

The Ohio State University Graduate Program in German

One of the largest and most distinguished German programs in the United States Committed as part of a public university to bringing the humanities to all people

https://germanic.osu.edu; https://germanic.osu.edu/application-form

Intellectual Community

Our graduate program covers most areas of German Studies, from medieval studies to contemporary film and media studies as well as Second Language Acquisition Research.

The diverse theoretical and methodological approaches of our faculty, and our program of guest speakers, conferences, and visiting scholars ensures that students are exposed to the rich variety of work done in the field. Faculty entertain rigorous research and publication programs, often in collaboration with other scholars as well as with writers and artists. The public mission of the university is reflected in faculty members' commitment to have a voice outside the academy by publishing for popular venues such as The New Yorker, Harper's Magazine, LA Review of Books, The Paris Review, and The New York Times.



Ohio State Main Campus

Public Mission

As part of one of the largest public universities in the United States, we are dedicated to preserving and expanding the role of the humanities for all people in higher education.

Course of Study

Graduate studies in our program combines required seminars of varying topics in literature, film, applied linguistics and linguistics, and intellectual history, with a course of study tailored to individual students' interests and needs. As a result, students gain both a broad foundation in the field and develop individual research scholarly profiles early on.

Students may complete coursework outside the department and pursue specializations and certificates in: Bioethics, Comparative Literature, Film, Folklore, Disability Studies, Literacy Studies, Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Second Language Studies, Sexuality Studies, Theater and Performance Studies.

Recent seminar topics include:

- Race, Art, Media, and Cultural Politics in the Adenauer Era
- Narrative as Social Action
- Indigenous Cultures and German Literature
- Selfhood in German Literature and Culture
- Queer Literature
- Early Modern Nuremberg
- L2 Interactional Competence
- Marxian Cultural Criticism
- Vergangenheitsbewältigung
- German Nature Writing
- Friedrich Nietzsche
- German Opera and German Identity
- The Past is Present: German and German-Jewish Voices of the Post-Wall Era

Opportunities abroad

Thanks to partnerships with the TU Dresden, our students have the option to pursue study and research abroad as part of their course of study.

We also help our students apply for prestigious fellowships like Fulbright and DAAD, and to design their own research abroad.

Teacher Training

More than 1,000 undergraduates enroll in the courses of OSU's thriving German program every year. As a result, graduate students have the opportunity to teach at different levels and develop advanced courses of their own design. Our rigorous teacher training ensures that students become not only well-rounded scholars, but also experienced instructors.



Funding

Students entering the M.A./Ph.D. program are guaranteed funding for a minimum of six years. New students with an M.A. starting in the Ph.D. program are guaranteed a minimum of four years of funding. Our competitive funding packages are composed of health insurance, tuition and fee waivers, and teaching fellowships. Furthermore, we provide ample support to ensure that our graduate students can present their research at professional conferences.

Our department also offers graduate students a study abroad fellowship to attend the TU Dresden. Additional fellowships are offered on a competitive basis. Our generous package combined with the moderate cost of living in Columbus, makes our graduate students among the best-funded in the United States.

Mentoring & Placement

Careful mentoring and small classes ensure that our students are supported throughout the graduate program, from coursework through the dissertation to the job market.

We are proud of our academic placement record and publish a full list online. Our graduates work across the country at large universities and small colleges and in fields outside the academy. In the past two years, our graduates started positions at the University of New Hampshire, the University of Colorado, Boulder, Ohio State, Google, and Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Faculty Expertise

M. Birkhold: Law and literature, ecocriticism, German opera, Goethezeit, gender

K. Byram: Narrative theory, ecocriticism, gender and cultural memory, post-war literature

 $\mbox{{\bf J.}}$ $\mbox{{\bf Davidson:}}$ film aesthetics and history, $\mbox{{\bf German}}$ feature and avantgarde, adaptations

A. Grotans: Paleography, philology, Eastern Franks, language contact in the Middle Ages

R. Holub: Heine, Nietzsche, Marx, Habermas, intellectual history **M. Kaplan**: Old Norse-Icelandic literature, folklore on and off the internet, legend

M. Mergenthaler: Poetry 1750-present, literary theory and criticism, ecocriticism, gender

C. D. Porter: Body Studies, Media Analysis, Intersections of German and African Diaspora Studies

P. Reitter: German-Jewish culture, history of higher education, finde-siècle Europe, translation studies

K. Richards: Science fiction, gender and national identity, cognitive cultural studies

C. Taleghani-Nikazm: Applied linguistics, conversation analysis, interactional competence

How to apply

We welcome students from across the world with strong academic records and an established interest in German. Applicants must hold a BA or international equivalent and must be proficient in English and German.

Applications must include:

- CV or resume
- Statement of purpose
- Scholarly writing sample
- 3 letters of recommendation
- TOEFL iBT, if applicable

To join the department in August 2023, apply by January 15, 2023

To be considered for a campus-wide fellowship competition, apply by December 14, 2022

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Have more questions?

Our Director of Graduate Studies, Dr. May Mergenthaler, would be happy to discuss our program with you. Contact her at:

mergenthaler.4@osu.edu

Contact any faculty member to learn more about research, collaboration, and mentoring!

