

GERMAN

German

College of Arts & Humanities
Department of World Languages & Cultures
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In our changing global environment, communication is the key to understanding other peoples and cultures. The German program prepares its students to thrive as global citizens in a diverse world. Students in German language education acquire language proficiency and cultural competence that provide insight into the culture, literature, and history of German-speaking countries and enables them to travel, study, and work in areas where the target language is used.

At the end of their program, students will meet the National Standards for Foreign Language Learning:

Communicate in Languages Other Than English

- Standard 1.1: Students engage in conversations, provide and obtain information, express feelings and emotions, and exchange opinions.
- Standard 1.2: Students understand and interpret written and spoken language on a variety of topics.
- Standard 1.3: Students present information, concepts, and ideas to an audience of listeners or readers on a variety of topics.

Gain Knowledge and Understanding of Other Cultures

- Standard 2.1: Students demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the practices and perspectives of the culture studied.
- Standard 2.2: Students demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the products and perspectives of the culture studied.

Connect with Other Disciplines and Acquire Information

- Standard 3.1: Students reinforce and further their knowledge of other disciplines through the foreign language.
- Standard 3.2: Students acquire information and recognize the distinctive viewpoints that are only available through the foreign language and its cultures.

Develop Insight into the Nature of Language and Culture

- Standard 4.1: Students demonstrate understanding of the nature of language through comparisons of the language studied and their own.
- Standard 4.2: Students demonstrate understanding of the concept of culture through comparisons of the cultures studied and their own.

Participate in Multilingual Communities at Home & Around the World

- Standard 5.1: Students use the language both within and beyond the school setting.
- Standard 5.2: Students show evidence of becoming life-long learners by using the language for personal enjoyment and enrichment.

POLICIES/INFORMATION

Admission to Major is granted by the department. Minimum university admission requirements are:

- a minimum of 32 earned semester credit hours.
- a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00 ("C").

A minimum GPA of 2.5 is required in all German courses. Contact the department for application procedures.

GPA Policy. A grade of "C-" or better must be earned for major or minor credit.

P/N Grading Policy. Work done for a major or minor must be done for a letter grade above the second-year level. A grade of "P" must be earned for major or minor credit in all work done on a P/N basis.

Proficiency Policies. Students with high school language experience may take the CLEP test for a maximum of 12 credits. Students who wish to receive credit by examination may take tests to evaluate their proficiency. Students may not take a proficiency test for a course in which they are enrolled. The department reserves the right to deny admission to courses for those students whom a faculty member determines to have mastered the material already.

Fulfilling BA Language Requirement. Students who wish to validate the BA Language requirement for previous study in French, German, Spanish, Swedish or Norwegian may do so by taking a language competency exam under the rules for credit by exam (see above section). Students do not meet the BA language requirements merely because they have taken two years of high school language.

Residency Requirement. Transfer credits will be applied only if they are the equivalent of work offered by the Department of World Languages & Cultures for the major or minor in that language. In addition, a minimum of work must be taken at Minnesota State Mankato as follows. Major: a minimum of eight credits upper division courses other than Independent or Individual Study. At least one of these courses must be at the 400 level. Minor: a minimum of one upper division course other than Independent or Individual Study, for a total of at least four credits.

Courses not required for a student's specific baccalaureate degree should be chosen according to these general guidelines:

- BA:

Emphasis on literature in upper-division courses; students will most likely pursue their education beyond the baccalaureate level.

- BS:

Emphasis on the ability to communicate in the language; presupposes knowledge of culture and civilization; students frequently have career goals in other disciplines for which a language is either required or recommended.

- BS German Education:

Emphasis on communication (four skills plus culture and language analysis).

