

UKC Programme Specifications

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she passes the programme. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found [*either* by following the links provided *or* in the programme handbook]. The accuracy of the information contained in this specification is reviewed by the University and may be checked by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

Degree and Programme Title **BA (Hons) in German** **School of European Culture and Languages**

| | |
|---|--|
| 1. Awarding Institution/Body | University of Kent |
| 2. Teaching Institution | University of Kent at Canterbury |
| 3. Teaching Site | Canterbury Campus |
| 4. Programme accredited by: | Not applicable |
| 5. Final Award | BA (Hons) |
| 6. Programme | German Joint Honours |
| 7. UCAS code (or other code) | NR22, QR82, RQ22, RG24, RW24, QR32, RQ2J, RW26, RR12, RV21, VR32, RV25, RR23, RVF5, RV26, RR24 |
| 8. Relevant QAA subject benchmarking group/s | Languages and related studies |
| 9. Date of production/revision | April 2002 |
| 10. Applicable cohort/s | 2002 entry onwards |

11. Educational Aims of the Programme

1. The specific aims of German as a subject are:

- To provide a sound grounding in the German language in all its aspects, through extensive reading in German and through the use of German as spoken and written medium.
- To immerse you in German-speaking culture by enabling you to spend one year in a German-speaking country or, usually, six months if you combine German with another language. In most cases you will go abroad to participate in an exchange at one of our partner German universities or to work as a language assistant in a German or Austrian school or in one of several commercial companies with whom we have links (for example, Bosch near Stuttgart). If you do combine German with another language, it may be that you decide to spend your year abroad in a country where that other language is spoken. In such cases we will encourage to spend some vacation time in a German-speaking country.
- To develop a critical awareness of the factors that have influenced the contemporary society and culture of German-speaking Europe.
- To sharpen your awareness of the way in which the German language has developed over the last few centuries; to acquaint you with some of its most important dialects and regional variations, and to analyse linguistic data from a professional angle.
- To train you to translate from German into English and English into German.
- To assist you in developing sound methodological approaches to the analysis of cultural, historical, social and linguistic phenomena.
- To provide teaching which is informed by current research and scholarship and which requires you to engage with aspects of work at the frontiers of knowledge.
- To provide a means of access to intercultural awareness and understanding.
- To contribute to widening participation in higher education by offering a wide variety of entry routes and special provision for students with above-average linguistic proficiency or special needs.
- To provide opportunities for the development of personal, communication, research and other key skills appropriate for graduate employment both in industry and in the public sector.
- To develop general critical, analytical and problem solving skills which can be applied in a wide range of situations.
- To train you in the use of the internet as a resource and to assist you in mastering relevant aspects of information technology.

12. Programme Outcomes

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas.

Teaching/learning and assessment methods and strategies used to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated

Knowledge and Understanding

A. Knowledge and understanding (depending on options taken at Part 2) of:

1. German language
2. German literature from the 18th to the 21st century
3. German linguistics
4. German fiction (novel, novella and short story)
5. German cinema
6. German theatre
7. German youth culture
8. The role of German within Europe
9. German history

Teaching/learning:

Acquisition of these skills is achieved through a combination of lectures, classes, conversation groups, research seminars, self-directed learning facilitated by course handbooks and the use of research based teaching materials and methods, informal oral classes with native speakers on aspects of 'area studies' (*Landeskunde*) and use of computer-assisted language learning and web-based materials, and by studying or working in a German-speaking country in Year 3.

Assessment:

Assessed through a combination of coursework (essays, translations, presentations), written examinations, oral examinations; dissertation, extended essay, language tests and linguistic transcriptions. Progress is closely monitored throughout the four years.

