

An abstract collage artwork featuring a dense arrangement of various elements. It includes a small framed picture of a landscape, a piece of paper with a drawing of three cherries, a small bottle, and several rectangular pieces of paper with text and numbers. The background is a mix of dark and light colors, with a large, textured, brownish object in the lower left. The overall composition is complex and layered.

department of german undergraduate handbook

2025-2026

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History of the Department

Founded in 1956 when Professor Victor Lange came from Cornell University and split off an independent entity from a Department of Modern Languages, the German Department has been home to a long line of distinguished scholars in all fields of German studies.

Long considered a leading program for the training of Germanists, the department has, in the last two decades, expanded its focus on literature, literary theory, and philosophy by adding significant faculty strength in media studies, performance studies and visual arts.

Requirements for the German Major

Prerequisites: Satisfactory working knowledge of German demonstrated by the completion of 107 or a 5 on the Advanced Placement Test.

Requirements: A minimum of eight departmental courses, the Junior Seminar, Junior Paper, and Senior Thesis. The courses accepted as departmentals will vary according to the area of concentration chosen by the student. Courses in related humanities departments that are intended to serve as cognate courses towards the major must be approved by the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Programs for Majors

The department offers six areas of concentration, each requiring a total of eight departmental courses plus the Junior Seminar as specified below:

1. **German Literature.** This program focuses on the major periods and forms of German literature with emphasis on literary and historical analysis. Students will take a minimum of five courses in the department (at least three of which should be 300-level courses) and a maximum of three cognate courses in related humanities departments and other disciplines such as philosophy and religion.
2. **German Philosophy and Intellectual History.** This track concentrates on philosophy, political and cultural theory, and particular intellectual movements and epochs in German-speaking contexts. Students in this track are required to take a minimum of five courses in the German Department (at least three of which should be 300-level courses) and a maximum of three relevant cognate courses in other disciplines such as history, European cultural studies, or philosophy.
3. **Media and Aesthetics.** This plan of study is designed for students who wish to focus on art, film, dance, music and sound, performance, digital culture and media theory broadly conceived. Students take a minimum of five courses in the German department (at least three of which should be 300-level courses) and a maximum of three relevant cognate courses in other disciplines such as art and archaeology, music, philosophy, European cultural studies, and the Program in Visual Arts.
4. **Germanic Linguistics.** This program concentrates on the history and structure of the German language. Majors who select this track are required to take the following courses: LIN 201 Introduction to Language and Linguistics, LIN 210 Intro to Historical and Comparative Linguistics, GER 316 Second Language Acquisition: Theory and Practice, GER 508 Middle High German Literature. In addition, students in this concentration will take at

least two courses in German Literature & Culture plus two cognate courses pertaining to linguistics.

5. ***The Study of Two Literatures.*** This plan of study normally consists of five upper-level courses in the German department (at least three of which should be 300-level courses), and three upper-level courses in a second literature. Students who have not completed the language preparation for the second literature may enroll in this program provided that they satisfy that language requirement during their junior year.
6. ***Joint Program in German Culture and Politics.*** In cooperation with the Department of Politics, students may combine a concentration in German intellectual history with a concentration in German/European politics and/or political theory. In this program, four courses will be taken in the German department (at least two of which should be 300-level courses) and four cognate courses in German/European politics or political theory will be taken in the Department of Politics (at least two of which should be 300-level courses). Recommended departmental courses are GER 207, 208, 211, 306, 307, 309, and 324. Cognates in POL will be approved by the DUS upon reviewing relevant syllabi. The senior thesis may focus on any political topic with a substantive German-related component. Upon graduation, a letter will be issued by the German department certifying completion of a program in German cultural studies with a concentration in Politics.

Language Requirements

For tracks 1 to 5, at least three of the departmentals should be courses taught in German; for track 6, at least two of the departmentals should be courses taught in German. For tracks 1 to 5, one of these three may be a course taught in English for which there is an appropriate German-language component. This option is available for all courses taught in the German Department, but also for some courses in other departments. Students should consult with the course instructor regarding the German-language component at the beginning of the semester and submit the agreed-upon plan to the Director of Undergraduate Studies in the German Department for approval by the end of the second week of classes.

For more information, contact the Director of Undergraduate Studies: Thomas Y. Levin, tylevin@princeton.edu, 8-1384.

Early Concentration

Qualified students may already begin departmental work in their freshman or sophomore year under the following plan:

- Recommended introductory courses: 207, 208, 209, 210, or 211;
- Independent work beginning in the second sophomore term;
- Meetings with the departmental adviser for individual discussion of student's independent work.

This plan permits students to devote themselves to their major interest before their junior year. They can advance when ready and as swiftly as possible. An early start gives them a wider choice of courses and seminars in their senior year and enables them to start work on their senior thesis before their final year at Princeton.

