

# German Studies

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German Studies at Whitman helps students develop the critical skills to be informed global citizens through the study of German language and the literature, culture, and history of the German-speaking world from a variety of academic perspectives. German language and culture are often thought to be homogenous, and the canonical literature and thinkers taught in many German Studies programs reproduce this image. Whitman's German Studies Department is committed to representing German languages and cultures in their diversity by introducing students to authors and thinkers whose different identities regarding their race, sex, gender, and class often contribute to their exclusion from the field. Students will also learn to read canonical texts and cultural products critically with regard to their elisions and appropriations of marginalized peoples and voices. German Studies courses bring German-language texts and artworks into dialogue with the challenges and priorities we find in our local and contemporary communities. We strive to understand how we can better make sense of our global and local problems by studying German texts, thought, and art.

German Studies is committed to the creation of inclusive classroom spaces where diverse perspectives can be formulated and exchanged and where collaboration is valued over competition. Collectively, we aim to suspend our judgements and come to a more differentiated and generous understanding of ourselves, our peers, and the positions we encounter in German-language cultural artifacts. Students also participate in German-speaking communities across contexts, including curricular, co-curricular, and the broader community beyond college.

Through close mentoring relationships with the German Studies faculty, students will develop the skills necessary to propose individual projects and make connections between the academic field of German Studies and their lives beyond Whitman.

## **Learning Outcomes**

### **Major-Specific Areas of Knowledge**

- Students will gain an understanding of the interdisciplinary field of German Studies, including its literary, historical, philosophical, aesthetic and other perspectives.
- Students will develop disciplinary flexibility by working within and across disciplines to explore questions related to German-speaking cultures.

### **Communication**

- Students will attain Advanced Mid level German proficiency according to the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines in all main language skills, including speaking across a variety of registers, listening, reading, and writing. Students will be able to communicate across several modes, including written, oral, presentational, and analytical.
- Students will gain advanced writing skills including project creation, management, drafting, and revision in German and English.

### **Critical Thinking**

- Students will be able to analyze and make sophisticated arguments about German-speaking texts and cultural products in German and English.
- Students will gain a high degree of information literacy, learning how to find, assess, and incorporate research materials from libraries, databases, archives, etc. into their own projects.
- Students will be able to articulate the importance of valuing linguistic and cultural diversity within the German historical and cultural context and their own cultures of origin.

**Placement in language courses:** Students with previous German language experience must take the German language placement test.

**Distribution:** Courses completed in German Studies apply to the humanities or cultural pluralism distribution areas, with the following exceptions:

No distribution: 352, 391, 392

**Total credits required to complete a German Studies major:** 36, but students who begin learning German at Whitman may have to take a total of 44, including two semesters of Elementary German.

**The German Studies major:**

- 36 Credits
- Required Courses
  - German Studies 352
  - 4 credits in a course taught in German Studies at Whitman at the 350 level or above
  - 12 credits in courses taught in German Studies at the 300 level or above
  - 18 credits of coursework that may include German Studies courses at the 200 level or above, or may be a combination of German at the 200 level or above and up to 12 credits in approved affiliated German Studies courses. Regularly approved affiliated courses in German Studies are available in a variety of departments (see below).
- Other notes
  - Up to 12 credits or transfer of study abroad credits may be accepted as German Studies with consent of the German Studies faculty.
  - German Studies allows up to eight credits in approved German Studies courses from other majors to count toward the German Studies major requirements
  - Courses taken P-D-F prior to the declaration of a language major or minor will satisfy course and credit requirements for the major or minor
  - Independent Study courses may count toward the major
- Senior Requirements
  - Senior Comprehensive Examination
    - Discussion of an assigned significant text in German literature
    - Discussion of an assigned selection of currently scholarly work in German Studies, chosen by the faculty. In the course of the examination, students will need to demonstrate engagement in the interdisciplinary field of German Studies as well as a broad knowledge of German literature, history, and culture.
- Honors
  - Students do not apply for admission to candidacy for honors
  - Accumulated at least 87 credits
  - Completed two semesters of residency at Whitman.
  - Cumulative GPA of at least 3.300 on all credits earned at Whitman College
  - Major GPA of at least 3.500
  - Complete a written thesis or research project prepared exclusively for the satisfaction of this program
  - The thesis is written in English, but students must work with texts in the original German. Because these theses are so interdisciplinary in nature, we require an outside reader whose area of academic specialization can enhance the development and assessment of the thesis. The outside reader is not necessarily from the affiliated faculty, but rather the person on the Whitman faculty who has the most expertise in the student's subject matter and is willing to serve.
  - Earn a grade of at least A- on the honors thesis or project and the honors thesis course
  - Pass the senior assessment with distinction
  - Chair of the department will notify the Registrar of students attaining Honors no later than the beginning of week 12 of the semester.
  - An acceptable digital copy of the Honors Thesis must be submitted to Penrose Library no later than Reading Day

