

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

DEPARTMENT OF GERMANIC
LANGUAGES & LITERATURES



UNDERGRADUATE HANDBOOK
2022-23

AT ONE GLANCE: COURSES 2022-23

LANGUAGE COURSES

GER 100Y full year GER 101H fall sem.	Introduction to German	various times	S. Gargova (Coordinator)
GER 200Y full year GER 201H fall sem.	Intermediate German 1	various times	
GER 300Y full year GER 301H fall sem.	Intermediate German 2	various times	
GER 400H fall sem.	Advanced German 1	MW 10-12	tba
GER 401H spring sem.	Advanced German 2	MW 10-12	E. Boran
GER 260Y full year	Beginner's Yiddish	MWF 12-1	tba
GER 360H fall sem.	Intermediate Yiddish	W 12-1 / F 10-12	tba
GER 460H spring sem.	Advanced Yiddish	W 12-1 / F 10-12	tba

TOPIC COURSES IN GERMAN

GER 205H spring sem.	German Literature 1	M 1-3 / W 1-2	W. Goetschel
GER 305H fall sem.	German Literature 2	M 1-3 / W 1-2	J. Noyes
GER 322H fall sem.	Kafka in Context	T 10-12	E. Boran
GER 332H spring sem.	Deviance-Madness-Outsider	R 10-12	tba
GER 334H fall sem.	Turkish-German Intersections	R 10-12	E. Boran
GER 350H fall sem.	German Visual Cultures	F 10-2	A. Sharifi
GER 370H fall sem.	German Business Culture 1	TR 12-2	S. Gargova
GER 372H spring sem.	German Business Culture 2	TR 12-2	S. Gargova
GER 431H spring sem.	Open Topic: Power of Poetry	F 10-12	E. Boran

TOPIC COURSES IN ENGLISH

GER 150H spring sem.	Intro to German Culture [E]	T 2-4 & Tutorial	H.-S. Kim
GER 220H spring sem.	Monster, Murderers and Magic [E]	T 10-12	E. Boran
GER 275H fall sem.	Marx, Nietzsche, Freud [E]	W 2-4 & Tutorial	W. Goetschel
GER 361H spring sem.	Yiddish Literature in Translation [E]	W 2-4	tba
GER 410H fall sem.	German Intellectual History [E]	T 2-4	J. Noyes

FIRST-YEAR-FOUNDATION-SEMINARS

GER 194H fall sem.	Our Vampires, Ourselves [E]	F 10-12	E. Boran
GER 195H fall sem.	Cities – Real and Imagined [E]	R 10-12	H.-S. Kim



TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Courses 2022-23</u>	2
<u>Department Officers & Staff</u>	4
<u>Welcome Note</u>	5
<u>Introduction to the Program</u>	6
<u>Faculty & Instructors</u>	7
<u>Planning Your Studies / Counseling</u>	8
<u>Relevant Dates 2021-22</u>	9
<u>Programs & Course Guidelines</u>	10
<u>Overview (2-year-rotation) / Language Courses / Topic Courses / First-Year-Seminars / Independent Studies / Cognate Courses / Study Abroad Credit</u>	
<u>iPRAKTIKUM / Global German Studies</u>	13
<u>German Degree Programs</u>	14
<u>German Studies-Programs & Requirements</u>	14
<u>Specialist in German Studies / Major in German Studies / Minor in German Studies / German Minor in English / Business German / Yiddish Studies</u>	
<u>Course Offerings</u>	18
<u>Course Descriptions</u>	20
<u>Scholarships & Awards</u>	29
<u>Study Abroad Opportunities</u> (including <u>funding opportunities</u>)	30
<u>“Things German” in Toronto</u>	34

More detailed information is also provided on the department website.

Layout by E. Boran / Cover: Hamburg, Berlin, München

Note: Changes may occur after publication of this handbook.

Please check our undergraduate website for updates and email us with any concerns.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
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[UofT Campus Map: Odette Hall](#)



WELCOME NOTE

Welcome, and welcome back!

Whether you are new to the department or returning after the summer break, an exciting academic year lies ahead of you. We are hoping to be back in-person for the entire year. As a small department offering seminar-style courses and loads of extra-curricular activities, we thrive when personal interaction is possible. Our newly renovated student lounge offers space for studying and frolicking alike – so make sure to check out our [Kaffeestunde](#) or other events.

By making the decision to take German courses, you have added fascinating facets to your studies at UofT. We take our teaching mission seriously: Our course evaluations are consistently among the highest in Arts and Science, and our faculty members won the *Dean's Outstanding Teaching Award* three times in recent years (2018, 2019, 2021) and also received the CAUTG's *Innovate German Award* (2020). We offer all the advantages of a small, well-organized department: Intimate class settings that allow you to get to know your instructors and classmates, highly qualified teachers who will engage you and stimulate you in each class session, and a variety of captivating topics to be explored in our seminars.

If this is your first contact with German, take it easy and enjoy! Check out our two introductory courses GER 100Y (Language) and GER 150H (Culture) or our Yiddish course GER260Y. If you are curious about a German degree (minor, major, or specialist), read [these sections](#) and schedule an appointment with the [Undergraduate Coordinator](#) who will assist you in creating a personalized study plan and help you avoid delays. And on your way, do not miss out on our amazing [study abroad opportunities](#).

For starters, here are some important [guidelines & suggestions](#):

- (1) If you are new to the program and have any pre-knowledge of German, you are required to take a [PLACEMENT TEST](#) as early as possible. The test will allow you to make the best of your German studies. Self-placement is not permitted in our program and will result in removal from class.
- (2) If you enter the program with medium/advanced German skills, some requirements will be waived allowing you to enter the program at the appropriate level. Contact the [Undergraduate Coordinator](#) to discuss your options.
- (3) If you are considering a German major or specialist, please take the two pre-requisite courses (GER 205H & GER 305H) as early as possible. This will allow you to take 300 & 400 level topic courses in German and help you avoid unnecessary waiting periods.
- (4) For students interested in auditing courses: Sorry, our department doesn't allow this. But please do feel free to attend our [extra-curricular activities](#).

In general, plan your course of studies well and early on to avoid stress in your last year(s). Visit us and schedule appointments with [program coordinators and faculty members](#) during their office hours. We are all more than happy to assist you. And do not forget to enjoy the small-size, seminar-style courses our program has to offer.

Have an amazing academic year!



INTRODUCTION TO THE PROGRAM

The study of German introduces students to one of the most influential cultures of modern Europe, a culture that has produced and continues to produce writers, artists, scientists, and thinkers who have changed the face of western civilization. Learning German opens the door to many intellectual, technical, political, and economic fields. German scholars have been leaders in philosophy, the sciences, history, archaeology, sociology and political science, while German literature is equally distinguished, with writers like Wolfram von Eschenbach, Johann Wolfgang von Goethe and Friedrich Schiller, Heinrich Heine, Franz Kafka, Rainer Maria Rilke, Bertolt Brecht, Thomas Mann, Ingeborg Bachmann, Hannah Arendt, Günter Grass, Christa Wolf, Emine Sevgi Özdamar, W.G. Sebald, and many more, who have dealt with a wide range of human problems and concerns.

Knowledge of the German language opens the door to several European nations, including Europe's largest economy. German is useful or necessary for specialists in many disciplines; it is also valuable in various career areas (e.g., the foreign service; graduate studies in German; teaching German at schools; translation work; internships and jobs in German-speaking countries; employment in government, cultural organizations, business/commerce, media, tourism, publishing, public relations, marketing and international relations).

The Department of German offers a variety of programs and courses designed to meet the different needs and interests of students on all levels: absolute beginners as well as advanced students and native speakers. The program consists of language and topic courses covering a wide field of Germanic Studies including Medieval Studies and Yiddish Studies (*Al and Malka Green Program in Yiddish Studies*). As one of the smaller departments within this large university, it provides substantial knowledge and skills in intimate class settings. The Department prides itself on facilitating highly individualized courses of studies as well as intensive interactions between instructors and students, as well as among the students themselves. It supports opportunities for students to study and work in Germany, by encouraging participation in programs established by the German government, by Canadian universities and by our own Arts & Science Faculty's Centre for International Experience and Summer Abroad Program. One of these is the exchange program under which students can spend an academic year at the Humboldt University in Berlin. (More on this later in the handbook.)

Additional information can be obtained from the Undergraduate Coordinator. It is recommendable particularly to students in degree programs to schedule an appointment early in their course of studies. The successful completion of a four-year program may entitle the student to enter the M.A. / Ph.D. program in the Graduate Division of the Department.

