

German

The German program, housed in the School of Languages and Linguistics, has a proud history of more than half a century at the University of Melbourne. The School offers a full complement of German language classes from beginners to advanced levels and has strong links with universities in the German-speaking and Scandinavian countries. Students have the opportunity to complete part of their studies overseas through scholarships and exchange and study abroad programs. Options and interdisciplinary electives are available at all levels to encourage students to pursue their particular interests and develop prospective career pathways. The School provides a friendly environment with excellent access to talented and enthusiastic teaching staff. The German students' club provides the opportunity for students to become actively engaged in campus life and the organisation of entertainment and educational events. Theatrical productions in German are staged annually by the 'Germanic Players' who draw their members from the staff and students of the School. These activities will enrich the academic experience of students of German language, literature and culture who are able to continue their studies in German through an articulated structure of higher degrees at the University of Melbourne.

German is the study of the culture, literature, language and linguistics of German-speaking societies. Students are able to choose optional elements at all levels and are encouraged to identify and pursue their own interests within the discipline, taking advantage of interdisciplinary subject offerings where these are available.

Time commitment to study

As well as scheduled contact hours for lectures, tutorial and seminars a considerable additional time commitment is needed to complete the academic requirements of each subject.

A subject-specific time commitment to study will be provided by your lecturer or tutor at the beginning of semester to help you schedule your workload and successfully manage your time during the semester. In addition, general estimates of the total time commitment required to study a 12.5-point single semester subject in the Faculty of Arts can be found on page 1.

Language study streams

The program offers three streams of German language study:

Beginners

The beginners stream is for students who have little or no knowledge of German. It is available to students at both first and second year, although students intending to complete a major will need to commence their language study in their first year.

Intermediate

The intermediate stream is usually only available to students who have undertaken four or five years of secondary school German, or its equivalent.

Post-VCE

The post-VCE stream is usually only available to students who have obtained a pass in VCE German, or its equivalent.

The School determines the language stream in which a student is to enrol. Placement is based on VCE results, other language study record, or a placement test.

Stream enrolment remains provisional until confirmed or, alternatively, will be altered according to the student's needs as determined by the School during the first two weeks of teaching. As far as possible, the School will notify students of any changes to their stream enrolment during the first two weeks of semester. Where a change is made in the third or fourth week of semester it will be reported to the Associate Dean (Academic Programs).

Diploma in Modern Languages (German)

The Diploma in Modern Languages (DML) enables students to gain a diploma in language study while completing an undergraduate degree at the University of Melbourne.

The DML involves a three-year sequence of language study, totalling a minimum of 100 points. It adds one year to the duration of an ordinary degree course.

The DML (German) is offered in beginners, intermediate and post-VCE streams. German subjects are taken alongside the degree subjects in an integrated sequence of study. This must be approved by a faculty course adviser and the Head of School. See *Diploma in Modern Languages* (p.15).

Structuring the Diploma in Modern Languages

The DML (German) usually takes one of the following forms:

Beginners stream

First year	Points
126-126 Beginners German A (p.2)	6.25
126-127 Beginners German B (p.2)	12.5
126-128 Beginners German C (p.3)	6.25
126-129 Beginners German D (p.3)	12.5
Second year	Points
126-005 Intermediate German A (p.3)	12.5
126-007 Intermediate German B (p.3)	12.5
126-008 Intermediate German C (p.3)	12.5
Third year	Points
126-006 German 3 Intermediate (Core) A (p.5)	12.5
126-021 German 3 Intermediate B (p.5)	12.5

Intermediate stream

First year	Points
126-005 Intermediate German A (p.3)	12.5
126-007 Intermediate German B (p.3)	12.5
Second year	Points
126-017 German 2 (Core) A (p.4)	12.5
126-015 German 2B (p.4)	12.5
126-016 German 2C (p.4)	12.5
Third year	Points
126-018 German 3 (Core) A (p.4)	12.5
126-019 German 3B (p.4)	12.5
126-020 German 3C (p.4)	12.5

Post-VCE stream

First year	Points
126-130 German 1A (p.3)	12.5
126-131 German 1B (p.3)	12.5
Second year	Points
126-017 German 2 (Core) A (p.4)	12.5
126-015 German 2B (p.4)	12.5
126-016 German 2C (p.4)	12.5
Third year	Points
126-018 German 3 (Core) A (p.4)	12.5
126-019 German 3B (p.4)	12.5
126-020 German 3C (p.4)	12.5

Requirements for a major

A major in German usually consists of 112.5 points comprising:

- first-year subjects in German (25-37.5 points); and
- second-year subjects in German (25-37.5 points); and
- third-year subjects in German (50 points).

A major must include either:

- 126-018 German 3 (Core) A (p.4); and
- 126-019 German 3B (p.4); and
- 126-020 German 3C (p.4); and
- one third/fourth-year optional subject.

or

- 126-006 German 3 Intermediate (Core) A (p.5); and
- 126-021 German 3 Intermediate B (p.5); and
- 126-022 German 3 Intermediate C (p.5); and
- one third/fourth year optional subject.

Structuring a major

A major in German usually takes one of the following forms:

Beginners stream

First year	Points
126-126 Beginners German A (p.2)	6.25
126-127 Beginners German B (p.2)	12.5
126-128 Beginners German C (p.3)	6.25
126-129 Beginners German D (p.3)	12.5

Second year

126-005	Intermediate German A (p.3)	Points
126-007	Intermediate German B (p.3)	12.5
126-008	Intermediate German C (p.3)	12.5

Third year

126-006	German 3 Intermediate (Core) A (p.5)	Points
126-021	German 3 Intermediate B (p.5)	12.5
One third/fourth-year optional subject		12.5

Intermediate stream**First year**

126-005	Intermediate German A (p.3)	Points
126-007	Intermediate German B (p.3)	12.5

Second year

126-017	German 2 (Core) A (p.4)	Points
126-015	German 2B (p.4)	12.5
126-016	German 2C (p.4)	12.5

Third year

126-018	German 3 (Core) A (p.4)	Points
126-019	German 3B (p.4)	12.5
126-020	German 3C (p.4)	12.5
One third/fourth-year optional subject		12.5

Post-VCE stream**First year**

126-130	German 1A (p.3)	Points
126-131	German 1B (p.3)	12.5

Second year

126-017	German 2 (Core) A (p.4)	Points
126-015	German 2B (p.4)	12.5
126-016	German 2C (p.4)	12.5

Third year

126-018	German 3 (Core) A (p.4)	Points
126-019	German 3B (p.4)	12.5
126-020	German 3C (p.4)	12.5
One third/fourth-year optional subject		12.5

