

UNIVERSITY OF ULSTER

SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES, LITERATURES
AND CULTURES

GERMAN AT COLERAINE

STUDENT HANDBOOK

Academic Year 2009/2010

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GERMAN AT COLERAINE

German can be taken at Coleraine from 'A' Level or from *ab initio* level. It can be studied in a wide variety of combinations:

- 1 BA Honours French & German (Applied Languages)
BA Honours German & Spanish (Applied Languages)

German may be studied within the four-year BA Honours degree in Applied Languages. You study two languages (from German, French and Spanish) throughout the four years of the course. In their second year, students have the opportunity of translating and interpreting modules in addition to the normal language modules. The third year of the course is split between the two countries whose language you are studying.

In Germany you can choose to study at one of six partner universities: Berlin, Bielefeld, Bremen, Erlangen, Freiburg or Siegen.

- 2 BA Honours in combination with other subjects

If undergraduate students in the Faculty of Arts wish to study subjects in combination, they enrol for the BA Honours degree in Combined Arts. Students take six modules in the first year, normally two selected from three different subjects. At the end of their first year, Combined Arts students select the two subjects they would like to study in their second and final years. These subjects can be combined either as a major-minor programme (with eight modules taken in the major subject and four in the minor) or a main programme (with six modules – three in each year – taken in each subject). German is available as a major, main or minor option. It may be combined with American Studies, Computing, English, Environmental Studies, European Studies, Film Studies, French, Geography, History, Irish, Media Studies, Photo-Imaging or Spanish. German may be studied as a minor subject with Journalism and as either a minor or major subject with Business Studies. It may also be taken as a major subject only with Accounting, Education, International Development, Marketing, Retail Studies or Psychology.

LANGUAGE COURSES IN GERMANY

If you start German from scratch you will follow an intensive language course in Germany at the end of your first year. This course is located in Freiburg im Breisgau and normally takes place in September.

Post 'A' Level or Leaving Certificate students who take German as a minor option normally follow a language course at the University of Freiburg in the summer vacation prior to the beginning of their final year.

The University normally makes a contribution towards expenses.

INTERCALARY PERIOD IN GERMANY

1 Applied Languages

Students taking German within the BA Honours Applied Languages programme spend the third year of their course abroad. In the first semester you study at a French or Spanish university and in the second semester attend a German university. In Germany you can choose any one of our six partner universities: Berlin, Bielefeld, Bremen, Erlangen, Freiburg or Siegen.

2 German in Combination

Students taking German as a major or main subject are required to spend an intercalary year in a German-speaking country. You normally apply for a post as an English-speaking Language Assistant in a German-speaking country but you may choose to find work in industry or commerce or study at a German university. Students taking French and German as main subjects are required to spend six months in each country, studying at a French and German university or as teaching assistants.

Students studying German as a minor option are not required to spend an intercalary year in Germany. However, you are strongly recommended to take a year's Leave of Absence after the second year of your course and apply for a post as an English-speaking Language Assistant in a German-speaking country.

GERMAN STUDENTS ON THE CAMPUS

Since we have ERASMUS/SOCRATES exchanges with the Universities of Berlin, Bielefeld, Bremen, Erlangen, Freiburg and Siegen, there are a substantial number of German students on the Coleraine Campus. You will no doubt meet some of them in class and we would encourage you to get to know them.

RESOURCES

Library resources are good and there is a wide range of material available for the 'politics and society' strand of the course. Key texts are placed on short loan to ensure that all students can gain access to them. There are a number of German newspapers and magazines in the library (such as *Die Zeit* and *Der Spiegel*) and you should set aside an hour each week to read them. Library tours are arranged for new students during the induction period and it is important that you take this opportunity of learning how the library operates.

We possess a variety of language-learning material which is made available to students for individual use in the Multimedia Resource Unit in room D048. Audio and video cassettes are recorded on a regular basis, and the latest current affairs programmes and documentaries are received and recorded via the Satellite dishes.

A number of software packages are also available. Some of this material is used in class, but there is a great deal more for students to choose from, and a regular amount of time, possibly an hour a week, should be put aside for this purpose.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE SUBJECT

German is run by the German Subject Committee. It includes all the members of staff who teach German, as well as the Head of School, Professor J Gillespie, and the Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Professor P Ó Dochartaigh. The Subject Committee also has student representatives, normally one for each year of the course. These representatives are elected annually by their fellow students, usually in late-October. They keep the Subject Committee informed about student response to the modules and bring to its attention any difficulties or problems which may arise.

The Subject Director for German and Chair of the Subject Committee is Dr Ian Connor. He is responsible for the organisation and management of the subject.

ADVISER OF STUDIES

On the day you register at the University, you are assigned to an adviser of studies and an appointment is made for you to see your adviser before teaching commences. The role of the adviser of studies is to advise and help students with any academic or personal difficulties they may have. For example, if you initially find it difficult to understand the timetable, you should contact your adviser for assistance. Similarly, if you wish to change one of the subjects you have opted to study, your adviser of studies will help you to complete a module amendment form. Please note, however, that you should normally do this only during the first week of the semester, or, in exceptional cases, during the second week. Advisers of studies usually indicate in notices

the hours at which they are available to see students, but they can often be contacted at other times as well.

In short, do not hesitate to contact your adviser whenever you want help or guidance on academic or other matters.

COUNSELLING SERVICE

If you have a personal problem the first person you should approach is your adviser of studies. However, if the problem is too serious or too personal to discuss with your adviser, the University has an excellent Counselling Service which is completely confidential and has a number of trained professional counsellors on its staff.

