

Module Guide

for

Language Courses

offered by the

**Centre for Internationalisation
and Languages (CIL)**

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About language courses

Background

With the enactment of the Strategic Development Plan 2017, Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences made a collective decision to embed foreign language courses in the curricula of its degree programmes. In the years since, numerous degree programmes have undergone reaccreditation processes and implemented this strategic decision for their students, giving many students of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences the opportunity to complete a qualifying language course and earn credits for their achievement.

Eligibility for credits

As a rule, students may only earn credits for a language course if their degree programme allows it. The first step for students interested in credits is thus to refer to their **examination regulations**, in particular the curricular overview and module catalogue in the annex. Here it will be plainly stated whether language courses can be recognised towards your degree and how many credits can be obtained for them (usually 5). Examination regulations can be found here:

- [Faculty of Technology and Bionics](#)
- [Faculty of Life Sciences](#)
- [Faculty of Society and Economics](#)
- [Faculty of Communication and Environment](#)

Note: Most students must also register for the elective module “Foreign Language” in HIS or, in some cases, obtain special permission from their faculty’s Examination Board (*Prüfungsausschuss*). Please contact your responsible Examination Board for more information.

Workload

Language courses are planned such that they meet specific ECTS workload requirements, in particular 1 credit = **25-30** hours of study, thus 5 CP = approx. 150 hours.

Registering for a course and obtaining credits

The first step is to register for a course in Moodle during an official announced registration window. Our registration area is located [here](#) and is freely accessible to anyone with an HSRW Moodle account. After registering, please inform your instructor of your intent to earn credits and confirm your intent in the final examination (if applicable).

Students interested in credits must complete all mandatory requirements for their course (see descriptions below). After language courses end, the Languages Department will collect all documentation from the instructor and verify the completion of requirements for all credit-seeking students. A list of these confirmed students will then be sent to Examination Services (*Prüfungsservice*), which is responsible for final verification and entering the results into HIS.

Requesting a certificate

All participants who successfully complete a language course can request a certificate via our [online form](#).

Participation without credits

Language courses are open to all students. When possible, however, registration priority will be given to credit-seeking students in order to avoid unnecessary delays to their studies.

Questions?

For general enquiries, please contact languages@hochschule-rhein-waal.de.

For enquiries related to eligibility and/or HIS, please contact Examination Services at pruefungsservice@hochschule-rhein-waal.de.

Grading scale for language courses

Percentage	Grade	Assessment
100-91	1	Very good
90-81	2	Good
80-71	3	Satisfactory
70-60	4	Sufficient
59-0	5	Fail

Please refer to your [examination regulations](#) to determine whether the grade from your language course will transfer and count towards your GPA. If this is not the case, the course will be treated as an ungraded pass/fail (*Testat*).

German as a Foreign Language (“DaF”)

Modules	German A1.1, German A1.2, German A2.1, German A2.2
Code	See faculty module guide / examination regulations
Coordinator	CIL/Languages Department
Type of module	Elective
Offered	Every semester
Duration	One semester
Prerequisites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – For A1.1: None – For A1.2-A2.2: Students must have successfully completed the previous level at HSRW, have a language certificate less than 6 months old from another provider, or do an approved placement test in Moodle. – All courses: see Moodle for technical requirements to participate.
Workload	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 52 CH of classroom instruction – Approx. 100 h of: successful completion of mandatory exercises in Moodle, homework and examination preparation
Credits (ECTS)	5
Type of course	Language course, 4 CH per week
Participants	22 (maximum), 5 (minimum)
Learning objectives and skills A1.1 – A2.1	<p>A1.1: The main objective of this module is to develop students’ verbal communication skills in German as well as to impart to them effective general learning and communication strategies. Upon successful completion of this module, students should be able to navigate common everyday situations using simple linguistic means of communication.</p> <p>A1.2: The main objective of this module is the continued development of students’ verbal communication skills by expanding their passive and active vocabularies and solidifying their grasp on underlying grammatical structures. Upon successful completion of this module, students should be able to navigate common everyday situations using simple linguistic means of communication.</p>

