APPLICATION TO THE M.A. PROGRAM:

Statement of Purpose: Submit a typewritten statement of 1-2 pages presenting your background, intellectual and literary interests, and reasons for pursuing graduate study in German.

Language Proficiency: Submit an audio file of your spoken German of about 3-5 minutes.

Official Transcript: Forward an official transcript of all college-level work to date.

Recommendations: Send three letters from persons familiar with your academic work.

TOEFL Score: All applicants whose native language is not English must supply results of either the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). The department requires a TOEFL score of at least 575 (paper), 233 (computer) or 88 (internet) or an IELTS overall score of 7.0.

Note: All materials are due by January 15 for students applying to enter the following fall. The Graduate Committee of the department will evaluate each file and notify applicants of the results by April 1. Admission is conditional and will change to full admission after your successful completion of the first term. The M.A. Program is designed for two academic years, starting in the fall. Award of a GTF is for one academic year at a time. Renewal depends upon ongoing departmental evaluation of course work, teaching success, and available funding. GTF support for the M.A. is limited to two academic years.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Course Work: Successful completion of a minimum of 12 courses (48 credits) at the 500 or 600 level. At least 10 of these (40 credits) must be in German (GER). A student may take up to 2 (8 credits) of these 12 graduate courses from other programs, if the courses are related to their research projects and with approval from the Graduate Advisor. Nine of the GER courses must be graded (and the total graduate GPA must remain 3.3 or higher), including six required core courses:
   
   = GER 690 – Literary Studies
   = GER 621 – Narrative: Texts, Contexts, Theory
   = GER 622 – Drama: Texts, Contexts, Theory
   = GER 623 – Lyric: Texts, Contexts, Theory
   = GER 624 – Critical and Philosophical Prose
   = GER 625 – Translations/Transformations

   In addition to these 48 credits, students must also complete the following 22 credits of course-work:
   
   = RL 608 (Wrk: Teaching Methods, graded, 4 credits) -- to be taken in the fall of their first year.
   = GER 609 pedagogy (6 credits) – a 1-credit course taken in each of the six quarters.
   = GER 601 (3 credits) – a 1-credit advising tutorial in first quarter and two of the three subsequent quarters (see below on "Portfolio Papers").
2. **Course Papers:** Students must complete at least one substantial research paper (16-18 pages plus bibliography) per term. Each term all professors teaching graduate courses in the Department of German and Scandinavian will provide alternatives (such as Final Exam, etc.) to writing a final research paper.

3. **Portfolio Papers:** Two papers from amongst the substantial research papers written during the first three terms of study must be revised under tutorial supervision (GER 601) and, once approved by the professor directing the tutorial, submitted as "Portfolio" papers. The purpose of this requirement is twofold: to enhance scholarly research and writing skills, and to enable students to prepare accomplished writing samples for future use. The first revised paper must be submitted by the end of the spring term of the first year. The second paper must be submitted by the end of the fall term of the second year. In each case, the revisions are to be undertaken (in the context of a GER 601 course) with the professor with whom the paper was originally written, except with approval of the Graduate Advisor. Students must submit an outline of their argument for the professor’s approval before revising each portfolio paper.

**Note:** Students must make at least one public presentation of their research (such as reading a 20-minute paper) at a joint graduate-student colloquium in winter term or at an approved conference.

4. **Foreign Language Requirement:** Students must satisfy Graduate School Requirement for competence in one other foreign language and the German and Scandinavian Department Requirement for competence in two foreign languages. In order to graduate, students have to pass two years (or the equivalent) of a language other than English and German. Students may take courses in this foreign language (above and beyond the course and credit requirements stated above) while pursuing their degree, or take the appropriate test at the University's Testing Center. It is not possible to start a regular first- or second-year language course during the fall term of the first year because of other required courses. Students who have no background in another foreign language should plan to take an accelerated first-year course (if available) in the winter, spring, and/or summer terms of their first year of study, so as to be able to complete this requirement by the end of their second year of study.
5. **Reading List:** Throughout their course of study each student will be expected to compile a personalized reading list. This list is comprised of selections from the core reading list, course readings, and texts chosen by the student by virtue of personal predilection. The compilation of the list should start during the first year in the program, and it will ultimately serve as the basis for the written and oral M.A. examinations. Sustained contact and discussion with faculty members from the beginning can expedite this process.

6. **Examinations:**

**Examination Committee:** The committee is composed of three tenure-related departmental faculty members. If the student is writing an M.A. thesis, the committee must include the thesis adviser (who will also be the director of the written and oral examination) and two additional faculty members. If the student is writing two M.A. papers, the committee consists of the advisers of each of the two papers and one additional faculty member, for a total of three members; the student chooses one of the M.A. paper advisers as the director of the written and oral examination. Students need to obtain final approval of their reading list from all committee members and are responsible for submitting the reading list (signed by all committee members) to the Director of Graduate Studies by March 31 of their second year (see timeline below).

**a. Written Examination:**
Each student must successfully complete the final written examination. The student will respond to one question from each of the following areas: one genre across different periods; one specific period; and one or more theoretical frameworks or philosophical discussions. The director of the written examination will advise the student as to the range of genres, periods, and theoretical frameworks covered by the questions. Responses are expected to be drawn from both the reading list and the student’s completed coursework. The exam will have two questions per category of which one must be answered; the student will be allowed to take the exam home and complete it within eight (8) hours. The examination is administered during the sixth week of the spring quarter of the second M.A. year.

**b. Oral Examination:**
Within two weeks of the written exam, the student takes a final 60-90 minute oral examination. Questions will pertain to the final written exam, the reading list, and the M.A. thesis or papers. The examiners will approve the M.A. thesis or papers only upon the student’s successful completion of the oral exam. Examiners' comments will be available, for viewing only, in each student’s file soon after the completion of the exam.

- **October 15** – Director of thesis (or first M.A. paper) chosen and one-page proposal/outline approved.


- **February 15** – Rough draft of second M.A. paper due. Selection of M.A. committee members; individual reading list to be developed in consultation with them.

- **March 31** – Approved thesis/second M.A. paper due. Reading list finalized, portfolio (see #3) complete.