Fun Facts: Did you know that Hollywood speaks German? Well, Natalie Portman does, because she studied it, as did Chris Pratt, long before he married Arnold Schwarzenegger's daughter. Bruce Willis and Leonardo DiCaprio learned it from their German mothers, and so did Sandra Bullock, whose mom was a German opera singer. And there is, of course, Michael Fassbender, born in Heidelberg to a German father – watch him in Quentin Tarantino's *Inglorious Basterds*! And Kirsten Dunst's dad was a doctor from Hamburg. There are also quite a few Germans who made it big in Tinseltown, among them *Bewegter-Mann* Til Schweiger, *Run-Lola-Run* Franka Potente, *Goodbye-Lenin* Daniel Brühl, Christopher Waltz and Diane Kruger – yes, indeed, even the Spectre and Helen of Troy are part of the German gang! So, what are you waiting for? Come and join this illustrious, ever-widening circle of German speakers – Hollywood is awaiting you! ☺



FACULTY & INSTRUCTORS

Erol M. Boran

Associate Professor of German, Teaching

Angelica Fenner

Associate Professor of German and Cinema Studies
Acting Department Chair

Stefana Gargova

Assistant Professor of German, Teaching
Language Coordinator

Willi Goetschel

Professor of German and Philosophy

Hang-Sun Kim

Associate Professor of German, Teaching
Associate Chair, Undergraduate

Christine Lehleiter

Associate Professor of German
[on leave 2022-23]

John K. Noyes

Professor of German
Associate Chair, Graduate

Azadeh Sharifi

Visiting DAAD Assistant Professor

Anna Shternshis

Al and Malka Green Professor of Yiddish and Diaspora Studies
Director of Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies

Stefan Soldovieri

Associate Professor of German
[on leave 2022-23]

Markus Stock

Professor of German and Medieval Studies
Principal of University College

John Zilcosky

Professor of German and Comparative Studies
[on leave 2022-23]

For a list of graduate students and course instructors, see **[HERE](#)**.

PLANNING YOUR STUDIES

There are many ways of engaging with German and German Studies. Our program is designed to progressively lead you from introductory courses to more specialized courses to in-depth seminars on various aspects of German language, literature and culture.

If you have never had German before, your entry point into our program is **GER 100Y**, a year-long language course for absolute beginners. Another course designed to spark your curiosity is **GER 150H**, an introduction to German culture taught in English. Both courses should be taken during the first year (or as early as possible).

Logical next steps are **GER 200Y** (the continuation of GER 100Y) and **GER 205H**, an introduction to German literature and working methods offered every Winter semester. By then, you will have had three semesters of German instruction and will be ready to tackle basic literature texts in German. It is strongly recommended that you take GER 205H in your second year, since it is the prerequisite for many of our German topic courses on the 300-level.

Check out [our listings](#) for more courses on the 200-level; most of them are taught in English, but once you reach the 300-level, German predominates. Our program offers courses on literature, culture, film, theatre and theory. Each course is designed to stimulate critical thinking. Small class-setting and seminar-style lessons engage you and allow you to interact with peers and instructors.

What if you have previous knowledge of German? In that case you are required to contact the department to schedule a [PLACEMENT TEST](#) before entering the program.

Internal Link: [Exemplary study plans](#) for German specialists, majors and minors.

COUNSELING

We offer a structured, streamlined program and take special care to place students at appropriate levels and to guide them through the program. We encourage all degree students to inform themselves about the various opportunities the program offers and to schedule an appointment with the Undergraduate Coordinator for an individual counseling session at an early stage. Self-placement is not permitted. Students without prerequisites / without permission will be removed from classes after the first week of the semester. To avoid this, schedule an appointment for taking the [PLACEMENT TEST](#) and discuss your options with the [Undergraduate Coordinator](#).

All instructors hold office hours during the academic year for individual counseling. Students with special needs or questions about types of programs should contact the departmental office. Do not forget to consult this handbook first – most questions are addressed and answered here.

PLACEMENT TEST

Self-placement in our classes is not permitted and will result in removal from class. Students with any pre-knowledge of German (e.g., German at home, high school German, stays in German-speaking countries) are required to schedule a placement test before registering for courses. The results will determine on what level you enter the program. If you have taken German literature/culture courses before and/or have studied in Germany, you might be placed in advanced topic courses early on. So it is worth inquiring! To find out more about placement and procedures, and to schedule an appointment, contact our undergraduate assistant, [Gayle Grisdale](#).

Relevant Dates 2022-23

July/August/Sept. [Placement Tests](#); please check [our website](#) for exact dates

September 8 (Thu) F/Y classes begin

September 21 (Wed) Last day to enrol via ACORN (also: 100%-refund deadline)

October 10 (Mon) Thanksgiving; University closed

November 7-11 Reading Week: no classes

November 16 (Wed) Last day to drop F-courses

December 7 (Wed) F classes end

December 8 (Thu) Make-up day (for Thanksgiving Monday)

December 10-20 Final Assessment Period

Dec. 21 – Jan. 1 Winter Holidays: University closed

January 9 (Mon) S classes begin, Y classes resume

January 22 (Sun) Last day to enrol via ACORN (also: 100%-refund deadline)

February 20 (Mon) Last day to drop Y-courses

February 20-24 Reading Week: no classes

March 19 (Sun) Last day to drop S-courses

April 6 (Thu) S/Y classes end

April 7 (Fri) Good Friday: university closed

April 10 (Mon) Make-up day (for Good Friday)

April 12-28 Final Assessment Period



GER340-students shooting *Der Strunzel* (March 2022).

Programs & Course Guidelines

The Department of German at the University of Toronto offers a variety of programs and courses designed to meet the different needs and interests of students on all levels: for total beginners as well as for advanced students and native speakers. The program consists of language and topic courses covering a wide field of Germanic Studies including Medieval Studies & Yiddish Studies. As one of the smaller departments of this large university, it provides substantiated knowledge and skills in intimate class settings thus facilitating a highly individualized course of studies and intensive interaction between instructors and students and among students.

While the program of the German Department is mainly geared toward guiding students to acquire critical literacy in German, various courses are offered in English. Within our present programs, these courses allow students to tackle topics that would otherwise be beyond their linguistic reach. Taken in combination with each other, these courses cover a wide range of topics dealing with central aspect of German culture. After a general introduction to German Studies (GER 150H), students have a choice of topics, such as German literature (GER 220H/270H), film (GER 251H), philosophy (GER 275H), intellectual history (GER411H) as well as Yiddish literature (GER 361H/367H), leading toward the advanced and specialized courses on German intellectual history (GER 410H) and German medieval cultures (GER 426H).

Overview: Two-Year Rotation

Language courses and gateway courses are required courses for the major & specialist degrees and get offered every year. All other courses, which include Business German courses and elective topic courses in German and in English are offered every other year. This table (subject to changes) provides a general schematic overview:

Year 1		Year 2		
Fall	Winter	Fall	Winter	
GER100Y GER200Y GER300Y GER400H	GER100Y/101H GER200Y/201H GER300Y/301H GER401H	GER100Y GER200Y GER300Y GER400H	GER100Y/101H GER200Y/201H GER300Y/301H GER401H	German Language
GER150H [E] GER305H	GER205H	GER150H [E] GER305H	GER205H	Gateway
GER194H [E] GER220H [E]	GER195H [E] GER251H [E] GER367H [E]	GER197H [E] GER290H [E] GER410H [E]	GER198H [E] GER275H [E] GER361H [E]	(FYF) E-Topics (Electives)
GER270H [E] GER320H GER310H GER426H	GER272H GER321H/322H GER334H GER430H	GER370H GER323H/332H GER336H GER340H	GER372H GER326H GER350H GER431H	Business G-Topics (Electives)
GER260Y GER360H	GER260Y GER460H	GER260Y GER360H	GER260Y GER460H	Yiddish Language

Notes: 4th-year topic courses are marked. / E-G-J-Topic courses may move between fall & winter semesters.

Language Courses

For the majority of students, language courses are the point of entry into the program. They are offered from the beginning to the advanced level. Unless you are an absolute beginner (in which case [GER 100Y](#) “Intro to German” is the right course for you to take), a required [PLACEMENT TEST](#) determines the appropriate language course level for you. If you possess any prior knowledge of German, please [contact the department](#) to schedule it as early as possible.

Students with some prior knowledge may be placed in [GER 101H](#) (winter term); more experienced students may be moved up into [GER 200Y/201H](#) “Intermediate German 1” or [GER 300Y/301H](#) “Intermediate German 2.” In some cases, students may be released from language courses entirely and be able to take topic courses right away. Finally, [GER 400H/401H](#) “Advanced German” focus on German stylistics while offering intensive Grammar reviews on a sophisticated level.

PLEASE NOTE: Our language courses are based on regular attendance. / A grade average of at least 60% is required to proceed to the next level (e.g., from GER 100Y to GER 200Y).

