
German, Russian, and East Asian Languages (undergraduate)

FACULTY

**Year of initial appointment at Binghamton*

Chen, Zu-yan, *Associate Professor of Chinese*, PhD, 1989, University of Wisconsin at Madison: Chinese literature. (1987)*

Heyer, Elfriede A., *Associate Professor Emerita of German*, PhD, 1977, Washington University: 18th century German literature and theory. (1977)

Majer, Ingeborg, *Assistant Professor of German*, PhD, 1988, University of Texas: Comparative literature and German; cinema and women's studies. (1996)

Morewedge, Rosmarie Thee, *Associate Professor of German and Department Chair*, PhD, 1974, University of California at Los Angeles: Medieval literature, folklore, literary criticism, pedagogy. (1969)

Oda, Keiko, *Lecturer in Japanese*, MA, 1998, University of Wisconsin at Madison: Pedagogy, Japanese language. (1999)

Snyder, William H., *Professor of German and Linguistics*, PhD, 1964, University of Tübingen: Comparative linguistics, Germanic languages, Sanskrit. (1966)

Sode, Rumiko, *Assistant Professor of Japanese*, PhD, 1999, Ohio State University: Japanese linguistics. (1999)

Tittler, Nancy, *Lecturer in Russian*, PhD, 1981, Yale University. (1981)

Weigand, Paul, *Emeritus Professor of German*, PhD, 1949, New York University: German classical period. (1948)

Zhang, Hong, *Lecturer in Chinese*, MM, State University of New York at Binghamton: Voice. (1990)

Adjunct Faculty

Davies, Diana, *Adjunct Lecturer*, PhD, 1995, University of Rochester: Comparative literature, Russian literature. (1993)

Grünzweig, Walter, *Adjunct Professor of German*, PhD, 1984, Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz and Dortmund University: American studies and German. (1988)

Maierhofer, Roberta, *Adjunct Assistant Professor of German*, Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz: American studies and German. (1996)

German Program

The department emphasizes acquisition and proficiency at all levels of language study. Its literature, history and culture courses allow students to acquire a familiarity with literary currents, culture and intellectual thought in German-speaking countries. When choosing a major, students consult with a faculty adviser in tailoring a program to their own needs. The department strongly encourages double majors, for which it reduces the major requirements by one course. Students can also pursue a joint program of study (for example, German and history; German and philosophy; German and linguistics) in consultation with advisers from both disciplines involved. Students with the necessary qualifications may combine an undergraduate major in German with graduate study in the School of Management by entering a Harpur College/School of Management 3-2 program. Another option is to combine the study of engineering with that of German in a five-year program leading to a BS and BA. Students who are unable to sign up for the major may sign up for a minor that will permit them to explore some aspect of culture in depth.

The department directs an overseas study program at the University of Graz in Austria. It is open to students in all academic disciplines, ordinarily with sophomore standing, one to two years of German, and a 3.0 academic average. Students may also participate in an exchange program with the University of Leipzig. This program may be of special interest to social science and management students.

REQUIREMENTS FOR GERMAN MAJOR

The requirements for the major are:

Ten German courses at the 200 level or above. GERM 221, 222, 321 and the teaching practicum (GERM 491 or 492) may be counted only once toward the major. Three courses (12 credits) must be in German literature and cultural studies. Only one literature course taught in English (GERM 241) can be used toward the major.

If students have only a single major in German, then the department additionally recommends, but does not require, the following courses:

- One course in either art, music or theatre
- Two upper-division courses in European history
- One course in philosophy

REQUIREMENTS FOR DOUBLE MAJOR

The requirements for a double major in German and in another discipline are:

Nine German courses at the 200 level or above. GERM 221, 222, 321, and the teaching practicum (GERM 491 or 492) may be counted once toward the major. Three courses (12 credits) must be in literature and may be counted only once. Only one German literature course taught in English (GERM 241) can be counted toward the double major.

