

GERMAN FOR BEGINNERS

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE FIRST YEAR

Students will attend a pre-session course in order to prepare for the intensive language work leading up to the Preliminary examination. This pre-session course consists of an online course and a residential course.

All students need to have completed the online course by the time they start the residential course. Students are advised to allow at least 14 days for completion of the online course, which will be available from 1 September. For completion, students will need an internet connection, the DaF kompakt course book and work book, and Essential German Grammar.

The online course uses the platform Babbel and is supported by a forum on WebLearn, which is used for smaller assignments and allows students to discuss questions and any areas of difficulty. Students are also able to contact the instructor via e-mail.

The first-year German for Beginners course will consist of four components: three will be focused on intensive language study, while the fourth will give students an opportunity to work on literature also studied by the post-A level cohort. The course for the three language papers (Papers I, II and III) is centrally organised, and is specific to students of Beginners' German. The course for the literature paper (Paper IV) is organised and taught by the students' college. For Paper IV, Beginners' German students will read four narrative works, initially primarily in translation. They will be expected to use the translation consistently in conjunction with the original, maximising the focus of their reading over time on the original German text. The college-organised tutorials or classes on these works will bring together students from the Beginners' German group and the post-A level group, and will focus on the German text. Alongside these tutorials or classes, students' reading skills in German will be developed in a centrally organised class that will complement, and interact with, both the language papers and the literature paper.

The Preliminary Examination is taken at the end of the first year, and consists of the following:

LANGUAGE

Paper I Reading Comprehension, Essay and Grammar

1. A) Reading comprehension exercise (in German) on a passage in German.
2. B) One essay in German (250-400 words). A choice of questions will be set.
3. C) Grammar exercises designed to test grammatical knowledge and the ability to apply it appropriately

Paper IIA Translation into German of a prose passage.

Paper IIB Translation from German of a prose passage in a modern literary register.

Paper III An oral exam with a spoken part and a listening comprehension.

Books required for the language papers:

DaF kompakt A1 - B1, Birgit Braun, Margit Doubek et. al. Kursbuch + 3 Audio-CDs A1 - B1

978-3-12-676180-2

DaF kompakt A1 - B1, Birgit Braun, Margit Doubek et. al., Übungsbuch + 2 Audio-CDs A1 - B1 978-3-12-676181-9

Martin Durrell, Katrin Kohl, Gudrun Loftus and Claudia Kaiser: Essential German Grammar, **second edition** (London: Routledge 2015)

Collins German Dictionary (Complete and Unabridged). Current edition.

LITERATURE

Paper IV

Three essays on German prose from 1890 to 1933:

Theodor Fontane, Effi Briest (1894/95). Also: Effi Briest, translated by Helen Chambers (Penguin Classics, 2000)

Franz Kafka, Die Verwandlung (1912/1915)
Also: The Metamorphosis and Other Stories, translated by Ritchie Robertson (Oxford World's Classics, 2009)

Thomas Mann, *Der kleine Herr Friedemann* (1897) [in *Frühe Erzählungen 1893-1912* (Fischer)]
Also: *Little Herr Friedemann*, translated by David Luke, in *Death in Venice and Other Stories*, Vintage Mann (Vintage, 1998)

Irmgard Keun, *Nach Mitternacht* (1937) [List Taschenbuch]
Also: *After Midnight*, translated by Anthea Bell (Neversink, 2011), currently available only on Kindle.

Candidates on the Beginners' course are encouraged to use the original German text as far as possible and to refer to it when quoting from the work, including in the Paper IV examination.

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