

Proposal for Retention of the German Major

University of Maine

October 22, 2012

Presidential Proclamation -- German-American Day, 2012

“The United States is proud to count Germany as one of our closest and strongest allies. At its core, the alliance between our nations is a partnership between our peoples. For many years, citizens of both our countries -- entrepreneurs, innovators, students, scientists, and soldiers -- have worked together to forge a brighter future at home and around the world. Those bonds continue to grow stronger with lifelong connections cultivated through educational exchanges and valuable partnerships between our two nations. Today, we celebrate that spirit of collaboration, and we reflect on the innumerable ways generations of German Americans have enriched the American story.” President Barack Obama, October 5, 2012.¹

Executive Summary:

This proposal calls for reinstatement of the German major with a streamlined and updated curriculum that requires study abroad in immersion. Courses will be delivered by a tenure-stream faculty member with a joint appointment in a second area, such as film and media studies, art history, international affairs, or language education. It compares UMaine to other institutions, revealing that it would be the only public flagship in New England not to offer a major (B.A.) in German, nor would German be available to Maine students elsewhere in the state if the German major were eliminated following the current suspension.

German within the University of Maine System

The University of Maine remains the only public university within the state to offer a board certified B.A. in German and the only one to offer advanced study in the language, culture and literature. Until 2012-13, the University of Southern Maine offered a self-designed major in German Studies, and German courses were offered at the University of Maine at Farmington. German has been eliminated at Farmington and is limited to only 100 and 200-level courses at USM.

¹ <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2012/10/05/presidential-proclamation-german-american-day-2012>

German within the Department of Modern Languages and Classics

Specialization in a language means development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing in combination with the study of content in civilization, film and media, literature, linguistics, contemporary culture, and history. The learner develops an understanding of the target culture, its material culture and products and unique perspectives, and communicative competence in a variety of settings and situations.

The Department of Modern Languages and Classics proposes retention of the German major because of its importance as one of the major cultures within the European Union, its significance to technical fields, renewable energy and sustainability, and more specifically, for its economic ties to the state of Maine as specified in Appendix I.

We propose hiring a full-time, tenure-stream faculty member with a joint appointment in German and a second area of specialization, such as film and media studies, art history, international affairs, or language education. This will allow for continued delivery of courses at the 300 and 400 levels for the major, which will also require a semester's study abroad in immersion. Moreover, it allows for continued delivery of the minor and core courses for the current and any future iteration of the International Affairs major.

We will seek a candidate for this position who would be a program builder, someone with vision and good collaboration skills to build ties with other departments, including the candidate's second area of specialization, as well as engineering and business.

This proposal outlines below an updated and streamlined German curriculum that reflects the addition of the 1-semester, study abroad requirement in a German-speaking country. It eliminates eight courses, modifies seven others, and requires the creation of one new course. The 2-year course rotation allows for a 2/1 teaching load in German with a 1/2 load in a second area for the full-time faculty member. Elementary, intermediate and accelerated language courses at the 100 and 200 levels will be delivered by part-time instructors. The inclusion of the accelerated courses will allow for a more rapid rebuilding of the German program. (See Appendix III for more information on the courses to be modified or eliminated and the new course to be proposed.)

For study abroad, students will work as usual with the Office of International Programs to participate in the direct exchange with the University of Salzburg or one of the several recommended programs in Germany. The USAC program, in particular, offers intensive study of German language and engineering at Leuphana University in Lüneburg, and API and ISE offer German language and area studies in Berlin and Freiburg, respectively. (Additional information is included in the curriculum section below). In the first two to three years of rebuilding the program, travel scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 to \$1,200 per student will ease the increased financial burden on majors resulting from the study abroad requirement. These funds will come from the German Fund (formerly the Salzburg account), which can support up to 15 new majors in this manner.

