

How to make the most of your time in the Department and in Trinity: Language Learning Facilities

Libraries

The College Library is the premier source for books and journals for your studies. Tours of the Library are provided in Freshers' Week and at the beginning of each academic year, and you are strongly advised to participate in a tour which is geared towards your own course.

Besides the College Library, there are some other sources for relevant materials with which you should acquaint yourself:

The **Goethe Institut** (German Cultural Institute), 37 Merrion Square, Dublin 2, has a public library of around 10 000 books, and numerous DVDs, including many well-known German films. The Goethe Institut holdings are especially strong on 'Landeskunde' issues and contemporary literature. Students are strongly encouraged to make use of this excellent facility, which is free of charge.

A collection of books can also be found in the departmental seminar room (5086). These books can either be read in the seminar room or can be borrowed through the Secretary.

Newspapers and Magazines

The Department currently subscribes to the German weekly 'Die Zeit'. Current and back issues can be found in 5065. Dutch periodicals can be accessed through the Dutch lector.

The Goethe Institut has a large selection from the German daily and weekly press available to the public in its reading room.

Peer Tutoring

The Department operates a peer tutoring system for JF students. More senior students advise and help Junior Freshmen to get to grips with coursework and private study.

Spoken German – 1st/2nd years

All intermediate students (JF, SF) attend Spoken German classes. Most of these classes are taught by German exchange students recruited by the Department of Germanic Studies for that purpose. Thus students get the opportunity to meet German students and receive first hand information about life as a student in Germany.

Spoken German is designed to help students improve their speaking skills. They meet for one hour per week to talk about and experience different aspects of German life and people: play games, watch German TV, get to know German humour, talk about sports and leisure, etc. Although the material covered in class is provided by the Department, these classes are open to change: if participants take a major interest in certain areas dealt with in class, these issues can receive a special focus.

JF and SF students are also extremely welcome at film evenings and Stammtisch (see below) and other events.

Film/Stammtisch – 3rd/4th years

All advanced (JS, SS) students (including Muttersprachler, if they wish) are strongly encouraged to attend the German evening that will take place fortnightly, beginning in week 2 of Michaelmas term on Wednesday nights (see noticeboard and Web for further details).

Preceding Stammtisch a series of German films (linked to courses you are taking) will be shown – for details see the Web. Afterwards (from 8 pm) staff and students gather in one of the local pubs, where they can speak German in a relaxed atmosphere.

Other departmental activities

These will include the intervarsity debate, theatre, events at the Goethe Institut, Christmas Party, etc.

CLCS Language Learning Resources

The **Centre for Language and Communication Studies (CLCS)** provides centralised language learning facilities for a wide range of languages including German, Dutch and Swedish. The office of the Centre is located in room 4091, adjacent to a large language laboratory and computer room, which students can use for private study. The CLCS has large holdings of DVDs and CD Roms, a growing collection of CD-ROMs and other computer-based materials. A catalogue can be consulted in the office, and CLCS staff can also give advice about suitable materials. The CLCS has published a comprehensive guide for the users of these facilities, which can be obtained from the Secretary. Tours of the facilities will be organised at the start of each academic year, and students are encouraged to participate.

The Department of Germanic Studies also has its own video collection, housed in room 5090. For further information see Petruta Tatulescu.

Rules of use for CLCS

General Rules and Regulations

1. All users of the Resource centre must display a current CLCS registration card. Replacement of lost cards will cost €6.35.
2. Equipment and facilities, including word processing, printing e-mail, web access, may be used only for language learning purposes, and only by students and staff of the College.
3. All material and equipment borrowed from the Resource Centre must be used in the Centre and returned to the Resource Centre immediately after use. Material must not be passed on to another student or brought home.
4. Misuse of the equipment resulting in damage of any kind will make you liable for cost of repair or replacement. If you are in any doubt about the proper use of any of the equipment, ask in the CLCS Office for assistance.
5. Users must not behave in such a way as to disrupt others.

6. Food and drink may not be consumed in any part of the Centre.
7. Mobile phones may not be used in the CLCS facilities.
8. Users must leave immediately when requested to do so by a member of CLCS staff.

Rules for use of the CLCS computer network (Rooms 4073 and 4074)

1. Users must display their current CLCS identity card in the holder provided when using the computer facilities. Users may, in addition, be asked at any time to produce their college identity card.
2. Users may not in any way alter or attempt to alter the software or hardware configuration of CLCS computers, programmes or the CLCS network. This includes Windows desktop settings, as well as the configuration of individual applications.
3. Only CLCS software, CDs and DVDs may be used on the computer network. Computer games, music CDs etc. may not be installed, run or played on CLCS computers.
4. CLCS reserves the right to ascertain the purpose for which a computer is being used at any time. In addition, CLCS staff reserve the right to ascertain whether print-outs relate to language learning. Any print-outs not relating to language learning will be withheld.
5. **15-minute rule:** Users vacating a workstation temporarily must indicate the time of departure in a note left at the computer. If the user has not resumed use of the computer within 15 minutes of the time stated, or in the absence of a note, the user will be logged off and the computer made available to others.
6. The College IT and Network Code of Conduct (available at <http://www.tcd.ie/Secretary/Policies/conduct.html>), as well as all other relevant College regulations and guidelines, applies to the use of CLCS computers.

Modern Languages Society

All students are encouraged to join the Modern Languages Society, a student-run club, which has a postal address in Regent's House. The Society organises language classes, social and academic events and offers an opportunity to meet fellow students, visiting students from other countries and members of staff in an informal setting.