### **The German Studies minor:**

- 20 Credits
- Required Courses
  - 12 credits in German Studies 300 level or above
  - 8 credits that may include German Studies courses at the 200 level or above or, may be a combination of German Studies courses at the 200 level or above and up to 8 credits in approved affiliated German Studies courses. Regularly approved affiliated courses in German Studies are available in a variety of departments (see below)
- Other notes
  - Up to 8 credits from other majors or minors may count toward the German Studies minor requirements
  - Courses taken P-D-F prior to declaration of the minor may be used to satisfy requirements

- Independent study credits do not count toward the minor

## German Language Sequence

### **105, 106 Elementary German**

**Fall, Spring**

**Mottram**

**4 credits**

This course sequence introduces students to the German language and German-speaking cultures through interactive instruction in speaking, listening, writing, and reading. Students explore cultural topics through history, literature, film, and comparisons to students' home cultures while being introduced to the foundations of German grammar and various modes of communication. The primary language of instruction is German, although no prior experience is assumed. This course is not appropriate for students with previous knowledge of German. Students with any previous coursework in German are required to take the German placement exam before registering. Open only to first-year, sophomores and juniors students; other students by consent of instructor. *Prerequisite for 106:* German 105.

### **205, 206 Intermediate German**

**Fall, Spring**

**Fall: Jones; Spring: Mottram**

**4 credits**

Intermediate German is a discussion-based course that deepens students' knowledge of German-speaking cultures through authentic materials in various media, including text, film, pop culture, and cross-cultural comparisons. This course provides a comprehensive review of German grammar with a special emphasis on developing students' writing skills while increasing their communicative and cultural competency through reading, speaking, and listening practice. The primary language of instruction is German. Students who have not taken German at Whitman are required to take the German placement exam before registering. *Prerequisite for 205:* German 106. *Prerequisite for 206:* German 205.

## Language Culture, & Literature

### **302 Murder, Mayhem, Madness: Crime and Justice in the German-Speaking World**

**Fall**

**Jones**

**4 credits**

What drives a person to murder? How does society assign guilt and (hopefully) achieve justice? How do historical circumstances and changes in society influence our thinking about crime and punishment? This course explores these and other questions through a study of the rich tradition of crime literature in the German speaking world from the nineteenth century to today. Students will read prose and drama texts as well as view film and theatrical productions that deal with crime, detection, and punishment, both by official and unofficial means. Students continue their linguistic and communicative development in this course with instruction in speaking, listening, and cultural competency with a focus on the development of advanced reading and writing skills. Language skills will be developed through regular readings, writing assignments, grammar exercises, student presentations, and discussion. Course taught in German. Offered every three years. *Prerequisite:* German 206 or any 300-level German course, placement exam, or consent of instructor.

