Institute of Modern Languages
Państwowa Wyższa Szkoła Zawodowa w Koninie
(State School of Higher Professional Education in Konin)

Courses for international students

GERMAN LANGUAGE

Electives (choice depends on the student)

Year I

1. **Practical German Year I (roughly B2) – semester I (165) – 6 ECTS**
   
   Courses in pronunciation, practical grammar, conversation, integrated skills and writing aiming to help students improve their overall command of German.

2. **Issues in language acquisition and use – semester I (30-15/15) – 6 ECTS**

   The main aim of the course is to familiarize students with key issues in first language acquisition, the learning and teaching of foreign languages, and language communication. It also aims to acquaint them with variables affecting these processes and the theoretical models seeking to explicate them, as well as to raise their awareness of the importance cognitive styles, learner autonomy and language learning strategies. An important element will also be the introduction of the European Language Portfolio as a tool of reflection, self-development and self-evaluation.

3. **Descriptive grammar (phonetics and phonology) – semester I (30) – 6 ECTS**

   The aim is to acquaint students with the rudiments of German descriptive phonetics and phonology, especially to the extent needed for practical teaching and learning of German pronunciation in the Polish EFL context, to introduce some basic concepts of German linguistics, and to serve as part of the integrated course in German descriptive grammar.
4. **History of Germany – semester I (15) – 6 ECTS**

   The course has the following objectives: 1) to learn the basic facts and processes in Germany 2) to observe not only political but also social and cultural aspects of historical processes in Germany 3) to develop a general awareness of the trends and events which caused Germany to become such influential country.

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**Year II**

1. **Practical German Year II (roughly B2+) – semester I (150) – 6 ECTS**

   Courses in pronunciation, practical grammar, conversation, integrated skills and writing aiming to help students improve their overall command of German.

2. **Foreign language pedagogy – semester III (45-15/30) – 6 ECTS**

   The main aim of the course is to link theoretical knowledge concerning theories of language, language learning and language use with everyday teaching practice as well as raising students’ awareness of the distinctive features of the Polish educational context. Therefore, the classes will primarily be devoted to acquainting students with key issues related to teaching target language subsystems, functions and skills as well as cultural aspects with the help of various techniques and procedures. Emphasis will also be laid on lesson planning and the choice of instructional materials and resources.

3. **Descriptive grammar (syntax and morphology) – semester III (45-15/30) – 6 ECTS**

   The aim of the course is to acquaint students with the rudiments of German descriptive grammar morphology and syntax from the Generative Grammar.

4. **History of German literature (part II) – semester III (30-15/15) – 6 ECTS**

   The aim of the course is to familiarize students with the history of the literature of the German Isles through reading and analyzing the most important literary works since romanticism to the present.

5. **Concepts and practices of teaching – semester III (30) -6 ECTS**

   The objective of the course is to acquaint students with modern teaching concepts and practices with special emphasis placed on teaching foreign languages.
7. Business German- semester III(30)-6 ECTS

Specialised Business German covering all the skills. Emphasis is placed on communication tasks which give you the opportunity to practise fluency and build confidence in business situations.

Year III

1. Practical German Year III (roughly C1) – semester I (75) – 6 ECTS

Courses in practical grammar, conversation and writing aiming to help students improve their overall command of German. Emphasis on academic language needed to write scientific papers in German on a variety of topics.

2. Foreign language pedagogy – semester V (30) – 6 ECTS

The objective of the course is to review the knowledge students acquired during the previous years as well as to acquaint them with different aspects of classroom dynamics, teachers’ classroom practices, syllabus design, selection of teaching materials, evaluation and the concept of learner autonomy. Some emphasis will also be placed on teacher development in the hope of making the trainees aware of the need to constantly monitor and improve their classroom practices. Participants will also be familiarized with the concept of action research as a means of identifying and solving problems they are likely to encounter in their teaching practice. At the same time, the course will serve the purpose of assisting the interested students in the preparation of their diploma papers.

3. History of German literature (part II) – semester V (30) – 6 ECTS

The course consists of lectures which constitute introduction to different literary periods as well as classes which focuses on selected literary works and their analysis. Students will be acquainted with the literature of realism, naturalism, modernism and postmodernism.

4. History of German language – semester V (30) – 6 ECTS

The aim of this course is to provide students with a broad knowledge of the history and development of the German language. The course will focus on the development of standard varieties but will also look at the extent to which regional variation is expressed at various periods. It will help students to place the writing of the past in its socio-historical context. Some issues concerning the theory and mechanisms of language change, as illustrated by the
history of German, will be addressed. We will also look at historical texts and use them as the basis for linguistic analysis.