COMMUNICATION

You may contact staff by email, by telephone or by letter. You may also discuss matters with them personally. Members of staff indicate on their office doors the times at which they may be consulted.

In addition, there is a notice board for German on the first floor of University House (C Block). Information for students taking German will also be posted on this board and it is important to check it regularly.

Staff may need to communicate with students by letter and it is therefore essential that you notify staff in the Faculty Office in Room C100 if you change your term-time address.

Students should also check daily the mail rack outside the Faculty Office on the first floor of University House for communications from staff and external post.

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

The Faculty regulations governing attendance at classes stipulate that: "Students who are absent without good cause from more than 25 per cent of their classes for a period of four weeks may be required ... to discontinue their studies".

If you are prevented by illness from attending classes or submitting assessment work you must notify your adviser of studies at once and, on your return, give a completed medical report form to your adviser. Staff monitor student attendance closely and experience has shown that academic success is directly related to good attendance.

COURSEWORK DEADLINES

Coursework must be submitted by the date specified by the appropriate lecturer. Work handed in after the deadline will not be accepted unless a satisfactory explanation (accompanied, in the case of illness, by a medical certificate) is provided. If you hand in an essay at the Court Room (C001) or at the School Office (C108), you should always obtain a receipt.

Marked coursework will be given back to you, but it must be returned to the lecturer concerned prior to the meeting of the Board of Examiners at the beginning of June.

PLAGIARISM

There are two kinds of plagiarism. The first is the copying of passages from books, articles or some other source, and attempting to pass them off as your own words. A piece of work containing plagiarised passages will normally receive a mark of **zero**, and plagiarism may lead to formal disciplinary action against you. Remember that it is not enough to quote a source in a general way at the end of your essay. You must formally and explicitly acknowledge **ALL** sources **at the time that they are used**. This is usually done in the form of footnotes.

The second type of plagiarism is related to the presence of German students on campus. While it is important and desirable to get to know these students, you must not get them, or anyone else, to help you write translations, essays or other work. **All your work must be written by you in your own words.**

TIMETABLE CLASHES

One of the attractive features of taking German within combined programmes is that you can combine it with any one of twelve different subjects. This means, however, that timetable clashes are more likely to occur than on courses where student choice is more restricted. If you have a clash, please inform both the lecturers concerned in the first week of the semester and one of the classes will be rescheduled.

CAREER GUIDANCE

The University has an excellent Careers Office which helps students in many ways: individual interviews and advice are given, presentations by firms are arranged and students may also visit companies and organisations such as the Civil Service. Most of these activities are aimed at final-year students but it is advisable to think seriously of your career aims and to visit the office earlier, certainly in your second year.

CAREER PROSPECTS

Career prospects for German graduates are excellent. In fact, one survey of first career destinations for university graduates concluded that employment prospects for German graduates were better than for almost any subject except Medicine and Law. Among our graduates are the following:

- the manager of the German office of a leading brewery
- an export executive in a dairy company in Co. Kerry
- a senior manager with a leading transport company
- the manager of an engineering company exporting to Germany
- a translator with the European Commission
- a management executive with a Northern Ireland software company
- a professor of German at a University in Wales
- a freelance translator working from home in the Glens of Antrim
- postgraduates (full-time and part-time) at the University of Ulster.

GERMAN IN APPLIED LANGUAGES

	Semester 1	Semester 2
YEAR 1	Choose one option from both Language A and B	Choose one option from both Language A and B
MODULE 1 (German)	GER101 CRN: 13234 (10) & GER103 CRN: 13241 (10) Or GER101 CRN: 13233 (20)	GER102 CRN: 13239 (10) & GER104 CRN: 13242 (10) Or GER102 CRN: 13237 (20)
MODULE 2 (Language B)	FRE106 CRN: 18415 (20) Or SPA103 (post A level) CRN: 16516 (20) Or SPA101 (Beginners) CRN: 16507 (20) Or FRE111 CRN: 13170 (20)	FRE107 CRN: 18416 (20) Or SPA104 (Post A Level) CRN: 16518 (20) Or SPA102 (Beginners) CRN: 16512 (20) Or FRE112 CRN: 13172 (20)
MODULE 3	EUS102 CRN: 13082 (20) Discovering Freedom	EUS103 CRN: 13083 (20) Contemporary Europe

NB: At least one of Language A and Language B must be at post-A Level/post-Leaving Certificate level.

YEAR 2	Semester 1	Semester 2
MODULE 1 (German)	GER301 CRN: 13252 (10) & GER310 CRN: 13258 (10) Or GER301 CRN: 13253 (20)	GER303 CRN: 13256 (10) & GER311 CRN: 13259 (10) Or GER303 CRN: 13255 (20)
MODULE 2 (Language B)	FRE301 CRN: 13189 (10) & FRE313 CRN: 13195 (10) Or SPA301 CRN: 16528 (10) & SPA310 CRN: 16535 (10) Or SPA301 CRN: 16531 (20) Or FRE311 CRN: 13193 (20)	FRE302 CRN: 13190 (10) & FRE314 CRN: 13196(10) Or SPA302 CRN: 16531 (10) & SPA311 CRN: 16536 (10) Or SPA302 CRN: 16530 (20) Or FRE312 CRN: 19194 (20)
MODULE 3	LAN310 CRN: 13907 (20) Or French Culture of the 17 th & 18 th Centuries (FRE317 CRN: 13199 (20))	Practical Translation & Interpreting Choose two from: a. German Interpreting (GER325C2 CRN: 4386) b. German Translation (GER326C2 CRN: 4387) c. French Interpreting 1 (FRE315 CRN: 13197) d. French Translation 1 (FRE316 CRN 13198) e. Spanish Interpreting (SPA315 CRN: 16539) f. Spanish Translation (SPA316 CRN: 16540)) (10 each) Or French Culture of the 19 th Century (FRE318 CRN: 13200) (20)

NB: At least one of Language A and Language B must be at post-A Level/post-Leaving Certificate level.