Minor in German

A minor in German offers students the opportunity to pursue sustained work in German language, literature, philosophy, art, and media within the interdisciplinary framework of the German department. Open to students from all majors, the minor supports diverse academic goals, from refining language skills to exploring German cultural and intellectual traditions. It complements students' work in their major field by expanding their linguistic and methodological horizons and helping them develop critical perspectives on their primary field of study.

Students pursuing a minor develop strong proficiency in written and spoken German while exploring how language shapes perception, knowledge, and cultural difference. Through the study of German literature, philosophy, history, and media theory, they gain insight into a major intellectual tradition and acquire analytical tools to examine focal issues of intellectual debate—including evolving media landscapes, intersections of art and politics, the legacies of fascism, migration, performance studies, environmental policy, and gender politics.

Prerequisites and Admission

Admission to the German minor requires advanced proficiency in German as demonstrated by the completion of GER 107 or one of the following equivalents: (1) a score of 5 on the German AP exam, or (2) a satisfactory result on the German Department's language placement exam, administered before the beginning of each semester.

The German minor is open to undergraduate students majoring in any other department. While students are encouraged to declare in their sophomore year to take advantage of departmental guidance and to enjoy the widest possible range of course options, they may declare a minor any time before the end of their junior spring semester. After that point, admission requires approval from the Director of Undergraduate Studies and the student's residential college dean, who will advise on completing the requirements within the available timeframe.

Program of Study

The German minor consists of GER 107 (the final course in the language sequence) and four additional GER courses at or above the 200-level. At least two of these four courses must be at the 300 level or above, and at least two must be conducted in German, including one at the 300 level or above. Students who reach the equivalent of GER 107 through a placement test must take an additional GER course in its place. One elected P/D/F course may be used toward the minor. Students pursuing the minor are welcome to enroll in the Junior Seminar but are not required to do so. There is no independent work component. After consultation with and approval by Directors of Undergraduate Studies in all relevant programs, students may count up to two courses toward the minor that also fulfill requirements for their major. While courses with a GER cross-listing may count toward the minor, no cognates may be counted. With prior approval of the DUS, courses taken at German-language universities during Study Abroad semesters may also be counted.

Study Abroad

Students are strongly encouraged to spend some time in a German-speaking country. The department offers a number of opportunities for students who wish to spend time in a German-speaking country in order to gain fluency in the German language, to pursue further study, and to participate in German life. These include the Princeton-in-Vienna summer program, the Berlin Consortium for German Studies (Princeton's own study-abroad program), and the department's Summer Work Program.

[Princeton-in-Vienna](#)

The Department's full immersion summer program in Vienna, Austria, offers three courses every July: German 105G (third semester), German 107G (fourth semester), and German 3XXG, an upper-level seminar taught in German (topics change year to year). These courses combine intensive instruction at the *Sprachenzentrum* of the Universität Wien with seminars on literature and culture, as well as excursions to sites in Vienna and other Central European cities led by Princeton Faculty.

Requirements for Princeton-in-Vienna:

- If you're new to German, enroll in German 101 in the fall; if you then take 102 in the spring, you can apply for admission to 105G in Vienna.
- If your performance in 101 qualifies you to take the interim intermediate course 1025 in the spring, you are automatically admitted to 107G, enabling you to complete your four-semester language requirement in one calendar year.
- If you have taken either GER 107 or a 200—or 300—level course taught in German, you can apply for GER 310G; a brief letter of recommendation from an instructor is required.

[Critical Theory in Berlin](#)

This four-week summer course in Berlin focuses on what the giants of Critical Theory had to say about media and power. Readings will include texts by Walter Benjamin, Michel Foucault, Hannah Arendt, and Frantz Fanon. The backdrop for the program will be the international metropolis of Berlin, one of the most exciting cultural and political hubs of modern Europe. The intensive seminar will be complemented by an extensive program of excursions in and around the city. All readings, seminar discussions, and excursions will be in English.

[Princeton-in-Leipzig](#)

For this program, the Music Department and the German Department together will host a credit-bearing course, "The Music and Language of J.S. Bach," in Leipzig, Germany. Students will get to hear musicians from around the world perform some of Bach's greatest works at the International Bach Festival. While exploring the music of Bach and other Leipzig composers, students will get to visit archives and museums and learn from renowned scholars. Students will be able to develop their German language skills at a school connected with the University of Leipzig.

Berlin Consortium for German Studies

Through the Berlin Consortium for German Studies, of which Princeton University is a member, Princeton undergraduates are eligible to spend either one semester or an entire academic year studying at the *Freie Universität Berlin* for a full Princeton academic credit. Students will pay normal Princeton tuition and those on financial aid will continue to receive aid during their study abroad. German Department majors wishing to enroll in this or any other foreign study program may do so, provided they present an acceptable plan of study that includes fulfillment of the departmental requirements for independent work. Their application must also be approved by the Committee on Examinations and Standing. Early consultation with the Director of Undergraduate Studies is strongly encouraged. Applications for the Berlin program are due in early November for the spring term and in early March for the following academic year. For additional information contact Professor Adam Oberlin (aoberlin@) in 208 East Pyne at 8-8424 or Gisella Gisolo, Director, Study Abroad Program (ggisolo@) at 8-1010. See also the Study Abroad website:

www.princeton.edu/~sap/ and the Berlin Consortium website

<https://ogp.columbia.edu/program/bcgs>. Gisella Gisolo and Professor Oberlin will hold an informational meeting for interested students early in the fall semester.

