Aston University

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

2013-2014

Programme Title	GERMAN Single Honours
UCAS/JACS Code	R220
School/Subject Area	LANGUAGES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
Final Award	BSc Hons
Interim Award(s)	Certificate of Higher Education (after 120 credits), Diploma of Higher Education (after 240 credits)
Mode(s) of Study	FULL TIME
Normal Length of Programme	4 YEARS (full time, with integrated placement year) or
Total Credits	480
Programme Accredited By	
Dates Programme Specification Written and Revised	Dr G. Reershemius in February 2003 Revised: Dr G. Reershemius in May 2004 Revised: Dr U Schütte September 2006 Revised Dr K Sturge April 2008 Revised Dr S Manz September 2009 Revised Dr Raquel Medina February 2012 Revised Dr Graeme Hayes February 2013, format change August 2013

Educational Aims of the Programme	A degree in German provides graduates with an ideal basis for a career in business, public services, education or media. The programme focuses on achieving the following aims: • sophisticated, near-native command of written German language • near-native fluency in all aspects of oral communication in German • in-depth knowledge of the culture, history, society, economy and contemporary affairs in the German-speaking countries. Students will be able to compare this knowledge with their own language and culture. • a sound concept of research methodology • knowledge of key methods and concepts of literary, historical, social-science and linguistic analysis • ability to apply these key methods and concepts in independent res • ability to conduct independent research in English and German • academic writing skills in both English and German To ensure these aims the German section within the School of Languages and Social Sciences applies the following principles: • through **teaching in the target language** for all German modules, the programme follows an integrated approach where language- and subject-teaching/learning are inter-linked and reinforce one another. • at every level modules in German language, literature, history, linguistics and contemporary affairs ensure a broad repertoire of knowledge • through the **year abroad** (work placement, teaching assistantship or exchange university) participants in the programme will gain first-hand experience by living in a German-speaking country. • **transferable skills** are practised in every module at all levels.

Relevant Subject Benchmark Statements and other External and Internal Reference Points used to inform programme outcomes	• QAA Benchmark Statement for Area Studies (2008) ISBN 978 1 84482 795 4 • QAA Benchmark Statement for Languages and related studies (2007) (ISBN 978 1 84482 774 9) • QAA UK Quality Code for Higher Education Chapter A1 (2011) • European Framework of Reference for Languages • University Learning and Teaching Strategy • Staff Expertise • External examiners

STAGE I

Programme Structures and Requirements: Levels, Modules and Credits

Module Title	Credits	Level	Module Code	Core/ Option	Condonable Y/N	Pre-requisite(s) Y/N
German Language Skills I	20	4	LG1001	CORE	N	N
German History and Society	20	4	LG1050	CORE	Y	N
German Language Past and Present	10	4	LG1011	CORE	Y	N
German Current Affairs	10	4	LG1023	CORE	Y	N
Introduction to Language and Communication	10	4	LI1003	CORE	Y	N
Introduction to Translation	10	4	LI1004	CORE	Y	N
Introduction to Film Studies	20	4	LU1002	CORE	Y	N
University Wide Language Programme (Various – see below)	*20*	*4*	*Various (see below)*	*CORE*	*Y*	*N*
Advanced Arabic I and II			LZ1001 LZ1002			
Advanced Chinese I and II			LX1001 LX1002			
Advanced French I and II			LF1016 LF1023			
Advanced German I and II			LG1033 LG1034			
Advanced Spanish I and II			LS1011 LS1012			
Arabic for Beginners I and II			LZ1400 LZ1401			
Brazilian Portuguese for Beginners I and II			LW1400 LW1401			
Chinese for Beginners I and II			LX1400 LX1401			

French for Beginners I and II			LF1013 LF1014			
German for Beginners I and II			LG1408 LG1409			
Intermediate Arabic I and II			LZ1003 LZ1004			
Intermediate Brazilian Portuguese I and II			LW1003 LW1004			
Intermediate Chinese I and II			LX2400 LX2401			
Intermediate French I and II			LF1009 LF1010			
Intermediate German I and II			LG1003 LG1004			
Intermediate Spanish I and II			LS2400 LS2401			
Japanese for Beginners I and II			LJ1400 LJ1401			
Spanish for Beginners I and II			LS1400 LS1401			
TOTAL	120					

