

GERM 1111-2 European Language I (German) (8,4,8)

All basic language skills are developed in an integrated fashion, although oral/aural skills take preference at this stage. Aspects of German area studies are integrated right from the start. By the end of Year I students are expected (1) to understand simple German conversations and participate in them with some facility, (2) to express themselves readily on topics of general interest and answer questions about themselves, (3) to be able to request information in the foreign language and negotiate meaning in everyday situations, (4) to use standard German grammatical constructions as taught, (5) to possess a clear pronunciation, (6) to understand written texts adapted for classroom purposes, and (7) to summarize these texts orally and present their own point of view in the foreign language.

Classes are of a semi-intensive format with at least twelve contact hours per week. Supplementary guided self-access studies (video, audiolingual, PC software and WWW-based exercises) are obligatory with an additional minimum of three hours per week and are monitored by the language teaching staff. This course is open to European Studies majors only.

GERM 1610 German I (3,3,0)

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 1620 German II (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: GERM 1610 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 2111-2 European Language II (German) (8,4,8)

Prerequisite: GERM 1111-2 European Language I (German)

This is a continuation of the Year I courses (GERM 1111-2). The objective is to prepare students for the study and internship year in Europe. The following overseas year (academic study and, possibly, internships) requires a continued intensive, skills-oriented language course with at least twelve contact hours per week. The aspect of area background studies will be intensified in line with EURO 2110/EURO 2120. In the second semester particular attention will be paid to the socio-cultural environment students can expect to find during the year in Europe. Supplementary guided self-access studies continue to be obligatory with an additional minimum of three hours per week and are monitored by the language teaching staff. This course is open to European Studies majors only.

GERM 2620 German III (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: GERM 1620 German II or GERM 3630 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 2630 German IV (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: GERM 2620 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 3111-2 European Language III (German) (2,2,0)

Prerequisite: Internship year in Europe or equivalent

Depending on the acquisitional level reached during their internship year abroad, students will further develop their oral/aural and reading/writing skills within an integrated communicative approach. The course will systematically focus on topics related to the social sciences (German area studies) and students' own research for the honours projects. Remedial work on selected grammatical aspects on the upper-intermediate level will be included. The class is held entirely in German. Up-to-date reading lists and structured assignments will be presented each semester on the course homepage. This course is open to European Studies majors only.

GERM 3630 Business German (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: GERM 1610 German I or equivalent

In this course, students with intermediate-level German 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 3640 Creative Writing in German (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: GERM 1620 German II or GERM 3630 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 get 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.

HIST 1121-2 History of Chinese Culture and Society (3,2,1)

A study of the development and characteristics of Chinese culture and society, helping students to develop a clear understanding of their tradition and preparing them for further study in the same area.

HIST 1131-2 History of Western Civilization (3,2,1)

This course is an introduction to the Western cultural heritage and its influence on the cultures of the East. It serves to provide students with a sound basis for study in the history of the West. The course surveys the time span of human development, from the ancient civilizations in the Near East to the Cold War. Among areas investigated in this course are the development of political