

Germanic and Slavic Studies

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Germanic Studies

Germanic Studies provides students a wide range of opportunities to explore the culture and literature of German-speaking countries. Such studies can serve as part of their general education, as a major in German Studies or a double major involving another discipline, as well as preparation for graduate school or an international professional career. Courses are offered in English as well as German, and range from medieval to contemporary literature, from film and visual culture to intellectual history and European Studies. In addition to language, the department offers, among others, courses on German film, representations of the Holocaust, the German Baroque period, travel literature, intellectual history in the twentieth century.

GERMAN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE MAJOR

The major in German Language and Literature consists of at least nine courses of German beyond 203 Intermediate German, one of which must be at the 600 level. These courses are organized in three thematic groups: language, literature, and culture.

I. Language (two courses)

GERM 204 Intermediate II (required)

GERM 372 Translation Theory and Practice

GERM 425 Advanced Composition

II. Literature (five courses)

GERM 303 Introduction to Literature (required)

GERM 441 Novelle

GERM 443 Drama

GERM 447 Romanticism

GERM 449 Shorter Prose

GERM 481, 482 Special Topics

GERM 603, 604 Survey of Literature

GERM 615 Nineteenth Century

GERM 618 Goethe and Schiller

GERM H491, H492 Independent Studies

GERM 440/640 Advanced Undergraduate Seminar

III. Culture (two courses or two courses from Language or Literature)

GERM 325 and 326 Language and Culture

GERM 340 Deviates and Nazis

GERM 344 Holocaust

GERM 351 Culture and Civilization

GERM 354 Marx, Nietzsche, and Freud

GERM 355 Literature in Translation

RUSS 607 Linguistics

All major programs are designed individually by the student in consultation with a departmental advisor. Language and Literature majors are encouraged to include among their electives related courses in history, history of art, philosophy, and other national languages and literatures.

GERMAN CULTURAL STUDIES MAJOR

The major in German Cultural Studies consists of at least nine courses of German beyond 203, one of which must be at the 600 level. These courses are organized in three thematic groups.

I. Language (*two courses*)

GERM 204 Intermediate II (required)

GERM 372 Translation Theory and Practice

GERM 425 Advanced Composition

II. Literature (*two courses*)

GERM 303 Introduction to Literature (required)

GERM 441 Novelle

GERM 443 Drama

GERM 447 Romanticism

GERM 449 Shorter Prose

GERM 481, 482 Special Topics

GERM 603, 604 Survey of Literature

GERM 615 Nineteenth Century

GERM 618 Goethe and Schiller

GERM H491, H492 Independent Studies

GERM 440/640 Advanced Undergraduate Seminar

III. Culture (*five courses*)

Advanced Literature Courses

GERM 441 Novelle

GERM 443 Drama

GERM 447 Romanticism

GERM 449 Shorter Prose

GERM 481, 482 Special Topics

GERM 603, 604 Survey of Literature

GERM 615 Nineteenth Century

GERM 618 Goethe and Schiller

GERM H491, H492 Independent Studies

GERM 440/640 Advanced Undergraduate Seminar

German or Russian Courses in Cultural Studies

GERM 325 and 326 Language and Culture

GERM 340 Deviates and Nazis

GERM 344 Representing the Holocaust: Literary and Filmic Depictions of the Undepictable

GERM 351 Culture and Civilization

GERM 354 Marx, Nietzsche, and Freud

GERM 355 Literature in Translation

RUSS 607 Linguistics

Cultural Theory Electives From Other Departments

ARHS 321 Art and Experience in the Middle Ages

ARHS 342 Baroque Art

HISA 604 The High Middle Ages

HISE 321 Modern Germany

HISE 329 Origins of the Second World War

HISE 610 Renaissance and Reformation, 1450-1660

HISE 621 The First World War

HISE 642 Readings in the Holocaust

MUSC 337 Studies in Great Composers

PHIL 310 19th Century European Philosophy

PHIL 628 Kant

PHIL 633 Nietzsche

POLI 459 The Holocaust System: A Political Analysis

POLT 479 Contemporary Political Philosophy

All major programs are designed individually by the student in consultation with a departmental advisor. Cultural majors are encouraged to include among their electives related courses in history, history of art, philosophy, and other national languages and literatures.