### **303 German Drama: From the Bourgeois Tragedy to Bertolt Brecht**

**Not offered 2021-22**

**4 credits**

What can the stage do that the page cannot? What are the fundamental flaws of a tragic hero? What are the differences between a tragedy and a comedy? What is an epic drama? This course introduces students to German drama from the nineteenth century to today, including bourgeois tragedy and expressionist drama. Students will read plays and theoretical essays by playwrights such as Johann Wilhelm von Goethe, Bertolt Brecht, and Elfriede Jelinek, and continue their linguistic and communicative development with a focus on advanced reading and analytical writing skills. The language skills will be obtained through regular readings, writing assignments, grammar exercises, student presentations, and discussion. Course taught in German. Offered every three years. *Prerequisite:* German 206 or any 300-level German course, placement exam, or consent of instructor. *Prerequisite:* German 206 or any 300-level German course, placement exam or consent of instructor.

### **304 The German Fairy Tale: From World-Building to Nation-Building**

**Not offered 2021-22**

**4 credits**

Fairy tales are not just for children. They show us how daily life becomes magical, how national changes effect fantastical ones, and they allow us to observe literature's transformations through the ages. This course explores German folk and fairy tales from the Grimms through the art fairy tales of the Romantics and up to modern day interpretations. We study the fairy tales in the historical context of the long nineteenth century as well as from a variety of academic perspectives. Students

continue their linguistic and communicative development in this course with instruction in speaking, listening, and cultural competency with a focus on the development of advanced reading and writing skills. The language skills will be developed through regular readings, writing assignments, grammar exercises, student presentations, and discussion. Course taught in German. Offered every three years. *Prerequisite:* German 206 or any 300-level German course, placement exam, or consent of instructor.

### **307 Small Print: Short Forms in German Literature**

**Not offered 2021-22**

**4 credits**

What can short texts—both fictional and non—tell us about the society and culture from which they emerge? How do they negotiate controversial timely matters, introduce us to psychologically complex characters, or break new ground in the ways we tell stories? In this course, we read novellas, essays, speeches, blog posts and other short prose texts from across German cultural history, with special attention paid to writers who are marginalized and often left out of this history. Small Print will provide the students with an overview of literary history in the German-speaking world. We will review and practice key concepts of German grammar, as well as improve reading, speaking, and writing skills in German. Course taught in German. *Prerequisite:* German 206 or any 300-level German course, placement test or consent of instructor.

### **310 Migration and Identity in Contemporary Germany**

**Not offered 2021-22**

**4 credits**

The question of whether Germany is an “Einwanderungsland” or not is one defining political questions of the twenty-first century. The arrival of large numbers of refugees in Germany and other central European countries since the early 2000s has made this debate more urgent. This course asks what it means to be German in the globalizing world through the in-depth study of German-language texts primarily by authors with an immigration background. Authors studied may include Yoko Tawada, Abbas Khider, Zafer Senocak, Emine Özdamar, and others. In this course, literary inquiry is accompanied by the further development of high-level language skills with a focus on discussion skills, presentational language, advanced grammar, and regular writing assignments. Students will gain additional conversation practice through required weekly conversation groups with the language assistant. Course taught in German. *Prerequisite:* German Studies 206 or any 300-level German course, placement exam, or consent of instructor.

### **312 Fantasy or Nightmare? Heimat in German Culture**

**Not offered 2021-22**

**4 credits**

Heimat is perhaps the most politically and historically loaded term in the German language: it was appropriated by National-Socialism, to help reclaim German culture after World War II, and is being used by resurgent right wing movements in Germany today, only to name a few. This course traces Heimat’s roots in German culture, art, and literature since the nineteenth century and examines the way that it excludes people on the basis of their (perceived) gender, sexuality, race, religion, etc. We will criticize the concept of Heimat, reading texts by authors who are skeptical about the value or even existence of Heimat, asking where its baggage comes from, how it shapes and is shaped by German aesthetic contexts, and whether this term is useful or could be reimaged or reclaimed in contemporary German society. This course is an advanced interdisciplinary German Studies course that encourages students to challenge dominant narratives in German Culture by studying a cultural problem from a variety of perspectives. Students will also continue developing high-level German language with a focus on discussion skills, presentational language, advanced grammar, and regular writing assignments. Students will gain additional conversation practice through required weekly conversation groups with the language assistant. Course taught in German. *Prerequisite:* German Studies 206 or any 300-level German Studies course, placement exam, or consent of instructor.