Skills and Other Attributes

B. Intellectual skills:

1. Apply the skills needed for academic study and enquiry
2. Evaluate information critically
3. Synthesise information from a number of sources in order to gain a coherent understanding of the subject
4. Utilise problem-solving skills
5. Develop and maximise communication skills for the coherent expression and transfer of knowledge
6. Analyse, evaluate and interpret a variety of evidence in a critical manner
7. Study and reach conclusions independently
8. Formulate original opinions in a self-critical manner on the basis of sound factual knowledge and from a balanced perspective

Teaching/learning:

Intellectual skills are developed through the teaching and learning programme outlined below. Each module involves the critical reflection of key themes, verbal discussion and the written analysis and interpretation of the relevant material.

Assessment:

Assessed through supervised projects requiring independent research, essays, supervised class discussions, book reviews, group projects, self-assessment activities and written examinations.

C. Subject-specific skills:

1. Communicate effectively in German
2. Develop reading speed in German
3. Demonstrate detailed knowledge and effective understanding of the various structures and registers of the German language
4. Translate accurately and efficiently from and into German
5. Analyse critically a variety of texts of linguistic, historical and literary significance
6. Gain an appreciation of cultural diversity
7. Acquire the ability and confidence to work independently in a German-speaking environment
8. Develop skills in these three related areas: **a)** reception (listening and reading), **b)** production (speaking and writing) and **c)** mediation between at least two languages (translation and interpreting)

Teaching/learning:

Students receive initial guidance on how to identify, locate and use material available in the library and online resources. They start using the internet at an early stage. Comprehensive reading lists are provided for each module at the start of the academic year as are guidelines for the production of essays and oral presentations. In the second year, classes cater mainly for the needs of students who will be participating in Socrates exchanges or working in Germany/ Austria/ Switzerland during their year abroad. Discussion of theoretical and conceptual issues are integrated into all modules. Students are encouraged to evaluate a comprehensive sample of perspectives on German culture and society, and are introduced to German-language texts.

Assessment:

This includes, as appropriate: assessment through group work, oral presentations, oral examinations, listening and comprehension tests, linguistic commentaries, drafting texts in German for a defined audience and purpose, written examinations, translation tests, year abroad studies as determined by the host university, and (for non-Socrates students) a year abroad project

D. Transferable skills:

1. Communicate effectively with a wide range of individuals using a variety of means
2. Evaluate your own academic performance
3. Utilise problem-solving skills in a variety of theoretical and practical situations
4. Accurate and effective note-taking and summarising skills
5. Library and bibliographical research skills
6. Use of the internet and other forms of information technology
7. Techniques for using German language source materials
8. Take responsibility for personal and professional learning and development
9. Manage time and prioritise workloads
10. Think and perform under pressure
11. Develop a capacity for teamwork
12. Develop leadership skills
13. Work creatively and flexibly
14. Deploy a range of information technology skills effectively, such as word-processing text with footnotes, basic formatting, using e-mail, searching databases and text-files, navigating the internet

Teaching/learning:

All courses require regular written work and regular feedback on work is given to the students to help develop their powers of presentation, analysis and communication both in English and in German. Time management is learned as students meet deadlines and plan projects. IT skills are learnt through course work and developed through individual learning.

Assessment:

Assessed at regular intervals. Students receive frequent feedback on their work and are given marks that reflect their progress in these areas.

For more information on which modules provide which skills, see the module mapping.

13. Programme structures and requirements, levels, modules, credits and award

The BA Joint Honours in German is available to full-time students over four years. Part-time study, with or without the year abroad, is available in special cases. The full-time B.A. in German Joint Honours involves three years' study at the university, plus a further year (the third of four) spent in a German-speaking country. Study at the University of Kent is currently organised in two 12-week terms (Michaelmas and Lent), followed by a final 6-week term, making 30 weeks in total. The programme is divided into study blocks called modules and all modules have a value of 15 or 30 credits. A 15-credit module represents 150 hours of learning, endeavour and assessment, including a minimum of 30 hours of direct contact in class. All students must, during each of the three years of study in Canterbury, take modules amounting to 120 credits, making up their choices from the list of optional modules. The degree comprises 420 credits, 120 at three different levels for each year of study present at the university, plus a further 60, 30 of which are gained either from a year-abroad project or from studying at one of our partner universities in Germany: Freiburg, Jena, Munich, Erlangen and Marburg, and 30

from a final-year oral examination. The structure of the programme and the modules which make it up, their levels, credits and the terms in which they are taught, are shown below. Note however that not all modules listed can be made available every year. Details of all modules can be found at www.ukc.ac.uk/secl/german/courses.html.