In fall 2012, MLC is moving forward with plans to replace the current individual B.A.s in French, German and Spanish with a single B.A. in Modern Languages, with specific tracks for specialization in each of these languages.

Proposed Degree Requirements:

B.A. in Modern Languages - German Track (30 cr.)

Specific requirements: 15 credits at the 400 level; 12 credits from immersion study abroad; INT 410 Introduction to the Study of Linguistics.

Courses to be delivered by one T/S German Faculty Member with a Joint Appointment in a 2nd Area:

- Ger 305: Practical German (Cr. 3)
- Ger 306: German Literature and Culture I (Cr. 3)
- Ger 309: German Literature and Culture II (Cr. 3)
- Ger 402: Issues in Contemporary German Culture (Cr. 3)
- Ger 404: Advanced German Language: Translation and Advanced Structures (Cr. 3)
- Ger 490: Special Topics in German – Includes film and media, linguistics, culture, authors, themes in literature, etc. Cr 3.
- Ger 495: Senior Project in German (Cr. 1-3) (Independent study)

Study abroad options:

Leuphana University, Lüneburg, Germany (USAC program²): German Language, Track III or Track IV. They include 6 to 9 credits of German language and 6 to 9 credits in electives. Fall semester allows for study of German and engineering, taught in German and English. Other programs in Berlin (API)³ and Freiburg (IES)⁴ offer area studies, economics and international business, art history, music, and teacher preparation programs in German. Some also offer internships.

German minor: 18 credits, 12 of which must be above the intermediate (200) level.

2-year German Course Rotation

| Year 1: Fall | Year 1: Spring |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Part-Time Lecturer | Part-Time Lecturer |
| 101 Elementary German I | 102 Elementary German II |
| 121 Schnelldeutsch - Elementary | 221 Schnelldeutsch - Intermediate |
| 203 Intermediate German I | 204 Intermediate German II |

² <http://usac.unr.edu/study-abroad-programs/germany/luneburg/courses/2014/spring>

³ <http://www.apistudyabroad.com/programs/germany/berlin/freie-universitat-berlin-european-studies-program-fu-best/>

⁴ <https://www.iesabroad.org/IES/Programs/Germany/Freiburg/Academics/freiburgAcademics.html>

| | |
|--|--|
| Tenure-Stream Faculty Member (Joint Appointment w/ Art History, Film or IA) | Tenure-Stream Faculty Member (Joint Appointment with Art History, Film, IA) |
| 305 Practical German | 306 German Literature and Culture I |
| 402 Issues in Contemporary German Culture | GER 495 Senior Project in German (ind. study) |
| GER 495 Senior Project in German (ind. study) | Course in second discipline |
| Course in second discipline | Course in second discipline |
| | |
| Year 2 | Year 2 |
| Part-Time Lecturer | Part-Time Lecturer |
| 101 Elementary German I | 102 Elementary German II |
| 121 Schnelldeutsch - Elementary | 221 Schnelldeutsch - Intermediate |
| 203 Intermediate German I | 204 Intermediate German II |
| Tenure-Stream Faculty Member | Tenure-Stream Faculty Member |
| 309 German Literature and Culture II | 404 Advanced German Language |
| 490 Special Topics | GER 495 Senior Project in German (ind. study) |
| GER 495 Senior Project in German (ind. study) | Course in 2 nd discipline |
| Course in 2 nd discipline | Course in 2 nd discipline |

German Counts at UM 2002-12⁵

Enrollments in the German major showed an increase from five in 2001 to 12 in 2002, after curricular changes updating the program to better align with the needs of 21st century students were implemented in response to the 2001 external review. Enrollment continued to rise until a large group graduated in 2008-09. The Modern Languages (MDL) major includes German as one of the two languages of specialization and should be counted toward the total number of German and IA-German majors.

| | Fall 2002 | Fall 2003 | Fall 2004 | Fall 2005 | Fall 2006 | Fall 2007 | Fall 2008 | Fall 2009 | Fall 2010 | Fall 2011 | Fall 2012 |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|
| GER Majors | 12 | 12 | 19 | 19 | 19 | 22 | 12 | 11 | 11 | 7 | TBA |
| MDL Majors | 12 | 8 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 11 | TBA ⁶ |
| GER Minors | | | | | | | 13 | 13 | 7 | 6 | 9 ⁷ |

⁵ Statistics provided by Institutional Studies.

