# – Preparatory German Language and Literature (1st and 2nd year students on the three-year course, students on the semester-long course)

## Prof. Lucia Mor

# German Language Practical Classes (Year 1, First-Level Degree)

## Marlene Kuppelwieser, Claudia Menzel

# German Language Practical Classes (Year 2, First-Level Degree)

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***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to provide students with the historical-literary knowledge and reading skills necessary to understand the formation of German cultural and literary identity, starting from the origins, in the Carolingian era, up to *Goethezeit*. Against the background of historical and literary-historical contextualisation, the course aims above all to improve the student's skill in critical reading through the analysis and commentary of emblematic literary texts (lyric, narrative, theatrical), partly in translation (texts in *Alt*- and *Mittelhochdeutsch*), but above all in the original language (starting from the Baroque era). The course also includes a single subject part dedicated to the work and poetry of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe and Friedrich Schiller, involving the reading of poetic and theatrical texts.

**Intended learning outcomes**

*Knowledge and understanding*

At the end of the course, students will be able to acquire the historical and literary knowledge they need to orientate themselves with confidence in the process by which German cultural and literary identity formed between from the end of the 8th century to the beginning of the 18th century, as well as the requisite linguistic skills to access the works in the original language.

*Ability to apply knowledge and understanding*

At the end of the course, students will be able to: translate into Italian, analyse, and comment on, with critical awareness of judgement, the texts on the syllabus, and identify their historical, literary, and cultural background; explain the evolution of German literature; students will also be able to orient themselves with confidence along the evolutionary timeline of German literature, recognise themes, forms and poetics of the different currents, and draw connections between authors and different eras.

“Autonomous judging skills”, “Communication skills” and “Learning skills”

The critical comparison with the semantic stratifications of the literary, poetic, narrative or theatrical texts will teach students how to interpret and evaluate with autonomy of judgment the content of various articulated and complex texts. In addition, thanks to this tutorial – which can be explained in class and during the oral exam – they will learn to present and communicate their thinking, ideas and concepts to specialist and non-specialist interlocutors, and develop learning skills that will allow them to undertake subsequent studies of a humanistic nature with a high degree of autonomy, not only in the field of German culture and literature.

***COURSE CONTENT***

1. *General course*: the first part of the course will have a general character and will retrace, focusing on emblematic texts, the following phases of German literature: the origins, the age of the Swabians, Humanism and the Renaissance, the Lutheran Reformation, the Baroque, and the Enlightenment. Particular attention will be paid to the figure and work of Gotthold Ephraim Lessing.

2. *Single subject course*: the second part of the course will address a single subject and will be dedicated toGoethezeit, the poetics of *Sturm und Drang* and *Weimarer Klassik,* involving the critical reading of the lyrical and theatrical production of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe and Friedrich Schiller.

***READING LIST***

1. General course (compulsory texts)

G.E. Lessing, *Emilia Galotti (\*).*

L. Mor, *Introduzione alla letteratura tedesca*, Epub, Morcelliana, Brescia 2020 (EAN 9788828402633).

L. Mor (a cura di), *Letteratura tedesca dalle origini a Gotthold Ephraim Lessing. Testi e materiali,* (general course, 2023/24 acad. year - downloadable from Blackboard).

1. Single subject course (compulsory texts)

J.W. von Goethe, *Faust. Der Tragödie erster Teil (\*)*

*Un testo a scelta fra:*

F. Schiller, *Die Räuber* (\*)

F. Schiller, *Maria Stuart (\*)*

L. Mor (a cura di), *Johann Wolfgang von Goethe e Friedrich Schiller: poesia e teatro. Testi e materiali,* (single subject course, 2023/2024 acad. year - downloadable from Blackboard).

Further reading references will be provided at the beginning of lectures

1. Reading list (optional) recommended for any individual insights into historical-literary contexts:

M.C. Buglioni-M. Castellari-A. Goggio-M. Paleari, *Letteratura tedesca. Epoche, generi, interzezioni. Dal Medioevo al primo Novecento*, Le Monnier, Firenze 2019.

