

German Studies Programme

Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) in German

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in German

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Level 100

Core Units

AFG 100: German Language I

Oral communication in everyday situations, comprehension of narrative texts, comprehension of topical texts, listening comprehension of dialogues of everyday situations, radio communication, announcements, weather reports. Relevant structures: consolidation of adjectival and nominal declensional patterns; subordinating clauses (introduction by conjunctions or relative pronouns); tenses of regular and irregular verbs.

AFG 101: German Language II

Prerequisite: AFG 100

Structures of German: passive voice, subordinate clauses including simple infinitival clauses; participles; subjunctive mood; further nominal and adjectival declensional patterns

AFG 102: Selected Readings in German

Reading of selected literary and non literary texts to consolidate vocabulary and to give intensive practice in comprehension and writing.

AFG 103: Writing Skills in German

Introduction to various forms of writing: creative, exploratory etc. Writing of letters: personal, official and letters to the editor. Types of advertisement, short reports, short essays.

Level 200

Core Units

AFG 200: Introduction to General Linguistics

Introduction to descriptive linguistics, its major sub-divisions, levels of linguistic analysis. The notion of communication, speech community; language and dialect, registers, pidgin and creoles, language in education. Linguistic methods in the field of phonetics, morphology and syntax.

AFG 201: German Language III

Prerequisite: AFG 101

Basic problems of German syntax: word classes, word order, speaker relative and subject relative use of modal verbs; functional verbs and verb-noun structures [“Funktionsverbgefüge”], prepositional objects, further development of reading and listening comprehension, further development of oral skills such as in debates on political and scientific topics.

AFG 202: German Literature I

Prerequisite: AFG 102

Literature of German speaking peoples: short stories, drama and poetry by contemporary German, Swiss and Austrian authors such as Lenz, Frisch and Rinser.

AFG 203: Background Studies to German Speaking Peoples

Background studies on events and political, socio-cultural and economic aspects of everyday life of German speaking people today. Texts and material will be taken from newspapers, magazines, periodicals, videos of TV programmes, tapes of radio programmes etc.

AGB 001: German for Beginners I

Basic elements of language: greetings; asking for and giving information; nationalities and quantities; time; description of physical and non-physical and non-physical characteristics; free time and leisure terminologies.

Level 300

Core Units

AFG 300: German Language IV

Prerequisite: AFG 201

Study of vocabulary in terms of antonyms, synonyms, definitions, collocations, word families, word formation, order of magnitude, segmentation of compound and derived words, analysis of complex syntactical structures and textual analysis.

AFG 307: Aspects of Intercultural Communication

Prerequisite: AFG 201, AFG 203

Various areas of intercultural communication, specific areas of misunderstandings, cultural determination of concepts of thinking, culture specific rules of communication, analysis of central concepts and their international comparison, analyzing also aspects of para- and nonverbal culture-specific ways of communication.

AFG 302: German Literature II

***Prerequisite:* AFG 202**

A survey of literature in German speaking countries from Weimar classicism to expressionism including a general survey of historical, political and socio-cultural contexts. Study of selected works from among others Goethe, Schiller, Hölderlin, Eichendorff, Uhland, Büchner, Keller, Hauptmann, Morgenstern, S. Zweig.

AFG 303: Translation

***Prerequisite:* AFG 201**

Introduction to the principles and techniques of translation using the interpretative approach: understanding texts in the source of language; translation mainly of texts of everyday communication, but also of scientific, technical and literary texts.

Electives

AFG 301: Comparative Stylistics

***Prerequisite:* AFG 200, AFG 201**

Introduction to conditions, register and levels of style, connectors and other means of cohesion, text and context, deixis, comparative conversational analysis, comparison of ways of expressing temporal, causal, modal and spatial relations.

AFG 304: Phonetics and Orthography of Modern German

***Prerequisite:* AFG 100, AFG 101, AFG 201**

Introduction to methods and aims of phonology and phonetics; training of specific German pronunciation of certain vowels and consonants; training of prosody; presentation of modern orthographic principles and the changes after the orthographic reform of 1996.

