



## SYLLABUS

### **COURSE BLOCK C** **Course**

### **GERMAN AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE** **Beginner**

**30 contact hours**  
**3 credits**

#### **LECTURER**

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#### **OVERVIEW**

During classes the beginner course provides students with a broad range of practical instruction of the German language.

During the field trips students learn about the historic background of the German capital Berlin, its role during World War II, its division from 1949-1990 and its role as today's political center of Germany both in preparatory information sessions and through guided city tours. Furthermore, students get acquainted with the history of Munich, the capital of the federal state of Bavaria, as well as with Strasbourg, the center of the European decision making process, Heidelberg, the capital of the federal state of Baden-Württemberg Stuttgart and their current hometown Pforzheim. Company visits to Mercedes Benz, Audi and Porsche supplement this cultural dimension with an impression of the German automotive industry which is an important cornerstone of the German economy.

#### **PREREQUISITES**

This course is aimed at students with no prior knowledge of German or those who have had only very little contact with the language.

## **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

By the end of the course students will be able to understand commonly used sentences and expressions and be able to make themselves understood in situations related to everyday life, e.g. personal information (where they come from, their education or work) and family, shopping, the immediate environment, describing things they like. They have gained an overview and understanding of some aspects of German culture.

By the end of the course students will be able to

- ask for directions and order in restaurants
- understand and use familiar everyday expressions
- interact in a simple conversation with a slow speaking conversation partner

## **COURSE TOPICS**

Everyday life, travelling through Europe, workplace and professions, hobbies and leisure, German culture, the German economy, politics.

## **LEARNING APPROACH & TEACHING PHILOSOPHY**

Like a healthy lifestyle and physical well-being lead to greater mental and cognitive strength, a communicate-based learning approach in combination with an encouraging and positive teaching personality are vital to a most successful learner biography of a foreign language. As to many aspects, learning German is similar to physical exercise. One obvious parallel: no pain, no gain!

German, as 'awful' as its grammar may be following Mark Twain's famous words, is a very rich and communicative language. Once you have a foot in the door, you tend to encounter a fascinating variety of cultures, mentalities, landscapes, food and work life.

Throughout our intensive course, we will focus on sharpening your critical eye on the peculiarities of German grammar; by enriching the complexity of your communication skills from day to day, we will lower your affective filter. You will feel safe and empowered to actively use German in everyday life.

So let's get going and clear the first hurdles of learning German together!

## **COURSE MATERIAL**

Course material with different exercises will be provided.

## **FINAL EXAMINATION**

There will be a 60-minute written examination on German as a foreign language (in the German language). Students will be prepared throughout the course on the relevant topics and provided with ample practice materials.

Students who attend the course will be well-prepared for the examination. Regular feedback and correction will be provided to encourage improvement in their written and oral communication skills.

## GRADING

Students will be graded on a scale of

A = excellent, B = good, C = average, D = below average, F = fail.

## PLANNED SCHEDULE

	Contact hours	Content
Session 1		Hi! How are you? / Where I'm from
Session 2		My family
Session 3		My daily routine
Session 4		At the supermarket
Session 5		In the restaurant
Session 6		Free time / Travelling
Session 7		Revision
Session 8		Exam