Financial aid to attend study abroad programs is available from the Office of International Programs to students receiving assistance during the academic year.

Summer Work Program (SWP)

For over 60 years, the German Department's Summer Work Program (SWP) has provided academic and professional opportunities abroad for countless Princeton undergraduates. The SWP arranges internships in a wide range of fields which include Arts and Culture, Business and Finance, STEM, Computer Science, Government, Policy, Law, and Medicine. Students have interned at the Bundestag, UNESCO World Heritage sites, Max Planck Institutes, and major corporations. They have worked at art galleries and hospitals, conducted research in fields ranging from neuroscience to migration studies, have worked with organizations that support refugees, and have had rewarding experiences in interdisciplinary projects.

The SWP is committed to working with each student individually. An integral part of the German Department, the program provides detailed guidance on writing German resumes, cover letters, and professional emails. Students are matched with internships based on their language proficiencies, academic and professional aspirations, extracurricular interests, and specific skills. Some of our most popular internships were initially established for a particular student with a unique set of qualifications and goals.

Organizing these opportunities is a truly collaborative effort. The SWP works in conjunction with the [Princeton Alumni Association of Germany](#), partners at host organizations, and colleagues at German Universities. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we provide financial support to students whose internships are unpaid.

An Information Session is held early in the Fall Semester. German majors and students with a high level of German proficiency are more likely to be qualified for certain

positions. However, German proficiency is not required and students from all academic fields are encouraged to apply.

For the most up-to-date information about the application process, eligibility, and internship offerings, please visit the [SWP Website](#).

Junior Calendar

FALL SEMESTER

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| <i>September 2</i> | <i>Classes begin</i> |
| <i>October 6–10</i> | <i>Midterm Exams</i> |
| <i>October 11–19</i> | <i>Fall Recess</i> |
| <i>November 25–30</i> | <i>Thanksgiving Recess</i> |
| <i>December 5–12</i> | <i>Reading Period</i> |
| <i>December 12</i> | <i>Written statement of Junior paper topic due (copies to Director of Undergraduate Studies, Junior Seminar instructor, and JIW Adviser)</i> |
| <i>December 12</i> | <i>Dean's Date deadline for written work due during semester</i> |
| <i>December 13–19</i> | <i>Fall term examinations</i> |

SPRING SEMESTER

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| <i>January 26</i> | <i>Spring term classes begin</i> |
| <i>February 13</i> | <i>Ten+ pages of first draft of JP due to adviser</i> |
| <i>March 2–6</i> | <i>Midterm Exams</i> |
| <i>March 7–15</i> | <i>Spring Recess</i> |
| <i>April 6</i> | <i>Draft of JP due to adviser</i> |
| <i>April 24</i> | <i>Junior Paper due (8,000 words)</i> |
| <i>April 27 – May 5</i> | <i>Reading Period</i> |
| <i>May 5</i> | <i>Dean's Date deadline for written work due during semester</i> |
| <i>May 8–14</i> | <i>Spring Term Examinations</i> |

Senior Calendar

FALL SEMESTER

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| <i>September 2</i> | <i>Classes begin</i> |
| <i>September 26</i> | <i>Two-page thesis statement due (one copy each to Director of Undergraduate Studies and adviser)</i> |
| <i>October 6–10</i> | <i>Midterm Exams</i> |
| <i>October 11–19</i> | <i>Fall Recess</i> |
| <i>October 24</i> | <i>Preliminary bibliography and outline due to adviser</i> |
| <i>November 24</i> | <i>Twenty pages of first draft of thesis due to adviser</i> |
| <i>November 25–30</i> | <i>Thanksgiving Recess</i> |
| <i>December 5–12</i> | <i>Reading Period</i> |
| <i>December 12</i> | <i>Thirty pages of a revised draft due (one copy each to DUS and adviser)</i> |
| <i>December 12</i> | <i>Dean's Date deadline for written work</i> |
| <i>December 13–19</i> | <i>Fall Term Examinations</i> |

SPRING SEMESTER

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| <i>January 26</i> | <i>Spring Term classes begin</i> |
| <i>February 16</i> | <i>Fifty+ pages of thesis draft due to adviser</i> |
| <i>March 2–6</i> | <i>Midterm Examinations</i> |
| <i>March 7–15</i> | <i>Spring Recess</i> |
| <i>April 15</i> | <i>Senior Thesis due: PDF copy must be submitted to erinmb@princeton.edu by 4:00 pm.</i> |
| <i>April 27 – May 5</i> | <i>Reading Period</i> |
| <i>May 5</i> | <i>Dean's Date deadline for written work due during semester</i> |
| <i>May 6–7</i> | <i>Senior departmental comprehensive exams</i> |
| <i>May 8–14</i> | <i>Spring Term Examinations</i> |
| <i>May 25</i> | <i>Class Day</i> |
| <i>May 26</i> | <i>Commencement</i> |

