LMU LUDWIG-MAXIMILIANS-UNIVERSITÄT MÜNCHEN

MUNICH INTERNATIONAL SUMMER UNIVERSITY

MISU LMU MUNICH INTERNATIONAL SUMMER UNIVERSITY

GENERAL SUMMER GERMAN LANGUAGE COURSE IN MUNICH

03. – 27.08.2027

www.ssk-misu.de

General course description and objectives

This four-week German language course is an intensive class. It is designed for foreign students in all areas of study and provides language training at all levels. The main goal of the course is to combine language training with regional and cultural studies. Thus, each course is designed to teach the language within academic, cultural and societal contexts. Students will deepen their knowledge of Germany, while simultaneously developing their language skills. One focus is the German higher education system and student life in Germany. The course will also examine and explore social contexts relating to everyday life and culture in Munich. Depending on the language proficiency and interest of each group, further topics (esp. current topics) will be covered regarding German history, society, politics, literature, art, music, German television and movies.

The course aims to promote intercultural learning. Intercultural learning will not be limited to Germans and their culture but also extend to the participants' cultures. Teachers will therefore strongly encourage communication among participants about their individual cultures.

Extracurricular activities, such as visiting Neuschwanstein, Salzburg or the Concentration Camp in Dachau, will be coordinated in class beforehand and discussed in subsequent classes as follow-up to the trip.

Projects are used not only to learn more about Munich and its inhabitants, but also to encourage students to reflect on intercultural encounters and experiences and thereby develop new language skills. Core course element is the "Project Day" which must be carried out by participants in all groups.

Project Day

Classes will select topics of interest (e.g. district of Munich, sightseeing spots, museums, exhibitions etc.), prepare questionnaires for interviews of locals, visit the place of interest and then present their personal experience in class.

Prerequisites and placement test

Groups shall be assigned according to the results of an online placement test, distributed by email in July. All participants must complete the online placement test. This guarantees that the language teaching level within each class is tailored to the ability of the participants.

Detailed course description

Elementary Groups (A1, A2) - Beginners (Complete Beginners)

This course is intended for students who have no or limited prior knowledge of German. Participants study the foundational aspects of German grammar, develop their comprehension of low to medium difficulty texts, write short pieces of work, and practice speaking about everyday basic topics. Students will also deal with cultural issues, including topics associated with Munich and its region.

Material used:

Course materials are compiled specifically for the courses.
Recommended materials are:

Textbooks:

- Braun, Birgit, Doubek, Margit et al. (2016) DaF kompakt neu A1. Kurs- und Übungsbuch. Stuttgart: Ernst-Klett Sprachen.
- Braun, Birgit, Doubek, Margit et al. (2016) DaF kompakt neu A2. Kurs- und Übungsbuch. Stuttgart: Ernst-Klett Sprachen.
- Dengler, Stefanie / Rusch, Paul / Schmitz, Helen / Sieber, Tanja (2020) Netzwerk Neu. Deutsch als Fremdsprache. Kurs- und Arbeitsbuch. München: Klett-Langenscheidt.

Grammar books:

- Buscha, Anne & Szita, Szilvia (2010) A Grammatik. Übungsgrammatik Deutsch als Fremdsprache. Sprachniveau A1 • A2. Leipzig: Schubert Verlag.
- Further grammar books may be specified in the course.

Supplemental materials:

- Current audio and film material, some authentic material (literary texts extracts, articles from newspapers and magazines), and material specifically developed for the course.

Requirements/assignments:

Regular class attendance

- Absences of less than 12 hours (i.e. teaching units) will be tolerated. In case of an absence in excess of 12 teaching units, no credits and no grade will be granted.

Active participation in class

- Active participation will be evaluated based on subjective marks for participation in all class aspects (based on initiative to talk, willingness to communicate, volunteering answers, asking questions, cooperation in a team, etc.) and being prepared for class (including homework assignments).

