Our department offers French, German, Italian, Spanish, Linguistics, Film Studies, Literature in Translation, Education, Humanities, and FYW courses that count toward a variety of majors, interdisciplinary minors, and core requirements (GERs). Our extensive course offerings, twelve study away programs, (international) internship and volunteer opportunities assure that our students acquire global fluency and practice invaluable transferable skills, such as presentational and interpersonal communication; excellent writing skills; extemporaneous speech and debate; and close collaboration with faculty across various disciplines, peers, as well as local and global community partners.

Why study German?

- Largest economy in Europe. In the South, German companies and investments are responsible for 1 out of 5 jobs.
- Compared with other major foreign employers, German companies pay the highest wages.
- Over 100 million speakers: the most widely spoken language in Europe.
- Rich cultural heritage and a good complement to STEM majors.
- Full-immersion study-away program at one of Germany’s most prestigious universities: Freie Universität Berlin.
- International internship opportunities.
- Since 2009, program with the most international post-graduate awards.

Your German life on and off campus

Whether sipping a cup of cocoa in our newly remodeled Modern Language Center, attending one of our conversation hours (“Kaffeestunde”), or enjoying “Stammtisch” at your professor’s home, you will connect with other German speakers around campus, make friends, and embark upon exciting adventures abroad. You will even have the opportunity to live in our German House with the Language House Assistant, a native German speaker who facilitates activities for the House.

THE FURMAN ADVANTAGE guarantees every student an unparalleled education that combines classroom learning with real-world experiences and self-discovery. This integrated four-year pathway, guided by a diverse community of mentors, prepares students for lives of purpose and accelerated career and community impact—demonstrating in concrete terms the value of a Furman education.
Beyond Furman

German majors at Furman are routinely awarded competitive fellowships that allow for advanced study or work abroad post graduation. Since 2009, more than 20 German majors have received a Fulbright, DAAD, or CBYX fellowship. Our alumni work in a variety of professional fields: law, medicine, foreign service, business, marketing, government, teaching, non-profit, technology, start-ups, and journalism. Studying German not only provides linguistic and cultural knowledge but also opens many doors.

Expand your horizons with Study Away

Our Spring Berlin program offers a core curriculum in German language, culture, and politics while catering to double majors in fields such as political science, history, and business. In addition to classes at the prestigious Freie Universität Berlin, the program features faculty-led excursions throughout Germany and Europe. Participants experience full immersion through host family stays. Many students remain in Germany during the summer to complete an internship that complements their other academic interests. You can also participate in “The Rhine: Life on the Line,” a collaborative May Experience program with the French section that explores the border area where today’s France, Germany, and Switzerland meet.

Majoring in German Studies

Beyond the foreign language requirement, our curriculum offers courses ranging from “German for the Professions” to “Nazi Cinema and Culture.” Courses are designed to impart transferable skills and deliver high-impact learning experiences. A major consists of eight courses beyond GRM-201.

100% of German majors are double majors.

A Furman German Pathway: Stacey Dorogy ’17

“I met my future roommate in German class freshman year. We, and ten other students, spent the next semester exploring Berlin and traveling Europe, where we grew in our language capabilities and our friendships. But beyond the academic rigor all language majors boast, the community of faculty and students that invests in the German major is unparalleled. Whether we’re eating at our professors’ homes or the DH, whether we’re discussing German literature or weekend plans, the people who study German are bright and caring, and the professors who teach German are no different. Majoring in German is undoubtedly my favorite thing I did while at Furman.”

Contact us:
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