

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT CHICAGO

**TRANSATLANTIC PROGRAM 2008**  
**DESCRIPTION AND SUGGESTIONS FOR THE ACADEMIC PART**

**Part 1 of the Transatlantic Program:**  
**Ten-day Immersion Seminar in German Language/Culture**

The objective of this ten-day program is to introduce students to German society, culture, business, and political life, and to prepare them for German language and culture skills needed in their internship.

The group will study current cultural as well as discipline oriented texts, work with the internet, study film and the news media, communicate with German native experts. Interactive language-building activities and working in small groups will strengthen the students' German communication skills, especially for business environments.

Class room materials are prepared by specialists in German culture and language instruction. The materials (practical language books, articles, vocabulary lists and exercises) are chosen for students with a language proficiency of at least two years of college German.

Additionally, preparatory materials will be handed out to the students before the start of the program. Instruction in Germany utilizes the communicative approach to language learning.

Instructor: Helga W. Kraft, Professor of Germanic Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago. Prof. Helga Kraft has been instructor of the Transatlantic Program since its start in 2005.

Teaching assistants: Jutta Behnen and Ingo Fehrmann, teaching assistants from the Humboldt University in Berlin. Both joined the Transatlantic Program in 2006, in order to provide multiple groups for different language levels.

- I. In the mornings the students meet for language and culture instruction. The communicative method of instruction will be utilized. The sessions will be divided into units each featuring various aspects of language learning, group work, role-plays, lectures, as well as discussions on German business culture. Due to occasional day-trips and meetings, these times may be shifted. Modifications are at the organizer's discretion.
- II. In the afternoons and evenings students will visit selected governmental, business and cultural units where they attend lectures, converse with experts, and participate in tours guided by experts.

Total: 45 contact hours. Students will receive a certificate of completion for the academic portion of this week-long immersion course.

If you have questions about the academic outline, please contact:

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**Part 2 of the Transatlantic Program:  
Individual Internships**

**Suggestions for Conferring Credit**

**For Colleges That Have Internship Courses Listed in their Catalogues**

The suggestions are based on courses offered at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

For the minimum 2 month internship program students could receive 3 – 4 credit hours for a course equivalent to Ger 492 (see description below), plus an additional 3 – 4 credits if they enroll in a course equivalent to Ger 493 (see below) after returning to campus. For this course they write a report/term paper relating their internship experience to the academic debate on international business.

**For those who would like to add internship courses to their curriculum:**

Sample courses from the Department of Germanic Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago. The following courses are both for undergraduates and graduates

Ger 492 Internship in International Business

0 TO 12 hours. Student placement in an international organization or firm in a German-speaking country or its U.S. subsidiary or division. Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. May be repeated with approval. Approval to repeat course granted by the department. *Prerequisite(s)*: GER 211; and consent of the instructor and a GPA of 2.00. Recommended background: Concurrent registration in GER 493 or registration in GER 493 in the semester immediately following.

Ger 493 Internship Seminar: Business

1 TO 4 hours. Academic component of the internship experience. Studies in the field of the internship and further investigation of related topics. May be repeated with approval. Approval to repeat course granted by the department. A maximum of 3 hours of credit may be applied toward an undergraduate degree offered by the Department of Germanic Studies, and a maximum of 4 hours of credit may be applied toward a graduate degree offered by the Department of Germanic Studies. *Prerequisite(s)*: GER 211 and credit or concurrent registration in GER 492 and consent of the instructor and a grade point average of 2.00.

**For Colleges without Internship Courses**

For the minimum 2 months internship program students could receive 3-4 credit hours in "Independent Studies." If they hand in a report/term paper on their internship experience after their return, they could receive another 3-4 credits in "Independent Studies".

(Students may get more credit if they stay longer than 2 months)

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