

Study Programme **up to 2010-11**

Objectives

Research and teaching at the Department of German Studies, University of Athens, mainly covers linguistics and literature. The objective of the program consists in offering both theoretical and practical training in these two fields. Since most courses are held in German, a good working knowledge of German is indispensable for future applicants.

Curriculum

Duration

The program normally lasts eight semesters (four years), starting in the fall semester, and ends with the completion of a thesis, at the end of the final term.

Credit system

Class semester hours directly translate into credit points awarded for each course. Thus, a class meeting of 90 minutes per week is associated with 2 credit points. With the exception of courses in language practice, complementary reading courses and tutorials for thesis preparation, all lectures and seminars last two class semester hours (= 90min/week).

Students are required to accumulate a total of 98 credits for successful completion of the program. Out of these 98 credits, 86 must be earned from courses offered by the Department of German Studies, and 12 from other programs in the School of Philosophy.

Compulsory courses and electives

Students are required to take a total of 43 courses for credit (37 at the Department of German Studies, and 12 at other departments within the School of Philosophy). Courses fall into two groups. Type A courses are compulsory and have to be completed within the first four semesters of basic training. By contrast, type B courses are electives that students enroll in during the final four semesters of their studies. With some classes of type B (compulsory elective courses; 'Wahlpflichtveranstaltungen'), credit can only be awarded if the course is offered by the Department of German Study, while with others (elective course; 'Wahlveranstaltungen') students are free to select courses from other departments of the School of Philosophy.

Type A courses (1st – 4th semester)

(21 compulsory courses, corresponding to 46 credits)

Compulsory courses for the first four semester:

I. Linguistics

(9 compulsory courses, corresponding to 18 credits)

1. Introduction to linguistics
2. Phonetics- Phonology
3. Morphology
4. Syntax
5. Lexicology
6. Semantics
7. Pragmatics
8. Contrastive linguistics
9. Introduction to didactics (German as a foreign language)

II. Literature

(10 compulsory courses, corresponding to 20 credits)

1. Introduction to literature I
2. Introduction to literature II
3. Contemporary literature*
4. 20th century literature*
5. 19th century literature*
6. 18th century literature*
7. Comparative literature
8. Theory of literature
9. Introduction to the theory and practice of translation

10. Culture of German speaking countries: recent and current developments

*Participants need to enroll into complementary reading course. Although the reading course is not associated with any extra credit points, students are required to take an exam, the result of which is taken into account in the calculation of the final grade

III. Language practice - preparatory level

(4 compulsory courses, corresponding to 8 credits)

0. Language practice I

1. Language practice II
2. Language practice III
3. Language practice IV
4. Introduction to scientific research

Type B courses can be registered only if all language practice courses and the course Introduction to scientific research have been successfully completed.

1. Compulsory elective courses

(12 compulsory elective courses, corresponding to 24 credits)

Students must complete six compulsory elective courses in linguistics as well as in literature. In both areas, compulsory elective courses fall into one of four groups, among which students are required according to the guide lines below:

- two courses (seminary level) from group A
- two courses (seminary level) from group B
- one course (seminary level) from group C
- one course (seminary level) from group D

I. Linguistics

Group A:

(2 compulsory elective courses, corresponding to 4 credits)

1. Phonetics- Phonology
2. Morphology
3. Theory of syntax
4. German syntax
5. Lexicology - phraseology
6. Text linguistics
7. Contrastive Linguistics
8. Spoken language - conversation analysis

Group B:

(2 compulsory elective courses, corresponding to 4 credits)

1. Semantics
2. Pragmatics
3. Interfaces
4. Theories of language acquisition
5. Second/foreign language acquisition, bilingualism
6. Sociolinguistics
7. Empirical linguistics
8. Language variation, language change and historical linguistics

Group C:

(1 compulsory elective courses, corresponding to 2 credits)

1. Linguistic theories
2. Philosophy of language
3. Theory of translation and practical translation
4. Computer linguistics

Group D:

(1 compulsory elective courses, corresponding to 2 credits)

1. Methodology - didactics: German as a foreign language
2. Theories and methods of teaching (German as a foreign language)
3. Class preparation and class design
4. Class evaluation and performance testing

II. Literature

Group A:

(2 compulsory elective courses, corresponding to 4 credits)

1. Enlightenment - Storm and Stress
2. The classical period - Classicism (Goethe's period)
3. Hölderlin - Kleist - Jean Paul
4. Romanticism - Biedermeier - Vormärz
5. Realism - Naturalism - Fin de Siècle
6. 1900-1945
7. Brecht - Kafka - Thomas Mann
8. Literature after 1945

