

German Graduate Program Degree Requirements

Revised February 2008

Approved by Graduate Council: September 24, 2008

Master's Degree Requirements

1) Admissions requirements

Admission to the M.A. program in German requires a B.A or B.A. equivalent in German Literature or Culture or a field related to German Literature or Culture (for example, Comparative Literature or History) as well as demonstrated fluency in the German language. Priority deadline for admission is January 15 and the final admission deadline is February 15.

2) Master's degree (M.A.), Plan I (Thesis) or Plan II (Comprehensive Examination)

The MA degree is awarded under Plan I (thesis option) as well as Plan II (comprehensive examination option). The requirements for these two options are as follows:

Plan I requires completion of 30 units of work at the upper division and graduate levels and submission of a substantial thesis (60 – 80 pp). At least 12 of the 30 units required must be graduate work in the major subject. There is no comprehensive exam.

Plan II requires completion of 36 units of upper division and graduate courses and satisfactory performance on a comprehensive final examination. At least 18 of the 36 units required must be graduate courses in the major subject. No more than 9 units of research (299 courses or equivalent) may be used in satisfying the 18-unit graduate course requirement.

Students select at time of application the option to which they would like to be admitted.

3) Course Requirements - Core and Electives

The Office of Graduate Studies requires that every full time student register for 12 units each quarter. This requirement can be met by a combination of courses included on student's program of study (please see the list below) and 299s.

The core M.A. program encompasses four major areas: German Cultural and Intellectual History, German Literary History, History of the German Language, and Language Pedagogy. Students work closely with the Graduate Advisor to develop their programs of study to ensure that all four major areas are well covered. The following list of courses is intended as a guide to assist students in developing their programs of study.

Core Courses

GER 101: A& B: Survey of German Literature	8 units
GER 206: Cognitive Grammar for Applied Linguists	4 units
GER 262: Studies in Twentieth Century Culture. <i>Or</i> : GER 297: Special Topics in German Literature	4 units
GER 202: Middle High German	4 units
GER 211: Concepts in Literary Theory. <i>Or</i> : GER 212: Contemporary Approaches to Literary Theory. Or equivalent course in the Critical Theory program, with approval by the Graduate Chair or Adviser required.	4 units
GER 291: Foreign Language Learning	4 units
In addition, students choose two more seminars in German Literature from GER 240 to GER 297.	8 units
Total units	36 units

4) Special requirements

Students are expected to demonstrate reading proficiency in Middle High German. This requirement may be fulfilled by successful completion of German 202 or its equivalent. Students who elect not to take German 202 (or its equivalent) will be required to demonstrate a reading proficiency in Middle High German on the Comprehensive Exam (use of a dictionary permitted) or, should they choose the thesis option, in a separate examination.

5) Committees

Admission Committee (Graduate Matters Committee):

The Department's Graduate Matters Committee reads and evaluates all applications to the M.A. program. This committee then makes recommendations of admission, deferral, or denial of admission to Graduate Studies, which officially acts on the applications.

Thesis Committee:

For students who choose Plan I (thesis), the thesis is guided by a major professor, chosen by the student in consultation with the Graduate Adviser, and then read and evaluated by a Thesis Committee, made up of the major professor and two members of the faculty from the German program. These two secondary readers are chosen by the student in consultation with the major professor. Thesis committee nominations are then submitted to the Office of Graduate Studies for formal appointment in accordance with Graduate Council policy.

6) Advising Structure and Mentoring

Students work closely with the Graduate Advisor to develop their programs of study to ensure that all four major areas are well covered.

Mentoring Guidelines are located on our website: german.ucdavis.edu. Select the Graduate tab and find the link in the Advising and Mentorship paragraph of the MA and PhD pages.

7) Advancement to Candidacy

MA students must complete the Candidacy application prior to the quarter in which they will file a thesis or take the comprehensive exam. For Plan I (thesis option), students will list their three committee members for Office of Graduate Studies approval. For Plan II (exam option), students do not need to provide names of the exam committee members.

