



NEWSTEAD WOOD SCHOOL

"creating opportunities for success"

A Level German



„Deutschland bildet das Zentrum Europas“

(Barack Obama)

**Welcome to your Advanced German studies
at Newstead Wood School**

It is great that you have opted to continue with your German and we are sure that you will enjoy the variety of the course. This pack contains an overview of the year 12 course, details of the bridging work which we would like you to submit in September and some more ideas for practising your German.

Head of Department: Mrs V. Lacey

German Teachers: Mrs V. Lacey / Mrs E. Casey/ Mrs M. Hurriaga

Foreign Language Assistant: Ms E. Volfson

AQA EXAMINATION BOARD: Paper 1: Listening, reading, and writing

What is assessed?

Aspects of German-speaking society
Artistic culture in the German-speaking world
Multiculturalism in German-speaking society
Aspects of political life in German-speaking society
Grammar

How it is assessed: Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes / 100 marks / 50% of A-level

Listening (30 marks)

Reading (50 marks)

Translation into English; a passage of minimum 100 words (10 marks)

Translation into German; a passage of minimum 100 words (10 marks).

Paper 2: Writing

What is assessed?

One text and one film or two texts from the list set in the specification

How it's assessed: Written exam: 2 hours / 80 marks in total / 20% of A-level

Students are advised to write approximately 300 words per essay.

Paper 3: Speaking

What is assessed?

Individual research project

Can be on any topic approved by AQA exam board i.e. on one of the four subthemes: Aspects of German-Speaking society, Artistic culture in the German-speaking world, Multiculturalism in German-speaking society or Aspects of political life in German-speaking society; or something completely different that is of a personal interest to you and you would like to explore in greater depth.

How is it assessed?

Oral exam: 21–23 minutes (including 5 minutes preparation time) 60 marks in total / 30% of A-level

Discussion of a sub-theme with the discussion based on a stimulus card (5–6 minutes) (25 marks).

Presentation (2 minutes) and discussion (9–10 minutes) of individual research project (35 marks).

Why choose A Level German?

Anyone who can speak German can easily communicate with around 100 million people in their own language, as German is not only spoken in Germany but also in Austria, large parts of Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg as well as areas of Northern Italy, Eastern Belgium and eastern France. Alongside Russian, German is the most frequently spoken native language in Europe and is one of the 10 most commonly spoken languages in the world.

- **Opportunities on the job market**



Knowledge of German improves your chances on the job market. Many German companies abroad, foreign companies in Germany and enterprises with close business connections with the German speaking countries all look to recruit workers with language qualifications. Within the European Union there are not only specialists but also students and scientists with knowledge of German who can find many interesting training, study and job opportunities.

- **Doing Business in German**

German is the most important trading partner for almost all European and many non-European countries. It is the third largest economy after USA and China in the world. The ability to speak German improves business relationships and partners in the third largest industrial nation and one of the most important exporting countries in the world. Knowledge of German is a big advantage in business, as negotiation in a third language can easily lead to misunderstanding with costly consequences.

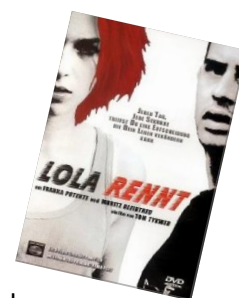


- **Advantages for tourism**

In many countries, visitors from Germany, Austria and Switzerland make up the largest and most important tourist groups. Knowledge of German is therefore a great advantage for many people working in the tourist industry.

- **German – a language of culture**

Knowledge of German opens the door to the birthplace of one of the greatest cultures in Europe. German is the language of Goethe, Nietzsche, Kafka, Mozart, Bach, Beethoven, Freud and Einstein.



What are the course aims?

- To communicate confidently, clearly and effectively in German through both spoken and written word, using a variety of linguistic structures.
- To provide sufficient basis for further study of German beyond A Level.

What kinds of students are most suited to this course?

- Students with at least a GCSE grade 7, in German.
- Students with attitude and commitment! You must have views and opinions about some of the topics covered so you practise your German by expressing these views.
- Students who are Germanophiles with exploratory spirit & curiosity – it helps if you have visited Germany and are attracted to German life and culture.
- Students who enjoy languages and who get a buzz out of communicating with people from a different culture.