⁶ It has come to my attention that a few students have declared a Modern Languages major because of the name of the department and not because they intend to include a focus on German. This has happened twice in the last six months.

⁷ Preliminary figure from Institutional Studies, 9/28/12.

| Degrees Conferred | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10 | 2010-11 ⁸ | 2011-12 ⁹ |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------------------|----------------------|
| GER | 3 | 2 | 5 | 9 | 7 | 4 | 10 | 4 | N/A | N/A |
| MDL | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | N/A | N/A |

Comparison to Aspirational and Peer Institutions

The chart on pages 7 and 8 compares the University of Maine’s language programs with those of its aspirational institution (University of New Hampshire), its peers (North Dakota State, South Dakota State, Montana State, University of Idaho, University of Wyoming, and University of Rhode Island) and, to complete the picture of public universities in New England, the Universities of Connecticut and Vermont. Figures include number and types of degrees offered and in which languages, as well as the number of faculty (tenure stream and lecturers) in each language.

To summarize briefly, our aspirational institution offers the B.A. in German and among our peer institutions only North Dakota State does not. However, a B.A. is offered in German at the University of North Dakota. All the flagship public institutions in New England offer a bachelor’s in German. Moreover, the University of Rhode Island, in particular, has an award-winning program in International Engineering and German (as well as other languages), and the University of Connecticut also offers a combined German and Engineering degree in its Eurotech program.

Risk for Loss of Revenue

If the German major is eliminated, UMaine will be the only flagship campus in New England not to offer a B.A. in German and, unlike North Dakota, the B.A. will not be available at any public institution in Maine. This will mean a loss of revenue to UMaine because any students wishing to major in German and who cannot afford to attend a private college will have to leave the state. While a few students might choose to major in French or Spanish instead, the passion for language that many language learners feel is not transferrable. This passion arises from personal experience with the language (prior travel abroad, family heritage, personal friends, an interest in some aspect of its culture such as music, art or film, history, philosophy, or a desire to use the language in the worlds of technology, sustainability or business and economics. Occasionally, students of language are interested in the intellectual challenge of learning a language that offers more structural interest (phonology, morphology, syntax) than do French and Spanish.

⁸ The Institutional Studies web page does not break down degrees conferred by MLC into languages, so the figure for 2011-12 was not available at the time of writing.

⁹ Please see footnote No. 8.

Students who are interested in combining a minor in German with specialization in engineering, sustainability studies, or business and economics (recall Germany's leadership role in the European Union) will also be forced to go out of state: even the minor in German is jeopardized by the loss of a tenure-stream position because it includes 12 credits of study at the 300 or 400 level.

Marketing of the Revamped German Program

Emphasis will be on the value of a double major with engineering, business, international affairs, art history, philosophy, history and music, in particular. A special announcement to Maine's high schools, both to students and teachers, will get the word out to prospective students that German is once again a field of study at UMaine and that funding is available for study abroad for the first 10-15 majors. This information will also be presented through the Foreign Language Association of Maine listserv and at the annual meeting. The chairperson of MLC will visit high schools in Maine currently offering German to make the announcement in person and meet with prospective students of German.

A press release will also make the general public aware of the reinstatement of the German major in a new and streamlined format.