### **314 Apparitions of Otherness: Primitivism and the Modern**

**Spring**

**Mottram**

**4 credits**

“I kept looking at the fetishes. I understood: I too am against everything. I too think that everything is unknown, is the enemy! Everything!” Pablo Picasso’s astounding utterance, made at the Trocadero Museum of Ethnography, is but one testament to Europe’s renewed interest in primitivism in the early 20th century. This interdisciplinary literature and culture course examines the ways in which authors, artists, and musicians responded to global tribal artifacts looted from German and other European colonies, spiritualism, animism, and the unconscious. Through close encounters with literary works by Theodor Storm and Franz Kafka, films by Werner Herzog and F.W. Murnau, the music of Wagner and Schoenberg, and paintings by Adolf Menzel and Franz Marc, we will ask what happens when we discover that the otherness frequently projected outward is found within. Students will also continue developing high-level German language with a focus on discussion skills, presentational language, advanced grammar, and regular writing assignments. Course taught in German. *Prerequisite:* German Studies 206 or any 300-level German Studies course, placement exam, or consent of instructor.

## Perspectives on the German-Speaking World

### **230 Conceiving and Re-conceiving Race**

**Fall**

**Ireland**

**4 credits**

This course adopts a genealogical approach to the project of conceiving and re-conceiving race, focusing on the history of German thought and a range of contemporary responses to it. The course is divided into four units: an overview of the Enlightenment invention of the concept of race and racial classification (Kant, Blumenbach, Herder and others); a specific examination of current debates surrounding Kant's status in the canon; and an exploration of the Nazi invention of scientific racism and its debt to the US eugenics movement. The final unit considers current discussions about race in Germany, including the Black Lives Matter movement and the rise of anti-Semitism. The course is particularly concerned to show the historical construction of the European, or "Aryan," in its positioning against Blackness and the non-phenotypical categorization of Jews as a "race," and incorporates recent critical work by Black and Jewish authors. Course taught in English. Students electing to take the German Studies section will complete some reading in the original German equivalent or consent of instructor and may complete some writing, and discussion assignments in German. May be taken for credit toward the Race and Ethnic Studies major or minor.

### **354 German Cinema Culture**

**Spring**

**Jones**

**4 credits**

How does culture cope with modernity? Do old narrative forms still work in the twentieth century? What are the limits of text and the abilities of film? What does a new medium tell us about a new time? This course grapples with these and other questions in its study of the development of cinema in Germany from early German expressionist films to present day films that grapple with contemporary cultural issues, including immigration and ongoing attempts to process German history. In studying these films, students will discuss propaganda, identity politics, film adaptation, and mass culture in context. Students will be develop film and text analysis, advanced research, and writing skills through sophisticated discussion, presentation, and writing assignments. The course is conducted in English, and readings will be available in both German and English. Students with advanced German language skills will complete reading, some writing, and discussion in German. This class will require a screening. May be taken for credit toward the Film & Media Studies major or minor. Course may not be taken for credit if German 405 was completed.

### **356 Rebels with a Cause: Rebels and Revolutionaries in the German Speaking World**

**Not offered 2021-22**

**4 credits**

This course introduces unconventional thinkers and political activists of the German-speaking world in the late nineteenth and throughout the twentieth century. From the suffragist movement and communist and anarchist theories in the Weimar Republic to dissent in the GDR and anti-imperialist critique in Western Postwar Germany via antifascist activism in Nazi Germany, students will study German history and culture through the lens of political essays, poetry and short stories. Students will read works by well-known thinkers and activists such as anarchist Rosa Luxemburg, Jewish writer Anne Frank, and RAF activist Ulrike Meinhoff, and explore texts by writers who are now mostly ignored by the literary canon, for example, the early feminist writer Elsa Asenijeff. The course is conducted in English, and readings will be available in both German and English. Students with advanced German language skills will complete reading, some writing, and discussion in German. Course may not be taken for credit if German 409 was completed.

