

## GRMN1501: German Language and Culture Beginners 1 (A0 to A1.1)

Callaghan

Semester 1 - 2024



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
NEWCASTLE  
AUSTRALIA

*The School of Humanities, Creative Industries and Social Sciences is committed to providing an inclusive environment in which all cultures are accorded respect and all students and staff are expected to act with honesty, fairness, trustworthiness and accountability in dealings with others. The School recognises and respects the unique histories and cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, their unbroken relationship with the lands and the waters of Australia over millennia, and the validity of Aboriginal ways of knowing. We are dedicated to reconciliation and to offering opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to access and succeed in higher education.*

## OVERVIEW

<b>Course Description</b>	German is the most widely spoken first language in Europe and the study of German adds value to your professional skills. Learning a second language allows you to explore other cultures and fosters your communication skills for personal and professional use. German is one of the three procedural languages of the European Union. It is the official language of Germany and Liechtenstein as well as a co-official language of Austria, Switzerland, Luxemburg, and Belgium. After English, German is the most widely understood language due to being a popular second or third language in many European countries. By the end of the course, students should achieve language proficiency to the Beginners 1 level (A1.1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages).
<b>Academic Progress Requirements</b>	Nil
<b>Assumed Knowledge</b>	Nil.  This course is designed for students who have no knowledge of the German language. It is recommended that students who are already competent or native speakers of this language undertake 2000 or 3000 level courses.
<b>Contact Hours</b>	<b>Callaghan</b> <b>Lectorial</b> Face to Face On Campus 2 hour(s) per week(s) for 12 week(s)
<b>Unit Weighting</b>	10
<b>Workload</b>	Students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort (contact and non-contact) including assessments per 10 unit course.

# COURSE OUTLINE

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# CONTACTS

**Course Coordinator**     **Callaghan**  
Ms Claudia Speight  
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Consultation: per appointment, email or for small inquiries before/after lectorial

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# SYLLABUS

**Course Content**             This course focuses on developing basic communication skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing in everyday German with an emphasis on communicative competence. Aspects of contemporary culture and society in the D-A-CH countries are discussed. Language structures covered include: basic sentence structure, the present tense, and the case system. The course is designed for students with no previous or insufficient knowledge of German to qualify for GRMN1502 and/or GRMN2501.

**Course Learning Outcomes**     **On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:**

1. Understand and respond to simple oral and written texts in German.
2. Produce simple oral and written texts in German about selected topics of personal relevance and everyday life.
3. Identify and apply appropriate modes of interaction in German-speaking society informed by cross-cultural competence.
4. Show the capacity to think critically and reflect on their learning process.

**Course Materials**             **Required Text:**

Netzwerk neu A1.1, Kurs- und Übungsbuch mit Audios und Videos  
Stefanie Dengler, Paul Rusch, Helen Schmitz, Tanja Sieber, ISBN 978-3-12-607154-3

Please note: A semester version of the “Netzwerk neu” textbook series will be used in GRMN1501, 1502, 2501 and 2502 - (A1.1/S1, A1.2/S2 for 1000 levels and A2.1, A2.1 for 2000 levels)

**Below find three textbook options:**  
The text-/workbook is available as hardcopy, 2 separate e-books, or a combination (Media Bundle). Hardcopies come with access to audio and video material via a downloadable app.

*Option 1*  
Hard copy only combined A1.1 text- and workbook. Available at the UON bookshop (School Locker), this can also be purchased online via Intext International Languages Melbourne (free delivery on mentioning course code via instructions on Canvas course site) or directly online via the German publisher’s website (Klett Sprachen).

Note: There are also hardcopy options available of an A1 textbook and separate A1 workbook combining A1.1 (Sem 1) & A1.2 (Sem 2).

*Option 2*  
Combined Media Bundle: Hard copy for A1.1 text- & workbook and digital access (1 year) to the A.1.1 textbook & A1.1 workbook

Available via Intext International Languages Melbourne (free delivery on mentioning course code via instructions on Canvas course site) or directly online via the German publisher's website (Klett Sprachen).

*Option 3*

Digital only A1.1 textbook and separate A1.1 workbook (1 year access). This is available via Intext International Languages Melbourne (free delivery on mentioning course code via instructions on Canvas course site) or directly online via the German publisher's website (Klett Sprachen).

**Recommended Material**

- Netzwerk neu A1-B1, Deutsch als Fremdsprache Grammatik; Stefanie Dengler, Tanja Sieber; Ernst Klett Sprachen GmbH, Stuttgart; ISBN 978-3-12-607178-9
- Collins German-English/English-German Dictionary, ISBN: 9780007510832. 8th edition. Later editions are acceptable. Collins Publishers
- Deutsch - der, die, das. Hueber Wheels. ISBN: 9783199395461. Hueber Publishers, Germany. 2008
- Klapper, J. et al. (2006). Aktion Grammatik! London: Hodder. ISBN: 9780340915257
- Note: out of print but available as an e-book from the library (link available on the course website).

