

# GERMAN STUDIES (GERM)

Updated March 13, 2013

**Note: The department/program code GERM replaces the former code 26. Students cannot hold credit in GERM-xxxx and the former 26.xxxx having the same course number (e.g., GERM-1201(6) and 26.1201(6)).**

**Chair of Modern Languages & Literatures:** Linda Dietrick; Associate Professor and Coordinator for German Studies: L. Dietrick.

## DEGREES/PROGRAMS OFFERED

**3-Year BA**

**4-Year BA**

**Minor**

## INTRODUCTION

The modern German language was born in the 16<sup>th</sup> century when two groups of dialects known as Frankish and Alemannic merged into a single language. As a result of the wide circulation of Martin Luther's German translation of the Bible (1534), the new language quickly grew in influence and prestige.

First taught as a language of culture, German was the mother tongue of many brilliant writers such as Goethe, Schiller, Kafka, Thomas Mann, Bertolt Brecht and Günter Grass and many well-known composers such as Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, Schumann, Wagner and Mahler. From the 18<sup>th</sup> century onwards, German has been at the forefront of intellectual inquiry, German-speaking intellectuals having shaped the Humanities with philosophers such as Kant, Hegel, Nietzsche and Heidegger, political thinkers such as Marx, Engels, Nietzsche and Hannah Arendt, psychoanalysts such as Freud and Jung and philologists (linguists) such as Humboldt, Schlegel, Schleicher and Grimm.

German is key to understanding the complexities of 20<sup>th</sup> century European history, culture and identity, given Germany's role in World Wars I and II, the Holocaust, the Cold War, the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe and the evolution of the European Union (EU) following the reunification of East and West Germany. Now spoken by over 100 million people in Germany, Austria and Switzerland, German has more native speakers than any other European language and is second only to English as the language of business within the European Union.

Here in Canada, German occupies an important place in Manitoba's linguistic and cultural mosaic due to multiple migrations of German-speakers from around the world. Not surprisingly, the University of Winnipeg boasts a **Chair in German-Canadian Studies** and a **Chair in Mennonite Studies**, established to promote the study of the history and culture of German-speaking immigrants.

Acquiring a second language will enrich your life and open up many career opportunities. Whether your goals include visiting the castles and beer gardens of Europe, enjoying a performance of Mozart's *Magic Flute* in the original, watching a film by Wim Wenders, rediscovering your heritage, reading the works of Wittgenstein, delving into the legacy of the Cold War, analysing Freud or embarking on an international career in business, commerce or finance, learning German is a definite asset. But if you plan to continue on to graduate studies in the Humanities, learning German is a must! Given the prominence of the German tradition of research in the Humanities, German is one of the **required** languages for many PhD programs.

In the department of **Modern Languages and Literatures**, we offer the 3 or 4-year BA (Major or Combined Major) in German Studies with challenging courses where you will discuss topics of current interest, reflect on problems of the modern world, explore the culture of Germany, Austria and Switzerland and read short literary texts dealing with the social and political issues of our time. As you develop your command of oral and written German, you will also develop the cultural understanding that is needed in the global community.

Each year, UW students have the opportunity to take part in our exchange program with the University of Bamberg in Germany. If you are interested, contact the German Studies coordinator for further information.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR A 3-YEAR BA IN GERMAN STUDIES

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENT** Students must consult with a member of the Department in planning their course of study.

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENT** 90 credit hours

### RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT

Degree: Minimum 30 credit hours

Major: Minimum 18 credit hours

### GENERAL DEGREE REQUIREMENT

Humanities: 12 credit hours

Science: 6 credit hours

Writing: Minimum 3 credit hours of Academic Writing.

Maximum Introductory Courses: Students may use a maximum of 42 credit hours at the 1000 level. Of these, a maximum of 6 credit hours may be below the 1000 level.

Distribution: Minimum three (3) credit hours from each of five (5) different subjects.

### MAJOR REQUIREMENT

Single Major: Minimum 30 credit hours/ Maximum 48 credit hours.

