

German

A Level



Overview

Studying German will develop students' speaking, listening, reading and writing skills. They will gain confidence in communicating in the target language, and learn more about Germany and other German speaking countries.

Students have the opportunity to practise their language skills in the College's well-resourced classrooms, with access to the latest multimedia technology.

In addition, language students have timetabled lessons with a Foreign Language Assistant to help them become

more confident and competent speakers.

All German students have the opportunity to take part in a study trip to Germany, where they will further develop their speaking skills and appreciation of German culture.

What goes well with this course?

Languages combine well with any subject. As well as offering pure language degrees, virtually all universities offer the chance to continue studying a language as part of a joint degree, or as a subsidiary subject.

Progression

In the workplace language skills are highly valued.

In Higher Education, a single or joint honours degree in one or more languages, or in another subject plus a language, leads to greater employability – and the opportunity to perhaps work abroad.

Course Content

The course covers a wide variety of current issues over the two years. As well as revising and extending some of the topics studied at GCSE, students will learn about social and cultural themes within German society, including social values, equality and multiculturalism, regional identity and the influence of heritage, as well as studying aspects of politics and history.

In addition, students will study in depth both a film and a work of literature. Grammar and language skills are integrated into the topic areas.

Educational Experiences

Course Specific Trips, Visits & Experiences

German A Level students have the opportunity to take part in a variety of course related experiences. In recent years, these have included:

- A German Exchange Trip to Aachen where students experienced German family life first-hand and were able to undertake additional research for their chosen oral topic
- The chance to visit universities for specific language events

- A visit to the Goethe Institut in London

The department hopes to offer a trip to Berlin in the summer term, where students will gain first-hand experience of German culture.

Assessment

The exam is taken in May/June and consists of three papers, all externally assessed:

A speaking examination lasting approximately 18 minutes; a listening, reading and writing paper (2 hours 30 minutes); and an essay paper (2 hours).

The exam board for this A Level is AQA.

Entry Requirements

All students need to have at least five GCSEs at Grade 4 or above (and a satisfactory school reference) in order to be accepted on an A Level/BTEC Level 3 Programme.

In addition, students should meet the following minimum GCSE requirements:

- Grade 6 in German and Grade 4 in English Language

Students will enjoy this course if they:

- Enjoy communicating with others through speaking and writing
- Have an enquiring mind and an interest in German culture
- Are thinking of travelling, taking a gap year, or working abroad