GERMAN BA

Degree completion = 120 credits

Prerequisites to the Major

- GER 101 Elementary German I (4)
GER 102 Elementary German II (4)

Major Common Core (24 credits)

- GER 340 Topics in Language (1-4)
GER 341 Composition and Conversation (4)
GER 342 Selected Readings (1-4)
GER 343 German Civilization (1-4)
GER 441 Conversation and Composition (4)
GER 442 German Literature (1-4)

Major Unrestricted Electives (12 credits)

- GER 150W The German-speaking Countries: An Interdisciplinary Introduction (4)
GER 201 Intermediate German I (4)
GER 202 Intermediate German II (4)
GER 293 Supervised Foreign Study: Intermediate (1-4)
GER 299 Individual Study (1-4)
GER 340 Topics in Language (1-4)
GER 393 Supervised Foreign Study (1-6)
GER 443 Topics in German Studies (1-4)
GER 445 Topics in German Linguistics (1-4)
GER 460 Topics in German Cinema (4)
GER 490 Senior Capstone Project (1-4)
GER 493 Supervised Foreign Study (1-6)
GER 497 Internship (1-6)
GER 499 Individual Study (1-4)

Other Graduation Requirements

Required for Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree ONLY: Language (8 credits)

Required Minor: Yes. Any.

GERMAN CONTINUED

GERMAN BS

Degree completion = 120 credits

Pre-requisites to the Major

- GER 101 Elementary German I (4)
GER 102 Elementary German II (4)

Major Common Core (24 credits)

- GER 340 Topics in Language (1-4)
GER 341 Composition and Conversation (4)
GER 342 Selected Readings (1-4)
GER 343 German Civilization (1-4)
GER 441 Conversation and Composition (4)
GER 442 German Literature (1-4)

Major Restricted Electives (12 credits)

- GER 150W The German-speaking Countries: An Interdisciplinary Introduction (4)
GER 201 Intermediate German I (4)
GER 202 Intermediate German II (4)
GER 293 Supervised Foreign Study: Intermediate (1-4)
GER 299 Individual Study (1-4)
GER 393 Supervised Foreign Study (1-6)
GER 443 Topics in German Studies (1-4)
GER 445 Topics in German Linguistics (1-4)
GER 460 Topics in German Cinema (4)
GER 490 Senior Capstone Project (1-4)
GER 493 Supervised Foreign Study (1-6)
GER 497 Internship (1-6)
GER 499 Individual Study (1-4)

GERMAN BS, TEACHING

Degree completion = 120 credits

Pre-requisites to the Major

- GER 201 Intermediate German I (4)
GER 202 Intermediate German II (4)

Major Common Core

Language (choose 1-4 credits)

- GER 340 Topics in Language (1-4)

Literature (choose 1-8 credits)

- GER 342 Selected Readings (1-4)
GER 442 German Literature (1-4)

Civilization

- GER 343 German Civilization (1-4)

Methods (choose 8 credits)

- WLC 460 Methods of Teaching Modern Language (3)
WLC 461 Applied Modern Language Teaching Methods (1)
WLC 462 Foreign Language Elementary School (FLES) Methods (3)
WLC 463 Applied (FLES) Methods (1)

Composition & Conversation

- GER 341 Composition and Conversation (4)

Major Restricted Electives (1-10 credits)

- GER 150W The German-speaking Countries: An Interdisciplinary Introduction (4)
GER 293 Supervised Foreign Study: Intermediate (1-4)
GER 299 Individual Study (1-4)
GER 340 Topics in Language (1-4)
GER 342 Selected Topics (1-4)
GER 343 German Civilization (1-4)
GER 393 Supervised Foreign Study (1-6)
GER 442 German Literature (1-4)
GER 443 Topics in German Studies (1-4)
GER 445 Topics in German Linguistics (1-4)
GER 460 Topics in German Cinema (4)
GER 490 Senior Capstone Project (1-4)
GER 493 Supervised Foreign Study (1-6)
GER 497 Internship (1-6)
GER 499 Individual Study (1-4)

Required for Major. Students must “demonstrate intermediate-high level speaking proficiency” as defined in the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines established by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages or equivalent. Contact the department for details. Also required for the major are first-hand experiences with the target cultures.

Required for Major: (Professional Education, 30 credits). See the SECONDARY 5-12 AND K-12 PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION section for admission requirements to Professional Education and a list of required professional education courses.

Required Minor: None.

GERMAN MINOR

Required for Minor: Elementary German or other proof of skill is needed. The intermediate sequence counts toward the minor.