## SCHEDULE – approximate, more detail on CANVAS

Week	Week Begins	Topic/Unit (based on textbook)	Learning Activity	Assessment Due
1	26 Feb	1 Guten Tag!/Hello! (1)	Intros/greetings, statement/question reg. verbs, pers. pronouns, alphabet	
2	4 Mar	1 Guten Tag!/Hello! (2)	numbers 1-20, countries/languages basic word order, useful topic phrases	
3	11 Mar	2 Freunde, Kollegen & ich! My network! (1)	hobby/leisure, making arrangement weekdays, yes/no questions, nos 20+	
4	18 Mar	2 Freunde, Kollegen & ich! My network! (2)	work/professions & schedules, noun genders/articles, clubs/membership	Fri Quiz 1 due
5	25 Mar	3 In Hamburg (1)	city tour, buildings/location, transport, directions, using "a", negation	Fri Portfolio 1 written
6	1 Apr	3 In Hamburg (2)	months/seasons, giving directions, imperative, cognates, describe location	Portfolio 1 spoken/interview
7	8 Apr	4 Guten Appetit!/Enjoy! (1)	meals/groceries, shopping/prices nominative/accusative, adjectives	Portfolio 1 spoken/interview
<b>Mid-Semester Recess</b>				
<b>Mid-Semester Recess</b>				
8	29 Apr	4 Guten Appetit!/Enjoy! (2)	expressing preference, food & eating habits, table talk phrases, adverbs	Fri Quiz 2 due
9	6 May	5 Alltag / Familie / Daily routine (1)	family members, interrogative time pronouns, telling time/clockface	
10	13 May	5 Alltag / Familie/ Daily routine/family (2)	dates/appointments, routines/timetable, excuses/responses, punctuality	
11	20 May	6 Zeit mit Freunden/ Time with friends (1)	activities/events, birthdays/festivities, invites, ordinal nos, possession	Fri Portfolio 2 written
12	27 May	6 Zeit mit Freunden/ Time with friends (2)	order food/drink, pub culture, opinion/impression, paper/radio ads	Portfolio 2 spoken Fri Quiz 3 due
13	3 Jun	Revision/end assessments	revision	Portfolio 2 spoken
<b>Examination Period</b>				

**Examination Period**

# ASSESSMENTS

This course has 3 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	<b>Assessment Name</b>	<b>Due Date</b>	<b>Involvement</b>	<b>Weighting</b>	<b>Learning Outcomes</b>
<b>1</b>	Portfolio 1 written Portfolio 1 spoken	Friday 29 March at 11.59 p.m. (Wk 5) by appointment (Wk 6/7)	Combination	35%	1, 2, 3, 4
<b>2</b>	Portfolio 2 written Portfolio 2 spoken	Friday 24 May at 11.59 p.m. (Wk 11) by appointment (Wk 12)	Combination	35%	1, 2, 3, 4
<b>3</b>	<b>Quizzes</b> Quiz 1 Quiz 2 Quiz 3	Friday 22 March at 11.59 p.m. (Wk 4) Friday 3 May at 11.59 p.m. (Wk 8) Friday 31 May at 11.59 p.m. (Wk 12)	Individual Individual Individual	30% (3x10%)	1, 2, 3

### Late Submissions

The mark for an assessment item submitted after the designated time on the due date, without an approved extension of time, will be reduced by 10% of the possible maximum mark for that assessment item for each day or part day that the assessment item is late. Note: this applies equally to week and weekend days.

## Assessment 1 - Portfolio 1 (35%)

<b>Assessment Type</b>	Portfolio with “must complete all components requirement” (including the “face to face” spoken component/interview)
<b>Purpose</b>	The purpose of this assessment is to develop communication skills in German, vocabulary, phrases and grammatical structures to write, read and talk about defined topics aiming at Beginners 1 level (CEFR A1.1).
<b>Description</b>	Portfolio-type assignment with a focus on written and oral text production. Tasks may include both individual and group work.
<b>Weighting</b>	35%
<b>Length</b>	500 words per portfolio or 450 words plus 1 min vlog, 3-5 min for oral component
<b>Due Date</b>	Written component: Friday 29 March at 23:59 pm, Oral component: Monday/Tuesday Week 6 as per schedule tba. Both written and oral component must be completed.
<b>Submission Method</b>	Online (written) In class/by appointment (spoken)
<b>Assessment Criteria</b>	Rubric provided on Canvas; students who do not complete the portfolio (all including the oral component) will forfeit the mark.
<b>Return Method</b>	Online
<b>Feedback Provided</b>	Online/In class

## Assessment 2 - Portfolio 2 (35%)

<b>Assessment Type</b>	Portfolio with “must complete all components” requirement (including the “face to face” spoken component/interview)
<b>Purpose</b>	Portfolio-type assignment with oral and written focus. The purpose of this assessment is to demonstrate and continue to develop effective use of vocabulary, phrases and grammatical structures to write, read and talk about defined topics aiming at a Beginners 1 level (CEFR A1. 1).
<b>Description</b>	Portfolio-type assignment with a focus on written and oral text production. Tasks may include both individual and group work.
<b>Weighting</b>	35%
<b>Length</b>	500 words per portfolio or 450 words plus 1 min vlog; 8-10 min for oral component
<b>Due Date</b>	Written component Friday 24 May at 11:59 pm, oral component Monday/Tuesday Week 12 as per schedule tba. Both written and oral component must be completed.
<b>Submission Method</b>	Online (written), In class/by appointment (spoken)
<b>Assessment Criteria</b>	Rubric provided on Canvas; students who do not complete the portfolio (all including the oral component) will forfeit the mark.
<b>Return Method</b>	Online
<b>Feedback Provided</b>	Online/In class.

