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# German Language 1 (Language and Phonology)

## Prof. Vincenzo Damiazzi

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

The course deals with the principal issues in the phonetics, phonology and orthophonetics of contemporary German. Particular focus will be placed on the processes relating to the acquisition of German pronunciation by adult learners who are native speakers of Italian. At the end of the course, students will be able to identify and properly use phonetic, phonological, and orthoepical rules and regularities of contemporary German in oral communication, and develop their receptive and productive German skills.

***COURSE CONTENT***

*Phonetics and phonology of contemporary German*

The course will deal with the following topics:

– articulatory, acoustic and auditory aspects;

– an introduction to phonetic transcription and analysis of the speech signal;

– prosody and suprasegmental features;

– the syllable;

– the production of vowels and consonants;

– phonetics of the word and utterance;

– German spelling and the relationship between phonemes and graphemes;

– comparison between Italian and German phonetics.

***READING LIST***

Further material will be provided by the lecturer during the course.

F. Missaglia, *Von Lauten und Melodien,* Educatt, Milan, 2011.

F. Missaglia, *Deutsche Phonetik und Phonologie für Italiener.* *Eine Einführung,* Vita e Pensiero, Milan, 2012.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Classroom lectures (taught in German language), video lectures and/or online recording through Blackboard platform. Students are requested to check regularly for communication and instructional material available on *Blackboard* platform.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Oral exam in German to be taken on condition of having passed the language tests (oral and written). Students will be tested on their knowledge of phonetic, phonological, and orthoepical rules and regularities of contemporary German, and on their ability to properly use them while speaking; in addition, the assessment will evaluate their phonetic skills from the point of view of the segmental, intersegmental, and suprasegmental levels.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

There are no prerequisites for attending the course. However, students should be able to follow lectures held in German.

In case the current Covid-19 health emergency does not allow frontal teaching, remote teaching will be carried out following procedures that will be promptly notified to students.

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, Three-Year Course Students)**

Christine Arendt; Paola Maria Rubini; Maria Chiara Spotti; Bernadette Staindl

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

The series of practical language classes in the *first* year of the course is designed to bring students up to levels B1 and B2 in the European Language Portfolio.

By the end of the first year, students will be able to use German actively and communicate effectively and correctly in both the written and spoken language:

– *written communication*: students will be able to understand and produce various types of text, demonstrating skills in applying the main grammar, vocabulary and morpho-syntactic structures covered in lectures;

– *oral communication:* students will be able to interact in daily life situations and on topics relating to the syllabus covered during the year, with reference to the reading passages in the textbook (see reading list).

Method of study: tutor-led and independent study is required to learn a language. Students are responsible for their own learning and for monitoring their progress. They must develop an efficient study method in terms of accuracy, making suitable use of reference material (grammar resources and dictionaries, both hard copy and online).

***COURSE CONTENT***

1. *Introduction to the morphosyntax and vocabulary of the German language, with written and oral exercises both in class and to be completed independently;*

2. *Oral communication*

– Conversation on everyday topics and on the topics covered in the text books.

– Listening activities using audio and video both in class and independently.

– Phonetics exercise with a particular focus on the prosodic aspects of German.

3. *Written communication*

– Reading and understanding of various text types related to daily life and reading passages from textbooks, newspapers, magazines and internet sources.

– Composition (letter, personal commentary).

– Paraphrased translation.

– Dictation, in class and/or on Blackboard platform /o su piattaforma Blackboard in Collaborate Ultra or autonomously enrolling the CAP course (Independent Learning Centre).

***READING LIST***

For the Beginner groups

*DaF kompakt neu A1, Kurs- und Übungsbuch + MP3-CD,* Klett Verlag, Stuttgart, 2016 (ISBN 978-3-12-676313-4).

*DaF kompakt neu A2, Kurs- und Übungsbuch + MP3-CD,* Klett Verlag, Stuttgart, 2016 (ISBN 978-3-12-676314-1).

*DaF kompakt neu B1, Kurs- und Übungsbuch + MP3-CD,* Klett Verlag, Stuttgart, 2016 (ISBN 978-3-12-676315-8).

F. Missaglia, *Von Lauten und Melodien,* EDUCatt, Milan, 2011 (for phonetics practical classes).

Recommended grammar activity books:

First semester:

F. Jin-U. Voß, *Grammatik aktiv A1-B1 mit CD, Cornelsen Verlag, Berlin 2017* (ISBN 978-3-06-023972-6).

Second semester:

Hering-Matussek, Übungsgrammatik für die Mittelstufe aktuell, Hueber, München (ISBN 978-3-19-111657-6).

*Em Brückenkurs. Neu 2008. Kursbuch und Arbeitsbuch*, Hueber Verlag, Ismaning, 2008 (ISBN 978-3-19-501696-4).

F. Missaglia, *Von Lauten und Melodien,* EDUCatt, Milan, 2011 (for phonetics practical classes).

Recommended grammar activity book:

Hering-Matussek, *Übungsgrammatik für die Mittelstufe aktuell*, Hueber, München.

*All the students of the courses are kindly requested to* obtain a bilingual and a monolingual dictionary (valid for the whole course):

L. Giacoma-S. Kolb (ed.), *Il dizionario di Tedesco,* Zanichelli/Klett, Bologna.

*Dit,* *Dizionario Tedesco-Italiano/Italiano-Tedesco*, Paravia, Turin.

*Duden, Deutsches Universalwörterbuch A-Z, 6. Auflage*, Dudenverlag, Mannheim.

*Wahrig, Deutsches Wörterbuch, 8. neu bearbeitete Auflage*, Bertelsmann, Güters loh.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal and interactive lectures in class by streaming and/or remote teaching.

Students will need to prepare the content indicated in class for the lectures and participate proactively in the activities so that they can learn to use the language practically and competently. At the "Independent Learning Centre" (3rd floor of the Morozzo della Rocca building or enrolling the corresponding course on Blackboard platform), students can use resources and tools for individual study and to reinforce their independent learning method ([*www.unicatt.it/selda-cap*](http://www.unicatt.it/selda-cap)).

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Students must demonstrate that they have acquired the required level by passing an exam with both a written part and oral part:

Written part: Dictation, reading and understanding of a text, writing task, translation and grammar test. No dictionaries are allowed.

Oral part: preliminary test on grammar and vocabulary; presentation of the content of articles chosen by students and dialogue on the topics covered by the textbook.

Students must demonstrate sufficient competence in the following areas: ability to demonstrate adequate speaking and writing skills by completing the communicative tasks set; mastery of vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation, accentuation and communicative interaction.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

This syllabus applies to all levels (beginners and advanced). Before the beginning of lectures, students will be divided into groups to reflect their initial language skills.

Students require prior knowledge of grammatical, logical and sentence-level analysis, and must be interested in the language and culture of German speaking countries.

Students must have achieved the level expected in the first year at least in order to access the exams for subsequent years.

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