STAGE 2

Programme Structures and Requirements: Levels, Modules and Credits						
Module Title	Credits	Level	Module Code	Core/ Option	Condonable Y/N	Pre-requisite(s) Y/N
German Language Skills II	20	5	LG2002	CORE	N	N
Post-war Germany	10	5	LG2016	CORE	Y	N
Politics and Society in Contemporary Germany	10	5	LG2017	CORE	Y	N
Metropolis Berlin	10	5	LG2018	CORE	Y	N
Austrian Cultural History	10	5	LG2014	CORE	Y	N
Communication Across Cultures	10	5	LI2008	CORE	Y	N
Crossing Boundaries: Migrant and Transnational Cinema	20	5	LU2001	CORE	Y	N
Choose 30 credits from the below optional modules						
European Translation Traditions	10	5	LI2001	OPTION	Y	N
TESOL	10	5	LE2012	OPTION	Y	N
Translation & Technology	20	5	LI2009	OPTION	Y	N

*TP1 University Wide Language Programme (Various – see below) *In addition, please see Further Information section**	10	4	*Various (see below)*	OPTION	Y	N
Advanced Arabic I			LZ1001			
Advanced Chinese I			LX1001			
Advanced French I			LF1016			
Advanced German I			LG1033			
Advanced Spanish I			LS1011			
Arabic for Beginners I			LZ1400			
Brazilian Portuguese for Beginners I			LW1400			
Chinese for Beginners I			LX1400			
French for Beginners I			LF1013			
German for Beginners I			LG1408			
Intermediate Arabic I			LZ1003			
Intermediate Brazilian Portuguese I			LW1003			
Intermediate Chinese I			LX2400			
Intermediate French I			LF1009			
Intermediate German I			LG1003			
Intermediate Spanish I			LS2400			
Japanese for Beginners I			LJ1400			
Spanish for Beginners I			LS1400			
*TP2 University Wide Language Programme (Various – see below) *In addition, please see Further Information section**	10	4	*Various (see below)*	OPTION	Y	Y
Advanced Arabic II			LZ1002			
Advanced Chinese II			LX1002			
Advanced French II			LF1023			
Advanced German II			LG1034			
Advanced Spanish II			LS1012			
Arabic for Beginners II			LZ1401			
Brazilian Portuguese for Beginners II			LW1401			
Chinese for Beginners II			LX1401			
French for Beginners II			LF1014			
German for Beginners II			LG1409			
Intermediate Arabic II			LZ1004			
Intermediate Brazilian Portuguese II			LW1004			
Intermediate Chinese II			LX2401			
Intermediate French II			LF1010			
Intermediate German II			LG1004			
Intermediate Spanish II			LS2401			
Japanese for Beginners II			LJ1401			
Spanish for Beginners II			LS1401			
TOTAL	120					

STAGE 3

Programme Structures and Requirements: Levels, Modules and Credits						
Module Title	Credits	Level	Module Code	Core/ Option	Condonable Y/N	Pre-requisite(s) Y/N
German Year Abroad — Work Placement, Assistantship (full year)	120	P	LGP001	CORE	Y	N
OR						
German Year Abroad – 2 Exchange Universities (split, each half year)	120	P	LGP002	CORE	Y	N
OR						
German Year Abroad — Work Placement & Exchange University	120	P	LGP003	CORE	Y	N
OR						
German Year Abroad — Exchange University Placement (full year)	120	P	LGP004	CORE	Y	N
OR						
2 German Work Placement (split, each half year)	120	P	LGP005	CORE	Y	N
TOTAL	120					

