

# GE101-30 Modern German Language I

20/21

**Department**

School of Modern Languages and Cultures

**Level**

Undergraduate Level 1

**Module leader**

Grit Brendecke

**Credit value**

30

**Module duration**

21 weeks

**Assessment**

30% coursework, 65% exam

**Study location**

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

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## Description

### Introductory description

N/A

[Module web page](#)

### Module aims

To develop translation, grammar and speaking skills in German, and in doing so broaden students' vocabulary and range of idioms, expressions and awareness of various stylistic registers.

Grammar

- To increase students' understanding and active use of the technical language of grammar, in English and, increasingly, in German.
- To exploit German texts as a means of examining grammatical usage in German
- To develop students' free production of grammatically-accurate German
- To use the activity of translation into German as a means of developing grammatical awareness, grammatical accuracy and vocabulary acquisition.

Translation into English:

- To develop students' comprehension of written German.
- To develop students' ability to identify the problems and pitfalls inherent in the translation of passages of different types and registers.

- To develop students' discernment of their written English and their recognition of the need for accuracy in their mother tongue when translating  
Translation into German:
- To develop students' ability to identify the problems and pitfalls inherent in the translation of passages of different types and registers.
- To focus on particular grammatical topics and the problems when translating into the target language
- To improve grammatical accuracy  
Writing German
- To develop students' ability to produce arguments on a variety of topics with due attention to accuracy in lexis, grammar and syntax
- To extend students' knowledge of German essay-writing and argumentative forms  
Reading comprehension
- To develop students' ability to sift and sort written information in journalistic texts
- To develop students' ability to read with attention to context
- To develop strategies for dealing with complex syntax, lexis and grammar  
Oral
- To develop students' ability to converse fluidly in German on a number of topics
- To develop students' discernment of their French pronunciation

## Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

### Conversation and Comprehension Class

This class focuses on developing not only oral skills, but also practical skills, such as presentation.

The

Conversation and Comprehension class will also include an element of written comprehension work as

well as introducing German writing skills in preparation for the GE1012 Comprehension and Composition

Exam (GE1022 Ger/IB). In the second term work will be linked in part to a project, usually done in pairs or groups of three.

Media project: research-based written project plus in-class group presentation

Oral Exam: This comprises a brief presentation on the media project topic lasting about five minutes. The

next 5 minutes requires a presentation of additional research made on the topic. The examiner will also

ask questions on the material and findings presented. The last 5 minutes of the exam is a conversation

about a German topic, previously discussed in class. A list of about three topics will be published at the

end of the first week in term 3 and although the topics will have been discussed in class previously, a

reasonable amount of independent research on all the topics is expected.

## Translation class

### Term 1:

Weeks 2-4 Introduction: Resources online, Hammer online grammar, use of dictionaries; introduction to translation techniques from and into German

Weeks 5, 7-10: Translation into German

### Term 2:

Weeks 1-5 -Translation into English

Weeks 7-10 - Translation into German

### Term 3:

Weeks 1/2 - Translation exam practice (either e-g or g-e)

### Grammar class

The small groups for this class are streamed according to the results of the Diagnostic test (term 1/ week

1. and the week by week outline of grammatical topics takes into account the needs of each group. All fundamental grammatical topic of German grammar are covered by all groups.

## Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Have a thorough command of the fundamental tenets of German grammar, and use reference resources appropriately to check grammar and syntax.
- Have a sound understanding of the challenges inherent in translation into English (syntax, register, idiom) and to have developed a range of translation strategies
- Proof-read and scrutinise their work with due attention to accuracy in grammar, syntax and lexis
- Accurate reading skills that include anticipating common problems of syntax, lexis and grammar
- An ability to express oneself orally and in writing on a number of key topics in German

## Indicative reading list

Martin Durrell (ed.) Hammer's German and Usage, London, (6th ed.) 2017, and Martin Durrell et al. Practising German Grammar, London, (4th ed.) 2017

## International

All modules delivered in SMLC are necessarily international. Students engage with themes and ideas from a culture other than that of the UK and employ their linguistic skills in the analysis of primary materials from a non-Anglophone context. Students will also be encouraged to draw on the experiences of visiting exchange students in the classroom and will frequently engage with theoretical and critical frameworks from across the world.

## Subject specific skills

This module will develop students' linguistic skills through engaging with primary materials in the target language. It will build students' capacity to engage with aspects of German culture through analysis of this primary material and through seminar discussion aimed at deeper critical thinking. In particular, students' awareness of the modern German language will be enhanced through lectures and seminars which engage in scholarship in the field.

