NMU’s German Studies Program prepares students for employment in the following careers:

**Occupations**
- Education
- International Business
- International Education
- Interpretation
- Government (State Department, etc.)
- Military (Linguistics, etc.)
- Non-Government Organizations (NGOs)
- Teaching of English as a Second Language
- Translation
- Travel

**Potential Careers**

**For Career Planning and Opportunities:**
Academic & Career Advisement Center
3302.1 C.B. Hedgcock
906-227-2971
www.nmu.edu/acac

Modern Languages and Literatures
145 Whitman Hall
906-227-2940
www.nmu.edu/languages

**For Job Search, Resume and Career Information:**
Career Services
3302.3 C.B. Hedgcock
906-227-2800
www.nmu.edu/careers

**For Information about NMU Student Organizations Associated with this Major Contact:**
Center for Student Enrichment
1206 University Center
906-227-2439
www.nmu.edu/cse

German Club

**Internet Resource Links:**
- www.careers.org
- www.careerresource.net

**For Career Information with National Organizations:**
- www.aifs.org American Institute for Foreign Study

Current as of Fall 2015
Provided by:

The Academic & Career Advisement Center
German Studies

This is a transnational and interdisciplinary major that encompasses the various German-speaking regions of central Europe and offers an intellectually diverse program—covering literature, history, politics, the arts, philosophy, and business. Currently Germany is a leading trade partner and ally of the U.S. and is a linchpin in the European Community. The cultural and linguistic traditions of Austria and Switzerland enrich the field of German Studies.

Acquiring proficiency in the German language is an integral part of German Studies at all levels.

German Studies majors are strongly encouraged to complete a pre-approved study, internship, or work experience of one to two semesters in a German-speaking country, or in an approved immersion program. NMU’s exchange partner in Germany, Oldenburg University, offers excellent support services and an affordable cost. Elective courses toward the major may be taken abroad and may substitute for the area electives with departmental approval.

Skills and Competencies

A language and literatures degree emphasizes communication, critical thinking, reading, and writing. It therefore gives you the opportunity to master many skills and competencies. Writing skills—necessary in any career field today—are developed and fine-tuned, as are your critical thinking and research skills. Reading skills are developed to help you not only analyze texts and interpret material, but also to identify various word patterns and structures. And unlike most other degrees, a language degree gives you the opportunity to learn about international culture—customs, gestures, attitudes, politics, history, world views, and artistic contributions of people from around the world, specifically Germany.

Course Work

This degree includes the following courses as part of the program requirements, and specific major requirements along with liberal studies and graduation requirements.

Core (16 credits)
- GR 301 Advanced German I (4 cr.)
- GR 302 Advanced German II (4 cr.)
- GR 310 Intro to German Civilization and Culture (4 cr.) or GR 311 Central European Culture/Civ.
- GR 320 Great Works in German Literature (4 cr.) or GR 312 Contemporary German-Speaking Cultures
- GR 415 German for Business (4 cr.)
- LG 499 Graduation Assessment for Language Majors (0 cr.)

German Studies Electives (16 credits)
At least 8 credits must be at the 300 level or above.
- AD 335 History of Baroque Art (4 cr.) [VI]
- EN 313 Introduction to Linguistic Theory (4 cr.)
- GR 312 Contemporary German-Speaking Cultures (4 cr.)
- GR 320 Great Works in German Literature (4 cr.)
- GR 415 German for Business (4 cr.)
- GR 495 Special Topics in German (1-4 cr.)
- GR 495X Special Topics in German (Study Abroad) (1-4 cr.)
- GR 496X Study Abroad: Special Topics (1-4 cr.)
- GR 498 Directed Study in German (1-4 cr.)
- IP 490 International Studies Seminar (2 cr.)
- HON 201 Origins/West Values-Med. To Mod (4 cr.)
- HS 304 History The Middle Ages (4 cr.)
- HS 305 Renaissance-Reformation (4 cr.)
- HS 307 Theme in Early Modern Europe
- HS 308 Themes in Modern Europe
- HS 316 The Holocaust (4 cr.)
- LG 250 Overview of Linguistics for Educators (2 cr.)
- LG 317 (when a German topic) (4 cr.)
- MU 203 Music History Literature, Form I (4 cr.)
- MU 206 Music History Literature Form II (4 cr.)
- PL 210 History of Modern Philosophy (4 cr.) [III]
- PL 310 Social and Political Philosophy (4 cr.) [II]
- PL 330 Existentialism (4 cr.) [II]
- PL 370 Theory of Knowledge: Classical & Contemp (4 cr.)
- PS 203 Comparative Government and Politics (4 cr.)
- PS 206 International Relations (4 cr.)

Detailed course descriptions can be found at www.nmu.edu/bulletin.

Career Development

You should begin the resume-building process as soon as you can. The Academic and Career Advisement Center can assist you with career planning, while Career Services will help you fine tune your resume and look for jobs related to your field. In the meantime, the more hands-on experience you have, the better for your future employment. Becoming involved in a professional related internship is a way to develop your professional skills and gain experience. Your academic course work is important as well, so be sure to maintain a high grade point average.

Additional Considerations

Foreign language skills are valuable or even required for some of the positions listed. You can gain excellent experience in the government field by finding an internship related to your interests.

A business minor may be helpful, but sometimes relevant work experience is more beneficial. Coupling the two is optimal.

Remember to take any necessary exams early; it can take six weeks for results to be sent to the schools to which you applied. Foreign language competency, sometimes in two languages, is required in many graduate programs.

Your future

Employers seek graduates with international experience and the ability to speak a second language. Those NMU students of German who have gone into careers in education have found that their German skills make them much more marketable. Others are in graduate school in the U.S., in Germany, and in Austria. Still others are pursuing careers in science and law, as well as in business. Working as a writer, manager, government liaison, or for international non-profit organizations are also excellent options in this exciting field.