Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures Major, B.A.–German Media, Arts, and Culture Concentration

Contact Information
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Multiple tracks for undergraduate study are available for students interested in German programs (two concentrations), Slavic programs (two concentrations), and Central European studies (one concentration). A major in Germanic and Slavic languages and literatures provides preparatory training that will be useful in government employment; internationally oriented business, journalism, law, and teaching; as well as graduate study in a range of humanistic and social science disciplines.

Department Programs

Majors

• Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures Major, B.A.–Central European Studies Concentration (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/germanic-slavic-languages-literatures-major-ba-central-european-studies-concentration)

• Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures Major, B.A.–German Literature and Culture Concentration (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/germanic-slavic-languages-literatures-major-ba-german-literature-culture-concentration)

• Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures Major, B.A.–German Media, Arts, and Culture Concentration (p. 1)

• Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures Major, B.A.–Russian Language and Culture Concentration (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/germanic-slavic-languages-literatures-major-ba-russian-language-culture-concentration)

• Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures Major, B.A.–Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures Concentration (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/germanic-slavic-languages-literatures-major-slavic-east-european-languages-cultures-concentration)

Minors

• German Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/german-minor)

• Russian Culture Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/russian-culture-minor)

• Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/slavic-east-european-languages-cultures-minor)

Graduate Programs

• M.A. in German Studies (http://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/schools-departments/germanic-slavic-languages-literatures)

• Ph.D. in German Studies (http://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/schools-departments/germanic-slavic-languages-literatures)

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the Germanic and Slavic languages and literatures program, students should be able to:

• Communicate orally in the target language with native speakers on subjects pertaining to daily life as well as literature and culture

• Develop ideas for essays as well as draft, revise, and write coherent and well-reasoned essays on topics relevant to the discipline

• Interpret texts in the target language from a literary/cultural perspective

Requirements

In addition to the program requirements listed below, students must

• attain a final cumulative GPA of at least 2.0

• complete a minimum of 45 academic credit hours earned from UNC–Chapel Hill courses

• take at least half of their major course requirements (courses and credit hours) at UNC–Chapel Hill

• earn a minimum of 18 hours of C or better in the major core requirements (some majors require 21 hours).

For more information, please consult the degree requirements section of the catalog (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/general-education-curriculum-degree-requirements/#degreerequirements/text).

Core Requirements

A minimum of eight courses (24 credit hours), four of which must be taught in German (all 300-level GERM courses are conducted in German)

GERM 301 Conversation and Composition 3

GERM 302 Contemporary German Society 3

GERM 303 Introduction to German Literature 3

Two GERM courses focusing on media, arts, or culture, numbered above 206 and below 400 (excluding GERM 301–GERM 305, GERM 388, GERM 389, and GERM 396). Students should consult with the director of undergraduate studies to focus their choice of courses on a particular interest.

Three elective courses selected in consultation with the director of undergraduate studies from the list below. Students may also petition the director of undergraduate studies for approval of other suitable courses to count toward this requirement.

Additional Requirements
Students must establish credit for GERM 204 (or GERM 206) as a prerequisite for a German major concentration. Students who desire to pursue a major in a German concentration should have a grade of B or better in GERM 203 and GERM 204 (or in GERM 206).

Three German LAC credit hours may be used as a substitute for one three-hour course taught in German for the major. (See “Opportunities” above.)

Dutch language courses (DTCH 402, DTCH 403, and DTCH 404) may not count toward the German major. However, DTCH 396 and DTCH 405 may be counted toward the German major as courses taught in the target language (i.e., not in English).

At least four courses (12 credit hours) beyond GERM 206 must be taken at UNC–Chapel Hill to fulfill the requirements of the major. Majors who study abroad or wish to transfer credit from another institution may apply to transfer a maximum of four courses counting toward the major. Before their departure for a study abroad program, students should consult with the director of undergraduate studies about appropriate courses taken abroad for the major.