Students on both plans will list all courses that apply to their MA program.

8) Typical time line and sequence of events for the Master's Degree

1st Quarter: Meet with adviser to plan course of study

2nd -4th Quarters: Take required coursework

5th Quarter: Submit Master's Candidacy form to Office of Graduate Studies
Plan I – Submit draft of thesis for committee review
Plan II – Meet with adviser to select exam committee members; prepare for exam

6th Quarter: Plan I – Complete final draft of thesis; obtain committee signatures on thesis title page; schedule appointment at Office of Graduate Studies; submit thesis
Plan II – Take Comprehensive Exam

The Department recommends taking GER101a and GER101b for those students who do not have a major, or adequate preparation, in German literature.

9) Sources of funding

The German department will do its best to fund ~~to~~** students admitted to the M.A. program for at least two years, usually through teaching assistantships, but also, for exceptional students, through the Max Kade Fellowship.

10) Planned Educational Leave Program (PELP)

Information about PELP (Planned Educational Leave) can be found in the Graduate Student Handbook: <http://www.gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/students/handbook/1.html>

11) Thesis requirements

During the second year, students, in close consultation with the graduate adviser, will develop a selection of primary works in German literature taken from the general

departmental reading list that will serve as a bibliography that is relevant to the thesis required under Plan I.

12) Comprehensive Examination requirements

During the second year, students, in close consultation with the graduate adviser, will develop a selection of primary works in German literature taken from the general departmental reading list that will serve as material basis for the comprehensive examination required under Plan II.

Plan II then requires a comprehensive examination consisting of three three-hour written segments and one one-hour oral component which is taken upon passing the written portion of the exam, each part administered on separate days by three members of the Graduate Program in German. These members of the Graduate Program will create the relevant questions of the exam as well as grade the exam. The student has appropriate input into the composition of the exam committee through the Graduate Adviser. The exam should be given before the beginning of the third year, although additional time (until the end of nine quarters of study) may be allowed with approval of the Graduate Matters Committee. The exam may be repeated once.

Ph.D. Degree Requirements

1) Admissions requirements

Admission to the Ph.D. program in German requires a B.A or B.A. equivalent or an M.A. in German or a field related to German (for example, Comparative Literature or History) as well as demonstrated fluency in the German language. Priority deadline for admission is January 15 and the final admission deadline is February 15.

2) Dissertation Plan

The German department follows, for its Ph.D. program, the dissertation rules under Plan B as described in 520 in the Davis Division Academic Senate Regulations.

Plan B. The Administrative Committee of the Graduate Council shall appoint a committee of three members, which shall guide the candidate in his or her research and shall pass upon the merits of the dissertation. This committee shall arrange for such conferences with the candidate as may be necessary for the elucidation of the subject treated in the dissertation. After presentation of the dissertation, but before the final action has been taken on it, the candidate may, at the discretion of the committee, be required to defend it in a formal oral examination. (App. 1/26/71) Graduate program degree requirements may require an exit seminar of each student. Satisfaction of this requirement shall be verified by the chair of the dissertation committee. (Am. 28 Feb 05)

3) Course Requirements

Students entering with a B.A

Students holding a B.A. who are admitted to the Ph.D. program follow the course of study outlined for the M.A. degree (Plan II) during their first two years with respect to courses, but do not take a comprehensive examination.

Work towards the Ph.D. involves successful completion of an additional six graduate courses in the German Program. Some courses (such as GER 240, 241, 242, and 285 through 297) may be repeated, provided the content is different. The approval of the graduate adviser is required. The adviser may also approve completion of 298 (Group Study) or 299 (Individual Study) in lieu of graduate seminars if the content is pertinent to the student's course of study.

