

# GERMAN STUDIES MAJOR

## School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (SLLC)

<http://slc.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 reflecting a diversity of perspectives 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, with specific attention to underrepresented experiences and cultural diversity.
5. Critically analyze issues of power related to gender, sexuality, class, race/ethnicity, and/or mental or physical ability with attention to differences across time, geography and culture and with critical awareness of one's own worldview, values, and biases.

## REQUIREMENTS

**Prerequisite: 8 credits:** GERS103 and GERS203 or equivalent

Course	Title	Credits
College Requirements ( <a href="https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/arts-humanities/#collegerequirementstext">https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/arts-humanities/#collegerequirementstext</a> )		
<b>Core Language Sequence</b>		
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
<b>Area Requirements</b> <sup>1</sup>		

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
GERS331	Kafka and Film: The Uncanny in Literature and Film
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

GERS356	German for the Professions
GERS399	Selected Topics in German Studies
GERS441	Border Crossings and Cultural Transfers
GERS449	Selected Topics in German Studies
GERS489	Social Issues in German Culture

### Elective Courses

Select three 2xx-4xx level elective courses 9

GERS255	Once Upon a Time: Fairy Tales of the Brothers Grimm <sup>2</sup>
GERS289	Selected Topics in the Cultures of the German-Speaking Countries <sup>2</sup>
GERS299	Special Topics in German Studies <sup>2</sup>
GERS339	German Literature In Translation <sup>2</sup>
GERS349	Germanic Literatures in Translation <sup>2</sup>
GERS367	Literature in the Climate Crisis <sup>2</sup>
GERS383	The 'Warrior' in German Culture: From Valiant Knights to Brazen Terrorists <sup>2</sup>
GERS385	German Cinema <sup>2</sup>
GERS389	Topics in German Culture <sup>2</sup>

**Total Credits** 36

<sup>1</sup> A minimum of two 3xx or 4xx level courses in each of three areas: language, literature, and culture.

<sup>2</sup> 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/>.