

GERMAN

A Level

Awarding Body: EDEXCEL

Course Content

The following topic areas are covered at over the 2 year course:

Topic 1: Social Development in Germany – Nature and the Environment, Education, the World of Work

Topic 2: Political culture and the Arts in German-speaking countries – music, the Media, festivals and traditions.

Topic 3: Immigration and the multicultural society in Germany – the positive impact of immigration on German society, the challenges of immigration and integration, national and social reaction to immigration.

Topic 4: German reunification – Society in the former GDR, results of reunification, Germany since reunification.

At A Level students are required to study 2 works: 1 literary text and 1 film in the German language.

Grammar

Nouns	Determiners	Pronouns	Adjectives	Adverbs and adverbials	Quantifiers/ Intensifiers	Verbs
Tense, voice And mood	Prepositions	Conjunctions	The case system	Clause structure and word order	Word formation	Discourse markers

Assessment

Paper 1: Listening, reading and translation into English

2 hour written exam

40% of qualification

80 marks

Paper 2: Written response to works and translation into German

Written exam of 2 hours 40 minutes

30% of the qualification

120 marks

Paper 3: Speaking – discussion on 1 of the 4 topics plus independent research presentation and discussion

23 minutes (includes 5 minutes' preparation time)

30% of qualification

72 marks

Teaching and Learning Methods / Skills and expectations

Students are taught:

Listening, speaking, reading and writing skills to enable them to communicate effectively and confidently on a variety of issues.

Essay writing skills, including how to give considered and informed responses to open questions.

Contextualized grammar and vocabulary, which are practised, reinforced and tested in each of the 4 skills in each topic and sub-topic area.

The importance of communication, including good pronunciation, intonation and clarity of meaning.

It is important that students are aware of the world around them by regularly reading a quality newspaper and/or news website in their own language as well as in German.

Students are expected and encouraged to use vocabulary books and grammar books and they should keep their work in a well-organised folder. The folder will include all assessed work which will include written feed-back and opportunity for the students to reflect on their learning and to evidence this.

Regular learning of vocabulary and wider reading and listening of German are essential to ensure progress.

Costs

All students are provided with a text book, vocabulary and grammar book. We recommend that each student purchase their own copy of the textbook, the DVD of the film and the novel which we will provide details of.

Transferable skills

Higher education institutions and employers have a need for students to develop a range of transferable skills to enable them to respond confidently to the demands of undergraduate study and the world of work.

The transferable skills practised at A Level German include:

Cognitive skills: Non-routine problem solving; Systems thinking; Critical thinking; ICT literacy

Interpersonal skills: Communication; Relationship-building skills; Collaborative Problem solving

Intrapersonal skills: Adaptability; Self-management and Self-development

Previous A Level German students at Fullbrook have found that their German has given them an edge on those who do not have an A Level in a Modern Foreign Language. Students have gone on to University to study Law, Medical Sciences, Business and German. Others have found employment at Mercedes Benz, at the airports and in accountancy.

German still carries academic kudos. It has strong cross-curricular links with many other subjects and is highly valued by Universities and future employers. University courses such as Medicine and Engineering favour students who have studied a language as it shows an ability to communicate and provides the opportunity to study/work abroad and/or to work for an International company at home or abroad.

Studying a language improves understanding of your own language and develops understanding and appreciation of other cultures.

Entry Requirements Grade 6 or above at GCSE.

Contact For further information please contact Mrs J Armstrong, Head of MFL.