Total Hours 24

Elective Courses

Any GERM course numbered beyond GERM 206 1

ARTH 272 Northern European Art: Van Eyck to Bruegel 3

ARTH 274 European Baroque Art 3

ARTH 275 18th-Century Art 3

ARTH 284 Modernism II: 1905-1960 3

ARTH 365 Late Medieval Art 3

ARTH 454 Cathedrals, Abbeys, Castles: Gothic Art and Architecture, ca.1130-1500 3

ARTH 455 City, Architecture, Art: Nuremberg as a European Artistic Center,1300-1600 3

ARTH 471 Northern European Art of the 14th and 15th Centuries 3

ARTH 472 Early Modern Art, 1400-1750 3

COMM 412 Critical Theory 3

COMM 413 Freud 3

CMPL 143 History of Global Cinema 3

CMPL 375 New Wave Cinema: Its Sources and Its Legacies 3

CMPL 411 Critical Theory 3

CMPL 458 Sense, Sensibility, Sensuality, 1740-1810 3

CMPL 460 Transnational Romanticism: Romantic Movements in Europe and the Americas 3

CMPL 468 Aestheticsm 3

CMPL 470 Concepts and Perspectives of the Tragic 3

CMPL/GERM 279 Once Upon A Fairy Tale: Fairy Tales and Childhood, Then and Now 3

CMPL/GSLL 279H German Culture and the Jewish Question 3

EURO/HIST 252/ JWST 239/ RELI 239 Politics, Society, and Culture in Modern Germany (1871-1945) 3

GSLL 251 Ideology and Aesthetics: Marxism and Literature 3

GERM/WGST 220 Women in the Middle Ages 3

GERM/WGST 250 Women in German Cinema 3

GSLL 260 From Berlin to Budapest: Literature, Film, and Culture of Central Europe 3

GSLL 284 Philosophy and the Arts 3

HIST 458 Europe and the World Wars, 1914-1945 3

HIST 460 Late Medieval and Reformation Germany 3

HIST 461 Early Modern Germany, 1600-1815 3

HIST 462 Germany, 1806-1918: Politics, Society, and Culture H 3

HIST 463 Germany since 1918: Politics, Society, and Culture H 3

HIST/JWST 308 The Renaissance and the Jews 3

HIST/JWST/ PWAD 262 History of the Holocaust: The Destruction of the European Jews 3

HIST/EURO/ POLI 257 Politics, Society, and Culture in Postwar Germany 3

HIST/PWAD 251 The Thirty Years War (1618-1648): Europe in an Age of Crisis 3

HIST/RELI 454 The Reformation 3

JWST/RELI 420 Post-Holocaust Ethics and Theology 3

MUSC 282 Bach and Handel 3

MUSC 283 Haydn and Mozart 3

MUSC 284 Beethoven and His Era 3

PHIL 224 Existential Philosophy H 3

PHIL 229 20th-Century Western Philosophy 3

PHIL 423 Kant’s Theoretical Philosophy 3

PHIL 427 Hegel 3

PHIL 471 Hegel, Marx, and the Philosophical Critique of Society 3

RELI 522 19th-Century Critiques of Religion 3

H Honors version available. An honors course fulfills the same requirements as the nonhonors version of that course. Enrollment and GPA restrictions may apply.

1 GERM courses numbered above 399, or GSLL courses numbered above 200 that are not included in the above list, may count toward the major with the approval of the director of undergraduate studies, who will note whether the course is taught in English or in German.

Students who receive placement credit (PL) or By-Examination credit (BE) for GERM 301 and/or GERM 302 must substitute this credit with coursework (three credit hours each to replace GERM 301 and/or GERM 302) to complete the requirements for the concentration. The additional coursework must be numbered above GERM 303. Students may not re-enroll in a course for which they have received PL or BE credit.

Students may petition the director of undergraduate studies to include other courses with significant German media, art, and/or cultural content.

Only one of the following courses may count toward the major:

GSLL 691H Honors Course 3

GSLL 692H Honors Course 3

GSLL 693H Honors Seminar 3
German (GERM) course descriptions (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/departments/germanic-slavic-languages-literatures/#coursestext).

Special Opportunities in Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures

Honors in Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures

Students majoring in Germanic and Slavic languages and literatures who are qualified for honors work are strongly encouraged to consider taking honors during their senior year. Undertaking an honors project gives students the opportunity to explore a topic in depth under the direction of a faculty member. Seniors who wish to do honors work should confer with the director of undergraduate studies and choose an honors thesis advisor during the second semester of their junior year, and enroll during their senior year in GSSL 691H (honors reading and special studies) followed by GSSL 692H (writing the honors thesis). When GSSL 693H is offered, the course replaces GSSL 692H and provides an opportunity for students majoring in any of our concentrations to complete their thesis in the context of a small seminar with other honors students. One of these honors courses may count toward the major.

