German Studies

Department Website: http://german.uchicago.edu

Program of Study

The program for the BA degree in Germanic Studies is intended to provide students with a wide ranging and highly personalized introduction to the language, literature, and culture of German-speaking countries and to various methods of approaching and examining these areas. It is designed to be complemented by other areas of study (e.g., anthropology, art history, comparative literature, economics, film studies, history, philosophy, political science, sociology).

Students in other fields of study may also complete a minor in Germanic Studies. Information follows the description of the major.

Program Requirements

Students majoring in Germanic Studies typically register for:

- Six German language courses at the second-year level and above (Or students may have satisfactory working knowledge of German, in which case they satisfy the required language courses through placement or accreditation examinations and may petition for back credits.)
- Three courses in German literature and culture
- Three courses in German literature and culture conducted in German, of which one may be a departmental course with a Languages Across the Curriculum (LxC) session and one may be an additional third-year course
- GRMN 29900 BA Paper

With prior approval of the Director of Undergraduate Studies (DUS), students may count up to two relevant German-oriented courses from other departments in the humanities or social sciences toward the requirements of the major in Germanic Studies.

Students must meet with the Director of Undergraduate Studies to discuss a plan of study as soon as they declare their major and no later than the end of Spring Quarter of their third year. Students must have their programs approved by the DUS before the end of their third year.

BA Paper

The BA paper typically is a research paper of a minimum of twenty-five pages. While the paper may be written in either English or German, it must include a bibliography that makes ample use of German-language sources. Students must submit a proposal for their BA paper to their faculty adviser by the beginning of the eighth week of Autumn Quarter in their senior year. A first draft of the paper is due on the first day of Spring Quarter, and the completed paper must be submitted by the beginning of the sixth week of Spring Quarter.

Germanic Studies will accept a paper or project used to meet the BA requirement in another major, under the condition that original German sources are used. Students should consult with both chairs by the earliest BA proposal deadline (or by the end of their third year, when neither program publishes a deadline). A consent form, to be signed by both chairs, is available from the College adviser. It must be completed and returned to the College adviser by the end of Autumn Quarter of the student’s year of graduation.

Summary of Requirements

Second-Year German: One of the following three-course sequences:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GRMN 12001-12002-12003</td>
<td>Intensive German I-II-III</td>
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<tr>
<td>GRMN 20100-20201-20300</td>
<td>Deutsche Maerchen; Grünes Deutschland; Kurzprosa 20. Jahrhundert</td>
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Third-Year German: Any three of the following courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Philosophie</td>
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<td>Film</td>
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<tr>
<td>GRMN 21603</td>
<td>Drama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRMN 21703</td>
<td>Medien und Gesellschaft</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Three courses in literature or culture taken in German

Three courses in German literature and culture

300

300

300

300
GRMN 29900 BA Paper 100
Total Units 1300

* Or credit for the equivalent as determined by petition.

** With approval of the Director of Undergraduate Studies, one third-year course can be replaced by the independent project in Vienna.

† One may be a course with a Languages Across the Curriculum (LxC) session taught within the Department of Germanic Studies; one may be an additional third-year course.

§ Two may be courses in other departments.

**GRADING**

Students who are majoring in Germanic Studies must receive a quality grade in all courses taken to meet requirements in the major. Non-majors have the option of taking courses for P/F grading (except for language courses, which must be taken for quality grades). More than half of the requirements for the major must be met by registering for courses bearing University of Chicago course numbers.

**HONORS**

Honors are reserved for students who achieve overall excellence in grades for courses in the College and within the major, as well as complete a BA paper that shows proof of original research or criticism. Students with an overall GPA of at least 3.0 for College work and a GPA of at least 3.5 in classes within the major, and whose GRMN 29900 BA Paper is judged superior by two readers, will be recommended to the Master of the Humanities Collegiate Division for honors.

