The Department of German and Russian provides students with excellent instruction in language, culture, and literature classes. The department offers the B.A. and M.A. degree in German, the B.A. degree in Russian, and two years of Hebrew instruction. Students move from the basics of the language through grammar, composition and conversation, to investigation of literary texts and media.

Faculty in the Department of German and Russian are recipients of numerous teaching awards, in addition to receiving national and international recognition for outstanding scholarship. Areas of particular strength include the Age of Goethe and Romanticism; German and Russian literature of the 19th and 20th centuries; Austrian literature; exile literature; German and Russian folklore and proverbs; and holocaust film and literature.

MAJORS
GERMAN AND RUSSIAN MAJORS
German B.A.
Russian B.A.

MINORS
GERMAN AND RUSSIAN MINORS
German
Russian

GRADUATE
German M.A.
See the online Graduate Catalogue for more information.

German Courses
GERM 001. Elementary. 4 Credits.
An introduction to all aspects of contemporary standard German: Speaking, listening, reading, writing. Cultural components include topics such as: music, art, literature, and current events.

GERM 002. Elementary. 0 or 4 Credits.
An introduction to all aspects of contemporary standard German: Speaking, listening, reading, writing. Cultural components include topics such as: music, art, literature, and current events. Prerequisite: GERM 001 or equivalent.

GERM 051. Intermediate. 3 Credits.
Comprehensive review of German grammar, vocabulary-building skills, development of reading strategies and compositional abilities, study of contemporary German culture through literary texts. Prerequisites: GERM 001, GERM 002 or equivalent.

GERM 052. SU: Intermediate. 3 Credits.
Comprehensive review of German grammar, vocabulary-building skills, development of reading strategies and compositional abilities, study of contemporary German culture through literary texts. Prerequisites: GERM 051 or equivalent.

GERM 090. Internship. 1-3 Credits.
On-site supervised work experience combined with a structured academic learning plan directed by a faculty member or a faculty-staff team in which a faculty member is the instructor of record, for which academic credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

GERM 095. Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles.

GERM 096. Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles.

GERM 097. Independent Study. 1-18 Credits.
A course which is tailored to fit the interests of a specific student, which occurs outside the traditional classroom/laboratory setting under the supervision of a faculty member, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

GERM 103. Composition & Conversation. 3 Credits.
An intensive language course concentrating on more advanced syntax, vocabulary building, and idiomatic expression through written compositions, translations, and oral presentations. Prerequisite: GERM 052 or equivalent.

GERM 104. German News Media. 3 Credits.
Analysis of journalistic style and content in news coverage of contemporary events as reported in newspapers, magazines, radio, and television in German-speaking countries. Prerequisite: GERM 052 or equivalent.

GERM 121. Culture & Civilization to 1900. 3 Credits.
Historical, intellectual, and artistic developments of German culture and civilization from Roman times through the 19th century, stressing written and oral work. Prerequisite: GERM 052 or equivalent.

GERM 122. 20th C Culture & Civilization. 3 Credits.
Social, cultural, and political developments in the German-speaking countries since 1900, stressing written and oral components. Prerequisite: GERM 052 or equivalent.

GERM 155. German Lit in Context I. 3 Credits.
Introduction to German Literature from the Enlightenment through Realism with attention to political, philosophical, musical, and artistic developments. Authors may include Goethe, Schiller, Novalis, Hoffmann, Heine, and Buchner. Prerequisite: GERM 052.

GERM 156. German Lit in Context II. 3 Credits.
Study of 20th century German literature in historical and cultural contexts. Introduction to important topics and stylistic elements through representative texts from prevalent literary movements. Prerequisite: GERM 052.
GERM 190. Internship. 1-18 Credits.
On-site supervised work experience combined with a structured academic learning plan directed by a faculty member or a faculty-staff team in which a faculty member is the instructor of record, for which academic credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

GERM 192. Teaching Assistantship. 1-3 Credits.
Undergraduate student service as a teaching assistant, usually in an introductory-level course in the discipline, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

GERM 195. Intermediate Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles.

GERM 196. Intermediate Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles.

