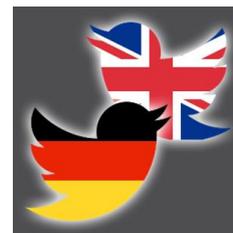


A-Level German



What are the topics at A-Level?

1. Social issues and trends

You must study the themes and sub-themes below in relation to at least one German speaking country. Where Germany is not specified, students may study the themes in relation to any German-speaking country. Students must study the themes and sub-themes using a range of sources, including material from online media.

- **Aspects of German-speaking society**
 - The Changing state of the family (Familie im Wandel)
 - The digital world (Die digitale Welt)
 - Youth Culture: fashion and trends, music, television (Jugendkultur: Mode, Musik und Fernsehen)
- **Multiculturalism in a German-speaking society**
 - Immigration (Einwanderung)
 - Racism (Rassismus)
 - Integration (Integration)

2. Political and artistic culture

Students must study the themes and sub-themes below in relation to at least one German-speaking country.

- **Artistic culture in the German-speaking world**
 - • Festivals and traditions (Feste und Traditionen)
 - • Art and architecture (Kunst und Architektur)
 - • Cultural life in Berlin, past and present (Das Berliner Kulturleben damals und heute)
- **Aspects of political life in the German-speaking world**
 - German and the European Union (Deutschland und die Europäische Union)
 - Politics and youth (Die Politik und die Jugend)
 - German re-unification and its consequences (Die Wiedervereinigung und ihre Folgen)

3. Grammar

A-level students will be expected to have studied the grammatical system and structures of the language during their course. Knowledge of the grammar and structures specified for GCSE is assumed.

4. Literary texts and films

We will be studying a film and a play, and you will have to write two short essays on each of them in Paper 3. For the film, we will be studying *Goodbye Lenin*, and for the play we will cover *Andorra* by Max Frisch. Both of them will be watched and read in lessons.

5. The individual research project

You will identify a subject or a key question which is of interest to you and which relates to a country or countries where German is spoken. They may bear a direct relation to your other A-Level subjects (i.e. if you are studying History, you might want to cover the division of Germany). For this, you will be able to select relevant information from a range of sources including the internet, and then analyse and summarise your findings so that you can then present and discuss them in your speaking assessment.

Examples of possible broad research areas as suggested by Ofqual include:

- Debatten zu Umweltfragen im deutschsprachigen Raum (Environmental debates in the German-speaking world)
- Bildung und Ausbildung im deutschsprachigen Raum (Education and training in the German-speaking world)
- Mediale Kommunikation – Debatten im deutschsprachigen Raum (Media communication – debates in the German-speaking world)
- Sport in der deutschen Gesellschaft (Sport in German society)

How are the lessons divided up?

You will have a total of 10 lessons over two weeks. In addition you will have a conversation lesson for part of one of your non-contact periods with Frau Anne Prince our German assistant. This will be in pairs or a small group. **It is very important that you attend this lesson and that you do your best to speak in her class.**

What will we do in class?

You will study listening and reading passages from the textbook and many other sources. We will also have grammar lessons as we progress throughout the year. We will use the G10 (ie the language lab) once a week, so you will need a log-in and be able to access all the materials we have online for you.

What will the homework be like?

You will be set listening tasks from the textbook, vocabulary to prepare for reading texts, some grammar exercises and some writing tasks. You will have vocabulary, grammar and comprehension tests, but your homework will be mostly be targeted to improve your essay-writing skills.

What do I have to do to succeed at A level?

The biggest difference between GCSE and A Level is that you are not a pupil anymore; as you enter Year 12 you become a student! This means that it is up to you to put time in studying and go beyond the minimum. This is because at A Level the questions, fields of vocabulary and grammar are much more open-ended, so it is not enough to simply pay attention in class; it is up to you to do more at home. It is very important that you keep up to date with the work set, particularly the topic-related essays. Remember, with Modern Languages, and especially at A-Level, you can't cram up for final exams.

Do I need any special equipment?

You will be provided with a text book, grammar exercises and worksheets. Keep checking the German Moodle section for updates, i.e. new video files, class-work that you may have missed. You will also be given a logon to access an on-line interactive learning platform, **Kerboodle** which can be used for independent learning and reinforcement as well as specific tasks in class.

A good dictionary is also essential, and you will need an A4 lever-arch file. This must be solely for German and you should keep it organised - separate sections for topic-specific vocabulary and exercises on the one hand, and grammar on the other.

Will I get to go Germany?

Going to Germany and speaking the language is an intrinsic part of learning German. Any time you can spend in Germany, speaking German will help you improve. If you have contacts in Germany, then make use of them and see if you can get yourself over there and speaking German!

In Year 12 there is the opportunity to take part in a Work Experience exchange with schools in Munich; two weeks in July followed by the German partners coming to us for 2 weeks in September. This trip is run in collaboration with other schools in Coventry and south Warwickshire. This exchange is extremely popular and girls from our school have taken part in previous years and found the experience totally rewarding, both from a linguistic and cultural point of view. We also offer a work experience trip, organised by Halsbury travel, **(this is a private venture and is not organised by the school)**.

Destinations

Every year girls go on to study German at Oxbridge and Russell group universities, German is also a useful A-level for a variety of other courses and extremely highly regarded by universities. Employers are increasingly demanding employees with language skills. Some of the destinations over the past few years include:

French and German	Trinity Hall, Cambridge
German and German Law	Sheffield
German and French	Bristol
German and German Law	Durham
German and German Law	Exeter College Oxford
Physiology with German	Aberdeen
German and Business Studies	Sheffield
German and English Literature	Edinburgh
German and International Relations	Nottingham

Girls studying German have also gone on to secure places in many different areas including: Medicine, Biochemistry, Art College and Archaeology, Politics, Teaching, Geology and International Relations.



Results 2018: 66.6% A*/A 100% A*-B

If you have any further questions please email Mrs Stringer (Head of German) stringer.e@sggs.org.uk