**STUDY ABROAD**

As early in their course of study as possible, interested students are encouraged to take advantage of one of the study abroad options that are available in the College. The five options are:

1. A program in Vienna, which is offered each Autumn Quarter, includes three courses of European Civilization, as well as German language instruction on several levels.
   - Vienna program: contact Lauren Schneider, lschneider12@uchicago.edu and consult study-abroad.uchicago.edu/programs/vienna-western-civilization (https://study-abroad.uchicago.edu/programs/vienna-western-civilization/)

2. The College also co-sponsors, with the Berlin Consortium for German Studies, a yearlong program at the Freie Universität Berlin. Students register for regular classes at the Freie Universität or at other Berlin universities. To be eligible, students must have completed the second year of German language courses or an equivalent, and should have completed all general education requirements.
   - Berlin Consortium: contact Elana Kranz, ekranz@uchicago.edu and consult study-abroad.uchicago.edu/programs/berlin-freie-universität-berlin (https://study-abroad.uchicago.edu/programs/berlin-freie-universität-berlin/)

3. Third-year majors can apply for a Romberg Summer Research Grant to do preparatory work for the BA paper.
   - Send your application, a two-page single-spaced description of your research project and a budget description, to the Director of Undergraduate Studies by March 1.

4. Students who wish to do a summer study abroad program can apply for a Foreign Language Acquisition Grant (FLAG) that is administered by the College and provides support for a minimum of eight weeks of study at a recognized summer program abroad. Students must have completed GRMN 10300 Elementary German For Beginners-3 or its equivalent to be eligible for FLAG support for the study of German. For more information, visit study-abroad.uchicago.edu/sitg (http://study-abroad.uchicago.edu/sitg/).
   - FLAG program: consult study-abroad.uchicago.edu/programs/foreign-language-acquisition-grant-flag (https://study-abroad.uchicago.edu/programs/foreign-language-acquisition-grant-flag/)

5. DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) Programs
   - DAAD German Studies Research Grant: Supports third- or fourth-year students seeking a 1-2 month research experience in Germany
   - DAAD Research Internships in Science and Engineering (RISE): Offers a stipend of 650 Euros per month for up to three months to conduct research in Germany over the summer
   - DAAD Undergraduate Scholarship (Supports second- and third-year students who wish to study and conduct research in Germany for 4 to 10 months)
   - DAAD University Summer Course Grant (Summer courses at German universities to help build your language skills while studying anything from film to politics to engineering)
   - DAAD Study & Internship Program (SIP) in Germany (Provides support for study at a German university, followed by an internship (including applied science research)
For other opportunities, details, and updates, visit ccrf.uchicago.edu/scholarships-and-fellowships/daad-german-academic-exchange-programs (https://ccrf.uchicago.edu/scholarships-and-fellowships/daad-german-academic-exchange-programs/) or contact Arthur Salvo at aksalvo@uchicago.edu.

More than half of the requirements for the major must be met by registering for courses bearing University of Chicago course numbers.

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY CERTIFICATES**

It is recommended that students studying German complete one of the College’s Language Proficiency Certificates (Practical or Advanced) as documentation of functional ability in German. Students who successfully pass a University of Chicago oral and written proficiency test will receive a certificate of proficiency in a foreign language and will have this proficiency noted on their transcripts. Students are eligible to take the Advanced examination after they have completed courses beyond the second year of language study and subsequently have spent a minimum of one quarter abroad in an approved program. FLAG students are also eligible. For more information, contact Maeve Hooper at hooperm@uchicago.edu, and consult languageassessment.uchicago.edu (https://languageassessment.uchicago.edu/).

**PLACEMENT TESTING**

The German Placement Test is offered online to students registered at the University. Students may only take the Placement Test once. A score on the test does not confer credit, rather, it provides students with an entry point into the German language program. For questions or issues regarding placement, please contact the Director of the German Language Program, Maeve Hooper, hooperm@uchicago.edu.

**ACCREDITATION TESTING**

For issues regarding accreditation, please contact the Director of the German Language Program, Maeve Hooper, hooperm@uchicago.edu.

**MINOR PROGRAM IN GERMANIC STUDIES**

Students in other fields of study may complete a minor in Germanic Studies. The minor in Germanic Studies requires a total of six courses in addition to the second-year language sequence (GRMN 20100-20201-20300 Deutsche Maerchen; Grünes Deutschland; Kurzprosa 20. Jahrhundert) (or credit for the equivalent as determined by petition). These six courses usually include the third-year sequence and three literature/culture courses. Two of the literature/culture courses must be taken in German. Note that credit toward the minor for courses taken abroad must be determined in consultation with the director of undergraduate studies.

Students who elect the minor program in Germanic Studies must meet with the Director of Undergraduate Studies before the end of Spring Quarter of their third year to declare their intention to complete the minor and must submit a form obtained from their College adviser. Students choose courses in consultation with the director of undergraduate studies. The director’s approval for the minor program should be submitted to the student’s College adviser by the deadline above on the form.