Double Major: Minimum 30 credit hours in German Studies and specified number of credit hours in the other Major subject or program.

Required courses:

**GERM-2109(3)** Normative Grammar

Minimum of 6 credit hours in German Studies at the 3000 level

Combined Major: Minimum 48 credit hours from two (2) different Major subjects with not less than 18 credit hours from each Major subject.

Required Courses:  
**GERM-2109(3)** Normative Grammar

## REQUIREMENTS FOR A 4-YEAR BA IN GERMAN STUDIES

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENT** Students must consult with the Department Advisor in planning their studies. Students must have completed at least 30 credit hours in German Studies.

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENT** 120 credit hours

**RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT**  
Degree: Minimum 60 credit hours  
Major: Minimum 30 credit hours

**GENERAL DEGREE REQUIREMENT**  
Humanities: 12 credit hours  
Science: 6 credit hours  
Social Science: 12 credit hours  
Writing: Minimum 3 credit hours of Academic Writing.  
Maximum Introductory Courses: Students may use a maximum of 42 credit hours at the 1000 level. Of these, a maximum of 6 credit hours may be below the 1000 level.  
Distribution: Minimum three (3) credit hours from each of five (5) different subjects.

**MAJOR REQUIREMENT**  
Single Major: Minimum 48 credit hours/Maximum 66 credit hours.  
Double Major: Minimum 48 credit hours in each Major subject as specified by the department/program.  
Required courses:  
**GERM-2109(3)** Normative Grammar  
Minimum of 12 credit hours in German Studies at the 3000 level

Combined Major: Minimum 60 credit hours from two (2) different Major subjects with not less than 24 credit hours from each Major subject.

Required Courses:  
**GERM-2109(3)** Normative Grammar  
Minimum of 3 credit hours in German Studies at the 3000 level

## REQUIREMENTS FOR A MINOR IN GERMAN STUDIES

Degree: Students must complete a 4-year degree program in order to be eligible to hold the Minor.

Minor: 18 credit hours in the Minor subject, with a minimum of 12 credit hours above the 1000-level

Residence Requirement: Minimum 12 credit hours in the Minor subject

Required courses: GERM-2109 or GERM-2209

Restrictions: Students cannot declare the same subject as a Major and a Minor.

## COURSE LISTINGS

Students are advised to consult the appropriate Timetable available from the Records Office for courses available during the current term.

**Note:** All German Studies courses may be used to fulfill the Humanities Requirement.

**Note:** All students registering for their first German Studies course must consult a department advisor.

**Note:** GERM-2101(3), GERM-2102(3), GERM-2303(3), and GERM-2906(3) are given in English. GERM-1001(6) and GERM-2001(6) are given in German as much as possible. All other courses are given in German.

### Language and Linguistics Courses

GERM-1001(6) Introductory German  
GERM-2001(6) Intermediate German  
GERM-2109(3) Normative Grammar  
GERM-2110(3) Intermediate Written Expression  
GERM-2114(3) English-German Translation  
GERM-2115(3) German-English Translation  
GERM-2202(3) German Phonetics  
GERM-3401(3) Business German  
GERM-3403(3) German Lexicology  
GERM-3404(3) History of the German Language

### Culture and Literature Courses

GERM-3101(3) Studies in German Culture I

GERM-3102(3)	Studies in German Culture II
GERM-2209(3)	Introduction to German Literature
GERM-2386(3)	Contemporary German Cinema
GERM-3113(3)	Exploring Language and Society through Texts
GERM-3906(3)	Studies in German Literature

### Courses in German Cultural History in English (Cross-listed with History)

GERM-2101(3)	Studies in German Culture I
GERM-2102(3)	Studies in German Culture II
GERM-2303(3)	The Child in Europe

### Experimental Course

GERM/MENN-2107 Introduction to Mennonite Low German

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

**GERM-1001(6) INTRODUCTORY GERMAN (Le3, La1)** This course is designed for students who have no previous knowledge of German and who wish to acquire a command of the written and spoken language. Its main aim is to provide a solid base in vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation. Conversation and computer laboratories will supplement the course in order to give the student additional practice in the practical applications of the language.