REQUIREMENTS FOR GERMAN MINOR

Any combination of courses or half courses above GERM 102 amounting to 24 credits. GERM 221, 222, 241 and 321 count only once toward the minor. Transfer credit is counted toward the 24-credit requirement for the minor, but students must still complete at least two upper-level German courses (8 credits) at Binghamton.

HONORS PROGRAM

German majors who intend to graduate with honors should contact the department chair at the beginning of their senior year:

Honors are usually awarded on the basis of demonstrated proficiency in German, a project that reveals an understanding of the development of German culture and literature, and an A-average in all courses in German, with no more than one course below an A-.

High Honors: Requirement for *Honors*, plus a grade of A on a major research paper written during the student's senior year.

Russian Program

The program offers language instruction from the beginning through the advanced level. Instruction stresses the basic skills—comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing—and aims primarily to develop practical competency. Each year the program offers courses in Russian literature in translation. For information, contact the program director.

An individual Russian studies major may be developed under the auspices of the Innovational Projects Board.

Required for the minor in Russian studies, six courses from the following: RUSS 101, 102, 131, 203, 204, 240 or 241, 305, 380; HIST 225, 226, 481C, 486C, 567A, 569C; PLSC 269, 312, 355. Non-natives must complete 101-204 or equivalent.

Students with a high proficiency in Russian may attend the SUNY semester in Moscow.

Chinese Program

For a description of the Asian Studies Program, see the section on Interdisciplinary Majors. Consult also the Asian and Asian-American studies and management studies concentration offered through the School of Management.

Japanese Program

For a description of the Asian and Asian-American Studies Program, see the section on Interdisciplinary Majors. Consult also the East Asian studies and management studies concentration offered through the School of Management.

Korean Program

For a description of the Asian and Asian-American Studies Program, see the section on Interdisciplinary Majors. Consult also the East Asian and management studies concentration offered through the School of Management.

COURSE OFFERINGS

NOTE: Unless otherwise noted, all undergraduate courses carry 4 credits and are offered every year.

German

GERM 101. ELEMENTARY GERMAN I

Basic vocabulary, essentials of grammar, graded readings, oral work, listening comprehension, use of language cassettes. Consideration of how the United States and German-speaking countries have influenced and interacted with each other. Normally offered fall only.

GERM 102. ELEMENTARY GERMAN II

Continuation of GERM 101. Prerequisite: GERM 101, or one year of high school German, or equivalent. Language cassettes. Consideration of how the United States and German-speaking countries have influenced and interacted with each other. Normally offered spring only.

GERM 197. ELEMENTARY ACCELERATED INDEPENDENT STUDY *variable credit*

Transitional course from first- to second-year German, allowing for independent work (computer-assisted instruction, comprehension exercises, readings, use of audio-visual materials, etc.) under regular faculty supervision.

GERM 203. INTERMEDIATE GERMAN I

Continued development of language skills introduced in GERM 101 and 102. Emphasis on comprehension (listening and reading) and speech production (speaking and writing). Some grammar review and introduction to business and technical German. Prerequisite: GERM 102 or 103 or equivalent.

GERM 204. INTERMEDIATE GERMAN II

Continued development of language skills using a variety of written and aural texts of intermediate difficulty. Emphasis on reading and speaking. Some discussion of grammar, as well as business and technical German. Prerequisite: GERM 203 or equivalent.

GERM 210. GERMAN CULTURE AND CIVILIZATION

every other year

Study of history and culture of Germany, beginning with political and religious consequences of the Reformation and concluding with post-World War II Germany. Basic understanding of political, social, religious forces and ideas that shaped civilization in Germany. Readings and lectures in English.

GERM 221. INTERMEDIATE GERMAN**CONVERSATION I**

every fall, 2 credits

Informal instruction and practice in colloquial German. Primarily for students who have completed GERM 102 or 103. Discussion based on variety of cultural, commercial, and some technical materials provides practice in more advanced conversational speech patterns and vocabulary. Prerequisite: GERM 102, 103 or equivalent.

