

German Language and Culture: Advanced 1 / C1

Instructor: tba

Email Address:	daf-fubest@fu-berlin.de
Live Sessions:	Slot A: Tuesday, 9 – 11 a.m. CET (Berlin time) Slot B: Tuesday, 7 – 9 p.m. CET (Berlin time)
Duration:	Aug. 31 – Nov. 30, 2021
Language of Instruction:	German
Contact Hours:	30
ECTS Credits:	6

Course Description

This course aims to deepen your competence in speaking and writing and to expand your vocabulary on a higher language level, with a focus on improving your communicative skills for increasingly academic discussions. The course material will help you acquire relevant and contemporary knowledge about the culture, politics, and history of German-speaking countries and Berlin in particular. Furthermore, you will develop effective reading and listening strategies with regard to various literary genres and media. You will be able to coherently talk about a broad range of subjects and to argue for your point of view.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, you will be able to use new strategies for language acquisition. You will analyze and interpret cultural, political, and historical topics in German speaking countries and compare them with your own cultural background. You will be able to lead and participate in in-depth discussions about certain course-related topics. Furthermore, you will have developed reading strategies that will allow you to understand complex text types in detail. In addition, you will expand and refine your essay writing skills, i.e. you will be able to write, revise and proofread essays that meet the standards of academic writing.

Textbook

Authentic/original materials about the above-mentioned topics chosen by your instructor.
Provided online.

Topics

Urban life and planning
Society and politics
(Digital) Technologies, Smart Cities
Knowledge and abilities
Health (care)
Nature and climate change, sustainability
(Nonverbal) Language and the art of conversation
Networks and networking, Social Media

Structures

adverbial/subordinate clauses – conditional clauses – passive (all tenses, with modal verbs, in subordinate clauses, passive substitutes, statal passive) – subjective use of modal verbs – two-part coordinating conjunctions – participles as attributes – subjunctive I and reported speech sentence structure

Competences to be gained

Reception		
Listening	Reading	
Student can follow a standard conversation and grasp the main points even if it goes beyond familiar matters. Student can understand the main topics of a television or radio program, when spoken clearly and at reasonable speed.	Student can understand longer and more complex texts dealing with contemporary subjects. Student can comprehend the arguments and the views of the author. Student can understand a short prose text provided it is using standard language.	
Production		
Speaking	Writing	
Student can hold conversations with native speakers without much difficulty. Student can express ideas in various details and on nearly every topic. Student can express his/her own point of view in a presentation or conversation. Student can express him-/herself appropriately.	Student can describe complex topics and write structured essays. He/she has a good command of common instruments for creating a text. Student can find appropriate written expressions in most formal situations.	
Reflection		
Self-correction	Socio-cultural competence	Self-reflection
The feeling for the language has developed so that self-correction is more prevalent, and correction from the teacher is needed less.	Student understands language as a mediator of cultural values. S/he is aware of the subtlety of language and its power and is increasingly able to make use of both.	Critical self-reflection accompanies language acquisition. Student can express his/her educational aims, can recognize his/her own strengths and weaknesses and implement individual learning techniques.

Student Prerequisites

Participation in this language course requires adequate language skills. After having been admitted, students will need to complete an online test provided by the program that will determine the participant's German language abilities. Should these not meet the requirements for this level, we will discuss switching levels or a withdrawal from the course with the student. Students should have completed at least three semesters of higher education when the course starts.

General Requirements

Attendance of the weekly live sessions is mandatory (for the specific time slot, see above). These live sessions will be combined with recorded video lessons and intensive work through the online course platform, both individually and in groups. Altogether, this course awards credits for 30 contact hours and 90 hours of additional workload as well as completion of the [Portfolio Intercultural Awareness \(PIA\)](#). Please see course requirements for the various formats and weight of the course assignments as well as forms of assessment.

This course features a certain amount of independent coursework and thus expects you to be able to set up a self-disciplined study routine. We recommend that you make sure to have a quiet and appropriate working space. To ensure a comfortable learning environment for all, please adhere to our [Code of Online Conduct](#).

Technical Requirements

Stable internet connection.

Fully functional device, such as computer, laptop or tablet (use of smart phones is not recommended) with camera and microphone, headset recommended.

Recommended operating systems: Windows 7 or higher or MacOS 10.13 or higher. Avoid using a VPN.

Software: Webex Meetings.

Course Requirements

Live Online Attendance (min. 75% required) & Participation: 150 Points (15%)

Video Lessons and Assignments: 100 Points (10%)

FU-BEST Extended Classroom Videos: 50 Points (5%)

Reading, Writing, and Listening Exercises through the course website: 250 Points (25%)

Group Project(s) incl. Online Presentation: 150 Points (15%)

Exam(s): 100 Points (10%)

Essay: 100 Points (10%)

Student Blog/Journal/Forum discussions: 100 Points (10%)

Grading

FU Grade	Points of 500	Points of 1,000
1.0	490-500	980-1,000
1.3	475-489	950-979
1.7	450-474	900-949
2.0	425-449	850-899
2.3	400-424	800-849
2.7	375-399	750-799
3.0	350-374	700-749
3.3	325-349	650-699
3.7	300-324	600-649
4.0	250-299	500-599
5.0	< 250	< 500