Optional subjects for the major

Second/third year subject		Sem.
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126-211	Memory & Memoirs of 20th Century Europe (p.5)	N/A
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Third/fourth year subjects

126-409	Mastering the Past: Legacy of the Stasi (p.5)	N/A
126-417	Yiddish and German: The Uneasy Relatives (p.5)	N/A
126-461	Historical Grammar of German (p.6)	N/A
126-462	Introduction to Reading Nietzsche (p.6)	N/A
126-463	Literary Controversies (p.6)	N/A
126-464	German Humour (p.6)	N/A
126-466	German Fairy Tales (p.6)	N/A
126-467	German Poetry Today: Serious to Slam (p.6)	1
126-469	Post-Holocaust Literature (p.7)	N/A
126-471	East meets West since Unification (p.7)	N/A
126-472	The Cultural Critics (p.7)	N/A
126-473	Heinrich von Kleist's Prose Fiction (p.7)	1
126-474	The Bible, the Devil & Martin Luther (p.7)	2
126-476	German as a Foreign Language (p.7)	N/A
126-477	A Tale of Three Generations (p.7)	2
126-478	Translating Literature (p.8)	N/A
126-479	German in Academic Communication (p.8)	N/A
126-481	Intercultural Communication and German (p.8)	1
126-486	A Cultural History of German Thought (p.8)	N/A
126-487	Contemporary Popular Culture in Germany (p.8)	N/A
126-488	Jews in German Culture: 1749-1924 (p.8)	N/A

Fourth year subject

126-410	German 4: Research Project (p.9)	1 rep 2
126-485	German Honours Language (p.9)	2

Honours entry

The prerequisites for entry to fourth-year honours in German are:

- completion of all the requirements for the BA; and
- completion of a major in German; and
- an average grade of H2B or higher over the second/third-year subjects within the major.

For information on how to apply see *Applying for Honours* (p.13).

Honours requirements

Honours coordinator: Dr Leo Kretzenbacher

Pure honours

Students undertaking pure honours in German must complete:

- 126-508 German Thesis (p.9) (37.5 points); and
- five honours subjects in German (62.5 points).

Combined honours

Students undertaking combined honours in German and another program must complete:

- 126-508 German Thesis (p.9) (37.5 points); and
- two honours subjects in German (25 points); and
- three honours subjects in the combining discipline (37.5 points).

or

- honours thesis in the combining discipline (37.5 points); and
- two honours subjects in the combining discipline (25 points); and
- three honours subjects in German (37.5 points).

Further study

A BA with a major in German can lead to a Graduate Diploma in Arts (German), a Postgraduate Diploma in Arts (German) or study in Germany.

An honours degree in German can lead to MA or PhD degrees.

Career opportunities

Graduates of the Bachelor of Arts who have majored in German have found employment in teaching, the media, the public service, diplomacy and international trade.

For more information

German, Russian and Swedish Studies
School of Languages and Linguistics
6th Floor, Arts Centre
The University of Melbourne
Victoria 3010
Tel: +61 3 8344 5204

Web: <http://www.grs.unimelb.edu.au>

Language subjects**126-126 Beginners German A**

Note: Formerly available as 126-001. Students who have completed 126-001 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Availability: 1st and 2nd year

Credit points: 6.25

Coordinator: Dr Birgit Lang

Corequisites: 126-127 Beginners German B (p.2).

Contact: Two hours of language seminars per week (*Semester 1*).

Description: In this subject students will be introduced to the basic spoken language. Students should achieve the level of spoken language competency required for admittance into 126-128 Beginners German C (p.3) and 126-129 Beginners German D (p.3).

Assessment: A 10-minute oral exam 60% (due at the end of semester) and a 30-minute aural exam 40% (due at the end of semester).

Prescribed texts: D Dollenmayer, *Neue Horizonte (Textbook and Workbook)*, (latest ed) Heath & Co.

126-127 Beginners German B

Note: Formerly available as 126-002. Students who have completed 126-002 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Availability: 1st and 2nd year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Birgit Lang

Corequisites: 126-126 Beginners German A (p.2).

Contact: Four hours of language seminars per week (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject is an introduction to spoken and written German for students with little or no knowledge of German. During the subject students will be introduced to the basic spoken language and some of the grammatical structures of the German language and should develop the capacity to apply these principles in speech and writing. Students should develop the ability to read and evaluate a small range of German texts and achieve the level of lan-

guage competency required for admittance into 126-128 Beginners German C (p.3) and 126-129 Beginners German D (p.3).

Assessment: A 3-hour examination 70% (during the examination period) and short weekly assignments and fortnightly vocabulary tests totalling 1000 words 30% (throughout the semester). Students need to attend at least 80% of the classes to be admitted to the examination.

Prescribed texts: D Dollenmayer, *Neue Horizonte (Textbook and Workbook)*, (latest ed) Heath & Co.

126-128 Beginners German C

Note: Formerly available as 126-003. Students who have completed 126-003 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Availability: 1st and 2nd year

Credit points: 6.25

Coordinator: Dr Birgit Lang

Prerequisites: 126-126 Beginners German A (p.2) and 126-127 Beginners German B (p.2) or equivalent.

Corequisites: 126-129 Beginners German D (p.3).

Contact: Two hours of language seminars per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: In this subject students should acquire a clear and accurate spoken facility at a basic standard of the language. Students should also develop a familiarity with important German cultural habits and acquire the level of competency required for admittance to 126-005 Intermediate German A (p.3).

Assessment: A 1-hour written test 40% (due at the end of semester) and a 20-minute oral test 60% (due at the end of semester).

Prescribed texts: D Dollenmayer, *Neue Horizonte (Textbook and Workbook)*, (latest ed) Heath & Co.

126-129 Beginners German D

Note: Formerly available as 126-004. Students who have completed 126-004 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Availability: 1st and 2nd year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Birgit Lang

Prerequisites: 126-126 Beginners German A (p.2) and 126-127 Beginners German B (p.2) or equivalent.

Corequisites: 126-128 Beginners German C (p.3).

Contact: Four hours of language seminars per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject involves an extension of the work done in Beginners German A and B. During the subject students will endeavour to command a knowledge of the principal grammatical structures of the German language and attain the capacity to apply these in writing. On completion of the subject students should be able to read and evaluate a wide variety of texts ranging from newspaper items to journal articles, short stories and poems. Students should achieve the level of language competency required for admittance into 126-005 Intermediate German A (p.3).

Assessment: A 3-hour examination 70% (during the examination period) and short weekly assignments and fortnightly vocabulary tests totalling 1000 words 30% (throughout the semester). Students need to attend at least 80% of the classes to be admitted to the examination.

Prescribed texts: D Dollenmayer, *Neue Horizonte (Textbook and Workbook)*, (latest ed) Heath & Co.

