German Studies (BA)

This program is offered by the College of Arts & Sciences/International Languages and Cultures Department.

Program Description

The German Studies major is a flexible, interdisciplinary program for students interested in German culture, history, art or other topics specific to German speaking countries. The major draws upon Webster University’s strengths in both the liberal arts and professional schools. Students will have the opportunity to study at Webster’s Vienna campus. Alongside their rigorous academic training, German studies majors may also opt to do an internship in Germany, Austria or Switzerland.

Graduates of this program will be able to demonstrate broad knowledge of German culture and language. They will be well-equipped for international careers in business, the arts, and government service or graduate study in a range of professional and liberal arts fields.

Offered at St. Louis campus only.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the program, students will be able to:

• Recognize and appraise the complexities of a culture or cultures different from their own.
• Identify multiple cultural perspectives based on original texts and cultural materials.
• Critically analyze their own culture and its place in the world.
• Question cultural stereotypes.
• Demonstrate successful and sensitive communication, both orally and in writing, with people from another culture through an understanding of their language and culture.
• Relate their personality, values and complex thoughts in a language other than their native one.

Degree Requirements

A minimum of 128 credit hours consisting of the following:

• 45 credit hours in German language and literature (see Curriculum below)
• At least one term of study at Webster University’s campus in Vienna or University of Trier (Students may, with the approval of the program director, also fulfill this requirement at a university in a German-speaking country in Europe that is outside the Webster network.)
• German Studies Overview (ILC 4700). May be taken for 0 or 1 credit hour.
• Applicable University Global Citizenship Program hours
• Electives

Courses completed with a grade lower than C do not count toward fulfilling the specific course requirements of the major. Courses at the 3000 level may only be taken pass/fail with permission of the chair of the department.

Courses used to fulfill a major may not also be used to fulfill a requirement for a minor.

Teacher certification courses (e.g., ILC 4060) may not be used to satisfy upper-level coursework in the appropriate language.

Students whose primary language is not English must take English as a Second Language (ESLG) courses until they pass their English Language Proficiency requirements.

Curriculum

The 45 credit hours required for the German studies major include the following:

• 12 credits in German language courses 1000-2000 (not including workshops)
• 24 credits in German language/literature courses 3000-4000
• 9 credits distributed as follows:

History & Politics (3 credit hours)

• HIST 2020 Topics in Modern European History* (may be repeated if topics differ) (3 hours)
• HIST 2090 Encounters with History* (3 hours)
• HIST 3060 History Roundtable* (may be repeated if topics differ) (3 hours)
• HIST 4200 Advanced Studies in European History* (3 hours)
• HIST 4600 History Seminar* (may be repeated if topic differs) (3 hours)
• POLT 3400 Comparative Politics* (3 hours)
• POLT 4100 Advanced Studies in International Politics* (3-4 hours)
• POLT 4400 Advanced Studies in Comparative Politics* (3 hours)
• POLT 4600 Political Science Seminar* (3 hours)

Communications (3 credit hours)

• JOUR 3190 Topics in International Journalism* (3 hours)
• MEDC 3260/INTL 3260 International Communications* (3 hours)
• JOUR 4220 Advanced Global Journalism* (3 hours)
• ILC 2150 Topics in Culture* (1-3 hours)
• GRMN 3150 Culture and Civilization* (3 hours)
• ILC 4150 Contemporary Issues* (3 hours)
• GRMN 4650 Advanced Topics* (3 hours)
• INTL 4600 International Relations Seminar* (3 hours)

Arts & Expression (3 credit hours)

• FLST 2060 Modern World Cinema* (4 hours)
• FLST 3160 Topics in Film Studies * (3 hours)
• GNST 1400 Civilization and the Arts* (2-4 hours)
• THEA 2040 History of the Theater: Eighteenth Cent to Modern* (3 hours)
• THEA 3030 Topics in the Theater* (2-3 hours)
• THEA 3040 Topics in the Theater* (2-3 hours)
• ARHS 3250 Modern Art * (3 hours)
• ARHS 4600 Topics in Art History* (3 hours)
• PHIL 2080 Topics in Philosophy* (3 hours)
• PHIL 4050 Topics in the History of Philosophy* (3 hours)

*Course must have an appropriate subtitle or relevant course-content to qualify toward the major. Prerequisites may be waived by department offering the course.

Other courses may be substituted with the permission of the program director.