**RESTRICTIONS:** Students who have AP German Language, the International Baccalaureate in German, or the *Deutsches Sprachdiplom 2* or who have received a year or more of their secondary school education in a German-speaking environment may not receive credit for this course.

**GERM-2001(6) INTERMEDIATE GERMAN (Le3, La1)** The aim of this course is to enable students to increase their proficiency in the following skills: writing, reading, aural comprehension, and oral expression. Class time is devoted to the systematic review of grammar essentials, discussion of short literary texts and non-fiction on topics of current interest, written compositions and practice in the spoken language. Additional practice is undertaken during a one-hour session of small-group work each week.

**PREREQUISITES:** German 40S or GERM-1001

**RESTRICTIONS:** Students who have AP German Language, the International Baccalaureate in German, or the *Deutsches Sprachdiplom 2* or who have received a year or more of their secondary school education in a German-speaking environment may not receive credit for this course.

### GERM-2101(3) STUDIES IN GERMAN CULTURE I

#### GERM-3101(3) STUDIES IN GERMAN CULTURE I (Le3)

This course offers a broad survey of cultural developments in German-speaking Europe from the Middle Ages to the Romantic period at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Slides, films, and audio recordings help to present developments in art, architecture, music, and the social/political background, while writings by authors such as Luther, Grimmelshausen, Kant, Lessing, and Goethe allow for discussion of themes and issues in the context of their times.

**PREREQUISITES:** For GERM-2101, none. For GERM-3101, GERM-2209 and any 3 credit hours in 2000-level German Studies courses

**RESTRICTIONS:** Students may not receive credit for both GERM-2101 and GERM-3101.

**CROSS-LISTED:** History HIST-2323.

### GERM-2102(3) STUDIES IN GERMAN CULTURE II

#### GERM-3102(3) STUDIES IN GERMAN CULTURE II (Le3)

This course offers a broad survey of cultural developments in German-speaking Europe from the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup>

century to the present. Slides, films, and audio recordings help to present developments in art, architecture, music, and the social/political background, while writings by authors such as E. T. A. Hoffmann, Marx, Freud, Kafka, Brecht and Christa Wolf allow for discussion of themes and issues in the context of their times.

**PREREQUISITES:** For GERM-2102, none. For GERM-3102, GERM-2209 and any 3 credit hours in 2000-level German Studies courses

**RESTRICTIONS:** Students may not receive credit for both GERM-2102 and GERM-3102.

**CROSS-LISTED:** History HIST-2324.

**GERM-2109(3) NORMATIVE GRAMMAR (Le3)** This course offers an intensive study of selected grammatical topics and a thorough study of syntax. Grammatical topics include the use of gender, number, and case markers; verb tenses and moods; and prepositions. The study of syntax focuses on subordinate clauses.

**PREREQUISITES:** GERM-2001 or the former GERM-2201, AP German Language, the International Baccalaureate in German, or the *Deutsches Sprachdiplom 2*.

### GERM-2110(3) INTERMEDIATE WRITTEN EXPRESSION

**(Le3)** This course is designed primarily to improve students' written expression in German; oral expression also receives attention. Students are introduced to the major aspects of the writing process, specific writing techniques (description, narration and argumentation), and grammatical style and editing. Model texts are presented and assignments focus on selected prose genres (e.g. composition, correspondence, summary). Individual work and small group activities consist of writing sentences, paragraphs, and compositions.

**PREREQUISITES:** GERM-2109(3).

### GERM-2114(3) ENGLISH-GERMAN TRANSLATION (Le3)

This course in translation from English to German serves a dual purpose: to give students an opportunity to expand their German vocabulary and grammatical skills and to introduce them to specific written styles in the target language (German). A number of recurring semantic, grammatical, and syntactic features of German are studied through shorter translation exercises and through the translation of longer documents, e.g. newspaper articles, business letters, advertisements.