126-005 Intermediate German A

Availability: 1st and 2nd year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Heather Benbow

Prerequisites: Beginners German or equivalent.

Contact: Four hours of language seminars per week (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject uses authentic written and audio-visual texts to expand students' ability to understand, speak and write German. On completion of the subject students should have attained a moderate level of complexity in speaking, aural comprehension, reading and writing of German and a level of competency required for admittance into 126-007 Intermediate German B (p.3).

Assessment: A 2-hour examination 40%, two listening tests equivalent to 500 words 15%, written work equivalent to 1000 words 30%, and a 10-minute oral test equivalent to 500 words 15%.

Prescribed texts: Jamie Rankin and Larry D. Wells, *Handbuch zur deutschen Grammatik*, (latest) Houghton Mifflin.

126-007 Intermediate German B

Availability: 1st and 2nd year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Heather Benbow

Prerequisites: 126-005 Intermediate German A (p.3) or equivalent.

Contact: Four hours of language seminars per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject uses authentic written and audio-visual texts to expand students' ability to understand, speak and write German. If proceeding to German at second-year level, students should achieve the level of competency required for admittance into 126-017 German 2 (Core) A (p.4) and 126-015 German 2B (p.4). If proceeding to German at third-year level, students should achieve the level of competency required for admittance into 126-006 German 3 Intermediate (Core) A (p.5) and 126-021 German 3 Intermediate B (p.5) or 126-018 German 3 (Core) A (p.4) and 126-019 German 3B (p.4).

Assessment: A 2-hour examination 40%, two aural tests equivalent to 500 words 15%, an oral test equivalent to 500 words 15% and written work equivalent to 1000 words (30%).

Prescribed texts: Jamie Rankin and Larry D. Wells, *Handbuch zur deutschen Grammatik*, (latest edition) Houghton Mifflin.

126-008 Intermediate German C

Note: This subject only available to students who completed Beginners German prior to 2007.

Availability: 1st and 2nd year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Heather Benbow

Prerequisites: 126-005 Intermediate German A (p.3).

Corequisites: 126-007 Intermediate German B (p.3).

Contact: Three one-hour seminars per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject consists of two 1-hour special studies units and a 1-hour language seminar. Students will be introduced to important cultural, literary and linguistic aspects of the German language. Students will be given the opportunity to develop topics of interest within these general areas and will be introduced to a variety of specialist terminology. The objectives of the special studies units vary according to the option chosen. In the language seminar students will learn the skills to read and interpret more complex texts in German and will reflect on these texts at a sophisticated level in both written and spoken German. Students should achieve the level of competency required for admittance into 126-017 German 2 (Core) A (p.4) and 126-015 German 2B (p.4). If proceeding to German at third-year level, students should achieve the level of competency required for admittance into 126-006 German 3 Intermediate (Core) A (p.5) and 126-021 German 3 Intermediate B (p.5) or 126-018 German 3 (Core) A (p.4) and 126-019 German 3B (p.4).

Assessment: For the special studies units, two 1-hour written exams or written work totalling 2000 words 75%. For the language seminar, a twenty-minute seminar presentation (10%) and written work totalling 1000 words (15%).

126-130 German 1A

Availability: 1st year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Guido Ernst

Prerequisites: A pass in VCE German or equivalent.

Contact: A 2-hour language seminar and two 1-hour seminars of Special Studies (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject focuses on revision and further development of students' competence in German and introduces them to important cultural, literary and linguistic aspects of the German-speaking countries. The language component is designed to consolidate and extend the students' communicative and linguistic skills through oral and written activities and exercises. Aural comprehension will be developed through the use of audio-visual material. The Special Studies seminars give students the opportunity to develop topics of interest within the general areas of German literature, linguistics and culture. Students will be introduced to a variety of specialised terminology and should develop analytical skills relevant to the topic area.

Assessment: For the language component: A 1-hour exam 25% (during the exam period), a 10-minute oral exam 12% (at the end of semester), essays totalling 500 words 10% (during semester) and three vocabulary tests 3% (during semester). For the Special Studies component: Two 1-hour written examinations 25% each (during examination period) OR written work totalling 2000 words 50% (general areas of the semester) OR a 1-hour examination (during examination period) and written work of 1000 words 25% each (during the semester).

Prescribed texts: Jamie Rankin and Larry D. Wells, *Handbuch zur deutschen Grammatik*, (latest edition) Houghton Mifflin.

126-131 German 1B

Note: Formerly available as 126-133. Students who have completed 126-133 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Availability: 1st year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Guido Ernst

Prerequisites: 126-130 German 1A (p.3)

Contact: A 2-hour language seminar and two 1-hour seminars of Special Studies (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject aims at further consolidating and developing students' competence in German and introduces them to important cultural, literary and linguistic aspects of the German-speaking countries. The language component is designed to consolidate and extend the students' proficiency in both written and spoken language through a range of activities, including grammar exercises and analysis of more complex texts and authentic audio-visual material. The Special Studies seminars gives students the opportunity to develop topics of interest within the general areas of German literature, linguistics and culture. Students will be introduced to a variety of specialised terminology and should develop analytical skills relevant to the topic area.

Assessment: For the language component: A 1-hour exam 25% (during the exam period), a 10-minute oral exam 12% (at the end of semester), essays totalling 500 words 10% (during semester) and three vocabulary tests 3% (during semester). For the Special Studies component: Two 1-hour written examinations 25% each (during examination period) OR written work totalling 2000 words 50% (during the semester) OR a 1-hour examination (during examination period) and written work of 1000 words 25% each (during the semester).

Prescribed texts: Jamie Rankin and Larry D. Wells, *Handbuch zur deutschen Grammatik*, (latest ed) Houghton Mifflin.

126-017 German 2 (Core) A

Availability: 2nd year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Gert Reifarth

Prerequisites: 126-131 German 1B (p.3) or equivalent.

Corequisites: 126-015 German 2B (p.4) or 126-016 German 2C (p.4).

Contact: Two 1.5-hour seminars per week (*Semester 1, repeat 2*).

Description: This subject consists of area studies relating to aspects of modern German literature, linguistics, and cultural studies. Students choose two area studies from a range of representative texts, authors or approaches in key areas of German literature, linguistics and cultural studies, from the Enlightenment to the present. Students should gain an introduction to two specialized fields in at least one of these areas. The subject aims to provide a broad understanding of the wider social, literary or linguistic issues, concepts or methods involved in each field. Students should demonstrate a critical appreciation of the material covered as well as an appreciation of specialist language through the use of sophisticated oral and written German.

Assessment: Two 2-hour examinations 50% each (during examination period) OR written work totalling 4000 words 100% (during the semester) OR a 2-hour examination (during examination period) and written work of 2000 words 50% each (during the semester).

