

German

Degree conferred

Master of Arts in Languages and Literatures: German

Languages of study

Study in German

Commencement of studies

Commencement of studies in the Autumn Semester (September) or in the Spring Semester (February)

Access to further studies

This master programme qualifies students also for the doctoral programme [Language Sciences](#).

In the master programme, students can concentrate on key aspects of German language and literature corresponding to their interests within the three fields of study: *German linguistics*, *German medieval studies* and *German literary studies*.

In linguistics they gain insight into current research through project-oriented seminars; the main topics are research in language acquisition and variation, as well as a dialectology that is oriented toward sociolinguistics and perceptual linguistics.

In medieval studies, literature from the Middle Ages is considered in conjunction with developments in society, its stores of knowledge, modes of thought and media technology. International graduate meetings, medieval manuscript studies and an interdisciplinary supplementary programme enrich the studies.

In German literary studies, the students deal with literary texts and narratives across all media, beginning in the 16th century. Comparative issues and intermedial relationships are thereby afforded great importance.

Profile of the study programme

The master programme deepens the study of German language and literature, whereby you can set different focal points within the three fields of study: *German linguistics*, *German medieval studies* and *German literary studies*. The training allows you to learn the techniques and methods of at least one of the three fields of study, so that you can use them independently to form scientific opinions and conduct initial research of your own, such as for your master's thesis. The in-depth training enables you to apply the knowledge you have gained to teach German at different levels, and to other areas of activity. At the same time, the master programme ensures a connection to research.

German linguistics offers students a master programme that is not only aimed at consolidating basic linguistic knowledge, but also guarantees participation in the key areas of the main research of the two professorships. Project-oriented master's seminars, which

are offered regularly, deal mainly with issues of language acquisition and language variation, as well as a dialectology that focuses on sociolinguistics and perceptual linguistics. Fribourg University is the only university in Switzerland that offers a profile development in dialectology, which allows students to set a special focus in terms of content, while at the same time retaining the connection to training for teaching at secondary level 2 (academic upper secondary school).

In the master programme, **German medieval studies** emphasises interdisciplinary integration. The goal of teaching and research is to describe the German literature of the Middle Ages based on a varied network of literary and non-literary traditions (images, narration, conversation), and the development of society, its stores of knowledge, forms of thought and media techniques. In addition to research-oriented German study seminars and colloquia and the interdisciplinary block courses of the Stämmler visiting professorship, Master's students also have free access to international graduate meetings and manuscript related internships. A complementary interdisciplinary programme in medieval studies is offered within the framework of the Medieval Institute.

In **German literary studies**, literary texts and narratives in all media are investigated in the light of both their historical contexts and systematic features, since the 16th century. This applies, for example, to issues regarding general rhetoric, how literary genres function, analysis of themes of individual literary works and groups of works, relationships to other literature and arts, etc. Due to the special linguistic and cultural location of Freiburg-Fribourg, comparative issues are of great importance. A focus on intermedial connections and clarity in scientific argumentation are a part of the special profile of German literary studies at Fribourg.

Studies organisation

Structure of studies

90 ECTS credits + 30 ECTS credits as an option in a minor study programme freely chosen, 3-4 semesters

Curriculum

<http://studies.unifr.ch/go/rC-uD> (German)

Admission

Master's degree programmes are built on the knowledge and abilities that were acquired when obtaining a bachelor's degree.

Holders of a bachelor's degree awarded by a Swiss university are admitted to a master's degree programme without any preconditions if they have earned 60 or 90 ECTS credits – depending on the chosen master's degree programme – within the corresponding discipline. However, additional requirements can be required. The same applies to holders of a bachelor's degree awarded by a foreign university, provided that the bachelor's degree is recognised and considered equivalent by the University of Fribourg.

Holders of a bachelor's degree awarded by a Swiss or a foreign university, provided that the bachelor's degree is recognised and considered equivalent by the University of Fribourg, who do not fulfil this condition can be admitted to a master's degree programme with preconditions (which must be successfully completed before starting the master's degree programme) and/or additional requirements (which can be completed during the master's degree programme). The preconditions and/or additional requirements may not exceed 60 ECTS credits in total. The same applies to holders of a bachelor's degree awarded by a Swiss university of applied sciences, according to existing agreements.

The respective conditions of admission for each master's degree programme are reserved.

Alternatives

Also offered as a minor study programme (30 ECTS credits).

Contact

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