

German Studies

Fall 2022, Volume 16, Number 1



Dear Friends of German Studies,

While the pandemic is far from over, it has been wonderful to resume the German Studies Department's on-campus life this past year. In 2021-2022, we have been teaching happily back in our classrooms (mostly), cherishing spontaneous and real-life

interactions with our students using white board and paper alongside PowerPoint and Zoom. Let's not forget the pleasure of spontaneous conversations with students, colleagues, and staff in the hallways; drop-in office visits; joint meals; and face-to-face meetings. In the fall semester, we launched the popular "Take a major to lunch" initiative, with our majors taking German students to a department-sponsored informal lunch. The Department was also able to resume its rich on-campus cultural programming, with several well-attended and memorable lectures (see page 6). A particular highlight was the film screening of *Es gilt das gesprochene Wort (I Was, I Am, I Will Be)* and following discussion with director Ilker Çatak.

After a two-year hiatus, we have been looking forward to resuming our longstanding summer study abroad program in Vienna, Austria. This year's program featured a significant expansion in that the second half of the program took place in the charming university town of Freiburg, Germany, in the foothills of the Black Forest. Starting in the summer of 2022 and continuing over a period of three years, the Halle Foundation is offering scholarships for a three-week stay in Freiburg, Germany to complement the four-week stay in the Vienna metropolis. While Dr. Peter Höyng co-directed the Vienna portion this year, Dr. Dan Walter (Oxford College) led the Freiburg portion. Please see page 5 for more information on the program.

The Halle Foundation also provided generous support for eleven students on a fully funded Berlin study trip in March 2022, helping those majors who could not partake in the Vienna summer program over the past two years. On page 4, DAAD Lecturer Frank Voigt and students write about this unforgettable trip.

We are deeply grateful for this funding from the Halle Foundation, which also has supported students living in the German House on the Clairmont Campus. In addition, generous funding from the Max Kade Foundation, the Viola Westbrook Fund, and the Halle Foundation all enabled many of our majors and minors to take advantage of our various study abroad options—for some the first opportunity to travel outside the US. These funds will soon be joined by the Monique and Ferdinand Seefried Fund. In his new role as Director of Outreach and Engagement, Dr. Höyng will launch a funding campaign in recognition of our beloved long-time senior lecturer, Marianne Lancaster, who retired in 2020.

The German Studies faculty continued to distinguish itself in its research output, with successful external and internal grant applications, peer-reviewed articles, conference presentations, and invited lectures. All faculty are also involved in book-length translations, monographs, or edited volumes, some of which will be in print as soon as next year – keep your eyes peeled! Dr. Didem Uca and Dr. Miriam Udel are also planning a conference tentatively titled "Making the Canon, Breaking the Canon: the Task of the Translator" for September 2023.

I particularly wish to congratulate Dr. Udel who will assume the position of Director of the Tam Institute of Jewish Studies in September 2022, and Dr. Maxim who will serve as interim chair of the Spanish and Portuguese Department in 2022-2023. Dr. Buchholz will serve as our Department's Director of Undergraduate Studies and Director of Undergraduate Research. It has been a true pleasure to work with such engaged and enthusiastic colleagues. Thank you to all the students, colleagues, alumni, and friends who have helped make my first year as chairperson such a delightful and gratifying experience. Thank you especially to our staff, Terez Whatley-White and Dominique Thiers-Schmidt, whose tireless engagement made all of the above possible.

With gratitude,

Caroline Schaumann
Professor and Chairperson of German Studies

Newsletter of the
Department of
German Studies at
Emory University

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Help sustain
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Faculty Activity