126-015 German 2B

Availability: 2nd year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Gert Reifarth

Prerequisites: 126-131 German 1B (p.3) or 126-008 Intermediate German C (p.3) or equivalent.

Corequisites: 126-017 German 2 (Core) A (p.4) in either Semester 1 or Semester 2.

Contact: Three hours per week (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject focuses on various aspects of contemporary German language. It will aim at consolidating and expanding students' proficiency in both written and spoken language. It will continue with the development of communicative skills with reference to the main registers of contemporary German. The subject will also aim at demonstrating the differences between colloquial, formal and specialized registers where appropriate, and at activating and furthering skills in oral and written communication. It combines this with a study of language functions and grammatical structures. Listening skills will be developed through the use of different types of audio-visual materials and writing and reading skills through a variety of text types and sources, including the internet and computer-assisted learning tools.

Assessment: A 2-hour grammar exam 30%, two 1-hour listening comprehension tests 20% (due in week 5 and week 9), a 10-minute oral presentation 20% (due during semester) and two essays of 500 words in German 30% (due in week 4 and week 8).

Prescribed texts: Jamie Rankin and Larry D. Wells, *Handbuch zur deutschen Grammatik*, (latest ed) Houghton Mifflin.

126-016 German 2C

Availability: 2nd year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Gert Reifarth

Prerequisites: 126-015 German 2B (p.4).

Corequisites: 126-017 German 2 (Core) A (p.4) in either Semester 1 or Semester 2.

Contact: Three hours per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject focuses on various aspects of contemporary German language. It will aim at consolidating and expanding students' proficiency in both written and spoken language. It will continue with the development of communicative skills with reference to the main registers of contemporary German. The subject will also aim at demonstrating the differences between colloquial, formal and specialized registers where appropriate, and at activating and furthering skills in oral and written communication. It combines this with a study of language functions and grammatical structures. Listening skills will be developed through the use of different types of audio-visual materials and writing and reading skills through a variety of text types and sources, including the internet and computer-assisted learning tools.

Assessment: A 2-hour grammar exam 30%, two 1-hour listening comprehension tests 20% (due in week 5 and week 9), a 10-minute oral presentation 20% (due during semester) and two essays of 500 words in German 30% (due in week 4 and week 8).

Prescribed texts: Jamie Rankin and Larry D. Wells, *Handbuch zur deutschen Grammatik*, (latest ed) Houghton Mifflin.

126-018 German 3 (Core) A

Availability: 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Leo Kretzenbacher

Prerequisites: At least 25 points of second year German or equivalent.

Contact: Two 1.5-hour seminars per week (*Semester 1, repeat 2*).

Description: This subject is offered in the form of a series of seminars which introduce research methods and materials in different specialized fields within the three core areas of Germanic studies: literature, linguistics, and cultural studies. The topics of the seminars include a range of representative texts, authors and approaches in the key areas of German literature, linguistics and cultural studies. By choosing two of the seminars, students will gain both an introduction to research methods and materials in Germanic studies and familiarity with specialist fields. Students should develop the ability to approach specific problems in two chosen areas of interest through the critical use of sophisticated oral and written German.

Assessment: Two 2-hour examinations 50% each (during examination period) or written work totalling 4000 words 100% (during the semester) or a 2-hour examination (during examination period) and written work of 2000 words 50% each (during the semester).

126-019 German 3B

Availability: 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Leo Kretzenbacher

Prerequisites: At least 25 points of second year German or equivalent.

Contact: A 1-hour language class and a 2-hour language seminar per week (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject is a comprehensive study of both the formal structures and the functional varieties of contemporary German in a wide range of text and discourse forms. Students should develop a refined use of idiomatic and conversational forms and the capacity to use them freely; a level of proficiency in complex written structures and the capacity to command their use freely and confidently. Students should also cultivate the ability to interpret messages independently at all levels of language use, including those occurring in a variety of audio-visual media and individual and group spoken forms.

Assessment: A 2-hour written language exam 50% (during the examination period), a 20-minute oral test 25% (at the end of semester) and written work totalling 1000 words 25% (due during the semester).

Prescribed texts: Hueber, *Em Neu Hauptkurs B2 Kursbuch/Textbook*, (latest ed). • Hueber, *Em Neu Hauptkurs B2 Arbeitsbuch/Workbook*, (latest ed).

126-020 German 3C

Availability: 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Leo Kretzenbacher

Prerequisites: 126-019 German 3B (p.4) or equivalent.

Contact: A 1-hour language class and a 2-hour language seminar per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject is a comprehensive study of both the formal structures and the functional varieties of contemporary German in a wide range of text and discourse forms. Students should develop a refined use of idiomatic and conversational forms and the capacity to use them freely; a level of proficiency in complex written structures of and the capacity to command their use freely and confidently. Students should cultivate the ability to interpret messages independently at all levels of language use, including those occurring in a variety of audio-visual media and individual and group spoken forms.

Assessment: A 2-hour written language exam 50% (in the examination period), a 20-minute oral test 25% (at the end of semester) and written work totalling 1000 words 25% (due during the semester).

Prescribed texts: Hueber, *Em Neu Hauptkurs Kursbuch/Textbook*, (latest ed).
• Hueber, *Em Neu Hauptkurs Arbeitsbuch/Workbook*, (latest ed).

126-006 German 3 Intermediate (Core) A

Availability: 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Gert Reifarth

Prerequisites: 126-008 Intermediate German C (*p.3*) or equivalent.

Contact: Two 1.5-hour seminars per week (*Semester 1, repeat 2*).

Description: This subject consists of area studies relating to aspects of modern German literature, linguistics, and cultural studies. Students choose two area studies options, including a range of representative texts, authors or approaches in key areas of German literature, linguistics and cultural studies from the Enlightenment to the present. Students should gain an introduction to two specialized fields in at least one of these areas. The subject aims to provide a broad understanding of the wider social literary or linguistic issues, concepts or methods involved in each field. On completion of the subject students should demonstrate a critical appreciation of the material covered as well as an appreciation of specialist language through the use of sophisticated oral and written German.

Assessment: Two 2-hour examinations 50% each (during examination period) OR written work totalling 4000 words 100% (during the semester) OR a 2-hour examination (during examination period) and written work of 2000 words 50% each (during the semester).

126-021 German 3 Intermediate B

Availability: 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Gert Reifarth

Prerequisites: 126-008 Intermediate German C (*p.3*) or equivalent.