GERM 197. Independent Study. 1-18 Credits.
A course which is tailored to fit the interests of a specific student, which occurs outside the traditional classroom/laboratory setting under the supervision of a faculty member, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

GERM 198. Undergraduate Research. 1-18 Credits.
Undergraduate student work on individual or small team research projects under the supervision of a faculty member, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

GERM 201. Methods Research & Bibliography. 3 Credits.
Introduction to tools and methods of research, including major bibliographical sources, reference works, dictionaries, editions, and journals concerned with German literature, language, and folklore. Prerequisite: Two 100-level courses.

GERM 202. Expository Writing. 3 Credits.
Improvement of writing skills through work with authentic texts from different content areas (literature, media, science, business). Emphasis on stylistic development and sophisticated vocabulary-building. Prerequisite: Two 100-level courses.

GERM 213. History of the German Language. 3 Credits.
Historical and linguistic development of the German language from Indo-European to the present, emphasizing sound shifts, the 16th century, and the modern age. Prerequisite: GERM 155 or GERM 156; one other 100-level course.

GERM 214. Middle Ages. 3 Credits.
Analysis and discussion of several “Minnesang” poets (esp. Walther and Neidhart), the Nibelungenlied, the courtly epics Erec, Parzival, and Tristan, and the satirical epic Helmbrecht. Prerequisite: GERM 155 or GERM 156; one other 100-level course.

GERM 225. Goethe. 3 Credits.
Study of Goethe’s accomplishments in poetry, drama, and the novel during major phases of his literary career: “Sturm und Drang,” Classicism, and Romanticism. Prerequisite: GERM 155 or GERM 156 and one other 100-level course.

GERM 226. Schiller. 3 Credits.
Major attention will be paid to Schiller’s development as a dramatist (from Die Rauber to Wilhelm Tell) as well as to his contributions to German Classicism. Prerequisite: GERM 155 or GERM 156 and one other 100-level course.

GERM 237. 19th-Century Prose. 3 Credits.
Literary and stylistic analysis of prose works by Tieck, Kleist, Stifter, Gotthelf, Droste-Hulshoff, Storm, Keller, and Hauptmann with emphasis on Romanticism, Poetic Realism, and Naturalism. Prerequisite: GERM 155 or GERM 156 and one other 100-level course.

GERM 247. German Lit from 1890 to 1945. 3 Credits.
Naturalism, Symbolism, Expressionism and subsequent trends through readings of authors such as Hauptmann, Rilke, Kaiser, Kafka, Mann, and Brecht. Prerequisite: GERM 155 or GERM 156 and one other 100-level course.

GERM 248. Contemporary German Literature. 3 Credits.
Literary movements and their major representatives from 1945 to the present, including relevant sociopolitical, intellectual, and cultural aspects. Prerequisite: GERM 155 or GERM 156 and one other 100-level course.

GERM 251. German Folklore. 3 Credits.
Verbal folklore genres (fairy tales, legends, folk songs, and proverbs) treated in their relation to literature, mass media, and popular culture. Prerequisite: GERM 155 or GERM 156 and one other 100-level course.

GERM 263. German Romanticism. 3 Credits.
Study of major works by authors such as Friedrich Schlegel, Novalis, Brentano, Hoffmann, and Eichendorff in their literary, artistic, philosophical, and sociopolitical contexts. Prerequisite: GERM 155 or GERM 156 and one other 100-level course.

GERM 271. Proverbs. 3 Credits.
Diachronic and synchronic survey of German proverbs, proverbial expressions, and wellerisms, emphasizing their use and function in literature, art, mass media, advertisements, and oral communication. Prerequisite: GERM 155 or GERM 156 and one other 100-level course.

GERM 273. German Intellectual Movements. 3 Credits.
A survey of developments in art, music, philosophy, and social thought from the Enlightenment to 1945, with particular attention to their impact on German literature. Prerequisite: GERM 155 or GERM 156 and one other 100-level course.

