

FOREIGN LANGUAGE, BACHELOR OF ARTS (B.A.) WITH A CONCENTRATION IN GERMAN

worldstudies.vcu.edu/german (<http://worldstudies.vcu.edu/academics/foreign-languages/german>)

The foreign language program offers a varied interdisciplinary humanities curriculum, global in scope and designed to increase students' knowledge about the cultures and traditions, languages, literature and media, history, values, concerns, and aspirations of peoples in different countries and regions of the world. The goal of the program is ultimately also to both broaden students' comparative intercultural perspectives and develop their cross-cultural communication abilities. Students have the option to pursue a focus or even combination of concentrations in foreign language(s), area studies and/or global issues (in either cinema and/or social justice), depending upon their interests and career plans. Within each chosen concentration or minor, the range of offerings allows for flexibility in configuring each individual's course of study, which can be organized in a manner that best suits a student's particular needs.

The Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Language will qualify students to pursue any of a number of career paths, including international communications, business and marketing, aid and development, journalism, or education; government foreign service, international affairs, immigration service or the Peace Corps; nongovernmental organizations involved in development, relief programs, immigration or human rights advocacy; or public relations in a multicultural environment. Graduates of our program will also find opportunities in teaching at home or abroad, as well as in work with a variety of public-service organizations. In addition, an undergraduate degree in foreign language provides excellent background and qualifications for admittance to graduate degree programs in a number of humanities disciplines, including foreign languages and international studies, as well as in international law, business or journalism.

Learning outcomes

- Development of written communication skills
- Development of oral communication skills
- Development of reading and analytical skills
- Cultural competence

Upon completing this program, students will know and know how to do the following:

- The goal of the program is ultimately to both broaden students' comparative intercultural perspectives and develop their cross-cultural communication abilities.
- Students gain proficiency in speaking, listening, reading and writing in German.
- Students also gain knowledge and a set of cognitive, affective and behavioral skills and characteristics that support effective and appropriate interaction with the German-speaking world.

Experiential learning and study abroad

Each student completing a degree program within the School of World Studies is required to complete a World ePass as part of their experiential learning requirement; students are also encouraged to participate in a

study abroad program. For more information on the ePass portfolio and study abroad opportunities, students may visit the overview page for the School of World Studies (<http://bulletin.vcu.edu/undergraduate/college-humanities-sciences/school-worldstudies>).

Special requirements

To earn a Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Language, students must complete at least 39 credits within the major, 36 credits of which must be upper-level (300-level or above), with a minimum GPA of 2.25 within the major.

Majors in foreign language are encouraged to choose a minor that will broaden their global and cultural perspectives. Foreign language majors are encouraged – but not limited – to complete the course requirements for a minor in one of the following fields: African studies, Arabic and Middle Eastern studies, anthropology, Chinese and Asian Studies, economics, business (general business minor), French, geography, German, history, Italian studies, Mediterranean studies, political science, religious studies, Russian studies, sociology, Spanish, or urban and regional studies. Students also may want to consider a double major. The School of World Studies Advising Office will work with students to explore the benefits of a double major and/or a minor.

All foreign language majors, students transferring credits from study abroad and transfer students who intend to major in a foreign language must take a **minimum of two 400-level courses at VCU** in the chosen language area. Both credit and distribution (minimum of 10 courses) requirements for the concentration must be satisfied.

Degree requirements for Foreign Language, Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) with a concentration in German

General education requirements

Course	Title	Hours
University Core Education Curriculum (minimum 21 credits)		
UNIV 111 Play course video for Focused Inquiry I	Focused Inquiry I	3
UNIV 112 Play course video for Focused Inquiry II	Focused Inquiry II	3
UNIV 200	Inquiry and the Craft of Argument	3
	Approved humanities/fine arts	3
	Approved natural/physical sciences	3-4
	Approved quantitative literacy	3-4
	Approved social/behavioral sciences	3-4
Total Hours		21-24

