

# GERMAN, BA

## REQUIREMENTS

### UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS

All undergraduate students must complete both the following Core General Education (Core GenEd) and University Degree and Quality of Work requirements. The requirements below apply to students whose first term at UW-Madison or whose earliest post-high school college attendance at any institution is Summer 2026 or later.

Students whose first term at UW-Madison or whose earliest post-high school college attendance at any institution occurred before Summer 2026 should refer to the archived Guide (<https://guide.wisc.edu/archive/>) for the requirements that apply to them.

### CORE GENERAL EDUCATION (CORE GENED) REQUIREMENTS

**Civics & Perspectives** 3 credits of Civics & Perspectives coursework.

**Communication & Literacy** 6 credits of Communication & Literacy coursework. This requirement may be partially satisfied by a qualifying placement test score. More information: <https://go.wisc.edu/qualifyingenglishplacement> (<https://go.wisc.edu/qualifyingenglishplacement/>)

**Humanities & Arts** 6 credits of Humanities & Arts coursework.

**Mathematics & Quantitative Reasoning** 6 credits of Mathematics & Quantitative Reasoning coursework. This requirement may be partially satisfied by a qualifying placement test score. More information: <https://go.wisc.edu/qualifyingmathplacement> (<https://go.wisc.edu/qualifyingmathplacement/>)

**Natural Science & Wellness** Complete both:
 

- 6 credits of Natural Science & Wellness or Natural Science & Wellness + Laboratory coursework.
- one course must be in Natural Science & Wellness + Laboratory coursework.

**Social & Behavioral Science** 3 credits of Social & Behavioral Science coursework.

**Total Credits** 30 credits.

For more information see the policy (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1095/>).

### UNIVERSITY DEGREE AND QUALITY OF WORK REQUIREMENTS

All undergraduate degree recipients must complete the following minimum requirements. Requirements for some programs will exceed these requirements; see program requirements for additional information.

**Total Degree** 120 degree credits.

**Residency** Complete 30 credits in residence. A course is considered "in residence" if it is taken when in undergraduate degree-seeking status and:
 

- is offered by UW-Madison and completed on the UW-Madison campus or at an approved off-site location, or
- is offered by UW-Madison in an online or distance format, or is completed during participation in a UW-Madison study abroad/study away program.

**Quality of Work** Achieve at least the minimum grade point average specified by the school, college, and/or academic program.

**Math** Demonstrate minimal mathematics competence by:
 

- placing above MATH 96, or
- successfully completing MATH 96, or
- successfully completing a more advanced mathematics course such as MATH 112, MATH 113, MATH 114, MATH 141, MATH 211, or MATH 221.

**English Language** If required to take the UW-Madison English as a Second Language Assessment Test (MSN-ESLAT), demonstrate minimal English language competence by:
 

- earning credit for ESL 118, or
- achieving a qualifying MSN-ESLAT placement test score.

**Language** Complete one:
 

- 2 high school units of a single language other than English, or
- one course with the second semester Language designation.

**Major Declaration** Declare and complete the requirements for at least one major.

## COLLEGE OF LETTERS & SCIENCE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA)

Students pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in the College of Letters & Science must complete all of the requirements below. Some courses satisfy more than one L&S degree requirement (visit College of Letters & Science: Requirements (<https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/#requirementstext>) for details).

This major can be paired with either the Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree requirements.

### BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

**Communication** Complete both:
 

- Part A: one course with the Communication A designation or eligible UW Placement Score; and
- Part B: one course with the Communication B designation

Quantitative Reasoning	Complete both: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Part A: one course with the Quantitative Reasoning A designation or eligible UW Placement Score; and</li> <li>Part B: one course with the Quantitative Reasoning B designation</li> </ul>
Ethnic Studies	one 3+ credit course with the Ethnic Studies designation
Language	Complete either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the fourth unit of one language other than English; or</li> <li>the third unit of one language other than English and the second unit of an additional language.</li> </ul>
L&S Breadth: Humanities	Complete 12 credits with the Humanities or Literature designation, which must include at least 6 credits with the Literature designation.
L&S Breadth: Social Sciences	Complete 12 credits with the Social Science designation.
L&S Breadth: Natural Sciences	Complete 12 credits with the Natural Science, Biological Science, or Physical Science designations, which must include both: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>one 3+ credit course with the Biological Science designation, and</li> <li>one 3+ credit course with the Physical Science designation.</li> </ul>
Liberal Arts and Science (LAS) Coursework	at least 108 credits
Depth of Intermediate/Advanced work	at least 60 credits at the Intermediate or Advanced level
Major	Declare and complete at least one major.
Total Credits	at least 120 credits
UW-Madison Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>30 credits in residence, overall; and</li> <li>30 credits in residence after the 86th credit</li> </ul>
Quality of Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.000 in all coursework at UW-Madison</li> <li>2.000 in Intermediate/Advanced level coursework at UW-Madison</li> </ul>

## NON-L&S STUDENTS PURSUING AN L&S MAJOR

Non-L&S students who have permission from their School/College to pursue an additional major within L&S only need to fulfill the major requirements. They do not need to complete the L&S Degree Requirements above.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR

