

# GERMAN

---

**“Excellent teaching and probably the most fun of all my A-Level subjects, languages will always be useful, whatever you do after school”** Emily Sheen

(Former student and German graduate, Cambridge University)

**Current Teaching Staff:**

Ms R Stacey - Head of Department  
Ms J Boyd

**Examination board and syllabus:**

Edexcel Level 3 A-level (9GN0)

**Entrance requirement:**

German GCSE **Grade 7** or above or other background in speaking German.

**The course outline:**

1. Current trends in the German-speaking society;
2. Music, Media and traditions in the German-speaking society;
3. Immigration, integration in Germany;
4. Reunification of East and West Germany.

Film unit: Almania

Literature unit: Ich Fühl Mich So Fifty Fifty

Due to its breadth and scope, A level German really is the ideal subject to complement any programme of study at sixth form. Whether you are looking for an additional arts subject or a contrasting subject alongside science A levels, A level German will provide you with transferable skills, a deep understanding of the country with Europe's biggest economy and a meaningful level of fluency in a language highly sought after by employers.

As you can see from the range of topics studied, A level German includes elements of history, geography, ecology, sociology, economics, music, literature, media studies and film studies. Lessons will see you discussing such diverse questions as, 'To what extent was the fall of the Berlin Wall a peaceful process?', 'Do traditional German festivals encourage binge drinking?' or 'What could be done within the German education system to break down inequality?' Students find that choosing A level German actually deepens their understanding of their other subjects and allows them to pursue areas of individual interest which they would otherwise have left behind after GCSE.

Number of Unit	% of A Level	Coursework / Examination	Length of Time	Time when examination is entered
A-level Paper 1	40%	Listening, reading and translation paper.	2 hours	Summer of Year 13
A-level Paper 2	30%	Written response to work and translation.	2 hours 40 minutes	Summer of Year 13
A-level Paper 3	30%	Discussion of one of the themes and research project	21-23 minutes of speaking time.	Summer of Year 13

In the first year of A level, we focus on grammar alongside the novel and the film. We have chosen the novel and film carefully so that they cover topics which the students will meet in the second year of the A level: German reunification and immigration. Once students have developed a solid foundation in grammar, we move on to applying this grammar in researching and discussing the social and cultural topics from the syllabus. Students achieve a level of fluency which will allow them to understand broadsheet newspaper articles, radio and TV reports and to debate in depth these complex and often controversial topics. In the second year, students also carry out an independent research task where they have completely free rein to choose an area of relevance to the German speaking world about which they are passionate. Our students relish the challenge of this exciting A level and we offer a wide range of support both inside and outside of lessons to help students to achieve.

Students choosing A level German move on to university with outstanding attention to detail, communication skills, ability to carry out research and confidence as well as a skill they will be able to use for the rest of their lives.

Students will need to:	Compulsory	Optional
Attend extra sessions before Examinations		X
Read widely around the subject	X	
Carry out detailed revision for regular tests beyond public examinations	X	
Be willing to lead class discussions	X	

## CAREERS

Law, Finance, Journalism, International jobs in business and industry, translation work, teaching – due to the high level of transferable skills and the breadth of the topic areas, a languages A level provides a great foundation for any career or degree study as well as opening up the possibility of working and studying abroad.