Comparison to Aspirational and Peer Institutions in New England

| | FRE | GER | LAT | SPA | PTG | ARA | CHN | FAR | ITA | HIN | JAP | RUS | TUR | Other | Total |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------------------|--|
| UM | B.A. M.A. M.A.T. | B.A. (Susp.) | B.A. (Susp.) | B.A. M.A.T. | Courses | Courses | Courses | Courses | Courses | Courses | Courses | Courses | Courses | HBR ; Maliseet | 2 (+2) B.A. 3 Masters |
| Faculty | 3 | 0* | 1 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | 7 |
| Notes | *One year fixed-length faculty position 2012-13; Critical Languages program has a part-time coordinator; instructors include two Fulbright FLTAs and 8-10 native speaker students/community members (Fall 2012); Maliseet offered through Native American Studies program | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| UNH Aspirational | B.A. | B.A. | B.A. (Classics) | B.A., M.A. | B.A. | Courses | Courses | | B.A. | | Courses | B.A. | | | 7 B.A 1 M.A. |
| Faculty | 7 | 4 | 7 (Classics) | 14 | | 3 Asian & Arabic | | | 5 | | | 3 | | | 44 |
| Notes: | Also offers World Languages & Cultures taught in English; B.A. in European cultural Studies | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| IDAHO | Major; B.A. FRE + Business | B.A. GER + Business | Courses in Classics (HTY) | Major; B.A. SPA + Business | | | Courses | | | | Courses | Courses | | | 3 majors |
| Faculty | 2 | 1 | | 4 | | | | | | | 1 | | | | 8 |
| Notes | B.A. in Foreign Languages with majors in French, Spanish, FL + Business; Chinese, Japanese, Russian available through Washington State Univ. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WYO. | B.A., M.A. | B.A., M.A. | Courses | B.A., M.A. | | | Courses | | | | Courses | B.A. | | | 4 B.A. 3 M.A. |
| Faculty | 4 | 3 | 2 | 7 | | | 1 | | | | 1 | 2 | | | 20 |
| Notes | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MONT. STATE | B.A. | B.A. | | B.A. | | Courses through distance learning | Courses | | | | Courses | | | | 3 B.A. |
| Faculty | 3 | 4 | | 10 | | (2 T.A.s) | 1 | | | | 3 | | | | 19 |
| Notes | B.A. in Modern Languages - French, German, Japan Studies, and Spanish, with additional options in Commerce and Teaching; Arabic distance learning with a university in Morocco. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| | FRE | GER | LAT | SPA | PTG | ARA | CHN | FAR | ITA | HIN | JAP | RUS | TUR | Other | Total |
|-------------------|--|--|--------------------------------|-------------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----|--|---------|---------|---------|-----|---|----------------------------------|
| N.D. STATE | B.A. | Courses | | B.A. | | Courses | | | | | | | | Courses in Dakota | 2 B.A. |
| Faculty | 3 | 1 | | 5 | | (2 T.A.s) | | | | | | | | 1 | 10 |
| Notes | Minor in German offered in cooperation with Tri-College Univ. System; ESL is part of Modern Languages Dept. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S.D. STATE | B.A. FRE Studies | B.A. | | B.A. | | | 2 Courses | | | | | | | 4 Courses Lakota | 3 B.A. |
| Faculty | 2 | 2 | | 6 | | | | | | | | | | | 10 |
| Notes | Dept. of Modern Languages and Global Studies; B.A. in Global Studies | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| URI | B.A. | B.A. | B.A. Classical Studies | B.A. | Courses | Courses | B.A. | | B.A. | | Courses | | | Modern Greek, Hebrew | 6 B.A. |
| Faculty | 9 | 8 | | 19 | | | | | 10 | | | | | | 48 |
| Notes | Teacher Education is another major; French has been combined with 47 other majors at URI | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| UVM | B.A., M.A. | B.A., M.A. | | B.A. | Courses | | | | B.A. Italian Studies | | | B.A. | | Courses in Hebrew | |
| Faculty | 10 | 5 (2 are joint appointments) | | 19 | 1 | | | | 6 | | | 4 | | 1 | |
| Notes | .Romance languages faculty cooperate with other areas, including World Literature. Also offers B.A. in linguistics. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| UConn | B.A., M.A., Ph.D. | B.A., Ph.D. (Dual degree in Ger. & Engineering) (German Studies) | B.A. (Classics & Ancient Med.) | B.A., Ph.D. | Courses | Courses | Courses | | B.A. and trans-disciplinary graduate studies | Courses | Courses | Courses | | Hebrew & Judaic Studies; Polish, Modern Greek; Korean, Vietnamese | 5 B.A.s in lgs.; 1 M.A. 3 Ph.D.s |
| Faculty | 8 | 6 | 4 | 11 | | 1 | 1 | | 4 | | | | | | 35 |
| Notes | Some programs require study abroad. Offers degrees in Film Studies, Comparative Literature & Cultural Studies; Critical Languages program for some languages | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