Required for Minor (choose 8-16 credits)

At least 14 credits at the upper-division level are required for the minor. Eight of the upper division credits must be in skills courses selected from the list below

- GER 340 Topics in Language (1-4)
GER 341 Composition and Conversation (4)
GER 342 Selected Readings (1-4)
GER 343 German Civilization (1-4)

German Minor Electives (choose 8-16 credits)

- GER 201 Intermediate German I (4)
GER 202 Intermediate German II (4)
GER 293 Supervised Foreign Study: Intermediate (1-4)
GER 299 Individual Study (1-4)
GER 393 Supervised Foreign Study (1-6)
GER 441 Conversation and Composition (4)
GER 442 German Literature (1-4)
GER 443 Topics in German Studies (1-4)
GER 445 Topics in German Linguistics (1-4)
GER 460 Topics in German Cinema (4)
GER 490 Senior Capstone Project (1-4)
GER 493 Supervised Foreign Study (1-6)
GER 497 Internship (1-6)
GER 499 Individual Study (1-4)

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

GER 101 (4) Elementary German I

Introduction to German for students with little or no language experience.
GE-8

GER 102 (4) Elementary German II

Pre: GER 101 or equivalent
GE-8

GER 150W (4) The German-speaking Countries: An Interdisciplinary Introduction

This course offers an interdisciplinary introduction to the German-speaking countries (Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Liechtenstein); it will provide an overview of their geography, history, culture, society and current political situation in comparison to the U.S.

Variable

WI, GE- 6, GE-8

Diverse Cultures - Purple

GER 201 (4) Intermediate German I

A review of German structure and its application to reading, conversation, and composition.

Pre: GER 102 or equivalent
GE-8

GER 202 (4) Intermediate German II

Pre: GER 201 or equivalent
GE-8

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GER 293 (1-4) Supervised Foreign Study: Intermediate

GER 299 (1-4) Individual Study

Pre: as appropriate for level of project

GER 340 (1-4) Topics in Language

Topics will vary and course may be repeated for credit. Language topics include pronunciation and intonation, advanced grammar, etc. The focus is on advanced oral or written communication.

Pre: Two years of university level German or equivalent.

GER 341 (4) Composition and Conversation

Intensive practice in speaking and writing for students who have completed the intermediate sequence or equivalent.

Pre: completion of GER 202 or equivalent.

GER 342 (1-4) Selected Readings

Discussion and analysis of major themes and movements based on selected readings from representative authors from the German-speaking world.

Pre: Completion of GER 202 or equivalent

GER 343 (1-4) German Civilization

Major cultural and historical aspects of German from ancient times to the present.

Pre: Completion of GER 202 or equivalent

GER 393 (1-6) Supervised Foreign Study

Study for credit must be approved by the department prior to departure.

Pre: Intermediate Sequence

GER 441 (4) Conversation and Composition

Intensive practice in speaking and writing German.

Pre: Completion of at least one 300 level course in German.

GER 442 (1-4) German Literature

Topics vary and course may be repeated if a different topic/genre is the focus. Major writers from German speaking countries. Genres include novel, poetry, theatre, short story, etc.

Pre: Completion of readings GER 302 or equivalent

GER 443 (1-4) Topics in German Studies

The course deals with the complex cultural traditions and political histories of German-speaking countries in Central Europe, such as the metropolis Berlin, the Holocaust, minority voices. Topics vary and the course may be repeated if a different topic is the focus.

Fall, Spring

GER 445 (1-4) Topics in German Linguistics

Topics may vary. Course may be repeated for credit. Discussion and analysis of German phonetics and syntax and historical linguistics, for example.

Pre: Completion of a least one 300 level German course.

GER 460 (4) Topics in German Cinema

The course explores 20th and 21st century German film in historical, social, cultural contexts and events. Topics may be a survey, or concentration on Weimar Cinema, New German Cinema, East German cinema, transnational cinema. Topics vary. Course may be repeated.

Variable

GER 490 (1-4) Senior Capstone Project

An individual project by German majors or minors that demonstrates the ability to focus on a specific topic or question in-depth in the field of German culture and literature studies. Approval required by a designated advisor in the German program.

Pre: GER 340, GER 341, GER 342, GER 343, GER 441. Student has to be admitted as a German major or minor and of senior standing.

On-Demand

GER 493 (1-6) Supervised Foreign Study

Study for credit must be arranged by contract prior to departure.

Pre: Experience appropriate for level of credit

GER 497 (1-6) Internship

Pre: Experience appropriate to project

GER 499 (1-4) Individual Study

Pre: As appropriate for level of project