YEAR ABROAD	Country of Language A or B	Country of Language A or B
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FINAL YEAR	Semester 1	Semester 2
MODULE 1	GER501 CRN: 13269 (10 points) AND GER503 CRN: 13271 (10 points)	GER502 CRN: 13270 (10 points) AND Either FRE502 CRN: 13211 (10 points) Or SPA502 CRN: 16545 (10 points)
MODULE 2	Either FRE501 CRN: 13210 (10 points) AND FRE503 CRN: 13212 (10 points) Or SPA501 CRN: 16542 (10 points) AND SPA510 CRN: 16552 (10 points)	LAN512 CRN: 13914 (20 points) Or LAN510 CRN: 13912 (20 points) Or LAN511 CRN: 13913 (20 points)
MODULE 3	LAN502 CRN: 13909 (20 points) Dissertation	LAN510 CRN: 13912 Or LAN511 CRN: 13913 Or International Marketing (MKT520 CRN: 14416) Or Contemporary French Culture (FRE509 CRN 13217) Or Political Forces in Contemporary Europe (EUS505 CRN: 13094) Or German Politics, Culture & Society 6 (GER504 CRN: 13272) AND Either Spanish Politics, Culture & Society 6 (SPA511 CRN: 16544) Or French Politics, Culture & Society 6 (FRE504 CRN: 13213)

BA HONOURS GERMAN IN COMBINATION
Main Option

Course Structure for Post 'A' Level/Leaving Certificate Students

	Semester 1	Semester 2
YEAR 1	German Language 1 (GER101 CRN: 13234) German Politics & Society 1 (GER103 CRN: 13241) Subject B Subject C	German Language 2 (GER102 CRN: 13239) German Politics and Society 2 (GER104 CRN: 13242) Subject B Subject C
YEAR 2	German Language 3 (GER301 CRN: 13252) German Politics & Society 3 (GER310 CRN: 13258) Subject B or C	German Language 4 (GER303 CRN: 13256) German Politics & Society 4 (GER311 CRN: 13259) German Interpreting (GER325 CRN: 13267) German Translation (GER326 CRN: 13268) Subject B or C
YEAR 3	Intercalary year in a German-speaking country	
YEAR 4	German Language 5 (GER501 CRN: 13269) German Culture, Politics & Society 5 (GER503 CRN: 13271) German Dissertation (GER532 CRN: 13282) Or Subject B or C Subject B or C	German Language 6 (GER502 CRN: 13270) German Culture, Politics & Society 6 (GER504 CRN: 13272) German Dissertation (GER532 CRN: 13283) Or Subject B or C Subject B or C

BA HONOURS GERMAN IN COMBINATION

Main Course Structure for *ab initio* students

	Semester 1	Semester 2
YEAR 1	<p>German <i>ab initio</i> 1 (GER101 CRN: 13233)</p> <p>Subject B</p> <p>Subject C</p>	<p>German <i>ab initio</i> 2 (GER102 CRN: 13237)</p> <p>Subject B</p> <p>Subject C</p>
Intensive German Language Course in Freiburg (September)		
YEAR 2	<p>German <i>ab initio</i> 3 (GER301 CRN: 13253)</p> <p>Subject B or C</p>	<p>German <i>ab initio</i> 4 (GER303 CRN: 13255)</p> <p>Subject B or C</p> <p>Subject B or C</p>
YEAR 3	Intercalary year in a German-speaking country	
YEAR 4	<p>German Language 5 (GER501 CRN: 13269)</p> <p>German Culture, Politics & Society 5 (GER503 CRN: 13271)</p> <p>German Dissertation (GER532 CRN: 13282)</p> <p>Or</p> <p>Subject B or C</p> <p>Subject B or C</p>	<p>German Language 6 (GER502 CRN: 13270)</p> <p>German Culture, Politics & Society 6 (GER504 CRN: 13272)</p> <p>German Dissertation (GER532 CRN: 13283)</p> <p>Or</p> <p>Subject B or C</p> <p>Subject B or C</p>

BA HONOURS GERMAN IN COMBINATION

Minor Option

Course Structure for Post 'A' / 'H' Level Students

	Semester 1	Semester 2
YEAR 1	<p>German Language 1 (GER101 CRN: 13234) German Politics & Society (GER103 CRN: 13241)</p> <p>Subject B</p> <p>Subject C</p>	<p>German Language 2 (GER102C CRN: 13239) German Politics & Society 2 (GER104 CRN: 13242)</p> <p>Subject B</p> <p>Subject C</p>
YEAR 2	<p>German Language 3 (GER301 CRN: 13252) German Politics & Society 3 (GER310 CRN: 13258)</p> <p>Subject B or C</p> <p>Subject B or C</p>	<p>German Language 4 (GER303 CRN: 13256) German Politics & Society 4 (GER311 CRN: 13259)</p> <p>Subject B or C</p> <p>Subject B or C</p>
YEAR 3	<p>German Language 5 (GER501 CRN: 13269)</p> <p>German Culture, Politics & Society 5 (GER503 CRN: 13271)</p> <p>Subject B or C</p> <p>Subject B or C</p>	<p>German Language 6 (GER502 CRN: 13270)</p> <p>German Culture, Politics & Society 6 (GER504 CRN: 13272)</p> <p>Subject B or C</p> <p>Subject B or C</p>

