

MSU German Program

Course Schedule 2023-24

Department of Linguistics, Languages and Cultures (LiLaC)

Designated Center of Excellence by the American Association of Teachers of German

<https://lilac.msu.edu/>

Facebook: German@MSU

Instagram: [@german_msu/](#)

Notes about courses:

- All courses are taught in German unless otherwise indicated.
 - All courses are 3 credits unless otherwise indicated.
 - Prerequisite for all 300-level courses is GRM 202.
 - Recommended background for all 400-level courses is two 300-level courses.
 - Advanced undergraduates may enroll in 800-level courses with instructor approval.
 - Advanced students may seek BA/MA dual enrollment.
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German beyond the usual coursework:

- Meet weekly for fun activities with the student-run German Club
 - Study abroad in Freiburg, Jena, or Mayen
 - Distinguish yourself with Delta Phi Alpha, the German National Honor Society
 - Meet MSU alumni with German majors
 - Collaborate with faculty on their research
 - Assist in teaching at MSU's [Community Language School](#)
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Questions? Talk with any German faculty member or Ben Davis, our departmental undergraduate advisor (davis500@msu.edu).

Summer 2023

Fall 2023

Spring 2024

SUMMER 2023

GRM 201 Second-Year German I Summer Session I (5/19 - 6/29)

Intermediate-level development of all language skills. Reading, viewing, and discussion of a broad range of cultural materials from the German-speaking world.

Sec. 730 TBA MTTh 7:00 PM-8:20 PM (online + 2 arranged)

GRM 102 First-Year German II Summer Session II (7/5 - 8/18)

Further study of German language, civilization, and culture for beginning students. Continued work on all language skills with emphasis on speaking.

Sec. 730 TBA MTTh 5:00 PM-6:20 PM (online + 2 arranged)

FALL 2023

GRM 101 First-Year German I

German language, civilization, and culture for beginning students. Work on all language skills with emphasis on speaking.

Sec. 001	TBA	MWF 9:10-10:00
Sec. 002	Schuster-Craig	TTh 10:20-11:40
Sec. 003	TBA	MWF 11:30-12:20
Sec. 730	TBA	TTh 7:00-8:20 p.m. (online)

GRM 102 First-Year German II

Further study of German language, civilization, and culture for beginning students. Continued work on all language skills with emphasis on speaking.

Sec. 001	TBA	MWF 12:40-1:30
Sec. 730	Gacs	MW 6:00-7:20 p.m. (online)

GRM 201 Second-Year German I

Intermediate-level development of all language skills. Reading, viewing, and discussion of a broad range of cultural materials from the German-speaking world.

Sec. 001	McEwen	MWF 10:20-11:10
Sec. 002	Wolff	TTh 12:40-2:00
Sec. 730	TBA	MW 7:00-8:20 p.m. (online)

GRM 202 Second-Year German II

Further intermediate-level work on all language skills, on topics such as popular music, literature, film, current events, and culture. Prerequisite for study abroad in Freiburg, Mayen, or summer internships in Germany.

Sec. 001	Banzhaf	TTh 10:20-11:40
Sec. 730	Gacs	TTh 6:00-7:20 p.m. (online)

GRM 301-304: Advanced speaking, listening comprehension, reading, and writing skills. Intensive work with authentic texts dealing with contemporary issues in the German-speaking world. Selected review of grammar and syntax. *****Students may take these and all 300-level courses in any order.*****

GRM 301 Third-Year German: Global Germany

Focus on the creation of German identity through migration, immigration, and exile. Intensive work with authentic texts on contemporary issues in the German-speaking world.

Gacs *TTh 10:20-11:40*

GRM 302 Third-Year German: Nature in Germany

The natural world and the often unnatural technologies interfering with our ecological order. Intensive work with texts and films dealing with forests, gardens, plants, natural explorers, pollution and atomic disaster.

Schuster-Craig *TTh 2:40-4:00*

GRM 342 German Literature & Culture Since 1918

Historical, social, and cultural developments in the German-speaking world since 1918 as revealed in cultural materials, including literature, essays, and film.

Handelman *MWF 11:30-12:20*

GRM 420 Advanced German

Students will maximize their language learning by examining the components of language, language use, language learning and strategies for developing language proficiency and intercultural competence. Advanced structures of German will be addressed.

Kronenberg *TTh 2:40-4:00*

GRM 445 20th Century and Contemporary German Literature: Mapping Germany

Through representations of flight and migration, of tourism and exile, of Heimweh and Fernweh, literature and film bear witness to large historical shifts in cultural, political, and geographical belonging over the past 150 years for those who call Germany 'home'. We will explore the power of these texts, as well as historical maps and other documents to tell stories about Germans' changing relationship to space and place, and we will create and/or annotate our own (digital and physical) maps to visualize and interpret the stories we read.