AFG 305: Selected Aspects of the Political System of Germany

***Prerequisite:* AFG 203**

The main features of the political system of the “Bundesrepublik Deutschland”, the government bodies, the federal structure and its philosophy as well as its historical background; the development and main principles of the constitution, the “Grundgesetz”, main features of the political reunification and its political economic and social problems.

AFG 306: Study of One German Author of Classicism

***Prerequisite:* AFG 100, AFG 101, AFG 202**

Background information about the time and the political situation, biography and the various stages of his work as a poet/ dramatist; his theoretical background, his approach to life, main works, e.g. dramas, poems, theoretical papers; various stages of reception of his works, adaptations by later writers.

AFG 308: Study of a Single Genre of Literature

***Prerequisite:* AFG 100, AFG 101, AFG 102**

Introduction to outstanding pieces of one literary genre from various centuries, e.g. concentrating on drama, poems, novel or short stories. Relating the changes of form and topics to their historical background, the development of theory of writing, the aims and intentions of the author.

AGB 002: German for Beginners II

Handles situations using functional language; personal details; information about the country; national parks and reserves; animals and plants; attractions and facilities; handling client queries and complaints.

Level 400

Core Units

AFG 400: German Language V

Prerequisite: AFG 300

Theory of speech acts (Austin, Searle, Wunderlich), the realization of various speech acts in German, pragmatic aspects of various text types, their specific style and register.

AFG 401: German Literature III

Prerequisite: AFG 302

A survey of literature in German speaking countries from expressionism to the present using selected prose, poetry, drama.

AFG 402: Advanced Written Communication Skills in German

Prerequisite: AFG 300

Planning and structuring of various types of written texts, note taking, summaries of theoretical texts, reports, essays on political or controversial everyday life topics, comments.

AFG 403: Advanced Oral Communication Skills in German

Prerequisite: AFG 300

Formal or informal speech; introduction to rhetoric in German; the specific of oral language, the interaction of thought and speech in the production of utterance; how to give presentations, formal speeches, discussions, debates.

Electives

AFG 404: Study of one Author of Romanticism, "Vormärz" or Expressionism

Prerequisite: AFG 100, AFG 101, AFG 201, AFG 202

Studies on the most important works of one outstanding author or this time, his historic and political background, his own political position and his theoretical approach, history and his reception.

AFG 405: Standard German and Varieties of German

Prerequisite: AFG 100, AFG 101, AFG 201, AFG 300

Introduction to various levels of dialectal speech, the variations of Austrian and Swiss German, and other local dialects, sociolects, idiolects, professional language. Pidgin forms, levels of correctness and incorrectness.

AFG 406: Aspects of German Politics Today

Prerequisite: AFG 100, AFG 101, AFG 201, AFG 203

Reading newspaper clippings, listening to radio news and watching TV news in order to introduce and discuss important issues of political interest in Germany today, e.g. profile of the parties, their development so far, their aims, their prospective; political movements; role of the mass media; current issues of discussion.

AFG 407: Representative German Songs and German Music

Prerequisite: AFG 100, AFG 101, AFG 201

Highlighting old and new folk music (“Volkslieder”), artful songs by Schubert, Schumann and Brahms as well as popular modern German songwriters and singers of this century and their songs; analyzing their working, musical realization and interpretation in relation to their specific historic-cultural background.

AFG 408: Recurrent Topics in German Literature

Prerequisite: AFG 100, AFG 101, AFG 201, AFG 300, AFG 302

German – and indeed European – prose, poems, texts, songs, essays or plays from various centuries are often centered around identical topics; by comparison of the ways how the authors treat their issue one can derive insights in the historical, political and philosophical background of their time.

AGB 003: German for Beginners III

Simple dialogue; advertisements, brochures, journals, travel magazines; pollution and the environment; forms of tourism ; factors influencing tourism ; trends ; health regulations and security measures ; travel documentation ; correspondence.