BA HONOURS GERMAN IN COMBINATION

Minor Option

Course Structure for *ab initio* students

	Semester 1	Semester 2
YEAR 1	<p>German <i>ab initio</i> 1 (GER101 CRN: 13233)</p> <p>Subject B</p> <p>Subject C</p>	<p>German <i>ab initio</i> 2 (GER102 CRN: 13237)</p> <p>Subject B</p> <p>Subject C</p>
Intensive German Language Course in Freiburg (September)		
YEAR 2	<p>German <i>ab initio</i> 3 (GER301 CRN: 13253)</p> <p>Subject B or C</p> <p>Subject B or C</p>	<p>German <i>ab initio</i> 4 (GER303 CRN 13255)</p> <p>Subject B or C</p> <p>Subject B or C</p>
YEAR 3	<p>German <i>ab initio</i> 5 (GER506 CRN: 13273)</p> <p>German Culture, Politics & Society 5 (GER503 CRN: 13271)</p> <p>Subject B or C</p> <p>Subject B or C</p>	<p>German <i>ab initio</i> 6 (GER507 CRN: 13274)</p> <p>German Culture, Politics & Society 6 (GER504 CRN: 13272)</p> <p>Subject B or C</p> <p>Subject B or C</p>

This is an intensive study of German for those students who are starting the language from scratch. It will be taught six hours a week and there are also two intensive language days on Saturdays during the semester.

Coursework during the initial *ab initio* period of Year 1 aims to provide students with a basic grasp of the four skills of speaking, understanding, reading and writing the German language.

The choice of vocabulary concentrates upon the recognised “survival” areas of language acquisition, for instance, using public transport and generally travelling in the countries of the target language, booking into a hotel, dining out, receiving/accepting an invitation to someone’s house, understanding the basic customs and habits of the culture. This skeletal framework represents the essential grounding upon which the later, more sophisticated, language skills can be grafted.

Self Help

In these early stages of learning a language from scratch you must, in addition to attending classes and completing the set assignments, also devote as much extra time as you can to learning vocabulary and structures and hearing and speaking German in every way possible. As your skills increase, you will be able to read simple texts and watch films. Radio broadcasts also provide useful experience of the language. The more you do, the more academically successful you will be, and the greater the personal satisfaction.

Books to be purchased (both obtainable from the Bookshop):

- 1 *Themen ‘Neu’ 1 & 2*
- 2 **Either** Collins *German Concise Dictionary* **or** Oxford *Duden German Dictionary*

Module Co-ordinator: Dr ID Connor

Semester: 1

Coursework: 100%

Credits: 20 *Level:* 1

Entrance Requirements: ‘A’ Level in another modern foreign language or satisfactory performance in a language aptitude test

Year 1 Semester 2 Modules

GER102 CRN: 13239

German Language 2

This module is designed to reinforce and broaden the students' language skills. The process of grammatical revision will be continued and students will be set specific exercises in order to practise areas where particular difficulty is still being experienced. Students will write general essays in German and do text comprehension exercises. They will practise aural comprehension of tape recordings and video presentations on contemporary social, cultural and political themes, encountering interference factors such as background noise and regional dialects. Individual and group presentations will also form part of this module and emphasis will be placed on oral presentation skills.

Module Co-ordinator: Dr NM Railton
Semester: 2
Coursework: 50% *Examination:* 50%
Credits: 10 *Level:* 1
Entrance Requirements: Normally 'A' Level or Irish Leaving Certificate
Grade C in German

GER104 CRN: 13242

German Politics and Society 2

The 'politics and society' component of this module will examine the re-emergence of West Germany's major institutions after the Second World War, such as the trade unions and the press. The module will also include translation texts on economic, social and political issues.

Module Co-ordinator: Dr ID Connor
Semester: 2
Coursework: 50% *Examination:* 50%
Credits: 10 *Level:* 1
Entrance Requirements: Normally 'A' Level or Irish Leaving Certificate
Grade C in German

GER102 CRN: 13237

German Language (*ab initio*) 2

The coursework will expose students to a range of pre-recorded and spontaneous speech both in a more formal, sustained mode and at a general conversational level. Voices with minor regional colourings will also be employed to increase the range of the students' aural experience. Students will be required to read authentic and relatively demanding passages of contemporary written material, such as passages of everyday '*Gebrauchsprosa*' and passages reflecting contemporary life and current issues in the countries concerned. Students are also required to pursue the systematic analysis of relatively sophisticated grammatical structures, as well

as understand more widely ranging modes of expression in a nevertheless still basically modest variety of language registers.

Module Co-ordinator: Dr NM Railton

Semester: 2

Coursework: 50% *Examination:* 50%

Credits: 20 *Level:* 1

Entrance Requirements: 'A' Level in another modern foreign language or satisfactory performance at 'A' Level in another modern foreign language or satisfactory performance in a language aptitude test

Year 2 Semester 1 Modules

GER301 CRN: 13252

German Language 3

In common with the first-year German modules, German Language 3 contains a range of different language exercises. These include text comprehension, grammar, oral and essay work.

