



OLLSCOIL NA
GAILLIMHE
UNIVERSITY
OF GALWAY

GR 222/223 2BC3
SECOND COMMERCE WITH GERMAN

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Erasmus Coordinator **Dr Jeannine Jud**

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Course Outline:

5 contact hours per week (Semester 1 & 2) are made up of:

- German Language II: general & Business German (3)
- Social & Economic German Studies / Erasmus (1)
- Language & multimedia laboratory (1)

Course Aims and Objectives:

Students will follow a course which is designed to

- build on the linguistic skills gained in first year and advance in the areas of grammar, reading and writing skills as well as aural skills and communication.
- extend students' knowledge of how to conduct business in a German-speaking work environment.
- continue into researching current economic & business developments in the German-speaking world.
- familiarize students with the specialized language used in business transactions and communications.
- enable students to make business and research presentations.

- introduce students to Web 2.0 technologies using blogs, video clips, data/audio files and podcasts.
- advance into the area of intercultural business communication.
- prepare students thoroughly for the year abroad and familiarize them with the aspect of academic study at a German/Austrian university.
- facilitate through authentic course materials from German newspapers and magazines as well as internet resources a feeling for and the insight into the cultural and social issues currently discussed in Germany and the German-speaking world.
- continue the use of continuous assessment and regular feedback to encourage and motivate students to actively participate and engaged with their chosen language.

Learning Outcomes:

After the end of the academic year Second year students should be able to

- understand and apply more complex grammar structures (Level B1+ of CEFR)
- translate a variety of more advanced texts and language structures into German
- reflect on and analyse complex texts and discuss them in class
- use a variety of writing skills in the general and business context
- give oral presentations in German on business-related topics and conduct a collective research project
- use multimedia learning platforms and applications for autonomous learning, research and project work
- compose and post blog entries and create podcasts in German
- utilize an advanced understanding of the culture and civilisation in German-speaking countries and use this understanding to relate to social and economic affairs in Germany/Austria
- make use of additional vocabulary and business terminology in everyday business and conversational situations
- feel comfortable and well-informed about the Erasmus Year in Germany/Austria

Learning and Teaching Methods:

The programme actively engages students in the learning process, encouraging student participation from the outset. Small class size, role-plays, group discussions, presentations, project work and an open and student-centred learning approach facilitate a productive and communicative learning environment.

The extensive use of authentic materials, such as newspaper and magazine articles, blogs, podcasts and video clips ensure the contemporary focus of the curriculum. The multimedia laboratory provides access to Internet resources and multimedia language applications. The emphasis here is on blended-learning to facilitate and encourage second language acquisition.

All students have access to the Virtual Learning Environment *Canvas* where they can find announcements, assignments, lecture notes, websites, videos and audio materials as well as a discussion group.

Textbooks:

B-Grammatik	Übungsgrammatik	Schubert	All year
Grigull/Raven, Geschäftliche Begegnungen B1+, überarbeitete Auflage (2022)	Textbook	Schubert	All year

- The books will be available in the NUI Galway campus book shop.
- Students will also have access to specifically prepared handouts, reading materials, PowerPoint presentations, audio and visual materials via *Blackboard*.

Course elements:

- **Advanced German II:**
In second year, students will continue with Advanced German II (level B1+)
- **Reading skills:**
Identification and analysis of various text forms, e.g. business reports and correspondence, company profiles, orders, contracts, sales documents and complaints, application and registration forms as well as general reading comprehensions.
- **Writing skills:**
In second year, students continue with general and business correspondence as well as descriptive and argumentative essays on general and business-related topics.
- **Conversation:**
General conversation and discussions on various topics, e.g. preparing for the year abroad, studying, living and working in Germany, dealing with bureaucratic issues abroad, eg. application & registration, contracts (accommodation, mobile phone etc.), communication via various media (telephone, email, Skype, social & professional networks), travelling within Europe, current economic and general issues in Germany and Ireland.
Students will also discuss various topics in the area of intercultural communications.
Conversation classes are conducted in the form of role-plays, plenary discussions, games, quizzes and free discussion.
- **Presentations:**
In second year, students continue to deepen existing presentation skills. Students are required to present a variety of company profiles and participate in a web-based research project on an internship in Germany. All presentations are held in German.
- **Multimedia laboratory:**

Students will work with audio and multimedia applications to perfect existing language skills and expand on newly acquired skills. The use of Web 1.0 (Internet) and Web 2.0 (blogs, wikis, podcasts, social networks) technologies also facilitate students to gain insight into cultural and social aspects of the German-speaking world as well as engage in autonomous learning.

▪ **Social and Economic German Studies II:**

In semester 1, students will receive a thorough introduction into the administrative, academic and practical aspects of participating in the year abroad (ERASMUS) exchange in Germany.

In semesters 1&2, students will continue with the study of comparative business aspects in the German-speaking world. Topics will include Company Structures / Company Profiles / Economic Regions & Business Locations / Markets, Marketing & Distribution / Business & Finance / / Intercultural Business Communication

Exams and Assessments:

Second year students take their German written and oral examinations at the end of the academic year 2023/2024.

Continuous assessments throughout the academic year are a vital part of the course as well as grades awarded for attendance and homework/project work.

Allocation of marks:

Semester 1

100% Assessment 200 5.0 ECTS

Applied Language Exam (week 12)	60	
Midterm Exam (week 6)	40	
Project/Presentation		40
Language Lab. & Conversation		30
Assignments	30	

Semester 2 600 15.0 ECTS

Applied German Language Paper I (2 hrs. written exam)	200	5.0 ECTS
Social & Economic German Paper II (2 hrs. written exam)	120	3.0 ECTS
Oral examination	100	2.5 ECTS

Continuous Assessment 180 4.5 ECTS

Project/ Presentation		50
Assignments	50	
Language Lab & Conversation		40
Midterm Test (Week 7)		40

Autumn/Repeat Examinations:

In the case of repeat examinations, assessment is based on performance in the examinations only. Marks awarded for course work or graded essays/projects (continuous assessment) are not carried forward.