

German Languages & Literature Academic Learning Compact

Expected Outcomes of an Area of Concentration in German Languages & Literature/German Studies:

Communication Skills/Content Knowledge:

Students should demonstrate proficiency in German at the Mid to High Intermediate level in speaking, writing, listening proficiency at the Intermediate High to Advance Level, and Reading proficiency at the Advanced to Superior level, in accordance with the ACTFL Guidelines. They also should communicate their ideas effectively in written and spoken English.

Critical Thinking Skills:

Students should demonstrate the ability to investigate cultural material both through close textual analysis and with respect to its historical context and to conduct research in print archives and electronic data bases with materials in English and the German original. This will culminate in the senior thesis.

Content Knowledge:

In addition to a strong active and passive command of German language, students should demonstrate a broad knowledge of German cultural history. For an AOC in German Languages & Literature, this knowledge base should cover significant literary texts in the genres of drama, prose, and poetry, in addition to film, with particular emphasis on German literature from 1700 to the present. While a background literary history and analysis also serves as a foundation for an AOC in German Studies, this more interdisciplinary course of study will encompass relevant courses and other academic undertakings in such areas as anthropology, art history, economics, gender studies, history, music, philosophy, political science, and religion.

Measures to Track Student Progress:

In the area of German Language & Literature/German Studies, the narrative evaluations of a student's performance in all courses, tutorials, and independent study projects involving language study address the students' acquisition of content knowledge of German grammar, vocabulary, syntax, and culture, as well as the progress of their proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. These assessments are based on students' class participation, written assignments, performance on tests, comprehensive examinations, end-of-term interviews, as well as on analytical essays, and oral presentations in the target language beyond the level of Intermediate German I in courses and tutorials.

As part of the submission of the Provisional AOC Form during the fifth term, students will submit a portfolio consisting of evaluated essays in German, analytical essays on German cultural studies in English, and, if necessary, undergo an interview to assess their proficiency level in listening and speaking. At this point a student should demonstrate proficiency at the ACTFL Guidelines level of Intermediate Mid to High in all areas with evidence of progression to Advanced level. Additional course work or individualized instruction (tutorials or Independent Study Projects) necessary for achieving this goal should be indicated in Section II (Work to be completed to Satisfy the AOC) of the Provisional Area of Concentration Form and duly noted on the subsequent Thesis Prospectus/ AOC Form submitted during the student's sixth term.

Specific Measures to Demonstrate Each Graduate's Competencies:

In their final year at New College, all students concentrating in German Language & Literature/German Studies research and write a senior thesis under the supervision of a member of the German faculty and defend that thesis in a baccalaureate examination before a faculty committee in a public forum. This committee evaluates not only the quality of the thesis in terms of the strength of the analysis and the structure and presentation of the argument, but also the student's performance in the oral defense of the thesis's points and ability to demonstrate an overall command of the AOC.

Course Mapping:

Course Title	Content	Communication Skills in German	Communication Skills in English	Critical Thinking
Elementary German I	X	X		
Elementary German II	X	X		
Intermediate German I	X	X		X
Intermediate German II	X	X		X
German Conversation and Composition/German Stylistics	X	X		X
German Culture: The New Germany	X	X		X
Berlin and the New Germany	X	X		X
Advanced German: Die deutsche Lyrik	X	X		X
Advanced German: Kulturgeschichte der BRD	X	X		X
Advanced Grammar and Style: Special Topic: Turks in the German Press, Literature and Film	X	X		X
Die deutsche Novelle	X	X		X
Das moderne deutsche Drama	X	X		X
Women and Seduction in 18 th - and 19 th -Century German Drama	X		X	X
Theatre of Bertolt Brecht	X		X	X
Thomas Mann, Franz Kafka, Robert Musil, and Arthur Schnitzler and the Crisis of Identity in Early 20 th Century Central Europe	X		X	X
From Caligari to Run Lola Run: A Cultural History of German Cinema	X		X	X
From Minnesang to Migrantenlyrik: Nine Centuries of German Poetry in English Translation	X		X	X
Race in 18th- and 19th-Century German Culture	X		X	X
Advanced-level tutorials, Independent Study Projects, Study Abroad, Senior Thesis	X	X	X	X