

Why your student should take German:

- **Small class sizes**– German class sizes are small, so students can receive the individualized attention they so rarely get at high school
- **German is EASY**– 60% of English comes from German, students who do the work are successful, even if they have not been successful in other languages
- **German Class is FUN**– Students are encouraged to get up and move during class! Teachers teach through games and activities, both traditional and with computers, to keep students active and engaged.
- **High Quality Teachers**– The teachers relate well to high school students and use strategies that make students successful
- **German IS Useful**– German pairs well with many other subjects and is necessary for some fields including, physics, history, philosophy, art, linguistics, math, business, travel and tourism
- **Earn \$\$**- Many former NCHS students are now being paid by the military and other government agencies like NSA to keep studying German. Other former students received college scholarships based on having studied German.

Katrina Griffin – is the lead German teacher at North County High School. She lived in Germany during and after attending Penn State and received her Masters in German from Middlebury University in Vermont. She is involved in local and national German events and was recently the President of the DC/ Maryland AATG, an organization for all German teachers at all levels. Ms. Griffin has taken 3 groups of North County students and parents to Germany during the summer months and will take her 4th group in Summer 2012. As a lead German teacher in the county, Ms. Griffin has written all curriculum guides, benchmark and final exams for all German students in Anne Arundel county. Ms. Griffin is dedicated to her students and teaching German, which is why North County has one of the largest German programs in the state of Maryland. The North County is the only feeder in the county to offer German at the middle school level. If you have specific questions about the German program at NCHS, please contact Ms. Griffin at kcgriffin@aacps.org or at 410.222.6970.

Did you know?
German is the only course of study at North County taught by two Fulbright Scholars. Both Katrina Griffin and Cora Hofstetter lived and worked abroad on Fulbright Scholarships in Germany after college!

Cora Hofstetter—is new to North County and to teaching and is excited to start her career at a school with such a strong German program. She minored in German at the College of Wooster and then spent a year working in Germany before earning her Master's in Teaching at the University of Pittsburgh. Ms. Hofstetter is a member of AATG and MFLA, which are organizations for foreign language teachers. She also takes part in many professional development programs in order to provide her students with more learning opportunities. Please feel free to contact her with any questions at chofstetter@aacps.org.



The German Language Program at North County High School



German Teacher Katrina Griffin with famous German– American Eric Braeden. You may know him as Victor Newman from *The Young and the Restless*.

German It's the language you already know!



Konzert elegant CD in
 Haus Hand Computer
 Baby Amerika exakt
 Basketball Bus Auto Radio
 Cola Apfel



Highlights of Each Level of German

German I-

This class resembles a Kindergarten or First Grade Class. Students in German I learn, the colors, numbers, introductions and greetings, family members, home entertaining, and free time activities

Activities include:

- Story time
- Coloring
- Simon Says
- Memory Games
- Computer Games
- Human Sentences
- Go Fish
- Making a Family Tree
- Make a House of Dreams
- Skits
- Watching videos
- Connect the Dots
- Crossword Puzzles
- Gallery Walks
- Mystery Activity
- Listening to Current German Music

Students will also try some German foods and learn about cultural festivals and differences in the school system.

German II-

Similar activities as in German I, but with a greater focus on grammar. Students delve deeper with their cultural understanding.

German III–This is truly a different course from German I &II and is not centered around a textbook. Activities are constructed to be more real world and relevant to current German society. There are few traditional tests and more product and project based assessments. Students also experience the Swiss grilling tradition known as Raclette as well as other delicacies. Students are required to, and this point they **CAN**, speak in German.

Activities and Topics include:

- Perform a Skit
- Listen to a radio show
- Create computer animation
- Read a children's book
- Write a children's story
- Watch a feature film–Das Wunder von Bern
- Learn about the environment
- Create commercials
- Make a Mystery activity for levels I and II
- Travel and Hiking– 2 Favorite German Pastimes

German IV&AP– These courses are set up the same way as German III, with the added benefit that the STUDENTS decide as a class what they would like to learn, based on a variety of topics and themes provided by the teacher.

Activities and Topics include:

- Breakfast and Conversation with native Germans
- Produce a cooking show
- German Expressionist Art
- German, Swiss, and Austrian History
- Read German Novels
- Learn History and Culture through Film
- Learn about Minorities in Germany
- German Legends and Opera
- German Musical Groups, Now and Then
- Produce a Jerry Springer style talk show



For All German Students

Unique Experiences– The German teachers at NCHS always look for exciting ways to engage students. Here are some examples of past events:

Meet an author from Germany– Karin Gündisch– Students read a book by the author, then met her to discuss the book and learn about publishing

Concert and Music Workshop with the German Band–Dyko– the students produced a studio quality CD

Recreate the Berlin Wall in NCHS

German– American Heritage Museum– Students were invited to visit the museum and test exhibits prior to its opening in Spring 2010.

Scotty76– Students took part in a graffiti art workshop by international artist and b-boy Scotty 76. Students even helped spray paint the school letters NC located in the main office.

German Club– Students do not have to speak German to participate in this club. Students try different German foods, watch music videos, make traditional crafts and attend movie nights. Students who are not in German class may also attend.

German Honor Society–North County is one of the only schools in Anne Arundel County that offers an honor society. Students must be in German III have an overall GPA of 3.0 and a GPA of 3.5 in German. This looks great on college transcripts, because it is so difficult to get into, and unique because it is in German!

Field Trips– Students can participate in field trips to German–American Day at McDaniel College, to museums in DC and NYC. There are also opportunities outside of the realm of school for international travel. (Start saving now!)