Students may also elect to pursue additional course work in one of the four "Designated Emphases" in Critical Theory, Feminist Theory and Research, Second Language Acquisition, or Classics and the Classical Tradition. These programs were created to accommodate interdisciplinary research interests. Students must complete all courses listed on their Ph. D. program of study before being admitted to the qualifying examination.

Students entering with an M.A.

Students who enter the Ph.D. with an M.A. must successfully complete six graduate courses in the German Program. Some courses (such as GER 240, 241, 242, and 285 through 297) may be repeated, provided the content is different. The approval of the graduate adviser is required. The adviser may also approve completion of 298 (Group Study) or 299 (Individual Study) in lieu of graduate seminars if the content is pertinent to the student's course of study.

Students may also elect to pursue additional course work in one of the four "Designated Emphases" in Critical Theory, Feminist Theory and Research, Second Language Acquisition, or Classics and the Classical Tradition. These programs were created to accommodate interdisciplinary research interests. Students must complete all courses listed on their Ph. D. program of study before being admitted to the qualifying examination.

4) Special requirements

Students with academic appointments (i.e., TA, AI, GSR) are expected to take their qualifying exam by the end of their ninth quarter.

Students are expected to demonstrate reading proficiency in Middle High German. This requirement may be fulfilled by successful completion of German 202 or its equivalent. Students who elect not to take German 202 (or its equivalent) will be required to demonstrate a reading proficiency in Middle High German in the Breadth Section of the Qualifying Exam (use of a dictionary permitted) or, should they choose the thesis option, in a separate examination.

Students are also required to acquire a reading knowledge in French or in any foreign language other than German pertinent to their field of research. The foreign language reading exam must be passed prior to being admitted to the qualifying exam. Students who elect to specialize in the older periods of German literature (Medieval, Renaissance, Reformation and Baroque) must also acquire an additional reading knowledge in Latin.

5) Committees

Admission Committee (Graduate Matters Committee):

The Department's Graduate Matters Committee reads and evaluates all applications to the Ph.D. program. This committee then makes recommendations of admission, deferral, or denial of admission to Graduate Studies, which officially acts on the applications.

Course Guidance:

Until the student chooses a major professor, the student develops a study plan in close consultation with the program Graduate Adviser. For students entering with the B.A., the student chooses a faculty member during the third year to serve as a major professor. For students entering with the M.A., the student chooses a faculty member during the second year to serve as a major professor. Students with academic appointments and/or fellowships are required to enroll in no fewer than 12 units to be considered a full-time student.

Qualifying Examination Committee:

The qualifying examination consists of three parts, to be taken in consecutive quarters (spring and fall are considered consecutive quarters). The examination committee will be the same for all three parts of the examination.

-- For students completing degrees with an emphasis on German Literature and Culture, the examination will be administered by four members of the Graduate Program in German and one extra-departmental examiner;

-- For students completing a degree with an emphasis on German linguistics or second-language acquisition, the examination will be administered by at least two members of the Graduate Program in German and at least one member of the Graduate Group in Linguistics, with the other two members drawn from German, Linguistics, or another appropriate Graduate Group or department.

The examination committee will include the student's major professor, who cannot serve as its chair. The members of the examination committee are nominated, after consultation with the student, by the Graduate Adviser and are submitted to the Office of Graduate Studies for formal appointment in accordance with Graduate Council policy

If the student has chosen to complete a Designated Emphasis, one member of the examination committee must represent that respective area. For details on the examination, see "Section 7. Advancement to Candidacy" below.

6) Advising Structure and Mentoring

Mentoring Guidelines are located on our website: german.ucdavis.edu. Select the Graduate tab and find the link in the Advising and Mentorship paragraph of the MA and PhD pages.

Until the student chooses a major professor, the student develops a study plan in close consultation with the program Graduate Adviser. For students entering with the B.A., the student chooses a faculty member during the third year to serve as a major professor. For students entering with the M.A., the student chooses a faculty member during the second year to serve as a major professor.