### **358 Special Studies**

**4 credits**

Designed to permit close study of one or more authors, a movement, or a genre in German literature. Conducted in German or English, at the discretion of the instructor. *Prerequisite:* consent of instructor. Any current offerings follow. Distribution area: humanities or cultural pluralism.

### **408 Berlin: Evolution of a Metropolis**

**Not offered 2021-22**

**4 credits**

Just as Paris was "the capital of the nineteenth century," Berlin has emerged as the capital of the twentieth century. Students in this course will study the origins of the great city and discuss essential issues of memory, identity, and history. We will study literature, art and film from the nineteenth century to the present. In addition, special attention will be paid to architectural landmarks (buildings, squares, monuments) that will act as case studies in how the city's government and people process the past. This course will give students a solid grounding in twentieth century German history and literature while introducing theoretical concepts from Benjamin, Foucault, Kracauer, Simmel, and others. Class discussion,

presentations, most readings, and all written work will be done in German. *Prerequisite:* any 300-level German Studies course or consent of instructor. Offered every three years.

### **415 Imagination Now! Futures for the Non/Human**

**Not offered 2021-22**

**4 credits**

How can literature, film, and art help us to imagine alternative worlds and envision just(er) futures? What forms of radical resistance and innovative responses do writers, filmmakers and artists provide in regard to the collapse of economic and ecological systems, human and non-human displacements and other precarities caused by colonial violence, neoliberal capitalism, and climate change? This interdisciplinary course will bring contemporary texts from the German-speaking world into dialogue with ecocriticism, feminist and queer theory, postcolonial theory and critical race theory to explore how fiction can spark our imagination, allow us to think through pressing contemporary problems in innovative and critical ways, and to illustrate how German culture and thought engages with current global and transnational challenges and ideas. The writers we study imagine speculative or utopian worlds, but go beyond classic science fiction tropes. Course taught in German. *Prerequisites:* any 300-level German Studies course or consent of instructor.

### **Cross-Listed Courses**

*These courses are taught in English, but may be elected as GERM courses. Students who enroll in the German section of these courses complete some reading, writing, and discussion in German.*

### **215 Ethics after Auschwitz**

**Not offered 2021-22**

**4 credits**

This course examines the moral challenge of what it means to be ethical after Auschwitz. Using Hannah Arendt's analysis of the concentration camp as a touchstone, it includes texts by Primo Levi, Victor Klemperer, Kant, Giorgio Agamben, Karl Jaspers, and Emmanuel Levinas, as well as poems by Nelly Sachs and Paul Celan, and the film *Son of Saul*. The course is appropriate for language students at the 200-level, who will read a subsection of texts in the original German. Course taught in English. Students electing to take the German Studies section will complete some reading in the original German and may complete some writing, and discussion assignments in German. May be elected as Philosophy 215. Open to Seniors by consent of instructor only. *Prerequisite:* German 106 or proficiency equivalent or consent of instructor.

### **318 Hannah Arendt as Political Thinker**

**Fall**

**Ireland**

**4 credits**

Hannah Arendt disavowed the title of philosopher, instead describing herself as a "political thinker." This seminar will investigate what Arendt means by this description, focusing in particular on the notions of "world," "natality," and what she terms the *vita activa*. Texts will include selections from *Origins of Totalitarianism*, *The Human Condition*, and *Eichmann in Jerusalem* as well as essays from Arendt's work on cultural theory. Course taught in English. Students will complete some reading in the original German and may complete some writing, and discussion assignments in German. May be elected as Philosophy 318. *Prerequisite:* German 106 or proficiency equivalent or consent of instructor.