Courses in the minor may not be double counted with the student’s major(s) or with other minors and may not be counted toward general education requirements. Courses in the minor must be taken for quality grades, and more than half of the requirements for the minor must be met by registering for courses bearing University of Chicago course numbers.

The following group of courses would comprise a minor in Germanic Studies. Other programs may be designed in consultation with the director of undergraduate studies. Minor program requirements are subject to revision.

**Germanic Studies Minor Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Third-Year German: Any three of the following courses:</strong></td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRMN 21103 Erzaehlen</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>GRMN 21303 Gedicht</td>
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<tr>
<td>GRMN 21403 Philosophie</td>
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<td>GRMN 21503 Film</td>
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<tr>
<td>GRMN 21603 Drama</td>
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<tr>
<td>GRMN 21703 Medien und Gesellschaft</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Three courses in German literature and culture:</strong></td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Units</strong></td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

‡ With approval of the Director of Undergraduate Studies, one third-year course can be replaced by the independent project in Vienna.

* At least two must be taken in German. Of these one may be a departmental course with a Languages Across the Curriculum (LxC) session, and one may be an additional third-year course.
MINOR PROGRAM IN NORWEGIAN STUDIES

See the Norwegian Studies (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/norwegianstudies/) page in this catalog for program requirements and courses for the minor in Norwegian Studies.

YIDDISH STUDIES

Students may enroll in the beginning language sequence (YDDH 10100-10200-10300 Elementary Yiddish for Beginners I-II-III) as well as the intermediate sequence (YDDH 20100-20200 Intermediate Yiddish I-II). There are opportunities for independent study for students whose Yiddish is above the intermediate level. Courses in Yiddish literature taught in English are offered biannually through the Department of Germanic Studies and may also be available in the Department of Comparative Literature. Courses in Yiddish may also be applied to the major or minor in Jewish Studies. Students interested in pursuing these degrees should consult Nancy Pardee (npardee@uchicago.edu). Students who study in the Yiddish program may be eligible for funding for supplemental Yiddish language study in the summers or for internships.

Undergraduates are eligible to apply for the Vladimir and Pearl Heifetz Memorial Fellowship and the Vivian Lefsky Hort Memorial Fellowship (for East European Jewish literature), and the Joseph Kremen Memorial Fellowship (for East European Jewish Arts, Music, and Theater) at the YIVO institute for Jewish Research. These are two–three-month in-residence (in New York) research grants: www.yivo.org/List-of-Fellowships/. Furthermore, the Greenberg Center for Jewish Studies offers undergraduate summer research grants: ccjs.uchicago.edu/undergraduate-summer-research-grants.

For further information on the Yiddish program and on opportunities, please contact Jessica Kirzane, Lecturer in Yiddish, jkirzane@uchicago.edu.

YIDDISH PROGRAM INTERNSHIP

Career Advancement and the Greenberg Center co-sponsor an undergraduate intern from the University of Chicago to work for In geveb: A Journal of Yiddish Studies.

GERMAN COURSES (LANGUAGE)

FIRST-YEAR SEQUENCE

GRMN 10100-10200-10300. Elementary German for Beginners I-II-III. This sequence develops proficiency in reading, writing, listening, and speaking for use in everyday communication. Knowledge and awareness of the different cultures of the German speaking countries is also a goal.

GRMN 10100. Elementary German For Beginners-1. 100 Units. This sequence develops proficiency in reading, writing, listening, and speaking for use in everyday communication. Knowledge and awareness of the different cultures of the German speaking countries is also a goal. No auditors permitted. Must be taken for quality grade.
  Terms Offered: Autumn
  Note(s): No auditors permitted. Must be taken for quality grade.

GRMN 10200. Elementary German For Beginners-2. 100 Units. Terms Offered: Winter
  Prerequisite(s): GRMN 10100 or placement
  Note(s): No auditors permitted. Must be taken for quality grade.

GRMN 10300. Elementary German For Beginners-3. 100 Units. This sequence develops proficiency in reading, writing, listening, and speaking for use in everyday communication. Knowledge and awareness of the different cultures of the German speaking countries is also a goal. Prerequisite(s): GRMN 10200 or 10201, or placement. No auditors permitted. Must be taken for quality grade.
  Terms Offered: Autumn,Winter,Spring
  Prerequisite(s): GRMN 10200 or 10201, or placement
  Note(s): No auditors permitted. Must be taken for quality grade.