Group B:

(2 compulsory elective courses, corresponding to 4 credits)

Theories of literature: recent trends in methods of text analysis

1. Literary genres I: prose
2. Literary genres II: poetry
3. Literature and the media
4. Gender Studies
5. Comparative literature – world literature – European literature
6. Greek Antiquity in German literature
7. German literature and modern Greece

Group C

(1 compulsory elective course, corresponding to 2 credits)

1. Translation of literary texts and essay with special emphasis on historical context
2. Translation of literary texts and essay, with special emphasis on literary genre
3. Translation Criticism of literary texts
4. Didactics of literary texts

Group D

(1 compulsory elective course, corresponding to 2 credits)

1. Recent and current tendencies in rhetoric, aesthetics and poetics
2. Intercultural elements in literature, philosophy and art
3. Current political, social and cultural developments in German speaking
4. History of German Philosophy

2. Elective courses

(3 elective courses, corresponding to 6 credits)

Students are required to complete three elective courses, each of which can be freely chosen from any group in linguistics or literature.

3. Elective courses from other programs of the School of Philosophy

(6 elective courses, corresponding to 12 credits)

Students must enroll in six elective courses offered by other departments of the School of Philosophy. Language courses cannot be used for the fulfillment of this requirement. It is recommended to choose all classes from a single field of studies, in order to be able to deepen one's knowledge in one specific area. A list of admissible subjects will be made available at the beginning of each semester at the secretary's office.

Thesis

Students are required to submit a thesis in order to successfully complete their degree. The thesis, which can be either written in linguistics or literature, has to meet certain academic criteria. More specifically, the final version should

- discuss a specific problem pertaining to the topic of the thesis
 - include an exhaustive and critical presentation of the present state of research
 - make explicit relevant consequences and predictions
 - demonstrate a well-articulated ability to use German scientific prose

Students have to contact the faculty member with whom they want to write their thesis no later than two weeks after the beginning of the semester. Application is restricted to students who have already reached their seventh semester of studies, and have successfully completed the courses in language practice as well as the course *Introduction to scientific research*. The thesis must be handed in by the end of the first week after the beginning of the following exam period. If the thesis is rejected, it can be resubmitted in a revised form once, by the end of the first week of the following exam period. The thesis correlates to 10 credits.

Grading

Participants in seminars at the University of Athens receive a grade from 1 (lowest) to 10 (highest). Successful completion of a course requires grade 5 or higher. The grade for the thesis is multiplied by five. The final grade for the degree represents the average of all grades. The correlation between courses, grades and credit points is summarized below:

	Grade	Credits
Preparatory course	1	2
Language practice	1	6
Linguistics	15	30
Literature	16	32
Compulsory electives	3	6
Thesis	5	10
Electives from other departments	6	12
Total	47	98

Recommended semester plan

The list below specifies the recommended semester plan for type A courses, which are usually completed within the first four semesters (basic studies). Students are to a large extent free to make their own course selection during the last four semesters of their studies.

1st Semester

- a. Language practice I
- b. Introduction to linguistics
- c. Morphology
- d. Introduction to literature I
- e. Contemporary literature (lecture and complementary reading course)
- f. Introduction to the theory and practice of translation
- g. Elective from a different field

2nd Semester

- a. Language practice II
- b. Syntax
- c. Phonetics- Phonology
- d. Introduction to literature II
- e. 20th century literature (lecture and complementary reading course)
- g. Elective from a different field

3rd Semester

- a. Language practice III
- b. Lexicology – Phraseology
- c. Contrastive linguistics
- d. 18th century literature (lecture and complementary reading course)
- e. Comparative literature
- f. Culture of German speaking countries: recent and current developments
- g. Elective from a different field

4th Semester

- a. Language practice IV
- b. Preparatory course: Introduction to scientific research
- c. Semantics
- d. Pragmatics
- e. 19th century literature (lecture and complementary reading course)
- f. Theory of literature
- g. Introduction to didactics (German as a foreign language)
- h. Elective from a different field

Exams - Final

There are three exam periods, one in January, June and September each. Exams for courses of the winter semester are held in January, and those for the summer semester in June. Students who fail or fail to participate in a particular exam either in the summer or in the winter term, are given the option to take the exam again in September.

Type A courses are usually completed by a written exam. If a student fails a course a second time (i.e. in the September period), s/he must enroll in that course again. With type B courses, which are usually completed by a term paper, students who fail can enroll in another course of their own choosing in the following semester. Term papers must be handed in by the end of the first week of the exam period, and can, if rejected, be resubmitted in a revised version once.