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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***

The course includes theoretical and practical lessons (taught in German language) in classroom. 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.

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). To ensure fast and effective learning, students will do small project work.

***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, during lectures 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:

[B. Gottstein-Schramm](https://www.loescher.it/catalogo?autore=Barbara%2520Gottstein-Schramm), [S. Kalender](https://www.loescher.it/catalogo?autore=Susanne%2520Kalender), [F. Specht](https://www.loescher.it/catalogo?autore=Franz%2520Specht), [B. Duckstein](https://www.loescher.it/catalogo?autore=Barbara%2520Duckstein), Grammatik - ganz klar! Grammatica con esercizi A1-B1, Edizione italiana, Hueber Verlag, Ismaning, 2012

(ISBN 978-3-19-071555-8).

Second semester:

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

For Advanced Level groups:

Vielfalt. Kurs- und Arbeitsbuch B1+ plus interaktive Version, Hueber Verlag, Ismaning, 2023 (ISBN 978-3-19-001036-3

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,* 4th edition, Zanichelli/Klett, Bologna (ISBN 9788808204585).

*Duden, Deutsches Universalwörterbuch A-Z, 6. Auflage*, Dudenverlag, Mannheim (ISBN 978-3-411-05509-8).

*Langenscheidt Großwörterbuch Deutsch als Fremdsprache*, mit Online-Wörterbuch(ISBN 978-3-12-514067-7).

*Langenscheidt Universal-Wörterbuch Italienisch,* (ISBN 978-3-12-514278-7).

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal and interactive lectures.

Students will need to prepare the content indicated 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" (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.

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 (One-Year Course Students; Year 1, Two-Year Course Students)**

## Dott. Christine Arendt

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

The course will provide and/or consolidate basic knowledge of both written and spoken German. The proposed activities are designed to achieve a level corresponding to B1 in the European Language Portfolio across all four skills.

By the end of the course, students will be able to: understand written texts as well as audiovisual recordings of varied typology on everyday topics and personal interests, travel, studies and work experience/projects, civilisation and of intercultural relevance; express themselves and interact orally in communicative situations on the same arguments; produce written texts of various types related to the same topics (email, narrative summaries, contributions to blogs/forums etc.); present and verbally comment on the content of extracts from the textbook as well as their choice of articles for the oral exam (see Reading List).

***COURSE CONTENT***

– Exercises for learning and revising the main grammatical structures.

– Listening comprehension exercises and practice expressing oneself in the written and spoken language adapted to everyday situations.

– Reading and listening of texts about current issues and the culture of German-speaking countries to acquire comprehension strategies for approaching the various sources of information independently.

***READING LIST***

S. Dengler-P. Rusch et al., *Netzwerk A1, Kursbuch mit 2 Audio-CD,* Klett Verlag, ISBN 978-3-12-606128-5.

S. Dengler-P. Rusch et al., *Netzwerk A2, Kursbuch mit 2 Audio-CDs,* Klett Verlag, ISBN 978-3-12-606997-7.

Recommended grammar book:

*Grammatik – ganz klar!, Grammatica con esercizi A1 – B1*, Hueber Verlag. München 2011 - ISBN 978-3-19-071555-8.

*All the students on the course are kindly requested to:*

A. acquire a bilingual

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

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

b. Students should enroll in the Blackboard course by *"Centro per l’Autoapprendimento”*, where they will have access to additional texts to support their personal study and establish a personalised study itinerary with the linguistic advisor, tailored to their knowledge and skills ([*www.unicatt.it/requirements-cap*](http://www.unicatt.it/selda-cap)).

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal and interactive lectures. Students are invited to participate regularly in lectures based on both individual and group practical exercises.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The exam consists of two tests, one written and one spoken, in the German language, and must be taken before the Literature or Linguistic exam with the lecturer from the relevant course.

The written test is designed to evaluate the ability to understand and produce an original text. It consists of:

– a listening comprehension test with true/false questions;

– a grammar/vocab test;

– a reading comprehension test;

– a short written test.

Dictionaries are not permitted.

The oral exam (which can only be accessed after passing the written test) aims to ascertain students' ability to communicate simply but accurately on everyday topics, to present, in a personal and dialogue-based way, the content of the material covered in lectures and on the reading list.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

The course is designed for students intending to take German for one or two years, whether they have already started learning the language and have basic knowledge or whether they are taking the course as beginners.

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. Students are invited to visit the lecturer's Blackboard page.