Twin Cities Campus

Germanic Studies Ph.D.

German, Nordic, Slavic & Dutch

College of Liberal Arts

Link to a list of faculty for this program.

Contact Information:
Department of German, Scandinavian & Dutch, 320 Folwell Hall, 9 Pleasant Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612-625-2080; fax: 612-624-8297)
Email: gradgsd@umn.edu
Website: http://gsd.umn.edu

- Program Type: Doctorate
- Requirements for this program are current for Fall 2018
- Length of program in credits: 54 to 60
- This program does not require summer semesters for timely completion.
- Degree: Doctor of Philosophy

Along with the program-specific requirements listed below, please read the General Information section of the catalog website for requirements that apply to all major fields.

The Germanic studies program in the Department of German, Scandinavian, and Dutch (GSD) is distinguished for its interdisciplinary approach to the study of literature and culture. The program equips students to be creative scholars and skillful teachers through research and teaching programs covering the literature and culture of German-speaking and Nordic countries. Students work closely with faculty dedicated to scholarly innovation, teaching excellence, and interdisciplinary collaboration.

The Germanic studies program offers both MA and PhD degrees and allows students to tailor their programs to their individual needs and interdisciplinary interests. Students have the option to pursue a track in German (MA, PhD), Germanic Medieval studies (MA, PhD) or Scandinavian studies (MA) by completing a specified number of courses in one of those areas.

Program Delivery

This program is available:

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

Prerequisites for Admission

The preferred undergraduate GPA for admittance to the program is 3.50.

MA or equivalent from another institution in German or a related field.

Other requirements to be completed before admission:
Students with a BA only are usually admitted to the PhD program, but the MA must be completed first. Those applying with an MA must have fluency in German

Special Application Requirements:
In addition to the University's application requirements, the department requires the following: the department's Supplemental Application Information form (download from the department's website); a copy of one or more papers representative of the applicant's level of scholarly development (not to exceed 25 total pages); three letters of recommendation; the General (Aptitude) Test of the GRE (recommended but not required for applicants who already have an M.A.). Students are admitted for fall semester only. All application materials may be uploaded into the online application and must be submitted by December 15. For an online application or for more information about graduate education admissions, see the General Information section of this website.

International applicants must submit score(s) from one of the following tests:

- TOEFL
  - Internet Based - Total Score: 79
  - Internet Based - Writing Score: 21
  - Internet Based - Reading Score: 19
  - Internet Based - Speaking Score: 27
  - Paper Based - Total Score: 550
- IELTS
  - Total Score: 6.5

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- MELAB
  - Final score: 80

The preferred English language test is Test of English as Foreign Language

Key to test abbreviations(TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB).

For an online application or for more information about graduate education admissions, see the General Information section of the catalog website.

Program Requirements

18 to 24 credits are required in the major.
12 credits are required outside the major.
24 thesis credits are required.

This program may be completed with a minor.

Use of 4xxx courses toward program requirements is permitted under certain conditions with adviser approval.

Language Requirement: See requirements listed below.

A minimum GPA of 3.00 is required for students to remain in good standing.

Reading competence in at least two languages or a high degree of proficiency in one language other than English or German.

Students with an MA from another institution must also take one theory course and a pedagogy seminar.

Required Core
GSD 8001 - Approaches to Textual Analysis (3.0 cr)
GSD 5103 - Teaching of Germanic Languages (3.0 cr)

Outside the Major in a Supporting Program
Take 12 credits outside the major in supporting program.

Thesis Credits
Take 24 or more credit(s) from the following:
•GSD 8888 - Thesis Credit: Doctoral (1.0 - 24.0 cr)

Germanic Studies - No Emphasis

Electives for Germanic Studies - No Emphasis
Take 15 or more credit(s) from the following:
•DTCH 5xxx
•FIN 5xxx
•GER 5xxx
•GER 8xxx
•GSD 5xxx
•GSD 8xxx
•SCAN 5xxx
•SCAN 8xxx

Program Sub-plans

A sub-plan is not required for this program.
Students may not complete the program with more than one sub-plan.

German Emphasis

The dissertation must reflect the German track.

German Emphasis Electives
Take 12 or more credit(s) from the following:
•GER 5xxx
•GER 8xxx

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•GSD 8xxx

Additional Elective

Take 3 or more credit(s) from the following:

•DTCH 5xxx
•FIN 5xxx
•GER 5xxx
•GER 8xxx
•GSD 5xxx
•GSD 8xxx
•SCAN 5xxx
•SCAN 8xxx

Germanic Medieval Studies Emphasis

The dissertation must reflect the Germanic medieval studies track.

Germanic Medieval Studies Emphasis Electives

Take 12 or more credit(s) from the following:

•GER 5711 - History of the German Language I (3.0 cr)
•GER 5721 - Introduction to Middle High German (3.0 cr)
•GER 8210 - Seminar in Early Modern German Literature and Culture (3.0 cr)
•GER 5734 - Old Saxon (3.0 cr)
•GER 5740 *{Inactive}*(3.0 cr)
•GER 8200 - Seminar in Medieval German Literature and Culture (3.0 cr)
•SCAN 5502 - The Icelandic Saga (3.0 cr)
•SCAN 5701 - Old Norse Language and Literature (3.0 cr)
•SCAN 5703 *{Inactive}*(3.0 cr)
•SCAN 5710 *{Inactive}*(3.0 cr)
•SCAN 8500 - Seminar in Medieval Scandinavian Languages and Literature (3.0 cr)
•ENGL 4612 - Old English I (3.0 cr)
•ENGL 4613 - Old English II (3.0 cr)

Additional Elective

Take 3 or more credit(s) from the following:

•DTCH 5xxx
•FIN 5xxx
•GER 5xxx
•GER 8xxx
•GSD 5xxx
•GSD 8xxx
•SCAN 5xxx
•SCAN 8xxx

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