Module Co-ordinator: Dr NM Railton

Semester: 1

Coursework: 100%

Credits: 10 *Level:* 2

Entrance Requirements: Successful completion of GER101 and GER102

GER301 CRN: 13253

German Language (*ab initio*) 3

In this module students undertake a wide range of language exercises. These include text comprehension, report and letter writing, essay work and grammar exercises. Particular emphasis is placed on vocabulary building and students practise their oral skills through role play exercises and group presentations.

The module also aims to give *ab initio* students a basic understanding of the economic, social and political framework of Germany. It will examine the major economic and political features of the German Federal Republic. Since the *Bundesrepublik* is, in many respects, a reaction to Germany's past, the module will include a brief outline of the Weimar Republic, the reasons for its collapse and the rise of National Socialism. However, the main focus of the module will be on the political system of the German Federal Republic, with particular reference to the Basic Law and the Electoral Law. In addition, the module will trace the remarkable revival of the West German economy after the Second World War.

Module Co-ordinator: Dr ID Connor

Semester: 1

Coursework: 100%

Credits: 20 *Level:* 2

Entrance Requirements: Successful completion of first-year German *ab initio* modules

GER310 CRN: 13258

German Politics and Society 3

This module focuses on the Two Germanies in the period 1945-61. It explores the contrasting policies of the Soviet Union and the Western Allies towards Germany during the Occupation period and traces the events which led to the establishment of the German Democratic Republic and the German Federal Republic in 1949. In addition, the module analyses political developments in the Two Germanies up to the construction of the Berlin Wall

on 13 August 1961. The module also includes translation texts on economic, social and political topics.

Module Co-ordinator: Dr ID Connor

Semester: 1

Coursework: 100%

Credits: 10 *Level:* 2

Entrance Requirements: Successful completion of GER103 and GER104

Year 2 Semester 2 Modules

GER303 CRN: 13256 German Language 4

This module includes the same range of language exercises as in GER301C1A but at a more advanced level.

Module Co-ordinator: Dr NM Railton
Semester: 2
Coursework: 50% *Examination:* 50%
Credits: 10 *Level:* 2
Entrance Requirements: Successful completion of GER101 and GER102

GER311 CRN: 13259 German Politics and Society 4

This module traces the development of the Two Germanies from 1961 to 1988. It analyses the revival of the East German economy after the establishment of the Berlin Wall, as well as comparing and contrasting the foreign policies of the Two Germanies during this period. The module also examines the rise of the SPD in the German Federal Republic in the second half of the 1960s, and the party's period in office between 1969 and 1982.

Module Co-ordinator: Dr ID Connor
Semester: 2
Coursework: 50% *Examination:* 50%
Credits: 10 *Level:* 2
Entrance Requirements: Successful completion of GER103 and GER104

GER303 CRN: 13255 German Language (*ab initio*) 4

This module includes the same range of language exercises mentioned in GER301, though at a more advanced level. The 'politics and society' component of this module will examine the re-emergence of West Germany's major institutions after the Second World War, such as the trade unions and the press. The module will also include translation texts on economic, social and political issues.

Module Co-ordinator: Dr ID Connor
Semester: 2
Coursework: 50% *Examination:* 50%
Credits: 20 *Level:* 2
Entrance Requirements: Successful completion of first-year German modules

GER325 CRN: 13267**German Interpreting**

In this module students are introduced to the principal techniques of interpreting and given practical experience in bilateral interpreting.

Module Co-ordinator: Dr NM Railton
Semester: 2
Coursework: 50% *Examination:* 50%
Credits: 10 *Level:* 2
Entrance Requirements: Successful completion of first-year German modules

GER326 CRN: 13268**German Translation**

This module focuses on the translation into and out of German of texts of a variety of styles and registers.

Module Co-ordinator: Dr NM Railton
Semester: 2
Coursework: 50% *Examination:* 50%
Credits: 10 *Level:* 2
Entrance Requirements: Successful completion of first-year German modules

Final Year Semester 1 Modules

GER501 CRN: 13269

German 5

This module involves grammar revision, general essay work and oral work, as well as more advanced translation into English.

<i>Module Co-ordinator:</i>	Dr NM Railton
<i>Semester:</i> 1	
<i>Coursework:</i> 50%	<i>Examination:</i> 50%
<i>Credits:</i> 10	<i>Level:</i> 3
<i>Entrance Requirements:</i>	Successful completion of GER301 and GER303

GER503 CRN: 13271

German Culture, Politics & Society 5

This module includes an evaluation of the student unrest in the German Federal Republic in the second half of the 1960s and the subsequent rise of the Rote-Armee-Fraktion. It also examines the collapse of the German Democratic Republic, the attitude of the four war-time allies to the unification of Germany and the re-emergence of the radical right in Germany since 1989.

<i>Module Co-ordinator:</i>	Dr ID Connor
<i>Semester:</i> 1	
<i>Coursework:</i> 50%	<i>Examination:</i> 50%
<i>Credits:</i> 10	<i>Level:</i> 3
<i>Entrance Requirements:</i>	Successful completion of second-year German modules

GER506 CRN: 13273

German *ab initio* 5

This module is designed to consolidate the range of linguistic skills acquired in the first two years of the course. These include grammar revision, translation into English as well as essay and oral work.

<i>Module Co-ordinator:</i>	Dr NM Railton
<i>Semester:</i> 1	
<i>Coursework:</i> 50%	<i>Examination:</i> 50%
<i>Credits:</i> 10	<i>Level:</i> 3
<i>Entrance Requirements:</i>	Successful completion of second-year German modules

GER532 CRN: 13282

German Dissertation

The length of the dissertation should be 8,000-10,000 words. The title has to be approved by the student's supervisor.

