

German

A level

What will I study and learn?

Your studies will be based on four broad topics: the social change in Germany, political and artistic culture in the German-speaking world, immigration and the German multicultural society, and the separation and reunification of Germany. You will also study a popular work of literature and a film, as well as carrying out independent research on a topic of your own interest.

How will I be assessed?

You will sit three papers:

Paper 1 (40%)
Listening, reading and translation
Paper 2 (30%)
Written response to works and translation
Paper 3 (30%)
Speaking

What skills will be developed?

During the two-year course, you will develop your skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing. You will be able to read increasingly longer texts and be encouraged to read and watch films in German for your pleasure. By the end of the course, you will have the skills to be able to hold a conversation at normal pace, be able to write analytically, and translate clearly between English and German.

As classes are smaller in the Sixth Form, you will have plenty of opportunities to share ideas and play a more active role in discussions. We use German as much as possible in class and you will have a lesson with the German Assistant every week, either individually or as a pair.

A level/IB

Linguists are in constant demand in industry and commerce. Employers are looking for a level of practical competence beyond the standards of GCSE, so if you are contemplating taking up a career that might involve dealing with companies abroad, it is important to consider taking a language. An advanced knowledge of German is seen as a first-class qualification, which could certainly enhance your career prospects.

With fewer people gaining advanced qualifications in German, those who can prove competence in the language are at a distinct advantage. Universities look on the subject as an excellent enabling subject for an ever wider range of degree courses.

We have run study trips to Hamburg and Berlin in the past, open to members of the Lower and Upper Sixth, which students have found

highly enriching. We hope to be able to offer this opportunity to visit German again in the near future.

Entry requirements

You should aim for a grade 7 at IGCSE/GCSE and be keen to communicate in German, as well as wanting to learn more about German-speaking countries.



IB

What will I study and learn?

The German course will equip you with the ability to discuss – both orally and in writing – topics of local, national and international importance, as well as develop an understanding of issues specific to the German-speaking world.

The programme provides you with opportunities to study the core topics of Social Relationships, Global Issues, and Media and Communication, as well as two optional topics. At HL you will also study two works of literature.

How will I be assessed?

There are four papers for both the HL and SL courses. HL does have a difference in Paper 2, which is two compulsory written elements rather than the one at SL. Paper 4 will be completed in class time during the second year:

Paper 1 (25%)
Text-based reading comprehension
Paper 2 (25%)
Essay question
Paper 3 (30%)
Oral presentation
Paper 4 (20%)
Creative writing task

What skills will be developed?

The focus of the course is on providing you with opportunities to develop your communication skills and attributes. When you finish the course, you will be equipped with the skills necessary to engage in reasoned debate on issues directly affecting the UK, Germany and the world. You will have developed an ability to accept or reject other people's opinions appropriately, and give informed and reasoned responses using both formal and informal registers.

Want to know more?

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Exam Board:
www.qualifications.pearson.com
(Edexcel)
www.ibo.org

“German is a challenging but unique subject to study. At GCSE you cover the language and develop a basic linguistic ability, but in the Sixth Form we delve into German culture and discuss topics such as the environment, musical genres, the media, and the impact of these topics, all in German. The ability to speak another language looks excellent to prospective employers and universities.

Amara Jenkins, OB 2019
Courses: German, Geography and Art