APPENDIX I

Economics and German

Germany and Maine

.If I'm selling to you, I speak your language. If I'm buying, dann müssen Sie Deutsch sprechen.

Attributed to Willy Brandt (Chancellor of West Germany, 1969-74)

Germany has important economic ties to Maine. In 2010, it ranked fourth among Maine's import trade partners (\$161,814,563) and eighth for Maine exports (\$53,890,253). The following ten companies in Maine are owned by German corporations, placing Germany second after Canada for the number of companies owned in Maine¹⁰.

| | | | |
|--|------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. CYRO | Sanford | Evonik Industries AG | Industrial plastic sheeting |
| 2. Kässbohrer All Terrain Vehicles, Inc. | Lewiston | Kässbohrer Geländefahrzeug AG | Suppliers snow grooming vehicles |
| 3. Lohmann Animal Health | Winslow | PHW Group | Poultry biologics |
| 4. Tuchenhagen North America ILC | Portland | GEA Group | Centrifugal pumps |
| 5. T-Mobile USA | Waterville | Deutsche Telekom | Call center for cell phone provider |
| 6. Weber Machine USA | Bangor | Weber | Contractor's equipment |
| 7. New Generation Network | Portland | New Generation Network | IT services |
| 8. Bachmann Industries Inc. | Auburn | Clyde Bergemann Power Group | Industrial bypass and exhaust systems |
| 9. Airco Industrial Gases | Kittery | The Linde group | Industrial gases |
| 10. Creative Mold Company | Auburn | DESMA | molds |

In the area of tourism, Germany comes in fourth after Canada, the UK, and Italy for number of visitors to www.visitmaine.com. While the Maine Office of Tourism does not track where visitors to Maine come from due to budgetary constraints, the director states that the visits to the web site "anecdotally ... seem to align with where visitors come from" (personal communication).

Germany in the World

The following section is copied from the German government web site:
www.tatsachen-ueber-deutschland.de/en/content-home/facts-and-figures/economy.html

¹⁰ Figures provided by Maine International Trade Center, WISERTrade State HS Database (1/31/2012)

Economic output

Germany is the largest economy the European Union (EU) and the fourth largest in the world. With the largest gross domestic product (GDP) and the biggest population in the EU Germany is the most important market in Europe. GDP is EUR 2.407,2 billion (2009)

Structure

Alongside international companies small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are the nucleus of the German economy. Around 70% all those in employment work in SMEs.

Important sectors

Automobile construction, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, chemicals, environmental technology, fine mechanics, optics, medical technology, biotechnology and genetic engineering, nano technology, aerospace, logistics

Investment center

Germany is an attractive center for foreign investors. The world's 500 largest firms have operations in the country, in total around 45,000 foreign companies. In 2007 direct foreign investment stood at US\$ 630 billion

Infrastructure

Germany boasts a highly developed infrastructure with dynamic growth. The railroad network is some 41,000 kilometers long, and there are 230,000 kilometers of roads. The country has one of the world's most modern telephone and communications networks

APPENDIX II

Why Learn German

This section is excerpted from the web site for the Goethe Institute:

<http://www.goethe.de/lrn/prj/zgd/en867247.htm>

Business: Knowing the language of your German business partners improves your relations and therefore your chances for effective communication and success.