MINOR

The department also encourages students with an active interest in German to minor in German. A minor in German consists of five courses above 203 Intermediate I. Two of these five courses are required: 204 Intermediate II and 303 Introduction to Literature. The remaining three may be selected from literature, advanced language, or culture, in consultation with a departmental advisor.

STUDY ABROAD

For both major and minors, the department strongly recommends at least a semester of study in Germany. The department's exchange program with Jena is a Tulane accredited Junior Year and Junior Semester Abroad, and courses taken in Jena or Hamburg will receive credit at Tulane toward the Germanic studies majors. Other exchange programs may receive credit upon departmental review.

GERM 101 Elementary German I (4)

Staff. Introduction to German grammar. Development of basic language skills with particular emphasis on the active use of present-day German. For students with little or no previous knowledge of German. Meets four times a week.

GERM 102 Elementary German II (4)

Staff. Prerequisite: GERM 101 or placement. Continuation of the work begun in 101. Completes the student's introduction to German grammar and provides further practice in speaking, writing, and reading German. Prepares for 203. Meets four times a week.

GERM 112 Elementary German, Grammar Review (4)

Staff. Similar to GERM 102 but includes review of grammar and vocabulary of 101. For incoming students who have had about two years of high school German, but who are not placed at second-year level. Prepares for 203. Meets four times a week. Offered fall semester only.

GERM 203 Intermediate German (4)

Staff. Prerequisite: GERM 102, 112, or placement. An occasional review of German grammar, extensive reading, and considerable attention to building an active vocabulary sufficient for most conversation and general writing. Conducted in German except for explanations of grammar. Prepares for courses on the 300 level. Meets four times a week. Offered both semesters.

GERM 204 Intermediate German II (4)

Mr. Brancaforte, Mr. Fisher. Prerequisite: GERM 203 or placement. German 204 is the fourth semester of intermediate language study, following 203, and is the first required course for German majors and minors. Advanced practice in all discourse skills. Conducted entirely in German. Class discussion of readings, grammar review, composition, theatrical exercises. Student-driven communicative approach. Offered both semesters.

GERM 303 Introduction to Literature (3)

Mr. Brancaforte, Mr. Fisher, Mr. Hasselbach. Prerequisite: GERM 204 or placement. Conducted in German. Reading of representative works of German prose, drama, and poetry. Introduction to techniques of literary analysis. Designed to introduce the student to a critical approach to literature. Discussion of content and explication of literary aspects of the text as well as textual analysis are stressed.

GERM 304 Introduction to Literature (3)

Mr. Brancaforte, Mr. Fisher, Mr. Hasselbach. Prerequisite: GERM 203 or placement. Conducted in German. Similar to 303, but with different texts. Offered in spring semester only. German 303 and 304 may both be taken, with departmental approval, by those students needing further practice at this level.

GERM 325 German Language and Culture I (3)

Staff. Prerequisite: GERM 203, or equivalent, or placement. Conducted in German. Survey of German history from its beginning through the Age of Enlightenment, with emphasis on cultural and social aspects unique to Germany. Practice in the speaking and writing of German through discussions, debates and oral reports by individual students. Grammar review as needed. Offered in fall semester only.

GERM 326 German Language and Culture II (3)

Staff. Prerequisite: GERM 203, 303, or 325. Conducted in German. Survey of German history from the end of the 18th century to the present including a discussion of institutions and problems of contemporary German life and civilization. Majors are advised to take both 325 and 326. One of the two is required for prospective Junior Year Abroad students going to Germany.

GERM 372 Translation: Theory and Practice of an Impossible Art (3)

Mr. Fisher. Prerequisite: approval of instructor. Proficiency in German required. Course introduces students to both practical and theoretical problems posed by translation in general and by English-German translation in particular. This class will learn by practicing translation and by reading theoretical texts about translation. Texts will include literature, news reports, and film subtitles.

GERM 425 Advanced Composition, Conversation, and Phonetics (3)

Staff. Prerequisite: approval of instructor. An intensive course stressing style both in academic and in current idiomatic German.