GRMN 10123. Summer Intensive Introductory German. 300 Units. Summer Introductory German is a 7-week course designed for students wishing to develop intermediate proficiency in reading, writing, listening and speaking for use in everyday communication. Students will work with authentic materials as well as gain familiarity with the different cultures of the German-speaking countries. The course meets Monday through Thursday for three hours per day, with additional 90-minute meeting times in the afternoon. Summer Introductory German is the equivalent of the 10100-10200-10300 sequence offered during the regular academic year at the University of Chicago and satisfies the university competency requirement. During Summer 2020, this course will be offered online and it will be adjusted accordingly.
  Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Summer

GRMN 10201. Elementary German 2. 100 Units. This is an accelerated version of the GRMN 10100-10200 sequence intended for students with previous knowledge of the language. Prerequisite(s): Placement or consent of language coordinator. No auditors permitted. Must be taken for a quality grade.
Terms Offered: Autumn, Winter
Prerequisite(s): Placement or consent of language coordinator
Note(s): No auditors permitted. Must be taken for a quality grade.

**GRMN 12001-12002-12003. Intensive German I-II-III.**
This intensive, three-quarter sequence brings students to high-intermediate levels in all four skills: reading, writing, speaking, and listening so that students can enter third-year level courses in German. Learners who are starting German late in their College careers or who wish to move forward swiftly will gain skills corresponding to two full years of study. NOTE: Each course is 200 units and corresponds in workload to taking two courses.

- **GRMN 12001. Intensive German I. 200 Units.**
  This intensive, three-quarter sequence brings students to high-intermediate levels in all four skills: reading, writing, speaking, and listening so that students can enter third-year level courses in German. Learners who are starting German late in their College careers or who wish to move forward swiftly will gain skills corresponding to two full years of study. NOTE: Each course is 200 units and corresponds in workload to taking two courses.
  Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: TBD

- **GRMN 12002. Intensive German II. 200 Units.**
  This intensive, three-quarter sequence brings students to high-intermediate levels in all four skills: reading, writing, speaking, and listening so that students can enter third-year level courses in German. Learners who are starting German late in their College careers or who wish to move forward swiftly will gain skills corresponding to two full years of study. NOTE: Each course is 200 units and corresponds in workload to taking two courses.
  Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: TBD

- **GRMN 12003. Intensive German III. 200 Units.**
  This intensive, three-quarter sequence brings students to high-intermediate levels in all four skills: reading, writing, speaking, and listening so that students can enter third-year level courses in German. Learners who are starting German late in their College careers or who wish to move forward swiftly will gain skills corresponding to two full years of study. NOTE: Each course is 200 units and corresponds in workload to taking two courses.
  Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: TBD

**GRMN 13100. Reading German. 100 Units.**
This course prepares students to read a variety of German texts. By the end of the quarter, students should have a fundamental knowledge of German grammar and a basic vocabulary. While the course does not teach conversational German, the basic elements of pronunciation are introduced.
Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): Prior knowledge of German not required. No auditors permitted. This course does not prepare students for the competency exam. Must be taken for a quality grade.

**SECOND-YEAR SEQUENCE**

**GRMN 20100-20201-20300. Deutsche Maerchen; Grünes Deutschland; Kurzprosa 20. Jahrhundert.**
Second-Year Sequence

- **GRMN 20100. Deutsche Märchen. 100 Units.**
  This course is a comprehensive look at German fairy tales, including structure and role in German nineteenth-century literature, adaptation as children’s books in German and English, and film interpretations. This course also includes a review and expansion of German grammar.
  Terms Offered: Autumn, Winter, Spring
  Prerequisite(s): GRMN 10300 or placement
  Note(s): No auditors permitted. Must be taken for a quality grade.

