

German



Undergraduate study

Courses

Single Honours

BA German

four years R200

Joint Honours

BA Czech and German

four years RR2V

BA Film and German

four years 4F29

BA French and German

four years RR12

BA German and Italian

four years RR23

BA German and Portuguese

four years RR25

BA German and Russian

four years RR27

BA German and Spanish

four years RR24

BA History of Art and German

four years VR32

LLB Law and German

four years MR12

BA Music and German

four years WR32

BA Philosophy and German

four years RV25

BA Politics and German

four years RL22

BA Theatre and German

four years 21C7

Why study German at Bristol?

Expertise in modern languages has never been more important as the United Kingdom forges a new relationship with its European partners and seeks to develop its trading and cultural ties throughout the world.

Germany is the largest national economy in Europe and the fourth largest globally. It remains central to the world's political and economic order, guaranteeing a high demand for the rare commodity of advanced fluency in the German language and familiarity with the diverse culture, history, politics and lifestyles of the German-speaking world. Germany is currently the UK's biggest European trading partner and British political and cultural history is closely intertwined with that of Germany.

Studying German at Bristol combines thorough language training with broad coverage of the culture and history of the German-speaking world. Alongside the core structured language learning programme (for beginners as well as A-level entrants), you will have opportunities

to study literature, history, culture, philosophy, politics and linguistics. Current research strengths include modern German and Austrian history, post-war and contemporary literature, and 18th- and 20th-century studies. The flexible course allows you to follow options geared to your personal interests in the second and final years, both in German and with a broader comparative context in the School of Modern Languages.

Modern languages students at Bristol benefit from a state-of-the-art multimedia centre, which provides access to over 2,000 film titles, foreign satellite channels, magazines and newspapers as well as equipment for oral practice, presentations and projects.

'Now more than ever, the UK needs to reach out and listen to the wider world. An in-depth knowledge of modern languages, their cultures and societies, is essential for success in a global context. At Bristol we offer our students a wide range of language combinations taught by expert teachers and world-leading researchers.'

Professor Susan Harrow, Head of the School of Modern Languages

This leaflet contains information for students planning to start university in autumn 2019. We have made every effort to ensure all details are correct at the time of going to press (June 2018). However, since this information is subject to change, you are advised to check the University's website, bristol.ac.uk/ug-study, for the latest updates.

What will you study?

You can study German as Single Honours, offering the widest coverage of German studies, or in a Joint Honours degree with another language or subject. All courses last four years and include a period of residence in a German-speaking country during the third year. You can study German from beginners' level in joint degrees, beginning with an intensive language course.

We aim to bring our graduates up to native or near-native level, providing training and practice in all key language skills. The department has four native-speaker German language teachers and the year abroad, an integral part of the course, is excellent for improving oral and aural skills.

The first year introduces you to a broad range of the disciplines covered in the department. While language teaching remains core in all years, second- and final-year students determine the rest of their course from a range of options.

Second-year options have recently included:

- Divided Germany
- Business German
- Young Goethe
- Literature and Politics 1800-1870
- Kafka
- Germany and Austria, 1918-34
- Spotlights on Anglo-German Relations: Literature, Media, Film.

Final-year options have recently included:

- German Humour
- Culture of Classical Weimar
- Socialism and the Left
- Exiles and Migrants in German Literature
- Goethe's Faust
- Representing the Holocaust
- After the Wall: Remembering the GDR
- The German Sonnet
- Christa Wolf.

Not only will you have access to the superbly equipped Multimedia Centre, but you will also be taught through a variety of methods. Language classes are taught in small groups which allow tutors to work closely with every student. In cultural units there are discussion groups or seminars, supported in the first year by larger lectures.

Students can arrange individual consultations to discuss essays and other work with their tutors. You will also spend much of your time studying independently, reading around a topic, preparing assignments, developing your own ideas and learning to express them in English and in German.