More specialized language studies are provided GER 205H “German Literature 1” (gateway to literature courses), in [GER 272H](#) “Introduction to Business German” and [GER 370H/372H](#) “Business Culture 1/2” (for students wishing to combine linguistic competence with insight into business & management practices), GER 340H “German Theatre Production” (for students with a creative vein) and [GER 426H](#) “Medieval Language & Culture” (for students interested in emerging cultures of German and their relation to the present). In addition to German, the department also contains a vibrant [YIDDISH PROGRAM](#) including language courses on all levels ([GER 260Y/360H/460H](#)), enriching the course offerings with the choice of a non-territorial Germanic language, spoken throughout the world. Here is a [full list of our courses](#).

Topic Courses

Topic courses (on literature/culture/film/intellectual history) are focus courses studying particular periods or aspects of German culture & literature in depth. Most courses are offered in German presupposing a more or less sound knowledge of the German language; a number of courses, however, are taught in English (these courses are marked with an **[E]** behind the course title) and are open to students from all disciplines wishing to engage with and to understand contemporary Germany. The program presently offers two kinds of topic courses:

GATEWAY COURSES: Certain courses – [GER 150H](#) (Culture), [GER 205H](#) (Literature 1) and [GER 305H](#) (Literature 2) – are required for German majors & specialists. Please note: GER 205H is the prerequisite for most topic courses on the 300-level, while GER 305H is a prerequisite for most topic courses on the 400-level. It is recommended that you take these courses early on! Ideally GER150H/205H/305H should be taken in the 1st, 2nd and 3rd year of study respectively, i.e., parallel to the language courses GER 100Y/200Y/300Y. Gateway courses are offered each year.

ELECTIVES: All other topic courses are electives (i.e., students can make their own choice after consulting the Undergraduate Coordinator). Note that most of these courses have certain pre-requirements (typically GER 205H), so be sure to plan your course of studies accordingly. Electives are offered in 2-year rotation (i.e., if you don’t see them on the list in one year, they will be offered in the following year).

In addition, the following YIDDISH STUDIES courses are offered in English: [GER 361H](#) “Yiddish Literature” [E] and [GER 367H](#) “Topics in Yiddish or German Jewish Literature and Culture” [E].

All courses with a GER denominator count toward German degree programs, but certain rules apply (e.g., a limited number of courses taught in English may count; see the sections on [German degree programs](#)).

Related Matters

FIRST-YEAR SEMINARS: Like all FAS Departments, we offer first-year seminars each year. These courses (GER 194H-198H) are open to first-year students only. They provide a small-course experience that allows these newcomers to develop core academic skills. They count toward German degree programs.

INDEPENDENT STUDY COURSES: Advanced students may, under certain circumstances, undertake an independent reading & research project of their own choice. GER 490H is designed to provide an opportunity to work with an instructor on a project of mutual interest. Often this involves delving deeper into an area of special interest touched upon in a course already taken. To be eligible to take GER 490, a student must have standing in at least 14 courses. The student must have at least a 75% average in all of his or her Germanic literature courses. No student may take this course more than once. It does carry specialist and major credit.

Procedure: After finding a faculty member willing to act as supervisor, student & supervisor work out a project between them and then submit their proposal in writing to the department for approval. A substantive research component is essential to this course (i.e., a literature review alone is not sufficient). Since supervision of GER 490 is “overload,” no faculty member is required to take on such supervision; participation is voluntary. Moreover, no faculty member may supervise more than one such course in a given academic year. Given the constraints, the number of sections of GER 490 is limited. Interested students should check the regulations and note particularly the deadlines for application: Permission needs to be obtained by March 1st (Summer Term), May 1st (Fall Term) and by Nov. 1st (Spring Term).

COGNATE COURSES: Certain courses taken outside of the German program may count towards a German major or specialist. **Precondition:** The course in question should contain a 'significant German element' and a considerable amount of the course reading and work (esp. final essay) has to deal with German topics. Cognate courses require advance approval by the Undergraduate Coordinator, unless they have been identified as such. For a list of identified cognate courses offered each year, see the [departmental website](#).

STUDY ABROAD & CREDIT: Our department offers a wide variety of opportunities to pursue language studies in German-speaking countries, ranging from exciting summer programs to full year exchange programs in Berlin and other areas of Germany. In order to assure academic credit for courses taken abroad, they should be pre-approved by the Undergraduate Coordinator. Full-year programs and short intensive summer programs for credit are possible. [Contact the department](#) and/or the [Centre for International Experience](#) to find out more. Information is also available on the [German Department website](#) and [later in this handbook](#).

GERMAN LANGUAGE CITATION: The Citation is intended to offer a transcript credential to those who study German and do not assemble enough courses for the Minor. (**Note:** If you study for a German degree, this citation is of no additional value to you.) To qualify you need two full courses beyond the 100-level with a minimum grade of B- in each of them. Contact the [Undergraduate Coordinator](#) for more information.

iPRAKTIKUM Internships



Apply what you have learned in the classroom to work-related, career contexts with the help of iPRAKTIKUM, an experiential learning and internationalization initiative that will find you an exciting internship in the GTA or in a German-speaking country. iPRAKTIKUM is designed to provide you with an opportunity to acquire work experience, practice your German skills, and develop global fluency. We facilitate placements with a wide variety of organizations, from local schools to software companies to international NGOs, and support you throughout. Eco-Hub Freiburg is a special, Germany-based program of placements for – but not limited

to – students pursuing degrees in areas related to the environment and sustainability. Interested in social entrepreneurship? Then the Berlin Social Innovation Hub is for you.

iPRAKTIKUM internships can be accredited in the form of a [Co-Curricular Record](#) (CCR) on your UofT transcript or as a credit course in conjunction with GER 391H “iPRAKTIKUM Experiential Learning & Internationalization Internship”. You can complete your internship during the academic term (e.g. once a week), in a more concentrated block during the summer, or in a custom format according to your needs and the needs of the host organization.

For information on how to participate, to keep up with the latest news, and to contact us check out our [iPRAKTIKUM website](#).

Certificate in Global German Studies

The Certificate in German Studies (U of T Global Scholars) recognizes the achievement of learning goals associated with global fluency in the German context, including a basic level of linguistic competence. It is a response to an increasingly networked, multipolar world and the desire of students to be equipped to grasp and master global challenges. The Certificate reflects the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures’ long-term curricular goals in this area by creating a transparent pathway for students. It is aligned with the U of T’s Global U Framework, which aspires to develop globally minded students across disciplines.

Requirements:

The Certificate is open to all students in all degree programs.

The Global Scholar Certificate consists of 2.0 FCEs:

- FCE in German language at any level, including GER100Y1, GER101H1, GER200Y1, GER201H1, GER272H1, GER300Y1, GER301H1, GER370H1, GER372H1, GER400Y1. Students with very advanced previous knowledge of German may in consultation with the Department take a combination of other 300 or 400-level GER topics courses (taught in German) to meet the requirement.
- GER 290H1 ‘Global Issues / German Contexts’.
- 0.5 FCE in global experience. May take the form of an internship course, GER391H1 ‘iPRAKTIKUM Experiential Learning and Internationalization Internship’. Students may also complete a study abroad course in a German-speaking country, such as GER354Y0. International Course Modules (ICM) or the GER398H0 Research Excursion Program also fulfil the global experience requirement with the previous consent of the department.



German Degree Programs

GENERAL INFORMATION

Our undergraduate programs – a specialist and a major degree in German Studies, four minors (German Studies, Business German, Yiddish Studies, German Studies in Translation) and a Certificate in Global Studies – aim to provide advanced critical literacy in German and/or Yiddish language, literature, and culture. The program enables students to succeed in a range of academic, scientific, economic, and administrative careers in a globalized world in which German culture plays a significant role.

German specialization requires only 10 full courses from the Department of German. Students are therefore free to broaden their intellectual experience by taking courses in related disciplines (i.e., other languages and literatures, Philosophy, Religious Studies, History, Classics, Linguistics, Fine Art, Music, European Studies or International Relations).

Our Specialist and Major Programs provide students with a mastery of oral and written German through a succession of language courses that cover all levels from total beginners to advanced speakers; through their extra topic courses students achieve a more comprehensive mastery of German and a deeper understanding of German culture.

We offer a solid streamlined program in literature, film and theory exposing students to various geographical, historical, social and cultural contexts, emphasizing the development of advanced critical thinking and sophisticated analytical skills. Students acquire research skills and methods through the opportunity to work with individual faculty members in their areas of expertise.



Students will be prepared for a variety of employment opportunities (e.g. graduate studies in German; teaching German at primary and secondary schools; translation work; internships and jobs in German-speaking countries; employment in government, cultural organizations, business, media, publishing, public relations, marketing, and international relations). At a time when Canada and UofT are emphasizing multinational cooperation, a degree in German provides an excellent educational background leading to numerous rewarding careers both inside Canada and abroad.

Programs & Requirements

GERMAN STUDIES (B.A.)

