THE CAREER CENTER

UNIVERSITY *of* WASHINGTON Division of Student Life

Career Paths for Germanics Majors

Achieving an excellent education is about many things: becoming a well-educated citizen, gaining knowledge for thoughtful and well-considered decisions, engaging your curiosity, and developing skills that will contribute to the greater good, for example. In addition, your education also prepares you to pursue a *wide variety of career paths*.

**Depth of knowledge** generally refers to the information and ways of thinking that are directly related to your academic major. In addition, you have developed an *incredibly important set of more general skills*: to think analytically and critically; to view issues in context and from multiple perspectives; to ask and address questions about ethical and societal implications; to pursue research; to engage your creativity; and to communicate complex issues clearly. Thus, *Germanics majors* offer an array of skills which are *highly valued by employers* from all sectors.

**Many Possibilities.** Because your major is not narrowly focused on specific career paths, you have a wide array of professional options. While this kind of career flexibility is definitely good news, it does require you to be more *proactive* in identifying and articulating your skills to potential employers.

Ready for the Work World. The top five critical skills identified by employers in a recent national survey were:

- Ability to communicate clearly
- Interpersonal / Teamwork skills
- Problem-solving and decision-making abilities
- Ability to find and process information
- Ability to plan, organize, and prioritize

You have undoubtedly developed these skills while studying at UW.

## JOB SKILLS RELATED TO GERMANICS MAJORS

Here are even more career-related skills and strengths that employers value:

Read/interpret/synthesize complex material Understand nuance and subtlety Handle ambiguity adeptly Understand & appreciate cultural variations See situations from multiple perspectives Produce effective persuasive writing Write/revise for wide variety of audiences Design and implement engaging presentations Understand nuance and subtlety Handle ambiguity adeptly Apply mental agility to creative problem-solving Understand the broader context Gather, analyze, organize, interpret data Summarize concisely and accurately Link abstract concepts to practical applications

Understand human nature & its variations Perceive patterns, structures, relationships Identify and explore implications Propose and support recommendations Simultaneously see big picture and details Engage intellectual curiosity Conduct research Bring motivation, imagination, enthusiasm, initiative Compare, contrast information / Draw conclusions Work well individually and on teams Understand data can be interpreted in multiple ways Assess audiences to communicate appropriately Write, revise, edit, proofread And many more!

## NEXT PAGE: ACTUAL JOBS IN THESE THREE CATEGORIES:

- 1. German is *required or preferred* and the job's *primary* responsibilities directly relate to your major
- 2. German is required or preferred but job's primary responsibilities aren't directly related to your major
- 3. German isn't required or preferred but your other transferable skills make you highly qualified

# **1.** German is *Required* and the job's *primary* responsibilities directly relate to your major (Entry Level):

Language Instructor (MultiLingual Solutions) Online German Tutor (Tutor.com) German Translator (TEKsystems) German Editor (Morningside Translations) Translator and Subtitler -- English/German (Crunchyroll) German into English Quality Manager (TransPerfect) Medical Interpreter (German) Translator/Interpreter/Teacher/Tutor (Many)

# 2. German is Required/Preferred but job's primary duties aren't directly related to your major (Entry Level):

German Speaking Investigation Specialist - Wireless (Amazon) Overnight Europe Speed Reporter/Editor Job (Bloomberg News) German Data Analyst (MindLink) Project Coordinator Assistant, Berlin Germany (Ancestry.com) Due Diligence Analyst (Prescient Edge) Help Desk Representative (Wireless Analytics) Search Editor(Yahoo Careers) Localization QA Specialist (Appen) Research Associate - Fluent in German (STAX) Park Ranger -- Interpretation - German (National Park Service) Catalog Specialist - German Speaker (Amazon Instant Video) Bilingual German Support Lead (Carbine Studios) Customer Service Executive: Bilingual German Speaking (Dow-Jones) Bilingual Fraud Analyst (viagogo) Legal Assistant, Online Product Support - German (Google) Marketing Operations - Bilingual - Paid Internship (Impole Corporation) Marketing, Event & PR Internships (German-American Chamber of Commerce) Trust and Safety Investigator (Airbnb) Office & Communications Manager, Asst. to the Executive Director (Heinrich Boll Foundation North America) Global Customer Service Wizard (Omaze) Programme Officer - Berlin (Democracy Reporting International) International Internship – Experiential Marketing (BMW) Bilingual Product Specialist - German or French Fluency (Randstad) Marketing/Branding Intern (Vivaldi Partners) Treasury Service Associate (Wells Fargo) German English Website Moderator (SmartBomb Interactive)

## 3. Your major isn't required/preferred but your transferable skills make you highly qualified (Entry Level):

Grassroots Advocacy Coordinator (EveryLife Foundation for Rare Diseases), Research Associate (Environmental Law Institute), Knowledge Assistant (Children's Law Center), Recruitment & Admissions Assistant (Fund for American Studies), Partner Support Coordinator (Kiva Microfunds), Assistant Community Outreach Coordinator (Next Step Living), Change Corps Assistant Organizing Director (Work for Progress), Investigative Advocate (Disability Rights Washington), City Year - Corps Member (City Year Seattle/King County), Financial Advisor (ING Financial Partners), Patient Services Representative (Seattle Reproductive Medicine), Outreach Coordinator (MedBridge Education), Junior Project Manager (HealthPath Education), Internet Marketing Specialist (Chair 10 Marketing), Immigration Assistant/Receptionist (Law Firm), Marketing Coordinator (Yext),

Account Coordinator, Employee Benefits (MCM), Executive Team Leader (Target) More: Project Manager, Social Media Campaign Developer, Policy and Advocacy Specialist

## These are just some examples. The Career Center can help you find positions that meet your goals!