

Interested in This Major?

Current Students: Visit us in Curtin Hall, Room 896, call us at 414-229-4547, or email wippling@uwm.edu

Not a UWM Student yet? Call our Admissions Counselor at 414-229-7711 or email let-sci@uwm.edu

web: uwm.edu/german



Why Study German?

Germany lies in the heart of Europe where more people speak German as their native language than any other language in Europe. It has a population of about 83 million and is the most populous European nation. German is an official language of Austria, Switzerland, Luxembourg and Liechtenstein and is spoken in northern Italy, eastern Belgium, the Netherlands, Denmark, eastern France, parts of Poland, the Czech Republic, Russia and Romania. German is the third most studied foreign language in the world; in Europe and Japan, it is the second most popular.

Why is German such a popular language? As a nation, Germany has one of the top ten world economies and is the home of the European Bank. It exports more than any other nation besides the United States. Large industries in Germany include automotive, steel/foundry, shipbuilding, electronics, chemical, and biochemical sectors. Germany also is a leading nation in green technology and architecture.

German is a key language in international business, politics, education, communication and finance

Knowledge of German culture and language opens a wide array of career doors. It is a pivotal language in the study of engineering, science, math, business, medicine, philosophy, literature, music, art, theater, psychology, anthropology and sociology. Moreover, studying a second language has been shown to increase a person's reading and listening comprehension, critical thinking skills, reasoning and logic – all of which are valuable and transferable skills across fields of study and careers.

German at UWM

The German program at UWM is more than just instruction in language. A wide array of culture, literature, linguistic, civilization and professional (e.g. Business German) courses also are offered. During any semester, you will find beginning, intermediate and advanced language, composition and conversation courses.

Students who have never taken German begin by taking German 101. Students who have previously studied German may begin at a more advanced level by taking a placement test. Students who earn a B or better in the language class in which they are placed receive retroactive credits (up to 14 depending on placement).

Major Requirements

Students must complete German 204 (fourth semester German) or its equivalent before declaring the major. Students then work with an advisor to customize their planned program around an area of interest, such as literature, culture, linguistics or business.

The major requires a minimum of 30 credits in courses numbered 300 or above, at least 18 of them taken in residence at UWM. No more than 9 credits per semester will be accepted from study abroad. To earn the major students must successfully complete:

Course #	Course Title
German 331	Intermediate German Grammar and Usage
German 332	Intermediate Conversation and Composition
German 333	Analysis of German Texts
German 334	Intro to German Literature and Culture
4 additional courses taught in German at the 300 to 500 level	
Two courses at the 600 level	
A research course	
An advanced language proficiency exam	

Minor and Business Minor

There are two options for a German minor. The standard minor requires a minimum of 21 credits in courses numbered 300 or above, at least 9 of them taken in residence at UWM. The four required courses are:

Course #	Course Title
German 331	Intermediate German Grammar and Usage
German 332	Intermediate Conversation and Composition
German 333	Analysis of German Texts
German 334	Intro to German Literature and Culture

The Business German minor is ideal for students interested in German business concepts, perhaps in preparation for an international business career. In addition to German language and culture classes, students take accounting or marketing classes from UWM's Lubar School of Business. Eighteen credits are required including:

Course #	Course Title
German 331	Intermediate German Grammar and Usage
German 332	Intermediate Conversation and Composition
German 333	Analysis of German Texts
German 360	German for the Global World
German 672	German for Professional Purposes
One of the following:	
BusAdm 201	Intro to Financial Accounting
BusAdm 330	Organizations
BusAdm 360	Principles of Marketing

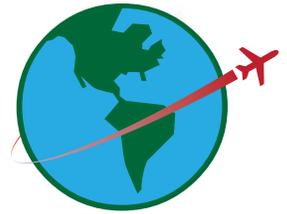
Scholarships and Grants

Students are encouraged to explore all options with the Office of Financial Aid and the College of Letters and Science. Additionally, students who intend to study abroad should consult with the Center for International Education. Many grants and scholarships are available to help fund overseas experiences.