- **GRMN 20201. Grünes Deutschland. 100 Units.**
  Over the past three decades Germany has become a global leader in environmentalism and sustainability practices. This course develops students' proficiency in all four skills (speaking, listening, reading, writing) and reviews basic grammar while exploring various aspects of ‘Green Germany,’ from recycling and transportation to renewable energies (die Energiewende) to the history of the green movement. We investigate environmental practices and attitudes in German-speaking countries while comparing them with those in the US and other countries. In doing so, we consider whether environmental practices in German-speaking countries represent positive and feasible models for other countries. Students work with authentic and current materials (articles, websites, videos) and pursue a variety of independent projects (research, creative), including a final project on how to make the university campus more sustainable.
  Terms Offered: Autumn, Spring, Winter
  Prerequisite(s): GRMN 20100 or placement exam

- **GRMN 20300. Kurzprosa aus dem 20. Jahrhundert. 100 Units.**
  This course is a study of descriptive and narrative prose through short fiction and other texts, as well as media from the twentieth century, with a focus on grammatical issues that are designed to push toward more cohesive and idiomatic use of language.
German Studies

Terms Offered: Autumn, Winter, Spring
Prerequisite(s): GRMN 20200 or placement
Note(s): No auditors permitted. Must be taken for a quality grade.

THIRD-YEAR SEQUENCE

GRMN 21103-21303-21403-21503-21603-21703. Drama; Erzählen; Film; Gedichte; Medien und Gesellschaft; Philosophie.
It is not necessary to take these courses in sequence. These courses serve as preparation for seminar-style classes. Students work with a variety of texts and learn to present and participate in instructor- and student-led discussions of relevant issues and topics. Student also write short essays and longer research papers. Work in grammar, structure, and vocabulary moves students toward more idiomatic use of German.

GRMN 21103. Erzählchen. 100 Units.
It is not necessary to take these courses in sequence, but three of the four courses are required for the major. These courses serve as preparation for seminar-style classes. Students work with a variety of texts and learn to present and participate in instructor- and student-led discussions of relevant issues and topics. Student also write short essays and longer research papers. Work in grammar, structure, and vocabulary moves students toward more idiomatic use of German. This course develops advanced German skills through the study of narratives of various authors from different periods. Prerequisite(s): GRMN 20300 or placement
Note(s): No auditors permitted. Must be taken for a quality grade.
Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): GRMN 20300 or placement
Note(s): No auditors permitted. Must be taken for a quality grade.

GRMN 21303. Gedicht. 100 Units.
This course develops advanced German skills through the study of poetry of various authors from different periods.
Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): GRMN 20300 or placement
Note(s): No auditors permitted. Must be taken for a quality grade.

GRMN 21403. Philosophie. 100 Units.
This course develops advanced German skills through the study of philosophical texts of various authors from different periods.
Terms Offered: Spring. Offered in even-numbered years.
Prerequisite(s): GRMN 20300 or placement
Note(s): No auditors permitted. Must be taken for a quality grade.

GRMN 21503. Film. 100 Units.
Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: TBD

GRMN 21603. Drama. 100 Units.
This course develops advanced German skill through the study of dramas and/or films of various authors/directors from different eras.
Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: TBD

GRMN 21703. Medien und Gesellschaft. 100 Units.
Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: TBD

GRMN 21203. Drama und Film. 100 Units.
This course develops advanced German skills through the study of dramas and/or films of various authors/directors from different eras.
Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): GRMN 20300 or placement
Note(s): No auditors permitted. Must be taken for a quality grade.

GRMN 21803. Arbeitskulturen: Trends in the German-Speaking Working World. 100 Units.
This advanced language course will cover the economic and political bases of the European Union, an overview of the German-speaking world’s largest industries, the contemporary emphasis on sustainable business practices, as well as the on-going process of Brexit. Brexit brings key questions, such as the value of the common currency, immigration mobility within the Bloc and Germany’s role as economic and political leader of the group into focus. We will practice skills such as effective digital correspondence, presentations, and interviewing strategies. Students may tailor major assignments to their specific field or industry of interest with the aim of securing a summer internship or developing an in situ research project. All reading and discussion in German.
Instructor(s): Nicole Burgoyne Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): GRMN 20300 or placement exam

Languages Across the Curriculum (LxC)

LxC courses have two possible formats: (1) an additional course meeting during which students read and discuss authentic source material and primary texts in German; or (2) a course in another discipline (such as history) that is taught entirely in German. Prerequisite German language skills depend on the course format and
content. LxC courses maintain or improve students’ German language skills while giving them a unique and broadened perspective into the regular course content.

GERMAN COURSES (LITERATURE AND CULTURE)

All literature and culture courses are conducted in German unless otherwise indicated. Students who are majoring or minoring in German and take courses taught in English are expected to do the majority of their course work in German.