GERM 222. INTERMEDIATE GERMAN**CONVERSATION II**

every spring, 2 credits

Continuation of GERM 221, primarily for students who have completed GERM 203 or 221. Discussion based on variety of cultural, commercial and some technical materials; provides oral practice in German idioms and more advanced vocabulary. Prerequisites: GERM 203 and 221, or equivalent.

GERM 230. SPECIAL TOPICS IN GERMAN CULTURE

2 credits

Courses dealing with particular aspects of German culture, such as cultural geography, religious institutions, gender construction/educational systems, Third Reich in postwar literature. Lectures and readings as announced in German or English.

GERM 241. TOPICS IN GERMAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE IN TRANSLATION

Study of authors, works, films, periods, genres and/or themes from German-speaking literature and culture after 1700. Lecture and discussion. May be repeated for credit.

GERM 280. INTRODUCTION TO GERMAN LITERARY INTERPRETATION

2 credits

Techniques for reading and discussing German literature. Discussion of style, symbol, metaphor, imagery, structure, plot and genre. Discussion and written work based on shorter selections (prose, narrative, poetry, drama) by major authors. Prerequisite: GERM 204 or equivalent.

GERM 297. INTERMEDIATE INDEPENDENT STUDY

variable credit

Independent reading course for students who have either completed or are currently enrolled in GERM 203 or 204. Several written reports on the readings and/or a final examination.

GERM 305. ADVANCED READING AND COMPOSITION I

every fall

Short readings in German from many areas, literary and nonliterary, with emphasis on vocabulary acquisition, writing practice, listening comprehension. Practical problems of German grammar, syntax, style. Discussion and group work. Prerequisite: GERM 204 or equivalent or consent of instructor. Closed to returning Graz students. Three hours per week.

GERM 306. ADVANCED READING AND COMPOSITION II

every spring, variable credit

Continuation of GERM 305 with heavy emphasis on composition and stylistics. Prerequisite: GERM 305 or equivalent.

GERM 321. ADVANCED CONVERSATIONAL GERMAN

2 credits

Informal instruction and practice in managing conversations in German, topics of discussion based on issues significant in the contemporary public domain of German-speaking countries. Open to anyone with intermediate level proficiency in German.

GERM 380. TOPICS IN GERMAN LITERATURE

variable credit

Study of particular periods (Middle Ages, romanticism, postwar literature), genres (drama, lyric, novel), themes (search for identity, the grotesque, feminism/death and rebirth), larger single works (Schiller's *Wallenstein*, Goethe's *Faust*, Fontane's *Effi Briest*, Thomas Mann's *Buddenbrooks*) or authors and works (Keller's novellas, Rilke's poetry, Hauptmann's plays). May be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: GERM 204, 280, or equivalent.

GERM 395. INTERNSHIP

Topic determined by student and faculty member.

GERM 397. ADVANCED INDEPENDENT STUDY

variable credit

Advanced independent work for students who have completed GERM 305 or equivalent.

GERM 480. SEMINAR IN GERMAN STUDIES

Special topics in German language, literature and culture. Research paper required. May be repeated for credit if topic differs. Intended primarily for junior and senior German majors. Required for high honors. Prerequisite: junior or senior standing or consent of instructor.

GERM 491. PRACTICUM IN TEACHING GERMAN

every fall

Language teaching experience (teaching GERM 121 and 122, Elementary Conversation) supplemented with in-class guidance, weekly pedagogical seminar sessions, visitations in classes taught by faculty and apprentice teachers, self-evaluation of teaching performance. Prerequisite: ordinarily study abroad and consent of department.

GERM 492. PRACTICUM IN TEACHING GERMAN

every spring

More advanced language teaching experience for apprentice teachers teaching GERM 122 under supervision of departmental faculty. Apprentice teachers will continue to receive regular instruction in language pedagogy. Prerequisite: ordinarily study abroad and consent of department.