GERM 440 Advanced Undergraduate Seminar (3)

Mr. Brancaforte, Mr. Fisher. Prerequisite: approval of instructor. Topics vary from year to year. Typically an intensive study of an individual writer, a limited genre, a literary movement or a thematic problem. Germany's Roaring 1920s; German Culture after WW II; Youth and the German Nation; Post-1989 Literary and Visual Culture; Travels to Foreign Lands, 16th Century Style; Early Modern Maps and Images. May be repeated for credit provided the topic is different. Same as GERM 640.

GERM 441 The German Novelle (3)

Mr. Hasselbach. Prerequisite: GERM 303, 304, or equivalent. Study of Novellen by Goethe, Kleist, Arnim, E.T.A. Hoffmann, Gotthelf, Droste-Hülshoff, Keller, Storm, Hauptmann, Hofmannsthal, Zweig, and Th. Mann, illustrating the historical development of the German Novelle as a literary form.

GERM 443 German Drama (3)

Mr. Fisher. Prerequisite: GERM 303, 304, or equivalent. A study of the German dramatic tradition through close analysis of representative plays by such writers as Lessing, Schiller, Goethe, Kleist, Hebbel, Grillparzer, and Büchner.

GERM 481, 482 Special Topics (3, 3)

Courses offered by visiting professors or permanent faculty. For specific offering, see the *Schedule of Classes*. For description, consult department.

GERM H491, H492 Independent Studies (3, 3)

Staff. Open to superior students with the approval of the department.

GERM H499-H500 Honors Thesis (3, 4)

Staff. Approval of department and Honors Committee required.

GERM 603 Survey of German Literature I (3)

Mr. Brancaforte, Mr. Hasselbach. Literary documents from the Middle Ages through the 17th century. Selected readings and study of early literary movements.

GERM 604 Survey of German Literature II (3)

Mr. Brancaforte, Mr. Fisher, Mr. Hasselbach. Readings and study of literary history from the Enlightenment to the present day.

GERM 615 Studies in 19th-Century German Literature (3)

Mr. Hasselbach. Topic varies and is announced each semester. Study of a genre, a literary movement, or an author. May be repeated for credit.

GERM 618 The Age of Goethe and Schiller (3)

Mr. Brancaforte, Mr. Hasselbach. The literature of German classicism.

GERM 640 Advanced Undergraduate Seminar (3)

See GERM 440 for description.

GERM 691 Independent Studies (3)

Staff. Open to superior students with the approval of the department.

COURSES TAUGHT IN ENGLISH

GERM 340 Deviates, Nazis, and Radicals: An Introduction to German Film (3)

Mr. Fisher. An intensive introduction to the study of German film, the course offers both a survey of German film history and in-depth analyses of representative films. It also covers many essentials of film analysis in general. May be counted toward a major in German only with departmental approval and provided all reading is done in German.

GERM 344 Representing the Holocaust: Literary and Filmic Depictions of the Undepictable (3)

Mr. Fisher. This course examines the Holocaust from various perspectives, disciplines, and media (including history, literature, and film) to investigate the conditions and limitations of representations of the Holocaust. May be counted toward a major in German only with departmental approval and provided all reading is done in German.

GERM 351 German Culture and Civilization (3)

Mr. Brancaforte. The emergence of art, music, and philosophy of the German-speaking peoples, primarily as reflected in their national literatures. Proficiency in German not required. May be counted toward a major in German only with departmental approval and provided all reading is done in German.

GERM 354 Marx, Nietzsche, and Freud (3)

Mr. Fisher. Course introduces three philosophical revolutionaries who have exerted enormous influence on literature, philosophy, psychology, and politics. With its intellectual-historical approach, the course will examine key terms and analytic models in these thinkers as well as the intersection points among them. May be counted toward a major in German only with departmental approval and provided all reading is done in German.

GERM 355 German Literature in Translation (3)

Staff. Subject varies and is announced each semester. Typically a study of literary movements, genres, individual authors, or themes, e.g., the treatment of the Faust theme in German literature, Fairy Tales. May be repeated for credit. May be counted toward a major in German only with departmental approval and provided all reading is done in German.

