Proposed catalog changes for the German major for 2022-2024

Justification

New course numbers and titles are proposed to address a shift in the way the department is structuring learning in the upper-division GER program.

The five proposed course changes are intended to better match what all faculty and the program as a whole consider a more appropriate approach to covering the intermediate “bridge” language courses (currently GER 328 and 331L/330C) and the major periods of culture and literature (currently GER 340C, GER 346L, and GER 343C).

In the first category (lines 1 and 2 below) we have already begun to provide students with contextualized training in advanced German grammar, i.e., through exposure to written and oral documents and via written and oral production. Since we no longer teach advanced grammar in isolation, the title and description of GER 328 “Advanced German Grammar” is outdated. We are renumbering both 328 and 331L so that students see both of these new “bridge” courses (GER 322D and 322E) will include application in writing (composition) and speaking (conversation). The new titles and descriptions will reflect that.

The second category (line 3 below) concerns the three cultural and literary survey courses. We have moved away from offering broad, but thin coverage of entire literary and cultural periods in favor of a more thematically focused approach to important developments in literature, culture, and society within those time frames. The titles of the current courses are also no longer in keeping with our integrated teaching of cultural history and literature. The updated descriptions also allow for a more intensive focus on themes and trends in the respective periods.

We are not proposing substantive changes to requirements for the German major or certificate.

Proposed changes

German Major

Twenty-four semester hours of upper-division coursework in German, consisting of:

1. German 328, German 322D
2. Three semester hours: German 330C or 331L, German 322E
3. Nine semester hours from German 340C, 342K, 346L, 343K, 343C, 344K, 347L, or 348D
4. Six semester hours from German 363K, 369, 373, or 379
5. Three semester hours of any upper-division German or German, Scandinavian, and Dutch studies course.

Eighteen of the 24 semester hours must be taken in residence. German 149T, 249T, and 349T may not be counted toward a major in German.