GERM 275. Fin-de-Siecle. 3 Credits.
Prevalent literary and intellectual movements at the turn of the 20th century in their historical, sociopolitical, and cultural contexts. Study of Nietzsche, Freud, Rilke, Hofmannsthall, Schnitzler, and Mann. Prerequisite: GERM 155 or GERM 156 and one other 100-level course.
GERM 276. Brecht & the Modern Drama. 3 Credits.
Brecht’s revolutionary concept of “epic theatre” in theory and practice and its influence on subsequent dramatists, including Durrenmatt, Frisch, Handke, Hochhuth, Muller, and Weiss. Prerequisite: GERM 155 or GERM 156 and one other 100-level course.

GERM 279. German Short Story after 1945. 3 Credits.
Aesthetic and thematic evolution of the short story and its relation to historical, political, and cultural developments from 1945 to the present. Prerequisite: GERM 155 or GERM 156 and one other 100-level course.

GERM 281. Sem in Lit Genre, Period, Theme. 3 Credits.
Study of a literary genre, period, or theme through close readings of representative texts supplemented by lectures and reports on sociocultural context. May be repeated. Prerequisite: GERM 155 or GERM 156 and one other 100-level course.

GERM 282. Sem on Particular Author. 3 Credits.
Study of author(s) through close readings of representative texts supplemented by lectures and reports on the works’ socio-cultural context. May be repeated. Prerequisite: GERM 155 or GERM 156 and one other 100-level course.

GERM 290. Internship. 1-18 Credits.
On-site supervised work experience combined with a structured academic learning plan directed by a faculty member or a faculty-staff team in which a faculty member is the instructor of record, for which academic credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

GERM 292. Teaching Assistantship. 1-3 Credits.
Undergraduate student service as a teaching assistant, usually in an introductory-level course in the discipline, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

GERM 295. Advanced Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles.

GERM 296. Advanced Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles.

GERM 297. Independent Study. 1-18 Credits.
A course which is tailored to fit the interests of a specific student, which occurs outside the traditional classroom/laboratory setting under the supervision of a faculty member, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

GERM 298. Undergraduate Research. 1-18 Credits.
Undergraduate student work on individual or small team research projects under the supervision of a faculty member, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

Russian Courses

RUSS 001. Elementary Russian. 4 Credits.
An introduction to all aspects of contemporary standard Russian: speaking, listening, reading, writing. Cultural components include topics such as music, art, literature, and current events. No previous knowledge of Russian needed for RUSS 001.

RUSS 002. Elementary Russian. 4 Credits.
An introduction to all aspects of contemporary standard Russian: speaking, listening, reading, writing. Cultural components include topics such as music, art, literature, and current events. Prerequisite: RUSS 001 or equivalent.

RUSS 051. Intermediate Russian. 4 Credits.
Continued practical work in all language skills (speaking, listening, reading, writing), with more analysis of the structure of Russian. Continuation of cultural components. Prerequisite: RUSS 001, RUSS 002.

RUSS 052. Intermediate Russian. 4 Credits.
Continued practical work in all language skills (speaking, listening, reading, writing), with more analysis of the structure of Russian. Continuation of cultural components. Prerequisite: RUSS 051.

RUSS 090. Internship. 1-3 Credits.
On-site supervised work experience combined with a structured academic learning plan directed by a faculty member or a faculty-staff team in which a faculty member is the instructor of record, for which academic credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

RUSS 095. Introductory Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles.

RUSS 096. Introductory Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles.

RUSS 097. Independent Study. 1-18 Credits.
A course which is tailored to fit the interests of a specific student, which occurs outside the traditional classroom/laboratory setting under the supervision of a faculty member, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

RUSS 101. Phonology. 3 Credits.
Practical work on Russian intonation, element order, and phonetics, using primarily Russian materials. Classroom and language laboratory work. May be taken together with RUSS 052. Prerequisite: RUSS 052 or concurrent enrollment in RUSS 052.

RUSS 121. Composition & Conversation. 3 Credits.
Continued practical work on all four language skills. Emphasis on oral and written self-expression. Presentations and compositions based on Russian-language media and literature. Prerequisite: RUSS 052.

