Germanic Studies at the University of Sydney

The Department

Established in the 1850s, we boast a long history of teaching and research in German. Today, we welcome an average of 300 students each year.

Our specialist language teachers are experienced in the latest methods of language-learning. All of our language units have integrated e-learning platforms for you to practice and perfect your German grammar, vocabulary, and comprehension skills.

We also specialise in German and Austrian literature from the nineteenth, twentieth, and twenty-first centuries, German and Austrian cinema, German history in the ‘long’ nineteenth century (1789–1914), teaching and research in German as a foreign language (Deutsch als Fremdsprache), and the history of ideas from 1750 to the present.

Our curriculum

Whether you are joining us as a complete beginner or have studied German to a high level in the HSC or IB, we have a major and minor that is right for you.

In the third and fourth years, you can complete practical project-based units, applying acquired knowledge to fields such as translation and German language teaching.

You can also study in Germany and Austria to enhance your language and cultural aptitude to open doors for broader career opportunities in Australia and beyond.
Study with us

Get equipped with strong German skills through our language units. Explore the history, literature, culture, and thought of the German-speaking world.

**Language studies**

**German units 1–8**
Catering to students at beginner, intermediate and advanced levels, develop and expand your listening, reading, writing, speaking, and cross-cultural competency through practical classroom activities.

**German Language and Society**
Engage with current socio-cultural issues in Germanic societies, and expand your written and spoken skills through contemporary print and (audio-)visual media.

**Translating German Culture**
Build your language skills and cultural knowledge with opportunities to exercise and practice basic translation concepts and techniques.

**Cultural specialisms**

**Topics in German Film**
Analyse select films within their political and cultural contexts from the perspectives of film theory, historical culture, and contemporary cross-cultural critique.

**Power and Protest: 20th Century Germany**
Through a variety of media, explore how conservatism, repression, and demands for freedom and democracy shaped the divide between the East and West from 1968 to 1989.

**Other cultural units might include:**
- Reading German Culture
- Gender and Sexuality in German Culture

For the complete list of units of study and more information, see Sydney Courses:
- sydney.edu.au/courses
Germanic Studies and your degree
Students of the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Advanced Studies, and other liberal studies or combined degrees can study our units as:

A major or minor
Complete 8 units (48 credit points) in Germanic Studies for a major, or 6 units (36 credit points) for a minor in one of our pathways:
- Introductory (beginner level)
- Intermediate (e.g. HSC Beginners >70 or HSC Continuers <80)
- Advanced (e.g. post-HSC Continuers >80 or HSC Extension)

Please check your respective course resolutions to ensure specific units are eligible for combined degrees.

Electives
Language units can be taken as an elective from Handbook Table S.

Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Advanced Studies (BA/BAS)
Build on your expertise with advanced coursework and project work, or Honours, in your final year through the combined four-year degree. Undertake a substantial real-world industry, community, entrepreneurship or research project. This involves a minimum of 24 credit points in 4000-level GRMN units, including at least 12 credit points in a project unit.

BA/BAS (Multilingual Translation)
Students who are studying two language majors can undertake the fourth-year multilingual translation coursework to gain professional skills in translation across three languages and high cross-cultural competency.

Dalyell Scholars program
Exclusive to students enrolled in the prestigious Dalyell Scholars stream of the BA/BAS degree, the Languages program will allow you to focus your studies on language acquisition and experiences.

Diploma of Language Studies
Study a language alongside any eligible degree. This diploma can be taken in addition to your other studies over three years.

Prizes and scholarships
We award students for outstanding performance across all learning and year levels with financial prizes.

- Austrian Embassy Prize
- Dr R. G. Crossley Memorial Prize
- The Emilie M. Schweitzer Exchange and Honours Scholarship
- Enid Watson Memorial Scholarship
- Margaret Ann Bailey Memorial Prize

For the full list and more information, visit:
- sydney.edu.au/arts/german/scholarship
Study abroad

Embark on a valuable life-changing experience in Germany or Austria. Exercise and improve your German language skills and understand cultural intricacies and societal nuances at first hand.

Short-term programs
You can go on a two to six-week program during the summer or winter break. This can include Universität Wien’s summer school for cultural-historical studies and Freie Universität Berlin’s intensive language course.

Overseas study scholarships
- Frederick Sefton Delmar Travelling Scholarship
- Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD)

Partner institutions
- Technical University Berlin
- Goethe Universität, Frankfurt
- Albert-Ludwigs-Universität, Freiburg
- Universität zu Köln, Cologne
- Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Munich
- Universität Mannheim
- Hamburg University of Applied Sciences
- Universität Wien, Vienna

For the full list of partners and more information, visit:
- sydney.edu.au/study/study-abroad-and-student-exchange.html
When I enrolled in Junior German 1, it was with the intention of learning a few practical phrases – just enough to order breakfast and get around on the train. Over the course of my degree, the Department helped me to discover a passion for foreign language, culture, and literature. By my final year I had switched majors, made plans to undertake Honours, and applied for a DAAD scholarship to study in Leipzig’s Herder Institut over the summer.

With support from the academic staff members in the Department, I applied for further study in the UK and was offered a place to study for the MPhil in Modern Languages at the University of Oxford.

“Amanda Stewart
Bachelor of Arts, First Class Honours
University Medal in Germanic Studies
Goethe Prize in German Studies for German Honours
# Sample pathways

The tables below are indicative. They show possible pathways for a major and fourth year advanced studies in Germanic Studies. They do not represent the overall degree structure and the units are examples that may change. Please see the current handbook when planning your degree pathway.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beginner</th>
<th>Intermediate</th>
<th>Advanced</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Year One</strong></td>
<td><strong>Year One</strong></td>
<td><strong>Year One</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>German 1</td>
<td>German 3</td>
<td>German 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>GRMN1001</td>
<td>GRMN2003</td>
<td>GRMN3007</td>
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<tr>
<td>German 2</td>
<td>German 4</td>
<td>German 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>GRMN1002</td>
<td>GRMN2004</td>
<td>GRMN3008</td>
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<th><strong>Year Two</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>German 3</td>
<td>German 5</td>
<td>German Language and Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>GRMN2003</td>
<td>GRMN3005</td>
<td>GRMN3009</td>
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<tr>
<td>German 4</td>
<td>German 6</td>
<td>Level 2000</td>
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<tr>
<td>GRMN2004</td>
<td>GRMN3006</td>
<td>GRMN cultural unit</td>
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<td>Level 2000</td>
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<td>Level 3000</td>
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<th><strong>Year Three</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>German 5</td>
<td>German 7</td>
<td>Translating German Culture</td>
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<tr>
<td>GRMN3005</td>
<td>GRMN3007</td>
<td>GRMN3010</td>
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<tr>
<td>German 6</td>
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<td>Level 3000</td>
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<td>GRMN3006</td>
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<th><strong>Year Four</strong></th>
<th><strong>Advanced Coursework</strong></th>
<th><strong>Honours</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Take two 4000 Level Germanic Studies project units (12 credit points in total) and two Advanced Coursework units (12 credit points in total). The remaining 24 credit points could be taken from your second major or electives.</td>
<td>Take 48 credit points of Germanic Studies Honours units. Note that if you intend to do a Bachelor of Advanced Studies Honours, you must complete two majors during your first three years, so plan your degree carefully.</td>
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Spring über deinen Schatten – lern Deutsch!

Try a new challenge (jump over your shadow) – learn German!

For more information, visit:
sydney.edu.au/courses

Additional contact details:
1800 SYD UNI (1800 793 864) (inside Australia)
+61 2 8627 1444 (outside Australia)
sydney.edu.au/ask