

German A Level



Exam Board: AQA

Entry requirements: Minimum expectation is Grade 7 at GCSE German

Intent

Structure

Throughout the course, students will use complex language to explore modern culture of German speaking countries. Students develop confident, effective communication skills in the German language and a thorough understanding of the culture of countries where German is spoken. Students will develop language learning skills, the ability to write and speak in German with accurate grammar and syntax and to understand written and spoken German in a variety of contexts and genres. As well as language and subject related skills A Level German develops rich inter-personal, inter-cultural, cognitive and transferable skills.

During the course students will study the following topics:

Social Issues and Trends

- Changes to family life & society
- The digital world
- Youth Culture: fashion, music and television

Artistic Culture in the German Speaking World

- Festivals and traditions
- Art & architecture
- Past & present cultural life in Berlin

A modern film and literary text

- Immigration
- Integration
- Racism

Aspects of Political Life

- Germany and the EU
- Politics and the Younger Generation
- The Reunification of Germany and its Consequences

Implementation

Content & Sequencing

Throughout German A Level students engage with complex subject matter requiring sophisticated analytical skills and the ability to express opinions clearly and concisely. They are taught to read, listen for detail and to interpret a wide variety of texts, in the process developing higher level writing skills and the ability to translate from German to English and vice versa. Students have the opportunity to study a modern German film and novel which adds further depth to their understanding of the cultural context of modern German speaking countries.

As part of the course students must complete an Independent Research Project on a subject of their choosing but that is rooted in the culture of Germany or another German speaking country. This allows students to develop their research skills and find out more about an aspect of society/ culture that they are particularly interested in thereby developing skills that will be of great benefit to either higher study or future employment.

Assessment Methods

German A Level is assessed through three examinations.

- Paper 1 is Listening, Reading and Writing (50%)
- Paper 2 is Writing (20%)
- Paper 2 is Speaking (30%)



Impact

Onward Progression

A Language A Level is well regarded by all universities and develops the skills considered desirable for a range of higher education courses. Students may choose to continue studying languages in a higher education context either as part of a Modern Languages degree or as part of a combined course, for example German and Engineering; Law with French; Spanish with Economics. Many employers recognise competence in a foreign language as a desirable skill, giving an advantage in a wide range of areas including sales, business, import/export, logistics, IT, marketing, journalism, advertising, law, tourism, and customer services.

Reed Employment agency cites language ability as one of the most sought after skills by prospective employers.

Further information contact

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