GERMAN STUDIES MAJOR

School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (SLLC)
http://sllc.umd.edu/german/

Program Director: Josh Alvizu, Ph.D.

The 36-credit BA in German Studies is centered on the study of the German language as well as the literatures and cultures of German-speaking peoples. Students who complete the requirements for the major can expect to be able to speak, read, write, and understand German at a level that would allow them to communicate with native speakers. Additionally, students will be able to recognize and interpret the diverse cultural perspectives and products of the German-speaking world, in order to be culturally sensitive members of society.

Placement in Courses

For information about the World Language Placement, go to: http://arhu.umd.edu/academics/world-language-placement/.

Program Learning Outcomes

1. Students will be able to communicate effectively in writing in German by demonstrating accuracy in use of grammatical structures, using appropriate linguistic register, formulating persuasive arguments supported with appropriate textual evidence and incorporating secondary literature.

2. Students will be able to critically interpret written texts in a variety of genres (literature, realia, correspondence, newspaper and magazine articles, poems, dramas, etc.) and demonstrate knowledge of literary concepts.

3. Students will be able to communicate effectively in spoken German, demonstrating accuracy in use of grammatical structures, using appropriate linguistic register, and demonstrating a fluency in speaking that includes pronunciation that does not interfere with communication.

4. Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the institutions, values, and cultural products of Germany and/or the German-speaking world.

REQUIREMENTS

Prerequisite: 8 credits: GERS103 and GERS203 or equivalent

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Core Language Sequence

GERS204  German Grammar Review  3
GERS301  Conversation and Composition I: The German-Speaking World  3
GERS302  Conversation and Composition II: Current Topics in German-Speaking Society  3

Area Requirements  1

Select a minimum of 6 credits of the following language courses:  6
GERS315  Practicum in Translation I
GERS319  Selected Topics in German Language Studies
GERS402  Advanced Conversation and Composition
GERS419  Selected Topics in German Language Studies
GERS473  Variation in Contemporary German Language

Select a minimum of 6 credits of the following literature courses:  6
GERS320  Survey of German Studies
GERS322  Highlights of German Literature and Culture
GERS436  The Usual Suspects: Criminals in German Literature and Film
GERS439  Selected Topics in German Literature
GERS442  Gender and Sexuality in German Literature and Society
GERS443  Literature as Cultural Discourse
GERS444  The German-Jewish Experience
GERS458  Literary or Media Genres

Select a minimum of 6 credits of the following culture courses:  6
GERS255  Once Upon a Time: Fairy Tales of the Brothers Grimm
GERS289  Selected Topics in the Cultures of the German-Speaking Countries
GERS299  Special Topics in German Studies
GERS367  The Great Derangement: Climate, Art, and Literature
GERS383  The 'Warrior' in German Culture: From Valiant Knights to Brazen Terrorists
GERS385  German Cinema
GERS389  Topics in German Culture
GERS399  Selected Topics in German Studies
GERS441  Border Crossings and Cultural Transfers
GERS449  Selected Topics in German Studies
GERS489  Social Issues in German Culture

Select three 3xx or 4xx level elective courses  9

Total Credits  36

1  A minimum of two 3xx or 4xx level courses in each of three areas: language, literature, and culture and 3 electives.
2  Taught in English

Students must earn a grade of "C-" or higher in each course applied toward a major or minor in the School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures. Additionally, an overall GPA of 2.0 in a major or minor is required for graduation.

Language of Instruction

No more than 9 credits of the 36 total required may be satisfied by courses taught in English. With the approval of the German Studies advisor, 6 of the 9 credits may be taken outside the department.

GRADUATION PLANS

Click here (https://www.arhu.umd.edu/academics/advising/academic-plans/) for roadmaps for graduation plans in the College of Arts and Humanities.

Additional information on developing a graduation plan can be found on the following pages:
• http://4yearplans.umd.edu
• the Student Academic Success-Degree Completion Policy (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/registration-academic-requirements-regulations/academic-advising/#success) section of this catalog

OPPORTUNITIES

Internships
Internships (GERS386) are also encouraged (no more than 6 credits may be applied to the major). GERS386 may not replace the required 6 credits of 3xx or 4xx level courses in any of the three categories.

Study Abroad
For information on study abroad programs see the program advisor and/or the Education Abroad website http://globalmaryland.umd.edu/offices/education-abroad/.