

Graduate Curriculum

Basic Requirements (12 units, 3 courses):

- Either Middle High German (Ger 105), Old High German (Ger 276), or Gothic (Ger 273)
- Methods (Ger 207)
- History of the German Language (Ger 270)

Language Pedagogy Requirement (6 units, 2 courses):

- Language Pedagogy I and II (Ger 350 and 351)

Comprehensiveness Requirements (20 units, 5 courses):

- Five (5) graduate courses in the department that take into account a desired specialization and the historically comprehensive QE

Further Specialization (minimum of 58 units):

- Electives chosen in the fields of specialization and outside interests (Joint PhD/Designated Emphases)
- Exam preparation (maximum of eight units)

Language Requirement

There are two options to fulfill the language requirement:

Option I (two languages)

Students choose two languages relating to their research for a reading examination in both languages or take an examination in one language and complete a course in the other as follows:

- If one of the two languages is Latin or Greek and the other language tested by examination, students may fulfill the requirement by completion of the two-course lower-division sequence in Latin or Greek with a grade of B or better during the regular semester or in an intensive summer workshop.
- For any other approved language with a two-course lower-division sequence, completion of at least one upper-division course with a grade of B or better will satisfy one language of the language requirement.
- In languages with a four-course lower-division sequence, the student must complete the fourth course in the sequence and earn an average grade of B or better in the courses in that sequence.

Option II (one language)

- Students must demonstrate an exceptionally thorough reading knowledge in a language related to their advanced research and pass an examination administered by an appropriate faculty member.
- They are also required to pass (with a grade of B or better) an upper-division or graduate course, approved by the adviser, with a majority of the course materials in the target language.

The language requirement must be fulfilled prior to the QE.

MA Examination (3rd or 4th semester)

The MA examination is a written exam based on a text not previously announced to the student, on methodological questions, or on linguistic problems from the student's main field of interest.

- By the sixth week of the semester in which the student takes the exam, the student will choose an examination committee consisting of three members, communicate to that committee an area of interest, and submit a list of works already read.
- The committee will choose an exam question, a text that is not on the reading list, or a linguistic problem from the area of interest and communicate it to the student two weeks before the examination.
- In response to the question the student will write an essay in a three-hour time period.
- Within a week after writing the examination, the committee will meet with the student to discuss the examination and the student's progress in the program. At a meeting of the German Department faculty at the end of the fall semester, the faculty will decide whether the student will be invited to proceed to doctoral work in the program.

PhD Qualifying Examination (7th or 8th semester)

The PhD qualifying examination, or QE, consists of a written portfolio submitted to the student's committee and a three-hour oral examination.

- The student decides on an exam committee of three departmental faculty members and one outside faculty member. This committee must be approved by the head graduate adviser six months before the exam is to take place.
- The student prepares a reading list for the exam. The list should show historical breadth and also highlight texts within the student's area of interest (exam topic). The reading list must be approved by the QE committee chair a month after the committee has been approved by the graduate adviser.
- In consultation with his or her committee, the student writes a research proposal for the exam. This proposal usually follows the student's exam topic as a "red thread" through German literary history. The research proposal must be submitted to the committee by the first week of the semester in which the QE is to take place.
- The student turns in two revised seminar papers (Option I) or writes two three-hour exams (Option II).
- Finally, the student and committee meet for the three-hour QE.

Prospectus Conference (by the end of the semester after the oral examination)

By the end of the semester after the oral examination (and normally after the student is advanced to candidacy), the student will submit to the dissertation committee a prospectus and any other work completed on the dissertation.

- After examining these materials, the dissertation committee will meet with the student to discuss progress and to offer advice. If the student is not available for this conference (for example, because of a research year abroad), the dissertation adviser will communicate the committee's advice to the student.
- Annually thereafter, it is required that at least two members of the committee confer with the student, in addition to regular meetings with the dissertation director.

Possible Scenarios

These are a few exemplary course configurations that illustrate the flexibility and comprehensive nature of our model of graduate study. The scenarios reflect our ideal of combining historically comprehensive training with flexibility. Each student will have to work out an individual path of study with faculty advisers.

