German at Union College

What does “German” mean to YOU? Whether German connotes tricky grammar or beer gardens, Expressionist art or exiled poets, trendy cities or quaint towns, Enlightenment or Nazism, Volkswagen or Porsche, Immanuel Kant or Heidi Klum, “Lola” or Lasker-Schüler, Nietzsche or Nowitzki, Unification or Spreewald pickles -- Union features a spectrum of offerings in German language, literature and culture to suit your interests….

Language Courses

Courses available for beginners, as well as for those who come to Union with some German language skills:

- **German 101-102: Basic German I, II, and III.** Development of grammar and vocabulary skills in basic German through speaking, reading, listening and writing.
- **German 200-201: Intermediate German I and II**
  - Intensive grammar review, emphasis on vocabulary building, idiomatic expressions, conversation, and composition based on cultural and literary texts.

Literature, Film and Culture Courses

Our intermediate and advanced courses deal with social, political and cultural challenges in German-speaking countries through history, treating literature, visual arts, film, music and historical products of these periods. Our offerings include:

- **One Upon a Time: German Fairy Tales, Folklore and Fantasy** (Ger 304)
- **Femme fatale? Women in 19th & 20th Cent. German Culture and Society** (Ger 334)
- **The Thrill of Victory: Reading German Sports (and) Culture** (Ger 336)
- **Of Ghosts and Demons: Encountering the Uncanny in German Literature** (Ger 341)
- **Flashy Erotics to Forbidden Laughter: German Cabaret of the 20th Century** (337)
- **The Shoah in Film: Cinematic Treatments of Holocaust Trauma & Memory** (Ger 339)
- **Multiculturalism in Contemporary German** (Ger 401)
- **Kafka and Mann: German Modernism** (Ger 404)

Cultural and Social Community through German

In conjunction with our active German Club, Union’s German Program offers a wide variety of events and activities, including: film screenings, hikes, dinners, board game nights, soccer matches, field trips to German theater events as well to German restaurants and beer gardens. Of course, we also celebrate Oktoberfest and Fasching with style! We have staged German cabaret nights and poetry slams, and continually add a variety of culturally enriching, entertaining offerings. Come join us!

Term Abroad and Internship Opportunities through German

Taking part in Union’s German program opens up the opportunity to participate in our Spring Term Abroad program, beloved by so many students. (Please see other side of this handout for more information.) Our Term Abroad features strong language and cultural components, and allows participants to meet college students from Germany and around the world! Students with sufficient language experience, who participate in this program, are also encouraged and supported in efforts to arrange a summer internship in Germany – in fields including the sciences, engineering, politics, culture or history! The options are limited only by your imagination!

Beyond Union: Going Places with German

Whether majors, minors, or term-abroaders, our ‘alumni’ of Union’s German program have found that German opens up wonderful opportunities. With our resources and encouragement, students of science and engineering have been granted summer internships, Fulbrights and other research opportunities in engineering, sciences, as well as in social policy fields. Moreover, graduates continue to report the value of their German experience on the job market.

Please see the Union College Academic Register for full list of courses offered, prerequisites and other details. Also, please feel free to contact Michele Ricci Bell, Ph.D. (riccibem@union.edu) or Erika Nelson Mukherjee, Ph.D. (nelsone@union.edu) with questions. Also, visit our website at: http://www.union.edu/academic_depts/modern_languages/German/index.php.