



First Year Handbook 2025/2026

Department of German

Classes commence in the week of **15th September 2025.**

Full timetable and delivery information will be provided by each module coordinator from September.

Please contact your programme/module coordinator should you need any further information regarding your programme or regarding any module.

For more information on us: <https://www.ucc.ie/en/german/staff/>

[Head of Department: Dr. Rachel MagShamhráin, Office ORB 1.41](#)

[Senior Executive Assistant, Deborah: Office ORB 1.50](#)

UCC Attendance policy: Every student registered for a degree is expected to attend all lectures, tutorials, laboratory classes etc. A student will not be permitted to enter for an examination at the conclusion of a module, if attendance at the module is not considered satisfactory by the Registrar and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs following a report by the lecturer concerned and/or Head of Department/Discipline/School responsible for that module. The decision of the Registrar and Senior Vice President is subject to the appeal of the Academic Council of the University.

While the information contained in this booklet is deemed to be correct at the time of publication (September 2025), the Department reserves the right to update, modify or even withdraw specific courses where academic developments or unexpected contingencies render such action necessary. If there are any discrepancies between this document and University documents, then the official University documents take precedence.

Modules

Depending on their programmes, students must take the following modules from the German offering:

All programmes – Core Modules

Non-Beginners: GE1101, GE1102

Beginners: GE1103, GE1104

BEd Gaeilge and German as well as BSC International Business with Languages (German) students take additionally:

GE1122

See below for a detailed module description.

Core Modules (all programmes) – Non-Beginners

Code	GE1101
Title	Integrated Written and Oral Language Course
Credits	10
Semester	1+2
Coordinator	Dr Hanna Bingel-Jones (replacing Dragan Miladinović for the academic year 2025)
Contact	hanna.bingeljones@ucc.ie
Description	<p>In all sessions we will use the course and workbook Motive A2 Kursbuch/Arbeitsbuch. In Grammar the aim is to furnish you with a solid foundation, which you will further build upon in the Second and Third Years. Using the books, you will follow its systematic progression in terms of vocabulary and grammar and be introduced to aspects of German culture while working on the texts in the various chapters.</p> <p>For the language classes, First Year German will be divided into small groups which will be taught in-class. More information on venues and groups will be provided on Canvas.</p> <p>The purpose of the Integrated Written and Oral Language Course is to further independent learning of both productive and receptive language skills (writing/speaking, listening/reading). The emphasis is on the competent use of language structures in integrated language performance. In other words, we look for grammatical accuracy and systematic vocabulary building. Students are expected to spend a minimum of six hours a week on autonomous learning.</p> <p>Required Course Books: Motive A2 Kursbuch, Motive A2 Arbeitsbuch (the UCC bookshop on campus will have copies. Alternatively, they can be ordered from preferred (online) bookshops.)</p> <p>Recommended books: COLLINS/OXFORD, English/German German /English Dictionary (Full size edition. Concise edition is not sufficient, especially if you are continuing German into 2nd and 3rd year)</p>
Times	<p>Classes will take place on Tuesdays 9-10 and Wednesdays 1-3 [To accommodate potential clashes, an additional group will be created, tbc.]</p>
Location	To be confirmed on Canvas once students are placed in groups
First class	Wednesday, 17th September 2025, to be confirmed via canvas once students are placed in groups