**PREREQUISITES:** GERM-2109(3).

### GERM-2115(3) GERMAN-ENGLISH TRANSLATION (Le3)

Taught in German, this course introduces the principles of written translation from German into English. Practical exercises focus on translation difficulties relating to English

vocabulary, grammar, and style. Students translate short authentic German-language texts from a variety of sources including newspapers, magazines, and literature.

**PREREQUISITES:** GERM-2109(3).

**GERM-2202(3) GERMAN PHONETICS (Le3)** This course presents the theory and practice of German phonetics and phonology, its practical applications (e.g. the use of pronunciation dictionaries), and its material realizations in standard German. The theory covered includes the physiology of speech, the International Phonetic Alphabet as it relates to German, and phonetic transcription. Emphasis is placed on orthoepy (the relationship between pronunciation and orthography) and on correcting the student's oral performance in German.

**PREREQUISITES:** GERM-2109(3).

#### **GERM-2209(3) INTRODUCTION TO GERMAN**

**LITERATURE (Le3)** This survey of representative poems, short stories, and dramatic texts introduces students to significant authors of German literature since the 18<sup>th</sup> century such as Schiller, Goethe, Rilke, Kafka, Frisch, and Bachmann. It also introduces them to the study of literature: how to read, discuss, and interpret literary texts.

**PREREQUISITES:** GERM-2001(6) or the former GERM-2201(6), or GERM-2109, or AP German Language, the International Baccalaureate in German, or the *Deutsches Sprachdiplom 2*.

**RESTRICTIONS:** Students may not receive credit for both GERM-2209 and the former GERM-2207.

**GERM-2303(3) THE CHILD IN EUROPE (Le3)** Lectures and discussions examine from several disciplinary perspectives conceptions of the child and of childhood in Europe from ancient times to the present. With contributions from such fields as Art History, Classics, English, French, German, History, and Women's Studies, the course explores Europeans' definitions of children and childhood and their understandings of children in relation to the family, society, class, gender, religion, and work. We examine typical images of childhood in European literature and art, the connections between these images and actual practices, and the continuing impact of these ideas and practices.

**CROSS-LISTED:** History HIST-2303(3).

#### **GERM-2386(3) GERMAN CULTURE THROUGH FILM**

**(Le3)** This course uses German feature films to help students develop their language skills and learn about the culture and history of German-speaking Europe since the 1920s. With the support of subtitles or captioning, guided exercises, and interpretive discussions, students develop their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills while becoming more familiar with German experience in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Some attention is given to German film terminology and the analysis of scenes. The course includes notable films by such directors as Joseph von Sternberg, Rainer Werner Fassbinder, Volker Schlöndorff, and Fatih Akin.

**PREREQUISITES:** GERM-2001(6) or the former GERM-2201(6), or GERM-2109, or AP German Language, the International Baccalaureate in German, or the *Deutsches Sprachdiplom 2*.

#### **GERM-2906(3) STUDIES IN GERMAN LITERATURE**

##### **GERM-3906(3) STUDIES IN GERMAN LITERATURE (Le3)**

This course focuses on selected German literary texts from about 1770 to the present. The course may include Goethe, Schiller, and the German Romantics; Realists such as Ebner-Eschenbach and Fontane; classic Modernists such as Kafka, Mann and Brecht; or postwar and contemporary writers such as Bachmann, Grass, Wolf, Schlink, and Özdamar.

**PREREQUISITES:** GERM-2209(3) and any 3 credit hours in

2000-level German Studies courses except GERM-2001(6)

**RESTRICTIONS:** Students may not receive credit for both GERM-2906 and GERM-3906.

#### **GERM-3113(3) EXPLORING LANGUAGE AND SOCIETY THROUGH TEXTS (Le3)**

This course examines current events, social issues, and artistic and intellectual trends in the contemporary German-speaking world through the analysis and discussion of media sources including the Internet, television, and the press. The course offers extensive reading practice and is designed for students who wish to develop a high level of oral and written proficiency in German. Emphasis is placed on the acquisition of specialized vocabulary. Course work includes written compositions, oral presentations, debates, and round-table discussions.