The global career: Knowledge of German increases your job opportunities with German and foreign companies in your own country and abroad. Proficiency in German helps you to function productively for an employer with global business connections.

Tourism and hospitality industry: Tourists from German-speaking countries travel wide and far, and are the world's biggest spenders when on holiday. They appreciate to be looked after by German-speaking staff and tour guides.

Science and Research: German is the second most commonly used scientific language. Germany is the third largest contributor to research and development and offers research fellowships to scientists from abroad.

Communication: Developments in media, information and communication technology require multilingual communicators. A wide range of important websites are in German and worldwide, Germany is ranked number 5 in terms of annual publication of new books. Knowledge of German therefore offers you extended access to information.

[▶ [Wikipedia](#), 2010]

Cultural understanding: Learning German provides you with an insight into the way of life, and the hopes and dreams of people in German speaking countries, broadening your horizon.

Travel: Make the most of your travels not only in German-speaking countries, but in many other European countries where German is widely spoken, especially in Eastern Europe.

Enjoyment of literature, music, art and philosophy: German is the language of Goethe, Kafka, Mozart, Bach and Beethoven. Indulge in reading and/or listening to their works in their original language.

Opportunities to study/work in Germany: Germany awards a generous number of scholarships and other support to study in Germany. Working holiday visas are available for young foreigners from a range of countries, and special visas are offered to skilled workers and professionals.

Opportunities for exchange: A wide range of exchange programs exists for both school and university students between Germany and many countries in the world.

APPENDIX III

Streamlining MLC's German Curriculum

Ger 101: Elementary German I (Cr. 4)

Ger 102: Elementary German II (Cr. 4)

Ger 101 is designed for the absolute beginner; no prior knowledge of German required. First part of a two semester sequence. Satisfies the General Education Cultural Diversity and International Perspectives Requirement.

Ger 203 – Intermediate German I (Cr. 3)

[Reflects proposed changes to description]

This course is intended to further develop reading, writing, listening and speaking proficiency in German. Integrating grammatical structures and cultural contents, students will read, watch and analyze a wide variety of texts and visual materials, develop writing responses and essays, and discuss topical issues in German.

Prerequisite: GER 102, GER 121 or equivalent as indicated by placement exam.

Ger 204 – Intermediate German II (Cr. 3)

[Reflects proposed changes to description]

As a continuation of Intermediate German I, the class further develops students' reading, writing, listening and speaking skills.

Satisfies the General Education Cultural Diversity and International Perspectives requirement.

Prerequisite: GER 102: Elementary German II

Ger 121: Schnelldeutsch I (Cr. 6) (Offered in fall)

[Reflects proposed changes to description]

Ger 223: Schnelldeutsch II (Cr. 6) (Offered in spring)

These two courses, (taken in order) develop basic proficiency in a fast-paced learning environment. No prior knowledge of German is necessary.

Satisfies the General Education Cultural Diversity and International Perspectives requirement.

Ger 305: Practical German (Cr. 3)

[Reflects proposed changes to description]

This course focuses on all four language skills (speaking, listening, reading and writing). Speaking and listening skills will be further developed through regular discussions and debates on topical issues. Students will write assignments in various genres and on a range of topics. Students should expect to spend significant time of this course drafting and rewriting their compositions, as well as preparing for oral assignments. Grammar review will be contextualized within text discussion. All classes are conducted in German.

This course fulfills the general education cultural diversity, international perspectives and writing intensive requirements.

Prerequisite: GER 204 or equivalent.