### **335 Romantic Nature**

**Not offered 2021-22**

**4 credits**

Why does nature inspire us? Where did our understanding of nature come from? We have inherited our interactions with nature from a variety of sources: The Enlightenment was marked by political, intellectual, and scientific revolution and attempted to explain the world through science. The Romantics, on the other hand, reacted by trying to restore some mystery to Nature and to acknowledge its sublime power. This Nature ideal spread throughout Europe and then on to America, where European Romanticism inspired writers like Emerson, Thoreau, Whitman, and their contemporaries' nature writing, which continues to exert influence on the American understanding of the natural world. This course will look at where American Transcendentalists and Romantics found inspiration. Students will read key literary and philosophical texts of the Romantic period, focusing on Germany, England, and America and explore echoes of these movements in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries: How do the Romantics continue to influence the discourse of environmentalism in America and around the world? Is the Romantic impulse at work in the establishment of the national parks system? Can we see echoes of the Romantic Nature ideal in narratives of toxic, post-industrial landscapes? Course taught in English. Students electing to take the German Studies section will complete some reading in the original German and may complete some writing, and discussion assignments in German. May be elected as Environmental Studies 335. *Prerequisite:* any 300-level German Studies class or consent of instructor.

### 339 Writing Environmental Disaster

Spring

Jones

4 credits

From natural disasters (earthquakes, floods, storms) to man-made ecological catastrophe (nuclear accidents, oil spills, the thinning ozone layer), environmental disaster inspires fear, rage, and action. This course will focus on fiction and non-fiction that meditates on these events and our reactions to them. We will examine the ways in which literature and the other arts depict disaster, how natural disaster descriptions differ from those of man-made environmental crisis, whether humans can coexist peacefully with nature or are continually pitted against it, and how literature's depiction of nature changes with the advent of the toxic, post-industrial environment. Authors discussed may include Kleist, Goethe, Atwood, Ozeki, Carson, Sebald, and others. Course taught in English. Students electing to take the German Studies section will complete some reading in the original German and may complete some writing, and discussion assignments in German. May be elected as Environmental Studies 339. *Prerequisite:* any 300-level German Studies class or consent of instructor.

### 422 Heidegger's Being and Time

Not offered 2021-22

4 credits

Martin Heidegger's *Being and Time* (1927) is arguably one of the most groundbreaking works of philosophy published in the 20th century. This seminar is an intensive exploration of Heidegger's most important conceptual innovations in that work. These innovations include the relationship between Dasein, care, and world; the analysis of being-toward-death, anxiety, and the call of conscience; and the "destructuring" of the Western philosophical tradition. The seminar will be focused on the close reading of *Being and Time* supplemented by other primary and secondary sources intended to facilitate the understanding of basic terms and concepts. Course taught in English. Students will complete some reading in the original German and may complete some writing, and discussion assignments in German. May be elected as Philosophy 422. *Prerequisites:* German 106 and one philosophy course at the 200-level or above or consent of instructor.

### Approved Affiliated Courses

*These courses are taught in English in other departments, but deal with a significant amount of material related to the German speaking world.*

Environmental Studies 308 *(Re)Thinking Environment*  
Environmental Studies 335 *Romantic Nature*  
Environmental Studies 339 *Writing Environmental Disaster*  
History 150 *Comrades come rally! Socialism and European Society*  
History 276 *Europe: Global Dreams, National Nightmares, 1871-1945*  
History 277 *Revolutionary Europe: Democracy Rising*  
History 278 *Twentieth Century Europe*  
History 279 *ST: Post 45 Europe: Rebuilding from Zero Hour*  
History 339 *Modern Germany: Imagining a Nation?*  
Music 298 *Music History II: Classical and Romantic Periods*  
Music 326 *Form and Analysis*  
Philosophy 215 *Ethics after Auschwitz*  
Philosophy 216 *Cosmopolitanism, Citizenship and Belonging*  
Philosophy 225 *Concepts of Nature in Modern European Philosophy*  
Philosophy 318 *Hannah Arendt as Political Thinker*  
Philosophy 322 *Kant's Moral Philosophy*  
Philosophy 329 *Wittgenstein*  
Philosophy 338 *Hegel's Moral and Political Philosophy*

