Alumni Spotlight

Nicholas K. Johnson (BA German/History, 2012), was a recipient of the 2013 Faculty Medal of Academic Distinction of the I.U. School of Liberal Arts. Nick graduated in December of 2012 with Highest Distinction. He was also one of two recipients of the Academic Achievement Award of the IUPUI Program in German.

Nick came to IUPUI from Louisiana State as a history major on the National Student Exchange Program but soon decided to double major in German. He distinguished himself in both fields. In his academic achievements, Nick was a textbook example of the benefits of interdisciplinary studies. His lively critical mind and his insatiable intellectual curiosity seized on every opportunity to connect and complement, to question or challenge the knowledge gained on the other side of the disciplinary divide. He also invested much time and effort, with great results, in independent research projects, including his capstone thesis on Ernst Jünger's World War I writings.

In the course of his undergraduate studies Nick also became involved in the German Club, serving as its President for one year, as well as participating in activities and programs through the Max Kade German-American Center, both on campus and in the community. He arranged or coordinated events such as trip to Chicago's German Christmas Market, the weekly German conversation hours, and the "GermanFest," a community festival at the Athenaeum. Nick was always thoroughly involved inside and outside of the classroom. He is continuing his academic pursuit in a graduate program in Public History at IUPUI, supported by a University Graduate Fellowship, and involving international research in Germany.