GRMN 22320. Das magische Wort: Knights and Nuns in the Middle Ages. 100 Units.
This course explores an array of medieval literature in order to describe its conceptions of magic and the mystical. We will consider the chivalric tradition, comparing texts such as the ‘Nibelungenlied,’ Wolfram von Eschenbach’s ‘Parzival’ and Gottfried von Strassburg’s ‘Tristan’ with an epic poem by Hartmann von Aue. Having characterized the kinds of magic operative in such texts, we will move onto religious texts ranging from the ‘Heliand’ to testimonies of religious ecstasy by Hildegard von Bingen and Mechthild von Magdeburg. Key contradictions to be considered include magic’s permeation of everyday life, but also its fantastic or even sacred status. To what extent could magic or sublime states be put to use by the protagonists of each of these texts and how did such forces function as an instrument of fate or divine will? All reading and discussion in German.
Instructor(s): Nicole Burgoyne Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): GRMN 20300 or placement exam

GRMN 22321. Aby Warburg and the Origins of Kulturwissenschaft. 100 Units.
This course explores Aby Warburg as a founder of Kulturwissenschaft in the context of other thinkers of the time such as Sigmund Freud and Walter Benjamin. Trained as an art historian with an expertise in Renaissance art, Warburg morphed into a historian of images (i.e., Bildwissenschaft) and - more broadly - into a historian of culture. We will trace Warburg’s cultural historical method as it develops primarily from philology, but also art history, anthropology, the comparative study of religions, and evolutionary biology. How does Warburg read culture? What is his methodological approach for examining a wide variety of cultural artifacts ranging from Ovid’s Metamorphoses, Poliziano’s poetry, and Dürer’s etchings to postal stamps and news photographs? How can these artifacts be vehicles for cultural memory? And how does the transmission of cultural memory in artworks manifest itself in different media such as literary texts, religious processions, astrological treatises, photography, and painting? Moreover, how does Warburg’s work help us contextualize and historicize ‘interdisciplinarity’ today?
Instructor(s): Margareta Ingrid Christian Terms Offered: Autumn
Note(s): Conducted in English.
Equivalent Course(s): GRMN 32321

GRMN 24321. Literature of the Weimar Republic. 100 Units.
In this course, we will turn to the ‘golden twenties’ of the previous century to examine a series of texts from Germany’s first republic, its first democratic period, between 1918 and 1933. The Weimar Republic was a period of political experimentation; of exceptional intellectual and artistic creativity; and of social upheaval. We will close-read texts, alongside a selection of films and artworks, and situate them in their turbulent historical context. Readings include: Walter Benjamin, Anna Seghers, Siegfried Kracauer, Ernst Bloch, Ricarda Huch, Alfred Döblin, Bertolt Brecht, Erich Kästner, Gertrud Kolmar. Readings and discussions in English. Those who read German will read the texts in the original.
Instructor(s): Margareta Ingrid Christian Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): GRMN 34321

GRMN 24921. Robert Musil: Altered States. 100 Units.
This course is an introduction to the work of Robert Musil, one of the major novelists of the twentieth century. We will focus on Musil’s idea of the ‘Other Condition’ [der andere Zustand], which he once described-in contrast to our normal way of life-as a ‘secret rising and ebbing of our being with that of things and other people.’ What is this ‘Other Condition’: what are its ethics and aesthetics, and how can it be expressed in literature? We will begin with readings from Musil’s critical writings and early narrative prose, then devote the majority of the quarter to his unfinished magnum opus, The Man without Qualities. Particular attention will be paid to Musil’s experimentation with narrative form and his development of the genre of ‘essayism. Readings and discussion in English.
Instructor(s): Sophie Salvo Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): FNDL 24921, GRMN 34921

GRMN 25421. Babylon Berlin: Politics and Culture in the Weimar Period. 100 Units.
This seminar will focus on the political and cultural turmoil of the Weimar Republic. Course material will include novels, poetry, political essays, philosophy, visual art, and film. Among authors and artists addressed: Ernst Jünger, Walter Benjamin, Alfred Döblin, Fritz Lang, Georg Grosz, Irmgard Keun, Hannah Höch, Bertold Brecht, Carl Schmitt.
Instructor(s): Eric Santner Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): Advanced undergrad by consent only.
Equivalent Course(s): GRMN 35421
GRMN 25521. The Romantic Mountain. 100 Units.
Caspar David Friedrich’s painting Der Wanderer über dem Nebelmeer (1818), in which a figure, back turned enigmatically to the viewer, gazes out on a vast foggy expanse from a craggy mountain, has become virtually synonymous with German Romanticism. The experience of standing on top of a mountain or of voyaging deep into its interior touches on aesthetics (particularly the sublime), science (the rise of geology), and, increasingly, industrialization, spoliation, and related modern phenomena such as alpinism and tourism. This course examines the Romantic fascination with mountains from a number of cultural perspectives, as well as its after-life in the early 20th-century Bergfilm genre. Readings of, among others: Kant, Tieck, Hoffmann, Heine, and Stifter. Readings and discussions in German
Instructor(s): Catriona MacLeod Terms Offered: Winter

