WELCOME TO THE GERMAN MAJOR OR MINOR!

The faculty of the ECU German Program are pleased to have you join our thriving language section in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures. We pledge to support you in your endeavor to understand the German culture, learn its language, develop to your fullest potential, and shape your future. Of course you must do your share, too. In order to guide you to success as an undergraduate student, a potential graduate student, and a future employee, we have put together the following tips and suggestions.

GET GOOD GRADES!
Resources are getting tighter and the competition is stiffer. Stand out through academic excellence!

STUDY ABROAD!
You will grow intellectually and socially, think like a cosmopolitan citizen, understand global issues better, and become an asset to your future employers.

CULTIVATE GOOD RELATIONS WITH YOUR PROFESSORS!
In order to apply for scholarships, study-abroad trips, internships, graduate school, awards, and professional positions, you need enthusiastically supportive and detailed letters of recommendation addressing your academic capabilities, your personality (psychological stability, dedication, and maturity), and your motivation to study or work. Only professors who know you well can write such letters for you.

MAINTAIN A CURRENT RESUME!
Participate in the many cultural and social offerings of the ECU German Program to help build your memberships, volunteer or service activities, and scholarly activities. Make it a habit to add these new activities whenever you’ve been involved, then proofread, edit, reformat, and perfect your resume.

CREATE A SIGNATURE VOICE!
Find your unique angle, focus, purpose, and passion. It’s doubly impressive if your voice advocates for solutions to modern-day problems, from the environment to failing schools.

GRAB EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO EXCEL!
Apply for awards, stipends, recognitions, and scholarships and construct proposal essays that contain:
1. an introductory paragraph with a clearly stated and electrifying thesis.
2. a body of coherently connected paragraphs that all start with a topic sentence and end with mini-summaries or conclusions. If necessary, include a timeline and description of the steps needed to carry out a project. Use memorable anecdotes and vibrant language to describe yourself.
3. a final paragraph discussing how the project will contribute to your career plans and the granting institution’s mission

BECOME A LEADER!
Join clubs and committees and strive to participate in planning, organizing, and carrying out events. Work hard and be an asset to the group. Follow through with all commitments you make.

SUPPORT YOUR GERMAN STUDIES PROGRAM!
Volunteer your time. Tutor. Help other majors and minors. Share your knowledge and experiences.

Please talk to us any time you have a question, problem, need, suggestion, or critique.
Wishing you an exciting, stimulating, and productive experience in our program,

Prof. Tatjana Goodman  📜 Dr. Birgit A. Jensen  📜 Dr. Susanne Lenné Jones
Dr. David L. Smith  📜 Dr. Jill E. Twark