- Students who have an eye for the technicalities of a language and who are not frightened by grammar and the need for increased accuracy.

What could I go on to do at the end of my course?

There will be a range of opportunities open to you. Some students choose to do degree courses in languages; others choose to pursue a higher education course in another subject, but choose a language option alongside it. We live in an increasingly global community, and language skills are highly sought-after in the workplace. Having a language at A Level will certainly improve your employability, in particular with companies which have international branches. Employers know that linguists have excellent communication skills and can rely on them to transfer those skills easily. There is also of course much personal pleasure to be gained through the travel, understanding of other cultures and places, and opening of your mind to the world which all come with the further study of languages.

Student Profile

Why should you consider A Level German? – Students have said: “It gives you confidence in all four skills, listening, speaking, reading and writing, it’s fun, you learn about the culture, it’s impressive, you can visit the country and experience different ideas and culture with friends and family”.

You will also learn:

- How to manipulate German in order to organise and express ideas.
- How to be expressive and imaginative in speech and writing.
- About contemporary issues and aspects of German speaking society and culture.

What subjects often combine successfully with German?

Students find that languages are a natural fit for many subjects, enabling them to use their skills and qualifications to access career opportunities at home and abroad. On a wider level, anybody who wants to travel for work or pleasure should consider taking this course. It is also an invaluable facilitator for many courses at University.

What career or higher education options might this course lead to?

Interpreting, translating, teaching, journalism, marketing, business studies, economics, medicine, civil service, law, aerospace engineering, travel and tourism, secret services MI5 and MI6 etc. A language can be studied alongside marketing, law, business studies and more or less anything else you can think of! In a period of European integration languages skills are increasing in demand in all areas of British commerce and industry, as are opportunities to work abroad.

What extra-curricular activities support this course?

Trips, exchanges and possibility of work experience in Germany; visits to theatres and cinemas to see German productions, career fairs and opportunities to part take in plethora of internal and external competitions. There is also the **Foreign Language Mentoring Scheme** and other leadership, cross curricular and global opportunities. This gives you the opportunity to share your language skills with younger students in KS3.

Why Newstead Wood?

You will be taught by a committed and high-achieving department who are enthusiastic about Germany and German speaking world and culture. The extra-curricular activities available within the department also allow you to feel like one of the department, acting as ambassador of German and other lifelong transferable skills to other students. We also benefit from small class sizes and weekly speaking sessions with Assistants, who are native German speakers.

Overview of your year 12 course

Date	Work covered
Half Term 1	<p>During this first half term we will be aiming to 'bridge the gap' between your knowledge of G.C.S.E. German and new A.S. vocabulary and grammar.</p> <p>Grammar: We will be revising the following key tenses: present, perfect, imperfect, future, conditional, pluperfect. You will be given a global test on these before Parents' Evening towards the end of the half term. We will also teach/reinforce the case system, pronouns, adjectival endings etc These grammar points will be taught as part of the topics we study.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Topics covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Youth culture - fashion and the importance of image, different types of music and the role of music and TV in German speaking countries. ★ The « virtual » society - how do people use the Internet, impact and dangers of social networks, future developments.
Half Term 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ The changing nature of the family in German speaking countries - relationships between parents, grand-parents etc, single parent families, blended families, marriage, homosexual couples, cohabitation etc. ★ Festivals and traditions - roots and origins of festivals, social and economic importance of festivals today, diversity of traditions in German speaking countries.
Half Term 3/4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Art and Architecture - influenced and role today, how they shape our everyday life, developments from past to present and into future. ★ Berlin past and present - influence of history and culture on Berlin and challenges of life in a modern multicultural city. ★ Study of a German Film - you will be able to discuss the themes, characters, techniques and socio-cultural context in cinema and to develop your understanding and critical appreciation of the concepts and issues raised in the film. In addition to that, you will enhance your linguistic skills and language knowledge and essay writing techniques. The Film we currently explore is 'Das Leben der Anderen' by Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck.
Half Term 5/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Internal oral and written exams and essay as well as grammar practice for A- Level students. ★ Aspects of German speaking society: Current issues (for A level students) ★ Initial introductory work on the chosen literary text from the specification: 'Der Besuch der alten Dame' by Friedrich von Dürrenmatt.