GRMN 25721. Literature as Self Help: The Poetry of Rainer Maria Rilke. 100 Units.
Rainer Maria Rilke’s writing is famous for its lyrical intensity. The pathos of his poetic language appears to ‘move’ and ‘touch’ readers in an unparalleled way. Soldiers going to fight in the Second World War carried volumes of Rilke’s poetry in their knapsacks and letters of fallen soldiers contained quotes from his verse (‘Who talks of victory? To endure is all.’). Recent editions of his writings, such as Rilke on Love and Other Difficulties(1994), Rilke for the Stressed(1998) or Words of Consolation(2017), attest to Rilke being viewed as someone from whom readers expect insight into the value or vanity of life. In this course, we will read selections of Rilke’s poetry and correspondence alongside excerpts from his writings on art to critically examine his language’s purported ability to express our innermost feelings and to offer solace. Along the way, we will also pay attention to situating his work in the context of ‘modernism.’ Other readings by: Paul de Man ‘Tropes (Rilke),’ Rita Felski ‘Uses of Literature,’ Beth Blum ‘Self-Help Compulsion: Searching for Advice in Modern Literature,’ among others. Readings and discussions in English. Those who read German will read the texts in the original.
Instructor(s): Margareta Ingrid Christian Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): FNDL 25721, GRMN 35721

GRMN 28446. Apocalypse Now: Scripts of Eschatological Imagination. 100 Units.
Apocalyptic fantasies are alive and well today - in beach reads and blue chip fiction; in comic books and YA novels; in streaming TV shows, Hollywood blockbusters, and ironic arthouse cinema. These apocalyptic fantasies follow well-established scripts that often date back millenia. Apocalypse scripts allow their users to make sense of the current crisis and prepare for an uncertain future. The course will be divided into two parts. The first half will be devoted to texts, art, and movies that dwell on the expectation of the end and narratively measure out the time that remains. We will begin with examining the biblical ur-scripts of an apocalyptic imaginary, the Book of Daniel in the Old and the Book of Revelation in the New Testament, as well as Saint Paul’s messianism in the Letter to the Romans; and then move on to medieval apocalyptic fantasies of the Joachim of Fiore and others; and end with the apocalypticism underlying the religious reforms of Girolamo Savonarola and Martin Luther. The second half will focus on life after the apocalypse - the new freedoms, and new forms of political life and sociality that the apocalyptic event affords its survivors. Readings will include the political theory of marronage, capabilities, and neoprimitivism; literary theory of speculative fiction; and post-apocalyptic narratives by Octavia Butler, Jean Hegland, Richard Jefferies, Cormac McCarthy, and Colson Whitehead. Readings and discussions in English.
Instructor(s): Chris Wild Mark Payne Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): CMLT 28446, CMLT 38446, RLVC 38446, RLST 28446, GRMN 38446

GRMN 29700. Reading and Research Course in German. 100 Units.
No description available. Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor and director of undergraduate studies Note(s): Students must consult with the instructor by the eighth week of the preceding quarter to determine the subject of the course and the work to be done. Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Course Form.
Terms Offered: Autumn,Winter,Spring
Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor and director of undergraduate studies
Note(s): Students must consult with the instructor by the eighth week of the preceding quarter to determine the subject of the course and the work to be done. Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Course Form.

GRMN 29900. BA Paper. 100 Units.
Terms Offered: Autumn,Winter,Spring
Prerequisite(s): Fourth-year standing. Consent of instructor and director of undergraduate studies.
Note(s): Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Course Form.

