Morris Campus

German Studies B.A.

Division of Humanities - Adm

Division of Humanities

- Program Type: Baccalaureate
- Requirements for this program are current for Spring 2018
- Required credits to graduate with this degree: 120
- Required credits within the major: 40
- Degree: Bachelor of Arts

This is an interdisciplinary program housed in the Division of the Humanities. The program is administered by the German studies coordinator and the chair of the Division of the Humanities.

The German studies curriculum includes the language, literature, film, linguistics, history, and culture of German-speaking countries and Germanic languages. The courses are designed to enhance students' understanding of their own language and culture through introduction to another. Our courses expand students' ability to think by giving them a new tool with which to do so. The courses are carefully sequenced to incrementally increase student aptitude in the one skill upon which everything else they could possibly do or study relies: language. Expansion of thought in any field of study requires the acquisition of new language. Learning the German language provides students with direct access to the world's fourth largest economy as well as the sister economies of the other German-speaking countries (Germany, Austria, Switzerland). Additionally students gain intimate knowledge of a linguistic tradition and culture that has produced innovation in almost every field of study pursued on campus, thereby benefiting students regardless of their main area of concentration.

Program Student Learning Outcomes - Learning an entirely new linguistic idiom increases one's ability to think, and neurological studies have shown that it actually grows brain cells. Our primary goal is to enable students to become culturally competent. We have constructed the curriculum to increase students' confidence and social skills by capitalizing on their innate and extant ability to use language and by demonstrating to them that they can acquire another language, while also providing an understanding of language itself that will enable them to acquire further languages. The intellectual and practical skills enable students to gain a deeper understanding of the roles of individuals in society, as well as building upon their capacity for integrative learning. Our program aims to provide students with opportunities that will enable them to directly apply newly acquired linguistic abilities, cultural knowledge, and social skills in their chosen area of study through study abroad, internships, and professional exchanges.

Study Abroad
In light of today's increasingly interdependent world, the German faculty strongly encourages study abroad in combination with a German Studies major or minor, as a most effective means by which to:
improve language abilities
broaden academic horizons
globalize one's world view
expand career opportunities

Study in Austria and Germany - The University is affiliated with exchange programs in Berlin and Freiburg for both one- and two-semester stays. There are also possibilities for study at many other German, Austrian, and Swiss universities. Language prerequisites vary for each program. Through the Academic Center for Enrichment, students may explore further opportunities.

Program Delivery

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)

Admission Requirements

For information about University of Minnesota admission requirements, visit the Office of Admissions website.

General Requirements

All students are required to complete general University and college requirements. For more information, see the general education requirements.

Program Requirements

Students are required to take 2 semester(s) of German.

© 2005 by the Regents of the University of Minnesota
The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.
Information current as of March 29, 2024

Elective plans must be designed to ensure that there is sufficient depth of coverage in the chosen German studies electives. For many students, a double-major (or minor) in a closely related disciplinary major is desirable. For some majors, electives can be selected in such a way that many of the courses in a coherent German studies elective plan also count toward the second major. An advising sheet for recommended course combinations and areas of focus will be available to students and faculty involved.

In addition to the requirements for the major, students are encouraged to complete at least one year of instruction in another foreign language.

No grades below C- are allowed. Courses may not be taken S-N unless offered S-N only.

A minimum GPA of 2.00 is required in the major to graduate. The GPA includes all, and only, University of Minnesota coursework. Grades of "F" are included in GPA calculation until they are replaced.

Required Courses

GER 2001 - Intermediate German I [IP] (4.0 cr)
GER 2002 - Intermediate German II [IP] (4.0 cr)
GER 3002 *{Inactive}*[IP] (4.0 cr)
GER 3333 *{Inactive}*[IP] (4.0 cr)
GER 4101 *{Inactive}*[HIST] (4.0 cr)
GER 3101 - Introduction to German Literature and Culture [HUM] (4.0 cr)
or GER 3102 *{Inactive}*[HUM] (4.0 cr)
GER 4001 - Culture and Society [HIST] (4.0 cr)
or GER 4002 *{Inactive}*[HIST] (4.0 cr)

Selection of Elective Courses

Other elective courses, not listed below, may be appropriate to add depth and provide more theoretical context for the German studies coursework (requires written approval of the course instructor and the program coordinator).

Elective credits must be from upper division (3xxx or 4xxx) courses and 4 or more upper division elective credits must be either in German courses or in courses where some work is done in German (3xxx-4xxx German or Partial German Electives).

Elective Courses

Courses listed under the "3xxx-4xxx German and Partial German Electives" heading that are outside of the German discipline (e.g., HIST 3209) require written approval of the course instructor and the program coordinator prior to registration.
Take 12 or more credit(s) from the following:

3xxx-4xxx German and Partial German Electives

Take 12 or more credit(s) from the following:
- ARTH 3132 - Castles and Cathedrals [FA] (4.0 cr)
- ENGL 3444 *{Inactive}*[IP] (4.0 cr)
- GER 3041 *{Inactive}*[IP] (4.0 cr)
- GER 3201 *{Inactive}*[HUM] (4.0 cr)
- GER 3202 *{Inactive}*[HUM] (4.0 cr)
- GER 3203 *{Inactive}*[IP] (4.0 cr)
- GER 3601 - Studies in German Literature [HUM] (4.0 cr)
- GER 3611 *{Inactive}*[HUM] (4.0 cr)
- HIST 3101 *{Inactive}*[HIST] (4.0 cr)
- HIST 3204 - Nazi Germany [HIST] (4.0 cr)
- HIST 2152 - Modern Germany [HIST] (4.0 cr)

German-related Content Electives

Exclusive of those used above
Take at most 8 credit(s) from the following:
- ENGL 4004 - Research Seminar: Old English Literature and Language (4.0 cr)
- HIST 3101 *{Inactive}*[HIST] (4.0 cr)
- HIST 3204 - Nazi Germany [HIST] (4.0 cr)
- HIST 2152 - Modern Germany [HIST] (4.0 cr)
- PHIL 2117 - Existentialism [HIST] (4.0 cr)

Supplemental Electives

Take at most 4 credit(s) from the following:
- ARTH 3201 - Nineteenth-Century Art in Europe [FA] (4.0 cr)
- ARTH 3211 - Modern European Art from Impressionism to Surrealism [FA] (4.0 cr)
- ENGL 3021 - Grammar and Language [HUM] (4.0 cr)
- ENGL 3411 - Critical Approaches to Literature (4.0 cr)
- MUS 3101 - Core Studies III: Medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque Music [HIST] (4.0 cr)
- MUS 3102 - Core Studies III: Classical, Romantic, and 20th-Century Music [FA] (4.0 cr)

© 2005 by the Regents of the University of Minnesota
The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.