UofT regulations require that students declare their subject of study (Subject POST) by the end of their first year. Enrolment in the Specialist and Major Programs in German is open to students who have successfully completed their first year. Please consult the **Faculty of Arts & Science Calendar** for more general program requirements.

To facilitate the fulfillment of their course complement we strongly advise all students to take GER 150H, 205H, and 305H concurrently with their Language Practice courses as early as possible (i.e. during the first three years). Students who have prior experience with German and wish to continue their studies should contact the Department for suitable course selections.

The program descriptions below are intended to give you an indication of typical selections of year-by-year courses. The 100/200/300 designators are a guideline and do not represent a rigid chronological requirement. For more information and individualized degree course planning, please schedule an appointment with the **Undergraduate Coordinator** (required for degree students). In special cases, certain requirements (e.g., GER 150H, 205H, 272H) may be waived, but self-placement is NOT permitted.

Visual Scheme for Specialists & Majors

Year	Required Language ⁽¹⁾	Required Topics	Optional Topics
1	GER 100Y ⁽²⁾ (full-year course)	GER 150H (offered in Winter)	--
2	GER 200Y ⁽²⁾ (full-year course)	GER 205H ⁽³⁾ (offered in Winter)	GER 2xxH (mainly in English)
3	GER 300Y ⁽²⁾ (full-year course)	GER 305H ⁽³⁾ (offered in Fall)	GER 3xxH (mainly in German)
4	GER 400H (offered in Fall)		GER 4xxH (advanced topics)

NOTES: (1) Part of the requirement will be waived for students who place into a higher language level. (2) GER 100Y/200Y/300Y are full-year courses; once registered for a section, students may NOT change sections after the Fall semester. (3) GER 205H/305H are prerequisite courses for topic courses offered in German on the 300-/400-levels respectively; they should be taken early on. Courses offered in English (except on the 400-level) are open to all students. / For course titles and brief descriptions see [HERE](#) and visit our [website](#).

SPECIALIST PROGRAM IN GERMAN STUDIES (Hon. BA)

DESCRIPTION: The Specialist Program requires 10 credits from the Department of German or their equivalent. **SPECIFICATIONS:** (a) Required Language Courses: **GER100Y/200Y/ 300Y/400H**. / (b) Required Culture Course: **GER150H** (to be taken as early as possible). / (c) Required Literature Courses: **GER205H/305H** (=prerequisites for 300/400-level topic courses). / (d) At least 2.5 additional F.C.E. in GER courses must be on the 300 level. / (e) At least 1.0 additional F.C.E. in GER courses must be on the 400 level. / (f) No more than 3.0 F.C.E. courses taught in English. / (g) Up to 2.0 FCE of identified or pre-approved cognate courses from other departments may count; inquire in advance.

MAJOR PROGRAM IN GERMAN STUDIES

DESCRIPTION: The Major Program requires 7 credits from the Department of German or their equivalent. **SPECIFICATIONS:** (a) Required Language Courses: **GER100Y/200Y/300Y/ 400H**. / (b) Required Culture Course: **GER150H** (to be taken as early as possible). / (c) Required Literature Courses: **GER205H/305H** (=prerequisites for 300/400-level topic courses). / (d) At least 1.5 additional F.C.E. in GER courses must be on the 300 level. / (e) At least 0.5 additional F.C.E. in GER courses must be on the 400 level. / (f) No more than 1.5 F.C.E. courses taught in English. / (g) Up to 1.0 FCE of identified or pre-approved cognate courses from other departments may count; inquire in advance.

SPECIALISTS & MAJORS, PLEASE NOTE: (a) Students with prior German knowledge are required to contact the department to schedule a [placement test](#). (b) GER150H should be taken as early as possible. / (c) Students must complete GER205H before taking most 300-level topic courses. / (d) Students must complete GER305H before taking all 400-level topic courses. / (e) GER400H & GER401H don't count towards the 400-level requirement. (f) All specialists & majors should schedule an appointment with the Undergraduate Coordinator for personalized counselling.

German Minor Programs

DESCRIPTION: All Minor Programs requires 4.0 credits from the Department of German.

NOTES: Students enrolled in the GS Specialist or Major Programs may not simultaneously enroll for a GS Minor. Students may not simultaneously be enrolled in the GS Minor and the Business German Minor. / Students with prior German knowledge are required to contact us to take a placement test.

Minor Program in German Studies

SPECIFICATIONS: (a) Required language courses: **GER100Y/200Y/300Y**. / (b) An additional 1.0 F.C.E. in courses with a GER designator, excluding GER400H/401H. / (c) No more than 0.5 F.C.E. may be taken in English.

NOTE: The exclusion of GER400H/ 401H does not apply if the student's entry level is post-GER100Y. Here are some examples for a Minor in German Studies. (Many other combinations are possible!)

EXAMPLE 1: Focus on Language & Literature

Year 1: GER 100Y Introduction to German

Year 2: GER 200Y Intermediate German 1 / GER 205H German Literature I

Year 3: GER 300Y Intermediate German 2 / GER 305H German Literature II

EXAMPLE 2: Focus on Language & Culture

Year 1: GER 100Y Introduction to German / GER150H Intro to German Culture [E]

Year 2: GER 200Y Intermediate German 1

Year 3: GER 300Y Intermediate German 2 / GER 310H Contemporary Culture & Media

EXAMPLE 3: Student with German Pre-Knowledge Placed into GER 300Y

Year 1: GER 300Y Introduction to German / GER 205H-S Literature 1

Year 2: GER 400H-F Advanced German 1 / GER 401 H-S Advanced German 2

Year 3: GER 310H Contemporary Culture & Media / GER 340H German Theatre Production

Minor German Studies in English

SPECIFICATIONS: (a) **GER150H** is required. / (b) At least 2.5 additional credits in GER courses. / (c) A maximum of 1.0 F.C.E. in cognate courses is allowed (i.e. courses offered by other departments containing a relevant Germanic component and a final paper on a Germanic topic); such courses have to be identified as cognate courses (see [German Department website](#)) or need to be pre-approved by the department.

This Minor provides the opportunity to embark on a study of German culture (literature, film, theory) without first having to master a foreign language. A progression of courses leading from Introduction to Culture (GER150H) to Intellectual History (GER410H) allows students to acquire skills of analytical understanding, critical judgment and scholarly writing through the in-depth reading and discussion of literary/cultural texts, films & dramatic performances. This program has no admission requirements.

EXAMPLE

Year 1: GER 150H Intro to German Culture / GER 220H German Literature in Transl.

Year 2: GER 275H Marx, Nietzsche, Freud / GER 290H Global Issues, German Contexts

Year 3: GER 251H German & European Cinema / GER 270H Money & Economy

Year 4: GER 361H Yiddish Literature in Transl. / GER 410H German Intellectual History

Note that GER 150H is offered yearly in the winter semester; all other courses taught in English are offered in two-year rotation.

Minor Program in Business German

SPECIFICATIONS: (a) **GER100Y/200Y** are mandatory, OR proof of comparable German level. / (b) **GER370H/372H** are mandatory courses; (c) 1.0 credit must be taken from **GER270H, 272H, 290H, 391H**.

NOTE: Students who place out of GER100Y/200Y should instead take more advanced German language courses (e.g., GER300H, 400H, 401H).

EXAMPLE

Year 1: GER 100Y Introduction to German

Year 2: GER 200Y Intermediate German 1 / GER 205H German Literature I

Year 3: GER 270H Money & Economy [E] / GER 272H Intro to Business German

Year 4: GER 370H German Business Culture 1 / GER 372H German Business Culture 2

Minor Program in Yiddish Studies

SPECIFICATIONS: 1. GER260Y/ 360H/460H are required. / 2. The remaining courses should be taken from GER361H/367H/ 100Y/150H, JGJ360H, or courses offered by or cross-listed with the Centre for Jewish Studies.



Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

מרכז למדעי היהדות

The German Department offers courses in Yiddish language and culture. Students of German, as well as related programs in Yiddish Studies, Eastern European culture and history, philosophy, etc., can combine Yiddish courses with their Major and Specialist Subject POSTs.

Here are some examples for a Minor in Yiddish Studies. (Many other combinations are possible!)