L. Mittner, *Storia della letteratura tedesca,* vol. I-III, Piccola Biblioteca Einaudi, Torino 1977.

M. Freschi (ed.), *Storia della civiltà letteraria tedesca,* vol. I-II, Utet, Torino 1998.

L. Mancinelli, *Da Carlomagno a Lutero. La letteratura tedesca medioevale,* Bollati Boringhieri, Torino 1996.

F. Fiorentino-G. Sampaolo, *Atlante della letteratura tedesca,* Quodlibet, Macerata 2009.

(\*) We recommend the edition published by the publisher Reclam, which can be accompanied by any edition in Italian, or an Italian edition with parallel text.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal lectures in class.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Oral exam in Italian (and/or in German, for students who wish to do so), consisting in: 1) reading aloud and translation: students will primarily be assessed on the accuracy of their reading aloud and their pronunciation; students must also read with the correct pronunciation, demonstrate that they have acquired the vocabulary and language structures of the texts on the syllabus and must be able to describe the specific forms they contain with regard to the literary genre in question; 2) an accurate analysis, interpretation, comment, and contextualisation – from a historical and literary perspective – of the texts included in the reading list.

Each point will determine 50% of the final mark: in order to pass the exam, students will have to obtain at least 18 points out of 30 in each part. Assessment criteria: use of appropriate terminology, clarity of presentation, and ability to use argumentation and make connections with other authors and works.

The syllabus is the same for attending and non-attending students.

For students on the three-year course, the final mark is the weighted average of the results of the interim written and oral language tests. Students on the semester-long course are not required to have passed any particular exam before taking this one.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

1. This is a *year-long* course and is aimed at students enrolled in the first and second years of the three-year degree course in *Language Studies,* who have the German Language and Literature course in their study plans (the following profiles: *Foreign Languages and Literature; Language Expert for International Tourism; and Languages, Communication, Media)*.

2. The course is also aimed at students taking the semester-long course, who are on the *Language Studies* degree and have chosen one of the following profiles: *Business Language Expert and Language Expert for International Relations.* The course syllabus for these students corresponds with that of semester 1.

3. The course will be accompanied by 20 hours of practical classes (10 in the first and 10 in the second semester), held by Giulia Missale and dedicated to the linguistic analysis of the texts on the syllabus. Students on the semester-long course may attend the 10 hours offered in the first semester.

4. The lecturer's webpage (see the Università Cattolica homepage, under *docenti*) as well as the Blackboard platform will be regularly updated with notices and information related to the course.

5. There are no prerequisites in terms of content or language skills for accessing the texts. The course is also aimed at absolute beginners, who are offered basic support with the practical classes taken by Giulia Missale.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG, or on the Faculty notice board.

# German Language Practical Classes (Year 1, First-Level Degree)

## Marlene Kuppelwieser, Claudia Menzel

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to help students develop their *Hören, Sprechen, Lesen,* and *Schreiben* skills in German, corresponding to the B1/B2-level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

At the end of the course, students will be able to understand – at an intermediate level – the key morpho-syntactic structures of the German language, and develop their knowledge of vocabulary (up to 1,500 words); in addition, they will be able to apply this knowledge while reading, listening, reading, and writing in German.

Furthermore, students will be able to understand basic and intermediate-level texts on familiar / personal topics, as well as write and translate (from Italian to German) short texts on simple everyday topics.

In terms of speaking skills, they will be able to pronounce the sounds of the German language correctly, and discuss fluently about the topics explained in the textbook of reference. Finally, they will be able to identify and summarise the key information in familiar texts.

***COURSE CONTENT AND TEACHING METHOD***

* Vocabulary and conversation: the course will offer an in-depth analysis of the topics covered in the textbook of reference (*DaF kompakt*, please see the reading list) through activities like listening, reading, reading comprehensions, dialogue simulations, creating short oral and written texts, and describing pictures, with a focus on the use of the fundamental vocabulary;
* Dictation: part of the course will be based on dictation exercises (also aimed to develop knowledge of grammar and vocabulary), systematic study and application of the rules of orthography and punctuation; correction of texts – guided by the lecturer – produced with critical analysis of the different types of mistakes; read-aloud and articulation activities aimed to improve pronunciation and prosody;
* Grammar: the course will explore the key morpho-syntactic elements of German, corresponding to the following chapters of the grammar book (*Grundstufen-Grammatik für Deutsch als Fremdsprache*): 1.1- 1.7, 2.1 – 2.3, 2.5, 3.1, 4,1 - 4.4
* Translation: during the course, students will be invited to translate short texts of medium-low difficulty (from Italian into German), with a focus on correct use of the key morpho-syntactic structures and the fundamental vocabulary; then, their translations will be corrected in class, with accurate critical analysis of the different types of mistakes and the main issues related to the translation of a text from L1 to L2.
* Reading comprehension: the course will introduce students to the reading comprehension of texts of medium-low difficulty through cloze test exercises.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

