

GERMAN

Degree Requirements

Master of Arts (M.A.)

Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-600 Research Degree Policies. (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/>)

The M.A. in German is designed to offer students a general foundation in German culture, language, linguistics, and literature. After completing a small set of core requirements, students may pursue their individual interests from among the courses offered by faculty who specialize in German Applied Linguistics, Culture, Linguistics, and Literature. The M.A. degree requires a minimum of 36 credits, with at least 18 at the 500 level, and is designed as a terminal degree.

The following courses are required for the M.A. degree:

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
GER 510	Literary Theory: An Introduction	3
GER 511	The Teaching of College German	3
Select one of the following:		3
GER 513	German Phonetics and Phonology	
GER 514	German Syntax	
GER 515		
Total Credits		9

Practical experience in supervised teaching is required for all graduate degrees. Students who wish to earn a master's degree must enroll in GER 596 and write a scholarly research paper of between thirty and fifty pages on a topic defined in conjunction with a faculty adviser. The research paper should demonstrate mastery of primary and secondary literature, interpretative skills, and academic prose in both German and English. A one-hour oral defense of the paper shall be scheduled two weeks after its formal submission to the adviser. A committee consisting of faculty adviser and two other members of the German program selected by the M.A. candidate shall evaluate the student's knowledge of the subject matter.

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

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For the Ph.D., a student must complete at least 54 credits (these can include M.A. credits) of graduate-level work. The following courses are required of all students:

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
GER 510	Literary Theory: An Introduction	3
GER 511	The Teaching of College German	3
Select one of the following:		3
GER 513	German Phonetics and Phonology	
GER 514	German Syntax	

GER 515

Total Credits

9

Other requirements include:

1. demonstrated reading knowledge of one foreign language in addition to German and English,
2. successful passing of the comprehensive examination with written and oral components, and
3. completed doctoral dissertation and passing a final oral examination (the dissertation defense). The dissertation must be accepted by the Ph.D. committee, the head of the graduate program, and the Graduate School.