EXAMPLE 1

Year 1: GER 100Y Introduction to German

Year 2: GER 260Y Beginner's Yiddish

Year 3: GER 360H Intermediate Yiddish / GER 361H Yiddish Literature in Translation [E]

Year 4: GER 460H Advanced Yiddish / JGJ 360H Holocaust in Literature [E]

EXAMPLE 2

Year 1: GER 260Y Beginner's Yiddish / GER 150H Introduction to German Culture [E]

Year 2: GER 360H Intermediate Yiddish / GER460H Advanced Yiddish

Year 3: GER 367H Topics in Yiddish or German Jewish Literature [E]

Year 4: JGJ 360H Holocaust in Literature [E]



Our Course Offerings

GERMAN LANGUAGE COURSES (offered every year)

GER 100Y & GER 101H-S	Introduction to German	7-8 sections, 2x2 hours per week
GER 200Y & GER 201H-S	Intermediate German 1	3-4 sections, 2x2 hours per week
GER 300Y & GER 301H-S	Intermediate German 2	3 sections, 2x2 hours per week
GER 400H-F	Advanced German 1	1 section, 2x2 hours per week
GER 401H-S	Advanced German 2	1 section, 2x2 hours per week

YIDDISH LANGUAGE COURSES (offered every year)

GER 260Y	Elementary Yiddish	1 section, 3x1 hour per week
GER 360H-F	Intermediate Yiddish	1 section, 2+1 hours per week
GER 460H-S	Advanced Yiddish	1 section, 2+1 hours per week

GATEWAY COURSES (offered every year)

GER 150H-S	Introduction to German Culture [E]	2 hours per week & tutorial
GER 205H-S	German Literature 1	2 +1 hours per week (prerequisite for 300-level topic courses)
GER 305H-F	German Literature 2	2 +1 hours per week (prerequisite for 400-level topic courses)

ELECTIVE TOPIC COURSES TAUGHT IN GERMAN (offered every other year)

GER 272H-S	Introduction to Business German	2x2 hours per week
GER 310H	Contemporary Culture and Media	2 hours per week
GER 320H	The Age of Goethe	2 hours per week
GER 322H	Kafka in Context	2 hours per week
GER 323H	Weimar Culture & Beyond	2 hours per week
GER 326H	Writing Memory: Post 1945	2 hours per week
GER 332H	Deviance-Madness-Outsider	2 hours per week
GER 334H	Transnational Literatures	2 hours per week
GER 336H	Focus on Berlin	2 hours per week

GER 340H	German Theatre Production	2x 2 hours per week
GER 350H	German Visual Cultures	2 hours per week
GER 370H-F	German Business Cultures 1	2x2 hours per week
GER 372H-S	German Business Cultures 2	2x2 hours per week
GER 391H	iPRAKTIKUM Internship	inquire with department
GER 426H	Medieval Language & Culture	2 hours per week
GER 430H	Open Topics in German Studies	2 hours per week
GER 431H	Open Topics in German Studies	2 hours per week

ELECTIVE TOPIC COURSES TAUGHT IN ENGLISH (offered every other year)

GER 220H	German Literature in Translation [E]	2 hours per week
GER 251H	German & European Cinema [E]	4 hours per week
GER 270H	Money and Economy [E]	2 hours per week
GER 275H	Marx, Nietzsche, Freud [E]	2 hours per week
GER 290H	Global Issues: German Contexts [E]	2 hours per week
GER 354Y	Berlin between East & West [E]	summer abroad course taught in Berlin
GER 361H	Yiddish Literature in Translation [E]	2 hours per week
GER 367H	Topics in Yiddish/Jewish Literature [E]	2 hours per week
GER 410H	Topics in Intellectual History [E]	2 hours per week

FIRST-YEAR-FOUNDATION SEMINARS (offered irregularly; only for incoming students)

GER 194H	Our Vampires, Ourselves [E]	2 hours per week
GER 195H	Cities – Real & Imagined [E]	2 hours per week
GER 196H	Learning German with Fairy Tales	2 hours per week
GER 197H	Poets & Power: Art under the Nazis [E]	2 hours per week
GER 198H	Technology & the Human [E]	2 hours per week



Course Descriptions

Courses are taught in German unless otherwise marked: courses marked with [E] are taught in English; GER 260Y, 360H and 460H are taught in Yiddish. Descriptions are subject to change. Evaluation procedures and requirements will be announced during the 1st week of classes. Consult the Faculty of Arts & Science's Timetable or our website for time and location of courses and for syllabi!

GER 100Y/101H INTRODUCTION TO GERMAN

This introductory German course is for students with *no* prior knowledge of the language. It is a year course divided into two sections. Based on a communicative and task-based approach, it is designed to develop proficiency in oral and written communication skills while providing students with knowledge and understanding of the societies and cultures of German-speaking countries. Students will develop their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills through a variety of stimulating off- and on-line activities, both during live meetings and on the reliable online platform accompanying the textbook. Topics cover areas such as introducing and talking about oneself, shopping, telling time and recounting a day, family life, describing and renting an apartment, travel, health and fitness or studying abroad. Vocabulary will be presented in the context of culturally significant issues. Additionally, the course will provide students with a foundation in a number of basic grammatical structures and concepts. Live online sessions will be devoted mostly to communicative and interactive exercises. In addition to preparation at home, regularly participating in and attending the online sessions is paramount in order to successfully complete the course.

NOTES: Students with any German background are required to take a PLACEMENT TEST. / GER101H covers the 2nd semester of this course; the department registers you after you have been placed at that level.

GER 150H INTRODUCTION TO GERMAN CULTURE [E]

This is an introduction to the interdisciplinary study of the contemporary cultural, social, economic, and political life of the German-speaking peoples in their historical and international context. Intended for students who are relatively unfamiliar with German culture, the course demonstrates the diverse ways students may understand and interpret “things German”.

NOTES: Required course for Specialists & Majors. / Taught in English, open to students across disciplines.

GER 194H-198H FIRST-YEAR-FOUNDATION SEMINARS

FYF-seminars are open to students in their first year and are designed to help facilitate a smooth entry into university life and academic practice. They focus on discussion of issues, questions and controversies surrounding a particular discipline in small-group settings. The goals are to encourage the development of critical thinking, writing skills, oral presentation and research methods.

GER 200Y/201H INTERMEDIATE GERMAN 1

PREREQUISITE: GER 100Y/101H or PLACEMENT TEST

This intermediate German language course builds on skills acquired in beginner's German. It is a year course divided into two sections and is designed to provide students with genuine communication experiences while reviewing and further developing participants' linguistic and

cultural competencies. Students will have a chance to practice and enhance their German speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills by engaging with a variety of texts and media during live classes, as well as on the reliable online platform accompanying the textbook. The themes in the textbook provide a springboard for various online activities, assignments, and vocabulary building tasks. All class readings, videos, projects, and presentations will explore historical, social, political, and popular topics while aspects of Germanic and North American cultures are being compared. Learning strategies and self-assessment are part of every chapter, allowing for differentiation among various types of learners. Students will further practice grammatical structures and acquire vocabulary that will allow them to express opinions, agreements, and disagreements in communicative situations encountered in work, school, and travel. By learning about German, Austrian, and Swiss cities featured in the textbook and supporting materials, students will get to explore regional differences in German-speaking countries. Regular online meetings will be devoted mostly to communicative and interactive exercises and group work. In order to successfully participate in these activities, independent work and preparation are paramount.

NOTE: **GER201H** covers the 2nd semester of this course; the department registers you in it after you have been placed at that level.

GER 205H GERMAN LITERATURE 1: WORKING METHODS

PRE-/CO-REQUISITE: GER 200Y/201H or placement test

This offers an introduction to work methods and skills pertaining to the study of German literature. As such, the course is meant to provide a transition from language to topic courses. Students will receive training in how to read and analyze short literary texts, how to find secondary literature and how to write short papers.

NOTES: Required course for majors and specialists; it should be taken as early as possible (and can't be taken after completion of GER300Y/301H). / Prerequisite course for 300-level topic courses in German.

GER 220H GERMAN LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION [E]

This course offers a survey of important themes and topics in German literature from the eighteenth century to the present. In individual years, it may examine literary milestones by major authors, placing them in social and historical context, or it may focus on genres, motives or specific event, as they are reflected in literature and the arts. Texts are studied within their historical context in terms of such aspects as plot, characterization, theme, structure, style, language and theory.

NOTE: Taught in English, open to students across disciplines.

GER 251H TOPICS IN GERMAN FILM HISTORY [E]

This course examines German cinema against the backdrop of European film history. A comparative approach enables examination of what binds German cinema to European cinema – shared histories and political concerns – as well as what is nationally unique and distinctive. By matching select films with readings from social theory, cultural studies, and film studies, we will compare and contrast these socio-historical concerns while also attending to the medium specificities of film style, aesthetics, and narrative form.

NOTE: Taught in English, open to students across disciplines.

GER 260Y ELEMENTARY YIDDISH

This course is an introduction to the Yiddish language of Ashkenazic Jews. Yiddish is a Germanic language, but due to the unique social situation of Jews in Eastern Europe it also has large Hebrew-Aramaic and Slavic elements. Yiddish was spoken in Eastern Europe, including Russia, Germany, Poland, and Lithuania, as well as in non-Eastern European countries such as Canada, the United States, and Argentina, from c. the 12th century to the present day. While learning the language the course will also introduce students to Yiddish literature & culture, providing a greater understanding of the historical and contemporary, religious and secular communities that speak and spoke this language.