GERM 497. SENIOR INDEPENDENT STUDY

variable credit

Independent study under direct supervision of faculty member. Prior to registration, student must consult proposed supervisor, receive approval of subject of study and of course credit. Prerequisite: consent of department.

GERM 707. RESEARCH SKILLS: READING GERMAN TEXTS

spring, variable credit

Instruction in decoding German texts. Focus on building comprehension; stress on vocabulary, syntax and structure. Graduate students will be expected to translate texts approved by their departmental director of graduate studies.

Russian

RUSS 101. ELEMENTARY RUSSIAN I *every fall*

Introduction to basic vocabulary and grammar. Emphasis on speaking, oral comprehension and reading. This course is appropriate for freshmen. Not for native speakers. Five hours a week.

RUSS 102. ELEMENTARY RUSSIAN II *every spring*

Continuation of RUSS 101. Not for native speakers. Five hours a week.

RUSS 121. BASIC CONVERSATIONAL RUSSIAN I

every fall, 2 credits

Informal instruction and practice in colloquial Russian for students concurrently enrolled in RUSS 101. Emphasis on speaking and comprehension, using speech patterns introduced in RUSS 101 and practical vocabulary of daily communication. Not for native speakers.

RUSS 122. BASIC CONVERSATIONAL RUSSIAN II

every spring, 2 credits

Informal instruction and practice in colloquial Russian for students concurrently enrolled in RUSS 102. Continuation and expansion of skills acquired in RUSS 102. Prerequisite: RUSS 101. Not for native speakers.

RUSS 131. RUSSIAN CIVILIZATION

Course taught in English. Examination of the development of Russian culture from the beginnings a thousand years ago to the fall of the Romanov dynasty and the revolution of 1917. Discussion of artifacts of Russian culture: folklore, religious, literary and philosophical texts, art, architecture, music, dance, rituals and social conventions.

RUSS 203. INTERMEDIATE RUSSIAN I *every fall*

Completion of basic grammar and learning the language of everyday life. This course is appropriate for freshmen. Not for native speakers. Four hours a week. Prerequisite: RUSS 102, two years of high school Russian, or equivalent.

RUSS 204. INTERMEDIATE RUSSIAN II *every spring*

Continuation of intermediate Russian emphasizing conversation, conclusion of basic grammar, reading and retelling of selected materials. Four hours a week. Not for native speakers. Prerequisite: RUSS 203 or equivalent.

RUSS 232. RUSSIA AND THE WORLD

An examination of Soviet and post-Soviet Russian cultural identity through analysis of Russian and American literature and film. Consideration of how Russians' self-representation in literature and cinema has been interconnected with representations of Russians by others and with Russian representations of the Western "other." Study of how 20th-century Russian and American cultures have shaped one another and how other nations (such as Cuba) have figured as "third parties" in the relationship.

RUSS 240. INTRODUCTION TO RUSSIAN LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION I

Development of 19th-century Russian literature, from romanticism to symbolism. Analysis of works by major

authors such as Pushkin, Gogol, Lermontov, Turgenev, Dostoevsky, Tolstoy and Chekhov. Lecture and discussion.

RUSS 241. INTRODUCTION TO RUSSIAN LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION II

Development of Russian literature during and after the Soviet era. Analysis of prose works by major authors such as Babel, Bulgakov, Pasternak, Solzhenitsyn, Nabokov, Tolstaya. Lecture and discussion.

RUSS 297. INTERMEDIATE INDEPENDENT STUDY

variable credit

Independent reading course for students who have either completed or are currently enrolled in RUSS 203 or 204. Several written reports on the readings and/or final examination.

