

the mid-1990s, the problem of energy shortage had largely been resolved, yet the country had become a net oil importer, and is projected to import an increasingly larger amount in the future, with serious implications for the security of energy supply and future oil import outlay. The course takes a comprehensive survey of the Chinese energy sector, including the resource endowment, energy policy since the 1980s, the major energy industries like oil, coal, natural gas, electricity—HEP and nuclear included—and the international energy trade of China. Current issues such as the Three Gorges Dam and the West-East Pipeline are also dealt with.

**GEOG 7560 Rural and Agricultural Development in China (3,2,1) (C)**

An examination of (1) the physical and historical factors affecting China's agriculture, (2) institutional changes since 1949 in China's rural sector, and (3) underlying contemporary problems and programmes concerning agricultural growth and rural development. Field study in China may be required.

**GEOG 7570 Urban Development in China (3,3,0)**

This course will provide an insight into the internal structure and external linkage of Chinese cities, and analysis of problems, policies and reforms in China's urbanization and urban economy. Field study in China may be required.

**GERM 1005 German I (3,3,0) (G)**

This course aims to introduce the German language and culture to beginners. It combines linguistic and communicative skills with a balanced emphasis on reading, writing, speaking and listening. Special stress is placed on mastering the sound system and the basic grammatical forms, as well as building basic receptive and productive skills in German for effective daily communication. The course also helps students develop their critical thinking through in-class discussions about the cultural dimensions of the language and acquire strategies to learn "how to learn German". The aim is for them to reach EU level A1.1.

**GERM 1006 German II (3,3,0) (G)**

Prerequisite: GERM 1005 German I or equivalent

This is a continuation of German I. The course will introduce the German language and culture relating to travelling and work. Students will learn to communicate effectively in everyday situations such as travelling and shopping, finding jobs, and consulting doctors. An integrated approach to language skills will be adopted, and materials and activities that are relevant to travelling or studying in Germany will be presented in context. They will encounter relatively more difficult texts and be able to express themselves in more complex structures. The course also helps students develop their critical thinking through in-class discussions about cultural issues such as jobs, leisure time and environmental protection. By the end of the course, they should be able to reach EU level A1.2.

**GERM 1008-9 European Language in Context I (8,4,8) (G) (German)**

This course is designed for the German stream of the European Studies programme. It seeks to introduce the German languages in the context of living, studying and working in the German speaking areas of Europe. At the end of this course students achieve the A2-Level of Competence of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) as laid down by the Council of Europe.

**GERM 2005 German III (3,3,0) (G)**

Prerequisite: GERM 1006 German II or GERM 3005 Business German or equivalent

This is a continuation of German II. The course will present the German language and culture in greater depth to advanced beginners. It offers a balanced range of language skills through further syntax acquisition: reading and text analysis, oral expression and communicative skills. Giving directions, good

customer service, going shopping and to parties are general situations for using simple German. The course also helps students develop their critical thinking through in-class discussions about cultural issues such as lifestyles. They should be able to reach EU level A1.2 by the end of the course.

**GERM 2006 German IV (3,3,0) (G)**

Prerequisite: GERM 2005 German III or equivalent

This course further develops the students' basic knowledge of German grammar and vocabulary beyond the intermediate stage. They will learn to use their German more independently in writing, listening and speaking. They will also learn to engage successfully in small talk at home, in class, at work, in sports and parties. The course also helps students develop their critical thinking through in-class discussions about cultural issues such as German manners and dealing with problems and complaints. They will expand their vocabulary to more than 1,200 words and master all the grammatical structures for communicating in everyday life of the EU level A2.1.

**GERM 2008-9 European Language in Context II (8,4,8) (G) (German)**

Prerequisite: GERM 1008-9 European Language in Context I (German)

This course is the continuation of GERM 1008-9 and aims to equip students to pursue academic studies as well as internships in the German speaking areas of Europe during year III. To this end, the course will help the students to reach a sufficient and autonomous level in spoken and written German language; collect useful information about German civilization and contemporary society; and last but not the least, acquire the right attitudes that will enhance their learning and communication strategies. Students at the end of this course achieve the B2-Level of Competence of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) laid down by the Council of Europe.

**GERM 3005 Business German (3,3,0) (G)**

Prerequisite: GERM 1005 German I or equivalent

In this course, students will further develop all four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing, and continue to review and learn additional grammar points. Emphasis will be given to writing and speaking fluently for business purposes. Students will also learn more about German businesses and their cultures, as well as the German code of business and ethics. The aim is for them to reach EU level A1.2.

**GERM 3006 Creative Writing in German (3,3,0)**

Prerequisite: GERM 1006 German II or GERM 3005 Business German or equivalent

The course explores creative writing in three primary genres: short stories, poetry and drama. Students will examine exemplary works in the context of writing, and they will write, discuss and revise their own works in each genre. As they study the works of famous exemplary writers and develop their own style, they learn more about the elements in each genre and gain a deeper understanding of German culture. Students will finally organize their own exposition in a library foyer in Hong Kong at the end of the course. Classes will be conducted in German and English.

**GERM 3007 German Language, Culture and Society (3,3,0)**

This course aims to let students explore/understand crucial aspects of modern German culture and society. They will learn to understand the source of behaviour, customs and attitudes, while comparing it with Hong Kong, and respective mainland Chinese behaviour. The Cultural historian Prof Hermann Bausinger notes in the preface of his book *Typisch deutsch* that common definitions of what "German" is include many stereotypes and prejudices. However, it is not possible to make a clear-cut distinction between stereotypes and reality. Moreover, one has to consider the way other nationalities look at what is considered typically German in order to find out whether it is true or not.