Course	Title	Hours
Additional College of Humanities and Sciences requirements (11-23 credits)		
HUMS 202	Choices in a Consumer Society	1
	Approved H&S diverse and global communities	3
	Approved H&S human, social and political behavior (fulfills University Core social/behavioral sciences)	
	Approved H&S literature and civilization (fulfills University Core humanities/fine arts)	

Approved H&S science and technology (fulfills University Core natural/physical sciences)	
Approved H&S general education electives	6-8
Experiential fine arts ¹	1-3
Foreign language through the 102 level (by course or placement)	0-8
Total Hours	11-23

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Course offered by the School of the Arts

Collateral requirements

Course	Title	Hours
Experiential learning		
Select one of the following:		0-3
Major-specific service-learning course		
Study abroad program		
Approved internship: Select one of the following:		
FRLG 493	World Languages Internship	
WRLD 493	World Cultures Internship	
INTL 493	International Studies Internship	
Or other preapproved internship opportunities		
Foreign language requirement		
In order to begin upper-level course work in any foreign language, students must have consecutively completed the following courses or prove the equivalent proficiency level through placement testing:		0-6
GRMN 201	Intermediate German I	
GRMN 202	Intermediate German II	
or GRMN 205	Intermediate Conversation	
World Passport		
Students must complete the School of World Studies World Passport		
Total Hours		0-9

Major requirements

Course	Title	Hours
GRMN 300	Composition and Communication	3
GRMN 301	Grammar and Writing	3
Select one of the following:		3
GRMN 305	German Conversation	
GRMN 307	German Conversation and Film	
GRMN 311	German Through the Media	
GRMN 320	From the Vandals to Kant: Civilization and Literature I	3
GRMN 321	From Faust to Nazism: Civilization and Literature II	3
GRMN 322	From Kafka's World to the EU: Civilization and Literature III	3
GRMN elective (300-level or above)		3
GRMN electives (400-level or above)		9
WRLD/INTL 203	Cultural Texts and Contexts: ____	3
WRLD 302	Communicating Across Cultures	3

WRLD 490	Seminar in World Cultures and Languages (capstone)	3
Total Hours		39

Open electives

Course	Title	Hours
Select 26-49 open elective credits		26-49

The minimum total of credit hours required for this degree is 120.

What follows is a sample plan that meets the prescribed requirements within a four-year course of study at VCU. Please contact your adviser before beginning course work toward a degree.

Freshman year

Course	Title	Hours
Fall semester		
GRMN 101	Elementary German I	4
UNIV 101	Introduction to the University	1
UNIV 111	Focused Inquiry I	3
Play course video for Focused Inquiry I		
WRLD 203	Cultural Texts and Contexts: ____ (fulfills approved literature and civilization)	3
Approved quantitative literacy		3
Term Hours:		14

Spring semester

GRMN 102	Elementary German II	4
HUMS 202	Choices in a Consumer Society	1
UNIV 112	Focused Inquiry II	3
Play course video for Focused Inquiry II		
Approved human, social and political behavior		3
Approved diverse and global Communities		3
Term Hours:		14

Sophomore year

Course	Title	Hours
Fall semester		
GRMN 201	Intermediate German I	3
UNIV 200	Inquiry and the Craft of Argument	3
Approved science and technology		3-4
Approved general education electives		6-7
Term Hours:		15-17

Spring semester

GRMN 202	Intermediate German II	3
WRLD 302	Communicating Across Cultures	3
Experiential fine arts		1-3
Open electives		9
Term Hours:		16-18

Junior year

Course	Title	Hours
Fall semester		
On-campus or study abroad semester:		
GRMN 300	Composition and Communication	3

