in a year, without which I would not have made a compelling Ph.D. applicant. The opportunity to take Rhetoric courses within the department was a turning point for me, and the ability to work within both LCS and Rhetoric, and to see and develop the connections I saw between them, ultimately motivated me toward the Rhetoric and Public Culture program at Northwestern.