Bachelor of Arts (BA) Degree with a Major in German Studies

Program Learning Outcomes for the BA Degree with a Major in German Studies

Upon completing the BA degree with a major in German Studies, students will be able to:

1. Display an understanding of the main lines of cultural, political, and social thought in German history from early modern times to the present in the European context based on original sources.
2. Analyze and evaluate key texts and documents of German cultural and political history such as literature, philosophy, art, film, and electronic media by way of close reading, critical interpretation and an awareness of the document's rhetorical and media-specific features.
3. Identify and compare different authors and texts within the different traditions they form a part of as well as their impact and legacy within both the national and international context.
4. Conduct research in the field of German Studies on topics chosen independently and to represent and communicate their findings clearly and coherently both in writing and oral presentation.

Requirements for the BA Degree with a Major in German Studies

For general university requirements, see Graduation Requirements (ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements). Students pursuing the BA degree with a major in German Studies must complete:

- A minimum of 10 courses (30 credit hours) to satisfy major requirements.
- A minimum of 120 credit hours to satisfy degree requirements.
- A minimum of 60 credit hours outside of major requirements.
- A minimum of 8 courses (24 credit hours) taken at the 300-level or above.
- A maximum of 4 courses (12 credit hours) from study abroad or transfer credit. For additional departmental guidelines regarding transfer credit, see the Policies tab.

German Studies at Rice is a research-centered and undergraduate-focused program with internationally renowned faculty. Courses are offered in both German and English. The program covers German history, literature, and culture, from the seventeenth century to the present, with a strong emphasis on Germany's role in a wider European and transatlantic context. Particular departmental strengths are in the areas of modern intellectual history, 18th- to 20th-century literature and philosophy, film and media studies, as well as political theory. The close connection between research and teaching lies at the core of the curriculum. For more information please see the Classical and European Studies website at https://ces.rice.edu/.

The courses listed below satisfy the requirements for this major. In certain instances, courses not on this official list may be substituted upon approval of the major's academic advisor, or where applicable, the department's Director of Undergraduate Studies. (Course substitutions must be formally applied and entered into Degree Works by the major's Official Certifier (https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/degreeworks/officialcertifier/). Students and their academic advisors should identify and clearly document the courses to be taken.

### Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Credit Hours Required for Major in German Studies</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Credit Hours Required for the BA Degree with a Major in German Studies</td>
<td>120</td>
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### Degree Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Core Requirements</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>GERM 263</td>
<td>SECOND YEAR GERMAN I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GERM 264</td>
<td>SECOND YEAR GERMAN II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GERM 301</td>
<td>THIRD YEAR GERMAN I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GERM 302</td>
<td>THIRD YEAR GERMAN II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective Requirements</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Select 6 elective courses from departmental (GERM) course offerings</td>
<td>18</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Total Credit Hours Required for the Major in German Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Additional Credit Hours to Complete BA Degree Requirements</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>University Graduation Requirements (ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Credit Hours</td>
<td>120</td>
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</table>

### Footnotes and Additional Information

* Includes coursework completed as distribution credit, FWIS, LPAP, upper-level, residency (hours taken at Rice), 60 hours outside of the major (if applicable), and any additional academic program requirements. The “hours outside of the major” requirement may include all of the above university requirements.

1 Both GERM 263 and GERM 264 may be replaced by an eight-week intensive summer language course at the University of Leipzig, Germany. The Leipzig Summer Program course counts toward the German Studies major at Rice with 6 credit hours. For more information, see the Opportunities tab.

2 GERM 301 and GERM 302 may be replaced by two four-week summer language courses at the University of Leipzig, Germany. For more information, see the Opportunities tab.

3 To fulfill the remaining German Studies major requirements, students must complete a total of 6 additional courses (18 credit hours) from departmental (GERM) course offerings as follows: 4 courses (12 credit hours) at the 300-level or above, and 2 courses (6 credit hours) at the 400-level. Please note: any elective course at the 300-level may be replaced by a course at a higher level.