GRMN 320	From the Vandals to Kant: Civilization and Literature I	3	Open electives	6
or			Term Hours:	15
GRMN 321	or From Faust to Nazism: Civilization and Literature II			
or			Total Hours:	120-130
GRMN 322	or From Kafka's World to the EU: Civilization and Literature III			
GRMN elective (300-level or above)		3		
Open electives		6		
	Term Hours:	15		
Spring semester				
On-campus or study abroad semester:				
GRMN 301	Grammar and Writing	3		
GRMN 320	From the Vandals to Kant: Civilization and Literature I	3		
or				
GRMN 321	or From Faust to Nazism: Civilization and Literature II			
or				
GRMN 322	or From Kafka's World to the EU: Civilization and Literature III			
GRMN 305	German Conversation	3		
or	or German Conversation and Film			
GRMN 307	or German Through the Media			
or				
GRMN 311				
Open electives		6		
	Term Hours:	15		
Summer semester				
Study abroad (recommended):				
Select one of the following:		0-3		
GRMN 305	German Conversation (if not already taken)	3		
GRMN elective (300-level or above)		3		
Select one of the following:		0-3		
GRMN elective (400-level or above)		3		
WRLD 391	Topics in World Languages and Cultures	1-3		
	Term Hours:	0-6		
Senior year				
Fall semester				
FRLG 493	World Languages Internship (or GRMN elective (400-level or above))	3		
GRMN 320	From the Vandals to Kant: Civilization and Literature I	3		
or				
GRMN 321	or From Faust to Nazism: Civilization and Literature II			
or				
GRMN 322	or From Kafka's World to the EU: Civilization and Literature III			
GRMN elective (400-level or above)		3		
Open electives		7		
	Term Hours:	16		
Spring semester				
FRLG 493	World Languages Internship (or GRMN elective (400-level or above) (whichever not completed in Fall))	3		
WRLD 490	Seminar in World Cultures and Languages (capstone)	3		
GRMN elective (400-level or above)		3		

The minimum total of credit hours required for this degree is 120.

GRMN 101. Elementary German I. 4 Hours.

Semester course; 5 lecture/recitation hours. 4 credits. For students with no prior knowledge of German. Elementary grammar, reading and oral skills.

GRMN 102. Elementary German. 4 Hours.

II Semester course; 5 lecture/recitation hours. 4-4 credits. Prerequisite: GRMN 101 Elementary grammar, reading and oral skills.

GRMN 201. Intermediate German. 3 Hours.

I Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: GRMN 102. Conducted in German. Continuation of the essentials of grammar with emphasis on building proficiency in aural comprehension, speaking, reading and writing skills.

GRMN 202. Intermediate German II. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: GRMN 201. Conducted in German. Designed to increase student's proficiency in German through the continued focus on aural comprehension, speaking, reading and writing skills.

GRMN 205. Intermediate Conversation. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: GRMN 201. Conducted in German. Designed to increase the student's proficiency in the spoken language through audio-oral exercises, dialogues and free conversation.

GRMN 300. Composition and Communication. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: GRMN 202 or 205. Conducted in German. Development of written and oral skills through review of selected aspects of German grammar, writing practice and speaking activities based on a variety of situations.

GRMN 301. Grammar and Writing. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: GRMN 202, GRMN 205 or GRMN 300. Conducted in German. A study of key aspects of advanced German grammar with emphasis on the elements of style and vocabulary building.

GRMN 305. German Conversation. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: GRMN 202, GRMN 205 or GRMN 300. Conducted in German. Practice in the spoken language with emphasis on discussions relating to topics of current interest.

GRMN 307. German Conversation and Film. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: GRMN 202, GRMN 205 or GRMN 300; GRMN 300 recommended. Conducted in German. The course is designed to develop the student's communication skills, oral comprehension ability and knowledge of contemporary culture through discussion of selected German films. Emphasis is also placed on vocabulary development and writing practice.

GRMN 311. German Through the Media. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: GRMN 202, GRMN 205 or GRMN 300; GRMN 300 or GRMN 301 recommended. Designed to develop language proficiency by using material available through the various media: newspapers, magazines, films, Internet, podcasts and radio broadcasts.

GRMN 314. Commercial German. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: GRMN 301. Designed to develop the student's ability to use German as a means of oral and written communication in the business world. Emphasis on the acquisition of technical tools necessary for business exchanges in specialized fields.

GRMN 320. From the Vandals to Kant: Civilization and Literature I. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: GRMN 202, GRMN 205 or GRMN 300; GRMN 300 or GRMN 301 recommended. Conducted in German. A survey of German-speaking culture and literature from its origins to the Enlightenment. Also emphasizes enhancing German-language skills in vocabulary, reading, speaking and writing.