Module Co-ordinator:

Dr ID Connor

Semester: 1

Coursework: 100%

Credits: 20

Level: 3

Entrance Requirements:

Successful completion of second-year German modules

Final Year Semester 2 Modules

GER502 CRN: 13270

Language 6

This second-semester module includes the same range of language exercises as in GER501C1 but at a more advanced level.

<i>Module Co-ordinator:</i>	Dr NM Railton
<i>Semester:</i> 2	
<i>Coursework:</i> 50%	<i>Examination:</i> 50%
<i>Credits:</i> 10	<i>Level:</i> 3
<i>Entrance Requirements:</i>	Successful completion of second-year German modules

GER504 CRN: 13272

German Culture, Politics & Society 6

This module focuses on the economic, social and political consequences of German unification. It also looks at the causes of the electorate's increasing disillusionment with politicians and political parties since the mid-1980s with particular reference to the Bundestag Elections of December 1990, October 1994 and September 1998.

<i>Module Co-ordinator:</i>	Dr ID Connor
<i>Semester:</i> 2	
<i>Coursework:</i> 50%	<i>Examination:</i> 50%
<i>Credits:</i> 10	<i>Level:</i> 3
<i>Entrance Requirements:</i>	Successful completion of second-year German modules

GER507 CRN: 13274

German *ab initio* 6

This module continues with the range of language exercises delineated in GER506C1.

<i>Module Co-ordinator:</i>	Dr NM Railton
<i>Semester:</i> 2	
<i>Coursework:</i> 50%	<i>Examination:</i> 50%
<i>Credits:</i> 10	<i>Level:</i> 3
<i>Entrance Requirements:</i>	Successful completion of second-year German modules

LAN512 CRN: 13914**Specialist Language – German**

This module comprises specialist translation and interpreting (bilateral and consecutive).

Module Co-ordinator:

Dr NM Railton

Semester: 2

Coursework: 50%

Examination: 50%

Credits: 20

Level: 3

Entrance Requirements:

Successful completion of relevant second-year German modules

GER532 CRN: 13283**German Dissertation**

The length of the dissertation should be 8,000-10,000 words. The title has to be approved by the student's supervisor.

Module Co-ordinator:

Dr ID Connor

Semester: 2

Coursework: 100%

Credits: 20

Level: 3

Entrance Requirements:

Successful completion of second-year German modules

ASSESSMENT, PROGRESS AND DEGREE CLASSIFICATION

The regulations concerning these matters are very complex, and if you feel unsure about them you should consult the official document which was distributed at registration or contact Dr Connor (Room C112b) or Professor J H Gillespie (Room C109). The following gives an outline of the major principles but does not replace the Faculty regulations:

- 1 Most German modules are assessed by 50 per cent coursework and 50 per cent examination, although Semester 1 modules in Years 1 and 2, as well as some others, have 100 per cent coursework. The examinations take place at the end of each semester. To pass a module you need to obtain a mark of 40 per cent, with a minimum mark of 35 per cent in each assessment element where a module is assessed by a combination of coursework and examination. For example, a student gaining 35 per cent in the examination will need to score 45 per cent in the coursework in order to pass the module overall.
- 2
 - a) You must pass both German modules in your first year if you wish to continue with German in your second year. Similarly, it is necessary to pass both German modules in Year 2 in order to take the final-year German modules.
 - b) If you fail a module, you will have to resit the examination or repeat the coursework or both, and in this case you cannot get a mark of more than 40 per cent for the work you are repeating.
 - c) If you miss coursework or an examination through no fault of your own, you will be allowed to submit outstanding coursework or sit the examination at a later date and this will not count as a resit.
- 3 The final degree result is calculated on the basis of the average of your six final-year marks. In calculating the average, each module is weighted according to its credit value.

To obtain specific degree classes you should have these marks:

Class I	70 per cent or above
Class Ii	60-69 per cent
Class Iii	50-59 per cent
Class III	40-49 per cent

TEACHING AND LEARNING SUPPORT CHARTER

There is a lot of very useful information in the University's student charter which can be accessed at

www.ulster.ac.uk/quality/qmau/t&l/supportcharter.pdf.

MARKING CRITERIA FOR LANGUAGE WORK

This document is to be considered as a general guide to the process of marking language work.

- 1 Proficiency in language (including one's native language) can be assessed positively or negatively:
 - a) Positively, the language user should be able to express clearly, precisely and effectively a wide range of ideas and feelings on a wide range of subjects, with a good feeling for register and style, and should be able to use creatively all the resources of the language.
 - b) Negatively, the language user (i) should not make it difficult for the reader or listener to comprehend him or her, (ii) should not offend the reader or listener by inappropriate tone or register and (iii) should not distract the reader or listener by errors of pronunciation, vocabulary or grammar.