RUSS 305. ADVANCED READING AND COMPOSITION I

every fall

Acquisition of substantial vocabulary from various aspects of daily life: description of surroundings, character traits, interpersonal relations, cops and robbers, etc. Intensive speaking and writing practice, focus on developing a Russian writing style. Three hours a week. Prerequisite: RUSS 204 or equivalent. Not for native speakers.

RUSS 306. ADVANCED READING AND COMPOSITION II

Continuation of RUSS 305 with similar emphasis on reading, writing and retelling skills. Additional focus on understanding Russian news media, including newspapers and broadcasts. Prerequisite: RUSS 305 or equivalent. Not for native speakers.

RUSS 380. TOPICS IN RUSSIAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE

variable credit

Studies of particular authors, periods, genres, aspects of Russian culture. May be repeated for credit if topic varies. Prerequisite: varies according to topic.

RUSS 492. PRACTICUM IN TEACHING COLLEGE RUSSIAN

variable credit

Independent study through teaching in a particular course in Russian. Various assignments closely directed by instructor in that course, including development of syllabi and other course materials; construction and reading of examinations; lecturing and/or discussion leadership; laboratory supervision and academic counseling of students. May be repeated for total of no more than 8 credits. Credit may not be earned in conjunction with course in which student is concurrently enrolled. Does not satisfy major or all-college requirements. Prerequisites: consent of instructor and department. P/F only.

RUSS 497. ADVANCED INDEPENDENT STUDY

variable credit

Independent study under direct supervision of faculty member. Prior to registration, student must consult proposed supervisor and receive approval of subject.

Chinese

CHIN 101. ELEMENTARY CHINESE I *every fall*

Foundation course aimed at enabling students to communicate in Chinese for everyday purposes. Introduction to Chinese characters. For students with no previous formal training in Chinese. Five hours per week.

CHIN 102. ELEMENTARY CHINESE II *every spring*
Continuation of CHIN 101 with emphasis on formal mastery of basic sentence patterns, with practice in usage for real-life situations. Five hours per week.

CHIN 111. ELEMENTARY WRITTEN CHINESE *every fall, 2 credits*

Designed for students with some background in conversational Chinese (Mandarin, Cantonese, or other dialects) who require instruction in learning to write Chinese characters and in Chinese grammar. Students with no prior formal language instruction in Chinese are eligible for this course. Upon completing this class, students may enroll in CHIN 102. Prerequisite: Knowledge of conversational Chinese and consent of instructor.

CHIN 202. SINGING CHINESE

Language acquisition and music appreciation through songs. Emphasis on diction, voice projection and language expression through singing practice. Analysis of cultural background and stylistic features in song lyrics. Students learn 25-30 Chinese songs, including art songs, folk songs and popular songs from Mainland China, Taiwan and Hong Kong.

CHIN 203. INTERMEDIATE CHINESE I *every fall*
Third-semester course in the Chinese language. Completes study of first 1,000 words and all main grammar points continued from CHIN 101 and 102. Four hours per week.

CHIN 204. INTERMEDIATE CHINESE II *every spring*
Fourth-semester course in the Chinese language. Emphasis on reading, with continued spoken-language exercise. Practice reading newspapers. Four hours per week.

CHIN 241. CLASSICAL CHINESE LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION

Survey of Chinese literature from 12th century B.C. through A.D. 19th century, dealing with major writings of each period, their aesthetic and formal components, and cultural/historic contexts. Equal emphasis on evolution of poetry genres and development of story themes, supplemented with background in Chinese theories of literature and comparative study between Chinese and Western literature. Knowledge of Chinese language not required.

CHIN 305. ADVANCED CHINESE I

Development of overall language proficiency through extensive reading, with emphasis on vocabulary acquisition, oral expression, and writing practice. Texts include screenplays and short stories. Discussion in Chinese. Prerequisite: CHIN 204 or equivalent.

CHIN 350. BUSINESS CHINESE

Introduction to Chinese business language. Equal emphasis on oral communication in Chinese in business context as well as reading printed material that focuses on commerce and economics. Class conducted in Chinese. Prerequisite: CHIN 305 or equivalent.