Learning objectives and skills A2.1 – A2.2 (cont.)	<p>A2.1: The main objective of this module is to continue developing students' communicative skills by expanding and solidifying passive and active vocabularies and strengthening both their understanding and command of grammatical structures appropriate to this level. Upon successful completion of this module, students should be able to navigate many everyday situations using limited means of communication, as well as produce and understand commonly used terms and phrases in German. Continued practice of learning strategies is also a central component of this module.</p> <p>A2.2: The main objective of this module is to continue developing students' communicative skills by expanding and solidifying passive and active vocabularies and strengthening both their understanding and command of grammatical structures appropriate to this level. Upon successful completion of this module, students should be able to navigate many everyday situations using limited means of communication, as well as produce and understand commonly used terms and phrases in German. Continued practice of learning strategies is also a central component of this module.</p>
Contents	<p>Module contents are based on the “can-do” descriptions of the CEFR for the levels A1.1, A1.2, A2.1 and A2.2. Students' four main competency areas (listening, speaking, reading, writing) are expanded and improved through continuous practical repetition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dialogues and roleplaying - Phonetic exercises - Reading and discussing short texts - Composing short messages
Examination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Written examination (reading, listening, writing) – Oral examination (generally in pairs)
Grading	<p>The grade for the module is derived from the overall final grade of the examination.</p>
Completion requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Regular course attendance (min. 11 of 13 sessions, ~80%). – Complete the Moodle and self-reflection exercises for the course level before the deadline. This is required to participate in the exam. – Pass the final examination (min. grade of “4”)
Literature and materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>Studio [21] Das Deutschbuch A1, A2 (Gesamtband)</i> – (Additional practice: <i>Studio [21] Intensivtraining A1/A2</i>) – Moodle exercises A1.1/A1.2/A2.1/A2.2

Module	German B1.1 & B1.2
Code	See faculty module guide / examination regulations
Coordinator	CIL/Languages Department
Type of module	Elective
Offered	Every semester
Duration	One semester
Prerequisites	Students must have successfully completed German A2.2 (for German B1.1) or B1.1 (for German B1.2), verified by a certificate from CIL, a certificate from an external provider less than 6 months old, or an approved placement test
Workload	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 52 CH of classroom instruction – Approx. 50 h obligatory language practice in Moodle – Approx. 50 h of project preparation and presentation
Credits (ECTS)	5
Type of course	Language course, 4 CH per week
Language of instruction	German
Participants	20 (maximum), 5 (minimum)
Learning objectives and competences	<p>B1.1: The main objective of this module is the development of applied language skills so that students can communicate and converse effectively in German in both academic and non-academic contexts. The development of effective writing skills receives more attention at the B1 level as well. Upon successful completion of this module, students should be able to give short presentations on specific (intercultural) topics and field questions in German from the audience.</p> <p>B1.2: The main objective of this module is providing continuous practice opportunities for students' productive and receptive language skills, with greater focus on fostering autonomous learning skills for future utility. Upon successful completion of this module, students are able to hold presentations in German on a prepared topic and lead an in-depth discussion afterwards.</p>
Contents	Module contents are based on the “can-do” descriptions of the CEFR for the levels B1.1 and B1.2.
Examination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Written examination with sections for reading, listening and writing (120-150 minutes) – Additional oral examination (~15 minutes)
Grading	The final grade for this module is based on the examination and graded project work (for credit-seeking students).

German B1.1 & B1.2 cont.

Completion requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Regular course attendance (min. 11 of 13 sessions, ~80%) – Complete the extended Moodle exercises for the course level before the deadline. This is required to participate in the exam. – Pass the final examination (min. grade of “4”). <p>In addition, credit-seeking students must also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Successfully complete a graded project and give a presentation (min. grade “4”).
Literature and materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Studio [21] Das Deutschbuch B1 (Gesamtband), Das Deutschbuch B2 (Gesamtband)</i> as well as the CDs / audio tracks from the publisher; Moodle exercises

English as a Foreign Language (EFL)

Module	English Compact C1
Code	See faculty module guide / examination regulations
Coordinator	CIL/Languages Department
Type of module	Elective
Offered	Every semester
Duration	One semester
Prerequisites	Minimum proficiency of B2
Workload	The workload is between 2-4 hours per week. Students work at their own pace, but there are weekly deadlines to adhere to.
Credits (ECTS)	5
Type of course	Asynchronous English course in Moodle
Language of instruction	English
Participants	30 (maximum), 5 (minimum)
Learning objectives and skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Grammar review – Vocabulary building – Improve writing, reading and listening skills – Learn and practice the skills of an “autonomous learner”
Contents	<p>Module contents and tasks are based on the “can-do” descriptions of the CEFR for the level C1. This course consists of 13 lessons and assignments on various topics that are relevant for your studies/future careers, or chosen for their general importance.</p> <p>Furthermore, there are 3 short meetings at the beginning, middle, and end of the course (dates will be announced in the first week of the course).</p>
Examinations and assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 13 graded essays (at least 30 of 50 points per essay) - Completion of the English Grammar Review section in Moodle - Final grammar test (approx. 20 minutes) - Final written examination
Grading	100% final written exam
Completion requirements	Completion of all assigned work (pass/fail) and final examination with a minimum grade of 4.
Literature and materials	Different weekly topics and materials provided in Moodle.