BRIDGING WORK:

Part 1: Create two presentations on the following topics (approx. 200 words each):

1) **a piece of writing about a German speaking musician/singer.**

- ★ Include details about his/her life, examples of their songs with themes and extracts of the lyrics, their biggest successes, and your opinion about the music. Bring this to your first conversation lesson with Herr Gmeiner, who will discuss it with you. It would be great if you could also do a PowerPoint presentation so that you can present the main points to the others.

2) **a piece of writing about a German/Austrian/Swiss artist or architect.**

- ★ You can use the German version of Wikipedia to help you with your vocab/writing, but please do not copy and paste whole paragraphs! Again, mention a few facts about their life, main pieces of art, how popular they are and do a short description of one of their art pieces.

Part 2: Grammar review: To make a confident start in September it is very important that you have secure understanding of the main GCSE **tenses and key grammar points**. Before you start the course, please revise the following:

- ★ **Tenses:** Present, Perfect, Imperfect, Future, Conditional.
- ★ **Case system:** nominative, accusative, dative, genitive.
- ★ **Word order: WO1: verb 2nd idea** in main clause, **WO2: Inversion:** the verb and person swap places; **WO3: Verb to End (VTE)** in subordinate clause;
 - **TMP Rule (Time Manner Place).**
- ★ **Verbs** – types and conjugation changes

You might wish to evidence your revision in a **'Learning Diary'** with your notes and a list with any questions that may arise during your grammar revision or/ and produce revision mind maps, spider / Venn diagrams etc.

Part 3: Finally, to check your learning please complete the section at the end with the **Grammatikübungen** below. **(Do bring these in September)**

GRAMMATIKÜBUNGEN ZUM SELST-TESTEN:

Section one: Present tense: Translate the following (z.B. Ich kaufe => er kauft)

1. You go by car
2. We are at school.
3. He becomes rich.
4. The teacher talks.
5. My family and I get up early.

Section two: Perfect Tense e.g I (have) bought – ich habe gekauft

1. My parents have gone out. (ausgehen)
2. My grandmother (has) stayed at home
3. You (have) helped me.
4. Max und Maria (have) met in the town centre (sich treffen)
5. He ate/has eaten a big cake.

Section three: Imperfect tense e.g. I bought – ich kaufte

1. We went to the cinema.
2. My parent went to America.
3. I had to do my homework (müssen)
4. My sister cooked the dinner.
5. You were in my primary school class.

Section Four: Irregular Verbs:

Infinitive:	3rd Person Sing. Present tens	Imperfect	Perfect
fahren			
helfen			
nehmen			
finden			
kennen			

Section Five: Word Order - Rearrange & Translate into English.

Beispiel: statt/ Das Oktoberfest/ in München/ im Herbst/ findet/ jedes Jahr

Jedes Jahr im Herbst findet das Oktoberfest in München statt

or *Das Oktoberfest findet jedes Jahr im Herbst in München statt. (*

Eng: The Oktoberfest takes place every year in Munich in the autumn.

1. König Ludwig/ gebaut/ in Bayern/ viele schöne Schlösser / im 19. Jahrhundert/ hat
2. 2017/ Angela Merkel/ zum vierten Mal/ die Bundestagswahlen/ gewonnen/ offensichtlich / hat

For the next four sentences use the conjunction in brackets

Beispiel: Viele Leute besuchen Salzburg. Mozarts Geburtshaus liegt da. (weil)

- Viele Leute besuchen Salzburg, weil Mozarts Geburtshaus da liegt.

3. In vielen Familien gibt es manchmal Krach. Die Familienmitglieder lieben sich (**obwohl**)
4. Sie sind in den Westen geflohen. Viele Ostdeutsche haben ihre Verwandten in der DDR nie wieder gesehen. (**Nachdem**)
5. Ich war in der Grundschule. Ich habe die Harry Potter Bücher unheimlich gern gelesen. (**Als**)
6. Ich will mich erholen. Ich höre gerne Musik. (**Wenn**)

LISTENING AND READING IN GERMAN: To improve your skills and your German cultural knowledge, explore a variety of websites, films and books and other medium online and tell us what you have done and how you have found it!

Some suggestion below: select a few to match your interests.