Project Day and presentation

- The class will select a topic of interest (district of Munich, sightseeing spots, museums, exhibitions etc.). Students will be divided into small groups and will research their topic with help from the lecturer. Groups will prepare a short questionnaire and then interview locals regarding their topic while visiting the place of interest. Each group will then present the results of their project.

Passing the final exam

- Participants will write a final exam based on course themes. The test will consist of the following sections: vocabulary, phrases, grammar, composition and regional studies.

Evaluation:

- Active participation in class: 20%
- Active participation in Project Day: 20%
- Oral presentation of project results: 20%
- Final exam: 40%

Intermediate (B1 – B2)

Participants should already have a solid understanding of the grammar topics taught in the beginner course. Teaching is based on: refreshing and expanding participants' current knowledge of German grammar, developing their comprehension of literary texts and articles from newspapers and magazines, and encouraging participants to develop their written and conversational skills on topical subjects.

Material used:

Course materials are especially compiled for the courses.
Recommended materials are:

Textbooks:

- Braun, Birgit, Doubek, Margit et al (2016) DaF kompakt neu B1. Kurs- und Übungsbuch. Stuttgart: Ernst-Klett Sprachen.
- Ute Koithan, Helen Schmitz et al. (2014) Aspekte neu B1 plus. Stuttgart: Ernst Klett Sprachen.
- Ute Koithan, Helen Schmitz et al. (2015) Aspekte neu B2. Stuttgart: Ernst Klett Sprachen.
- Birgit Braun (2014) Mittelpunkt neu B1+. Lehr- und Arbeitsbuch. Stuttgart: Ernst Klett Sprachen.
- Albert Daniels et al. (2012) Mittelpunkt neu B2. Lehr- und Arbeitsbuch. Stuttgart: Ernst Klett Sprachen.

Grammar books:

- Hering, Axel et al. (2009) Übungsgrammatik für die Mittelstufe. Deutsch als Fremdsprache. Ismaning: Hueber.
- Further grammar books may be specified in the course.

Supplemental materials:

- Primarily authentic materials consisting of current media such as literary texts extracts, newspaper and magazine articles, and audio and film material.

Requirements/assignments:

Regular class attendance

- Absences of less than 12 hours (i.e. teaching units) will be tolerated. In case of an absence in excess of 12 teaching units, no credits and no grade will be granted.

Active participation in class

- Active participation will be evaluated based on subjective marks for participation in all class aspects (based on initiative to talk, willingness to communicate, volunteering answers, asking questions, cooperation in a team, etc.) and being prepared for class (including homework assignments).

Project Day and presentation

- The class will select a topic of interest (district of Munich, sightseeing spots, museums, exhibitions etc.). Students will be divided into small groups and will research their topic with help from the lecturer. Groups will prepare a short questionnaire and then interview locals regarding their topic while visiting the place of interest. Each group will then present the results of their project.

Passing the final exam

- Participants will write a final exam based on course themes. The test will consist of the following sections: vocabulary, phrases, grammar, composition and regional studies.

Evaluation:

- Active participation in class: 20%
- Active participation in Project Day: 20%
- Oral presentation of project results: 20%
- Final exam: 40%

Advanced and Proficient (C1)

The advanced and proficient level is suitable only for participants who are already fluent in German. Participants develop their capacity to analyze and discuss texts covering different aspects of German literature, culture, and society. Teaching at this level is weighted more on improvement of style and idiom use, and less on grammar skills. Grammatical structures will be covered according to the needs of the course members. We will also concentrate on language as specifically pertaining to academic study.

Material used:

Various types of current texts such as literature, newspaper and magazine articles, academic articles, technical reports relating to specific fields (architecture and others), and audio / film materials.

Recommended materials are:

Textbooks:

- Ute Koithan, Helen Schmitz et al. (2016) Aspekte neu C1. Stuttgart: Ernst Klett Sprachen.
- Buscha, Anne et al. (2009) Erkundungen C1. Integriertes Kurs- und Arbeitsbuch. Leipzig: Schubert Verlag.
- Stefanie Dengler, Ute Koithanet al. (2023) Kontext C1. Kurs- und Arbeitsbuch. Stuttgart: Ernst Klett Sprachen.