Year abroad

You may spend your year abroad working in a German-speaking environment, which will allow you to gain valuable professional experience. Approximately one third of our third-year students work in approved employment in a wide range of organisations, including multinational companies, translation agencies, theatres and management consultancies. Some students become assistant English teachers in German or Austrian schools.

Alternatively, you can spend your year abroad studying at German or Austrian universities. We have partnerships with Augsburg, Berlin Humboldt, Hannover, Heidelberg, Kiel, Leipzig and Graz universities. The University of Bristol's Global Opportunities office will help you to arrange study and work placements and will assist with associated administration.

If you study German with another language, you divide your third year equally between a German-speaking country and a country where your other language is spoken. Many students find that studying two languages enables them to become stronger linguists. Your year abroad will provide you with a highly attractive skill set for employers.



Careers and graduate destinations

Many German graduates want to use their language skills after graduation and find jobs where their languages are advantageous. Some return to Germany to live and work. In a globalised world, mastery of a foreign language is an asset in most graduate jobs. It is especially helpful in fields as diverse as finance, law, consultancy, publishing, the civil service, marketing, travel and tourism.

Beyond their language skills, our students develop a deep understanding of other cultures, an international outlook, adaptability and independence. The relatively few language graduates who become professional linguists (translators or interpreters) require two foreign languages and undertake specialised postgraduate training. Some graduates who want to use their language as a core of their job choose teaching and some who want the opportunity to live abroad teach English as a foreign language. Others enter professions including media, law and accountancy, or undertake postgraduate study.

The University of Bristol has one of the best employment records in the UK. We are rated sixth in the UK in the QS Graduate Employability Rankings 2018 and are the fourth most targeted university by top UK graduate employers (High Fliers Research 2018).

The Bristol Skills Framework enables our students to recognise their development in academic writing, problem solving, group work and individual and group presenting. We will equip you with the tools to market your skills, your achievement and your potential in whatever career path you choose to pursue after you graduate.

'Having a degree from Bristol has certainly helped me to secure work, while the value of a languages degree is, in my opinion and from my experience, higher than ever in today's competitive job market.'

Daniel (BA German and Spanish)

Making your application

Typical offer for BA German*

Visit bristol.ac.uk/ug19-german for Joint Honours and other qualifications.

A-levels AAB (contextual BBB[†]) including B in German.

IB Diploma 34 overall (contextual 31[†]) with 17 points at Higher Level (contextual 15[†]), including 5 at Higher Level in German.

English Language profile B^{††}

GCSEs No specific subjects required.

[†]For information on contextual offers, visit bristol.ac.uk/contextual-offers.

^{††}For details of English language profiles, visit bristol.ac.uk/ug-language-requirements.

Selection UCAS or Common Application.

*The typical offer is indicative only and the University accepts a wide range of qualifications. The information is correct at the time of printing (June 2018); however, we recommend you check the University's website for the most up-to-date information: bristol.ac.uk/ug-study.

Admissions tutors are looking for evidence that you will be interested, motivated and able to begin exploring all aspects of German language and culture. When making your application, please consider the following:

- interest in and commitment to the language, history and culture;
- evidence of clear thinking and understanding, problem-solving and analytical skills;
- suitability of the course for you;
- genuine evidence of a deep interest in and appreciation of German linguistic culture, and determination to take every opportunity for direct contact with native speakers and cultural products;
- reading or research which goes beyond the AS and A2 syllabus;
- non-academic achievements, extracurricular interests and positions of responsibility;
- evidence of teamwork;
- response to challenges faced;
- standard of written English.

Further information

Find out more about the Department of German: bristol.ac.uk/german.



Contact us

Enquiries Team

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If you have any questions about courses, applications or any aspect of being a UK or international student at Bristol please contact the Enquiries Team.

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bristol.ac.uk/disability-services

University guide to the city of Bristol

bristol.ac.uk/citybristol

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