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# German Courses for International Students

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## German Courses for International Students

### Language competence and academic success

Successful participation in university training programs places high demands on students' proficiency in the language of instruction. Their academic success requires highly developed and specialised communicative competence. Students must be able to

- **analyze complex academic texts**
- **take notes during lectures**
- **participate actively in discussions on academic subjects**
- **give presentations on specialist topics**
- **write academic papers.**

To help international students complete their studies successfully, the Language Center at Osnabrück University offers a broad range of courses at basic, intermediate and advanced levels. The courses and outcomes are based on the levels stipulated in the *Common European Framework of Reference for Languages* (A1, A2, B1, B2, C1). Basic courses provide students with the opportunity to develop their general competence in German. Subject-specific courses at intermediate and higher levels address the unique needs of students from a particular field of study and promote the acquisition of subject-specific language and language for academic purposes.

### Placement test

All students wishing to enrol for one of the German courses offered by the Center are required to take a placement test. A demo version of the test is available from the following website: [www.onset.de](http://www.onset.de)

The test is administered during the *Welcome Week* held at the beginning of the semester. Students do not have to register for the test. Information about the test date and venue can be obtained from the Language Center.

Alternatively, you may also demonstrate your language proficiency with a certificate (telc, Goethe, TestDaF). Please contact Claudia Nathaus ([claudia.nathaus@uos.de](mailto:claudia.nathaus@uos.de)).

### Fees

All German courses presented by the Language Center are free of charge.

### Earning credits

The Center applies the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). Credits are awarded to students who have successfully passed the exam and who have attended classes regularly (at least 80% attendance).

## General courses

### Niveau A1 / Level A1

**Overall aim:** The course is designed to develop students' basic competences in German by practising everyday forms of communication on a limited range of familiar topics, e.g. understanding schedules and timetables, conversing with others about family life, nationality, interests and hobbies, writing a friend a short note.

ECTS: 6

Contact hours per week: 4 x 45 min.

### Niveau A2 / Level A2

**Overall aim:** The course aims to develop students' basic competences in German by practising everyday forms of communication on familiar topics, e.g. reading short extracts from simple articles and newspaper reports or listening to short radio interviews, participating in casual conversations about current affairs, writing simple instructions.

ECTS: 6

Contact hours per week: 4 x 45 min.

### Niveau B1 / Level B1

**Overall aim:** The course is designed to develop and practise competences required in public and academic contexts, e.g. reading newspaper reports, listening to the news, participating in formal discussions on current affairs, writing summaries.

ECTS: 6

Contact hours per week: 4 x 45 min.

## General academic literacy courses

### Niveau B2 / Level B2

**Overall aim:** The course aims to develop and practise competences required in academic contexts, e.g. reading more complex texts, listening to and giving presentations, participating in formal discussions on academic subjects.

ECTS: 6

Contact hours per week: 4 x 45 min.

### Niveau C1 / Level C1

**Overall aim:** The course is designed to develop and practise competences required in academic contexts, e.g. analyzing complex texts, listening to academic/scientific presentations, participating in panel discussions on specialist topics.

ECTS: 6

Contact hours per week: 4 x 45 min.

Each of the courses above is presented on two separate levels (A1.1, A1.2; A2.1, A2.2; B1.1, B1.2; B2.1, B2.2; C1.1, C1.2) depending on the range in the competence levels of the course participants.