STAGE F

Programme Structures and Requirements: Levels, Modules and Credits

Module Title	Credits	Level	Module Code	Core/ Option	Condonable Y/N	Pre-requisite(s) Y/N
German Language Skills III	20	6	LG3003	CORE	Y	N
German Research Dissertation	20	6	LG3204	CORE	Y	N
German Popular Culture	10	6	LG3006	CORE	Y	N
East Germany on Film	10	6	LG3015	CORE	Y	N
German-Jewish Biographies	10	6	LG3013	CORE	Y	N
German Contemporary Culture	10	6	LG3007	CORE	Y	N
Interpreting German-English/English-German	10	6	LI3001	CORE	Y	N
Advanced Translation German	10	6	LI3205	CORE	Y	N
Choose 20 credits from the below optional modules						
Extended essay: German Popular Culture	10	6	LG3010	OPTION	Y	N
Extended essay: German Contemporary Culture	10	6	LG3011	OPTION	Y	N
*TP1 University Wide Language Programme (Various – see below) *In addition, please see Further Information section**	10	4	*Various (see below)*	OPTION	Y	Y
Advanced Arabic I			LZ1001			
Advanced Chinese I			LX1001			
Advanced French I			LF1016			
Advanced German I			LG1033			
Advanced Spanish I			LS1011			
Arabic for Beginners I			LZ1400			
Brazilian Portuguese for Beginners I			LW1400			
Chinese for Beginners I			LX1400			
French for Beginners I			LF1013			
German for Beginners I			LG1408			
Intermediate Arabic I			LZ1003			
Intermediate Brazilian Portuguese I			LW1003			
Intermediate Chinese I			LX2400			
Intermediate French I			LF1009			
Intermediate German I			LG1003			
Intermediate Spanish I			LS2400			
Japanese for Beginners I			LJ1400			
Spanish for Beginners I			LS1400			

*TP2 University Wide Language Programme (Various – see below) *In addition, please see Further Information section**	10	4	*Various (see below)*	OPTION	Y	Y
Advanced Arabic II			LZ1002			
Advanced Chinese II			LX1002			
Advanced French II			LF1023			
Advanced German II			LG1034			
Advanced Spanish II			LS1012			
Arabic for Beginners II			LZ1401			
Brazilian Portuguese for Beginners II			LW1401			
Chinese for Beginners II			LX1401			
French for Beginners II			LF1014			
German for Beginners II			LG1409			
Intermediate Arabic II			LZ1004			
Intermediate Brazilian Portuguese II			LW1004			
Intermediate Chinese II			LX2401			
Intermediate French II			LF1010			
Intermediate German II			LG1004			
Intermediate Spanish II			LS2401			
Japanese for Beginners II			LJ1401			
Spanish for Beginners II			LS1401			
TOTAL	120					

Programme Outcomes, Learning and Teaching and Assessment Strategies			
A. Knowledge and Understanding			
	On successful completion of their programme students, are expected to have knowledge and understanding of:	Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated	
		Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1	written German language in a range of contexts and text types (Level C2-C1 according to the European Framework of Reference for Languages)	• small group interactive seminars • pair and group work • presentations • guided study • individual topic selection and research	• end of year examination • oral examination / viva • extended research project • essay • annotated bibliography
2	all aspects of oral communication in German (Level C2-C1 according to the European Framework of Reference for Languages)		
3	the contemporary situation in German- speaking countries (linguistics, economy, culture, politics)		
4	modern history of the German-speaking countries (since 1800)		
5	a specialized aspect (in-depth knowledge) of the contemporary situation in the German-speaking countries (linguistics, economy, culture, politics)		
6	key features for each type of communication in the process of understanding and production		

	B. Intellectual Skills		
	On successful completion of their programme, students are expected to be able to:	Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated	
		Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1	analyse features of a sophisticated use of formal language in a range of situations	• seminars • guided study • individual research • lectures • group work • tutorial work	• end of the year examination • essay • in-class test • extended research dissertation • oral examination /viva
2	analyse contemporary political and cultural affairs in the German-speaking countries		
3	apply systematic methodologies to research and project design		
4	gather, organize and deploy evidence, data and information from a variety of primary and secondary sources		
5	identify, investigate, analyse, formulate and advocate solutions to problems		
6	construct reasoned argument, synthesize relevant information and exercise critical judgement		
7	apply academic writing skills in both English and German		