Junior Papers/Senior Theses Guidelines

Independent reading, the Junior Seminar, the Junior Paper, and the Senior Thesis constitute the student's total independent work, which is spread out over the four upper-class terms. These elements can be profitably linked with departmental courses. Students will consult with the Director of Undergraduate Studies, under whose guidance they will develop their own program. During the first term of the junior year, students are required to take the Junior Seminar GER300 which serves as an intensive workshop of research and writing skills, an introduction to a wide range of approaches and methods, and an incubator for the Junior Independent Work, an essay of approximately 8,000 words on a subject in German philosophy, art, media, linguistics, literature or politics. This essay, as well as the senior thesis, may be written in German or English. In early May of the junior year, students should discuss plans for their senior thesis with the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Junior Paper: During the two semesters of their junior year, students are required to write an original, thoroughly researched, and carefully constructed essay of approximately 8,000 words on a subject in German culture, literature, media or politics broadly conceived. Citations should follow the latest edition of the MLA Style Manual; either parenthetical or footnote citations are acceptable—the manual has rules for both. Regardless of the citation style chosen, a Works Cited list must be included. Students should also keep in mind that a significant portion of the sources consulted should be in German (with the definition of "significant" determined by the student's adviser, so this should be discussed early on).

Students should be prepared to meet regularly with the adviser (preferably weekly) to discuss their work on the project (including abstracts, outlines, and progressive drafts). Although the final essay is not due until the spring, students should keep in mind that the Junior Paper is a year-long project. It begins with topic development, background research, and initial drafting during the Junior Seminar in the fall and concludes with a polished essay at the end of the spring semester. Reflecting this roadmap, a first draft of at least ten double-spaced pages is due to the adviser early in the spring semester. The schedule for submitting further drafts should be established in consultation with the adviser at the beginning of the spring term. On the JP due date, students should submit an electronic copy (in PDF format) of the paper to their JP adviser and to Erin Casey.

Students who will be studying abroad in Berlin for the full academic year must submit an extension request (if needed) via email to Gisella Gisolo (Director, Study Abroad Program). The request must contain a proposed due date; copies of all correspondence (including email received from Gisella Gisolo) should be sent to the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Students should take careful note that the most successful independent papers are those for which drafts were submitted early enough for the adviser to give timely feedback.

Senior Thesis: Early in May of the junior year, students should discuss plans for their senior thesis with their adviser and are strongly encouraged to submit a general topic to the Director of Undergraduate Studies before the end of the semester. Documentation should follow the most recent guidelines of the **Modern Language Association**; footnotes and parenthetical styles are both acceptable. In either case, the thesis should include a bibliography of Works Cited. Try to consolidate footnotes and parentheses for ease of reading (the MLA Handbook has advice on this issue). For more information, consult the MLA Handbook or the organization's website at www.mla.org.

Below are the regulations for the formatting and submission of the thesis:

Fonts: Senior theses must be single-sided and double-spaced, printed in a 10- or 12-point font. The font should be a legible serif font (Times New Roman, Garamond, or similar), and the document should use only one style of font.

Margins: The margins should be 1 ½" on the left-hand side and 1" on the other three sides.

Order of parts: The thesis should start with the title page. Other front matter (all of which is optional, though tables of contents are generally quite helpful for the readers) should appear in the following order: abstract, dedication, epigraph, table of contents, list of illustrations, preface, and acknowledgements. After that comes the introduction and then the chapters. The order of elements at the end of the thesis is as follows (other than the bibliography, all such elements are optional): appendices, endnotes, glossary, bibliography.

Title page: The title-page must include the title of the thesis, the author's name and class, the date on which the thesis is due, the name of the primary adviser, and the following inscription: "A Senior Thesis submitted to the Department of German in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Bachelor of Arts at Princeton University." The order should be as above but the layout of the page is optional (centered or not, caps or not), so long as it is clear.

Final page: The final page of the thesis must include the following text—"This paper represents my own work in accordance with University regulations."—followed by the author's signature.

Submission: Students must submit, on or before the deadline date, a pdf file of their thesis to their adviser, Director of Undergraduate Studies, and Erin Casey.

Students should make every effort to meet the deadlines for drafts set by the Director of Undergraduate Studies, keeping in mind that the most successful papers are those for which advisers are able to give feedback.