Code	GE1102
Title	Introduction to German Literature and Culture
Credits	5
Semester	1+2
Coordinator	Inga Owesen
Contact	IOwesen@ucc.ie
Description	<p>Introduction to German Literature and Culture aims to develop your interest in and knowledge of German literature and culture within its historical context by encouraging active responses to texts and film and providing the terminology and strategies you need to understand and interpret literary texts, dramas and films. Using selected examples from German culture, the module introduces you to basic aspects of genre (poetry, prose, drama, film), literary theory, and approaches to analysing literature.</p> <p>The small group seminars (tutorials) complement the lectures and are devoted to reading, understanding and discussing German texts, as well as improving your ability to discuss and analyse a range of German materials.</p> <p>In addition to consolidating what you learn in the lectures, the purpose of the tutorials is also to teach some basic academic writing skills.</p> <p>Students are required to write a literary analysis commentary of 500 words in semester one and a 1000-word essay at the end of semester 2.</p>
Times and Locations	<p>Lectures: Thursday 9-10 (FSB_A1); weeks to be confirmed on Canvas</p> <p>Tutorials: Monday 11-12; weeks and venues to be confirmed on Canvas</p>
First class	<p>Lecture: Thursday, 18th September 2025</p> <p>Tutorial: Monday, 22nd September 2025</p>

Core Modules (all programmes) – Beginners

Code	GE1103
Title	Integrated Written and Oral Language Course for Beginners
Credits	10
Semester	1+2
Coordinator	Ms Stephanie Unterhofer
Contact	sunterhofer@ucc.ie
Description	<p>Students will be introduced to the German language and will develop both productive and receptive language skills (writing/speaking, listening/reading). It is expected that students reach the same level of language competence as the existing German programme by Second Year. With a small group approach, students are introduced to the basic structures of grammar and to German phonology. They develop communicative skills, learn to read, write and understand texts.</p> <p>Students are expected to spend a minimum of 4 hours a week on autonomous learning.</p> <p>Required Course Books:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evans et al: MOMENTE A1 Deutsch als Fremdsprache, Kursbuch, Hueber • Glas-Peters et al: MOMENTE A1 Deutsch als Fremdsprache, Arbeitsbuch, Hueber <p>the UCC bookshop on campus will have copies, but available to order also online here or elsewhere: https://shop.hueber.de/de/momente-a1-kb-code-978-3-19-501791-6.html, https://shop.hueber.de/de/momente-a1-ab-code-978-3-19-511791-3.html</p> <p>Recommended Reading (available in the library): ZORACH, C./MELIN, C.: English Grammar for Students of German (London: Arnold 1999)</p>
Times	<p>Term 1: Monday 11-12 am Tuesday 9-10 am Wednesday 1-3 pm Thursday 9-10 am</p> <p>Term 2: Tuesday 9-10 am Wednesday 1-3 pm</p> <p>Please note that an alternative class time will be offered and communicated via Canvas once students are placed into groups.</p>
Location	To be confirmed on Canvas once students are placed in groups
First class	Monday, 15 th September 2025 (introduction class where detailed information will be provided)

Code	GE1104
Title	Introduction to German Culture and Literature for Beginners
Credits	5
Semester	2
Coordinator	Ms Stephanie Unterhofer
Contact	sunterhofer@ucc.ie
Description	This module provides an introduction to literary texts reflecting aspects of contemporary German culture and representing the literary genres of poetry, prose and drama. The course has been designed to raise interest in German literature and culture. It encourages active responses to the works and provides students with the necessary terminology and strategies to allow them to assess selected texts critically. They will explore and discuss aspects of cultural life in German speaking countries as well as improve their reading comprehension and German language skills.
Times	Monday 11-12 am Thursday 9-10 am
Location	To be confirmed on Canvas
First class	Monday, 12 th January 2026

Additional Modules for BEd Gaeilge and German as well as BSc International Business with Languages (GE1122)

Code	GE1122
Title	Reading and Writing the German-Speaking World
Credits	5
Semester	1
Coordinator	Ms Inga Owesen
Contact	IOwesen@ucc.ie
Description	<p>The content of this module will provide a brief introduction into selected themes of the German-speaking world as well as into academic writing skills by focusing on the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Migration, multiculturalism and identity; - Contemporary social issues in post-unification Germany; - Academic writing skills and critical thinking.
Times	Thursdays, 3-4 AND Fridays, 9-10
Location	Boole 5 (on Thursdays) and ORB 1.23 (on Fridays)
First class	September 18th 2025 (please ensure that you attend this first session where important details regarding the module will be shared)