7) Advancement to Candidacy

For students entering with the B.A., the student should have completed the requirements for the M.A. by the beginning of the third year, so that they can take their qualifying exam and advance to candidacy before the beginning of the fourth year (observing the nine-quarter rule).

Qualifying Examination requirements:

For post-B.A. students, in compliance with the university nine-quarter rule, students must take their qualifying examination prior to beginning their fourth year to remain eligible for academic appointments.

For post-M.A. students, students must take their qualifying examination prior to beginning their third year of study to remain eligible for academic appointments.

As mentioned above, the qualifying examination consists of three parts, to be taken in consecutive quarters (spring and fall are considered consecutive quarters). The three parts of the qualifying examination are as follows:

1) Part One (the “breadth section”) is a **written** examination designed to test the **historical breadth** of the student’s knowledge of the discipline. In consultation with the candidate’s major professor and the candidate, the chair of the examination committee creates a comprehensive list of works on which the candidate is tested. This list is based on the “Graduate Reading List in German Literature” for literature and culture students and, for students specializing in linguistics or second-language acquisition, on the “Graduate Reading List in German Linguistics” (see enclosures). This portion of the examination is administered in three parts: each part is three hours in length, with one part each administered on three consecutive days. If a student has already completed a comprehensive exam for the Master’s degree in the UCD German Department, Part One’s form and content may be varied, under the supervision of the Graduate Adviser and major professor.

2) Part Two (the “area section”) is a **written area** examination. In consultation with the candidate’s major professor and the candidate, the chair of the examination committee creates a list of texts on which the candidate is tested. These works may concern theoretical or methodological issues relevant to the candidate’s dissertation project; they may also comprise a second area of specialization. This special area

portion of the qualifying examination is administered in two parts: each part is four hours in length, with one part each administered on two consecutive days.

3) Part Three (the “oral examination”) is an **oral** examination based on a dissertation prospectus of approximately twenty pages that the student submits to the examination committee at least one month prior to the examination. A substantial bibliography must be appended to the paper. This position paper must present the overall thesis and main line of argumentation of the student’s dissertation project and serves as the focal point of a sixty- to ninety-minute discussion of the research project between the candidate and the examination committee.

The qualifying examination, or any single part thereof, may be repeated once. This means that if a student fails any single part of the exam but has passed the other parts, he/she may repeat the failed part.

8) Normative Time and Time to Degree

For students entering with the B.A., the student should have completed the requirements for the M.A. by the beginning of the third year, so that they can take their qualifying exam and advance to candidacy before the beginning of the fourth year (and thus in observance of the nine-quarter rule). Those students should then complete their dissertations by the end of the fifth year but not later than the end of the seventh year. Students entering with a B.A. may take into the sixth year for the completion of the dissertation.

For students entering with the M.A., the students should take their qualifying exam before the start of the third year and so advance to candidacy within the nine-quarter rule. These students should then complete their dissertations by the end of the fifth year but not later than the end of the seventh year.

9) Typical time line and sequence of events for Ph.D.

1 st Quarter:	Meet with adviser to plan course of study
1 st -3 rd Quarters:	Take required coursework Submit application for the DE and complete DE course work (if applicable)
4 th – 5 th Quarters:	Satisfy language requirements
6 th Quarter:	Post-MA students take qualifying exam and advance to candidacy
9 th Quarter:	Post-BA students take qualifying exam and advance to candidacy
7 th + Quarters:	Post-MA students write dissertation and complete degree
10 th + Quarters:	Post-BA students write dissertation and complete degree

10) Sources of funding.

The German department will do its best to fund to students admitted to the Ph.D. program for five years, usually through teaching assistantships, but also, for exceptional students, through the Max Kade Fellowship.

11) PELP and Filing Fee status

Information about PELP (Planned Educational Leave) and Filing Fees can be found in the Graduate Student Handbook:

<http://www.gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/students/handbook/1.html>

12) Dissertation requirements: Submission of the dissertation is the final requirement for the PhD.