

German

Awarding Body: AQA

Level: A-Level

Introduction

German is the most widely spoken first language in the European Union and increasingly important in the world of Politics and Business. Gaining an A-Level qualification will enhance your employment opportunities. Communication and linguistic ability in German are skills highly regarded by universities and employers.

The course focuses on how German-speaking society has been shaped socially and culturally and how it continues to change. Students will develop their knowledge and understanding of themes relating to the culture and society of countries where German is spoken, as well as their language skills by embracing authentic spoken and written sources in German.

The A-Level specification fosters a range of transferable skills including communication, critical thinking, research skills and creativity, which are valuable to the individual and to society. The content is suitable for students who wish to progress to employment or to further study, including a modern languages degree (pure German or German with another subject).

Year one content

In the first year, aspects of the social context are studied, together with aspects of the artistic life of German-speaking countries. Students will develop their knowledge and understanding of themes relating to the German-speaking world, as well as honing their language skills and embracing a variety of authentic materials to further their appreciation of German language.

- Module 1: Changing state of family, The Digital World, Youth Culture
- Module 2: Immigration, Integration, Racism
- Module 3: Festivals & Traditions, Art & Architecture, Cultural life in Berlin

End of unit assessments, past papers and speaking exam preparation during the year.

Year two content

In the second year, further aspects of the social background is covered, alongside the German political landscape, both in relation to Germany itself and its place in Europe. The past and its role in shaping the present is viewed through the reunification and its consequences, while the focus on young people and politics looks forward to shaping the future of German-speaking countries.

- Module 4: Germany & The European Union, Politics & Youth, Consequences of German reunification
- Film & Literature options: set texts from AQA (one of each)

IRP (Independent Research Project): students select a subject or key question which interests them and which relates to a country or countries where the target languages is spoken.

End of unit assessments, past papers and speaking exam preparation.

The A-Level will consist of two written exams and a speaking exam, covering all themes from the two-year course.

What you need

At least a grade 5 in GCSE German.

Career and further study

Studying a language to A-Level will enhance sought after communicative skills as well as an impressive awareness of other cultures, benefitting a variety of different careers which could include: Journalism, Business, Leisure, Travel & Tourism, Law, Scientific Research, Media, Engineering, Medicine, Voluntary & Charitable sector, Manufacturing, Education, Technology & Gaming, Advertising & Marketing, Manufacturing, and Financial Services, to name but a few.

Trips and other costs

Opportunity to take a role in planning KS5 German trip.

A-Level German conference in London.

You are expected to purchase your own textbooks.