- 2 These positive and negative qualities can be noted on the levels of:
 - (i) formation of sounds
 - (ii) intonation
 - (iii) rapidity of response and fluency of utterance
 - (iv) spelling and punctuation
 - (v) vocabulary
 - (vi) grammatical structures
 - (vii) textual cohesion
 - (viii) overall textual construction and rhetoric

- 3 Each of the language exercises used tends to focus primarily on some of these manifested qualities. For instance:

Phonetic tests:	chiefly avoidance of errors in sound formation;
Reading tests:	avoidance of errors in sound formation and intonation;
Conversation:	avoidance of errors in sound formation and intonation; acquisition of rapid and fluent responses;
Oral presentations:	avoidance of faults in pronunciation, acquisition of fluent utterance, mastery of good and appropriate expression of ideas and feelings on the set topic;
Essays and Dissertations:	avoidance of errors in spelling, vocabulary and grammatical structures, use of suitable expression

on level of vocabulary and structure, appropriate textual cohesion and overall construction;

Summaries and comprehensions: avoidance of errors in spelling and vocabulary, use of suitable expression on level of vocabulary and structure, textual cohesion; secondarily textual construction and rhetoric;

Translations: primarily avoidance of errors of vocabulary, grammar, tone or register; effective solution of problems of meaning and idiom; successful combination of good style and accuracy.

4 Some of these exercises also require non-linguistic skills, eg:

Essays and dissertations: gathering, assessment and analysis of relevant information; presentation and organisation;

Summaries: precise comprehension of original.

5 Given the extreme variety of criteria thus involved in language work, the grade awarded must involve careful balance between various factors.

6 Moreover, the levels of accuracy, appropriacy and expressive ability that can be reasonably expected should rise from year to year of the course, with stress increasingly falling on the achievement of the positive rather than the avoidance of the negative.

7 Bearing in mind these factors, the significance of classes may be indicated thus:

A **First Class student** should show no serious negative features on levels relevant to the set exercise and at the level expected for the year of the course, and should show a good range of positive qualities.

A **II(i) student** should show few negative qualities in relevant areas and should show positive qualities in some areas.

A **II(ii) student** may show negative qualities in some areas, providing these are not too extreme, but should be relatively free from negative qualities in the majority of relevant areas of language use, and have a reasonable level of positive competence overall.

A **Third Class student** should have an adequate level of positive competence overall but may show negative qualities in some relevant areas.

A student **should not pass** in language work if his or her use of the target language is so inaccurate or unidiomatic that a native speaker would have serious difficulty in comprehending it.

GUIDELINES FOR WRITING GERMAN POLITICS AND SOCIETY ESSAYS

1 Presentation

- a) All essays should contain a title page. On this page students should write their name in the top left hand corner and their course in the top right hand corner. The title of the essay should be written in the centre of the page. In the bottom left hand corner of the page students should write the module number; in the bottom right hand corner they should write the date on which the essay was submitted.
- b) Please leave a generous margin of 1½ inches on the left hand side of each page so that the lecturer can write comments in it.

2 Bibliography

You should append a bibliography to every essay you write. This is a list of the books or articles you consulted in writing the essay. Essays will not be marked unless a bibliography has been provided.

3 Essay style

- a) Essays should contain an introduction, the main body of the essay and a conclusion. In the introduction you should 'set the scene' for the essay and pose the questions you intend to discuss. In the introduction you should also 'define' any terms in the question which are open to different interpretations. The introduction should not normally be shorter than half a page of A4 paper and not longer than a page.
- b) The conclusion of the essay should summarise your findings. New ideas should not normally be introduced in the conclusion. However, if you find a particularly nice quotation, it is worth saving it for the conclusion. Bear in mind that a clear, well written, logical conclusion is bound to make a favourable impression on a reader who is about to award you a mark for the essay! It is, therefore, worth taking a little time over the conclusion.
- c) Please try to organise the material in the essay clearly and coherently. Each paragraph should follow on logically from the previous one. Make sure that your paragraphs are not too long or too short. As a general rule, a paragraph should not be longer than a page of A4 paper, while too many short paragraphs do not allow the essay to 'flow'.

4 Footnotes

As mentioned above, you must acknowledge in a footnote any phrase or sentence reproduced from another source. You should also use footnotes to give the source of statistical information you include in the essay. When setting out footnotes, bear in mind that you must give the source in full on the first occasion you quote it but may use an abbreviated title on subsequent occasions. When writing footnotes you should follow the format below:

- 1 M Balfour, *West Germany. A Contemporary History* (London 1982)
p 643

- 2 H James, "Germans and their Nation", *German History*, Vol 9, No 2 (1991), p 151
- 3 Balfour, *West Germany*, p 100
- 4 James "German and their Nation", p 139
- 5 Ibid
- 6 Ibid, p 142

In Footnote 1 you must give the full title, as well as the place and date of publication, because it is the first occasion on which you have quoted from this source. Follow the layout in Footnote 2 the first time you quote from an article in a journal. Footnote 3 is an example of using the abbreviated title of a book you have already quoted in full in an earlier footnote. Footnote 4 is an example of an abbreviated version of an article which has already been cited. Footnote 5 illustrates the use of Ibid. It means that the source of Footnote 5 is exactly the same as Footnote 4, ie James "Germans and their Nation", p 139. Footnote 6 indicates the same source but a different page – 142 rather than 139.

UNIVERSITY OF ULSTER
ABSENCE FROM UNIVERSITY

Using the Notification of Absence Form (NA1)

WHO SHOULD USE THIS FORM AND WHEN?

This form should be used by all students, whatever their level or mode of attendance.

University regulations state that: -

A student who has not been in attendance for more than three days through illness or other cause must notify immediately either the Course/Subject Director or the research supervisor. Where the absence is for a period of more than five working days, and is caused by illness which may affect the student's studies, the student shall arrange for a medical certificate to be presented.

The NA1 form is designed to enable students to note dates of absence as they happen and the effect of this absence on their academic work. Research shows that attendance is a key component in academic success and we hope that this form will make it easier for you to monitor your absence. We also hope that it will help academic staff to be aware of any problems you might be having as they occur and to offer you advice and help or refer you to another service in the University as appropriate.