27 credits in the major, as follows:

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required Courses</b>		<b>6</b>
GERMAN 337	Advanced Composition & Conversation	

GERMAN 676	Advanced Seminar in German Studies <sup>1</sup>	
<b>Electives<sup>1</sup></b>		<b>21</b>
GERMAN 305	Literatur des 20. und 21. Jahrhunderts	
GERMAN 351	Introduction to German Linguistics	
GERMAN 352	Topics in German Linguistics	
GERMAN 362	Topics in German Literature	
GERMAN 367	Study Abroad in German Literature	
GERMAN 368	Study Abroad in German Culture	
GERMAN 369	Study Abroad in German Linguistics	
GERMAN 372	Topics in German Culture	
GERMAN 385	Honors Seminar in German Literature	
GERMAN 411	Kultur des 20. und 21. Jahrhunderts	
GERMAN 612	German Literary Movements Since 1750	
GERMAN 625	Letterkunde der Lage Landen	
GERMAN 645	Cultuorkunde der Lage Landen	
GERMAN 650	History of the German Language	
GERMAN 681	Senior Honors Thesis-First Semester	
GERMAN 682	Senior Honors Thesis-Second Semester	
GERMAN 683	Senior Honors Seminar in German Literature	
GERMAN 698	Directed Study	
GERMAN 699	Directed Study	
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>27</b>

## COGNATE COURSES AS ELECTIVES

Up to 9 cognate course credits may count as electives within the German major. These are courses with German-related subject matter that are taught in English, either in the German program or in other departments. Cognate courses taken in the German program may be at the Elementary, Intermediate, or Advanced levels; those taken in other departments must be at the Advanced level only. Any questions about which courses may be counted as cognate courses may be directed to the undergraduate advisor. Currently the cognate list includes:

Code	Title	Credits
GERMAN 236	Bascom Course	
GERMAN/GNS/JEWISH 240	Health and Hotels in Central Europe	
GERMAN 245	Topics in Dutch Life and Culture	
GERMAN 264	Culture in 20th Century Berlin	
GERMAN 253	Introduction to German Cinema	
GERMAN 267	Yiddish Song and the Jewish Experience	
GERMAN/JEWISH/LITTRANS 269	Yiddish Literature and Culture in Europe	
GERMAN 272	Nazi Culture	
GERMAN/RELIG ST/SOC 273	God & Money	

GERMAN 275	Kafka and the Kafkaesque	GERMAN 676	Advanced Seminar in German Studies (for honors credit)	3
GERMAN/ LITTRANS 276	Special Topics in German and World Literature/s	GERMAN 681 & GERMAN 682	Senior Honors Thesis-First Semester and Senior Honors Thesis-Second Semester	6
GERMAN 278	Topics in German Culture			
GERMAN/ JEWISH/ LITTRANS 279	Yiddish Literature and Culture in America			
GERMAN/ LITTRANS 280	From Grimm to Gryffindor: German Fairytales (Re)imagined			
GERMAN 325	Topics in Dutch Literature			
GERMAN/ JEWISH 510	German-Jewish Culture Since the 18th Century			
GERMAN 560	Topics in German Studies			
GERMAN 625	Letterkunde der Lage Landen			
GERMAN 645	Cultuurkunde der Lage Landen			
GERMAN/ MEDIEVAL 651	Introduction to Middle High German			
GEN&WS/ LITTRANS 270	German Women Writers in Translation			
GNS 375	Philosophy, Theory, Criticism			
HISTORY/ JEWISH 310	The Holocaust			
HISTORY/ ENVIR ST 328	Environmental History of Europe			
HISTORY 359	History of Europe Since 1945			
HISTORY 410	History of Germany, 1871 to the Present			
JEWISH/ PHILOS 442	Moral Philosophy and the Holocaust			
JEWISH/ ENGL 539	Jewish Literatures in Diaspora			
RELIG ST 406	The Amish			

## FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup> At least 3 of these credits must be taken on the UW-Madison campus (not through Study Abroad).

<sup>2</sup> GERMAN courses numbered 300-699 are upper-level in the major, except: GERMAN 311, GERMAN 312, GERMAN 313, GERMAN 314, GERMAN 325, GERMAN 377, GERMAN 378, GERMAN 379, GERMAN 391, GERMAN 392, GERMAN 401, GERMAN 402, GERMAN 403, GERMAN 404, and any Dutch topic course.

## RESIDENCE AND QUALITY OF WORK

- 2.000 GPA in all GERMAN courses and all major courses
- 2.000 GPA on 15 upper-level major credits, taken in residence <sup>2</sup>
- 15 credits in GERMAN, taken on campus

## HONORS IN THE MAJOR

Students may declare Honors in the Major in consultation with the German undergraduate advisor.

### HONORS IN THE MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

To earn Honors in the Major, students must satisfy both the requirements for the major (above) and the following additional requirements:

- Earn a 3.300 University GPA
- Earn a 3.300 in all Advanced-level GERMAN courses
- Complete 29 total Advanced-level credits in German, 20 of which must be taken for Honors, to include:

Code	Title	Credits
GERMAN 337	Advanced Composition & Conversation (for honors credit)	3