

European Studies

Nathalie Hester, Program Director

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European studies offers an interdisciplinary minor for undergraduates in any major or professional school discipline. The program is designed for students who seek to enhance work in the major with a broad and comparative knowledge of Europe. The minor designates a student's special expertise in the subject as having acquired a knowledge of Europe beyond that of a single discipline or that concentrated on one country or part of Europe.

The program combines a small number of required core courses that address cross-national topics over a broad sweep of time. Elective courses, chosen by the student with the advice of a member of the European Studies Committee, ensure some diversity beyond the field of the student's major.

European Studies Affiliated Faculty

Sonja Boos, German and Scandinavian

Cory Browning, Romance languages

Patricia Dewey Lambert, arts and administration

Alexander Dracobly, history

Evlyn Gould, Romance languages

D. Gantt Gurley, German and Scandinavian

Gina Herrmann, Romance languages

Nathalie Hester, Romance languages (chair)

Katya Hokanson, comparative literature

Martin Klebes, German and Scandinavian

Peter D. Laufer, journalism and communication

Jeffrey S. Librett, German and Scandinavian

Massimo Lollini, Romance languages

David M. Leubke, history

Scott R. Maier, journalism and communication

Fabienne Moore, Romance languages

Alexander B. Murphy, geography

Craig Parsons, political science

Jenifer Presto, comparative literature

F. Regina Psaki, Romance languages

Sergio Rigoletto, cinema studies, Romance languages

George J. Sheridan Jr., history

Michael Stern, German and Scandinavian

Matthias Vogel, German and Scandinavian

Undergraduate Studies

Minor in European Studies

The College of Arts and Sciences administers an undergraduate minor in European studies, overseen by the program committee.

To earn a minor, a student must complete 24 credits in addition to a paper or project on a European topic and two to three years of a European language other than English, as described below. Of the 24 credits of core and elective courses, a minimum of 16 credits must be upper division. Courses taken to fulfill the language requirement may not be used to fulfill the 24-credit requirement.

The courses that satisfy the minor are distributed as follows: two core courses, four elective courses, and two to three years of a European foreign language. Core and elective courses applied to the minor must be taken for letter grades and passed with grades of C– or better.

Core Courses ¹

GEOG 202	Geography of Europe	4
HIST 420	The Idea of Europe ²	4
or RL 407	Seminar: [Topic]	

Electives ¹

Two humanities courses ³	8
Two social science courses ³	8

Foreign Language Requirement

Two to three years of a European foreign language ⁴	24
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¹ At least three of the six courses taken to satisfy core and elective course requirements must be taken outside the student's major. With the advisor's approval, exceptions can be made for double majors and for certain interdisciplinary majors, especially international studies and humanities.

² Four of the 8 credits must be at the upper-division level; 16 of the 24 credits of core and elective courses must be at the upper-division level.

³ Courses preapproved are listed on the program website. Substitutions may be made only with the approval of the student's advisor. At least 4 credits of the humanities electives must be at the 400 level, and at least 4 credits of the social sciences electives must be at the 400 level.

⁴ For BA students, at least three years of college study of a European language other than English is required. For BS students majoring in science, studying for a bachelor of architecture, or majoring in subjects outside the social sciences and humanities, two years of college-level study of a European language other than English is required.

Students seeking to qualify for a minor should, as early as possible, consult the program director, who will assign the student an advisor. Developing the plan for elective courses with the advisor's help ensures that the courses selected satisfy the minor requirements.

No later than two terms before graduation, the student must notify the advisor of intent to graduate for verification of European studies course work and transcript evaluation. The student must also indicate the European studies minor on the application for graduation. Students must complete major requirements for an undergraduate degree in another department or school of the university.

Significant Paper or Project

A research paper on a topic appropriate to the student's interests is the final requirement. For students majoring in disciplines such as music, theater, or the fine arts, a project that draws on these crafts may be substituted for the research paper. The paper or project requirement may be satisfied by work done in the student's major, such as a seminar paper, as long as the content of the paper or project is focused primarily on Europe. The requirement may also be satisfied by a paper done for any of the courses listed below. Students who want to satisfy the requirement in this way must notify the instructor of their intention at the outset of the term so that the instructor can evaluate the paper with this intent in mind. The requirement may also be satisfied by a research paper done under the supervision of a professor in any field for 3 graded credits, such as a paper for Thesis (403). The instructor's agreement to supervise must be obtained in advance, and the 403 subject code may be either in that instructor's department or Thesis (EURO 403).