

The German Program at UNCG



Photobooth in Celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall (from left to right, German faculty respond to the question: Why study and teach German? Susanne Gomoluch: With each language learnt, another wall falls. Andrea Kofler, Austrian Fulbright TA: For all German-speaking countries! Susanne Rinner: For the transatlantic dialogue! Ben Davis: Because German is handy! Carola Dietkus: To broaden our horizons! Brooke Kreitinger: To help our students understand the diversity of the world!

The German Program at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro is a small and vibrant program. **We deliver excellence in scholarship, teaching, and service and have a proven track record of outstanding accomplishment.** All five program faculty hold PhDs in German and German Studies and embrace the teacher-scholar model that emphasizes superb teaching and pedagogical innovation coupled with committed research and strong service. Collectively, our research expertise spans all centuries of documented written communication in German, from the middle Ages to the 21st century.

The German Program fosters a critical understanding of Germany, Austria, Switzerland and beyond through the study of language, literature, theater, film, media, and contemporary culture. Through teaching, scholarship, and service, the German Program contributes to the transatlantic dialogue between the United States and German-speaking countries in Europe. Our teaching and service contribute to UNCG's strategic goal of internationalization—including the implementation of the Global Engagement QEP. Moreover, our scholarship enhances UNCG's profile as a student-centered research university.

We provide our students with outstanding opportunities to engage inside and outside the classroom and we take pride in mentoring our students beyond graduation.

Many of our majors and minor are successful in securing competitive educational and professional opportunities both during their studies at UNCG and after graduation.

- **GRANTS:** In recent years, German faculty and students have successfully applied for grants to support their work both on campus and abroad.
- **INTERDISCIPLINARITY:** In our teaching and research, we maintain strong interdisciplinary ties with other departments and programs on campus, including International and Global Studies, International Business, Environmental and Sustainability Studies, History, Art, Geography, and Women and Gender Studies. We are also focused on providing students in STEM fields with the opportunity to learn German in order to study abroad in Germany.
- **CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CURRICULUM:** Our undergraduate German language, literature, and culture program offers a curriculum that includes a range of courses focusing on elementary through advanced level language skills, as well as academic experiences that highlight oral and written literacy, literary and film analysis, and cross-cultural research culminating in a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) and a German Minor degree. In addition, we contribute to the General Education Program, First-year-Seminars, honors courses, and the BLS program.
- **NATIONAL ONLINE PRESENCE:** Online courses, including a four-semester German language sequence (GER 101-204) and an Online German Minor program are available to distance learning students across the globe.
- **STUDY ABROAD:** The German Program supports one of our oldest and strongest study abroad partnership with the state of Baden-Württemberg, Germany and Klagenfurt, Austria.
- **CO-CURRICULAR INITIATIVES:** The German Program provides students with an array of co-curricular activities in order to foster students' academic and personal development in and outside the classroom. Students have the opportunity to engage with our Fulbright Teaching Assistant from Austria, participate in German Weeks, a yearly event sponsored by the German Embassy in Washington DC, and may join Delta Phi Alpha, the German Honor Society. We are active participants in the Global Village and two of our faculty serve as Faculty-in-Residence.
- **UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH:** German faculty engage students in their research and quite a few of our students have received competitive grants and scholarships. The German Program is fortunate to host a DAAD Young Ambassador, a promising undergraduate student who promotes study abroad in Germany with the help of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). Our current Ambassador received a very competitive DAAD Undergraduate Scholarship in order to study abroad in Germany. In addition to the DAAD, the German Program has established close ties with other organizations, including Fulbright, in order to ensure that our outstanding students have access to exceptional educational opportunities.
- **OUTREACH:** The German Program at UNCG provides outreach to K-12 educators across North Carolina by regularly hosting German Day for North Carolina high school students, an event that attracts over 550 students to campus and hence also serves as a recruitment event for UNCG. In addition, UNCG German faculty contribute to the North Carolina Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German.

For more information, please contact the Director of Undergraduate Studies in German, Dr. Susanne Rinner, Associate Professor of German Studies and Associate Head, Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures via email at s_rinner@uncg.edu or via phone at 336-334-4857.