CHIN 491. PRACTICUM IN TEACHING CHINESE *every fall*

Language teaching experience supplemented with in-class guidance, visits in faculty-taught classes, pedagogical discussion with faculty and self-evaluation of teaching performance. Prerequisite: consent of instructor and department. P/F only.

CHIN 492. PRACTICUM IN TEACHING CHINESE *every spring*

More advanced language teaching experience supplemented with in-class guidance, visits in faculty-taught classes, pedagogical discussion with faculty and self-evaluation of teaching performance. Prerequisite: consent of instructor and department. P/F only.

Japanese

JPN 101. ELEMENTARY JAPANESE I *every fall*
Foundation course in the Japanese language, including listening comprehension exercises, structured conversation, reading, grammar study. Introduction to Japanese characters. For students with no previous formal training in Japanese. Five days per week.

JPN 102. ELEMENTARY JAPANESE II *every spring*
Continuation of JPN 101 with emphasis on listening comprehension, structured conversation, reading, grammar study, practice writing Japanese characters. Five days per week.

JPN 203. INTERMEDIATE JAPANESE I *every fall*
Third-semester course in the Japanese language, including reading, listening comprehension, conversation, grammar study, writing Japanese characters. For students who have taken JPN 102 or have an equivalent exposure to Japanese. Four hours per week.

JPN 204. INTERMEDIATE JAPANESE II
Instruction in learning to read and write 200 new kanji. Continued emphasis on basic grammar. Development of conversational ability and listening comprehension. Introduction to levels of discourse. Prerequisite: JPN 203 or equivalent.

JPN 305. ADVANCED JAPANESE I
Reading of texts in various disciplines, as basis for oral practice, composition, analysis of more complex aspects of the language and acquisition of substantial vocabulary.

JPN 306. ADVANCED JAPANESE II
Continuation of skill development begun in JPN 305. Reading of texts in various disciplines as basis for oral practice, composition, analysis of more complex aspects of the language and acquisition of substantial vocabulary. Prerequisite: JPN 305 or consent of instructor.

JPN 491. PRACTICUM IN TEACHING JAPANESE *every fall*

Language teaching experience in elementary Japanese supplemented with in-class guidance, pedagogical seminar sessions, visits in classes taught by faculty and apprentice teachers, self-evaluation of teaching performance. Prerequisite: consent of department.

JPN 492. PRACTICUM IN TEACHING JAPANESE *every spring*

More advanced language teaching experience for apprentice teachers teaching Japanese under supervision of departmental faculty. Prerequisite: consent of department.

Korean

KOR 101. ELEMENTARY KOREAN I *every fall*
Course is designed to give the student a beginning knowledge of Hangul through the study of grammar, syntax and

vocabulary. The major objective is to prepare the student for the more advanced grammar and, especially, communicational skills in Korean language study. Students who possess slight conversational skills in Korean but require basic instruction in learning to read and write Hangul will be admitted.

KOR 102. ELEMENTARY KOREAN II *every spring*

Continuation of KOR 101. Course is designed to give the student a basic knowledge of Hangul through the study of grammar, syntax and vocabulary. The major objective is to prepare the student for more advanced grammar and, especially, to develop communicational skills in Korean. Not for native speakers.

KOR 203. INTERMEDIATE KOREAN I *every fall*

Third-semester course in the Korean language designed to develop reading and listening comprehension, conversation and writing skill through the introduction of complex grammatical structures and idioms. For students who have taken KOR 102 or have equivalent exposure to Korean.

KOR 204. INTERMEDIATE KOREAN II *every spring*

Fourth-semester course in Korean language, with continued emphasis on reading, writing, conversation, and listening comprehension. Materials will include folk songs (sung with the instructor) and text from Korean literature. For students who have taken KOR 203 or have equivalent exposure to Korean.