Contact: Three hours per week (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject focuses on various aspects of contemporary German language. It aims at consolidating and expanding students' proficiency in both written and spoken language and continues with the development of communicative skills, with reference to the main register of contemporary German. The subject also aims at demonstrating the differences between colloquial, formal and specialized registers where appropriate, and at activating and furthering skills in oral and written communication. It combines this with a study of language functions and grammatical structures. On completion of the subject students should have developed listening skills through the use of different types of audio-visual materials and writing and reading skills through a variety of text types and sources, including the internet and computer-assisted learning tools.

Assessment: A 2-hour grammar exam 30%, two 1-hour listening comprehension tests 20% (due in week 5 and week 9), a 10-minute oral presentation 20% (due during semester) and two essays of 500 words in German 30% (due in week 4 and week 8).

Prescribed texts: Jamie Rankin and Larry D. Wells, *Handbuch zur deutschen Grammatik*, (latest ed) Houghton Mifflin.

126-022 German 3 Intermediate C

Availability: 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Gert Reifarth

Prerequisites: 126-021 German 3 Intermediate B (*p.5*).

Contact: Three hours per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject focuses on various aspects of contemporary German language. It aims at consolidating and expanding students' proficiency in both written and spoken language. Students continue with the development of communicative skills, with reference to the main registers of contemporary German. The subject also aims at demonstrating the differences between colloquial, formal and specialized registers, and at furthering skills in oral and written communication. It combines this with a study of language functions

and grammatical structures. Students should develop listening skills through the use of different types of audio-visual materials, and writing and reading skills through a variety of text types and sources, including the internet and computer-assisted learning tools.

Assessment: A 2-hour grammar exam 30%, two 1-hour listening comprehension tests 20% (due in week 5 and 9), a 10-minute oral presentation 20% (due during semester) and two essays of 500 words in German 30% (due in week 4 and week 8).

Prescribed texts: Jamie Rankin and Larry D. Wells, *Handbuch zur deutschen Grammatik*, (latest ed) Houghton Mifflin.

Optional subjects

Second/third-year subject

126-211 Memory & Memoirs of 20th Century Europe

Availability: 2nd and 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

Prerequisites: This subject is taught in English and is open to all second and third year students. European studies students wishing to enrol in this subject would normally have completed 25 points of European studies at first year level.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: The eye-witness account and the personal memoir offer powerful ways of exploring the human legacy of overwhelming historical events on individual lives. But how do literary genres like the memoir and autobiography manage to speak about unspeakable topics, how do they represent the unrepresentable and write about trauma? What is the function, and what the effect, of writing memory for the victim, for the reader, and for the perpetrator? How do the offspring of the victims and perpetrators 'remember' their parents' traumas and shape memories of events they have only experienced second-hand? What is the relationship between fiction and memory in memoir writing and how do we read a testimonial of a Holocaust survivor that has been faked? This subject will introduce students to a selection of testimonial writing and films that tell individual stories of a shameful national past. It explores the effect of generic convention on the relation of history and memory, and the need for generic invention to speak trauma and tell the untellable. Its focus will be on the Holocaust, the Algerian War, and life under Eastern bloc communist regimes. This subject will focus on writing from France, Germany, and Italy in the first instance, but may from time to time include writing from other parts of Europe.

Third/fourth-year subjects

126-409 Mastering the Past: Legacy of the Stasi

Note: This subject is taught in German.

Availability: 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Prerequisites: 37.5 points of second/third-year subjects in German language. European studies students wishing to enrol in this subject would normally have completed 37.5 points of European studies at second/third year.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject will look at attempts to come to terms with the collapse of communism or 'really existing' socialism in post-unification Germany. For the second time in the space of 50 years Germans were forced to face up to a criminal past and revelations of wide-spread human rights abuse. Particularly shocking were allegations, made in 1990, of extensive collaboration with the secret police among artists, writers and professionals of all kinds. This subject will deal with a variety of genres of texts that address the question of the legacy of the Stasi and the East German past. The focus of the course will be on narratives and stories by the Stasi's victims and perpetrators and texts that tackle the issue of individual guilt and moral responsibility, collusion and complicity. The sorts of narratives studied will include first-person testimonials and narratives by victimised writers and informants, diaries, interviews with Stasi agents, films by dissident filmmakers as well as fictional works such as Christa Wolf's *Was Bleibt* that have as their theme secret police surveillance and its effects on the lives of ordinary citizens. On completion of the subject students should have gained a critical appreciation of the complex political, ethical, psychological and historical issues involved in 'coming to terms with the past' as well as the way in which gender has impacted on the process.

126-417 Yiddish and German: The Uneasy Relatives

Note: This subject is taught in German.

Availability: 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Prerequisites: 37.5 points of second/third-year subjects in German language. European studies students wishing to enrol in this subject would normally have completed 37.5 points of European studies at second/third year.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: Yiddish, the language of the Central and Eastern European Jews (Ashkenazim) is a language that has developed out of medieval German. During its development it has incorporated many Hebrew elements, such as its writing system and a lot of its vocabulary, but also elements of many Central and Eastern European languages. During their long co-existence as neighbouring languages as well as within a diglossia situation, Yiddish and German experienced a lot of mutual exchanges as well as other phenomena of language contact. The subject is an introduction to the linguistic structure and the cultural and sociological situation of historical and contemporary Yiddish, from the viewpoint of German linguistics, sociolinguistics and contact linguistics. The centuries of symbiosis between Yiddish and different standards of German as well as the role of Yiddish as a gateway for the transfer of linguistic material from third languages into German sub-languages such as regional and group-specific varieties will provide an understanding of the interaction between neighbouring languages.

126-461 Historical Grammar of German

Note: This subject is taught in German. Formerly available as 126-023. Students who have completed 126-023 are not eligible to enrol in this subject. This subject will only be run if there is a minimum of six participants.

Availability: 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Prerequisites: 37.5 points of second/third-year subjects in German language. European studies students wishing to enrol in this subject would normally have completed 37.5 points of European studies at second/third year.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject offers a historical explanation for aspects of German grammar. The science of historical linguistics is based on a hypothesis, that all languages in a language family have derived from a common ancestor and, a proven fact, that languages change over time. This subject will deal with both the concept of language change and issues of historical linguistics. Students who complete this subject should have an understanding of the processes that lead to language change; have an understanding of the many 'exceptions' to the grammatical rules of German; have an understanding of the differences that exist between English and German and how these evolved historically; have learnt to consult etymological dictionaries and to interpret the data given; and have gained an appreciation for, and interest in, etymology and historical grammar.

126-462 Introduction to Reading Nietzsche

Note: This subject is taught in German. Formerly available as 126-024. Students who have completed 126-024 are not eligible to enrol in this subject. This subject will only be run if there is a minimum of six participants.

