

10 good reasons why the German Minor is a smart choice

1. **IT OPENS DOORS.** Knowing German enables you to make use of outstanding opportunities for work, study, or research at some of the world's most renowned companies, prestigious research institutes, and stellar universities. Germany continues to be Europe's strongest economy.
2. **IT SETS YOU APART.** Adding German to your resume gives you a competitive advantage on the job market. It makes you a more versatile, more interesting, and more open-minded applicant than those without language skills. German ranks along with Mandarin-Chinese and Spanish as the most sought after language in the US business world. [Source](#).
3. **IT PAYS OFF.** Employees who know German earn on average 3.8% more than those who don't know languages. Over the lifetime of a college graduate with an annual salary of \$45,000 that accumulates to approximately \$128,000! Research studies show that among various foreign languages, German offers the highest bonus. [Source](#).
4. **IT GIVES ACCESS TO FUNDING RESOURCES.** Knowing German gives you an important edge when applying for scholarships through the Fullbright Foundation or the German Academic Exchange Service.
5. **IT PREPS YOU FOR GRAD SCHOOL.** There are many graduate programs where knowing German well is either required or recommended. Students in History, Engineering, many of the sciences, International Business or Law, Psychology, Music, Art History, or International Affairs benefit from knowing German.
6. **IT MAKES YOU SMARTER.** Research shows that individuals who can think in a foreign language are better at economic decision making. [Source](#).
7. **IT ENHANCES YOUR MEMORY.** Individuals who learn a foreign languages have better memory throughout life and are less likely to develop dementia early. [Source](#).
8. **IT IS FUN.** As a student in a foreign language class, you enjoy close interactions with your professor and with other students. Classes are small in size and personalized in content. You know your professors and they know you.
9. **IT IS INTERESTING.** Studying German gives you the chance to learn about exciting and intriguing topics: the cultural origins of fairy tales, the lasting impact of the Holocaust, the history of WW2, the music of superb composers such as Mozart or Bach, the fascinating stories by Franz Kafka and other great writers.
10. **IT IS SIMPLE.** After taking beginning and intermediate German during the first two years, you only need to add 8 credit hours on the 3000/4000 level to complete the requirements for the German minor.

To learn about upcoming classes on the 3000/4000 level, check out these links:

[German 3061: German Discourse](#)

[German 4044: Topics in 20th Century Culture: Protesters, Radicals, Extremists: 1960s to 2000](#)

If you have questions concerning the Minor in German, talk to your German instructor or contact Dr. John Pizer, Chair of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures and professor of German at pizerj@lsu.edu .