Russian

Entering students who have had Russian elsewhere are placed at the appropriate level by assessment of their high school records. Each student must enroll at the level commensurate with ability. Successful completion of Russian 203 or placement above the 203 level fulfills the language requirement for graduation.

MAJOR

A major in Russian consists of nine courses totaling 27 credits above 203. It is expected that each major will plan a balanced program. Approval by the departmental advisor of each semester's program is required.

MINOR

A minor in Russian consists of five courses above 203 or its proficiency equivalent (i.e., five courses on the 300 level, selected with departmental consultation and approval, are required).

RUSS 101 Elementary Russian I (4)

Staff. Introduction to Russian grammar. Development of basic language skills.

RUSS 102 Elementary Russian II (4)

Staff. Prerequisite: RUSS 101 or equivalent. Continuation of the study of basic Russian grammar. Practice in reading, speaking, and writing.

RUSS 203 Intermediate Russian (4)

Staff. Prerequisite: RUSS 102 or equivalent. Review of grammar. Practice in speaking, understanding, and writing Russian. Readings of graded literary texts.

RUSS 204 Advanced Conversation and Composition (4)

Staff. Prerequisite: RUSS 203 or 12 credits of Russian or approval of instructor. This course is a continuation of second-year Russian. Discussion of and essays on subjects related to Russian history, culture, and contemporary life. Grammar review and advancement of skills.

RUSS 303 Masterpieces of Russian Literature I (3)

Mr. Cummins. Prerequisite: RUSS 204 or equivalent. Selected readings from among the most outstanding works of Russian literature from its beginnings through the 19th century. Advancement of all language skills through study and analysis of literary texts.

RUSS 304 Masterpieces of Russian Literature II (3)

Mr. Cummins. Prerequisite: RUSS 204 or equivalent. Selected readings from the most outstanding works of 20th-century Russian literature. Advancement of all language skills through study and analysis of literary texts.

RUSS 325 Advanced Russian Grammar (3)

Mr. Brumfield. Mr. Cummins. Prerequisite: 24 credits of Russian or equivalent. Phonemic, grammatical, and syntactical patterns of standard literary Russian.

RUSS 333 Oral Discussion in Russian (3)

Mr. Cummins. Prerequisite: RUSS 204 or equivalent. Discussion of topics from contemporary Russian politics and history. Students learn syntax and vocabulary aimed at building discourse competence. Hypothesization, narration, questioning, contradicting, speaking in paragraphs. Reading, listening, speaking.

RUSS 345 Tolstoy and Dostoevsky in English Translation (3)

Mr. Brumfield, Mr. Cummins. Readings and discussions of the major novels. Comparative study of literary method, theme and structure, modern critical approaches. No knowledge of Russian required. May be counted toward major.

RUSS 353 Survey of Russian Art (3)

Mr. Brumfield. An introduction to the art and architecture of Russia, from the 12th century to the present. The first part of the course deals with the medieval period (church architecture, icons, frescoes). The second part begins with the assimilation of western European styles during the 17th century, and concludes with a survey of current developments in Russia. No knowledge of Russian required. Same as ARHS 353.

RUSS 370 Russian Poetry (3)

Mr. Brumfield, Mr. Cummins. Prerequisite: RUSS 204. Readings in Russian poetry, including Pushkin, Lermontov, Tyutchev, and the symbolists. Lectures, discussions, and compositions in Russian.

RUSS 481, 482 Special Topics (3, 3)

Staff. Courses offered by visiting faculty or permanent faculty. For specific offering, see the *Schedule of Classes*. For description, consult department.

RUSS H491, H492 Independent Studies (3, 3)

Staff. Open to superior students with the approval of the department.

RUSS H499-H500 Honors Thesis (3, 4)

Staff. Approval of department and Honors Committee required.

RUSS 607 Slavic Contributions to Linguistics (3)

Mr. Cummins. Lectures, readings and discussions, in English, of the Prague and Moscow schools of linguistics. Markedness theory, child language, discourse theory, formalist criticism, pragmatics and related topics. Open to juniors, seniors and graduate students in linguistics, literary theory, and allied disciplines. May be counted toward the major with departmental approval. Includes a unit on the structure of German. May be counted toward a German Cultural Studies major.