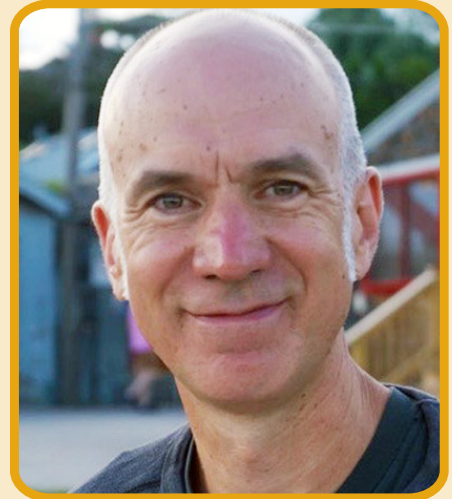


After a year of Zoom instruction, Paul Buchholz was delighted to return to the classroom in the fall semester of 2021, teaching both introductory German and a third-year course on love and German culture in the twentieth century. He completed the manuscript of a chapter for a forthcoming MLA volume *Teaching German Literature of the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries*, which discusses how Franz Kafka's 1914 short story "In the Penal Colony" can be read as a mediation of global history of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Also for the first time since the beginning of the pandemic, Prof. Buchholz traveled to Indianapolis in October 2021 for the German Studies Association conference, presenting new work on Austrian dialect poetry of the 1970s and its relation to the environmental movement. In the spring semester, Prof. Buchholz advised two senior theses, and received course releases supported by the Emory University Research Council (URC) Halle grant, which allowed him to devote the majority of his time to working on his next book, *Relations of Desolation: Collectivity and Environmental Crisis after 1968*, including new research on the alternative press and countercultural environmentalism in West Germany, Austria, and the United States, including explorations of German- and English-language works in the incredible Raymond

Danowski Poetry Library at Emory. In the summer of 2022, he traveled to Vienna, Austria, to continue the collection and analysis of primary sources.



This past year, Peter Höyng was able to resume in-person conferences including those organized, respectively, by the German and Austrian Studies Associations. The contrast with virtual meetings could not have been more positive, for the time spent with colleagues outside of formal presentations makes all the difference. Likewise, Höyng very much enjoyed moving back to the traditional classroom in the fall when he taught two new courses: one on the "Cultural History of Blackness in Germany," and the other, a capstone colloquy, on what it means for our students to pursue German studies as a major or minor. In addition to serving as president of the College's Faculty Senate, Höyng was pleased to see an essay on the German-Jewish playwright George Tabori published in an anthology, entitled *Open Wounds: Holocaust Theater and the Legacy of George Tabori* (U of Michigan Press).



Hiram Maxim continued his research into instructed adults' sociolinguistic development, focusing in particular on two learning contexts: the Emory German Studies curriculum and the linguistic landscape. His work on the Emory curriculum resulted in one article examining the longitudinal development of students' writing abilities within the Emory curriculum and another article in preparation on the sociolinguistic experiences of international students learning German at Emory. His work in linguistic landscape studies focused on the completion of a co-edited volume on language learning opportunities in the linguistic landscape in accepted for publication. He also was excited to reboot his work with students on the exploration of Atlanta's linguistic landscape, a project that was sidelined during the height of the pandemic. During the spring semester he and six other students launched the research project, Languages Across Metro Atlanta, by conducting small-scale pilot research projects into multilingual language use in public spaces in Atlanta. Their work can be found on the project's website (<https://scholarblogs.emory.edu/lama/>). In addition to his research activity, he completed his three-year appointment as NEH/Masse-Martin Distinguished Teaching Professor by working with junior faculty to enhance their teaching practices.



Caroline Schaumann began her term as chairperson of the Department as the first female full Professor to do so. Schaumann also served as co-Director of Undergraduate Studies for the Sustainability Minor and became affiliated faculty with the Environmental Sciences Department. She gave guest lectures connected to the publication of her book *Peak Pursuits: The Emergence of Mountaineering in the Nineteenth Century* (Yale University Press, 2020) at Emory, the University of Münster, Germany, and the University of Colorado at Boulder. In spring 2022, she taught a newly designed senior seminar "GER 405 *Heimat: Identity and Belonging*," a course that fulfills the new Race and Ethnicity Requirement and investigates how the idea of *Heimat* resonates in contemporary Germany as a country of immigration and refugees. She published an essay "Von der topographischen Karte zum 360° Panoramablick: Die Berg-Bilder des Horace-Bénédict de Saussure," and submitted two more articles for publication. Schaumann also joined the editorial board of the *German Quarterly* by the American Association of Teachers of German, and became co-coordinator of the environmental studies network of the German Studies Association.



Didem Uca made progress on her monograph on the contemporary transnational *Bildungsroman* as a summer fellow at Washington University of St. Louis. She published research on various aspects of German post/migrant cultural production in *Monatshefte, Die Unterrichtspraxis/Teaching German* and *Seminar*, and translations of important contemporary poetry and essays in *SAND Journal* and *TRANSIT*. She gave invited talks at the University of Maryland and the University of Arkansas and presented at five conferences. She continued serving as co-editor of *Türkisch-Deutsche Studien* and in leadership roles for professional organizations that foster inclusivity and antiracist praxis in German Studies. After spending her first year at Emory teaching remotely, Prof. Uca was thrilled to finally work with students on campus! Her courses included German 201, 202, and 102, and three new courses: a first-year seminar on contemporary German migrant cultures, a co-taught sidecar course on coming of age in German and American cultures, and a German creative writing workshop. She looks forward to fostering interdisciplinary connections in her new roles as associated faculty in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and Middle Eastern and South Asian Studies.