Grammar books:

- Fandrych, Christian (Hrsg.) (2015) Klipp und Klar. Übungsgrammatik für die Mittelstufe B2/C1. Deutsch als Fremdsprache. Stuttgart: Ernst Klett Sprachen GmbH.
- Jin, Friederike / Voß, Ute (2017) Grammatik aktiv. Verstehen, Üben, Sprechen. Deutsch als Fremdsprache. Berlin: Cornelsen Schulverlage GmbH.
- Further grammar books may be specified in the course.

Requirements/assignments:

Regular class attendance

- Absences of less than 12 hours (i.e. teaching units) will be tolerated. In case of an absence in excess of 12 teaching units, no credits and no grade will be granted.

Active participation in class

- Active participation will be evaluated based on subjective marks for participation in all class aspects (based on initiative to talk, willingness to communicate, volunteering answers, asking questions, cooperation in a team, etc.) and being prepared for class (including homework assignments).

Project Day and presentation

- The class will select a topic of interest (district of Munich, sightseeing spots, museums, exhibitions etc.). Students will be divided into small groups, and will research their topic with help from the lecturer. Groups will prepare a short questionnaire and then interview locals regarding their topic while visiting the place of interest. Each group will then present the results of their project.

Passing the final exam

- Participants will write a final exam based on course themes. The test will consist of the following sections: vocabulary, phrases, grammar, composition and regional studies.

Evaluation:

- Active participation in class: 20%
- Active participation in Project Day: 20%
- Oral presentation of project results: 20%
- Final exam: 40%

German Language Levels

Levels (A1-C2) are assigned according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages CEFR.

Level	Description
A1	Can understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type. Can introduce him/herself and others and can ask and answer questions about personal details. Can interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly.
A2	Can understand sentences and frequently used expressions related to areas of most immediate relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information etc.). Can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters. Can describe in simple terms aspects of his/her background, immediate environment and matters in areas of immediate need.
B1	Can understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc. Can deal with most situations likely to arise whilst travelling in an area where the language is spoken. Can produce simple connected text on topics which are familiar or of personal interest. Can describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes and ambitions and briefly give reasons and explanations.
B2	Can understand the main ideas of complex text on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in his/her field of specialisation. Can interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible. Can produce clear, detailed text and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.
C1	Can understand a wide range of demanding texts, and recognise implicit meaning. Can express him/herself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions. Can use language flexibly and effectively for social, academic and professional purposes. Can produce clear, well-structured, detailed text on complex subjects, showing controlled use of organisational patterns, connectors and cohesive devices.
C2	Can understand with ease virtually everything heard or read. Can summarise information from different spoken and written sources, reconstructing arguments and accounts in a coherent presentation. Can express him/herself spontaneously, very fluently and precisely, differentiating finer shades of meaning even in more complex situations.

Grade, Credits, Transcripts

Contact hour requirements:

- 100 contact hours (morning classes and compulsory excursions)
- (One contact hour comprises 45 minutes)

Credits:

- 6 ECTS

Course requirements:

- See course descriptions above

Transcripts:

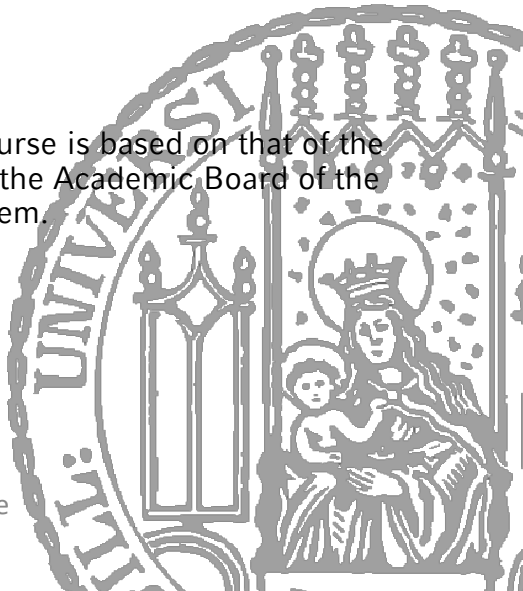
- Every student will receive an official transcript after successful completion of all program requirements. The transcript will show the course name and contact hours, the number of acquired credits as well as grade achieved.