Philosophy 351 *What is the Human Being?*  
Philosophy 422 *Heidegger's Being and Time*  
Politics 122 *Introduction to Modern European Political Theory*  
Religion 219 *Modern Jewish Thought*  
Religion 245 *Jewish Ethics*  
Religion 291 *Animals, Ethics, and Religion*  
Religion 301 *Reason and Madness: Religion and Ethics from Kant to Nietzsche*

## Independent Study and Thesis Courses

### 200-204 Topics in Applied German Studies

#### 1-2 credits

A course meeting once per week, designed to provide students with supplementary language practice. May be offered in conjunction with an English-language course on a German cultural topic or as a stand-alone course. One- to two credits, depending on course requirements. *Prerequisite:* German 205. Distribution area: humanities or cultural pluralism. Any current offerings follow.

#### 200 ST: Traces of Destruction: The Rings of Saturn

Spring

Ireland

2 credits

This single-text course focuses on W.G. Sebald's 1995 masterpiece "The Rings of Saturn." Structured as a series of ten walks along the eastern coast of England, the book follows the "traces of destruction" written into the landscape, which includes environmental devastation, the history of European colonialism, and Germany's perpetration of genocide. The book's estranged, quasi-autobiographical narration is a haunting exploration of history, memory, and scarcely nameable horror. The course is broadly interdisciplinary, and it will feature guest visits by a range of faculty. Taught in English; students electing to take the German Studies section will complete some reading in the original German and may complete some writing and discussion assignments in German. Distribution area: humanities.

### 300-301 Topics in Applied German Studies

#### 1-4 credits

Any current offerings follow.

#### 352 Cracking the Code: German Studies Research Methods

Fall

Ireland

2 credits

Academic research projects require planning and specialized skills. This senior seminar introduces advanced German Studies students to the research and writing process including instruction on how to design interesting research projects, find and use a variety of materials from the library and relevant databases both in English and German, organize their research, cite properly, and plan for writing. Students will design and execute an independent research project. This course is required for German Studies majors. *Prerequisite:* any 300-level German Studies course or consent of instructor.

#### 387, 388 Special Studies

#### 4 credits

Designed to permit close study of one or more authors, a movement, or a genre in German literature. Conducted in German or English, at the discretion of the instructor. *Prerequisite:* consent of instructor. Any current offerings follow. Distribution area: humanities or cultural pluralism.

#### 391, 392 Independent Study

Fall, Spring

Staff

1-3 credits

Directed reading and preparation of a critical paper or papers on a topic suggested by the student. The project must be approved by the staff. The number of students accepted for the course will depend on the availability of the staff. *Prerequisite:* consent of instructor.

#### 400 Advanced Special Studies

#### 4 credits

Designed to permit close study of one or more authors, a movement, or a genre in German literature. Conducted in German. *Prerequisite:* any 300-level German Studies course or consent of instructor. Any current offerings follow. Distribution area: humanities or cultural pluralism.

**492 Senior Thesis**

**Fall, Spring**

**Staff**

**4 credits**

In-depth research concluding in the preparation of an undergraduate senior thesis on a specific topic in German studies. Required of German Studies majors.

**498 Honors Thesis**

**Fall, Spring**

**Staff**

**4 credits**

Designed to further independent research or project leading to the preparation of an undergraduate thesis or a project report. Required of and limited to senior honors candidates in German. *Prerequisite:* admission to honors candidacy.

The program in German Studies also includes courses in global literature. These classes are listed in the *Global Literatures* section of the catalog.