Miriam Udel spent 2021-22 as an NEH Public Scholar working on a critical study of Yiddish children's literature as a resource for understanding Jewish modernity. She completed three chapters related to gender (on gendered reading practices and on the construction of boyhood and girlhood, respectively) as a scholar-in-residence at the Hadassah Brandeis Institute. Portions of the project concerning Europe and Latin America were also supported by a URC-Halle award. She is collaborating with Professor Uca on teaching an undergraduate translation seminar in Spring 2023 and hosting a related conference the following fall; these initiatives lay at the heart of a successful application, together with Prof. Uca and Prof. Emily Finer at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland, for a Halle Institute for Global Research Grant. In August, Udel began a three-year term as Judith London Evans Director of the Tam Institute of Jewish Studies at Emory.

Study Abroad Trips

Study Abroad Trip to Berlin during Spring Break 2022

For 10 days during spring break, 12 German majors and minors travelled with Professors Höyng and Voigt to Berlin. As soon as we arrived, we were exposed to the myriad cultures that come together to make Berlin unique. The smells of bread, coffee, and *Döner* welcomed us to our hostel in Rosenthaler Platz. From this central location, just two stations northwest of Alexanderplatz, the entire city was ours to explore.

This trip provided us with the opportunity to explore a culture we have studied for years, observing how what we read and studied influenced how it felt to be in a dynamic, modern city with centuries of rich history and culture. Over those ten days, we convened as a class every day to discuss five important historical time periods: *Reichsgründung*, *Weimarer Republik*, *Nazi-Diktatur*, *Geteilte Stadt (Berliner Mauer)* und *Seit der Wiedervereinigung*. We visited important cultural sites relating to those periods such as Rosa Luxemburg Platz, the newly opened Humboldt Forum, the Staatsoper, and the Berliner Ensemble. Through this comprehensive study of Berlin, we grew accustomed to German public transportation such as the *U-Bahn* and *S-Bahn*, as well as what it was like to experience day-to-day life (not to mention, the food was delicious!) We grew closer as a group and got the chance to improve our German each day. Near the end of our trip, we began to work in small groups on our group projects, where each project aimed to explore an important part of Berlin culture. Projects ranged from the famous Berlin hospital Charité, to the Museumsinsel and the politics of exhibition, with its exhibitions in the Alte Museum, the Neue Museum, and the Bode Museum, from the various coffeehouse cultures and their social life to a comparison of preschool education and pedagogy in West and East Berlin during the Cold War, and to the debated legacy of Bertolt Brecht and its urban manifestations from the 1960s until today.

Our group is forever indebted to the Halle Foundation for giving us this wonderful opportunity through their generous support. We have come out of this amazing experience as informed, global citizens – students who have seen firsthand both the tangible and intangible relationship between German and American culture.

By Hannah Klein, Hannah Kreuziger, and JT Ryan



Potsdamer Platz

Das schnell kurze Beine
gewaschene Rad
lässt jemand schon
sein Knie beugen.
Die sich gerade deutlich
erhebenden Hände
hält jemand schon
für Ergebung.
Die unberührte Welt
will jemand wahllos
aufschneiden,
Zentrum zu Trümmer
Heimat zu Rand.

Dreihundert Jahre später
ist Geschichte lang.
Dreißig Jahre später
ist das Gedächtnis kurz.
Drei Sekunden später
ist der Eindruck zeitlos.

Eine obere Wand wurde
zu einer niedrigen Linie.

Inmitten von drei gegen-
sätzlichen Gebäuden ist
die jüngste aber älteste Ampel.
Ihre vorsätzlichen Uhren
weisen in Richtung Zukunft.

Das nur halbgebaute
Denkmal gravierte
den für gestern
geopferten Helden,
der jetzt sich
als endloser Fußgänger,
die Einkaufstasche
im Arm wie ein Kind
haltend, ausgibt,
dessen Atem sind
die Instrumente
am Konzertende:
brennend, auseinander-
fallen, an Wintertagen.

Der Platz ist voll
von leeren Flaschen,
die sind von Betrunknen
verlassen – und werden von
den Herzen derer, die ihre
Tränenflecken wieder abwischen,
geschmolzen.