To assess students' language skills in the first year of the course (preparatory to the final *German Language 1 - Language and Phonology* exam for ELI and ELRI students and the *German Language and Literature 1* exam for students of other curricula), there is a *written interim test* and an *oral interim test,* each with a separate mark expressed out of thirty:

The *written test*, lasting a total of 2 hours, consists of three parts:

* 1. dictation (about 30 minutes)
  2. vocabulary-grammar test and translation (60 minutes)
  3. comprehension of written text using the *Cloze test* (30 minutes)

The use of the dictionary is not allowed.

The *oral exam* is divided as follows:

1. short interview relating to the topics covered in the text being studied and in the supplementary teaching materials (see reading list);
2. description of one or more images taken from the text being adopted (see above), with particular attention to ascertaining lexical knowledge;
3. summary and commentary relating to the *Schallplattensommer* reading text (see reading list), reading aloud and translation (from German into Italian) of a paragraph chosen by the lecturer.

The assessment takes particular account of the following factors:

* lexical mastery and ability to interact spontaneously on, firstly, the topics covered in the text studied; in-depth knowledge of the reading text and ability to formulate personal considerations on the contents;
* formal correctness (appropriate use of morpho-syntactic structures, adequate pronunciation and prosody); clarity and fluency in oral expression.

***READING LIST***

Textbook of reference:

*DaF kompakt neu A1-B1* (Kursbuch + Übungsbuch mit MP3-CD), Klett, Stuttgart 2021.

Supplementary materials: level B1 and B2 texts (appropriately taught and proposed ad hoc, based on the progression of skills observed in progress in the level groups provided) will be made available during the lectures on Blackboard.

Grammar book:

M. Reimann, *Grundstufengrammatik für Deutsch als Fremdsprache*, Hueber 2019

Reading for the oral exam:

Alina Bronsky, *Schallplattensommer,* dtv München 2022

Self-learning textbooks (optional):

C. Lemcke - L. Rohrmann, *Grammatik Intensivtrainer (A1, A2, B1),* Langenscheidt, München 2018.

*Lextra Deutsch als Fremdsprache – Grund- und Aufbauwortschatz nach Themen A1-B2* (recommended for the study of vocabulary)

B1-level dictation exercises (the recordings and transcripts will be made available on Blackboard and at the Language Lab Guido Rossi)

Monolingual dictionary for German language learners (purchase recommended at the beginning of the year):

D. Götz, u.a., *Großwörterbuch Deutsch als Fremdsprache* mit Online-Wörterbuch, Neubearbeitung 2019, Langenscheidt, München

Further teaching material and self-learning exercises will be made available on Blackboard during the academic year.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Before the start of lectures, students will be divided into two groups (beginners or advanced) based on their initial language skills. This programme applies to all level groups.

Knowledge of grammatical, logical and period analysis as well as a *proactive* interest in the language and culture of German-speaking countries is assumed. The acquisition of the level expected in the first year of the course is the fundamental prerequisite for passing the interim language tests in subsequent years.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG, or on the Faculty notice board.

# German Language Practical Classes (Year 2, First-Level Degree)

## Marlene Kuppelwieser, Claudia Menzel

***Text under revision. Not yet approved by academic staff.***

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to help students develop their *Hören*, *Sprechen*, *Lesen*, and *Schreiben* skills in German, corresponding to the B2-level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

At the end of the course, students will be able to understand – at an advanced level – the key morpho-syntactic structures and the orthography of the German language, and develop their knowledge of vocabulary (up to 3,000 words); in addition, they will be able to apply this knowledge while reading, listening, reading, and writing in German.

Furthermore, students will be able to understand intermediate and advanced-level texts, as well as identify and summarise key information in long and complex texts.

In terms of writing skills, they will be able to write and summarise texts based on a wide range of topics (including the latest events), and translate (from Italian to German) authentic texts on the subjects covered by the textbook of reference.

