

German Majors and Minors: Where are they now?

Ava Lasmanis, '24, BA in Philosophy, German, and Cognitive Science

With exposure to German as a heritage language and having studied it since middle school, Ava fell in love with the language during her first year at Hopkins when she began reading works by her favorite philosophers in the original German. This passion led her to become the President of the JHU German Club for two years, and she inducted into the German Honor Society. During her third and final year of her undergraduate studies, Ava received a Max Kade summer grant to complete an advanced language-intensive course in Berlin. In Fall 2024 she will begin the Master's program in philosophy at JHU and then plans to pursue a PhD in German. Ava hopes to eventually become a professor and share her passion for the German language and philosophy with others.

Rachel Miller, '23, BA in Earth & Planetary Sciences and German

Since graduating from Hopkins, Rachel is pursuing a PhD in the Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences Department at Purdue University. She recently TA'd for Wasatch-Uinta geology field camp in Salt Lake City Utah and is conducting her own field research on ancient volcano formation mechanisms. Her German language skills have served her in particular in her role as head of a project that uses bedrock drill cores currently stored in Bremen to explore oceanic rifting style of the mid-ocean ridge. Having always enjoyed fantasy, folklore, and mythology, Rachel particularly enjoyed her courses on German fiction at JHU. Her German language knowledge was also beneficial as a voice student at the Peabody Institute at JHU, and it enabled a deeper appreciation of German and Austrian music.

Alice Hubbard, '22, BA/MA in International Studies and a Minor in German

Alice hails from Chicago and began to learn German in school. Growing up in a bilingual environment, where she spoke both English and Swedish, Alice had little difficulty picking up German rather quickly. She enjoys reading German literature and political thought. In Summer 2022 she received a fellowship to intern at the German Marshall Fund. Following her BA, Alice completed a masters degree in International Relations at SAIS. She is currently a Cybersecurity Policy Analyst at Venable LLC in Washington, DC.

Yanni Gu, '21, BA Neuroscience; Minor in German Language & Literature

Born in China, Yanni completed her high school studies in the United States before arriving at Johns Hopkins where she began learning German from scratch. Yanni proved to be one of our most engaged undergraduates in the program, organizing many events as president of the German Club and member of the Delta Phi Alpha German Honorary Society. Yanni is currently working in the non-profit philanthropic fundraising sector in Colorado.

Insa Mannstadt, '21, German Language & Literature and Molecular & Cellular Biology

Born in Munich, Germany, Insa grew up in Boston, Massachusetts in a German-speaking family. While at Johns Hopkins, Insa coupled her love of German literature and culture with her interests in biology and medicine and also was a varsity player on the Hopkins Soccer Team. She was inducted into the German Honorary Society and won first prize in Delta Phi Alpha's German essay competition with her entry "Meine Zeit im Gefängnis." After graduation, Insa took a position as Clinical Research Assistant at Hospital for Special Surgery in New York City. She is currently in

medical school at Columbia University.

Sebastian Kettner, '20, Writing Seminars, German Language & Literature

Sebastian graduated from Johns Hopkins with honors in German after writing a senior thesis (Advisors: Jennifer Gosetti-Ferencei and Rochelle Tobias) entitled "An Objective Subjectivity: Rilke's Neue Gedichte." After graduation, Sebastian spent time abroad teaching English in Bulgaria and is currently working as a writer and editor for small businesses in the Raleigh-Durham area.

Bridget Chen, '19, BS in Neuroscience, second major in German Language & Literature

Originally from Michigan, Bridget had lived in Germany with her family and gained working proficiency in the language before coming to Johns Hopkins for her undergraduate studies. While at Hopkins, Bridget quickly gained advanced proficiency and was awarded a Max Kade summer grant to conduct research in the lab of Dr. Hannah Monyer at the Heidelberg University Hospital studying the cellular mechanisms of memory and learning. After graduation, Bridget was accepted into the MD/PhD program at the Yale School of Medicine where she specializes in women's health.

Audrey M. Adams, '17, International Studies and German Language & Literature

Audrey began her academic career at Hopkins with a passion for the German language and culture which only deepened when she received a Max Kade Summer Study Grant to complete an internship with the Industrie und Handelskammer Potsdam. While there, she worked in the International Business Department, North American Division and honed her German language skills and knowledge of the regional culture. As a German major, Audrey led the German Club for several years and was inducted into the German Honorary Society. She completed the German major with Honors with a senior thesis on the practice of ekphrasis in the poetry of Rainer Maria Rilke and Eduard Mörike, supervised by Rochelle Tobias. Post-graduation, Audrey worked for the Federal Trade Commission in Washington, DC, and is currently completing her JD at the University of Pennsylvania.

Chaconne Martin-Berkowicz, '17, Creative Writing, Film

Chaconne is a writer and director from Portland, OR. She most recently worked as a Staff Writer on Amazon's *I Know What You Did Last Summer*. Her short film, *In Sync*, premiered at Maryland Film Festival 2021 and is now streaming on NoBudge. Her most recent short, *Scotty's Vag*, premiered at SXSW 2023 and won Best Narrative Short at Atlanta Film Festival.

Prior to moving to LA, Chaconne received a Max Kade Grant to spend a summer in Berlin researching how female sexuality is portrayed in films of the Weimar Republic. Female sexuality and its evolution are themes she explores in her work.

