Minor in German Studies

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The Program

Students take language classes in a dynamic, student-centered environment that highlights language acquisition as well as cultural sensitivity for the heritage of the German-speaking nations. Beginning students acquire the ability to speak, understand, read, and write in German with reasonable fluency.

Study Abroad Options. Students have the opportunity to study abroad with the CSU International Programs in Germany. Students are encouraged to officially plan an academic residency abroad when possible. The cost of the residency abroad varies according to the program and world region. Students should understand the costs involved and plan ahead. Consult with the HSU Center for International Programs.

Possible careers. Careers in the USA, Europe and other countries include artist, musician, web designer, teacher, ESL teacher, international banker, lawyer, or financier; interpreter; travel agent, tour guide, export/import employee, foreign service officer; foreign correspondent, or work in non-governmental organizations.

Special Scholarship and Awards. The Department of World Languages and Cultures has three permanent scholarships and awards:

- The Benavides-Garb Family International Travel Award
- The Budig-Markin Family Francophone African Studies Award
- The Frank B. Wood Scholarship

All language students are encouraged to apply to these important scholarships and awards to enhance language studies with an international residence. See the department web page for further information.

Preparation

Students should have a good background in English grammar and syntax. While knowledge of German is welcome, it is not required.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MINOR

22 units, including:

- GERM 107 (4) German Language & Culture III
- GERM 207 (4) German Language & Culture IV
- GERM 311 (4) German Level V [Rep]
- GERM 312 (4) German Level VI [Rep]

The remaining six units may be selected from any of the following courses (depending upon interests and particular emphasis of the student), with at least one course from outside of the German program.

- ART 301 (3) Topics in Western Art History [when appropriate]
- ECON 305 (3) International Economics & Globalization
- ENGL 240 (4) World Literature [when appropriate]
- GEOG 472 (1-4) Topics in Regional Geog. [when appropriate]
- GERM 305 (3) Marx, Nietzsche, Freud & German Literature
- GERM 306 (3) Sex, Class, and Culture: Gender & Ethnic Issues in International Short Stories
- GERM 480 (1-4) Special Topics
- GERM 499 (1-3) Directed Study
- HIST 300 (3) The Era of World War I
- HIST 301 (3) The Era of World War II
- HIST 348 (4) Modern Germany
- PHIL 343 (3) Kant & the 19th Century
- PSCI 330 (4) Political Regimes & Political Change: Europe

Courses offered by various departments, often under the rubric of Special Topics, may be relevant and appropriate to the German Studies minor. Such courses will be approved by the German Studies faculty advisor on a case-by-case basis.

About Electives

The department encourages students to combine the study of German with their other academic interests. In addition to the courses listed above, students may use relevant courses from other disciplines as elective credit toward the minor in German Studies. For example: an art history class discussing German art topics; a geography class focused on Western Europe; history and political science classes in which German issues are a major part; or a philosophy class covering German philosophers. Consult with the German advisor about these electives.