| Code/Title | Level | Credits | Term/s |
|--|-------|---------|---------------|
| Year 1 | | | |
| REQUIRED | | | |
| GE301 German language Post 'A' Level | C | 30 | 1 & 2 |
| And 15 or 30 credits from: | | | |
| GE312 Images of Germany 1945-2000 | C | 15 | 1 |
| GE311 Varieties of German Writing | C | 15 | 2 |
| RECOMMENDED | | | |
| GE316 Looking at Language | C | 15 | |
| The remaining credits, between 45 and 75, will be taken from the other subject. | | | |
| Year 2 | | | |
| REQUIRED | | | |
| GE507 German Advanced 1 | I | 30 | 1&2 |
| In addition, in total over Years 1 and 2, between 30 and 90 credits must be taken from the recommended list below. A minimum of 90 credits, again in total over Years 1 and 2, must be taken from your other subject. A 30-credit German language module is compulsory in both Years 1 and 2 unless you are granted exemption on the basis of prior linguistic experience. | | | |
| RECOMMENDED | | | |
| GE 513 The German Novelle and Short Story | H | 30 | 1 & 2 |
| GE 509 Gender and Identity in the Age of Goethe | H | 30 | 1 & 2 |
| GE 539 Contemporary German Literature | H | 30 | 1 & 2 |
| GE 540 Investigations into the German Language | H | 30 | 1 & 2 |
| GE 544 Modern German Political Drama | H | 15 | 2 |
| GE 546 Post-War German Fiction and the Third Reich | H | 15 | 1 |
| GE 547 Love and Sex in Modern Germany | H | 15 | 1 |
| GE 545 Three German Modernists: Kafka, Mann, Brecht | H | 15 | 2 |
| Year 3 | | | |
| REQUIRED | | | |
| Year Abroad spent at one of the universities mentioned above or spent as a language assistant or in a work placement situation in a German-speaking country | I | 60 | Academic year |

| Year 4 | | | |
|--|---|----|-------|
| REQUIRED | | | |
| GE503 German Advanced 2 | H | 30 | 1&2 |
| In addition depending on what was taken in Year 2 between 30 and 90 credits from the recommended list below: | | | |
| RECOMMENDED | | | |
| GE 513 The German Novelle and Short Story | H | 30 | 1 & 2 |
| GE 509 Gender and Identity in the Age of Goethe | H | 30 | 1 & 2 |
| GE 539 Contemporary German Literature | H | 30 | 1 & 2 |
| GE 540 Investigations into the German Language | H | 30 | 1 & 2 |
| GE 544 Modern German Political Drama | H | 15 | 2 |
| GE 546 German Post-War Fiction and the Third Reich | H | 15 | 1 |
| GE 547 Love and Sex in Modern Germany | H | 15 | 1 |
| GE 545 Three German Modernists: Kafka, Mann, Brecht | H | 15 | 2 |
| GE 506 German Dissertation | H | 30 | 1 & 2 |

14. Support for Students and Their Learning

- Personal academic tutor in German who will guide you throughout your studies.
- Student representation on German Board of Studies
- Induction programmes (including specially designed preparation course for those students going for their third year abroad to a German university on an exchange)
- One-to-one tutorials for supervision of final-year dissertation
- *Stammtisch*: Extra-curricular language support organized by native language assistants from Germany
- Student:staff ratio of 15:1 (maximum)
- German Society run by the students (fortnightly films in German)
- Student-Staff Committee
- Learning resources, equipment/plant: Templeman Library, Computing Services, School Tape and Video Library and Viewing Room, Computer-Assisted Language Learning Laboratory
- Handbook and individual course booklets
- Academic support system providing advice on module choice and programme structure, academic difficulties, progression routes and individual progress
- Central support services, including a learning resources centre, a Students' Union (including its Advice and Information Service, Counselling Service and Disability Unit.

