

# Stanford

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## Paul Nissler

Advanced Lecturer  
Stanford Language Center

### Bio

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#### BIO

Paul grew up in a German-heritage family outside of Madison, Wisconsin. He attended UW-Madison for his undergraduate studies and did his doctoral work at the Pennsylvania State University. He has spent extensive time, studying, researching, working, and engaging professionally, across the span of the German-speaking world.

In the Fall of 2005, Paul came to Stanford as a Lecturer, teaching both Spanish and German for numerous years. Since 2009 he has additionally served as the German Language Coordinator.

Dr. Nissler completed ACTFL OPI training in both Spanish and German and has been certified as an oral and written proficiency tester in German since 2010.

He is also active in the local Bay area German community. He has engaged with local German-schools and previously served as the AATG Testing Chair and President of the Northern California Chapter of the AATG.

Paul publishes and presents at academic conferences, both nationally and internationally. He is very enthusiastic about teaching and language learning.

#### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Advanced Lecturer, Stanford Language Center

#### ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

- Gerlang Coordinator, Stanford Language Center, (2009- present)
- Pre-Major Advisor, PMA/Stanford, (2011- present)
- German Summer Program Director, University of Pennsylvania - Lauder Institute, (2014-2015)

#### BOARDS, ADVISORY COMMITTEES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- President, AATG Chapter of Northern California (2016 - 2018)
- Vice-President, AATG Chapter of Northern California (2014 - 2016)
- Testing Chair, AATG Chapter of Northern California (2012 - 2016)
- Member, AATG (2006 - present)
- Member, ACTFL (2007 - present)

## PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- Ph.D., The Pennsylvania State University , German (2006)
- B.S., The University of Wisconsin - Madison , German Culture, Economics (2000)

## Teaching

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### COURSES

#### 2025-26

- First-Year German, First Quarter: GERLANG 1 (Spr)
- First-Year German, Second Quarter: GERLANG 2 (Aut, Spr)
- First-Year German, Third Quarter: GERLANG 3 (Aut)
- Reading German: GERLANG 250 (Win)
- Second-Year German, First Quarter: GERLANG 21 (Win)

#### 2024-25

- First-Year German, First Quarter: GERLANG 1 (Spr)
- First-Year German, Second Quarter: GERLANG 2 (Aut)
- First-Year Spanish, First Quarter: SPANLANG 1 (Aut)
- Reading German: GERLANG 250 (Win)
- Second-Year German, Second Quarter: GERLANG 22 (Win, Spr)

#### 2023-24

- First-Year German, First Quarter: GERLANG 1 (Spr)
- First-Year German, Third Quarter: GERLANG 3 (Aut)
- Reading German: GERLANG 250 (Win)
- Second-Year German, First Quarter: GERLANG 21 (Aut, Spr)
- Second-Year German, Second Quarter: GERLANG 22 (Win)

#### 2022-23

- First-Year German, First Quarter: GERLANG 1 (Aut, Spr)
- First-Year German, Second Quarter: GERLANG 2 (Win)
- First-Year German, Third Quarter: GERLANG 3 (Aut)
- Graduate Studies in Spanish: SPANLANG 395 (Spr)
- Second Year German, Third Quarter: GERLANG 23 (Spr)
- Second-Year German, First Quarter: GERLANG 21 (Win)
- Second-Year German, Second Quarter: GERLANG 22 (Win, Spr)
- Writing About Germany: New Topics, New Genres: GERMAN 116 (Aut, Spr)

## Publications

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### PUBLICATIONS

- **An Integrated Curriculum in Collegiate-Level German Studies with Accompanying Proficiency Ratings** *UNTERRICHTSPRAXIS-TEACHING GERMAN*  
Bernhardt, E., Nissler, P., Leffell, C.

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2020; 53 (1): 23–34

- **Transforming Postsecondary Teaching in the United States (Book Review)** *UNTERRICHTSPRAXIS-TEACHING GERMAN*  
Book Review Authored by: Nissler, P.  
2017; 50 (1): 104–6
- **Interaktiver, dynamischer und personalisierter Lernraum.**  
Nissler, P.  
2016
- **Developing Proficiency with Presentational Language in Second-Year German and Spanish”** *Journal of Language Teaching and Research*  
Nissler, P.  
2014
- **A short survey of the creation and development of common German-Spanish American space: Humboldt and beyond.** *German Literature as World Literature*  
Nissler, P.  
2014
- **Everything is interconnected: Humboldt in Quechua, Spanish and German, from ayni and pacha to Kehlmann** *Cumaná 1799. Travels between Europe and the Americas*  
Nissler, P.  
2012
- **Exploring the ‘Foreign’ in Literary Spaces of German and Spanish Literature during the Spanish Civil War** *Finding the Foreign*  
Nissler, P.  
2007
- **Reflections on Walter Ruttmann’s Die Simphonie einer Grosstadt** *Selbst Reflexionen: von der Leinwand bis zum Interface*  
Nissler, P.  
2004
- **Die Symphonie dieser Stadt** *Adlershof Aktuell*  
Nissler, P., Grovner, E.  
2001

## PRESENTATIONS

- Ein Überblick der Vorteile eines eigenentwickelten Testverfahrens: Technologie, aktuelle Materialien, Lernmotivation (2017)
- Multilingualism from Latin America to Europe in the 19th Century.
- (ein möglicher) Versuch über eine ästhetische Theorie des Sprachunterrichts und Spracherwerbes
- Collaborative Efforts between university, schools and industry
- Proficiency and the role of presentations
- Deutschlernen: vom Kindergarten zur Uni: Statistiken, Vernetzung, Ziele und Erfolge
- Interaktiver, dynamischer und personalisierter Lernraum
- Presentational Language scaffolding and development in Second-Year German and Spanish - Philadelphia
- Neuroscience meets Postcolonialism: (un)translatability of words, thoughts and culture
- Everything is interconnected: Humboldt in Spanish and German, from ayni and pacha to Kehlmann
- From Germany to Latin America: Examples of transnationalism in presentations of language, identity and geography in German and Spanish