



GR 140 1BC1

FIRST YEAR COMMERCE WITH GERMAN (Beginners)

First year Commerce with German (Beginners) is available to

- **students of the first year Commerce (general) programme. Only students without any previous knowledge of German or up to Junior Certificate Level can apply for this course.**

Coordinator: **Doris Devilly, B.A., M.A., PGDip. HED.**
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Lecturers: **Annelie Eberhardt, M.A.**
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 German language (all aspects)

Doris Devilly
 Social & Economic German

Consultation: D. Devilly: Tuesdays 1-3 o'clock in AM 318

Academic calendar:

Semester I	2011/2012
Teaching begins	Monday, 12 th September, 2011
Teaching ends	Friday, 2 nd December, 2011
Semester II	
Teaching begins	Monday, 9 th January, 2012
Teaching ends	Friday, 30 th March, 2012
Study Week	Monday, 16 th April, 2012 – Thursday, 19 th April, 2012
Examinations begin	Friday, 20 th April 2012
Examinations end	Friday, 18 th May 2012

Course Outline:

6 contact hours per week (Semester 1 & 2) are made up of:

- 4 hours German language instruction: grammar, reading & writing skills, conversation etc.
- 1 hour Language & Multimedia Laboratory
- 1 hour Social, Cultural & Business German studies:
Semester 1: *Modern German History*
Semester 2: *German Cultural & Business Studies*

This course aims to equip students with basic general and business-related language skills and give students a broad overview over cultural, social and business-related aspects in the German-speaking countries. Students taking this course should be able to progress to level A2+ of the *Common European Framework of References for Languages*.

Learning Outcomes:

After the end of the academic year first year Beginners students should be able to

- understand and feel comfortable with the use of elementary structures of German grammar in oral and written expression
- use a broad range of register to participate in every-day and business-related conversation
- form opinions and discuss basic general and business-related topics
- translate a variety of simple texts and grammatical structures into English and German
- analyse different types of basic texts in German and answer text-related questions in German
- write personal and basic business letters, notes, e-mails and short essays
- talk about a range of personal, academic and business topics
- use multimedia laboratory facilities and e-learning activities for autonomous learning and project work
- have a basic understanding of the culture and history in the German-speaking countries
- understand the basic workings of the economies in the German-speaking countries

Learning and Teaching Methods:

The programme actively engages students in the learning process, encouraging student participation from the outset. Small class size, group work, role-plays, games, e-learning activities, collaborative learning and an open and student-centred learning approach facilitate a productive and communicative learning environment.

The extensive use of authentic texts, audio and audio-visual materials ensure the contemporary focus of the curriculum. Self-study and multimedia laboratories provide access to Internet resources and multimedia language applications.

The language of instruction and communication is English and German ensuring that students are from the beginning exposed to the target language of their choice.

All students have access to the Virtual Learning Environment *Blackboard* where they can find announcements, assignments, lecture notes, websites, videos and audio materials as well as a discussion group.

Textbooks:

Semester 1:

Optimal A1 (Langenscheidt)

Kursbuch & Arbeitsbuch

Optimal A1 (Langenscheidt)

Glossary German – English

Semester 2:

Optimal A2 (Langenscheidt)

Kursbuch & Arbeitsbuch

Optimal A2 (Langenscheidt)

Glossary German - English

Modern German History:

Mark Allinson: Germany and Austria 1814-2000

German Cultural and Business Studies:

In-house handouts and reading materials

Lecturers' materials, handouts and PowerPoint presentations as well as additional audio and audio-visual material is available on students' Blackboard site GR140.

Exams and Assessments:

First year students take their German written and oral examinations at the end of the academic year (April-May 2012).

Continuous assessment throughout the academic year is a vital part of the course as well as grades awarded for attendance and homework/project work.

Allocation of marks:

Applied German Language Paper (2 hrs. written exam)	30%	3.0 ECTS
Oral Examination	20%	2.0 ECTS

In-house examinations:

Modern German History

In-class-test (end of semester 1)	50%		
Continuous Assessment	50%	10%	1.0 ECTS

German Cultural & Business Studies

In-class test (end of semester 2)	70%		
Presentation (English)	20%		
Class participation & attendance	10%	10%	1.0 ECTS

Years work

Attendance & homework (language)	7.5%		
Lang./Multimedia Lab. work	5.0%		
Christmas Language test	10.0%		
Semester 2 language test	7.5%	30%	3.0 ECTS

Please note:

In-house examinations and language tests cannot be repeated in the August examinations. Years work cannot be carried forward to the August repeat examinations.

Absenteeism

The course lecturer needs to be informed why a student is absent. If the student is absent for more than 2 consecutive classes a medical certificate is necessary.

The Head of the German Department will be informed of students' absenteeism if no medical evidence has been forwarded to the lecturer.

Students who successfully complete first year Commerce/German (Beginners) with at least 65% in their final mark and after consultation with the course coordinator and Ms. Eberhardt have the opportunity to transfer to second year of the BComm. (International) with German.

If students chose to transfer to second year of the BComm. (Int.) with German it is recommended that they attend a German language course either in Ireland or Germany during the summer to reach level A2+ or lower level B1 of the *Common European Framework of References for Languages*.

SOCIAL CALENDAR:

- ☺ Join the German Society at the beginning of the academic year.
The society organizes social get-togethers, music evenings, plays, weekends away and the famous German Society "Oktoberfest" and Corrib boat trip.
It is a great opportunity to practice your German, meet other German students and have plenty of fun.
- ☺ If you want to practice your German in a more social environment, the German Society meets once a week for a "Barabend". Irish students, Erasmus students and German lecturers meet there for a nice chat over a drink or two. English or German is spoken. Time and venue will be decided at a later date. Ask Annelie!
- ☺ Each year, the German department stages a German play where students with the "acting bug" can participate and perform in front of an audience. If you do not like acting or singing you can help with costume and stage design or just lend a helping hand.