Student Involvement and Cultural Enrichment beyond the Classroom

Numerous social and educational events hosted by the department, as well as by student clubs such as the German Club, provide an atmosphere for effective learning and for enjoying German and Slavic culture. There are weekly opportunities in German, Russian, and other languages for informal conversation suitable for both beginning and advanced students. The department periodically sponsors lectures, roundtables, small conferences, and film series for the various languages. Those considering an undergraduate major or minor should request to be added to the appropriate e-mail list for information regarding special events and opportunities.

The department also hosts receptions and informational meetings for students interested in pursuing a major or minor or seeking opportunities for internships, study abroad, graduate study, and employment in Germany, Russia, and Eastern or Central Europe. Every spring the department presents a Slavic and East European talent night, or Spektakl, featuring skits, songs, puppet shows, plays, and poetry readings in the Slavic and East European languages students are learning. The department also presents full-length plays and dramatic readings in German performed by undergraduate students.

Study Abroad

The department encourages students to study and/or engage in internships abroad. These opportunities maximize students’ linguistic and cultural proficiency, particularly once they have acquired sufficient language skills to benefit from this immersion experience. Students may participate for a whole year, a single term, or a summer.

The Study Abroad Office offers German programs at all universities in the German state of Baden-Württemberg, as well as a dedicated exchange program with the Eberhard-Karls-Universität Tübingen; at the Vienna (Austria) University of Economics and Business Administration; at the Science Exchanges in Berlin or Jena (Germany) and Vienna; at the IES European Union Program in Freiburg (Germany); and at the IES Music Studies Program in Vienna. Most German programs require that participating students have passed GERM 204 (or its equivalent); however, students with no prior knowledge of German may attend the FUBiS or FU-BEST programs in Berlin or the IES program in Freiburg. These programs generally include intensive language instruction in addition to content courses taught in English, and most programs offer an orientation course prior to the start of the semester. The yearlong term typically begins in late August and ends in late July, with a two-month vacation between semesters that many students use for travel. Students going abroad for only one term generally do so in the spring semester, which typically begins in late February and ends in late July.

The DAAD in conjunction with German universities usually offers some summer internships. An internship is also available in Dresden. Please see an undergraduate advisor in the department office about these opportunities.

Students who choose to study Dutch may study abroad in Amsterdam through the IES, or attend SIT Netherlands' Program “International Perspective on Sexuality and Gender.” Exchange programs also are offered in Nijmegen and Groningen.

Students can study in semester or yearlong programs in Russia, including in Moscow, St. Petersburg, and Vladimir, while earning credit towards their Carolina degree. Students also may participate in the ACTR Moscow summer program in Russia. UNC-Chapel Hill offers four semester-long programs and one summer program in the Czech Republic. For more information about these and other programs in eastern and central Europe, go to studyabroad.unc.edu. Majors and minors should consult with the director of undergraduate studies or the appropriate undergraduate advisor in advance of going abroad about courses they plan to take for the major or minor.

Languages across the Curriculum

The Languages across the Curriculum (LAC) Program encourages majors and minors to enroll in one-credit-hour recitation or discussion sections that are conducted in German but associated with a variety of courses offered in English by other academic departments. German language recitation sections may also be scheduled in conjunction with several of the department’s courses offered in English. Each of these discussion and recitation sections counts as one German language credit (in addition to the credit granted for the course).

Undergraduate Awards

Membership in the Beta Rho chapter of Delta Phi Alpha, the German honors society, is available to majors and minors who have completed at least six credit hours of German language coursework at the 300 level and who have maintained high cumulative grade point averages and high grade point averages in the major.

The department selects annually one outstanding graduating senior majoring in German to receive the Undergraduate Ria Stambaugh Award for Excellence in German, a monetary award that is presented at the Chancellor’s Awards Ceremony each spring. Ria Stambaugh was a popular professor of German; after her death in 1984 her sister, friends, and colleagues contributed to a memorial fund to establish the Ria Stambaugh Awards. The undergraduate award was first presented in 1987.

Established in 1999, the Paul Debreczeny Prize is awarded each spring to an undergraduate senior whose work in Slavic languages and literatures has been judged outstanding. This monetary prize honors one of the founding faculty members of the program in Slavic languages and literatures.
Undergraduate Research
In addition to honors thesis work, students are encouraged to work on course-complementary or independent research projects with department faculty. Funding may be available through the Office of Undergraduate Research.