YIDDISH COURSES
YDDH 10100-10200-10300. Elementary Yiddish for Beginners I-II-III.
The goal of this sequence is to develop proficiency in Yiddish reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. Touchstones of global Yiddish culture are also introduced through song, film, and contemporary Yiddish websites.
YDDH 10100. Elementary Yiddish I. 100 Units.
The goal of this sequence is to develop proficiency in Yiddish reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. Touchstones of global Yiddish culture are also introduced through song, film, and contemporary Yiddish websites.
Instructor(s): Jessica Kirzane Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): JWSC 20300

YDDH 10200. Elementary Yiddish for Beginners-II. 100 Units.
In this course, students will extend basic Yiddish speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. By the end of the course, students should have a basic understanding of regional Yiddish variations in pronunciation and spelling, be able to understand and participate in a conversation on a wide range of topics, be comfortable tackling complex texts with the aid of a dictionary, and write short compositions with grammatical complexity. In the course of language study, students will also be exposed to key topics in the history of the Yiddish language and culture.
Instructor(s): Jessica Kirzane Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): YDDH 10100
Equivalent Course(s): JWSC 20400, YDDH 37400

YDDH 10300. Elementary Yiddish III. 100 Units.
In this course, students will acquire intermediate Yiddish speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. By the end of the course, students should be able to conduct a conversation on a wide range of topics, be comfortable tackling complex texts with the aid of a dictionary, and write short compositions with grammatical complexity. In the course of language study, students will also be exposed to key topics in the history of the Yiddish language and culture. Students will also be introduced to basic Yiddish research skills.
Equivalent Course(s): JWSC 20500, YDDH 37500

YDDH 20100. Intermediate Yiddish I. 100 Units.
This course offers students the opportunity to study the Yiddish language at the intermediate level. It reviews and extends students' knowledge of the grammar of the Yiddish language, enhances vocabulary, and includes literary and cultural readings. Designed to further develop listening, speaking, reading comprehension, and writing skills.
Instructor(s): Jessica Kirzane Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): YDDH 10300 or consent of instructor. No auditors.
Equivalent Course(s): JWSC 27301

YDDH 20200. Intermediate Yiddish II: Archival Skills. 100 Units.
This course offers students the opportunity to study the Yiddish language at the intermediate level. The focus of this course is learning to navigate and study from a variety of archival materials including newspapers, music archives, and historical texts. The course is designed to further develop listening, speaking, reading comprehension, and writing skills and to give students tools to continue Yiddish reading and research independently.
Instructor(s): Jessica Kirzane Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): YDDH 10300 or consent of instructor. No auditors.
Equivalent Course(s): JWSC 27401, YDDH 39600

YDDH 21000. Advanced Yiddish I: Readings in Yiddish Literature. 100 Units.
In this class, students will be exposed to essays, short stories, poetry and other writings by some of the great Yiddish writers of the twentieth century, including Abraham Reisin, Bella Chagall, Abraham Sutzkever, Esther Kreitman, and Dovid Bergelson. Students will write critical essays and creative responses, listen to excerpts read aloud, participate in discussions and debates. This course will be conducted entirely in Yiddish.
Instructor(s): Jessica Kirzane Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Intermediate Yiddish I, or permission from the instructor.
Equivalent Course(s): JWSC 27610, YDDH 31000

YDDH 21721. Women Who Wrote In Yiddish. 100 Units.
This course explores memoirs, plays, essays, poetry, novels, and journalistic writing of women who wrote in Yiddish, as well as a discussion of the context in which they wrote and their reception and self-perception as ‘women writers.’ Among the writers whose work may be represented in this course are Glikl, Yente Mash, Kadya Molodwsky, Chava Rosenfarb, Yente Serdatsky, Rosa Palatnik, Anna Margolin, Celia Dropkin, Rokhl Korn, Beyele Shaechter-Gottesman, Gitl Shaechter-Viswanath, Bella Chagall, Blume Lempel, Esther Kreitman, Deborra Vogel, Rokhl Brokhes, Sarah Hamer-Jacklyn, Malka Lee, Ida Maze, Roshelle Weprinski, Miriam Karpilove, Zina Rabinovitz, Rokhl Szabad, Rokhl Faygnberg, Paula Prilutsky, Shira Gorsman, Esther Shumiatsher-Hirshbein and Freydl Shtok. Many of these writers have been underexamined in the history of Yiddish literary studies and this course will bring renewed attention to their work. This course will be taught in English with readings translated from Yiddish.
Instructor(s): Jessica Kirzane Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): JWSC 27651, GNSE 21721, YDDH 31721, GNSE 31721