

## What you can do with a major in

# German

## Transferable Skills

In addition to the specific subject matter that German/Russian majors learn, they acquire many skills that can easily *transfer* to any subject matter. The following is a list of transferable skills that German/Russian majors develop:

Understanding historical language change  
Reading critically  
Evaluating information and evidence  
Acquiring new perspective about one's own culture  
Understanding how ideas shape cultures & vice versa  
Acknowledging value systems  
Summarizing ideas  
Working with original sources in many fields  
Determining the needs of others

Writing clearly  
Explaining complex concepts  
Reading for content and structure  
Communicating between cultures  
Establishing hypotheses  
Adapting to other cultures  
Understanding and appreciating diversity  
Interpreting data  
Compiling/recording data  
Collaborating as part of a team

## Sample Job Titles of Davidson Alums Who Majored in German

Actuary '01  
Biologist '02  
Consultant '00  
Director of Market Research '97  
Environmental Biologist '85  
FBI Special Agent '83  
Farmer '03  
Foreign Service Officer '79  
Fulbright Teaching Assistant '06  
German Teacher '02  
Human Resources Assistant '06  
Internal Medicine Resident '91  
International Marketing Specialist '98  
Jesuit Volunteer '00

Loan Documentation/ Executive Assistant '02  
Metropolitan Editor '72  
Missionary '03  
Music & Theatre Fellow '02  
Mutual Funds Specialist '96  
Research Assistant '05  
Resident in Orthopedics '92  
Sales Representative '02  
Software Engineer '98  
Sound Engineer '00  
U.S. Army 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant '02  
Veterinarian '93  
Volunteer, Ukraine '03

## Other Job Titles for German Majors

Attorney  
College/University Official  
Foreign Correspondent  
Foreign Diplomat  
Intelligence Specialist  
International Banking Officer  
International Relations Specialist  
International Trade Economist  
Interpreter  
Linguist  
Professor  
Speech Pathologist  
Teacher  
Tour Guide  
Translator  
Travel Agent  
Writer

## Types of Employers

Academic & Professional Journals  
Advertising & Public Relations Firms  
Airlines  
Banks and Investment Firms  
Business & Industry  
Educational Institutions  
Fund Raising Firms  
Government Agencies  
Hotels  
Import/Export Companies  
Magazines, Newspapers  
Media  
Museums  
Publishing Companies  
Travel Agencies  
United Nations

## Resources in the Career Services Library

Over 1200 books and periodicals are available in the Career Services Library to help you with self-assessment, career exploration, the job search, and graduate school planning. Some Career Services Library books you can use to explore German include:

*The Big Guide to Living and Working Overseas*  
*Careers for Foreign Language Aficionados & Other Multilingual Types*  
*Careers for Patriotic Types & Others Who Want to Serve Their Country*  
*Careers for Talkative Types & Others with the Gift of Gab*

*Careers in Foreign Languages*  
*College Majors and Careers*  
*Great Jobs for Foreign Language Majors*  
*Great Jobs for Liberal Arts Majors*  
*How to Get a Job in Europe*  
*Opportunities in Foreign Language Careers*  
*Travel Writer's Handbook*

## Other Sources of Information

Career counselors, alumni, and faculty members are great resources. Visit the Careers Office early and often, and talk to professors in your major and related fields. Ask at the Careers Office for help locating Davidson alums in career fields that interest you and set up informational interviews with them. Professional associations are excellent sources of career and employment information, and many of them have websites. Surf the internet, keeping in mind that many colleges and universities have websites for their Career Centers and for each academic major. Many of these sites include career and employment information as well as links to other useful websites. Below is a sample list of these types of websites:

American Association of Teachers of German  
[www.aatg.org](http://www.aatg.org)

Goethe Society of North America  
<http://www.goethesociety.org/>

American Translators Association  
[www.atanet.org](http://www.atanet.org)

Modern Language Association of America  
[www.mla.org](http://www.mla.org)

Davidson College. German Dept.  
<http://www3.davidson.edu/cms/x3693.xml>

OverseasJobs.com  
<http://www.overseasjobs.com>

German Studies Association  
<http://www.thegsa.org/>

University of North Carolina Wilmington Career Services  
<http://www.uncwil.edu/stuaff/career/Majors/language.htm>

Davidson College Office of Career Services  
Telephone: (704) 894-2132 Fax: (704) 894-2493  
Email: [careers@davidson.edu](mailto:careers@davidson.edu)  
[www.davidson.edu/careers](http://www.davidson.edu/careers)

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