

FACULTY OF ARTS

GERMAN-CANADIAN STUDIES

German-Canadian Studies gives students an opportunity to study the history and culture of German-speaking immigrants and their descendants in Canada and around the world.

German-Canadian Studies encompasses approaches from all of the disciplines in the Humanities and Social Sciences, but has been most influenced by History and Literature. In courses and seminars, students seek to understand the worldwide migrations from German-speaking Europe and the multiple migrations of German-speakers from all over the world to Canada.

You will find courses in German-Canadian Studies a useful and informative addition to any liberal arts education. Although it is not a Major, the background it provides will be especially relevant to students interested in the complexities of migration, immigration, and multiculturalism. The courses also prepare students who intend to write MA theses and PhD dissertations in German-Canadian Studies. Students with excellent research and German language skills may have opportunities to conduct historical research.

The courses in German-Cacis a lecture course that surveys the diversity of worldwide migrations in the modern period. Topics include exploration and conquest; merchants, mercenaries, and missionaries; slavery and unfree migration; imperialism, settlement and labour migrations, and refugees. Concepts discussed include international migration systems; transnational life, culture, and society; diaspora; voluntary and forced migration.

The German-Canadian Presence in Canadian History, a third-year course, explores the European origins of German-speaking immigrants to Canada, their settlement patterns, and their social, political, and economic roles.

History of International Migration: The German Experience is a third-year course which offers a survey of historical and current migration patterns, using the example of German-speaking migrants from the 18th to the 20th century. Students will explore migration processes, different types of migration, and the resulting cross-cultural encounters as well as the interactions of states and minorities.

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