

Programme Specification¹

1. Programmes:

| Programme Title | UCAS GU Code Code |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| MA Honours German (Joint) | R220-2034H |

2. Attendance Type:

Both Full Time and Part Time

2.1 SCQF Level:

10

2.2 Credits:

480

3. Awarding Institution:

University of Glasgow

4. Teaching Institutions:

5. College:

College of Arts

6. School/Institute:

Modern Languages and Cultures [REG10400000]

7. Programme Accredited By:

¹ This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if full advantage is taken of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each course can be found in course handbooks and other programme documentation and online at www.gla.ac.uk

The accuracy of the information in this document is reviewed periodically by the University and may be checked by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

8. Entrance Requirements:

Please refer to the current undergraduate prospectus at: http://www.gla.ac.uk/prospectuses/undergraduate/

8.1 ATAS Certificate Requirement:

ATAS Certificate not required

9. Programme Aims:

This programme aims

- to train students to a high level of proficiency in reading, speaking, and writing German, enabling them to communicate readily on a personal and professional basis
- to offer students at the Honours range of the programme options in the literature and culture of the German-speaking world, thus enabling each student, within the range of the programme, to develop his/her own particular interests
- to provide students with a variety of approaches to teaching and learning, and a supportive, vibrant studying environment that will stimulate and promote independent study
- to provide a broad and challenging intellectual training
- to provide a foundation of personal transferable skills of relevance to employment, further academic study or research
 - to deploy the research expertise of staff to promote the interaction of teaching and research within this course, as part of Glasgow's commitment to enhancing its reputation as a research-led university
 - to enable students, through residence abroad, to increase their competence in the language and culture of the German-speaking world, reinforcing their confidence and enhancing their capacity for independent learning

10. Intended Learning Outcomes of Programme:

By the end of the Honours programme in German students should be able, under the headings below, to demonstrate:

- Knowledge and Understanding
- knowledge of German language (grammar, syntax, usage)
- understanding of grammatical and syntactical structures
- understanding of register and linguistic appropriacy
- knowledge of German literature and culture
- understanding of literary texts and other cultural texts or objects
- knowledge and understanding of techniques of literary interpretation
- knowledge and understanding of cultural background to German-speaking world

Skills and Other Attributes

- Subject-specific/practical skills
- a high level of accuracy and fluency in the production and comprehension of German, both orally

and in writing

- communicate effectively and appropriately with native and other competent speakers of German in an academic context, both orally and in writing
- understanding of and ability to analyse the structures and registers of German
- show detailed knowledge of chosen aspects of the history and culture of the German-speaking world
- ability to evaluate them critically, using appropriate methodologies
- Intellectual skills
- understanding of linguistic principles required to assimilate and analyse structure of a foreign language
- knowledge of analysis and interpretation of texts, taking into account cultural, historical, and generic contexts
- critical examination of forms of discourse arising from close reading and analysis of texts
- understanding of generic conventions and modes of textual production
- understanding of varieties of approaches to research in study of literature and culture, e.g. hermeneutic, psychoanalytic, rhetorical, etc.
- receptiveness to foreign cultures, awareness of relativity of student's own cultural perspective
- Transferable/key skills
- ability to identify and analyze problems and devise appropriate strategies for resolving them
- ability to achieve effective communication of information, ideas and arguments, both in oral and in written form
- ability in gathering, selecting, and organising material from a variety of sources and offer a critical evaluation of its significance
- skills of time management and organisation in planning and executing a project to a predetermined length and deadline
- ability to exercise independent thought and judgement
- ability as an effective and self-aware, independent learner
- ability to engage and interact with issues and concerns outside one's own sphere of life
- ability to work flexibly and creatively with others and engage in rational debate
- library and bibliographical research skills
- ability to use IT effectively both as a learning tool and as a means of communication

11. Assessment Methods:

Language elements

Levels 1, 2 and 3 (except the year abroad) are assessed by a combination of coursework completed under exam conditions during the year and written and oral exams at the end of the year. Honours students are assessed in spoken and written language mainly through final examination at the end of the Senior Honours year.

Coursework is marked throughout the year, offering feedback and support; the end-of year examination is based on a variety of testing methods. In the Honours programme there are weekly Spoken and Written Language Tutorials.

Literature and Culture elements

Essays and class tests Continuous Assessment marks in the course of the year, and the end-of-year examination tests the overall understanding of the course, as well as those elements not previously assessed.

At Honours level literature and culture work is assessed by a combination of essays during the programme, and the final examinations.

Single Honours students are required to write a dissertation; Joint Honours must write a shorter dissertation either for German or for their other subject of study. Dissertations test skills of organisation, argumentation, understanding, analysis and independent research in the context of an independently elaborated project.

Year abroad

British Council Assistantship – satisfactory completion of the placement will be certified by completion of the Erasmus Training Agreement (in cases where students have availed themselves of an Erasmus grant)

and will be confirmed also by a report to SMLC signed by the head (or equivalent) of the host school, and by official report through the British Council.

Erasmus studentship - assessment will vary depending on the individual student's curriculum (as approved by the Glasgow academic co-ordinator of the exchange). This will normally include a significant proportion of assessment by examination. Completed transcripts to be approved by SMLC on the student's return (using standard conversion tables for ECTS grades).