Study Abroad

Studying abroad can be a life-changing experience for anyone, but particularly for students of language and culture. It is about much more than just visiting another country. The experience provides personal, educational, professional, and social enrichment

beyond what can be taught in a classroom. While earning credits towards their degree, students simultaneously are building their resumé, seeing new perspectives, building their language skills, gaining self-confidence, and practicing flexibility as they adapt to a new environment.



UWM opportunities are available in Germany (Frankfurt, Giessen, Marburg, and Kassel), Austria, and other European countries. Options include full year, one-semester or multi-week experiences. Students can also participate in non-UWM programs for which transfer credit may be available. Contact the UWM Center for International Education for more information.

Events and Activities

Wisconsin's rich German heritage provides many opportunities for educational or social activities. The UWM German Club meets weekly to discuss German culture and tradition. Faculty and students regularly participate in Milwaukee's annual German Fest at the lakefront. Held each July, the festival features food, drink, educational booths, dance, music, crafts, traditional clothing and more.

Besides English and Spanish, German is the most commonly spoken language in Wisconsin*

Revised 07/2016



* According to data from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey, 2013

This sample four-year plan shows just one possible pathway to earning a degree with this major in four years. This plan **does not** replace the advice of your advisor, and students are cautioned to meet regularly with their advisor to create a personalized plan that matches their particular circumstances. This plan also follows the degree requirements for students who began their college education in Fall of 2013 or later. If you started college prior to Fall of 2013, your degree requirements may be different.

Degree Requirements (brief summary):

1. English Proficiency and UWM Oral and Written Communication (OWC) GER - English 102 (fulfills Part A) and one OWC-Part B course.
2. Math Proficiency, UWM Quantitative Literacy (QL) GER, and Formal Reasoning – two courses can satisfy all three requirements. Some courses have prerequisites, however, so a student may end up taking more than two total classes depending on his/her placement test scores. Students will usually take Math 103, 105, or 108 AND three credits in either a 200-level or above math course, Philosophy 211, or an approved Letters & Science statistics course.
3. Foreign Language – 4 semesters of a single Foreign Language (or 3 semesters of one language and 2 semesters of another language) (May be satisfied through 4 years of a single Foreign Language in high school.)
4. L&S Humanities (HU) – 12 credits
5. L&S Social Sciences – 12 credits
6. L&S Natural Science – 12 credits including one laboratory
7. L&S International – 9 credits usually accomplished in conjunction with Humanities and/or Social Science courses
8. UWM Arts GER – 3 credits
9. UWM Cultural Diversity GER – 3 credits usually accomplished in conjunction with a Humanities or Social Science course
10. 120 credits including 90 credits in L&S and with 36 of the 90 credits in L&S upper-level (numbered above 300) courses
11. Complete the German major requirements
 - 30 credits in courses numbered 300 or above with at least 18 completed at UWM
 - All of German 331, 332, 333, and 334
 - 4 German Elective courses at the 300 to 500 level
 - 2 German Elective courses at the 600 level
 - 1 Research course – German 488, 525, 641, 643, 645, 647, 649, 651, 671, 672, or 681 (this class may also count toward above requirements)

Sample Four Year Plan:

There are hundreds of courses that satisfy various requirements and courses can count towards more than one requirement. For example, most German 400-level courses count towards the major and as a humanities. (This sample assumes some high school German was taken and that the student placed into third-semester German and college-level Math and English.)

	Semester 1	Semester 2
Year 1	English 101	QL-B course
	Math 103 or 105 (QL-A)	English 102 (OWC-A)
	German 203	German 204
	L&S Social Science	L&S Natural Science
	L&S Humanities, not German	Arts GER
Year 2	L&S Humanities/Cultural Diversity	Formal reasoning course
	German 331	German 332
	L&S Social Science	L&S Natural Science
	L&S Natural Science with lab	L&S Social Science
	OWC-B course	Elective
Year 3	German 333	German 334
	German upper-level (HU)	German upper-level
	L&S Social Science	L&S upper-level
	L&S upper-level	German upper-level course
	L&S Natural Science	Elective
Year 4	German upper-level course	German 600-level
	German 600-level (HU)	German research course
	L&S elective	L&S elective
	L&S elective	Elective
	Elective	Elective

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