GERMANIC STUDIES MAJOR

The 36-credit BA in Germanic Studies is centered on the study of the German language as well as the literatures and cultures of Germanic 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 Foreign Language Placement Assessment, go to: http://www.arhu.umd.edu/undergraduate/flpa (http://www.arhu.umd.edu/undergraduate/flpa/)

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: GERM103 and GERM203 or equivalent

Course Title Credits
College Requirements (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/arts-humanities/#collegerequirements textbook)

Core Language Sequence

GERM204 German Grammar Review 3
GERM301 Conversation and Composition I: The German-Speaking World 3
GERM302 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
GERM315 Practicum in Translation I
GERM319 Selected Topics in Germanic Language Studies
GERM402 Advanced Conversation and Composition
GERM419 Selected Topics in German Language Studies
GERM473 Variation in Contemporary German Language

Select a minimum of 6 credits of the following literature courses: 6
GERM320 Survey of German Studies
GERM322 Highlights of German Literature and Culture
GERM436 The Usual Suspects: Criminals in German Literature and Film
GERM439 Selected Topics in German Literature
GERM442 Gender and Sexuality in German Literature and Society
GERM443 Literature as Cultural Discourse
GERM444 The German-Jewish Experience
GERM458 Literary or Media Genres

Select a minimum of 6 credits of the following culture courses: 6
GERM255 Once Upon a Time: Fairy Tales of the Brothers Grimm 2
GERM289 Selected Topics in the Cultures of the German-Speaking Countries
GERM299 Special Topics in Germanic Studies
GERM383 The ‘Warrior’ in German Culture: From Valiant Knights to Brazen Terrorists
GERM385 German Cinema
GERM389 Topics in German Culture 2
GERM399 Selected Topics in Germanic Studies
GERM441 Border Crossings and Cultural Transfers
GERM449 Selected Topics in Germanic Studies
GERM489 Social Issues in German Culture
Select two 3xx or 4xx level elective courses 6

Capstone Seminar Course
GERM488 Capstone Seminar 3

Total Credits 36

1 A minimum of two 3xx or 4xx level courses in each of three areas: language, literature, and culture and 2 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 6 credits of the 36 total required may be satisfied by courses taught in English. With the approval of the German Studies advisor, 3 of the 6 credits may be taken outside the department.

Four Year Plan

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

Additional information on developing a four-year academic plan can be found on the following pages:

- 4yearplans.umd.edu (http://4yearplans.umd.edu/)
- the Student Academic Success-Degree Completion Policy (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/registration-academic-requirements-regulations/academic-advising/) section of this catalog
Opportunities
Internships
Internships (GERM386) are also encouraged (no more than 6 credits may be applied to the major). GERM386 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 www.international.umd.edu/studyabroad (http://www.international.umd.edu/studyabroad/).