12. Learning and Teaching Approaches:

Language elements

- the core language programme includes an introduction to language-learning strategies: the students' reflection on their own language-learning experiences is central to the programme
- the language programme uses authentic materials in German, both written and spoken: these forms of target-language material are used in a variety of ways, including reading, translation, production of related material in German through essay-writing or oral presentation
- classroom instruction is supported by regular formative assessment of students' work
- formal grammar is taught by means of the language programme and the guided study of a textbook
- at all levels there are weekly oral language classes with Native Language Assistants
- familiarity with the target language is reinforced by the study in literature and culture modules of a wide range of literary and other texts in German

Literature and Culture elements

- there are regular lectures and seminars, with progression from a relatively high level of input from lecturers in Level 1, to increasing student autonomy in Honours
- the German Section offers an environment where rational debate and lucid discussion can take place in a friendly and supportive environment

Residence Abroad

The learning experience is enhanced by one or more compulsory periods of residence abroad, one compulsory period of residence in a German-speaking country. In addition to the essential linguistic and cultural immersion provided, the periods of residence abroad offer positive opportunities for independent learning and intellectual and personal development.

13. Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements and Other External or Internal Reference Points:

Languages

http://www.qaa.ac.uk/academicinfrastructure/benchmark/honours/languages.asp

English (for literary elements)

http://www.qaa.ac.uk/academicinfrastructure/benchmark/honours/english.asp

Communication, Media, Film and Cultural Studies (for Cinema and Cultural Studies elements) http://www.gaa.ac.uk/academicinfrastructure/benchmark/honours/communications.asp

14. Programme Structure and Features:

| Year | Courses | Credits | Possible Exit Points |
|------|---|--------------------|---|
| | (German Language 1 (non-beginners) and | 20 | |
| | German Culture 1 (non-beginners)) OR | 20 | |
| 1 | German Language 1 (beginners) | 40 | Certificate of Higher Education (120 credits) |
| | Two Level 1 courses in a second Subject Two Level 1 courses in a third Subject | 20 each 20 each | |
| | German Language 2 | 20 | |
| 2 | And | | |
| | German Culture 2 | 20 | Diploma of Higher Education (240 |

| | AND (for ex Language 1 beginners only) | | credits) | | |
|---|--|--------------------|--|--|--|
| | German Culture 1 (non-beginners) | 20 | | | |
| | Two Level 2 courses in second Subject Two additional Level 1 courses | 20 each 20 each | | | |
| | (Ex Language 1 beginners take only ONE additional Level 1 course) | | | | |
| 3 Level 2 Year Abroad | Year spent in German-speaking country, either studying at a German university or as an English Language Assistant in a German school. (For Joint Honours with another language, the year may be spent in other country. In this case, student spends 3 months of Junior Honours year in a German-speaking | 120 | Diploma of Higher Education (360 credits) | | |
| | country)) | | | | |
| 4 Junior | Joint Honours: Language courses (30 credits) 2 literature/culture courses, (20 credits each) | 70 | Graduate with non-honours Degree (MA General Humanities) (minimum of 360 credits including | | |
| Hons | Other Honours subject | 60 | at least 60 credits at Level 3) | | |
| | Joint Honours: | 50 | | | |
| 5 | Language courses (30credits) | | | | |
| | 1 literature/culture course or dissertation | | MA with Honours | | |
| Senior Hons | (20 credits) | | (600 credits) | | |
| 110115 | Other Honours subject | 60 | | | |
| The Honours programme is full-time over five years of study at Glasgow. The Honours MA in German is subject to the regulations of the College of Arts. | | | | | |
| | You may progress from German Language 1 (beginners) to German Language 2 (normally requires grade C result or above in German Language 1 (beginners)) and on to Honours. | | | | |
| Progression to Honours normally requires a grade C result in German Language 2 and German Culture 2. Students must normally have a minimum of 80 credits in German at levels 1-3 to be considered for | | | | | |
| Honours entry. Courses in German language only (without literature/culture elements) may be taken at levels 1, 2 and 3 as part of a student's wider curriculum. | | | | | |
| Level 1, 2 and 3 courses in German may be taken as components in a number of three-year General Degree programmes offered by the College of Arts. More information on these degree programmes can be found in the Undergraduate Prospectus at: <u>http://www.gla.ac.uk:443/studying/ug/</u> | | | | | |
| Honours courses in German may be combined with other subjects in a variety of Joint Honours combinations. See Prospectus at: <u>http://www.gla.ac.uk:443/studying/ug/</u> | | | | | |
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15. Additional Relevant Information:

Support for students is provided by the Postgraduate/Undergraduate Adviser(s) of Studies supported by University resources such as the Effective Learning Adviser located in the Student Learning Service (<u>www.gla.ac.uk/services/tls/sls/</u>), the Student Counselling and Advisory Service (<u>www.gla.ac.uk/services/counselling/</u>), the Student Disability Service (<u>www.gla.ac.uk/services/studentdisability/</u>) and the Careers Service (<u>www.gla.ac.uk/services/careers/</u>).

Further information may be found on the German web pages at:

http://www.arts.gla.ac.uk/german

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16. Academic Session:

2013-14