



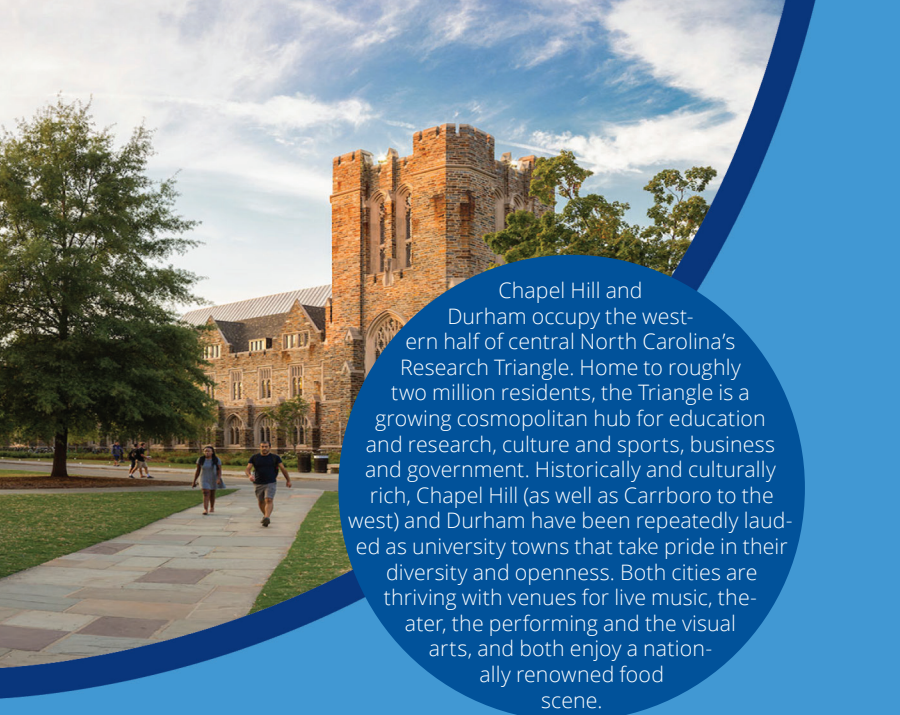
CALL FOR  
APPLICATIONS  
2025-2026

# CDG

## CAROLINA-DUKE GRADUATE PROGRAM IN GERMAN STUDIES

### **TWO UNIVERSITIES, ONE DOCTORAL PROGRAM**

The Carolina-Duke Graduate Program in German Studies combines the resources of two great universities in a curriculum that joins disciplinary rigor with interdisciplinary flexibility to create an internationally acclaimed center of excellence for graduate training, research, teaching, and scholarly exchange.



Chapel Hill and Durham occupy the western half of central North Carolina's Research Triangle. Home to roughly two million residents, the Triangle is a growing cosmopolitan hub for education and research, culture and sports, business and government. Historically and culturally rich, Chapel Hill (as well as Carrboro to the west) and Durham have been repeatedly lauded as university towns that take pride in their diversity and openness. Both cities are thriving with venues for live music, theater, the performing and the visual arts, and both enjoy a nationally renowned food scene.

## APPLY

---

### ADMISSIONS

The Graduate Program seeks prospective students who demonstrate academic excellence. We welcome applicants from diverse academic and cultural backgrounds from the U.S. and abroad. A bachelor's degree or the equivalent is required in German Studies or a related field.

Applications must include a statement of purpose and a writing sample. Application deadlines are generally in mid-December for the following academic year, which begins in August.

For details about the required application materials, visit:

<http://carolina-duke-grad.german.duke.edu/apply>

To apply to the Graduate Program, visit:

[gradschool.unc.edu/admissions/](https://gradschool.unc.edu/admissions/)

Applications are due on December 10, 2024 for the academic year 2025–2026.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions regarding the Graduate Program can be addressed to:

Dr. Sarah Pourciau  
Duke University  
[sarah.pourciau@duke.edu](mailto:sarah.pourciau@duke.edu)

Dr. Tobias Wilke  
UNC-Chapel Hill  
[twilke@email.unc.edu](mailto:twilke@email.unc.edu)

# THE CORE FACULTY

**Ruth von Bernuth:**

Early Modern Literature and Culture, Yiddish Studies, Folly Literature, Disability Studies.

**Stefani Engelstein:**

18th-19th- Century Literature and Science, Transnational Romanticism, Gender Studies, Critical Race Theory, Aesthetics.

**Kata Gellen:**

Modernism, Film, Fin-de-siècle & Post-War Austrian Literature, German-Jewish Studies.

**April Henry**

Pedagogy, Medieval Literature, Gender Studies, Popular Culture.

**Richard Langston:**

20th- & 21st- Century Literature, Modernism & Avant-Garde Studies, Critical Theory, Film & Media Studies.

**Priscilla Layne:**

Film & Music, Subculture Studies, Gender Studies, Afro-German History & Culture, Multiculturalism, Translation.

**Adi Nester:**

19th-20th-Century German-Jewish Literature and Thought, Music, Political Theory, Theories of Language and Translation.

**Jakob Norberg:**

Political Theory, Intellectual & Cultural History.

**Henry Pickford:**

Post-Kantian philosophy, Frankfurt School Critical Theory, Idealism, Wittgenstein, Philosophical Aesthetics, Philosophy and Literature.

**David Pike:**

20th-Century Literature, East German & Soviet Culture & Politics.

**Inga Pollmann:**

Film & Media Theory & History, Early Cinema, German Cinema, Film & Science, Aesthetic & Critical Theory.

**Sarah Pourciau:**

19th-20th Century Literature and Science, Philosophy & Aesthetics, Modernism, Literary Theory, Digital Theory.