**PREREQUISITES:** GERM-2109(3) and any 3 credit hours in 2000-level German Studies courses except GERM-2001(6)

**GERM-3401(3) BUSINESS GERMAN (Le3)** This course teaches students to communicate effectively in business situations. Course materials include situational texts reflecting business activities and covering a range of topics such as trade, telecommunications, computer technology, financial institutions, marketing, and advertising. The course is designed to expand language skills already acquired as well as to present the specialized vocabulary used in the business environment. It includes extensive exercises in vocabulary, comprehension, business writing, and correspondence.

**PREREQUISITES:** GERM-2109(3) and any 3 credit hours in 2000-level German Studies courses except GERM-2001(6)

**GERM-3403(3) GERMAN LEXICOLOGY (Le3)** This course focuses on the German lexicon, its forms and formation. Students learn to distinguish different structural types of words (e.g. acronyms, derivatives), to identify their basic components (e.g. prefixes, suffixes) and to recognize the mechanisms involved in their formation. Through the study of synonyms and antonyms, students explore the semantic relationships between words. The hierarchical structure of the lexicon is examined. Course work emphasizes practical strategies for vocabulary enrichment and mastery.

**PREREQUISITES:** GERM-2109(3) and any 3 credit hours in 2000-level German Studies courses except GERM-2001(6)

#### **GERM-3404(3) HISTORY OF THE GERMAN LANGUAGE**

**(Le3)** This course traces the development of the German language from early Germanic to the present. It examines both the internal evolution of the German language (its phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics and pragmatics) and the sociocultural and historical factors that influenced its development. Various linguistic documents illustrating the distinct features of German in different eras are studied.

**PREREQUISITES:** GERM-2109(3) and any 3 credit hours in 2000-level German Studies courses except GERM-2001(6)

#### **GERM-3858(6) THE ACQUISITION OF GERMAN AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE (Le3)**

A language may be learned at home, in the classroom or on the street. But how do babies make sense of the sounds around them so they can effectively communicate? Why is it difficult for older learners to acquire another language? Are there secrets for language learning? In this course students explore the learning and teaching of German as an additional language. Students also critically examine their own language acquisition as they strive to understand how languages are learned, with an end toward improving their own language skills. Taught in conjunction with EDUC-4858 (6).

**PREREQUISITES:** GERM-2109(3) and any 3 credit hours in 2000-level German Studies courses except GERM-2001(6)

**GERM-3910(3) SPECIAL TOPICS IN GERMAN STUDIES**

**(T)** In this tutorial, students explore a topic in German literature or linguistics under the direction of a professor. This course may be repeated for credit when the topic varies.

**PREREQUISITES:** 12 credit hours in 2000-level German Studies courses including GERM-2109(3) or GERM-2209(3), and permission of instructor

**EXPERIMENTAL COURSE**

Experimental Courses are new courses offered on a trial basis to gauge interest in various topics. Students who successfully complete any experimental course receive credit as indicated

**GERM-2107 INTRODUCTION TO MENNONITE LOW**

**GERMAN (Le3)** This course helps students develop a basic knowledge of the Low German language (Plautdietsch) as spoken by Mennonites who migrated from Prussia to Russia and subsequently to Canada, the United States and throughout Latin and South America. Students learn to understand spoken Low German and to conduct basic conversations in everyday situations. Although written Low German is not completely standardized, the course provides students with a basic reading knowledge of Low German texts. Instruction in the communication patterns and structures of the language is complemented by audio and video exercises as available.

Prerequisites: German 40S or GERM-1001 or permission of the instructor

**CROSS-LISTED:** Mennonite Studies MENN-2107(3).