	C. **Professional Skills**		
	On successful completion of their programme, students are expected to be able to:	Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated	
		Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1	demonstrate a specialized aspect (in-depth knowledge) of the contemporary situation in the German-speaking countries (linguistics, economy, culture, politics)	• seminars • guided study • individual research • lectures • group work • tutorial work	• end of the year examination • essay • in-class test • extended research dissertation • oral examination /viva
2	near-native competence in written and oral presentation skills in German and English		

	D. **Transferable Skills**		
	On successful completion of their programme, students are expected to show:	Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated	
		Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1	team working skills	• seminars • guided study • individual research • lectures • group work • tutorial work	• continuous assessment • oral examination / viva • extended research dissertation
2	independent application of research skills		
3	ability to engage in informed discussion, to accept constructive criticism and to criticise constructively		
4	ability to use communication and information technology for the retrieval and presentation of information		
5	ability to work independently, demonstrating initiative, self-organization and time management		

Entry Requirements	In addition to satisfying the general entry requirements, candidates must satisfy any specific entry requirements for each programme as approved by the School Learning and Teaching Committee. These may include an interview and a diagnostic test
Programme Regulations	**Attendance requirements** 1. In order to qualify for the award of the degree a student must have attended the required proportion of tutorials, seminars, practical classes, and lectures specified by the School Executive Dean. The Programme Handbook provides details of procedures for monitoring attendance and dealing with poor attendance. **Placement Year (for 480 credits programme)** 1. Students will be required to follow a course of study abroad for one academic year, on a programme approved by the School Executive Dean; or undertake a work placement approved by the School Executive Dean; or undertake an assistantship teaching English in a school in a French, German or Spanish speaking country (as relevant); or undertake a combination of these options. 2. Students will be required to undertake the following work during their time abroad, as specified by the School Executive Dean, a. EITHER to sit examinations at the approved institution at which the course of study was followed b. OR to submit a project on an approved subject c. AND/OR to sit a viva voce examination on return to the Final Year of the programme d. OR to undertake two or all of the above, depending on the country and subject of study placement **Requirements for the Ordinary Degree (100 credits)** *1.* *<u>Transfer to Ordinary Degree</u>* A change to a single-subject programme may be possible as specified in the General Regulations for Undergraduate Programmes and the relevant programme or subject specifications. Students may not normally study more than two subjects on an Ordinary Degree programme. *2.* *<u>Required Modules</u>* The Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programmes will determine which 100 credits, out of the 120 credits for the corresponding stage of the Honours programme, should be

	taken at each stage. 3. <u>Stage Two Assessment</u> The Ordinary Degree Stage Two assessment will be held at specified times before the final stage of the programme and will comprise 100 credits from the modules set out in the relevant programme or subject specifications (to be determined by the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programmes). 4 <u>Final Assessment</u> The Ordinary Degree final assessment will comprise 100 credits from the modules set out in the relevant programme or subject specifications (to be determined by the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programmes).

General Regulations (http://www1.aston.ac.uk/registry/for-staff/regsandpolicies/general-regulations/) and the Regulations for the programme (above) take precedence over other information sources such as student handbooks if there is a conflict. If there is a conflict between General Regulations and Programme Regulations then General Regulations take precedence unless an exemption has been approved.

Further Information	*If in stages 2 or F a TP1 University Wide Language Programme (UWLP) module is chosen as an option, then the student must normally also choose its partner module from the TP2 UWLP module options. In addition, in stages 2 and F, a student cannot take a TP2 UWLP module as an option without first taking the TP1 UWLP partner module.

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the threshold learning outcomes that a student might normally be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. **The individual modules included in the programme may differ from those included in this programme specification as our programmes are subject to continuous review.** Information on admissions requirements and career opportunities is available in the relevant prospectus. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in the appropriate module guides and programme handbook(s) which are available to students on enrolment. The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed by the University and may be audited by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.