Thesis Title

by

Rainer Werner Fassbinder

Class of 2026

Advisor: [Advisor's name]

A senior thesis submitted to
the Department of German in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the degree of Bachelor of Arts

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Princeton, New Jersey

April 15, 2026

Past Senior Thesis Titles

- Disrupting the Image: The Reinstatement of Female Subjectivity in the Work of VALIE EXPORT
- A Study of Oskar Schlemmer's Diagrams
- Illustrated Magazines, Ethnographic Museums, and Human Zoos:
Contextualizing Hannah Höch's *Aus einem ethnographischen Museum* Series
- Resistance and Play in David Benjamin Sherry's *American Monuments*
- Neue Ansichten über Bachmanns *Malina* in Kontext des weiblichen Bildungsromans
- Schreber, Remixed: Four Adaptations of *Denkwürdigkeiten eines Nervenkranken*
- Only the Gods Are Real: Mythology and Postmodern Philosophy in Neil Gaiman's *American Gods*
- "Die Bandenführer schreiten daher wie Staatsmänner": Reading Theories of Bonapartism in
Walter Benjamin and Bertolt Brecht
- Two Case Studies in the Cartographicity of Movement
- Reimagining the Revival: The Case for a Contemporary Staging of Haydn's Opera *Der Apotheker*
- Soccer in Germany: On the Power of a National Sport
- The Shmatte Siddur: Tattered Order, Ordered Tatters, And Queering Yiddishkeit
- "Dies Buch ist ausschließlich für die Frau geschrieben": Unmasking Gender Ideology in the Health Rhetoric of Bess Mensendieck's
Körperkultur der Frau
- Ideology and Anxiety
Familiarity in Capitalism and the Strangeness Thereof
- Surrealist Woman, Dismembered Doll, Horror Victim: Hans Bellmer's *Puppe* Photographs
- Wissenschaftlichkeit* in Freud: Scientific Reduction and the Ghost of the *Entwurf*
- A Taxonomy of Trumpism: On the Contemporary Application of 'Fascism'
- Out of the Trenches and into the Factories: Der Arbeiter and Ernst Jünger's Martial Modernity
- The Κάτέχων in Carl Schmitt's Philosophy of World History: *Nonconceptuality, Weaponisation, and Politics of a Metaphorical Constellation*
- "Human as Woman": by Lou Andreas-Salomé: A Translation
- Painting the New Woman: On the Late Weimar Paintings of Lotte Laserstein
- Staatsferne, Nichtkommerzialität, and Aufklärung*: A Media-political Case Study of the West German Broadcasting System
- Zwischen Chilenidad und Ostalgie: Hybridität, Solidarität, und das Fremde*: Chile-DEFA Films as Transnational Sites of Medialized Remembrance
- "What Unites and Divides Humankind?" by Magnus Hirschfeld: A Critical Translation
- Method in Madness: A Close Reading of Beethoven's Late String Quartets from a Performer's Perspective
- Pre-figurative Political Strategies for Change in the West German Green Movement 1968-1985

Making the Future Tense: An Exploration of Sexual Violence and Temporality in Christa Wolf's *Kassandra*

Alexander Kluge, Registrations of Capitalist Conditions, and Constructions of History

"Against the Malaise of Time": Embodied Fragmentation and the Temporalities of the Dada Creaturely, 1919-1937

Störtebeker Through the Ages: The Political Afterlife of a Folk Hero

Trance Dance, Berlin to Tel Aviv: The Roots of Modern Israeli Dance Aesthetics in Early 20th Century German Dance

The Historical Multi-Image of Rainer Werner Fassbinder's BRD-Trilogie

The Ecological Paradox: A Critique of Recent Environmental Discourse

Mediated Bodies: Technologies of Communication and Human form Around 1900

Am Rande des Sagbaren: Rainer Maria Rilkes Sonette an Orpheus, Hugo von Hofmannsthal und der deutsche Stimmungsbegriff

"At the Gate(s) of Mercy": Reading Celan's Jerusalem-Gedichte



Bernd and Hiller Becher, *Water Towers*, 1988

Academic Pledge

As a Princeton student, you are expected to type the following sentence and sign your name on each piece of work you submit, including your **Junior Paper** and **Senior Thesis**: **“This paper represents my own work in accordance with University regulations.”** In order to sign such a statement, you must understand those regulations. Therefore, it is crucial that you read and absorb the information contained in the Academic Integrity section of the Princeton website at: <https://pr.princeton.edu/pub/integrity/pages/intro/index.html>.

Penalties for Late Work

Junior papers will be docked 1/3 of a grade for every two unexcused days beyond the departmental deadline. Late submission of the senior thesis will result in a penalty of 1/3 of a grade for every three unexcused days beyond the departmental deadline. All extensions (excused late days) must be approved by the dean of the student's residential college.

Departmental Exam

The departmental examination is an oral examination based on the thesis. Students may also be asked to relate their thesis to their coursework. The examiners will be the thesis adviser and the second reader, usually another professor from the German Department. Approximately 15-20 minutes of this hour-long exam will be conducted in German. More specific information, such as time and logistics, will be announced by the department following submission of the theses.