Mittman *TTh 1:00-2:20*

GRM 820 German Literature & Culture: Theory and Practice: From the Frankfurt School to Critical Theory

Whatever theoretical school one may belong to, literary and cultural theory is practiced today under the banner of critical theory - a term that itself has become well known, for better and

worse, beyond the academy. This course focuses on the origins and current relevance of the version of cultural critique developed by the Frankfurt School and other German-Jewish intellectuals during the Weimar Republic. We will read core texts by members and friends of the Frankfurt School (e.g., Adorno, Benjamin, Horkheimer, Kracauer, Löwenthal, Lukács, and Marcuse) as well as explore how their ideas have shaped contemporary theories of, for example, race, gender, politics and rightwing extremism, media, and the digital.

Handelman *M 3:00-5:50*

GRM 862 German Studies: Constructions of Identity – From Translation to Multilingualism

This course considers translation in its various forms – from ‘literal’ to metaphorical – and explores how the concept of translation can help us understand the relationship between language and experience that is at the heart of the literary discourse and any discussions of cultural transfer. Furthermore, we will explore the role of language in individual and societal constructions of identity. We will work with a variety of theoretical works, literary texts, and cultural products. Our discussions of translation will provide us with a foundation from which we can make connections to recent cultural debates around issues of multilingualism and “Heimat.”

Wolff *Th 3:00-5:50*

Also check out these non-GRM offerings taught by German faculty:

IAH 206 Snoop: Self, Surveillance, and Technologies of Control

Systems of collection and classification have long defined not only how we interact with information, but also how information comes to define who we are and where we belong. In this course, we’ll trace a history of surveillance to consider the diverse ways in which technologies of control structure our identity and our world.

McEwen *Online*

IAH 231B Memory Cultures: Representing the Holocaust in German, US, and Global Contexts

This course asks how the genocide that emanated from Germany became a global story and explores the complex nature of traumatic memory. Focusing on comparative contexts, a final group project offers the opportunity to probe connections between study of the Holocaust and our world today, and to develop an appreciation for the power of shared stories and the importance of personal and collective memory work in all of our lives. May count as elective credit toward the German major.

Mittman *MW 8:00-9:50 a.m.*

IAH 241C Global Cultural and Artistic Traditions: Puppetry Across Cultures

In this inquiry-based course, students will examine the cultural practice of performing objects, aka puppets, and its manifestations and roles in different cultures around the globe and throughout history and contemporary practice; think shamanistic practices and rituals to Muppets to Hip-Hop.

Banzhaf TTh 3:00-4:50

IAH 241E Creative Process: Theory and Practice with the Medium of Puppetry

Being human is being creative. Through weekly readings and discussions, as well as through an in-class collaborative artistic practice in the medium of puppetry arts, we will examine the creative process and its role in our individual lives, our communities, and the potential for its transformative power. While no previous experience in the arts is required, an openness towards experimentation and the honest exploration of creative expression is indispensable.

Banzhaf MW 3:00-4:50

SPRING 2024

GRM 101 First-Year German I

German language, civilization, and culture for beginning students. Work on all language skills with emphasis on speaking.

Sec. 001 TBA MWF 9:10-10:00
Sec. 730 TBA TTh 7:00-8:20 p.m. (online)

GRM 102 First-Year German II

Further study of German language, civilization, and culture for beginning students. Continued work on all language skills with emphasis on speaking.

Sec. 001 TBA MWF 9:10-10:00 *Sec. 003 Gacs MWF 11:30-12:20*
Sec. 002 TBA TTh 10:20-11:40 *Sec. 730 Gacs TTh 6:00-7:20 p.m. (online)*

GRM 201 Second-Year German I

Intermediate-level development of all language skills. Reading, viewing, and discussion of a broad range of cultural materials from the German-speaking world.

Sec. 001 Wolff TTh 10:20-11:40

GRM 202 Second-Year German II

Further intermediate-level work on all language skills, on topics such as popular music, literature, film, current events, and culture. Prerequisite for study abroad in Freiburg, Mayen, or summer internships in Germany.

Sec. 001 McEwen MWF 10:20-11:10
Sec. 002 Handelman TTh 12:40-2:00
Sec. 730 McEwen MW 7:00-8:20 p.m. (online)

GRM 215 Intensive Second-Year German (5 credits)

Intensive second-year German covers the same material as GRM 201 and GRM 202 at an accelerated pace. Intermediate-level development of all language skills, on topics such as popular music, literature, film, current events, and culture. Reading, viewing, and discussion of a broad range of cultural materials from the German-speaking world. Prerequisite for study abroad in Freiburg, Mayen, or summer internships in Germany.