15. Entry Profile

Entry Route

For fuller information, please refer to the University prospectus.

Minimum requirements:

You must be at least 17 years of age by 20 September in the year you begin your programme. There is no upper age limit to studying German at Kent.

A levels and AS levels:

260 points including B in German at A level

Access/Foundation programmes:

A satisfactory pass in an approved Foundation or Access programme. Please check with the University beforehand that we will accept the Access/Foundation syllabus you took.

BTEC National Certificates/Diplomas:

4D [including German], 2M

European Baccalaureate:

Average 73 points, 73 in German (plus standard English-language requirement, see below)

International Baccalaureate:

30 points, including 14 in German

German Baccalaureate:

Average 13 points, 13 in German, (plus standard English-language requirement)

German Baccalaureate (International Option):

Average 12.5 points, 12.5 in German, with standard English-language requirement

Abitur:

Average 2.3, 2.1 in German, with standard English-language requirement

Italian Maturità:

Average 52, 54 in German, with standard English-language requirement

Irish Leaving Certificate:

BBBBB, including German.

Scottish qualifications:

BBBBB, including German, at Advanced Higher or Higher grade.

Certificate of Education:

A Certificate of Education gained after a full three-year course at a college of education in the United Kingdom, with evidence of your previous study or experience of the German language at an appropriate level.

University Degree:

Completion of a degree course, including all the required examinations at a university in the United Kingdom or at another approved university, with evidence of your previous study or experience of the German language at an appropriate level.

Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL):

We shall consider any evidence you have of previous study and your ability to follow your proposed programme in German

Mature applicants:

If you are a mature student without traditional qualifications, we shall seek proof of your ability to follow your proposed programme in German.

International Applicants

In addition to the above requirements, international students can also qualify with the following:

- School Certificates and Higher School Certificates awarded by a body approved by the University. Subsidiary level credit or pass = pass at GCSE, Higher School Certificate pass = pass at A level.
- Matriculation, including German, from an approved university, with a pass in English Language at GCSE/O level, or an equivalent level in an approved English language test.
- Passing one of Kent's Foundation programmes, provided that you meet the subject requirements for the degree course you intend to study.
- An examination pass accepted as equivalent to any of the above.
- If you are not a native speaker of English, you must also, in order to enter directly into a degree programme, demonstrate your proficiency in English by a pass at the appropriate level in your 18+ school leaving certificate, through the evidence your previous university study, or through one of the following:
 - Average 6.5 in IELTS, minimum 6.0 in reading and writing.
 - Grade B in Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English.
 - Grade A in Cambridge Advanced Certificate in English.
 - Pass overall in the KMB/NEAB Test in English for Overseas Students, with at least B in Writing, Reading and Speaking modules.
 - A TOEFL score of at least 600 (written test) or 250 (computer test).

If you have not yet reached these standards, the University offers a Foundation Programme for international students, which gives you a year's academic and language training before you begin your degree.

Other Qualifications: European Baccalaureate Diploma; Advanced International Certificate of Education; Advanced Placement; Overseas Certificates (including other European Union Countries); the Higher School Certificate of Matriculation of approved overseas and EU authorities; American High School Diploma if accompanied by Advanced Placements (AP) Passes

UKC considers other qualifications similar to the ones listed above, provided they include a pass at English Language at GCSE/O level or equivalent

What does this programme have to offer?

