The Graduate Program in German Studies at Rutgers University is currently inviting applications for its Ph.D. program in German Studies starting September 2024.

Rutgers University is a premier national research university with a diverse student body and three distinct campuses located close to New York City and Philadelphia. The graduate program in German Studies offers a vibrant and comprehensive curriculum with an emphasis on 18th to 21st-century literature and literary theory, with emphases on gender and media studies, Jewish studies as well as avant-garde and modernism studies. Our internationally recognized faculty offer cutting-edge training in research and teaching skills. The German Department includes several affiliated faculty members in Art History, Jewish Studies, History, and Political Sciences who offer courses within German Studies and work actively with our students. The German program has close ties to several interdisciplinary centers at Rutgers, including the Center for Cultural Analysis, the Center for European Studies, and the Digital Humanities Initiative. The German Department also hosts a Charlotte-M.-Craig Distinguished Guest Professor every spring semester.
Graduate students are trained in cross-disciplinary, critical, and theoretical thinking and receive a thorough pedagogical training in language instruction. Our students explore a wide array of related academic fields in graduate seminars, colloquia, faculty-guided independent studies, and professional development workshops. They can enhance their training with graduate certificates in Cinema Studies, Women and Gender Studies, and World Language Teaching and will have the opportunity to take courses in neighboring departments such as Princeton, Columbia, NYU, and CUNY through the Doctoral Consortium. The German Department – together with the Ruhr-Universität-Bochum, the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar, and the Universität Wien – holds an annual summer academy on “Media Philology” which allows Ph.D. candidate to present their dissertational work to an international faculty.

Fellowships

Applicants are eligible for a combination of fellowship and teaching assistantship in German that covers up to five years of full support. Additional support beyond this guaranteed funding is available through instructorship and competitive fellowships, and our faculty members take great care in training graduate students for competitive fellowship applications. In addition to their stipend, graduate students receive remission of tuition and fees and health benefits. The German Department provides opportunities for summer research support through language instruction on campus and abroad and individual research fellowships. Generous funding is available for conference travel, archival research, and other scholarly and professional activities.

Application Requirements

- online application
- statement of academic purpose, which includes educational objectives and career goals, professional reasons for choosing German Studies, and why this can best be done at Rutgers
- writing sample which demonstrates skills in reading literary or philosophical works (ca. 15 pp.)
- three letters of recommendation
- B.A. or M.A. degree certificates or equivalent in German or a related field that includes evidence of advanced German language skills for non-native German speakers
- TOEFL test results or equivalent for non-native English speakers
- academic transcripts

The deadline for applications is January 15, 2024. Later applications will be given consideration with rolling admissions. Application materials can be submitted in English or German here: http://gradstudy.rutgers.edu/apply/overview.

For any questions and more information about the graduate program, please visit our website, or contact Prof. Nicola Behrmann, Director of Graduate Studies: behrmann@rutgers.edu.