GER 270H MONEY AND ECONOMY IN GERMAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE [E]

In this course, we examine key literary, philosophical, and cultural texts, in order to understand how modern culture approaches problems such as property, debt, and exchange value.

NOTES: Taught in English, open to students across disciplines. / GER 270H and 272H alternate with GER 370H and 372H and are only offered every other year.

GER 272H INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS GERMAN

PRE-/CO-REQUISITE: GER 200Y/201H or placement test

This course introduces students to basic concepts & vocabulary needed in the German business context. Course objectives are to increase the student's proficiency in the four skills (speaking, listening, reading and writing) - with special emphasis on selected German business topics to assist students in better understanding the German business world.

NOTE: GER 270H and 272H alternate with GER 370H and 372H and are only offered every other year.

GER 275H MARX, NIETZSCHE, FREUD [E]

This is an introductory course to the thought of Karl Marx, Friedrich Nietzsche, and Sigmund Freud and their pioneering contributions to the understanding of the individual and society in modernity. Readings include selections from writings of the early Marx, the Communist Manifesto, and Capital, Nietzsche's critique of culture, academe, and nationalism, and Freud's theory of culture, his views on the psychopathology of everyday life, on the meaning of dreams, symptoms, the return of the repressed, and what it might mean to live in a free society.

NOTE: Taught in English, open to students across disciplines.

GER 290H GLOBAL ISSUES / GERMAN CONTEXTS [E]

The movement of cultural products, material goods, capital, people, ideas, and information across national borders has resulted in a new quality of global interdependency. The course examines the contemporary character of globalization with a special focus on its environmental impacts in German-speaking contexts. We consider artistic, cultural, technological, and social practices in German-speaking and global contexts that explore questions of sustainability and a livable future. The course is highly recommended as preparation for students interested in participating in the Department's iPRAKTIKUM Inter-nationalization & Experiential Learning internship program—particularly for placements with Eco-Hub Freiburg organizations in Germany. (Additional information [HERE](#).)

GER 300Y INTERMEDIATE GERMAN 2

PREREQUISITE: GER 200Y/201H or PLACEMENT TEST

This intermediate German language course builds on GER200Y. It is a year course divided into two sections and focuses on effective oral and written expression, hearing and reading comprehension, in-depth review of grammar as well as the study of more complex structures. Through engagement with a variety of readings, videos, and films on important historical, cultural, social, and political topics in German-speaking countries, students will have the opportunity to practice grammar and vocabulary in embedded and culturally relevant contexts. The aim of this course is to equip students with the skills to understand extended speech, to read articles on contemporary problems, to describe personal experiences and to explain viewpoints on topical issues in speech and in writing. The textbook offers engaging culture topics, authentic readings, contextualized grammar and a reliable online platform. Regular online meetings will be devoted to communicative and interactive exercises and group work. In order to successfully participate in these activities, independent work and preparation are paramount.

NOTE: GER301H covers the 2nd semester of this course; the department registers you in it after you have been placed at that level.

GER 305H GERMAN LITERATURE 2: EPOCHS & GENRES

PREREQUISITE: GER 205H

Building on GER 205H, this course provides an introduction to German literature and culture from the 18th to the 21st century. Within a chronological and thematic framework, we will read and analyze excerpts from representative works of major German writers. Students learn to read critically and to consider the literary qualities of the German language. The course is required for majors and specialists; it should be taken as soon after GER 205 as possible.

NOTES: Required course for majors and specialists. / Prerequisite for 400-level topic courses in German.

GER 310H CONTEMPORARY GERMAN CULTURE & MEDIA

PREREQUISITE: GER 200Y/201H

This course provides students with the opportunity to encounter more advanced texts focusing on modern German culture, as expressed through a variety of media. It examines a range of issues that have changed the way we look at culture, as well as the impact of these changes on national identity. It offers a diverse view of German life based on reading selections from literary works, memoirs, newspaper reports, commentaries, and interdisciplinary materials which highlight important cultural movements.

GER 320H AGE OF GOETHE (1749-1832)

PREREQUISITE: GER 205H

The lifespan of Germany's most famous poet, Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, spanned the end of the feudal age and the rise of the modern period in Germany (French Revolution, Romanticism, Napoleon's conquest, Hegel's *Phenomenologie*, war & reform movements, Heinrich von Kleist and E. T. A. Hoffmann). The aim of this course is to provide a survey of this innovating period in German literature.

GER 321H 19TH CENTURY GERMAN LITERATURE

PREREQUISITE: GER 205H

This course offers an examination of German literary movements as they responded to the challenge of social and historical changes in the 19th century. Despite many challenges, the century was shaped by the belief in progress and the optimism that new scientific discoveries would lead to a better life for Germany and mankind. The course studies how German authors reflected on these changes in literary, political and philosophical texts.

GER 322H KAFKA IN CONTEXT (1880-1920)

PREREQUISITE: GER 205H

How do we know how to live life in the modern world, when none of our points of reference seem to hold any reliability or stability? How can we even be sure that we are human, and not some strange, deformed animal with consciousness? For Kafka, the German-Jewish-Czech writer who lived most of his life in Prague, the only way to answer such troubling questions was to make them the basis of his writing. His works offer a unique model for thinking about human life in the modern world, about consciousness, the body, dreaming and waking, the nature of the social world, and many similar issues. And embedded in his writing is a set of unique ideas about how to read literature.

GER 323H WEIMAR CULTURE & BEYOND (1919-1945)

PREREQUISITE: GER 205H

The political instability of the Weimar Republic, fueled by the effects of the Global Economic Crisis, facilitated Hitler's election in 1933. Yet at the same time it was a period of extraordinary political-social-artistic achievements. Expressionism, Dada, Neue Sachlichkeit, Bauhaus, and the Golden Age of German Film are some of the buzz words which belong to the legacy of Weimar. This course studies literary, historical, and artistic documents of this extremely significant period in German history.

GER 326H WRITING MEMORY: POST 1945

PREREQUISITE: GER 205H

German literature after World War II started from a new beginning, with many authors attempting to find a way of describing the shocking experience of war and devastation – often taking their cue from foreign models or existentialist and traditional Christian trains of thought. This course offers an examination of this post-War literature & culture from 'Zero Hour' through to contemporary debates about the Holocaust and its memorization.

GER 332H DEVIANCE-MADNESS-OUTSIDERS

PREREQUISITE: GER 205H

Throughout modern history, writers have tested the limits of normal human experience by casting their protagonists into the depths of madness, by casting them out of society, and following them through their trials, their elation, their despair. This course examines a number of texts that see the world through the eyes of outsiders, and that see the outsiders through the eyes of the world. Our aim will be to analyze literary descriptions of the limit experiences that separate "normal" life from

its other. In the process, we will discuss topics such as truth and truth telling, exclusionary and assimilating practices for dealing with madness and outsiders, discourses of containment, and how the outsider perspective unsettles truth in literature.

GER 334H TRANSNATIONAL LITERATURES: DIFFERENT VOICES

PREREQUISITE: GER 205H

Identities in Process, Writing Outside the Nation, The Turkish Turn in Contemporary German Literature – the titles of recent studies emphasize that German literature has long since left the national corner. Specific topics of this course may vary, but broadly speaking the focus of this course is on minor(ity) perspectives and on voices from the 'off' of the past 40 years (i.e. the literary works that arose from post-war migration).

GER 336H FOCUS ON BERLIN

PREREQUISITE: GER 205H

An exploration of the cultural development of Berlin, from the Bismarckian era through the Weimar Republic and the Third Reich to the construction of the Wall, labor migration, German reunification and beyond. Class themes vary, but typical topics include present-day fictionalizations of Berlin as the divided and reunited city, Berlin as a site of multicultural encounters, and the interplay of art and politics in Germany's capital.

GER 340H GERMAN THEATRE PRODUCTION: PREPARATION, REHEARSAL, STAGING

PREREQUISITE: GER 200Y/201H

This course focuses on reading, interpreting, contextualizing, rehearsing & staging a German play. In the process of the course, students become familiar with the different steps of a theater production – from read-through to tech-run & dress rehearsal to actual performances. They take on various responsibilities that go along with any theater production, such as playbills, programs, costumes, set, sound & lights, dramaturgy, etc. [For links to plays staged to date, see last section of [E. Boran's website](#).]

GER 350H GERMAN VISUAL CULTURES

PREREQUISITE: GER 205H

An overview of select writings on the emerging role of visual cultures within mass media across the 20th-century. Theorists may include Walter Benjamin, Siegfried Kracauer, Bela Balazs, Jürgen Habermas, Friedrich Kittler, Niklas Luhmann and secondary scholarly articles. Texts are read in conjunction with weekly screenings from the German film canon that illustrate the concepts under study. We also review basic principles of film analysis and integrate vocabulary specific to the study of German visual texts.