- An excellent grounding in contemporary German language
- Emphasis on the history, literature, and culture of German-speaking Europe
- The Year Abroad requirement provides each student with the opportunity to consolidate this grounding through a year's residence in a German-speaking country, pursuing an approved full-time activity
- The opportunity to study the principles of literary-critical and linguistic-analytical practice within a friendly and committed department
- The opportunity to study in Canterbury, a major centre for European Studies within easy access of the Channel ports and London
- A friendly campus with high student morale and dedicated lecturers and scholars of international standing
- Full-time staff including a Professor, two lecturers and a *Lektorin*
- Four German language assistants and good opportunities for contact with German students

Personal Profile

An applicant should have:

- A lively interest in the contemporary language and culture of Germany
- A desire to deepen your knowledge of these fields
- A desire and willingness to travel and experience other cultures
- An openness to what is distinctive of and specific to the German language and culture
- A suitable level of linguistic ability in German and a willingness to develop this through reading and writing as well as through speaking
- A willingness to acquire the IT skills appropriate to literary and linguistic studies and to the creation of one's own texts
- A readiness to share discovery with a larger group and exchange ideas
- Flexibility of mind, the capacity for self-reflection and the desire to be intellectually independent and self-critical
- A readiness to place specialist study in a broad framework of complementary and contextual knowledge

16. Methods for evaluating and enhancing the quality and standards of teaching and learning. Mechanisms for review and evaluation of teaching, learning, assessment, the curriculum and outcome standards

- Student module evaluation questionnaires
- Evaluations are discussed annually by a joint meeting of staff and students
- Annual monitoring reports
- External examiners' reports
- Periodic programme reviews
- Annual staff appraisal
- Active staff development programme
- Peer observation
- Mentoring of new and part-time lecturers
- Quality Assurance subject review
- Continuous monitoring of student progress and attendance
- Personal Academic Support System
- Vetting process of examination questions by module team and external examiner

Committees with responsibility for monitoring and evaluating quality and standards

- Staff-Student liaison committee
- Departmental Learning and Teaching Committee
- Faculty Learning and Teaching Committee
- Board of Examiners (including external examiner)
- Programme approval sub-committee of the University Learning and Teaching Board
- German Board of Studies

Mechanisms for gaining student feedback on the quality of teaching and their learning experience

- Staff-student liaison meetings
- Student course evaluations
- Informal meetings and social contact with students (including student role in recruitment activities)
- Student representation at School Level
- Student representation at Faculty Level
- Year abroad evaluation
- Discussions with tutors
- Easy availability of staff via published office hours and an e-mail address

Staff development priorities include:

- Research-led teaching
- Links with other European Institutions
- Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education requirement for all new appointments and new part-time teachers
- Regular formal and informal collaboration in programme development
- Staff appraisal scheme
- Staff development courses
- Study leave
- Subject-based Conferences

- Interdisciplinary Conferences
- PhD as minimum qualification for appointment to lecturing posts
- Strong evidence of research record required for appointment to lecturing posts
- Mentoring of new lecturers
- Membership of relevant academic bodies
- Dissemination of good practice on new learning and teaching methods

17. Indicators of quality and standards

- Results of Research Assessment Exercise: German contributed to a rating of 4 in European Studies in 2001 RAE
- Internal subject reviews
- External examiners' reports
- Supervision of research students at doctoral level
- Partnership with other higher education institutions in Germany
- Alumnae feedback
- Staff membership of the Conference of University Teachers of German
- Regular attendance of professional association meetings (CUTG, Heads of German Conference)
- Regular attendance at workshops and staff-training sessions
- International recognition of members of staff research
- Invitations extended to members of staff from German to speak at international conferences and foreign universities
- Hosting of international conferences

The following reference points were used in creating these specifications:

- Benchmarking statements for Languages and Linguistics (published April 2002)
- Publications of Goethe Institut and German Academic Exchange Service
- The University Plan and Learning and Teaching Strategy (including the School Learning and Teaching Forum)
- Subject produced documents
- Staff and Graduate Student Research

od/ 17/04/2002