Honors

Students receive a separate grade for the thesis and for the departmental examination. Honors are calculated with a formula that includes both thesis grades (whereby the thesis grade is weighted more heavily than the departmental exam grade) and the grades for departmental courses including cognates.

Prizes

Book Prizes- Outstanding students in courses and seminars in the Department of German will be recognized at an annual award ceremony where they will receive a certificate from the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany and a book from the Department. Students are nominated to the Director of Undergraduate Studies by their professors and instructors.

Victor Lange Senior Thesis Prize- Awarded to the senior with the best thesis, this prize was named in honor of Victor Lange, a Professor of Modern Languages, who taught at

Princeton for twenty years until his retirement in 1977. Born in Leipzig, where he earned his Ph.D. in 1934, Lange also taught at the University of Toronto and at Cornell University and wrote extensively on 18th-century German literature and literary criticism. In 1959 he founded the Department of German Languages and Literatures at Princeton.

Mary Cunningham Humphreys Junior German Prizes- Thanks to an endowment established in 1898 by Princeton Professor Willard Humphreys (1850-1902) in memory of his mother Mary Cunningham Humphreys, prizes will be awarded to the two juniors with the highest academic record for their work as majors in the Department of German.

Students Contemplating Graduate Work

Departmental students who intend to pursue graduate studies in German are reminded that most graduate schools require a reading knowledge of a second modern foreign language. Students are therefore advised to prepare themselves as undergraduates to meet these requirements and should also consider applying for postgraduate fellowships (DAAD, Fulbright) during their senior year. Interested students should speak to [Professor Barbara Nagel](#) who is the Princeton University Undergraduate DAAD Fellowship adviser.

Research and Study Abroad Funding

Funding is available to students from the Department of German to conduct research related to their independent work, as well as for other approved projects. Students should apply to take advantage of all funding opportunities through the [SAFE](#) website. Consult the Director of Undergraduate Studies for more information.

- Declared departmental majors are eligible to apply for funding.
- Funding is for research purposes and, in general, not available to support language learning. Students who wish to travel to Europe to improve their knowledge of the German language are strongly encouraged to participate in the Princeton in Vienna program and/or the Summer Work Program, both of which provide financial support.
- Funding will be granted through SAFE only after consultation with the Director of Undergraduate Studies. Students must articulate a bona fide research need to the Director of Undergraduate Studies and then present the case, along with a clearly delineated budget, in the SAFE application. Requests made without consultation will not be considered.
- Students are eligible to apply for up to \$1,500 for Junior Paper research. Because students will enroll in the Junior Seminar during the fall semester, students will typically only be allowed to apply for research funding support one time during their junior year.
- Students are eligible to apply for up to \$2,500 for Senior Thesis research. Should this involve travel, such research trips may be taken during the summer before senior year or in the course of the Fall semester.

- Students are strongly encouraged to apply to other funding resources across the University.
- These amounts represent the maximum sums that will be granted, not a guaranteed amount. The Director of Undergraduate Studies will approve applications for undergraduate research funds in consultation with the Departmental Chair and Manager.

Internship Milestone Credit

The internship milestone credit offers students the opportunity to record pre-approved summer internships related to their home department on their transcripts. Requests for the internship milestone credit will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the German Department's Director of Undergraduate Studies. To qualify, internships must be at least six weeks in length and directly related to the field of German.

To apply, use the [Registrar's application for Internship Milestone Credit](#). Send your completed application with required attachments to the German Department's [Director of Undergraduate Studies](#) for pre-approval.

After the conclusion of their internship, students will submit a one-two-page report as well as a letter from the internship organization detailing responsibilities and overall performance to the Director of Undergraduate Studies. After this is approved, the Registrar will note the milestone credit on the transcript.

Students are not required to participate in a summer internship or apply for the credit but may apply for the credit more than once. The program is available to Juniors and to Sophomores who are in the process of declaring German as their major but not available to first-year students. For additional information on the program, see the [Office of the Dean of the College's overview](#).

Regulation for German Language Classes

As [Rights, Rules, Responsibilities](#) makes clear, the work you submit in any class must be your own. In a language class, this means that the common practice of asking someone to look over your work and the use of online grammar and translation tools are not permitted. When assignments involve exceptions to this rule, instructors will provide guidelines to be followed. On all take-home assignments, including exams and essays, you may use online tools to look up single words or phrases, but not to compose entire sentences or paragraphs. It is precisely your competency in spoken and written German that is being evaluated. During in-class tests, quizzes, or exams the use of electronic devices (e.g. smartphones, tablets) is strictly prohibited. Such devices must be kept off your desk and out of view.

Evidence of any attempt to gain an unfair advantage on graded assignments will result in submission of the case to the Honor Committee (for in-class tests, quizzes, exams) or the Committee on Discipline (for other graded assignments). No one, your instructor included, wants this to happen. If you are unsure of what is and is not permitted, please consult your instructor and follow the instructor's guidelines rigorously.

