What competencies do Germanic and Slavic studies students gain?

Germanic and Slavic studies

Program-specific competencies

**Competencies** are the skills, knowledge and attributes gained through every work, educational, volunteer and life experience. UVic students in the Germanic and Slavic studies program develop the following program-specific competencies.

**German language**

*Communicates effectively in German*

- Reads and writes effectively in German
- Engages in conversations effectively in German
- Uses appropriate German grammar, syntax, pronunciation and vocabulary
- Prepares and delivers effective presentations in German
- Translates from German into English and from English into German

**Russian language**

*Communicates effectively in Russian*

- Reads and writes effectively in Russian
- Engages in conversations effectively in Russian
- Uses appropriate Russian grammar, syntax, pronunciation and vocabulary
- Prepares and delivers effective presentations in Russian
- Translates from Russian into English and from English into Russian

**Literature in German**

*Demonstrates knowledge of literature in German from the medieval period to the present*

- Demonstrates knowledge of the literary traditions in German
- Demonstrates knowledge of the literary canon including major figures such as Goethe, Schiller, Tieck, Novalis, Brentano, E.T.A. Hoffman, Kafka and Brecht
- Demonstrates awareness of literary history and literary movements including naturalism, expressionism and impressionism
- Demonstrates awareness of literary genres and styles

**Literature in Russian**

*Demonstrates knowledge of literature in Russian from the medieval period to the present*

- Demonstrates knowledge of the literary traditions in Russian
- Demonstrates knowledge of the literary canon including major figures such as Pushkin, Dostoevsky, Chekhov, Tolstoy, Gogol
- Demonstrates awareness of literary history and literary movements through the tsarist, soviet and post-communist periods
- Demonstrates awareness of literary genres and styles
Literary interpretation

Critically reads works of literature and describes how literary texts generate meaning

- Demonstrates awareness of major issues in literary criticism
- Demonstrates knowledge of, and ability to read literature, in relation to literary theory
- Exercises close reading skills and demonstrates ability to read a text using appropriate literary terminology, including metre, figurative language, speaker/persona, tone and voice
- Determines the critical questions to be asked of a body of material

Historical, social and cultural perspective

Understands works of literature in their historical, social and cultural contexts

- Identifies the historical, social and cultural context in which a text is produced
- Understands how historical, cultural and social contexts impact the production and interpretation of literary texts
- Demonstrates intellectual curiosity to explore historical, social and cultural perspectives
- Reflects on issues such as nationalism, imperialism, militarism, politics, religion, ethnicity, race, gender and class in the context of literary production

UVic Co-op and Career worked with the Department of Germanic and Slavic studies to develop this competency document.