The 20th century “Modernist”:

- Basic requirements (3 courses)
- Language pedagogy (2 courses)
- Comprehensiveness requirements (5 courses); for example: 201A (Middle Ages), 201E (20th century), 206 (Early Modern), 256 (Literary Theory), 265 (Film Theory)
- Electives: 20th century literature seminars, film and media seminars, critical theory and cultural studies seminars inside and outside the department, possibly a DE in Critical Theory or Film and Media

The “Cultural Studies of Migration and Globalization” specialist:

- Basic requirements (3 courses)
- Language pedagogy (2 courses)
- Comprehensiveness requirements (5 courses); for example: 201A (Middle Ages), 201E (20th century), 205 (Medieval), 214 (Studies in 20th Century), 268 (Orienting Europe)
- Electives: from 20th century courses, from media and film studies, from linguistics offerings (e.g., Bilingualism, Language and Power, etc.), and from offerings outside the department, for example in Anthropology

The classic “Modernist” who wants additional expertise in linguistics:

- Basic requirements (3 courses)
- Language pedagogy (2 courses)
- Comprehensiveness requirements (5 courses); for example: 201A (Middle Ages), 201C (18th century), 206 (Early Modern), 212 (19th century), 263A (Translation)
- Electives: from 20th century courses in the department, from linguistics offerings (e.g., Semiotics), and from course offerings outside the department

The 18th and 19th century specialist:

- Basic requirements (3 courses)
- Language pedagogy (2 courses)
- Comprehensiveness requirements (5 courses); for example: 201A (Middle Ages), 201C (18th century), 205 (Middle Ages), 210 (18th century), 263C (Poetry and Thought)
- Electives: from 18th and 19th century courses, from linguistics offerings in the department (e.g., Semiotics, Linguistic approaches to literature, etc.), and from course offerings outside the department

The “Medievalist”:

- Basic requirements (3 courses)
- Language pedagogy (2 courses)
- Comprehensiveness requirements (5 courses); for example: 201A (Middle Ages), 201B (Early Modern), 205 (Middle Ages), 210 (18th century), 214 (20th century)
- Electives: 206 (Early Modern), 273 (Gothic), 276 (Old High German), outside courses for the joint PhD in Medieval Studies, etc.

The “Germanic Linguist” who wants some medieval literature expertise:

- Basic requirements (3 courses)
- Language pedagogy (2 courses)
- Comprehensiveness requirements (5 courses); for example: 205 (Middle Ages), 273 (Gothic), 276 (Old High German), 285 (Modern German), 291 (Morphology)
- Electives: from the Germanic Linguistics offerings, courses in the Linguistics Department, courses in medieval studies inside and outside the department

The “Germanic Linguist”:

- Basic requirements (3 courses)
- Language pedagogy (2 courses)
- Comprehensiveness requirements (5 courses); for example: 103 (Intro to Linguistics), 271 (Comparative Germanic), 290 (Morphology), 292 (Syntax), 294 (Contrastive Grammar)
- Electives: from the Germanic Linguistics offerings in the department and courses in the Linguistics Department.

The “Applied Linguist”:

- Basic requirements (3 courses)
- Language pedagogy (2 courses)
- Comprehensiveness requirements (5 courses); for example: 103 (Intro to Linguistics), 258 (Linguistic Approaches in Literature), 263 (Translation), 296 (Semiotics), 214 (20th century)
- Electives: C106 (Literacy through Literature), C109 (Literature and Power), 263 (Studies in Language), etc., courses from linguistic offerings inside and outside the department, and in the Berkeley Language Center

The “Linguist” who wants both historical and applied linguistics training:

- Basic requirements (3 courses)
- Language pedagogy (2 courses)
- Comprehensiveness requirements (5 courses); for example: 273 (Gothic), 276 (Old High German), 285 (Modern German), 291 (Morphology), 258 (Linguistic Approaches in Literature)
- Electives: C106 (Literacy through Literature), 263 (Translation), etc., courses from linguistic offerings inside and outside the department, and in the Berkeley Language Center