Postgraduate Fellowships

DAAD (Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst Scholarship)

www.daad.org and

<https://oip.princeton.edu/our-programs/fellowship-advising/search-fellowships/daad-graduate-study-scholarship>

Deadline: October 17, 2025
Fields of Study: Open, but some fields have a German language requirement
Adviser: Professor Barbara Nagel, @bnagel, 8-4144

Fulbright Grant:

<https://oip.princeton.edu/our-programs/fellowship-advising/search-fellowships/fulbright-us-student-program>

Deadline: September 17, 2025 by 5:00 pm EST
Fields of Study: Open; graduate study at a foreign university

Postgraduate Awards: For further information please see: <https://oip.princeton.edu/our-programs/fellowship-advising>

Important Contact Information

Department of German

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Chair: | Professor Devin Fore |
| Director of Graduate Studies: | Professor Joel Lande |
| Director of Undergraduate Studies: | Professor Thomas Y. Levin |
| Critical Theory in Berlin: | Professor Devin Fore |
| Princeton in Leipzig: | Professor Jamie Rankin |
| Princeton in Vienna: | Professor Adam Oberlin |
| Manager, Finance and Administration: | Janine Calogero |
| Summer Work Program: | Angiras Arya |

Firestone Library

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Resource Librarian: | Rex Hatfield, rehx@ |
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Study Abroad

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Director, Study Abroad Program | Gisella Gisolo, ggisolo@ |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|

Deans for Juniors and Seniors

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|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Butler College: | Rashidah Andrews, rashidah@ |
| Forbes College: | Patrick Caddeau, caddeau@ |
| Mathey College: | Michael Olin, molin@ |
| New College West: | Johanna Rossi Wagner, jrwagner@ |
| Rockefeller College: | Justine Hernandez Levine, justinel@ |
| Whitman College: | Jaclyn Schwalm, jschwalm@ |
| Yeh College: | Alexis Andres, aandres@ |

Film

A collection of both well-known and rare films and documentaries on DVD and VHS can be found in the *Firestone Video Library* [B-1-J]: further information can be found at <https://library.princeton.edu/videoservices/video>. A significant collection of high-quality transfers of important films is available for streaming at <http://princeton.kanopy.com/>.

Department of Rare Books and Special Collections

Firestone Library

One of the most astonishing resources at Princeton and one of the top such special collections library in the world, its holdings span five millennia and five continents and include around 300,000 rare or significant printed works; 30,000 linear feet of textual materials, ranging from cuneiform tablets to contemporary manuscripts; a wealth of prints, drawings, photographs, maps, coins, and other visual materials; the Cotsen Children's Library and an incredible collection of pre-cinematic optical devices. No appointment is necessary but first-time users must register for a Special Collections Research Account. Further information can be found here: <http://rbsc.princeton.edu/>.

Marquand Library of Art and Archaeology

Head Librarian: Holly Hatheway, hhatheway@

This non-circulating library located in McCormick Hall is one of the oldest and finest art libraries in America. The holdings cover the history of art and architecture, from prehistoric rock painting to contemporary art and photography. Archaeology collections range from classical, medieval, and Byzantine to Islamic, pre-Columbian, and East Asian archeology. Materials are collected in many languages (including English, German, French, Italian, Modern Greek, Russian, Chinese, and Japanese) and in all formats—books, journals, microforms, dealers' catalogs, electronic resources, CDs and videos. The library houses its own rare book collection. At present the collection includes more than 750 current journals; 230,000 monographs and bound periodicals. Information at: <http://library.princeton.edu/marquand> or call 258-3783.

NOTE: Until Fall 2024, McCormick Hall will be undergoing renovation for construction of the new Princeton University Art Museum. Marquand Library's physical collections are currently available only by advanced request via the library catalog for consultation in two temporary reading rooms in Firestone Library, C Floor.

Marquand Library, McCormick Hall



What do German Majors do after Graduation?