In terms of speaking skills, they will be able to acquire an in-depth knowledge of German phonetics and phonology, engage in a spontaneous conversation, and express their opinions on a wide range of topics, including complex ones. Finally, they will be able to identify and summarise key information in familiar texts.

***COURSE CONTENT AND TEACHING METHOD***

Vocabulary and conversation: the course will offer an in-depth analysis of the topics covered in the textbook of reference (*Menschen*, please see the reading list) through activities like listening, reading, reading comprehensions, dialogue simulations, creating short oral and written texts, and describing pictures, with a focus on the use of the fundamental vocabulary;

1. Dictation: during the tutorials, dictation exercises will be proposed (also aimed at promoting the expansion of grammatical and lexical knowledge), with spelling correction of the texts and analytical comment on the different types of errors.
2. Grammar: the course will explore the advanced morpho-syntactic elements of German, covered by the following chapters of the grammar book (*Lehr- und Übungsbuch der deutschen Grammatik*): part I: chapters 14-15, 19-21, part III: chapters 41-51, part IV: chapters 52-56, part V: chapter 62 (please see the reading list).

Summary: during the course, students will have the possibility to carry out critical analysis and summary – guided by the lecturer – of authentic texts of medium difficulty (from the *Goethe Institut* website), and write short texts in German, with a focus on the criteria used to create structured texts and the most common types of mistakes (from a syntactic, lexical, and transphrastic perspective).

Translation: during the course, students will have the opportunity to practise the active translation (from Italian into German) of medium-difficulty texts (e.g. passages of press articles, books, and reviews, also online), with a focus on the comparison between the morpho-syntactic structures, vocabulary, and idioms of the two languages, and analysis-commentary of the most relevant translation mistakes.

***READING LIST***

Key text:

*DaF kompakt neu A1-B1* (Kursbuch + Übungsbuch mit MP3-CD), Klett, Stuttgart 2021. ISBN-Code 9788853622259

Additional material: advanced level B2 course materials will be made available on Blackboard during the course.

Grammar reference book:

H. Dreyer - E. Schmidt, *Lehr- und Übungsbuch der deutschen Grammatik,* Hueber 2019.

Text to read for the oral exam:

Barbara Leisner, *Sophie Scholl. Ich würde es genauso wieder machen*, Ullstein Taschenbuch Verlag, Berlin 2017

Recommended reading for background reading:

- G. Helbig - J. Buscha, *Übungsgrammatik Deutsch B1/C2,* Langenscheidt 2013

- *Lextra Deutsch als Fremdsprache – Grund- und Aufbauwortschatz nach Themen A1-B2* (recommended for expanding lexical skill)

Dictionary:

D. Götz, u.a., *Großwörterbuch Deutsch als Fremdsprache* mit Online-Wörterbuch, Neubearbeitung 2019, Langenscheidt, München

Other materials used during the lectures and complementary exercises to build on the knowledge gained as the course progresses will be made available on Blackboard during the academic year.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

To assess students' language skills in the second year of the course (preparatory to the final *German Language 2 - Language, Morphosyntax and Lexicon* exam for ELI and ELRI students and the *German Language and Literature 2* exam for students of other curricula), there is a *written interim test* and an *oral interim test,* each with a separate mark expressed out of thirty:

The *written test*, lasting a total of two and a half hours, is divided into three parts:

* 1. dictation (30 minutes)
  2. vocabulary-grammar test (60 minutes)
  3. translation (from Italian to German) of a short text (60 minutes).

The use of the monolingual dictionary is allowed for the translation part only.

The *oral exam* is composed as follows:

1. interview relating to the issues dealt with in the studied text and in the supplementary materials made available on Blackboard (see reading list);
2. summary and commentary on the reading text *Sophie Scholl – Ich würde es genauso wieder machen* (see reading list), reading aloud and translation (from German into Italian) of one or more paragraphs.

Assessment criteria:

1. use of appropriate terminology, ability to carry on a spontaneous conversation and form independent judgments on the topics covered by the textbook of reference;
2. correct use of morpho-syntactic structures, pronunciation, and prosody; ability to make a clear and fluent exposition.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

This programme applies to all students, regardless of the starting level in the first year. The acquisition of the level of linguistic knowledge expected in the first year (between CEFR levels B1 and B2) constitutes the fundamental premise for a profitable attendance of the tutorials and for the achievement of the course aims expressed above.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.