

# German

## Advanced Level

### General Information

Germany is the world's fourth largest economy. Knowledge of German increases your job opportunities, both at home and abroad. German is also the second most used scientific language and Germany is the third largest contributor to research and development, offering numerous research fellowships to scientists from abroad.

Before reaching these dizzying heights, however, studying German at A-level allows you to improve the range and quality of your GCSE language, find out more about the culture of German speaking countries and to get to know German speakers of your own age.

Language A-levels are highly valued by universities and will boost your UCAS application. In addition, they give you transferable skills such as better communication skills, social confidence and general knowledge.

Please also see our [Specialist Language Centre leaflet for further details](#).

### Examination details

**A Level** will be a 2 year linear course with all assessment at the end of year 2 – it makes sense to take your exams after as much input as possible!

The four skill areas will be tested: listening, speaking, reading, writing. In the second year students will also research an individual aspect of German life/culture that interests them.



German exchange visit to Neustadt

### Entry requirements

The normal minimum entry requirement is a grade 4 in German at GCSE. You should also meet the general college entry requirements for Advanced Level study. Please refer to the current Prospectus - Advanced Programmes, Entry Requirements.

In this subject, particular skills and aptitudes will be required, many of which will be demonstrated by students' GCSE profiles.

Entry requirements might be changed in light of curriculum reform.

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### Course content

#### 1ST YEAR

**Topics include** youth trends and issues, regional culture in Germany and German speaking countries, education & careers, German film and art.

#### 2ND YEAR

**Topics include** cultural identity and social issues, some modern German history, a more in-depth look at German film and a short literary text. You will also research an individual aspect of German life/culture that interests you.

### Careers / HE information

Modern Languages graduates have some of the lowest unemployment rates and are highly sought after by large companies. They also earn, on average, 8% more than other graduates! Our students realise this, and many continue studying a language at university - often with subjects like International Business or Law.

Our students choose a wide variety of universities, but all comment on how well prepared they feel when they start their languages course. A language is needed to allow students to compete on an equal footing with our mainland European counterparts whose level of English is often as good as our own!

A number of our students have progressed through our courses to study German at university (often alongside Business or Science/ Engineering). Some have found work in Germany or have spent a year studying or working as an assistant teacher in a German speaking country.

### How it is taught

The course is delivered in 6 hours a week (5 hour lessons & 1 hour conversation class). The language is taught through a wide range of activities which include vocabulary building, reading authentic texts, grammar practice, listening to conversations, speaking tasks, studying video clips and independent research. All students of German have a weekly speaking practice with our Language Assistant. You are also encouraged to participate in the German exchange that takes place after Christmas.

### Useful / common subject combinations

German goes well with any subject combination, as it is the perfect way to broaden your skills portfolio, especially if you are studying two similar subjects, such as science or maths. These days it is useful to have a working knowledge of several languages, so combine it with French or Spanish for maximum employability! German is also a popular choice with Law, Travel & Tourism, Business and Arts subjects. Any student contemplating applying to Oxbridge for Languages is advised to take English Literature alongside German.

### Other relevant information

Text books and on-line resources are provided.

You may find it useful to have a 'good' German/ English dictionary and the Library has many useful resources to support your language learning, as well as an excellent collection of German films.

