

# GERMANIC AND SLAVIC LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES MAJOR, B.A.— GERMAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE CONCENTRATION

## Contact Information

Department of Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures

Visit Program Website (<https://gsl.unc.edu/>)

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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 (p. 1)
- Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures Major, B.A.—German Media, Arts, and Culture Concentration (<http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/germanic-slavic-languages-literatures-major-ba-german-media-arts-culture-concentration/>)
- 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

Students will acquire linguistic proficiency, cultural competence, and critical and analytical skills through the study of Germanic and Slavic languages and cultures in visual, textual, and oral forms. The curricula in Germanic and Slavic languages and literatures are broadly interdisciplinary and place the comparative study of languages, literatures, and cultures in dialogue with other germane fields of knowledge, such as philosophy, film and media studies, history, and music. Particular attention is paid to the development of student research interests that can bridge their acquired linguistic and cultural knowledge with their aspirations in other disciplines. Upon completion of the Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures program, students are able to:

- Speak effectively in the target language in a variety of social, academic, and professional settings, as well as use their native language for effective cross-cultural communication
- Write accurately in both the target language and English on a variety of topics relevant to the discipline
- Understand another culture's practices as meaningful sites for the articulation of identities and the negotiation of values
- Connect the critical interpretation of aesthetic texts to broader fields of intellectual inquiry
- Gain knowledge of the cultural history of Germanic and Slavic lands and link its relevance to both American and global histories
- Utilize disciplinary methods and theories in order to produce original, innovative research

## Requirements

In addition to the program requirements, 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/#degreerequirementstext>).

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Core Requirements</b>		
A minimum of eight German courses (24 credit hours) beyond GERM 206. Five courses (15 credit hours) must be conducted in German (all 300-level GERM courses are conducted in German).		
GERM 301	Communicating in German	3
GERM 302	Contemporary German Society	3
GERM 303	German Literature and Culture	3
Five additional courses (15 credit hours) selected in consultation with the director of undergraduate studies; these may be GERM courses numbered beyond GERM 206. <sup>1</sup>		
<b>Additional Requirements</b>		
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

<sup>1</sup> GERM courses numbered above 399, or GSLL courses numbered above 200, 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.

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

Code	Title	Hours
GSLL 691H	Honors Course	3
GSLL 692H	Honors Course	3
GSLL 693H	Honors Seminar	3

German (GERM) and Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures (GSLL) 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. Students who wish to do honors work should confer with the director of undergraduate studies and choose an honors thesis advisor during the first or second semester of their junior year, and complete an honors thesis contract. Second-semester juniors or first-semester seniors will be enrolled in GSLL 691H (honors reading and special studies) for their first semester of honors thesis work, once the honors thesis contract is fully approved. For the second semester, once an updated contract is completed, students will be enrolled in GSLL 692H (writing the honors thesis). When GSLL 693H is offered, the course replaces GSLL 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 listserv, in order to ensure they receive information regarding special events and opportunities.

The department also hosts receptions and informational meetings for students interested in pursuing a major or minor, or for those 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 most 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; the Freie University (FUBEX) in Berlin, and the University of Freiburg; at the Vienna (Austria) University of Economics and Business Administration; at the IES European Union and Environmental Programs in Freiburg (Germany); and at the IES Program (3 tracks) 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, or also the Baden-Württemberg exchange university of Mannheim which offers a number of courses in English. 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. 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 and the Erasmus University Rotterdam. Most courses are offered in English but students can study Dutch and even German. Students in economics and/or communication studies may take courses in English at the Erasmus University Rotterdam.

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 semester-long programs in Prague, Czech Republic, Dobrovnik, Croatia, Budapest, Hungary, and Krakow, Poland (summer also offered). For more information about these and other programs in eastern and central Europe, go to [studyabroad.unc.edu](http://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 or another of our languages, but associated with a variety of courses offered in English on a related subject. 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 a graduating 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.