Alte Säulen verlassen
die furchtlosen Vögel,
zur Glaskuppel des neuen Bahnhofs
als Zuhause.

Diese aufgereihten Brauntöne
sind ihr geronnenes Blut.
Dieses engelsweiße Dach
ist der Funke ihres Geistes.

von John Cai

Study Abroad Trip to Vienna and Freiburg

Emory's oldest summer study abroad program, the German Studies program in Vienna, celebrated its 49th year in 2022 by adhering to some traditions and also making some big changes.

As usual, sixteen second-year and advanced German students spent June in Vienna, Austria, recently recognized by *The Economist* as, once again, the most livable city in the world. The group enjoyed taking courses that often leave the classroom to incorporate all the city has to offer; getting to know their host families and the quirks of the Viennese dialect; exploring the cultural opportunities including theater, opera, and museums; relaxing in parks and swimming in the Danube river; and venturing outside of Vienna to destinations including Melk, Mauthausen, Schneeberg, Salzburg, Budapest, and more. We celebrated the end of a successful month with a group dinner at a popular Heuriger, one of the wine taverns in the vineyards surrounding the city.

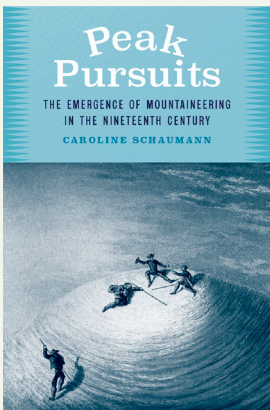
On Saturday, July 2, the group traveled by train through the gorgeous Austrian and Swiss countryside to Freiburg, Germany, a small university city known as the "capital of the Black Forest." Classes began on July 4th; students were looking forward to advancing their language skills and learning about what makes the city special, including its focus on sustainability and "green" living. In addition, we hiked in the Black Forest and traveled to both France and Switzerland, two countries within an hour's train ride away. Students this year greatly benefited from the ability to compare life in the Austrian metropolis with that in a smaller German city, and we are excited that Freiburg is now a part of the summer program!

By Sarah Richards



Events

Thanks to the opening of the campus, we were able to once again host many engaging in-person events. In September 2021, Dr. Hiram Maxim facilitated a roundtable discussion *Nach den Wahlen*, with Dr. Levin Arnsberger (Emory), Dr. Frank Voigt (Emory), and Dr. Berna Gueneli (University of Georgia) expounding on the results of the 2021 German election *auf Deutsch*.



In February 2022, our own Professor Caroline Schaumann read excerpts from her monograph, *Peak Pursuits: The Emergence of Mountaineering in the Nineteenth Century* (Yale UP, 2020). *Peak Pursuits* traces the exciting and contradictory, idealized and

often fraught cultural history of mountaineering. In a lively conversation with Professor Heather Sullivan (Trinity University) before a packed audience, Schaumann examined depictions of exploration in the Alps, Andes, and the Sierra Nevada that inform culturally constructed notions of nature, wilderness, and masculinity to this day.



Dr. Frank Voigt

The Department's DAAD Visiting Lecturer, Dr. Frank Voigt, presented his research in March 2022 in a lecture "The Recently Discovered 'Fuchs' Manuscript Sheds New Light on Walter Benjamin's Analysis

of German Fascism." Voigt investigated how the Fuchs manuscript contributes significantly to a better understanding of Benjamin's analysis of the rise of German fascism and his concept of history.



Ilker Çatak

That same week, we were treated to the film screening of *Es gilt das gesprochene Wort (I Was, I Am, I Will Be)*, <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt9233612/>, followed by a discussion with director Ilker Çatak

and Associate Professor Gueneli (University of Georgia).



Shot in Turkey and Germany, Çatak's highly recommended second feature film follows the unexpected and life-changing marriage between Marion, a German airline pilot, and Baran, a former Kurdish soldier working at a bar in a Turkish tourist resort.

Our annual Maximilian Aue Memorial Lecture (<https://german.emory.edu/news-events/maximilian.html>) took place in April, with a captivating presentation by Dr. Gundolf Graml, Professor of German and Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean for Curriculum and Strategic Initiatives at Agnes Scott College. In "Where is this much-acclaimed Austria? Tracing Austria's National (Self) Image Through the Lens of Tourism," Graml explored how tourism shaped the formation of the Second Austrian Republic from 1945 to the present.