### Courses Offered in English

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GERM 322</td>
<td>MARX, FREUD, EINSTEIN: FOREBEARERS OF MODERNITY</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUMA 322</td>
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</table>
Distribution Credit Information

Following departmental transfer credit guidelines:

Students pursuing the major in German Studies should be aware of the credit possibilities.

Students are encouraged to meet with their director (and/or the program's official transfer credit advisor) on an individual case-by-case basis. Requests for transfer credit will be considered by the program towards the major.

The Office of Academic Advising maintains the university's official list of transfer credit advisors on their website: https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/distribution_credit. Students are responsible for ensuring that they meet graduation requirements by completing coursework designated as distribution at the time of course registration.

Distribution courses from the Department of Classical and European Studies are broad in theme and scope and provide students with a substantial inquiry into literature, art, media, history, thought, and/or politics, including specific national traditions, linguistic contexts, and historical periods. Such courses involve a broad and often interdisciplinary spectrum of knowledge, providing students with the tools for thinking critically about the formation of European culture, its colonial past, and its national and linguistic traditions from antiquity to the present.

Policy for the BA Degree with a Major in German Studies

Transfer Credit

For Rice University's policy regarding transfer credit, see Transfer Credit (ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/transfer-credit). Some departments and programs have additional restrictions on transfer credit. The Office of Academic Advising maintains the university's official list of transfer credit advisors on their website: https://oaas.rice.edu. Students are encouraged to meet with their academic program's transfer credit advisor when considering transfer credit possibilities.

Departmental Transfer Credit Guidelines

Students pursuing the major in German Studies should be aware of the following departmental transfer credit guidelines:

- No more than 4 courses (12 credit hours) of transfer credit from U.S. or international universities of similar standing as Rice may apply towards the major.
- Requests for transfer credit will be considered by the program director (and/or the program's official transfer credit advisor) on an individual case-by-case basis.

Distribution Credit Information

The determination of distribution eligibility is done as part of the new course creation process (https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/courseprocess). As part of an annual roll call (https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/distribution_credit) coordinated each Spring by the Office of the Registrar, course distribution eligibility is reviewed and reaffirmed by the Dean's Offices of each of the academic schools.

Faculty and leadership in the academic schools are responsible for ensuring that the courses identified as distribution-eligible meet the criteria as set in the General Announcements (ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/#text). Students are responsible for ensuring that they meet graduation requirements by completing coursework designated as distribution at the time of course registration.

Opportunities for the BA Degree with a Major in German Studies

Academic Honors

The university recognizes academic excellence achieved over an undergraduate's academic history at Rice. For information on university honors, please see Latin Honors (ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university), summa cum laude, magna cum laude, and cum laude) and Distinction in Research and Creative Work (ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university). Some departments have department-specific Honors awards or designations.

Honors Program

German Studies offers an honors program for majors excelling in their studies. Honors work consists of two semesters of independent research under faculty supervision on a topic proposed by the student leading to a substantial essay (GERM 493 in fall, GERM 494 in spring). Outstanding students are presented annually with the Max Freund Prize.

The Leipzig Summer Program

The Department of German Studies strongly encourages intermediate-level students of German to attend an eight-week, intensive language course at the University of Leipzig’s renowned Herder Institute. The Leipzig course can be used to replace the sequence GERM 263 and GERM 264 or GERM 301 and GERM 302, and it will count toward the German Studies major at Rice with 6 credit hours. Through several generous endowments, the department offers the Leipzig Fellowships that can be used for travel, housing, and tuition expenses in Leipzig.

Details about the Leipzig Summer Program, including information about housing, can be found at https://ces.rice.edu/ and https://www.interdaf.uni-leipzig.de/. Students must apply directly to Leipzig-interDaF for course admission. For further information, contact the Program Advisor for German Studies, Astrid Oesmann, astrid.oesmann@rice.edu.
Additional Information
For additional information, please see the Classical and European Studies website: https://ces.rice.edu/.

See https://humanities.rice.edu/student-life for tables of fellowships, prizes, and internships/practica that may be relevant to this major.