

German

The Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures at The Ohio State University provides instruction in German language, literature, and culture. For students majoring in German there is a balanced program of literary, cultural, and linguistic study together with practice in speaking and writing. For students not able to build language study into their programs, courses are offered in literature, culture, and film in translation with readings and lectures in English. In addition, the department offers instruction in Dutch, Swedish, and Yiddish.

Pursuing German at Ohio State

All Ohio State freshman applicants are considered within a competitive admission process for the Columbus campus. The primary criteria for admission are the completion of the applicant's high school college preparatory program, performance in that program as indicated by class rank and/or grade-point average, and performance on either the ACT or SAT. Upon admission to the university, students can declare a major in German within the Arts and Humanities. Interested students should contact the undergraduate advisor in the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures and the Arts and Sciences.

Students will work with their advisors to develop a plan of study that focuses and defines a student's interests with specialized and deep understanding of a single field of knowledge. Students can choose to concentrate either on German language and culture or on German literature and culture.

German Requirements

All undergraduate students majoring in German must complete German 101-104 and German 201 or the equivalent, plus the following:

- Intermediate and Advanced German (German 301, 401) 10 credit hours
- German culture (German 463) 5 credit hours
- A choice of courses in German language, history, and culture from a list of approved electives, amounting to a minimum of 20 hours.

Language and Culture track

- Languages in the Humanities (Linguistics 201) 5 credit hours
- Introduction to Stylistics (German 630) 5 credit hours

Literature and Culture track

- Introduction to German Literature (German 230, 231, or 232) 5 credit hours
- Topics in German Literature and Culture (German 640) 5 credit hours

Co-Curricular Opportunities

Ohio State offers many opportunities for students to learn and grow outside of the classroom. These range from cooperative education (co-op) and internships to study abroad programs to student organizations. Co-ops and internships place students in professional environments while they are Ohio State students. Ohio State offers more than 100 study abroad programs in 40 countries around the world. In addition, there are hundreds of student organizations on campus to meet the interests of a diverse student population.

These opportunities enable students to gain valuable work experience, learn about cultures, and take on leadership roles before they enter the workforce. All of these experiences enhance learning and may provide an advantage in the job market.

Honors & Scholars Programs

Ohio State offers the Honors and Scholars programs to create an environment of intellectual support and stimulation within a close-knit community of high-ability undergraduate students. Through these programs, students have access to smaller classes, undergraduate research opportunities, close working relationships with faculty, priority scheduling, and unique housing options.

Honors and Scholars programs represent great opportunities to be part of a smaller community within a large university. Good candidates for these programs will receive additional information after admission to the university. Learn more about the Honors and Scholars program at honors-scholars.osu.edu.

Career Prospects in German

Beginning and intermediate language instruction seeks to prepare students to use German in daily life, in other disciplines, or in advanced work in the department. Undergraduates with special interests, such as translation or current events, will find those interests reflected in the department's course offerings.

The flexibility of Ohio State's German major makes it easier to combine a second major such as history, international studies, journalism, political science, or another foreign language with German. Traditionally students majoring in German pursue a liberal arts program. Many use their liberal arts preparation as a stepping-stone to advanced study or professional preparation in fields such as medicine or law. However, other options are possible; for instance, a number of internships or trainee programs are open to German majors in the field of international business. A growing number of students are opting for a double major in German and engineering fields, where knowledge of German can open doors to overseas employment. Students who

For more information, check these web sites:

Germanic Languages & Literatures: germanic.osu.edu

Arts and Humanities: artsandhumanities.osu.edu

Ohio State: osu.edu

Admissions: undergrad.osu.edu

Multicultural Center: multiculturalcenter.osu.edu

First Year Experience Program: fye.osu.edu

Curriculum Sample*

This is a sample list of classes a student may take to pursue the Culture and Language track in German. Since university students need more than specific education in a narrow field, they also will take classes to complete the General Education Curriculum (GEC). The GEC will allow students to develop the fundamental skills essential to collegiate success across major programs. Course work options satisfying the GEC often come from a variety of academic areas of study allowing students to tailor their GEC toward their interests. Note: This sample represents one of several possible paths to a degree in German. Consult the departmental web site, germanic.osu.edu, for details on each specific track.

Freshman Year:

Elementary German I**	5
Elementary German II**	5
Intermediate German I**	5
Electives	5
GEC courses	30
Arts and Humanities Survey	1
Freshman Seminar	1
Total hours	52

Sophomore Year:

Intermediate German II**	5
Intermediate German III**	5
Advanced German I	5
Weimar and Fascism in German Literature and Film	5
Introduction to Language in the Humanities	5
Electives	5
GEC courses	15
Total hours	45

Junior Year:

Advanced German II	5
Studies in German Literature	5
German Culture Survey	5
Practice of Translation	3
Electives	10
GEC courses	20
Total hours	48

Senior Year:

Introduction to Stylistics	5
Culture Events in German-speaking Countries	3
Government and Politics of Western Europe	5
Electives	9
GEC courses	15
Total hours	37

*For a sample curriculum in the Literature and Culture track please contact the departmental undergraduate advisor.

**Students who have had high school German may receive examination (EM) credit for some or all of these courses.

have a major or minor in German may combine their BA degree with a MA from the College of Education and become public school teachers.

The graduate program in German helps students to formulate, pursue, and complete specialized research interests. The department strives to train the critical mind to contribute significantly to the profession as teacher and as scholar. The graduate curriculum in German provides practical and theoretical language teacher training for graduate associates in German.

It is difficult to predict the salary of German major graduates because their professional options are quite diverse from beginning teacher to faculty positions at the assistant professor rank. Graduates working in the fields of business, publication, consulting, government, law, medicine, or other areas also have wide salary ranges.

Career Counseling and Job Placement

Students can explore career options by utilizing Career Connection as well as the Arts and Sciences Career Services Office. Providing complimentary services, Career Connection focuses on helping students establish a career direction, while the Arts and Sciences Career Services Office assists students with finding internships—experiences that are essential to testing out the suitability of career fields they are considering. Located in 48 Townshend Hall, the Arts and Sciences Career Services Office also assists seniors and recent graduates with finding entry-level career employment. More information about both offices is found at ascareerservices.osu.edu and careerconnection.osu.edu.

More About German

German/International Business Major

In cooperation with the College of Business, the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures offers a major in German in conjunction with an international business major. If students decide early enough and seek the counsel of all units involved, they can complete this program in 14 (or possibly fewer) quarters and receive both the B.A. in German and the B.S. in Business Administration.

The Ohio State University Bonn Program

This program, administered jointly by Ohio State and the University of Bonn, offers undergraduate students the chance to study at a German university. Students earn college credit while studying a broad range of topics. In addition to their classes, students may embark on individual pursuits ranging from internship opportunities to extra-curricular events such as acting with a theater troupe or singing in a chorus. Students are further integrated into German college life by living with German students in the university dormitories.

The Ohio State Summer Program in Dresden

The department maintains an eight-week summer program in cooperation with the Technical University in Dresden. Students can receive 15 hours of Ohio State University credit on the program, which allows them to complete their language requirement and earn five hours of GEC credit in Germany. Opportunities for using the language and experiencing German culture make the program particularly attractive for students with international interests. Intermediate courses are also offered for those students working toward a German major or minor.

Revised September 2009. For the most up-to-date information on the German program, please visit germanic.osu.edu.

Contact information:

Germanic Languages and Literatures | 498 Hagerty Hall
1775 College Road | Columbus, Ohio 43210-1340
(614) 292-6985