GER 354Y0 Berlin between East & West: A Tale of More than One City [E]

A wall once divided Germany's capital in two. Yet Berlin has always been much more than two cities. It is perhaps best described, in the words of author Zafer Senocak, as "the capital of the fragment." Since the reunification of East and West Germany in 1990, Berlin has become a space of cultural diversity, national memory and constant transformation. This course (taught in the

German capital during the summer term) is an exploration of the diversity and richness of Berlin today and of the various cultural influences that have shaped the city over time.

NOTE: This is a course offered through UofT's Summer Abroad Program. It is taught in English and open to students across disciplines. German degree students have the option of taking it for German credit as GER 355Y0; please inquire at the department. Scholarships available.

GER 360H INTERMEDIATE YIDDISH

PREREQUISITE: GER 260Y

A continuation of GER260Y1, this course begins with a review of the essentials of Yiddish grammar. Readings of modern Yiddish poetry and prose are included. The oral component of the course will consist of mini-lectures, singing, poetry recitation, conversation, and student presentations. Textbook: David Goldenbert, Yidish af Yidish.

JGJ360H HOLOCAUST IN LITERATURE [E]

PREREQUISITE: Completion of 4.0 FCEs / EXCLUSION: CJS220H1, GER367H1

This course examines literary works written in different languages, in ghettos and concentration camps during the Holocaust, as well as those reflecting on the genocide in its aftermath. We focus on literature as a means of engaging with the unimaginable and on the cross analysis of eye-witness and memory writing.

NOTE: Taught in English, open to students across disciplines.

GER 361H YIDDISH LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION [E]

An overview of the major figures and tendencies in modern Yiddish literature and culture from the beginning of the 19th century to the present, featuring readings of modern Yiddish prose, poetry, drama and cinema. Students with knowledge of Yiddish are encouraged to read some original texts.

NOTE: Taught in English, open to students across disciplines.

GER 367H TOPICS IN YIDDISH / GERMAN JEWISH LITERATURE & CULTURE [E]

PREREQUISITE: Completion of 4.0 FCEs

Topics in modern Yiddish or German Jewish literature and culture from the beginning of the 19th century to the present, featuring a selection of readings of modern Yiddish prose, poetry, drama and cinema.

NOTE: Taught in English, open to students across disciplines.

GER 370H GERMAN BUSINESS CULTURE 1

PREREQUISITE: GER 200H

This course provides students with a working knowledge of German business culture that allows them to navigate the German workplace. The main focus is to deepen students' knowledge of business concepts.

NOTES: Required course for the Business German minor. / GER 270H and 272H alternate with GER 370H and 372H and are only offered every other year.

GER 372H GERMAN BUSINESS CULTURE 2

PREREQUISITE: GER 370H

This course offers an intensive development of the linguistic skills needed in the context of business transactions and management in German-speaking countries. Through materials from various sources, students develop oral and written skills for competence in German business communication as well as cross-cultural awareness.

NOTES: Required course for the Business German minor. / GER 270H and 272H alternate with GER 370H and 372H and are only offered every other year.

GER 391H iPRAKTIKUM: EXPERIMENTAL LEARNING AND INTERNSHIP

iPRAKTIKUM is designed to provide you with an opportunity to acquire work experience, practice your German skills, and develop global fluency. We facilitate placements with a wide variety of organizations, from local schools to software companies to international NGOs, & provide support throughout. Eco-Hub Freiburg is a special, Germany-based program of placements for (but not limited to) students pursuing degrees in areas related to the environment and sustainability. Interested in social entrepreneurship? Then the Berlin Social Innovation Hub is for you.

GER 400H ADVANCED GERMAN 1

PREREQUISITE: GER 300Y/301H or PLACEMENT TEST

This course is aimed at students with a high level of competence in German. Building on material covered in GER 100Y/200Y/300Y, it offers advanced studies of German language, including text-based analysis and with a focus on improving communication skills. It includes a systematic review and expansion of grammar and stylistics, and additional emphasis lies on vocabulary building. The course is partly based on newspaper articles, literary texts, films and websites.

GER 401H ADVANCED GERMAN 2

PREREQUISITE: GER 400H or PLACEMENT TEST

This is a course for advanced learners of German reviewing complex features of the language and introducing them to aspects of German stylistics. The emphasis lies on oral and written communication.

GER 410H TOPICS IN GERMAN INTELLECTUAL HISTORY [E]

PREREQUISITE: Permission of department.

German intellectual history has provided some of the most important statements of Western culture from Kant to Luhmann, Hegel to Heidegger, Marx, Freud and Nietzsche, etc. In this course, we will examine select aspects of German intellectual history in detail. The content of the course will vary from year to year, so check the departmental website for details.

NOTE: Taught in English, open to students across disciplines.

GER 426H MEDIEVAL GERMAN LANGUAGE & CULTURE

PREREQUISITE: GER 300Y & GER 205H OR permission of the department.

An introduction to the German language and literature of the Middle Ages. The reading and translation of exemplary Middle High German texts will provide insights into epochal cultural concepts like courtly love and chivalry as well as courtly and clerical designs of identity.

NOTE: This course counts as a German course, but it is taught in English and open to students across disciplines.

GER 430H/431H OPEN TOPICS IN GERMAN STUDIES

PREREQUISITE: GER 305H OR permission of the department.

These two courses are open topic courses, i.e., themes & approaches vary from year to year. As both are usually cross-listed with the German graduate program, they offer students challenging in-depth encounters with advanced materials & topics. GER 430H deals with Modern German Literature & Culture, while GER 431H typically explores specific aspects of Germanic Studies.

GER 460H ADVANCED YIDDISH

PREREQUISITE: GER 360H OR permission of department.

Advanced reading, writing, vocabulary and conversation. Study of poetry, short fiction and memoir literature by Zeitlin, Bergelson, Gladshteyn, Sholem Aleichem and I.B. Singer. Selected advanced grammatical topics presented in conjunction with the study of texts. (Conducted entirely in Yiddish.)

GER 463Y YIDDISH LANGUAGE FOR GERMAN SPEAKERS

PREREQUISITE: 3.0 FCE in German language OR fluency in German. / EXCLUSION: GER 260Y, GER 360H, GER 460H.

The course is designed as an intensive Yiddish language training. The goal is to teach German speakers to read, write and speak in Yiddish. The curriculum relies on the German language skills of the students and focuses on differences between Yiddish and German grammar and vocabulary. Upon the completion of the course, students should be able to read Yiddish literary texts with a minimal use of dictionary.

NOTE: Graduate students can take the course in preparation for their Yiddish competency test.

GER 490H INDEPENDENT STUDIES

PREREQUISITE: Advanced status and permission of department

A reading & research project in Germanic literature and/or culture involving a substantive research component. For additional information, see HERE and contact the department.

GER 491Y INDIVIDUAL STUDIES

PREREQUISITE: Advanced status and permission of department, to be obtained by June 1st.

A scholarly project chosen by the student and supervised by a member of the staff. The form of the project and the manner of its execution are determined in consultation with the supervisor. All project proposals for the following academic year should be submitted by June 1. For additional information, see HERE and contact the department.



Scholarships & Awards

Admission Scholarships and Awards offered by the University of Toronto and its Colleges, Erindale, Innis, New, St. Michael's, Trinity, University and Victoria, are too numerous to list individually. They are awarded on the basis of academic achievement in high school. Candidates should obtain application forms from their high school principal.

There are numerous scholarships awarded for outstanding performance in 1st Year in the Humanities, including Modern Languages. 2nd, 3rd and 4th Year students of German may qualify for a large number of scholarships in Modern Languages and in the Humanities. Of particular interest are the following **University of Toronto** awards and scholarships:

- The Hermann Boeschstein Memorial Scholarship awarded to an outstanding student in the 2nd or 3rd year of the Specialist Program in German
- The Laila C. Scott Memorial Scholarship in German
- The Anne (Medres) Glass Memorial Scholarship in Yiddish
- The Percy Matenko Scholarship in Yiddish
- The Solomon Isaac Shek Award in Yiddish Literature
- The Fania and Aron Fainer Prize in Yiddish

Trinity College awards scholarships for Modern Languages in 2nd, 3rd and 4th years.

University College offers following awards: the George Brown Scholarship and the Elizabeth Ann Wintercorbyn Scholarship for Modern Languages (2nd year), the Julius Rossin Scholarship for Modern Languages (3rd year), the W.H. van der Smitten Scholarship for German (4th year). In addition, there are C.L. Burton Scholarships for Modern Languages available in the first 3 years, as well as Rueben Wells Leonard Scholarships which give preference to the Humanities in all 4 years.