GRMN 321. From Faust to Nazism: Civilization and Literature II. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: GRMN 202, GRMN 205 or GRMN 300; GRMN 300 or GRMN 301 recommended. Conducted in German. A treatment of German culture and literature from the Age of Goethe to the rise of Nazism. Also emphasizes enhancing German language skills in vocabulary, reading, speaking and writing.

GRMN 322. From Kafka's World to the EU: Civilization and Literature III. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: GRMN 202, GRMN 205 or GRMN 300; GRMN 300 or GRMN 301 recommended. Conducted in German. A survey of German culture and literature from the 1920s to today. Also emphasizes enhancing German language skills in vocabulary, reading, speaking and writing.

GRMN 420. The Turn of the Century. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: GRMN 300; GRMN 305 or 307 or 311; GRMN 301 or 320 or 321 or 322. Conducted in German. A course dealing with the major intellectual, philosophical, artistic and cultural trends from the turn of the century through the Weimar period as reflected in the writings of authors such as Kafka, Mann and Hesse. Includes impressionism, expressionism and neue Sachlichkeit.

GRMN 421. The Postwar German Scene. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: GRMN 300; GRMN 305 or 307 or 311; GRMN 301 or 320 or 321 or 322. Conducted in German. A course dealing with the political, social and intellectual developments of the German-speaking countries from the end of World War II to the present as reflected in the literary works of their major authors.

GRMN 422. German Film. 1-3 Hours.

Semester course; 1-3 lecture hours. 1-3 credits. May be repeated with different topics for a total of 6 credits. Prerequisites: GRMN 300; GRMN 305 or 307 or 311; GRMN 301 or 320 or 321 or 322. Study of selected topics in German film from the beginnings to today, particularly as seen in their social, historical and cultural contexts. See the Schedule of Classes for the specific topic to be offered each semester.

GRMN 423. Folk/Popular Culture. 1-3 Hours.

Semester course; 1-3 lecture hours. 1-3 credits. May be repeated with different topics for a total of 6 credits. Prerequisites: GRMN 300; GRMN 305 or 307 or 311; GRMN 301 or 320 or 321 or 322. Study of selected topics related to folk traditions and/or popular culture in German-speaking countries. See the Schedule of Classes for the specific topic to be offered each semester.

GRMN 424. Culture and Society. 1-3 Hours.

Semester course; 1-3 lecture hours. 1-3 credits. May be repeated with different topics for a total of 6 credits. Prerequisites: GRMN 300; GRMN 305 or 307 or 311; GRMN 301 or 320 or 321 or 322. Study of issues in the culture and society of German-speaking countries today. See the Schedule of Classes for the specific topic to be offered each semester.

GRMN 425. Language in Context: _____. 1-3 Hours.

Semester course; 1-3 lecture hours. 1-3 credits. Course can be repeated with different topics up to a total of 6 credits. Prerequisites: GRMN 300; GRMN 301, 305, 307 or 311; and GRMN 320, 321 or 322. Conducted in German. Study of German language and linguistics. See the Schedule of Classes for the specific topic to be offered each semester.

GRMN 491. Topics in German. 1-3 Hours.

Variable hours. 1-3 credits. May be repeated with different topics for a maximum of 9 credits. Prerequisites: GRMN 300; GRMN 305 or 307 or 311; GRMN 301 or 320 or 321 or 322. An in-depth study of selected topics in German. See the Schedule of Classes for specific topics to be offered each semester.

GRMN 492. Independent Study. 1-3 Hours.

Semester course; variable hours. Variable credit. Maximum of 3 credits per semester; maximum total of 6 credits for all independent study courses in German. Prerequisites: GRMN 301; GRMN 320 or 321 or 322; GRMN 420 or 421 or 422 or 423 or 424 or 491; and senior standing with a minimum of 85 credits earned toward the degree. A course designed to give students an opportunity to become involved in independent study in a literary or linguistic area or subject in which they have an interest.