RUSS 122. Composition & Conversation. 3 Credits.
Continued practical work on all four language skills. Emphasis on oral and written self-expression. Presentations and compositions based on Russian-language media and literature. Prerequisite: RUSS 052.

RUSS 141. Reading Comprehension. 3 Credits.
Development of contextual strategies for reading authentic texts on a number of content areas, primarily expository texts from Russian newspapers, magazines, historical and scientific documents. Prerequisite: RUSS 052.
RUSS 142. Listening Comprehension. 3 Credits.
Intensive directed aural work with authentic Russian-language media (especially television, radio, and films), supplemented by work on vocabulary development and listening strategies. Prerequisite: RUSS 052.

RUSS 161. Russian Lexicology. 3 Credits.
Study of Russian word roots and derivational morphology to increase vocabulary recognition and retention, building on correspondences with English/Latinic equivalent roots where possible. Prerequisite: RUSS 052.

RUSS 190. Internship. 1-18 Credits.
On-site supervised work experience combined with a structured academic learning plan directed by a faculty member or a faculty-staff team in which a faculty member is the instructor of record, for which academic credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

RUSS 191. Teaching Assistantship. 1-3 Credits.
Undergraduate student service as a teaching assistant, usually in an introductory level course in the discipline, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

RUSS 195. Intermediate Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles.

RUSS 196. Intermediate Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles.

RUSS 197. Independent Study. 1-18 Credits.
A course which is tailored to fit the interests of a specific student, which occurs outside the traditional classroom/laboratory setting under the supervision of a faculty member, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

RUSS 198. Undergraduate Research. 1-18 Credits.
Undergraduate student work on individual or small team research projects under the supervision of a faculty member, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

RUSS 201. Survey of Russian Literature. 3 Credits.
Readings and discussions about Russian literature to the rise of modernism. Particular attention to the social and historical context of the 19th century novel. Prerequisite: RUSS 052. WLIT 118 recommended.

RUSS 202. Survey 20th Century Russ Lit. 3 Credits.
Readings and discussions about Russian literature from the rise of modernism to present. Particular attention to function of literature in Soviet society. Prerequisite: RUSS 052. WLIT 118 recommended.

RUSS 221. Cult & Civ to 1905 Revolution. 3 Credits.
Social, cultural, and political institutions from the time of Peter the Great to the 1905 revolution. Particular attention to Russian music, art, and literature. Prerequisite: RUSS 052.

RUSS 222. Cult & Civ in the 20th Century. 3 Credits.
Social, cultural, and political institutions from the 1905 revolution to the present. Particular attention to tensions between official and unofficial culture during the Soviet period. Prerequisite: RUSS 052.

RUSS 251. Russian News Media. 3 Credits.
Analysis of journalistic style and content in news coverage of contemporary events as reported in Russian newspapers and radio and television broadcasts. Prerequisite: RUSS 052 ,RUSS 141, or RUSS 142 recommended.

RUSS 281. Sem on Sel Lit Genre or Period. 3 Credits.
Study of a literary genre or period through close readings of representative texts supplemented by lectures and reports on sociocultural context. May be repeated. Prerequisite: One 100-level Russian course.

RUSS 282. Seminar on Selected Author(s). 3 Credits.
Study of author(s) through close readings of representative texts supplemented by lectures and reports on the works' sociocultural context. May be repeated. Prerequisite: One 100-level Russian course.

RUSS 290. Internship. 1-18 Credits.
On-site supervised work experience combined with a structured academic learning plan directed by a faculty member or a faculty-staff team in which a faculty member is the instructor of record, for which academic credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

RUSS 291. Teaching Assistantship. 1-3 Credits.
Undergraduate student service as a teaching assistant, usually in an introductory level course in the discipline, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

RUSS 295. Independent Study. 1-18 Credits.
A course which is tailored to fit the interests of a specific student, which occurs outside the traditional classroom/laboratory setting under the supervision of a faculty member, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

RUSS 296. Undergraduate Research. 1-18 Credits.
Undergraduate student work on individual or small team research projects under the supervision of a faculty member, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

RUSS 297. Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See schedule of courses for specific titles.