Victoria College offers the following awards for excellence in German or Modern Languages: the Ina McCauley Scholarship and the J.A. Surerus Memorial Scholarship (2nd year), the George Dennis Morse Scholarship, the Elizabeth Ann Highet Scholarship (3rd year), the J.J. Maclaren Gold Medal, the Marion Horton Borden Scholarship and the Marjorie Helen South Scholarship (4th year).

It is not necessary to apply for any of these scholarships, except for the Ina McCauley, in 4th year. The scholarships are awarded to the student with the best qualifications. Also, there are many awards not tied to any particular discipline.

Link: [German Academic Exchange Service](#)

Study Abroad Opportunities

One of the highlights of any student career is studying abroad. This is particularly true for students of language. There is no better and more effective way to learn a language than to be immersed in a culture that speaks the language you are learning. The locations themselves become your “living textbook.” You're surrounded by the language on a daily basis and are seeing and hearing it in the proper cultural context. Language learning happens most quickly under these circumstances.

Also, weekends and academic breaks allow you to venture out and explore your surroundings. Since studying abroad often puts you on a completely different continent, you are much closer to places you might otherwise not have had the opportunity to visit. Some more structured study abroad programs even have field trips planned in or around the curriculum.

Being immersed in an entirely new cultural setting might be a bit scary at first, but it's also exciting. It's an opportunity to discover new strengths and abilities, conquer new challenges, and solve new problems. You will encounter situations that are wholly unfamiliar to you and will learn to adapt and respond in effective ways.



Importantly, while abroad you will meet not only natives to the culture in which you are studying, but also other international students who are as far from home as yourself. This will allow you to make amazing friends. Students who study abroad return home with new ideas and perspectives about themselves and their own culture. The experience often challenges them to reconsider their own beliefs and values. It may strengthen those values or it may cause students to alter or abandon them and embrace new concepts and perceptions. The encounter with other cultures enables students to see their own culture through new eyes.

And one last piece of info: Did you know that not even 5% of Canadian undergraduates ever study abroad? Yet, the world continues to become more globalized, countries are increasingly investing money abroad, and companies from countries around the world continue to invest in the international market. Through an employer's eyes, a student who has studied abroad is self-motivated, independent, willing to embrace challenges, and able to cope with diverse problems and situations. Your experience living and studying in a foreign country, negotiating another culture, and acquiring another language will all set you apart from most other job applicants.

Do you need more good reasons for participating in a study abroad program? We don't think so. So let's have a look at some of the opportunities you have as a German student at UofT ...



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO: SUMMER ABROAD PROGRAMS

The Summer Abroad programs are designed to enrich students' academic lives by providing an exciting and educational international experience. Students complete full-year undergraduate degree credit courses from the Faculty of Arts & Science that are relevant to the location. Small classes are taught by UofT professors or faculty from the host university.



2018 was the 18th year that UofT has offered a summer program in Berlin. Over 450 students have enthusiastically participated in the program since it began. It runs for four weeks from around mid-July to mid-August. Participating students receive a full credit. Typically, there are two classes offered in English.

In addition to spending a summer abroad, you can also participate in an exchange program. If you are interested, please contact the UofT International Student Exchange Office (ISXO)

While Berlin is an incredible and unique city, it is by no means the only place where you can study. In addition, there are various exciting programs in place that also allow you to take courses for UofT credit. Foremost among them is the OBW Program.



ONTARIO/BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM



In the 16 years since its founding, the Exchange (known familiarly as the "OBW" program) has exchanged over 1500 university students between the universities of Ontario and the *Land* Baden-Württemberg in Germany. Both states are known for their excellent universities, the important role they play within their national economies and internationally, and their natural beauty.

Participating BW-universities are located in Freiburg, Heidelberg, Hohenheim, Karlsruhe, Konstanz, Mann-heim, Stuttgart, Tübingen and Ulm. All of them are excellent, and all of them offer a variety of programs which you can find out more about on the OBW website.

THE CANADIAN SUMMER SCHOOL IN GERMANY (CSSG)

This is yet another fascinating option for you. The CSSG offers university-level language and culture studies in Kassel, in a unique and intensive immersion program. It's organized under the auspices of the Canadian Association of University Teachers of German (CAUTG) and offers courses at the intermediate and advanced level. For a period of around 6 1/2 weeks, students participate in a full course (around 85 hours of classroom instruction) and in numerous additional activities: lectures at various museums, visits to theatres and operas, excursions to cities with cultural and historical significance, and a four-day trip to Berlin.



INTERNATIONAL SUMMER & WINTER UNIVERSITY FUBiS BERLIN

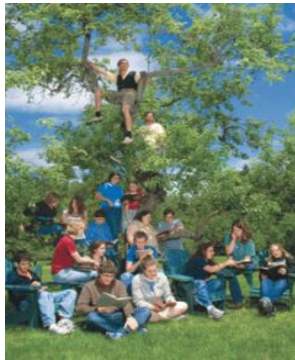


For those of you who are a bit more adventurous or independent, there are also other academic programs out there that will get you UofT credit (if you inquire about it in advance and get courses pre-approved). Among these programs is FUBiS which offers an intensive, academic program. FUBiS sessions run for 4 to 6 weeks and take place both in summer and winter.

Here are some additional links for you if you're more of an explorer ...

- [Study Abroad Programs in Germany](#)
- [Links to German Universities](#)
- [Study Abroad Directory for Germany](#)

YIDDISH SUMMER PROGRAM AT THE NATIONAL YIDDISH BOOK CENTRE



For those of you who study Yiddish, the Steiner Summer Internship Program in Amhurst, MA. offers college students a tuition-free, seven-week immersion in Yiddish culture. The goal of the program is to provide a new generation with Yiddish language literacy; substantive knowledge of the history, literature and culture of Jews in central and Eastern Europe and beyond; and practical models for preservation, research, translation, and artistic expression. The application deadline is in February. Finally, here is a program that offers a totally different kind of experience: You won't get credit for it, but you'll earn & learn – earn some money and learn a lot of German.

WERKSTUDENTENPROGRAMM (WSP)

The Canadian Association of University Teachers of German (CAUTG), in co-operation with the Zentrale Arbeitsvermittlung and the Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD), organizes a program of work and travel in Germany from May until August each year. This program gives Canadian students looking for valuable work experience or want to improve their command of the German language the opportunity to work at summer jobs in Germany.

Of course, there are more programs out there, but the ones mentioned are among the most relevant ones. Please be on the lookout for our Study Abroad Session (which is typically held in late October / early November) and make sure not to miss any application dead-lines (which are often as early as January).

SEVERAL PRACTICAL TIPS

- Make sure to get courses you intend to take pre-approved by the Undergraduate Coordinator. You may not take language courses on the identical level as courses already taken at UofT. If you do so, you won't be granted transfer credit for them.
- Since many of the programs require a language test and/or a reference letter, schedule appointments early – otherwise we might not be able to accommodate you.
- Be aware of deadlines.
- Contact the ISXO (International Student Exchange Office) for more information.

FUNDING

- University of Toronto's Summer Abroad Program bursaries & awards
- Centre for International Experience (CIE)
- CIE funding opportunities
- German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Toronto
- DAAD funding opportunities

Things German in Toronto

There are many ways to make the best out of your German studies. One of them is by getting as much exposure to “things German” as possible. In order to do so, you don’t even have to travel – or at least you don’t have to travel far, as many of them are within easy reach. Here are a few suggestions for how to get you daily German outside of the German classroom ...

- Visit one of our many events & activities, such as lectures, symposia and readings & screenings, as well as the occasional German Stammtisch. For event descriptions and schedules, check <http://www.german.utoronto.ca/>
- Join the [German Studies Student Union](#) (GSSU). They meet regularly and plan interesting and fun activities. If you want to contact them, here is their [e-mail](#).
- Check out the [Goethe-Institut Toronto](#) at 100 University Ave., North Tower, Suite 201. The institute offers an extensive film library (that allows you to check out movies for free) and various German newspapers and magazines. It also organizes many events and activities.
- The [Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst](#) (German Academic Exchange Service) is a government sponsored institute for the promotion of academic cooperation between Germany and other nations. It is active in Canada, where it is represented at the University of Toronto.
- You could also subscribe to the [German Consulate’s](#) Newsletter, which notifies you of German events, news, job opportunities and study abroad information: [Facebook page](#).
- Join the [German Meetup Toronto](#), an informal group of German-speakers and people who would like to meet them to practice their German. They meet regularly for beers and brunches. They also organize outings.
- Regularly read short articles in German online newspapers and magazines, such as [Der Spiegel](#), [Die Zeit](#) or die [taz](#).
- [Deutsche Welle](#) provides online news, culture, sport, and much more.
- **YouTube** offers a wealth of German clips. For instance, try searching for “Berliner Mauer” or “Goethe Faust” or “Bayern Muenchen” – and see what German clips come up ...

These are only some ideas that will get you in contact with German outside the classroom. There are more “things German” around if only you look ...