



Minor subjects in the School of Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies

GERMAN

Eligible students can take up a new minor subject in their Senior Freshman year and continue with it through SF/JS/SS years (for Major with Minor award) or study it in SF and JS years only (for Single Honors award in the main subject).

https://www.tcd.ie/TEP/assets/Docs/commonarch_suite_all.pdf

1. Why study German as minor?

German is spoken by some 100 million Europeans. Studying German at an in-depth level is excellent preparation for the world of work and is likely to make you highly employable in Ireland, the EU, and further afield

We teach most of our language and culture modules in small groups, which is a considerable advantage when learning a language and sets us apart from most other universities in Ireland and abroad. We also offer Beginners German in first year.

Whether you are a beginner or have completed German to post-Leaving Certificate (or equivalent), with us you will acquire advanced competence and fluency, spoken and written, in the German language. You will also develop reading and communication skills alongside methods of research and analysis in literature, history, culture, film, and society of the German speaking countries.

2. Entry requirements and available language levels

In order to be eligible to take up German as a minor you will need:

- to have achieved H4 or equivalent in German language for the non-beginners' option.
- If you are interested in taking up German from beginners' level, you will need H4 or equivalent in a language other than English.

3. Minor in German – what you'll study

First Year /Senior Freshman[20 ECTS]

Non Beginners

GRU1100Y – German Language 1 [10 ECTS]

GRU1102Y – Introduction to German Literature and Film [10 ECTS]

Beginners

GRU1104Y – German Language Beginners [10 ECTS]

GRU11011 – German Area Studies [5 ECTS]

GRU11052 – German Reading Comprehension [5 ECTS]

Second Year / Junior Sophister [20 ECTS] [Beginners and Non-Beginners]

If you select Major with Minor exit pathway

GRU2200Y – German Language 2 [10 ECTS]

GRU22021 – National Socialism I [5 ECTS]

GRU22022 – National Socialism II [5 ECTS]

If you select Single Honors exit pathway:

GRU2200Y – German Language 2 [10 ECTS]

Third Year/Senior Sophister [20 ECTS] [Beginners and Non-Beginners]

Only if you select Major with Minor exit pathway:

GRU3300Y – German Language 3 [10 ECTS]

GRU3301Y – German Literary History [10 ECTS]

4. Your time abroad

A semester studying abroad is a highlight of a student's Trinity experience. Immersing oneself in the language and culture is one of the most valuable ways of achieving fluency when you are studying a language. Minor subject students, who choose the Major with Minor exit award pathway, will normally have an opportunity to spend a semester abroad in Hilary term of their Junior Sophister year.* Our current exchange agreements include Cologne and Göttingen. At a minimum, you will be required to spend two months in a German-speaking country prior to taking your final exams.

* Study abroad opportunities depend on availability of modules in your major and minor subjects at the host university and availability of places.

5. Graduate skills

Recent UK research suggests that graduates with a degree in German are the highest-paid language graduates. Small wonder: Germany is the largest national economy in Europe and the fifth largest economy in the world. It is a major export destination for Irish goods and the second most important source of Foreign Direct Investment for Ireland. Competence in German gives you a competitive advantage in the domestic job market as well as in the job markets of the German-speaking world. Employers value the language skills of German graduates, and their 'transferable skills': the creativity, confidence, and sensitivity which marks the advanced linguist, and the maturity and flexibility that comes from engaging with another culture, and from experience gained abroad. Recent graduates work for Google, Deutsche Bank, and Enterprise Ireland, also in telecoms, IT, education, public service, the media, law, and in universities in Ireland, Europe, and North America.

6. Student testimonials

Niall Alsalfi (current third year student)

Choosing German as part of my Joint Honors degree has allowed me the opportunity to achieve a deep understanding of German culture, history and literature while also giving me the opportunity to reach an advanced level of spoken and written German. If this sounds appealing to you, then German is a perfect complement to virtually any degree you should wish to study.

John Gavin (Graduated 2017)

The German component of my degree has not only prepared me for working in European business, where I speak German every day, but also to cope with the day-to-day cultural differences which one faces on a daily basis. Over the past two years, working in an international company, I have noticed how my degree has given me a distinct competitive edge in regards to spoken level of German, understanding the German culture, being open to other cultures in general and confidence in public speaking when working in an international environment."

7. Get in touch

For further information, contact us at germanic@tcd.ie