Module	English Speaking Practice
Code	See faculty module guide / examination regulations
Coordinator	CIL/Languages Department
Type of module	Elective
Offered	Every semester
Duration	One semester
Prerequisites	Minimum proficiency of B2
Workload	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 2 sessions/week (90 minutes each) for 13 weeks = 52 hours – Weekly preparation: ~26 hours – Weekly protocols: ~26 hours – Presentation preparation: ~30 hours – Final written report: ~16 hours <p style="text-align: right;">Total: 150 hours</p>
Credits (ECTS)	5
Type of course	Synchronous language course, 4 SWS per week
Language of instruction	English
Participants	20 (maximum), 5 (minimum)
Learning objectives and skills	This English course focuses primarily on speaking practice, vocabulary building, improving fluency and rhetorical skills. The course is based on group discussions on contemporary topics to convey and practice grammar and vocabulary (as needed by the participants), as well as on skills for giving presentations in public.
Contents	The contents and complexity of this module were developed based on the „can-do“ descriptions of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) for the level B2. Students are also encourage to suggest different weekly topics of interest (based on Speak Out).
Examinations and assessment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Protocols (pass/fail) 2. Presentation: 70 % 3. Final written report: 30 %
Grading	70 % presentation, 30 % final written report
Completion requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Regular attendance (min. 11 of 13 sessions) – Active participation – Hand in all protocols – Presentation + final written report
Literature and materials	Provided by instructor

Module	Business English
Code	See faculty module guide / examination regulations
Coordinator	CIL/Languages Department
Type of module	Elective
Offered	Every semester
Duration	One semester
Prerequisites	Minimum proficiency of B2
Workload	The workload is between 2-4 hours per week. Students work at their own pace, but there are weekly deadlines to observe.
Credits (ECTS)	5
Type of course	Asynchronous English course in Moodle
Language of instruction	English
Participants	30 (maximum), 5 (minimum)
Learning objectives and skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Grammar review – Vocabulary building – Improve writing, reading and listening skills – Improve autonomous learning skills
Contents	<p>This course consists of 13 lessons and assignments for different business topics (e.g. business ethics, corporate culture, intercultural communication, entrepreneurship, applications). There will also be 3 online meetings at the beginning, middle, and end of the course (dates will be announced in the first week of the course).</p> <p>Course contents are based on the „can-do“ descriptions of the CEFR for the levels B2-C1. In each lesson, you will be asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – process different materials; – do a few smaller (interactive) tasks; and – submit a written assignment of about 500-750 words. <p>Further, you should also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – participate in the discussion section; – answer the warm-up questions, and – give feedback on your learning experiences (debriefing).
Examinations and assessment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 13 graded essays (at least 30 of 50 points per essay) 2. Completion of the English Grammar Review section in Moodle 3. Final grammar test (approx. 20 minutes) 4. Final written examination

Business English cont.

Grading	100 % final written exam
Completion requirements	Completion of all assigned work (pass/fail) + final examination with a minimum grade of 4.

Spanish

Module	Spanish A1
Code	See faculty module guide / examination regulations
Coordinator	CIL/Languages Department
Type of module	Elective; additional examination (Section 31 RPO)
Offered	Every semester (from SS 25)
Duration	One semester
Prerequisites	No previous experience in Spanish required. See Moodle for technical requirements to participate.
Workload	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 52 CH of instruction – Approx. 100 hours for obligatory exercises in Moodle as well as course preparation (i.e. homework, additional study, exam preparation)
Credits (ECTS)	5
Type of course	Seminar-style course with 4 CH of instruction per week
Language of instruction	Spanish and German
Participants	22 (maximum), 5 (minimum)
Learning objectives and skills	<p>The primary aim of this course is to develop students' communication skills in the language by expanding their active and passive vocabularies and strengthening their understanding and command of grammatical structures appropriate to the A1 level (refer to the "can-do" descriptions of the CEFR). In addition, the practice and internalisation of effective learning strategies is also a central goal of this course.</p> <p>Upon successful completion, students are able to navigate some everyday situations using basic phrases and vocabulary (refer to CEFR for details).</p>
Examination	Written examination with sections for Reading, Listening, Writing and Speaking
Grade composition	See grading scale above
Completion requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Regular attendance (at least 11 of 13 courses, ~80%) – Completion of the mandatory exercises in Moodle before the deadline. – Pass the final examination (grade "4" or better).
Literature and materials	Universo.ele A1 (Hueber), ch. 1-7