## **Transferable skills**

All SMLC culture modules demand critical and analytical engagement with artefacts from target-language cultures. In the course of independent study, class work and assessment students will develop the following skills: written and oral communication, creative and critical thinking, problem solving and analysis, time management and organisation, independent research in both English and their target language(s), intercultural understanding and the ability to mediate between languages and cultures, ICT literacy in both English and the target language(s), personal responsibility and the exercise of initiative.

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## **Study**

### **Study time**

<b>Type</b>	<b>Required</b>
Seminars	63 sessions of 1 hour (21%)
Private study	237 hours (79%)
Total	300 hours

### **Private study description**

Private study includes individual language learning tasks such as revision of grammar rules, essay writing and some translation into English and into the target language.

## **Costs**

No further costs have been identified for this module.

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## **Assessment**

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Students can register for this module without taking any assessment.

### **Assessment group D1**

	<b>Weighting</b>	<b>Study time</b>
Coursework: Media Project	20%	
Students work in pairs/ groups of three throughout term 2 on a research and writing task which results in the media project paper to be handed in at the end of term 2.		
Written assignment term 1	5%	
one piece of writing to be handed in towards the end of term 1 (i.e. summary, piece of creative writing)		
Grammar Test	5%	
Mid-term Grammar test in week 7 or 8 of term 2		
Oral examination	20%	
Online Examination	45%	
Note: 2h exam (plus 15 minutes Reading time)		

- Online examination: No Answerbook required

## **Feedback on assessment**

Feedback will be provided in the course of the module in a number of ways. Feedback should be understood to be both formal and informal and is not restricted to feedback on formal written work. Oral feedback will be provided by the module tutor in the course of seminar discussion. This may include feedback on points raised in small group work or in the course of individual presentations or larger group discussion.

Written feedback will be provided on formal assessment using the standard SMLC Assessed Work feedback form appropriate to the assessment. Feedback is intended to enable continuous improvement throughout the module and written feedback is generally the final stage of this feedback process. Feedback will always demonstrate areas of success and areas for future development, which can be applied to future assessment. Feedback will be both discipline-specific and focussed on key transferrable skills, enabling students to apply this feedback to their future professional lives. Feedback will be fair and reasonable and will be linked to the SMLC marking scheme appropriate to the module.

[Past exam papers for GE101](#)

## **Availability**

### **Post-requisite modules**

If you pass this module, you can take:

- GE220-15 Violent Women in the German Cultural Imagination

## Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 1 of ULNA-R2Q2 Undergraduate German Studies with Linguistics
- Year 1 of ULNA-R2A0 Undergraduate German with Chinese
- Year 1 of UGEA-RP33 Undergraduate German with Film Studies
- Year 1 of ULNA-R2R4 Undergraduate German with Spanish
- Year 1 of ULNA-R9Q2 Undergraduate Modern Languages with Linguistics

This module is Core optional for:

- Year 1 of UGEA-R200 Undergraduate German Studies
- Year 1 of ULNA-R4RG Undergraduate Hispanic Studies and German
- Year 1 of ULNA-R9Q1 Undergraduate Modern Languages and Linguistics
- Year 1 of ULNA-R9Q2 Undergraduate Modern Languages with Linguistics

This module is Core option list A for:

- Year 1 of UGEA-RN21 Undergraduate German and Business Studies
- Year 1 of ULNA-R2L4 Undergraduate German and Economics (4-year)
- Year 1 of UGEA-R2V1 Undergraduate German and History
- Year 1 of UGEA-RW24 Undergraduate German and Theatre Studies
- Year 1 of ULNA-R2R4 Undergraduate German with Spanish
- Year 1 of UFRA-R900 Undergraduate Modern Languages
- Year 1 of ULNA-R9L1 Undergraduate Modern Languages and Economics (4-year)
- Year 1 of UPOA-M164 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and German

This module is Core option list B for:

- Year 1 of ULNA-QR37 Undergraduate English and German
- Year 1 of ULNA-RR14 Undergraduate French and German
- Year 1 of ULNA-R1A2 Undergraduate French with German
- Year 1 of ULNA-R2Q3 Undergraduate German and Linguistics

This module is Core option list C for:

- Year 1 of UFRA-R900 Undergraduate Modern Languages

This module is Core option list D for:

- Year 1 of UFRA-R900 Undergraduate Modern Languages

This module is Core option list E for:

- Year 1 of ULNA-R9L1 Undergraduate Modern Languages and Economics (4-year)

This module is Core option list G for:

- Year 1 of ULNA-R9L1 Undergraduate Modern Languages and Economics (4-year)
- Year 1 of ULNA-R9Q1 Undergraduate Modern Languages and Linguistics

This module is Unusual option for:

- Year 1 of UCXA-Q802 Undergraduate Classics (Latin) with Study in Europe