If your health or other circumstances have interfered with your ability to submit assessed work or attend an examination, the NA1 form may authenticate a difficulty which arose before the assessment date but which nevertheless affected your performance. You should also think carefully about whether it is wise to seek assistance from a counsellor or other advisor at an early stage rather than waiting until your problems are severe. Do not feel that you have to go into great detail about your difficulties on this form. If your circumstances are complex then a letter from a doctor or counsellor is advised

The University recognises that it is increasingly difficult to obtain medical evidence for illnesses which do not require treatment at the time and Examination Boards are unlikely to take retrospective evidence seriously. It is, therefore, of great importance that you let the University know about ill health or other difficulty at the time that it occurs.

If you have been able to obtain a medical certificate or a letter, you should attach it to the form when you submit it to your Course/Subject Director.

Distance Learners and On-line Students

Although attendance is not required for these courses, you should use this form to let your Course/Subject Director know when you have been unable to study because of illness or other circumstances.

Part-time Students

If you are not required to attend on a daily basis, you should use this form to let your Course/Subject Director know when you have been unable to follow your usual pattern of attendance and study.

HOW DO I ACCESS AND SUBMIT THIS FORM?

This form can be downloaded from

<http://www.ulster.ac.uk/academicservices/student/>

When you log in using your PIN, you will be able to access a form which will automatically contain your personal details. Make sure that these details are accurate and up to date and make any additions necessary. On completion, you should print off the screen and post or deliver a copy to your Course/Subject Director. The fact that you have completed the form will be recorded on the Student Records System. Supporting evidence should be submitted with the form wherever possible.

If you do not have on-line access at home then you should print off a copy of the form and keep it at home so that you can post it to your Course/Subject Director if necessary.

PLEASE KEEP COPIES OF THE FORM, YOUR EVIDENCE AND PROOF OF POSTING.

Application for the consideration of extenuating circumstances

**Notification of Absence does not replace the EC1 form which should be completed if you are unable to submit work or sit for an examination.
EC1 forms and related guidance notes are available at:**

<http://www.ulster.ac.uk/academicservices/student/>

UNIVERSITY OF ULSTER
NOTIFICATION OF ABSENCE

If you are absent from the University or unable to study for more than 3 days for medical or personal reasons then you should complete this form and submit it to your Course/Subject Director by the 5th working day following the commencement of the absence. For absences of longer than one week a medical certificate or other evidence is required and should be attached. For periods of less than 5 days it is recommended that supporting documentation be attached unless there are clear reasons why this is not available. If no documentation is available you should give your own explanation.

If you are unable to hand in coursework or attend for examination you should, in addition, complete an EC1 form.

Name.....Date.....

 Course Code.....Course
 Title.....
 Registration
 Number.....
 Term-time
 Address.....

 Name of Course/Subject
 Director.....
 I was absent from University from.....
 To.....

Because of (please tick)

Illness Personal
 circumstances

This affected (please tick all that apply)

Attendance at lectures and seminars Ability to prepare coursework
 Ability to study privately

I did/did not consult a doctor/counsellor/member of academic staff.
 A letter/certificate is attached **Yes/No**

If no certificate is attached please give reasons and a brief description of the nature of your illness or other difficulty.

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If the matter is personally sensitive, you might wish to consult a doctor or a counsellor to make a statement on your behalf.

Please ensure that evidence is submitted to your Course/Subject Director within one week of the period of absence.

Signature of Student

Date Submitted.....

UNIVERSITY OF ULSTER

DATES OF ATTENDANCE/EXAMINATIONS/VACATIONS : 2009/10

Semester 1 (Autumn)	Monday 21 September 2009	Teaching begins
	Friday 11 December 2009	Teaching ends
	Monday 14 December 2009	Christmas Vacation begins
	Friday 25 December 2009 to Friday 1 January 2010	University Closed (Christmas)
	Friday 1 January 2010	Christmas Vacation ends
	Tuesday 5 January to Saturday 16 January 2010	Examination Period
	Friday 22 January 2010	Autumn Semester ends
	Friday 5 February 2010	Last date for meetings of Course/Subject Committees (Semester One Progress review)
Semester 2 (Spring)	Monday 25 January 2010	Teaching begins
	Wednesday 17 March 2010	University Closed (St Patrick's Day)
	Monday 29 March 2010	Easter Vacation begins
	Monday 5 April to Friday 9 2010	University Closed
	Friday 9 April 2010	Easter Vacation ends
	Monday 3 May 2010	University Closed (May Day)
	Tuesday 4 May to Friday 7 May 2010	Revision week (non-teaching)
	Monday 10 May to Saturday 22 May 2010 (with possible extension to 25 May if required for first sit examinations)	Examination period
Friday 28 May 2010	Spring semester ends	
Thursday 10 June 2010	Last date for meetings of Boards of	
Monday 28 June – Tuesday 6 July 2010	Summer Graduation Ceremonies	
Resit Period	Wednesday 11 August to Thursday 19 August 2010	Supplementary Examinations
	Monday 23 August to Friday 27 August 2010	Meetings of Boards of Examiners
Semester 3 (Summer)	Monday 19 July 2010	Teaching begins
	Monday 30 August to Friday 3 September 2010	Examination Period
	Friday 10 September 2010	Summer Semester ends
	Monday 13 September to Friday 17 September 2010	Meetings of Boards of Examiners

AS:sd : June 2009