Dr. Gundolf Graml

As part of the Mellon Humanities Pathways program, the Department hosted its third online alumni panel in November 2021. Karen Eng, Rishi Ganti, and Ida Blaser talked about how their pursuits in the humanities at Emory led to a variety of exciting and fulfilling career pursuits, an event available on the departmental as well as the Mellon grant website (<https://humanities-pathways.emory.edu/alumni/index.html>).

The German Club and the German House (<https://german.emory.edu/undergraduate/student-life/index.html>) organized film evenings, board game evenings, and outings to the *Christkindlmarkt* and to a local German restaurant. They also helped organize two exceedingly popular *Grillfeste* for up to sixty eager and hungry students.

Student News

Over the past year students in the German Studies Department have been involved in a range of academic projects both in and out of the classroom. The following summary highlights several of their notable achievements.

Last fall, students in Prof. Frank Voigt's course, "Unraveling Berlin," explored crucial and still relevant moments in the cultural and political history of student life in Berlin and gained an understanding of the active role that students played in the diverse history of Berlin and the country at large. Among the many topics examined, the class explored the book burnings in 1933, which were not administered by Hitler or Goebbels, but organized by conservative and Nazi students as the pinnacle of an anti-Semitic campaign against "un-German" literature and science. Undergraduates also explored how students in the 1960s discussed Germany's Nazi past and strategies for radical democracy or revolution while reading Uwe Timm's 1974 novel, *Heißer Sommer*. At the end of the class, each student conducted research on a topic of their choice and produced a 10-minute podcast episode in cooperation with the Emory Center for Digital Scholarship. To hear reports on topics including the student struggle for a democratic university and society in West-Germany in the 1960s and 1970s, the fight for the right to abortion, or German "Krautrock" that inspired David Bowie, tune in at <https://unraveling-berlin.simplecast.com>.

In Spring 2022, students completed Prof. Caroline Schaumann's senior seminar GER 405: "*Heimat*: Identity and Belonging" with a creative

project presented during the final class meetings. These projects explored how race, migration status, gender, religion, sexuality, class, and other intersecting aspects of identity informed their own definition of *Heimat* or that of someone they are close to. Through interviews, videos, websites, creative albums, podcasts, posters, and even a tree planting, we learned about a wide variety of *Heimat* definitions and appropriations, from family histories to family traditions, from sports to music, from study abroad to migration, from nature to political protest. Thanks to the students for making this seminar such a meaningful, personal, and relevant experience.

Also this past spring semester, the nine students in Prof. Didem Uca's one-credit German 380: "Creative Writing *auf Deutsch*" course had the opportunity to learn about key short-form literary genres firsthand. They read fables, fairy tales, short stories, odes, memes, and several versions of the *Loreley/i Kunstsage*, and then produced impressive texts that both employed and subverted the traditional characteristics of each genre. Throughout the semester, students worked with writing partners to discuss and improve their writing in a workshop-style format, an aspect that they noted was particularly helpful for their development. The semester culminated in a public reading during which students presented their final projects— a revised version of one of the pieces they had written during the semester— and shared the inspiration behind each piece. It was also wonderful to see students sharing their creative writing in German with the broader Emory community: Sofia Gukelberger represented

German Studies at the Emory College Language Center Poetry Gala with a stunning poem she wrote for the course, while John Cai presented a brilliant trilingual one-act play he wrote for a playwriting course that featured some of his classmates and Prof. Uca. We hope that our students continue to develop their creative voices in German!

Last but not least, three graduating seniors in German Studies successfully defended honors theses. Alex Simmens, a German Studies and Philosophy, Politics, and Law major, received the distinction of honors for his thesis, advised by Prof. Paul Buchholz and entitled "Technology and Sustainability: The Consequences of Modernization on German Environmentalism," which focuses on environmentalist discourse in German-language writing since the 1970s. History major and German Studies minor Julien Nathan, also advised by Prof. Buchholz, received high honors for their thesis, "Who is the Nation: Democratization of Leftist Media in West Berlin," which focuses on the politics of cultural production by and about the immigrant communities of West Berlin from the 1960s until the 1990s. Kristin Wadsworth, a German Studies major and Economics minor, advised by Prof. Hiram Maxim, received highest honors for her thesis, "A functional discourse analysis of German media portrayals of virologist Dr. Christian Drosten during the COVID-19 pandemic," which analyzes the language used in a range of German media sources to portray Germany's leading virologist over the course of the first eighteen months of the pandemic.

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