

GE103-30 Modern German Language 1 (Accelerated Beginners)

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, 70% exam

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

N/A

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

This foundation module in Modern German Language for beginners (or near beginners) covers the main linguistic (oral, aural, written, spoken) skills. It looks for the acquisition of grammatical awareness and essential communicative competences. By the end of the year students will be able to sustain everyday conversations in German, read authentic texts (e.g. newspaper articles), follow the gist of TV extracts and be able to write an intermediate range of texts in German. Students will work on basic translation into and out of German as a means of consolidating relational grammatical and syntactic competence. In addition to class-time, students will be required to complete a range of (formative) study tasks aimed at complementing and deepening the material covered in formal instruction.

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.

Classes integrate the four skills – listening, speaking, reading and writing – with an emphasis on form by

targeting some essential structures for intensive practice within a communicative context.

Students will also practice some elementary/intermediate translation. All these activities will entail students' self-study to broaden vocabulary and aural understanding.

Every week, students will learn grammar, vocabulary and functional aspects of German. They will have

several activities in the classroom to improve their understanding of the language and their performance

through practice of oral, listening and writing exercises. Below it is the description of grammar, vocabulary

and functional aspects of the language, which will be covered in this module:

1. Pronunciation, alphabet, introducing oneself, regular conjugations, the verb 'sein'.
2. Subject pronouns, definite and indefinite articles, numbers, conjunctions, colours and adjectives, the verb 'haben'.
3. Gender and number of nouns, demonstrative and possessive adjectives, questions: wo?, woher?, wer?, was?, wen?, wann?, the accusative case.
4. Separable verbs, regular verbs in the perfect tense.
5. Reflexive verbs and pronouns, adjectives of origin and numerals.
6. Modal verbs, the dative case.
7. Prepositions of place and movement (Wechselpräpositionen).
8. Irregular verbs in the present tense and past tense, word order (weil, dass, etc).
9. The future tense (werden).
10. The passive tense (present tense), the genitive case. 11. Comparatives and superlatives. 12. The passive tense (perfect tense). 13. The imperfect tense, the pluperfect tense.. 14. The indefinite article and pronouns (jed-, kein-, all-, viel-, wenig-). 15. Adjective endings 1. 16. Adjective endings 2. 17. Relative sentences and pronouns. 18. The subjunctive 1. 19. The subjunctive 2. 20. Sentence constructions: '(sich) lassen', 'sowohl-als auch', 'weder-noch', 'Je-desto'. 21. Indefinite articles: 'manch-', 'einig-', Relative sentences and pronouns using the genitive case.

Learning outcomes

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

- Demonstrate individual skills in writing and reading in German, and initial cross-lingual awareness through translation.
- single out and discuss, when necessary, specific problems of grammar and syntax.
- demonstrate familiarity with different language variations and register
- demonstrate a strong command of basic structures of German grammar and their use in various contexts
- demonstrate competence in different registers

- demonstrate skills of aural comprehension and oral communication over a wide range of topics
- identify and discuss intercultural awareness in the German context and German-English-speaking context

Indicative reading list

Course textbooks:

- DaF Kompact A1-B1 (course book), DaF Kompact A1-B1 (exercise book),
- Neue Horizonte (course book and exercise book),

Essential Reference:

The Hammer's Grammar (Martin Durrell)

Oxford German Dictionary or Collins German Dictionary

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.

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Supervised practical classes	55 sessions of 2 hours (37%)
Private study	190 hours (63%)
Total	300 hours

Private study description

Students will be expected to make use of the TRC, directed learning and self-study options to complement taught class hours e.g. through VLE / Moodle.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group D1

	Weighting	Study time
December Assessment	15%	
An in-class test, comprising tasks assessing grammar, writing and comprehension skills.		
March Assessment	15%	
An in-class test, comprising tasks assessing grammar, writing, comprehension and translation skills.		
Oral Examination	20%	
An oral examination.		
Online Examination	50%	
A 2 hour written examination on grammar in context, translation, reading and writing.		

- 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 GE103](#)

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 optional for:

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