**Aleksandra Prica:**

Medieval and Early Modern Literature and Culture, Media Studies, Literary Theory, Literature and Knowledge, Poetology and Hermeneutics.

**Mert Bahadır Reisoglu:**

Turkish German Studies, Media Theory and History, 20th- and 21st-Century Literature, Film and Theater, Intellectual History.

**Sophia Strieholt:**

Second Language Acquisition, L2 Pedagogy, Multilingualism, Motivation & Emotion, L2 Self, Sociolinguistics.

**Gabriel Trop:**

18th-Century Studies, Poetry & Poetics, Romanticism, Philosophy & Aesthetics.

**Tobias Wilke:**

Modernism and Avant-Garde Studies, Media Theory and Media History, Sound Studies, Literature and the History of Science, Digital Theory

## COURSE OF STUDY

---

### TWO UNIVERSITIES

Incoming students matriculate fully at both the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Duke University. Classes are offered every semester on both campuses and students travel via an express bus that departs every half hour. Over the course of the program, students will acquire teaching experience in a private (Duke University) and a public (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) setting.

### REQUIREMENTS OF STUDY

The faculty offers seminars at the leading edge of research in the field, designed to provide students with a deep grounding in German Studies and to prepare them for their own innovative dissertation research.

During the first two years, students complete five core seminars: Foreign Language Pedagogy (Theories and Practice); Foundations in German Studies I (1000-1700); Foundations in German Studies II (1750 - 1900); Foundations in German Studies III (1900 - present); and Theories and Methods in German Studies.

Students take seven electives in the program and two additional interdisciplinary courses outside the program. Prior to the dissertation, students will take a preliminary exam, and an oral defense is required upon submitting the dissertation. Both UNC-Chapel Hill and Duke University offer graduate students ample study and research opportunities in Berlin, Potsdam and Tübingen.

### THE DEGREE & THE PROFESSION

Students graduate with a diploma bearing the names of both Duke University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The faculty's students have secured jobs in German Studies at both public and private colleges and universities big and small throughout the United States.



## PROGRAM OVERVIEW & FUNDING

---

### **A PH.D. PROGRAM IN GERMAN LITERATURE, MEDIA, AND THEORY**

Carolina-Duke German is one of the leading PhD programs in German Studies. We offer:

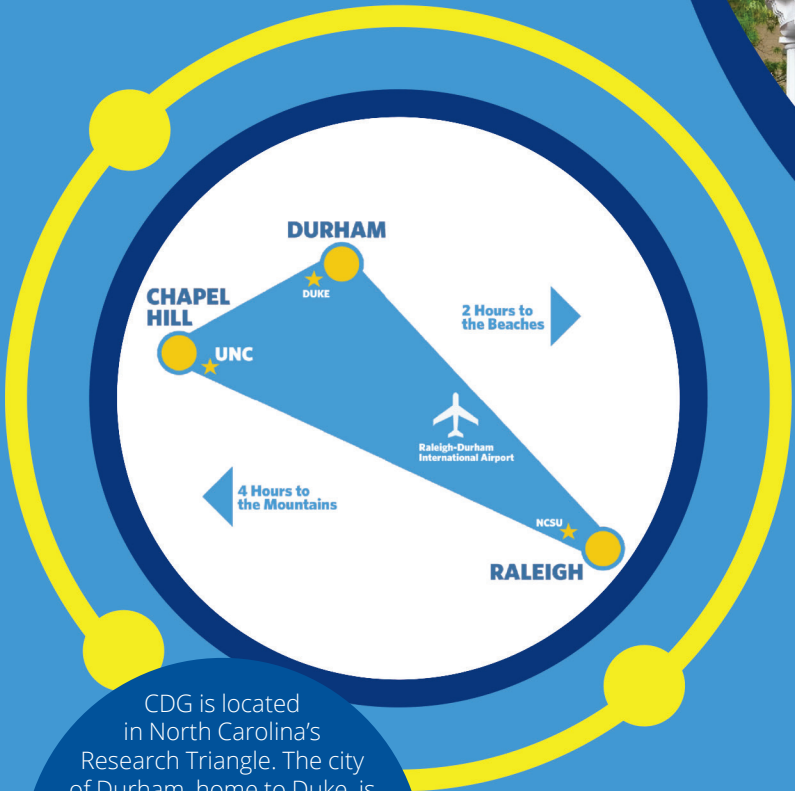
- the largest and widest-ranging faculty of any German program in North America
- historical expertise from medieval to 21st century literature, media and culture
- a plurality of methodological approaches
- an emphasis on intellectual engagement and community
- a commitment to exceptional mentoring
- pedagogical training and experience at both an elite private and a top public university

Carolina-Duke German faculty engage with a uniquely broad spectrum of methodological and disciplinary areas, including Black German studies, digital theory, film, gender studies, German Jewish studies, literary theory, media studies, opera studies, philosophy, science studies, and Turkish German studies. This unusual range is complemented by a shared investment in the communal projects of intellectual exchange and graduate student mentoring. Students have access to the advantages of both institutions and work closely with multiple faculty mentors throughout the entirety of the program.

### **GRADUATE FUNDING**

All matriculated students receive full funding for six consecutive years. See website for details.





CDG is located in North Carolina's Research Triangle. The city of Durham, home to Duke, is 10 miles from UNC-Chapel Hill. The Robertson Express Bus connects Duke and UNC every thirty minutes. Raleigh-Durham International Airport offers domestic and international travel with daily flights to Europe.



THE UNIVERSITY  
of NORTH CAROLINA  
at CHAPEL HILL

**Duke**  
UNIVERSITY