Availability: 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Prerequisites: 37.5 points of second/third year subjects in German language. European studies students wishing to enrol in this subject would normally have completed 37.5 points of European studies at second/third year.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: The subject presents a general introduction to reading Nietzsche in the original German with an emphasis on those aspects of his thought which have most intellectual currency today. Attention will be paid to fragments unpublished in Nietzsche's own lifetime, especially those relating to his analysis of language and his critiques of philosophical discourse and human identity. Works from which extracts will be read and discussed include *Über Wahrheit und Lüge im aussermoralischen Sinn*, *Die Philosophie im tragischen Zeitalter der Griechen*, *Die Geburt der Tragödie*, *Menschliches, Allzumenschliches*, *Jenseits von Gut und Böse* and *Zur Genealogie der Moral*. Students who complete this subject should have a familiarity with Nietzsche's major writings; have a critical appreciation of the contradictions within Nietzsche's thinking; and have an understanding of the relation of philosophical and literary discourses within Nietzsche's work.

126-463 Literary Controversies

Note: This subject is taught in German. Formerly available as 126-078. Students who have completed 126-078 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Availability: 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Prerequisites: 37.5 points of second/third-year subjects in German language. European studies students wishing to enrol in this subject would normally have completed 37.5 points of European studies at second/third year.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject focuses on several controversies in recent German history: the debate over complicity and the Stasi surrounding East Germany's best known writer, Christa Wolf; the Walser-Bubis debate about the role of the Holocaust in collective German memory; the Historians' debates of the nineteen-eighties over the crimes of the Holocaust and Stalinism. In two of these disputes the key players were writers of literature. The controversies will be used to investigate the ways in which the meaning of the communist and fascist past is negotiated through critical public debate. The role of the concerned public intellectual, who is often also a writer, will be analysed in these debates. In particular, the subject will pursue the question of whether these debates - and the 'culture of disputation' (Streitkultur) which has become a hallmark of postwar German society - are indicative of Germans' repeated inability to deal with their troubled past or whether they are a sign of a functioning democracy. Students who complete this subject should be acquainted with the role that critical writers play in intellectual debates about history and politics, as well as have a good understanding of the main issues in the three debates under discussion, and of the importance of public debate in the continual renegotiation of public norms in the course of postwar German history.

126-464 German Humour

Note: This subject is taught in German. Formerly available as 126-075. Students who have completed 126-075 are not eligible to enrol in this subject. This subject will only be run if there is a minimum of six participants.

Availability: 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Prerequisites: 37.5 points of second/third-year subjects in German language. European studies students wishing to enrol in this subject would normally have completed 37.5 points of European studies at second/third year.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject considers the questions: What do Germans consider funny? How does the concept of humour change over time on a European and on a German scale? Are there things like humorous universals that are being laughed at in all cultures? Students who complete this subject should have an acquaintance with the most important European traditions of humour as they are echoed in the German traditions; have a familiarity with linguistic and literary techniques of humorous communication; have the capacity to analyse forms of humour that are specific to a certain epoch according to their respective cultural backgrounds; and have an understanding of the interdisciplinary nature of cultural studies.

126-466 German Fairy Tales

Note: This subject is taught in German. Formerly available as 126-028. Students who have completed 126-028 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Availability: 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Prerequisites: 37.5 points of second/third year subjects in German language. European studies students wishing to enrol in this subject would normally have completed 37.5 points of European studies at second/third year.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: In this subject a number of German fairy tales will be discussed. Typical fairy tale motifs and characters will be examined as well as texts which twentieth-century German authors wrote based upon these tales. As purely literary criteria do not do justice to fairy tales, other approaches, such as historical, sociological and psychological interpretations, will be explored. Students who complete this subject should be familiar with the origins and characteristics of the European fairy tales; and have an understanding of the evolution and development of the Grimm's *Kinder-und Hausmärchen*.

126-467 German Poetry Today: Serious to Slam

Note: This subject is taught in German.

Availability: 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Gert Reifarth

Prerequisites: 37.5 points of second/third year German subjects.

Contact: A 2.5-hour seminar per week (*Semester 1*).

Description: Who are the big names in German poetry today? What do they write about? Which elements, concerning both content and form, of the German poetic tradition do these poets keep alive, which ones do they revive, copy, change or destroy? Which taboos do they tackle, and from which ones do they shy away? What are the poetics behind their writing? Are they willing and able to open new poetic horizons? How do they touch upon the concepts of contextualisation, subversion and escapism? This subject will answer all these questions and shed light on the vast area of modern German poetry, examining texts written in the new millennium, and including poems from the high end of the lyric spectrum as well as the "underground" (eg slam poetry). A set of tools for a detailed analysis of poetry will be developed, and various

literary theories will be used to analyse the texts (psychoanalytical, feminist, structuralist approaches).

Assessment: A 1000 word class paper 30% (due during the semester), and an essay of 3000 words for third year students, 4000 words for fourth year students 70% (due at the end of the semester).

126-469 Post-Holocaust Literature

Note: This subject is taught in German. Formerly available as 126-082. Students who have completed 126-082 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Availability: 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Prerequisites: 37.5 points of second/third year subjects in German language. European studies students wishing to enrol in this subject would normally have completed 37.5 points of European studies at second/third year.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject analyses contemporary German prose and poetry springing from the immediacy of the Holocaust. Attention will also be given to the East German poet, Johannes Bobrowski, especially in the light of the significance of the Baltic intellectual tradition in his writings. Bobrowski's role will be highlighted as an example of the quest for peace and reconciliation, following the wartime apocalypse. On completion of the subject students should have acquired a detailed knowledge of a number of texts, a knowledge of both major and minor postwar German writers, and should have reached a good standard of analysis and critical evaluation.

126-471 East meets West since Unification

Note: This subject is taught in German. Formerly available as 126-032. Students who have completed 126-032 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Availability: 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Prerequisites: 37.5 points of second/third-year subjects in German language. European studies students wishing to enrol in this subject would normally have completed 37.5 points of European studies at second/third year.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject examines German authors' response to German unification. Who in fact is 'das Volk' that was proclaimed in the popular slogan 'Wir sind das Volk' in 1989? Does to be German mean to be West German? What has the result of unification been on East German identity and their sense of belonging to the new Germany? These questions of identity and 'imagined' community will be examined by comparing and contrasting works by East and West German writers from the decade since unification. On completion of the subject students should have acquired a detailed knowledge of a selection of representative German texts from the period 1989-1999 and an appreciation of the socio-historical context in which these texts were produced and read.