Wolff MTWTh 9:10-10:00

GRM 311 Business German

German for the professions: Development of proficiency through readings, discussions, and assignments based on materials dealing with professional office communication, the German economic system and Germany in world trade.

Wurst TTh 4:10-5:30 (online)

GRM 325 Third-Year German: Oral Communication

Development of listening comprehension and oral communication in German beyond the intermediate level. Expansion of vocabulary, use of idiomatic expressions and review of grammatical structures relevant for speaking.

Wurst MWF 11:30-12:20

GRM 341 German Literature & Culture Before 1918: Looking for Germany

Historical, social, and cultural developments in the German-speaking world before 1918 as revealed in a variety of materials, including literature, political and philosophical texts, visual art, and other cultural artefacts.

Mittman TTh 1:00-2:20

GRM 461 Applied Linguistics for German Learners and Teachers

Overview of applied linguistic topics relevant for both students of German and future teachers of German. Issues of contemporary language use, the connection between culture and language. Overview of second language acquisition principles. Introduction to effective autodidactic or pedagogical techniques for language and culture learning.

Goertler MWF 10:20-11:10

GRM 491 Playing with Texts: Kafka, Grimm, and CNN

In this course students will stage various genres of literary German language texts as well as texts on current affairs in the medium of paper theater. Paper theater is an easily accessible, low-tech art form in which cut out figures help us act out the scripts. Imagine for example Kafka's "Metamorphosis" performed in a tiny shoebox theater. This course offers a playful way to interpret texts and gain confidence in oral communication. No previous experience in the arts or theater is required.

Banzhaf TTh 10:20-11:40

GRM 863 German Studies: Constructions of Community: GDR Cultural Studies

This seminar will explore GDR history and society through a wide range of cultural artefacts, emphasizing the ways in which cultural production not only tells the story of a specific place and time, but also helps to shape that place and time. We will study original texts and artefacts in the context of their various audiences, both before and after 1989/90, but with particular focus on gaining a deeper understanding of the complexities of a state (and society) that has largely been relegated to the dustbin of history. Moving beyond the more traditional confines of literature and film, we will also explore music, visual arts, popular culture and other countercultures. Working with such a multi-modal, multi-temporal approach operates as a lever for understanding the power of symbolic formations in the creation of cultural identities and reminds us that, far from being defunct, the GDR remains a richly relevant source of meaning for contemporary German culture.

Mittman Th 3:00-5:50

GRM 891 Special Topics in German Studies

Kronenberg M 3:00-5:50

Also check out these non-GRM offerings taught by German faculty:

IAH 209 Autopsy: Visual Culture & Body Politics

Autopsy is about seeing. More than just a post-mortem, autopsy is first defined as the action or process of seeing with one's own eyes. In this course we will concentrate on seeing with our own eyes to investigate questions like what does it mean to have a body? and what does it mean to be a body? We'll look at the body and the various ways in which it has been examined, dissected, and displayed throughout history and across media. Through a variety of media (texts, images, films) and genres (scientific, historical, literary, artistic), we'll explore the body itself as a complex cultural object, continually subject to modification by what we see and how we see it.

McEwen Online

IAH 241C Global Cultural and Artistic Traditions: Puppetry Across Cultures

In this inquiry-based course, students will examine the cultural practice of performing objects, aka puppets, and its manifestations and roles in different cultures around the globe and throughout history and contemporary practice; think shamanistic practices and rituals to Muppets to Hip-Hop.

Banzhaf TTh 3-4:50

IAH 241E Creative Process: Theory and Practice with the Medium of Puppetry

Being human is being creative. Through weekly readings and discussions, as well as through an in-class collaborative artistic practice in the medium of puppetry arts, we will examine the creative process and its role in our individual lives, our communities, and the potential for its transformative power. While no previous experience in the arts is required, an openness towards experimentation and the honest exploration of creative expression is indispensable.

Banzhaf MW 12:40-2:30

LLT 841 Topics in Second/Foreign Language Learning and Teaching: Language Program Administration

In this course we explore issues in language program administration from a theoretical, practical, and empirical perspective. We will explore issues such as curriculum design, program administration, teacher supervision and mentoring, assessment, teaching modalities, education abroad, recruitment and marketing, retention, advising, budgeting, soft skills, current issues in higher education, etc.

Goertler W 4:10-7:00 PM