Ger 306: German Culture I (Cr. 3)

[Reflects title and description change]

This course offers a comprehensive introduction to German literature and culture in context. Primarily focusing on texts from the 18th-19th century, the class discusses major works and themes in the German literary tradition, introduces students to textual analysis, and situates literature and culture within a wider historical horizon. Prepares students for literature and civilization courses at the 400 level or for study abroad.

Satisfies General Education Cultural Diversity and International Perspectives requirement.

Prerequisite: GER 204 or equivalent.

Ger 307: German for the Technical Professions

This course has two complementary purposes. The first is to build on the students' knowledge of German. Students who have attained a moderate level of proficiency in the German language both orally and in writing will gain familiarity with the more specialized language and conventions in professional environments. Subject areas covered will include communications, advertising, marketing, international trade, tourism and transportation. Since linguistic and cultural proficiency are equally important when communicating professionally with members of the target culture, appropriate conduct will be practiced through cultural awareness raising exercises similar to those used by the Peace Corps and International Corporations.

The second purpose of this course is to attain factual knowledge of the social structure and important institutions in German-speaking Europe. Thus, students will gain an understanding of the economic geography, environmental policies, the basic political and social structures, how the media works, and their respective positions within or in relation to the European Union.

Satisfies General Education Cultural Diversity and International Perspectives, and Writing Intensive requirements.

Prerequisite: GER 204 or equivalent or permission of instructor. Cr 3.

Ger 309: German Literature and Culture II (Cr. 3)

[New course]

As a continuation of GER 306, the class discusses important aspects of German culture in the 20th-21st century. Integrating a wide range of literary and theoretical texts, film and other media, the class provides a comprehensive overview of German culture. Students will develop advanced writing assignments, closely analyze textual and visual materials, and lead class discussion.

Ger 401: Major Cultural Periods

Survey course introduces students to major developments in the cultural history of German-speaking countries in the Middle Ages through the Age of Enlightenment (ca. 750 AD to 1785). Maps, historical information, representative literary and expository texts as well as examples from music, art and architecture will form the class discussion.

Satisfies General Education Cultural Diversity and International Perspectives requirement.

Prerequisite: GER 204, 223 or permission of instructor. Cr 3.

Ger 402: Issues in Contemporary German Culture (Cr. 3) [Represents title and description change]

This advanced class focuses on issues in contemporary German culture, approaches questions of national and cultural identity in text and media, and deals with Germany's complex role as a major economic, political, and cultural agent in Europe and beyond.

Satisfies General Education Cultural Diversity and International Perspectives requirement.

Prerequisite: GER 204 or equivalent.

Ger 403: History of the German Language

Studies in the development of the German language from Indo-European times to the present. Places present day German in its linguistic perspective, and examines the reasons and origins of specific forms, patterns and usages. Provides the background in German.

Satisfies General Education Cultural Diversity and International Perspectives requirement.

Prerequisite: GER 204 or equivalent. Cr 3.

Ger 404: Advanced German Language: Translation and Advanced Structures (Cr. 3) [Reflects a title and description change]

The class provides a revision of advanced grammatical structures in context, and focuses on issues of translation and composition. Students will develop writing and translation assignments drawing on their field of specialty and interest.

Prerequisite: GER 204 or equivalent.

Ger 406: Goethe

Readings from the selected works of prose, poetry and drama from Goethe's classical period, with lectures on historical background and influence on later German literature.

Satisfies the General Education Cultural Diversity and International Perspectives Requirement. Cr 3.

Prerequisite: GER 306, its equivalent or permission from the instructor.

Ger 409: Nineteenth Century Literature

Rapid social and political change characterizes the 19th century. A variety of literary genres as well as non-literary documents will illustrate the correlation between these socio-political transformations, art, music, and major literary movements in German-speaking countries.

Satisfies General Education Cultural Diversity and International Perspectives Requirement.

Prerequisite: GER 306, its equivalent or permission from the instructor. Cr 3.