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| William Daniels '24 | Fulbright in Göttingen, Germany |
| Kristiana Filipov '24 | Writer; graduate studies in Irish Writing at Trinity College, Dublin |
| John Ehling '24 | Analyst at Makena Capital, Palo Alto |
| Thomas Goulding '24 | Graduate Studies at the Committee on Social Thought, U of Chicago |
| Ezra Shin '24 | Gap year in Seoul, Korea, while applying to law school |
| Corinna Brueckner '23 | Events and Programs Manager Rosenbach Museum and Library, Philadelphia |
| Charles Murphy '23 | Curatorial Research Assistant at the Museum of Jewish Heritage, NYC |
| Grace Rosenberg '23 | Prospect Researcher at St. Catherine University, Saint Paul |
| Ava Vilensky '23 | |
| Julien Chang '22 | Singer-Songwriter; Composition Studies at Liszt Academy, Budapest |
| Autumn Martin '22 | |
| Noam Miller '22 | Paralegal in MA Attorney General's Office, Consumer Protections Division |
| Molly Banes '21 | Growth Marketing Manager at Il Makiage in NYC |
| Adam Bear '21 | |
| Christy Chun '21 | Graduate School at Warburg Institute for MA |
| Joshua Porter '21 | Assistant Publicist, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, New York City |
| Jason Qu '21 | Graduate School at University of Cambridge (UK) (MPhil) |
| Emily Shashkini '21 | Graduate School at NYU Steinhardt MA Program |
| Janice Cheon '20 | MSt in Medieval and Modern Languages, University of Oxford |
| Mason Cox '20 | Fulbright in Vienna, Austria |
| Jaclyn Hovsmith '20 | Analyst at FedTech in Washington, DC |
| Thomas Jankovic '20 | Software Research Engineer, Philadelphia; Fulbright in Germany Jan. 2021 |
| Leland Ko '20 | Juilliard School – studying for master's degree |
| Estibaliz Matulewicz '20 | Teach for America in Dallas and working on M.A. in Urban Education |
| Danny Pinto '20 | University of Chicago Graduate School |
| Jesse Ryan Hileman '19 | TikTok, Texas |
| William Keiser '19 | Dance Institute of Washington |
| Christian Lawson '19 | Fulbright Germany, Bank of America |
| Marc Decitre '18 | Tutor and working on a playwright |
| Allison Fleming '18 | Fulbright Austria, University of Michigan Law School, Fall 2019 |
| Spencer Hadley '18 | PhD Candidate in German, Cornell University |
| Sang Lee '18 | Copywriter for Hello Fresh, NYC |
| Alexander Robinson '18 | Relx Group, Global Government Affairs, Washington, DC |
| Charles Carr Baker '17 | Performance Coordinator, Actor, Comedian, Singer-Songwriter, NYC |
| Isabel Lockett Casserley '17 | Business Analyst at McKinsey & Company, NYC |
| Jackson D. Knight '17 | Coleman Research, North Carolina |
| Chad Logan Nuckols '17 | IBM, Consulting |

Directory—Faculty and Staff

Chair

| | | |
|------------------|----------------|-------|
| Prof. Devin Fore | 221 EP – 84146 | dfore |
|------------------|----------------|-------|

Director of Graduate Studies

| | | |
|------------------|----------------|-------|
| Prof. Joel Lande | 217 EP – 86149 | lande |
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Director of Undergraduate Studies

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|---------|
| Prof. Thomas Y. Levin | 210 EP – 81384 | tylevin |
|-----------------------|----------------|---------|

Manager, Finance & Administration

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|----------|
| Janine Calogero | 204 EP – 84141 | jcaloger |
|-----------------|----------------|----------|

Graduate Administrator

| | | |
|------------|----------------|--------|
| Erin Casey | 203 EP – 84142 | erinmb |
|------------|----------------|--------|

Events Coordinator

| | | |
|-------------|----------------|--------|
| Dana Singer | 203 EP – 87964 | ds7517 |
|-------------|----------------|--------|

Technical Support Specialist

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|----------|
| Edward Sikorski | 203 EP – 87528 | sikorski |
|-----------------|----------------|----------|

Summer Work Program

| | | |
|--------------|----------------|-------|
| Angiras Arya | 045 EP – 84132 | Aarya |
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Faculty

| | | |
|----------------------|----------------|----------|
| Prof. Brigid Doherty | 223 EP – 87258 | bdoherty |
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|------------------|----------------|-------|
| Prof. Devin Fore | 221 EP – 84146 | dfore |
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|-------------------|----------------|--------|
| Dr. Florian Fuchs | 213 EP – 86149 | ffuchs |
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|---------------------|----------------|--------|
| Prof. Dagmara Kraus | 219 EP – 85255 | Dkraus |
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| Prof. Joel Lande | 217 EP – 86195 | lande |
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|-----------------------|-----------------|---------|
| Prof. Thomas Y. Levin | 210 EP -- 81384 | tylevin |
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| Prof. Susan Morrow | 211 EP – 87046 | sm22 |
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|---------------------|----------------|--------|
| Prof. Barbara Nagel | 214 EP – 84144 | bnagel |
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| Dr. Adam Oberlin | 208 EP – 88424 | aoberlin |
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| | | |
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| Prof. Sara S. Poor | 211EP – 87980 | spoor |
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| | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------|
| Dr. Jamie Rankin | 011 EP– 84135 | jrankin |
|------------------|---------------|---------|

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------|-------|
| Prof. Joseph Vogl | 218 EP– 8-4162 | jbogl |
|-------------------|----------------|-------|

| | | |
|---|---------------|------|
| Prof. Johannes Wankhammer (on leave) | 213 EP– 86149 | jw54 |
|---|---------------|------|



Christine de Pizan

For more information on the Department of German and up-to-date announcements on departmental events, lectures, and conference, please consult our website or

Instagram:

<http://german.princeton.edu>

Instagram: germanprinceton

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