

PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

MAJOR: B.A. IN GERMAN

SUBMITTED BY KIRSTEN M. CHRISTENSEN, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF GERMAN

APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES, APRIL 6, 2009

PROGRAM MISSION STATEMENT AND/OR PROGRAM GOALS:

With a focus on the cultural context of the historical and contemporary German-speaking worlds, the German program engages students in the study of language, literature and other cultural products as meaning-bearing expressions of the human experience which function to communicate worldview, construct realities, question truths, and critically examine social and cultural norms. Acquisition of proficiency in the German language, knowledge of German-speaking cultures, past and present, within their geographic, historical and political contexts, and ability to critically interpret and analyze texts, broadly defined, equip students with the trans-cultural and trans-linguistic skills and perspectives necessary for lives of thoughtful inquiry, service, leadership, and care in local and global communities.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

As the foundation for achieving the goals outlined in our mission statement, all courses are designed to provide students with the content and skills needed to achieve:

- level-appropriate verbal, aural, and written linguistic competence as manifested in the ability to:
 - engage in conversation and debate of relevant personal, cultural, historical, and political topics;
 - write in a variety of genres;
 - read a variety of genres.
- increasingly sophisticated cultural and critical competence as manifested in the ability to:
 - distinguish textual genres and articulate their value as aesthetic expressions of personal and collective experience;
 - analyze and interpret literary and non-literary texts within their historical and cultural context and through application of critical theory;

- apply critical skills and knowledge of the German-speaking world gained in our curriculum to engagement with and understanding of other cultural and societal traditions, perspectives and conflicts.