Credit transfer:

- Most international colleges and universities accept credits from the MISU LMU, however each institution has its own policy regarding credit acceptance from other institutions. We strongly recommend that students consult their academic advisor and/or professor to receive credit transfer approval before applying to the MISU Summer Language Course. Students who would like to transfer credits to their home universities should print out all documentation to present to either their professor or study abroad advisor when asking for credit and grade approval.

Grading scale:

- The grading scale of the MISU German Language Course is based on that of the MISU Summer Academy, which has been defined by the Academic Board of the LMU Munich according to LMU general grading system.



Grading Scale

MISU Grade	Points	ECTS-Grade	Other
1.0	100 – 97	A	A+
1.3	96,99 – 93	A	A
1.7	92,99 – 88	B	A-
2.0	87,99 – 82	B	B+
2.3	81,99 – 77	B	B
2.7	76,99 – 73	C	B-
3.0	72,99 – 69	C	C+
3.3	68,99 – 66	D	C
3.7	65,99 – 63	E	C-
4.0	62,99 – 60	E	D+
NA	NA	F	D
NA	NA	F	F

Fees & Payment

Mandatory Fees:

- **Registration fee:** € 200,00
- **Tuition:** € 520,00

Optional Fees:

- **Workshop Theater or Phonetic:** € 75,00
- **Housing fee:** Variable, depending on the available options

The complete payment includes language teaching (A1 - C1 of the Common European Framework), the cultural program, course materials and excursions.

Deadlines for payment

- **Payment deadline for the registration fee (and accommodation if booked):** immediately after receiving the e-mail with the admission/invoice letter (until May 1, 2027 by the latest)
- **Your place in the course is only secured if you transfer the following fees to the IUCM account immediately after submitting your application:** Registration fee: € 200,00

Your application is only complete once we have received and confirmed the full payment on our account.

Registration

The registration takes place on the 'first come, first served'- principle.

There are no special requirements to apply for the German summer language course. Ideally you are registered at a university. It is not necessary to study at a German college. **You must be at least 18 years old.**

We will try to reserve a place in the required course to all students. However, an early application is advantageous.

Application deadline: May 1, 2027

The online registration starts on the November 1, 2027.

https://application.iucm.de/Form/ssk_registration

Cancellation*

Cancellation before the registration deadline:

- The registration fee will not be refunded.
  All other deposits will be fully refunded.

Cancellation after the registration deadline:

- The registration fee will not be refunded.
  If accommodation was booked, the rent will not be refunded or have to be paid.

Cancellation 6 weeks before commencement of the course:

- The registration fee will not be refunded.
  If accommodation was booked, the deposit for the rent will not be refunded and 50% of the tuition will not be refunded.

Cancellation 3 days before commencement of the course:

- The registration fee will not be refunded.
  If accommodation was booked, the deposit for the rent will not be refunded and 80% of the tuition will not be refunded.

Once the course has started, no refund will be granted.

Cancellation by MISU

- All tuition and fees will be refunded.

* All bank charges are excluded from repayment.

Accommodation (optional)

Availability

Participants are encouraged to arrange their own accommodation in Munich for the duration of the course.

The course provider has only a limited number of rooms available for rental. Availability, prices, and terms are subject to change depending on the offers available.

Arrival

- August 2, 2027

Departure

- August 28, 2027

Board

During your stay you will be responsible to provide your own meals. You should count on spending approximately 15,00 - 30,00 EUR per day on food (depending on your personal needs). During the week, lunch can be purchased at one of the university's canteens for 8,00 - 12,00 EUR.

Contact

Academic Contact

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Administration / Application Contact

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