Module	Spanish A2
Code	See faculty module guide / examination regulations
Coordinator	CIL/Languages Department
Type of module	Elective; additional examination (§ 31 RPO)
Offered	Every semester (from SS 25)
Duration	One semester
Prerequisites	Students must have completed the previous level (A1) or have sufficient proof of proficiency in the language. See Moodle for technical requirements to participate.
Workload	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 52 CH (SWS) of instruction – Approx. 100 hours for obligatory exercises in Moodle as well as course preparation (i.e. homework, additional study, exam preparation)
Credits (ECTS)	5
Type of course	Seminar-style course with 4 CH of instruction per week
Language of instruction	Spanish and German
Participants	22 (maximum), 5 (minimum)
Learning objectives and skills	<p>The primary aim of this course is to develop students' communication skills in the language by continuing to expand their A1-level active and passive vocabularies and strengthening their understanding and command of grammatical structures through the A2 level (refer to the "can-do" descriptions of the CEFR). In addition, the practice and internalisation of effective learning strategies is also a central goal of this course.</p> <p>Upon successful completion, students are able to navigate an increasing number of everyday situations with immediate relevance involving the simple and direct exchange of information (refer to CEFR for details).</p>
Examination	Written examination with sections for Reading, Listening, Writing and Speaking
Grade composition	See grading scale above
Completion requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Regular attendance (at least 11 of 13 courses, ~80%) – Completion of the mandatory exercises in Moodle before the deadline. – Pass the final examination (grade "4" or better)
Literature and materials	Universo.ele A2 (Hueber)

Japanese

Module	Japanese A1.1 & A1.2
Code	See faculty module guide / examination regulations
Coordinator	CIL/Languages Department
Type of module	Elective module, additional examination (§ 31 RPO)
Offered	Every semester (from SoSe 23)
Duration	One semester
Prerequisites	Students must have completed the previous level (for A1.2 or higher), verified by a certificate issued by the Languages Department or an approved placement test
Workload	<p>Japanese A1.1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Approx. 30 CH of instruction – Approx. 30 h for additional exercises in Moodle <p>Japanese A1.2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Approx. 30 CH of instruction – Approx. 60 h for obligatory exercises in Moodle and course preparation (including coursework, homework and exam preparation)
Credits (ECTS)	<p>2 CP for Japanese A1.1 3 CP for Japanese A1.2</p> <p>Note: in order to earn 5 CP total, students must successfully complete a combination of a 2 CP-course and a 3 CP-course. Partial recognition is not possible.</p>
Type of course	Language course with 2 CH of instruction per week
Language of instruction	Japanese, English, German
Participants	22 (maximum), 5 (minimum)
Learning objectives and skills	<p>Students will memorise and practice the <i>hiragana</i> and <i>katakana</i> alphabets, while also learning fundamental lexical and grammatical knowledge.</p> <p>Upon successful completion, students are able to navigate linguistic situations at difficulties corresponding to their current proficiency level (refer to the “can-do” descriptions of the CEFR.)</p>
Examination	Written examination with sections for Reading, Listening, Writing and Speaking
Grade composition	See grading scale above
Completion requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Regular attendance (at least 11 of 13 courses, ~80%). – Completion of the mandatory exercises in Moodle before the deadline. – Pass the final examination (grade “4” or better).
Literature and materials	Provided in class and Moodle

Module	Japanese A2.1 & A2.2
Code	See faculty module guide / examination regulations
Coordinator	CIL/Languages Department
Type of module	Elective module, additional examination (§ 31 RPO)
Offered	Every semester, depending on
Duration	One semester
Prerequisites	Students must have completed the previous level (A1.2 for A2.1; A2.1 for A2.2), verified by a certificate issued by the Languages Department or an approved placement test
Workload	<p>Japanese A2.1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Approx. 30 CH of instruction – Approx. 30 h for additional exercises in Moodle <p>Japanese A2.2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Approx. 30 CH of instruction – Approx. 60 h for obligatory exercises in Moodle and course preparation (including coursework, homework and exam preparation)
Credits (ECTS)	<p>2 CP for Japanese A2.1</p> <p>3 CP for Japanese A2.2</p> <p>Note: In order to earn 5 CP total, students must successfully complete a combination of a 2 CP-course and a 3 CP-course. Partial recognition is not possible.</p>
Type of course	Language course with 2 CH of instruction per week
Language of instruction	Japanese, English, German
Participants	22 (maximum), 5 (minimum)
Learning objectives and skills	<p>These courses build on skills and knowledge from A1. Communicative competence in everyday situations is extended. Active language use and the expansion of basic vocabulary as well as basic grammatical knowledge are still central learning objectives.</p> <p>Additional <i>kanji</i> and <i>kanji compounds</i> are practiced for writing and reading skills.</p> <p>Upon successful completion, students are able to navigate linguistic situations at difficulties corresponding to their current proficiency level (refer to the “can-do” descriptions of the CEFR.)</p>
Examination	Written examination with sections for Reading, Listening, Writing and Speaking
Grade composition	See grading scale above
Completion requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Regular attendance (at least 11 of 13 courses, ~80%). – Completion of the mandatory exercises in Moodle before the final deadline. – Pass the final examination (grade “4” or better).
Literature and materials	Provided in class and Moodle