German

“One ought every day at least to hear a little song, read a good poem, see a fine picture, and, if it were possible, to speak a few reasonable words”

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Acing Your Language Class
Tips & Best Practices

Eating Authentically in Boston
Restaurant recommendations and recipes to try

Language of the Month Film Discussion

Add to Your Playlist and Watchlist
Songs and Movies

Literature and Authors
PRACTICE GERMAN with the ERC

The ERC offers tutoring for German! Peer Tutoring provides BU students an opportunity to meet with fellow students and ask questions related to their course material. Our tutors are here to guide, encourage, and support you in your learning process.

The ERC offers Language Link for German! Language Link hosts several informal, half-hour discussions each week. Sessions are led by a native speaker and are offered at three different levels: beginner, intermediate, and advanced.
German Unity Day, commonly referred to in German as *Tag der Deutsch Einheit*, commemorates the reunification of East and West Germany on October 3, 1990. It is observed by gathering with friends and family or by taking a short trip. There are also festivals and parades held in a different regional capital each year. This year's celebration will be held in Halle (Saale), Sachsen-Anhalt.

Celebrations also occur in Berlin each year. If you are in Berlin, you can celebrate with a concert at the Charlottenburg Palace; walk through Kreuzberg, Mitte, and Friedrichshain; or join a bike tour focused on surviving sections of the Berlin Wall and Cold War history.
Popular German Cuisine in Boston

1. **Swissbäkers**
   Swissbäkers is a Swiss-German bakery in Allston, MA. They're known for their pretzels and pretzel rolls.

2. **Trinktisch**
   Borrowing its namesake from the fusion of two German words “drink” and “table”, Trinktisch is a new convivial drink and food hall in Belmont, MA. It has a mix of sweet and savory options ranging from German potato salad to the belgian waffles.

3. **Clear Flour Bread & Bakery**
   If you're looking for a sweet way to start your afternoon or finish your day, check out this bakery for their great German breads.

4. **Brato**
   Check out this restaurant for authentic German food, including sausages (a must!), soups, sandwiches, as well as plant-based options!
Berlin Pfannkuchen

This iconic dish with many names is a donut with no central hole and marmalade or jelly in the center.

PREP TIME: 30 MIN | COOK TIME: 15 MIN

These round, powdered doughnuts are known as Pfannkuchen in Berlin, Kreppel in Hessen, Krapfen in Southern Germany, and Berliner just about everywhere else. They are the German version of donuts, traditionally enjoyed on New Year's Eve and during celebrations such as German Unity Day or Carnival.

Watch a video on how to make Pfannkuchen!
Films

1. **Der Besuch der alten Dame**
   Der Besuch der alten Dame is a 2008 movie based on the 1959 play by Friedrich Duerrenmatt. It is about a millionaire Klara Zachanassian, who returns to her German hometown of Güllen to seek revenge. Available via [YouTube](#).

2. **Behind the Wall**
   Inspired by the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall on November 9, 2009, *Behind the Wall* tells the stories of ordinary people who lived on both sides of the wall and what life was like for them before, during, and after the wall fell. Available via [Amazon](#).
3 Coming Out

Although he has a girlfriend who is expecting his child, Philipp, a young teacher in Berlin, meets Matthias and falls in love. After years of repressing his homosexuality, he must finally accept himself for who he truly is. Available via BU Libraries

4 Downfall

*Downfall* explores the final days of the Third Reich, when some senior German leaders began to abandon their beloved Führer in an effort to save their own lives, while others pledged to die with Hitler. Available via Kanopy

5 Labyrinth of Lies

Set in Germany, 1958, against the will of his immediate superior, young prosecutor Johann Radmann begins to examine the case of a teacher who has recently been identified as a former Auschwitz guard. Available via Alexander Street
Film Discussion

Tuesday, October 26, 5-6 PM ET

Watch *Good Bye Lenin!*, available through BU Libraries, then join the ERC and BU Libraries for a discussion with special guest, Mark Lewis, part-time lecturer in German and Director of the Geddes Language Center.

Scan the QR Code to sign up!

Boston University Libraries and Educational Resource Center
Listen to Lea's *Sommer*, one of the trendiest German pop songs right now.

Current German artists and bands:
- Lea
- Wilhelmine
- Namika

Famous 2000s bands
- Cro
- Culcha Candela

Classics:
- Nena
- Tokio Hotel
- Wir Sind Helden

Listen to *99 Luftballons*, an anti-war anthem of the 1980s.
LITERATURE

Reading recommendations!

*Irrungen Wirrungen*
Check it out at BU Libraries

*The Visit*
Check it out at BU Libraries

*The Metamorphosis*
More information on Goodreads

*Death and the Plowman*
Check it out at BU Libraries

*The Sorrows of Young Werther*
Check it out at BU Libraries

*Malina: a novel*
Check it out at BU Libraries

Don't forget to check out BU Libraries' German Language and Literature Research Guide!
EXCURSIONS

Did you know there are sections of the Berlin Wall in the Boston Area?

1 Education Street, Cambridge MA

John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum
Columbia Point, Boston, MA
Activities

Did You Know?

- German is the official language of Germany, Austria, and Liechtenstein, and one of the official languages in Switzerland and Luxembourg.
- All nouns in German are capitalized--no exceptions!
- Watch this video for more fun facts about Germany.