## Assessment 3 - Online Quizzes (30%)

<b>Assessment Type</b>	Quizzes – assessments with “completion of all components and overall pass” requirement to pass the course.
<b>Purpose</b>	The quizzes are designed for students to demonstrate Beginners 1 competency (aiming at CEFR A1.1 level) in German of vocabulary, phrases, grammatical structures and cultural insights.
<b>Description</b>	Types of questions include fill in the gaps, matching, true or false. The quizzes include listening/viewing and reading comprehension questions. They may also include short answer and essay type questions.
<b>Weighting</b>	30% (3x10% per quiz)
<b>Length</b>	ca 250 words each. Quizzes are timed and expected to be completed in 60 minutes once started (open 1 week prior to due date). They will be released to students to complete and submit by the specified due date.
<b>Due Date</b>	Each Quiz will have between 10-15 questions depending on question type. Friday 11:59 pm on: 22 March/Wk 4 (Quiz 1), 3 May/Wk 8 (Quiz 2), 31 May/Wk 12 (Quiz 3)
<b>Submission Method</b>	Online via course website in Canvas
<b>Assessment Criteria</b>	This assessment has a “complete all components and pass” requirement to pass the course. Most questions in the quizzes are objective and will be marked either correct or incorrect by the computer. Some questions may require a short answer type questions and/or short essay type answers and will be marked by lecturer.
<b>Return Method</b>	Online
<b>Feedback Provided</b>	Online/in class

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## Grading Scheme

This course is graded as follows:

Range of Marks	Grade	Description
85-100	High Distinction (HD)	Outstanding standard indicating comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an outstanding level of academic achievement; mastery of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
75-84	Distinction (D)	Excellent standard indicating a very high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a very high level of academic ability; sound development of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
65-74	Credit (C)	Good standard indicating a high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a

		high level of academic achievement; reasonable development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
50-64	Pass (P)	Satisfactory standard indicating an adequate knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an adequate level of academic achievement; satisfactory development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
0-49	Fail (FF)	Failure to satisfactorily achieve learning outcomes. If all compulsory course components are not completed the mark will be zero. A fail grade may also be awarded following disciplinary action.

\*Skills are those identified for the purposes of assessment task(s).

### Communication Methods

Communication methods used in this course include:

- Canvas Course Site: Students will receive communications via the posting of content or announcements on the Canvas course site.
- Email: Students will receive communications via their student email account.
- Face to Face: Communication will be provided via face to face meetings or supervision.

### Course Evaluation

Each year feedback is sought from students and other stakeholders about the courses offered in the University for the purposes of identifying areas of excellence and potential improvement.

### Oral Interviews (Vivas)

As part of the evaluation process of any assessment item in this course an oral examination (viva) may be conducted. The purpose of the oral examination is to verify the authorship of the material submitted in response to the assessment task. The oral examination will be conducted in accordance with the principles set out in the [Oral Examination \(viva\) Procedure](#). In cases where the oral examination reveals the assessment item may not be the student's own work the case will be dealt with under the [Student Conduct Rule](#).

### Academic Misconduct

All students are required to meet the academic integrity standards of the University. These standards reinforce the importance of integrity and honesty in an academic environment. Academic Integrity policies apply to all students of the University in all modes of study and in all locations. For the Student Academic Integrity Policy, refer to <https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=35>.

### Adverse Circumstances

The University acknowledges the right of students to seek consideration for the impact of allowable adverse circumstances that may affect their performance in assessment item(s). Applications for special consideration due to adverse circumstances will be made using the online Adverse Circumstances system where:

1. the assessment item is a major assessment item; or
2. the assessment item is a minor assessment item and the Course Co-ordinator has specified in the Course Outline that students may apply the online Adverse Circumstances system;
3. you are requesting a change of placement; or
4. the course has a compulsory attendance requirement.

Before applying you must refer to the Adverse Circumstance Affecting Assessment Items Procedure available at:

<https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=236>

### Important Policy Information

The Help button in the Canvas Navigation menu contains helpful information for using the Learning Management System. Students should familiarise themselves with the policies and procedures at <https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/respect-at-uni/policies-and-procedures> that support a safe and respectful environment at the University.

*This course outline was approved by the Head of School. No alteration of this course outline is permitted without Head of School approval. If a change is approved, students will be notified and an amended course outline will be provided in the same manner as the original.*