126-472 The Cultural Critics

Note: This subject is taught in German. Formerly available as 126-033. Students who have completed 126-033 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Availability: 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Prerequisites: 37.5 points of second/third-year subjects in German language. European studies students wishing to enrol in this subject would normally have completed 37.5 points of European studies at second/third year.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject will explore some central themes in German thought from the 18th to the 20th century. Students will be introduced to Idealism (Kant, Hegel, Schiller), as well as to the critique of culture by Marx, Nietzsche, Freud and the Frankfurt School. Students should develop a critical understanding of these themes through a series of close textual readings within a cultural and historical framework. Students will be encouraged to develop and articulate their own positions with respect to the texts studied.

126-473 Heinrich von Kleist's Prose Fiction

Note: This subject is taught in German.

Availability: 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Guido Ernst

Prerequisites: 37.5 points of second/third-year subjects in German language. European studies students wishing to enrol in this subject would normally have completed 37.5 points of European studies at second/third year.

Contact: A 2.5-hour seminar per week (*Semester 1*).

Description: Heinrich von Kleist (1777-1811) was not only one of the greatest dramatists in German literature, but he also wrote a small body of short prose fiction that contains some of the most fascinating texts in German. The world of Kleist's stories is full of obscure implications which the characters

struggle to decipher. Family relationships are fraught with latent violence; glimpses of a better world are fleeting or hedged with irony; circumstance and coincidence play an often cruel game with the fictional characters. Against this underlying grimness is the beauty and power of Kleist's literary technique. Students will undertake a close reading of Kleist's eight stories in order to both situate them in their historical context and relate them to paradigms of modern experience. Students who complete the subject should have an awareness of Kleist's place in the German literary tradition and an understanding of the problems posed by Kleist's experimental approach to writing.

Assessment: For third year: a 1000 word class paper 30% (due during semester) and an essay of 3000 words 70% (due end of semester). For fourth year: a 1200 word class paper 30% (due during semester) and an essay of 4000 words 70% (due end of semester).

Prescribed texts: Heinrich von Kleist, *Sämtliche Erzählungen und Anekdoten*, München 1998.

126-474 The Bible, the Devil & Martin Luther

Note: This subject is taught in German. Formerly available as 126-035. Students who have completed 126-035 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Availability: 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Kristina Brazaitis

Prerequisites: 37.5 points of second/third year subjects in German language. European studies students wishing to enrol in this subject would normally have completed 37.5 points of European studies at second/third year.

Contact: A 2.5-hour seminar per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject introduces students to one of the most significant events of the European Renaissance, the German Reformation and its most important proponent, Martin Luther. This subject will primarily highlight Luther's contribution to the development of New High German, the so-called Lutherdeutsch and his role as a translator of the Bible. Since his outlook is rooted in the Middle Ages, there will be an opportunity to examine some of the foremost intellectual movements of late medieval times, the frequent shift of boundaries within Europe, the revival of learning, Copernicus and the return to Greek philosophy as a source of wisdom and enlightenment. In addition, Luther's far-reaching influence on politics, philosophy, literature, art and music will form an important aspect of the subject.

Assessment: For third year: a 1000 word class paper 30% (due during semester) and an essay of 3000 words 70% (due at the end of semester). For fourth year: a 1200 word class paper 30% (due during semester) and an essay of 4000 words 70% (due at the end of semester).

126-476 German as a Foreign Language

Note: This subject is taught in German. Formerly available as 126-036. Students who have completed 126-036 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Availability: 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Prerequisites: 37.5 points of second/third-year subjects in German language. European studies students wishing to enrol in this subject would normally have completed 37.5 points of European studies at second/third year.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: In contemporary Australia, German plays a minor part as a community language, whereas it is traditionally one of the major languages other than English taught from primary through to tertiary levels. The course will deal with the most important results of research and practice of German as a foreign language, which has been an academic discipline in its own right in German-speaking countries for the last quarter of a century. After completing the subject, students will have gained an insight in the fundamental features of and differences between first and second language acquisition and foreign language learning, as well as in the didactics and methodology of German as a foreign language, particularly in the different teaching approaches which can be roughly grouped under the headings of 'communicative' respectively 'cognitive' approach. Also, students will be able to critically appraise recently developed teaching resources as well as secondary literature on the subject.

126-477 A Tale of Three Generations

Note: This subject is taught in German. Formerly available as 126-084. Students who have completed 126-084 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Availability: 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Assoc Prof Alison Lewis

Prerequisites: 37.5 points of second/third year subjects in German language. European studies students wishing to enrol in this subject would normally have completed 37.5 points of European studies at second/third year.

Contact: A 2.5-hour seminar per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject will examine how the legacy of two German dictatorships and a failed revolution in 1968 is figured in the stories of the chil-

dren. It will cover the narratives of the children of Nazi perpetrators and East German functionaries, as well as the stories of their grandchildren, and those of the children of leftist activists of the generation of '68. Students will encounter the ways generations of contemporary writers deal with the historical experiences and political ideals of their parents; how the legacy of the past is passed on in the form of a transgenerational debt or trauma. On completion of the subject students should have acquired an in-depth understanding of the interrelationships between the representation of gender, history and identity in contemporary German prose and a detailed textual knowledge of the novels under consideration.

Assessment: For third year: a 1000 word class paper 30% (due during semester) and an essay of 3000 words 70% (due at the end of semester). For fourth year: a 1200 word class paper 30% (due during semester) and an essay of 4000 words for 4th year students 70% (due at the end of semester).

126-478 Translating Literature

Note: This subject is taught in German. Formerly available as 126-085. Students who have completed 126-085 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Availability: 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Prerequisites: 37.5 points of second/third-year subjects in German language. European studies students wishing to enrol in this subject would normally have completed 37.5 points of European studies at second/third year.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject is based on the idea of literary translation as an intense, subtle, time-consuming activity, from which we have all benefited but about which we rarely think. A translation is one person's rendering, and thus interpretation, of a literary work; it can enhance or ruin it. How does Shakespeare sound in German? And how does Goethe sound in English? On completion of the subject students should have tackled a variety of literary translations; have improved their German vocabulary; have become familiar with some basic principles of translating literature; and have engaged in discussions about the quality of a number of translations of well-known literary works.

126-479 German in Academic Communication

Note: This subject is taught in German. Formerly available as 126-030. Students who have completed 126-030 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Availability: 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Prerequisites: 37.5 points of second/third year subjects in German language. European studies students wishing to enrol in this subject would normally have completed 37.5 points of European studies at second/third year.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: German was, until the middle of the 20th century, an important medium of international academic communication. This subject will trace the transformation of German in the 18th century into a precision tool of academic research. Through the analysis of contemporary academic communication, linguistic and stylistic features common to academic texts and discourses in many disciplines will be appraised, as well as those features specific to particular disciplines. The different levels of specialisation as reflected in the language of academic communication will also be discussed as a sociolinguistic phenomenon. Forms of academic communication in German will be analysed and compared to their English equivalent. Students who complete the subject should have been introduced to research methods and materials in special language (LSP) research; and have learnt to appraise linguistic and stylistic features of academic language at different levels of linguistic analysis.