Hannah Froehle, '13, International Studies, German Language & Literature, and Economics

Before beginning her undergraduate studies at Hopkins, Hannah took a year off to travel to Germany with the Rotary International Youth Exchange Program. During this "gap year" Hannah attended a Gymnasium in northern Germany and lived with a host family. Upon arriving at Hopkins, Hannah continued studying German and decided to pursue the major. Hannah received a DAAD grant to participate in the BCGS Program in Berlin her junior year, where she had the time of her life and fell in love with the city. In her senior year, Hannah wrote her honors thesis, "Digging Beneath the Rubble: Ernst Jünger's Kriegsmythos," building on research begun the previous year in Berlin. Hannah also received a Dean's Undergraduate Research Award to present

her work at the German Undergraduate Research Conference at Illinois-Wesleyan University. After graduating, Hannah returned to Germany with the help of a Max Kade grant, to travel through southern Germany working on various organic farms. She lived in Stockholm, Sweden. Her senior thesis was published in the December 2013 issue of the Comparative Literature Undergraduate Journal of the University of California at Berkeley. Currently a manager at adelphi, Hannah Froehle facilitates green investment and supports key players in the areas of sustainable finance and green financial products. Working languages: German, English, Swedish.

Cecilia Sebastian, '13, Philosophy and German Language & Literature

Cecilia began her study of German in her freshman year at Hopkins and spent her junior year fully immersed at the BCGS Program in Berlin. While in Berlin, she also worked as a translator for the Berlin-based translation company Samson & Fritaud Text and began research for her honors thesis on feminine allegories in Nietzsche, under the supervision of Dr. Katrin Pahl in the German Department. She also received a summer travel grant from JHU's Max Kade Center, which she used to further her thesis research. In her senior year, she attended the German Studies Undergraduate Conference, funded by DAAD, at Indiana University in Bloomington to present her work. Cecilia completed a PhD in German at Yale University in 2022 and is now a lecturer and researcher at the University of Constance in Germany.

Josephine Mintel, '13 Neuroscience

Josey fell in love with German when she studied at the IES in Vienna during her junior year. She spent the following summer improving her German language skills in order to enroll in the Advanced German curriculum. In her final semester, she applied to the competitive 'Congress-Bundestag-Young-Professionals' Program (CBYX) and will spend the next year in Germany completing intensive language training, attending university courses in Neuroscience for one semester and subsequently embarking on a 5-month internship at an auditory neuroscience lab under Herr Doktor Professor Tobias Moser, studying pitch perception in marmosets through behavioral experiments.

Patrick Wildes, '13 International Studies with a minor in German

Pat graduated Johns Hopkins with a major in International Studies and a minor in German and Entrepreneurship and Management. His background in German and International Studies has proven to be an invaluable asset in his chosen career. Pat works as an Analyst at Morgan Stanley, where he interacts on a daily basis with international clients and analysts. He would love to work and live one day in Germany.

Irene Ho, '12 Molecular and Cellular Biology and German Language and Literature

Irene studied German in high school and when she came to Johns Hopkins her language skills were already quite advanced. The one thing she had not been able to do was go to Germany and, due to the research she was conducting in biology, she could not take advantage of the opportunity to study abroad in her junior year. This changed when with the help of the engineering faculty she was able to enroll in May 2011 at the Technical University of Munich. During that time she also interned at the Helmholtz Zentrum Munich, a world-renowned biomedical research institute. Irene is a Doctor of Physical Therapy at NYC Health where she specializes in neurological physical therapy and geriatrics.

Aliyah Sanders, '11, Neuroscience with Minor in German Language & Literature

Upon graduation, Aliyah received a Fulbright fellowship to complete a Masters in Translational Medical Research at the Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg. Upon completion, she remained in Germany to work in a lab (and a chocolate shop!). Aliyah completed her MD at the Boston University School of Medicine in 2017 and is now a practicing pediatrician.

Michael Arnst, '10, International Studies and German Language & Literature

Michael hails from Minnesota where he first studied German. As a Woodrow Wilson Fellow at Hopkins, Michael spent a summer researching Thomas Mann in Germany and writing an honors thesis "Setting the Stage: Theatricality in Thomas Mann's Early Novellas" while double majoring in IS, working on a number of additional languages (French, Kiswahili, Portuguese) and spending his junior year abroad in Botswana. After graduation, Michael worked in Washington, DC at the National Endowment for Democracy on the Africa desk and was a Fellow of Princeton in Africa in South Africa. Michael completed an MA in Urban Planning at McGill University and is currently working in the affordable housing sector in Philadelphia.

Miyako Hayakawa, '09, German Language & Literature

Before beginning her studies at Hopkins, Miya spent a year at a German school immersed in the German language & culture. As a major in German, Miya wrote an honors thesis on the Japanese-German writer Yoko Tawada. She is currently completing a Ph.D. in German Literature at Cornell University.

Katherine LeFevre, '06, German Language & Literature & Premed

Katie, a native of Minnesota, was co-founder of the German Club while at Hopkins and spent a summer in Germany as an intern working at a school for developmentally challenged children and perfecting her German. After graduation, Katie studied medicine at Baylor College of Medicine, Houston and is currently in private practice.

Robert Freundlich, '06, German Language & Literature & Premed

Rob is from New Jersey. Together with his future wife, Katie LeFevre, Rob found the German Club and instituted the popular Stammtisch which continues today. Rob completed summer immersion study at Middlebury to advance his German studies while completing the major. After receiving his BA in German, Rob completed his MS in biotechnology at Hopkins and studied medicine at Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, and is currently in private practice.