

German is available
at 2 levels for IB.

IB GERMAN

Contact Person - Mr C. Zursiedel

LANGUAGE B STANDARD LEVEL

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENT

The minimum requirement for this course is a grade B at GCSE, although we expect the majority of students to have a grade A or A*.

THE COURSE CONTENT

The course is intended for students with some knowledge of German (for example up to GCSE Level). Language B lessons will enable students to reach a high level of competence in the target language and explore the culture from the countries where the language is spoken.

The Standard Level course is intended for those who may not necessarily intend continuing the study of the language beyond school, but who want to develop the foreign language to an extent that will enable them to converse with native speakers.

Students will have 5 hours of lessons per fortnight, usually taught exclusively in German. In addition to your timetabled lessons there is a requirement to attend weekly sessions with the foreign language assistant to allow them to improve their oral proficiency and converse with a native speaker.

Topics that will be covered during the two-year course are taken from the following Core topics:

Communication & Media, Global Issues and Social Relationships. Two further topics are chosen from these: Cultural Diversity, Customs & Traditions, Health, Leisure, Science & Technology.

There is also a strong emphasis on the appreciation of the writing and culture of the target language countries in IB. This includes communication for different purposes.

Students will be encouraged to participate in our successful exchange and work experience programme in Germany during the two-year course. Visits to plays, films and conferences may also be organized.

RESOURCES

Students will have at their disposal a variety of resources, such as textbooks, grammar guides and workbooks. The ICT suite in the language block and the School Library offer additional resources; these include dictionaries, short stories, novels, cartoons, and books on culture and history. Furthermore, there is a large number of German films on DVD for personal viewing. Students will be given opportunities for more independent study, such as project work where they are encouraged to research an area of German culture, and present their findings to the class.

ASSESSMENT

The Speaking element is internally assessed, through an individual oral (20%) and a group oral (done in class) (10%). There is also a Written Assignment, based on one of the topics and done in class (20%). The written papers are worth 50% and comprise text handling (Reading) (25%) and a written paper (25%), (one task from a choice of 5).

LANGUAGE B HIGHER LEVEL

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENT

The minimum requirement for this course is a grade A or A* at GCSE.

THE COURSE CONTENT

In the Higher Level course, students will have 8 lessons per fortnight, taught exclusively in German. Course topics follow a similar structure to the one for Standard Level described above, but are studied in greater depth. There is also a requirement to study two literature texts, usually two novels.

The Higher Level course is intended for those who may intend to study the language for a possible future career, as the level reached will prepare them to live and work in a German speaking country.

ASSESSMENT

The Speaking element is internally assessed, through an individual oral (20%) and a group oral (done in class) (10%). There is also a Written Assignment, based on one of the texts studied and done in class (20%). The written papers are worth 50% and comprise text handling (Reading) (25%) and a written paper (25%), (two tasks: creative response and discursive essay).

Assessment criteria are the same as for Standard Level, but are applied more rigorously.

HIGHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES AND RELATED CAREERS

With almost 100 Million speakers, German is the most used language in the EU, though any MFL Sixth Form study or a degree in Modern Language(s) is highly desirable in the 21st century. As in all arts subjects, the ability to broaden horizons and question existing ideas is inherent. The skills you acquire as a linguist are obvious: to listen; to communicate effectively; to evaluate; to explain; to analyse linguistically; and to understand a foreign country and its people.

Linguists can find employment opportunities in a wide array of sectors, including broadcasting, purchasing, commerce and industry, international organisations, interpreting, translating, teaching and the Civil Service. You can improve your career prospects with a modern language in such fields as law, accountancy, journalism and insurance.