126-481 Intercultural Communication and German

Note: This subject is taught in German.

Availability: 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Leo Kretzenbacher

Prerequisites: 37.5 points of second/third-year subjects in German language. European studies students wishing to enrol in this subject would normally have completed 37.5 points of European studies at second/third year.

Contact: A 2.5 hour seminar per week (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject examines the study of cross-cultural and intercultural communication in German speaking countries which began in the eighties and nineties, encouraged and very much influenced at first by American studies of cross-cultural communication, but soon developing its own questions and methods. The subject introduces students to the interdisciplinary character of the field, encompassing psychological, historical, social and linguistic aspects, and different interpretations of the central concepts of 'culture' and 'communication'. Students will encounter similarities and differences between the Australian situation and the situation in the German speaking

countries, as far as the theory and practice of intercultural communication is concerned. On completion of the subject students should be aware of the interdisciplinary nature of the field, be familiar with some of the most important recent authors and texts in the field, have gained an insight into the basic methods of research in the theory of intercultural communication, and have a good knowledge of the major practical problems in intercultural communication.

Assessment: For third year: a 1000 word class paper 25% (due during semester) and an essay of 3000 words 75% (due at the end of semester). For fourth year: a 1200 word class paper 20% (due during semester), and an essay of 4000 words 80% (due at the end of semester).

126-486 A Cultural History of German Thought

Note: This subject is taught in German. Formerly available as 126-077. Students who have completed 126-077 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Availability: 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Prerequisites: 37.5 points of second/third-year subjects in German language. European studies students wishing to enrol in this subject would normally have completed 37.5 points of European studies at second/third year.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject, taught in German, explores some prominent themes in the development of German thought from the late 18th century to the present. It starts with the great Enlightenment philosopher Immanuel Kant. Students will then consider a number of important German thinkers and schools. These include the early 19th century philosophers Schelling and the brothers Schlegel, the revolutionary thought of Karl Marx, the emancipatory philosophy of Friedrich Nietzsche, the sceptical-critical philosophy of the Frankfurt School and the contemporary philosopher Jürgen Habermas. Students should complete the subject with knowledge of the German rationalist and romantic traditions; an understanding of the impact ideas have on a culture and a society; and a capacity to reason and engage in debate at a superior level of the German language.

126-487 Contemporary Popular Culture in Germany

Availability: 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Prerequisites: Usually 37.5 points of 2nd/3rd year subjects in German language.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: What is popular culture, and what is its purpose? In post-war debates in Germany about popular culture, two main positions can be distinguished. There is the "apocalyptic" view of the Frankfurt School, claiming that popular culture is part of the superstructure of society and imposed by cultural industries to serve as an anaesthetic drug for the masses. An opposing view is offered by exponents of Cultural Studies like the Birmingham School: an "integrated" view, seeing the origins of popular culture in the base of society, where it functions as the "voice of the people" and a form of free expression. Students are introduced to the history and main topics of this debate in Germany. The legacy of the Frankfurt School will be discussed, as well as the German contribution to Cultural Studies. Key concepts of a theory of popular culture will be introduced and discussed (manipulation, ease of consumption, escapism, complicity with the audience, the role of popular culture in the culture industry, popular culture and "Schund und Schmutz"). A close look will also be taken at the multiple relationships between popular culture, society and the media. Examples will be critically discussed. These include songs and videoclips by German pop/rock bands and literary works and pamphlets from Popliteratur. It will be shown how musicians and writers (de-)construct concepts like (Anti-)Americanism, Germanness, national pride/ nationalism and social health in their works.

126-488 Jews in German Culture: 1749-1924

Availability: 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Prerequisites: Usually 37.5 points of 2nd/3rd year subjects in German language.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject introduces students to some key German-language texts about Jews as well as to some important Jewish writers who explore the place of Jews in German culture. Taking examples from the Enlightenment through to Viennese and Prague modernism, the subject explores themes such as Jewish emancipation, anti-Semitism in literature and the characterisation of gender and sexuality of Jews in the German cultural context. Students will read literary texts by writers such as Gotthold Ephraim Lessing, Moses Mendelssohn, Annette von Droste-Huelshoff, Arthur Schnitzler and Franz Kafka, as well as critical and other literature. This subject enables students to appreciate the Jewish presence in and influence on German culture from the Enlightenment to modernism.

Fourth-year subjects

126-508 German Thesis

Availability: 4th year

Credit points: 37.5

Coordinator: Dr Leo Kretzenbacher

Prerequisites: Admission to the postgraduate diploma or fourth year honours in German.

Contact: Regular meetings with the supervisor over two consecutive semesters of enrolment (*Semester 1, repeat 2*).

Description: Research on a selected topic to be approved by the Head of the German section, in consultation with the thesis supervisor.

Assessment: A thesis of 10 000 words written in German or 12 000 words in English 100% (due in the second semester of enrolment).

126-410 German 4: Research Project

Availability: 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Assoc Prof Alison Lewis

Prerequisites: Completion of 50 points of third year German either at advanced or post-beginners level. European studies students wishing to enrol in this subject would normally have completed 50 points of European studies at third year and satisfied the language prerequisite for this subject.

Contact: Fortnightly meetings with the supervisor (*Semester 1, repeat 2*).

Description: The subject enables students to complete a 5000-word research project in German or English on a topic to be approved by their supervisor and by the subject co-ordinator. The subject's aim is to train students in carrying out a substantial piece of work in preparation for the Honours, MA and PhD theses. The areas of research may be connected with the subjects offered this year, or in another area connected with the research interests of staff. On completion of the project, students should have extended and deepened their knowledge of the chosen topic; sharpened their critical faculties in relation to source material and secondary literature; and acquired substantial skills in planning and executing a research program on a specific topic.

Assessment: A research essay of 5000 words 100%.

Prescribed texts: To be advised by the supervisor

126-485 German Honours Language

Note: Formerly available as 126-034. Students who have completed 126-034 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Availability: 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Assoc Prof Alison Lewis

Prerequisites: 37.5 points of second/third year subjects and the language prerequisite for this subject.

Contact: A 2.5-hour seminar per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject consists of intensive language instruction which is particularly directed towards developing students' skills in writing academic German. Problems of German grammar occurring at a superior level of the language will be explored alongside a discussion of the technical aspects of scholarly writing in German. This subject is particularly useful for students who are preparing theses or longer essays in German.

Assessment: A 1000 word class paper 30% (due during the semester), and an essay of 4000 words 70% (due at the end of the semester).

