German Studies Major Requirements

Required Units: 99

Prerequisites

The completion of two elementary German courses (at the 100-level) at CMU or the equivalent to those courses that can be determined at CMU via internal placement test scores.

Curricular Requirements (99 units)

1. Core Courses in Languages, Cultures & Applied Linguistics (LCAL) (2 courses, 18 units)
    a. Any 9-unit 82-28X course in LCAL, for instance:
        i.   82-282 Interpreting Global Texts and Cultures
        ii. 82-283 Language Diversity and Cultural Identity
    b. 82-580 Languages, Cultures & Applied Linguistics Seminar
    The Senior Seminar serves as an opportunity for students to reflect upon their cumulative language and cultural learning experiences while building a bridge between their work in LCAL, their additional fields of study and their roles as global citizens.

2. Foundational Courses in German Studies (6 courses, 54 units)
    a. 82-221 Intermediate German 1
    b. 82-222 Intermediate German 2
    c. 82-320 Contemporary Society in Germany, Austria and Switzerland
    d. 82-323 Twentieth-Century Germany, Austria and Switzerland
    e. 82-425 Topics in German Studies (fall)
    f. 82-426 Topics in German Studies (spring)

3. German Studies Electives (3 courses, 27 units)
    In consultation with the advisor, choose three additional courses taught in English or German for example, additional 400-level courses in German Studies or a departmental elective.

Curricular clarifications:
-   Students who place out of one or two intermediate level courses must take additional courses at a higher level to complete the required number of courses.

As of 03/11/24

- Students may double count up to four courses taken for the German Studies major to fulfill the requirements of other majors, minors and programs. Double counting with General Education requirements is unlimited.
- Ideally, students will complete the 300-level courses before moving on to the 400-level. However, there will be flexibility based upon scheduled offerings.
- Under extenuating circumstances and after consultation with advisors, students may take another 9-unit LCAL course and complete a milestone project in lieu of the 82-580 Languages, Cultures & Applied Linguistics Seminar.

Co-curricular Requirements

4. Experiential Learning

Experiential learning in German is a key component of the major and is defined by Dietrich College as learning that occurs when a student applies their academic learning in authentic contexts. The preferred method for fulfilling this requirement is through study abroad in a German-speaking country for a summer, semester or a year. Consult with the German Studies Study Abroad Advisor and the Office of International Education (OIE) about possible programs. The department guarantees partial study abroad scholarships for all majors and works with students to find additional funding, when necessary, to meet full financial need for participation in study abroad. Courses taken abroad in German may also count towards the Foundational Courses or Electives (sections #2 and #3) with the German Studies major advisor's approval. Students typically earn 18-36 units in a study abroad program.

a. While study abroad is the preferred method of fulfilling the experiential learning requirement, students who have curricular or personal reasons that prohibit them from studying abroad should consult with their major advisor to determine a 9-unit approved research or internship experience in a German community or organization. Students may also reach out to Dietrich College's Director of Experiential Learning for assistance. This research or internship may be used to fulfill the Experiential Learning requirement (section #4) and may also count as an elective course.

5. Exit Interview

Complete an oral proficiency evaluation. Taken with a faculty member, this evaluation should take place by the end of the first semester of the senior year; students may also take it by the end of the junior year. Students are permitted to retake the test.