Ger 413: German Literature and Culture 1900-1945

This advanced undergraduate seminar guides students to analyze representative written and visual texts from the Wilhelminian (i.e. German Imperial), Weimar and Nazi periods. The materials discussed in the course will illustrate the interaction of ideological, technological, scientific, social and political factors influencing the growth of mass culture in twentieth century Germany, as well as the rise of Fascism and anti-fascist exile culture. Students will come to understand the changing image of women and the development of a modern, industry-based, urban culture, as well as the reaction to modernity by studying a variety of artistic expressions, social and philosophical commentaries as well as the impact of political propaganda and counter-propaganda.

Satisfies General Education Western Civilization and Artistic Expression Requirements.

Prerequisites: GER 306, its equivalent or permission of instructor. Cr 3.

Ger 420: German Film

Films made in Germany, German-speaking Switzerland and Austria from 1913 to the present and are representative of a certain style or time will form the basis for class discussion of this survey course.

Since they never exist as autonomous works of art alone—though some seem “timeless”—each film will be considered within its larger socio-historical context. In addition to discussing a given film's artistic qualities, students will analyze German history, politics, and culture through the medium of film, and, in this context, will also touch upon the impact of Hitler-refugees on Hollywood's movie industry. The films will range from the avant-garde silent movies of the Expressionists to recent post-reunification experimental movies and will run the gamut from anti-authoritarian, propagandistic, escapist, comic, feminist, leftist to conservative. This course will also cover the fundamentals of film analysis and film criticism and students will learn how to read films closely, and be encouraged to think critically about gender and ethnic representation as well as differing narrative perspectives. Writing assignments will range from the technical to the creative and interpretive. Offered in alternating years.

Satisfies General Education Western Civilization and Artistic Expression Requirements.

Prerequisites: GER 306, its equivalent or permission of instructor. Cr 3.

GER 422: Advanced Structures of German

Previews most challenging aspects of German grammar and syntax. Geared towards advanced students who want to review and solidify their aural, oral and writing proficiency. Class meetings consist of explanation, review, and practice of important grammatical structures as well as idiomatic language and target language writing activities. Apart from grammar exercises, students also prepare an oral report and write an 8-page research paper on a topic of their choice. The paper is written in stages. Students develop thesis statements, summarize sources, and revise drafts.

Prerequisites: GER 305, GER 307 or equivalent or permission of instructor. Cr. 3.

Ger 490: Special Topics in German (Cr. 3)**[Reflects description change]**

Content varies: Film and media, authors, themes in literature, linguistics, culture, sustainability, etc.. Offered in spring semester in alternating years. May be repeated for credit.

Sample description: This comprehensive survey class spans the history of German cinema from its beginnings in 1895 to the present. The class pays special attention to the issue of national identity and takes cinema as a symptomatic practice which was affected and affected the project of nation-building and identity politics in the German context. Discussing both canonical and lesser-known films, the class will also show that throughout its history German cinema was in constant dialogue with international film practice – both with dominant film industries (such as Hollywood) and with other national and transnational practices in Europe and beyond (such as art cinema). Students will learn critical skills in close analysis, write a film review, keep a film journal, and develop an independent project of their choice.

Ger 495: Senior Project in German (Cr. 1- 3)

Capstone Experience in which majors in German International Affairs/German apply language skills and knowledge gained from all prior language study. Students work closely with faculty advisor on approved project, practicum, research, study abroad. Students present project in major language at student colloquium.

Satisfies the General Education Western Cultural Tradition, Cultural Diversity and International Perspectives and Capstone Experience requirements.

Prerequisite: senior standing and permission.

GER 497: Projects in German I (Cr. 1-3)

Independent study on topics selected by student and instructor.

Satisfies the General Education Cultural Diversity and International Perspectives Requirement.

GER 597: Projects in German I

Graduate course number for German courses. Course content varies and may be repeated for credit. Cr.

3