GERMAN, M.A.

The department offers curricula leading to the master of arts and the doctor of philosophy degrees in German.

The M.A. degree in German requires 30 credits of coursework at the graduate level (10 courses) approved by the graduate advisor and the Masters examination. For details, see the program description on the department website [http://german.lss.wisc.edu/new_web/?q=node/121](http://german.lss.wisc.edu/new_web/?q=node/121) or contact the graduate secretary, mkmears@wisc.edu.

The Ph.D. requires an additional eight courses (24 credits) for a total of 18 courses (54 credits) [for students entering with an M.A. from another institution: a total of 12 courses/36 credits, of which up to two can be transfer courses as allowed by graduate advisor], an external doctoral minor, proof of proficiency in another foreign language, and a preliminary qualifying exam in preparation for writing a Ph.D. thesis. Students must pass the Goethe Certificate C1 (German-language proficiency) before advancing to the doctoral preliminary examination. For details, see the program description on the department Web site or contact the graduate secretary, mkmears@wisc.edu.

The department offers a broadly inclusive and flexible curriculum in the entire range of medieval through contemporary literature and culture, a full spectrum of linguistics and philology, and a program in Dutch language, literature, and culture. The program is unsurpassed in comprehensive representation of the entire field of the study of German through individual faculty members’ specializations and research publications, including: early modern and medieval studies; film and media studies; multicultural literature and cosmopolitanism; Gegenwartsliteratur; literary and cultural theory; Holocaust studies; poetics, stylistics, and narratology; 18th-century studies; literature in its sociocultural context; literary and cultural theory; Dutch literature and linguistics; historical and synchronic linguistics; applied linguistics, second language acquisition, and foreign language education. Offerings include interdisciplinary areas such as literature and other arts (especially image/text, visual culture, and literature/music), German-American, literature and philosophy, and German–Jewish relations.

Graduate students are encouraged to pursue inter- and multidisciplinary work beyond the Department of German in such areas as art history, communication arts/cinema, comparative literature, history, linguistics, musicology, Scandinavian studies, visual studies, and women and gender studies. The department cooperates closely with the interdepartmental programs in European studies, medieval studies, Jewish studies, and second language acquisition.

FUNDING

Financial support is competitive. In general, the application deadline for financial support is December 20. Graduate applicants admitted to the program are eligible for a limited number of comprehensive multiyear financial guarantees. These include teaching and project assistantships as well as fellowships. In addition to university fellowships, the department may award a small number of distinguished fellowships, and offers a number of project assistantships, including research and editorial positions.

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM DEGREE REQUIREMENTS AND SATISFACTORY PROGRESS

To make progress toward a graduate degree, students must meet the Graduate School Minimum Degree Requirements and Satisfactory Progress ([http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiesandrequirementstext](http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiesandrequirementstext)) in addition to the requirements of the program.

MASTER'S DEGREES

M.A.

MINIMUM GRADUATE DEGREE CREDIT REQUIREMENT

30 credits

MINIMUM GRADUATE RESIDENCE CREDIT REQUIREMENT.

16 credits

MINIMUM GRADUATE COURSEWORK (50%) REQUIREMENT

Half of degree coursework (15 credits out of 30 total credits) must be completed in graduate-level coursework; courses with the Graduate Level Coursework attribute are identified and searchable in the university’s Course Guide ([http://my.wisc.edu/CourseGuideRedirect/BrowseByTitle](http://my.wisc.edu/CourseGuideRedirect/BrowseByTitle)).

PRIOR COURSEWORK REQUIREMENTS: GRADUATE WORK FROM OTHER INSTITUTIONS

Students are generally not allowed to count graduate coursework from other institutions. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master’s degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

PRIOR COURSEWORK REQUIREMENTS: UW–MADISON UNDERGRADUATE

With program approval students are allowed no more than 7 credits of coursework numbered 600 or above taken as a UW undergraduate. In no case will coursework be considered that was earned five or more years prior to admission to a master’s degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

PRIOR COURSEWORK REQUIREMENTS: UW–MADISON UNIVERSITY SPECIAL

With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 15 credits of coursework numbered 600 or above taken as a UW–Madison University Special student. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master’s degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED

15 credits

PROGRAM-SPECIFIC COURSES REQUIRED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GERMAN 650</td>
<td>History of the German Language</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Select one of the following:
ADVISOR / COMMITTEE

All incoming M.A. candidates are advised by the department graduate advisor (DGA) during the first year of study. M.A. candidates are expected to select (by mutual consent) their individual graduate advisor during the third semester of coursework. The individual graduate advisor is likely to be chair of the M.A. examination committee, the Ph.D. preliminary examination committee, and the dissertation committee.

ASSESSMENTS AND EXAMINATIONS

Students entering the program at the M.A. level are required to take the Goethe Certificate C1 (German-language proficiency) during the first year of their studies.

At least one substantial course contribution written in German is required each year during the entire period of a student's graduate coursework. This might be a paper or a lengthy take-home examination. If a student is taking only courses outside the department in a given year, the requirement will be waived for that year.

An M.A. examination with a written and oral component.

TIME CONSTRAINTS

The M.A. examination must be completed by the end of the fourth semester in the German program.

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

Please see “Assessments and Examinations” above.

ADMISSIONS

Admission to the graduate program in German is highly competitive. Although most entering graduate students complete their undergraduate work at North American universities and colleges, a small number of international students regularly join the department.

Applicants are expected to demonstrate a strong record of prior and potential academic achievement in addition to excellent German language skills. Applicants with a B.A. in German must have a cumulative undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) on the equivalent of the last 60 semester credits and a GPA of at least 3.50 in German courses beyond the second-year level. Students with an M.A. in German must have a GPA in graduate work of at least 3.7 on a 4.0 scale. In special cases, applicants who do not fulfill the above expectations may be admitted on probation.

All applicants must submit official transcripts of all university coursework (or equivalents, including study abroad), list of courses in progress, Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores, a personal statement explaining the reasons for graduate study, a current c.v. or resume, a writing sample in German (5–15 pages), and three letters of recommendation that evaluate previous study and potential for graduate study. International applicants must also provide TOEFL, MELAB, or IELTS scores, a financial statement form included with the application materials, and, if applying for a teaching assistantship, a ten-minute recording with a sample of the applicant’s spoken English.

Application to the UW–Madison Graduate School is an online procedure, with supporting documentation mailed to the Department of German. Applicants should contact the department early in the fall if they wish additional information. Visits to the UW–Madison campus are welcomed by faculty and graduate students.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

- Selects and/or utilizes the most appropriate methodologies and practices.
• Evaluates or synthesizes information pertaining to questions or challenges in the field of study.
• Communicates clearly in ways appropriate to the field of study.
• Recognizes and practices principles of effective foreign language teaching.

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT
• Recognizes and applies principles of ethical and professional conduct.

ADDITIONAL LEARNING GOALS
• Articulates, critiques, or elaborates the theories, research methods, and approaches to inquiry or schools of practice in the field of study.
• Identifies sources and assembles evidence pertaining to questions or challenges in the field of study.
• Demonstrates understanding of the primary field of study in a historical, social or global context.

PEOPLE

Faculty: Professors Vanderwal Taylor (chair), Adler, Chavez, Gross, Howell, James, Kluge, Louden, Potter, Salmons, Silberman; Associate Professors Calomino, Mani, Moedersheim; Assistant Professors Eldridge, Hollander, Klocke, Li, Faculty Associate Schueller