- ★ <http://www.dw-world.de> This is the Deutsche Welle website
- ★ Listen to German radio and watch German TV live.
- ★ Interactive courses at different levels (Deutsch lernen mit Deutsche Welle) a subtitled on-line soap opera for learners of German; slowly spoken news bulletins and videos with transcripts, glossary and exercises.
- ★ **'Deutschland Labor'** useful videos for German learners on different aspects of German life. You may find some of these still a little challenging, but it may be worth having a go.
- ★ News in slow German: <https://www.newsinslowgerman.com/home/news/intermediate>
- ★ <https://www.youtube.com/user/dwlearngerman> the youtube DW site

- ★ **The Goethe Institut's site for students of German.** <http://www.goethe.de/ins/gb/lon/prj/asa/deindex.htm>
 - A wide range of articles and courses on a number of topics.
 - AS level would be the equivalent to B courses here, but you could even do some of the A1/2 materials, especially for revision.
 - The Goethe Institut also has a range of cultural events you might want to visit.

- ★ <https://www.deutsch-lernen.com/> free online German courses

- ★ **German learning blogs:** <https://www.fluentu.com/blog/german/learn-german-blogs/> check out which one you like and do some of the activities
- ★ <http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/german/> has a range of interesting activities and materials, as well as suggestions for online courses
- ★ <https://www.fluentu.com/blog/german/learn-german-with-music-songs/>
- ★ <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbxb2f9e9oNggIAoYqsY0tQ> easy(ish) German videos
- ★ <https://www.youtube.com/user/slowgermanpodcast> podcasts with transcripts

- ★ **Kiki's Kitchen**, if you are interested in cooking and learning German. She speaks very clearly and is easy to understand)
 - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaURsy4dyscx-4G2aMNKNKw/featured>

GERMAN NEWS, TV, FILMS AND RADIO: Here are few links and ideas to get you started ☺

- ★ **TV programmes**, e.g. Deutschland 1983, Biohackers;
 - <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/deutschland-83>
 - [New Netflix Series if interested in science => Biohackers](#)
 - [Search up German / Germany on NETFLIX, PRIME, DISNEY, BBC IPLAYER](#)
- ★ <http://www.germany.info> All about what's going on in Germany, plus useful facts and figures.
- ★ www.ard.de, <https://www.tagesschau.de/> and www.zdf.de especially Logo! which explain the news simply.
- ★ **Deutsche Welle: Learn German**
From Germany's international network, including slow news with transcripts
<https://learngerman.dw.com/en/learn-german/s-9528>
- ★ **ARD: Das Erste** <https://www.daserste.de/>
Germany's first channel and its iPlayer **Mediathek**, including some programmes **with subtitles** and news from **Tagesschau**
- ★ **ZDF: Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen**
Germany's second channel
- ★ **WDR: Westdeutscher Rundfunk**
Videos with subtitles, *mit Untertiteln*
- ★ **ORF TVthek**
From Austria's public TV
- ★ **Schweizer Fernsehen: Videoportal**
From Switzerland's public TV
- ★ **German TV** and **German news** online
How to watch in the UK

MUSIC: Visit 'Step into German', part of the Goethe Institut website.

<https://www.goethe.de/prj/stg/en/index.html> => every month you can vote on songs from their German charts and quarterly you will be introduced to a music video from a German band. You will also find music contest in which you can actively take part with your own contributions. Have fun discovering new music!

- ★ <https://www.goethe.de/prj/stg/en/mus.html>

FILM RECOMMENDATIONS: "Good-bye Lenin", "Das Leben der Anderen", "Der Baloon ", "Renn Lola Renn"; "Almanya " => Goethe Institut has created a version with English subtitles, you can rent for free.

LIST OF BOOKS:

- "Why the Germans do it better? " by John Kempfner
- "Stasiland" by Anna Funder "Germania" by Simon Winder
- "Selam Berlin" by Yade Kara
- "Gehen, ging, gegangen" by Jenny Erpenbeck

WHAT TEXTBOOKS YOU MIGHT WANT TO PURCHASE?

★ **German textbook: AQA A Level Year 1 and AS German**, Oxford University Press, ISBN: 978-019-836689-8
(NB: you will have access to an online textbook and e-exercises at home. However, we strongly recommend that you purchase the textbook)

Who to contact with any urgent queries?

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Viel Erfolg und viel Spaß

beim Deutsch lernen!

