



FRENCH / GERMAN

QUALIFICATION: A Level

Examination Board: AQA (7652 / 7662)

What do I need to know or be able to do before taking this course?

You will need to have a good understanding of the grammatical concepts covered in the GCSE course. Your productive language skills (writing and speaking) will need to be strong and you will need to have been successful on higher tier papers and gained a grade 6 or higher at GCSE.

You will need to have an interest in current affairs and enjoy debating a variety of issues.

An interest in Europe and matters relating to France and Germany (or any other French or German speaking country) is desirable.

What will I learn on this A Level course?

- Extend your range of language skills;
- How to carry out effective research;
- Explore a number of topic areas (related to society and culture) through the medium of the foreign language;
- Learn more about the history and culture of the foreign country concerned;
- How to study literature and film in French or German.

What kind of student is this course suitable for?

This course will appeal to students who:

- have enjoyed learning the language at GCSE;
- enjoy communicating in the foreign language;
- have an interest in the country whose language they are studying;
- enjoy reading a variety of materials, literary and non-literary;
- wish to combine a foreign language with other A level courses to complement them and widen their possibilities for future career choices.
- are able to motivate themselves to learn independently as well as in a classroom.

What does the course cover?

The core content includes:

1. Social issues and trends
2. Political and artistic culture
3. Grammar
4. One literary text and one film

What examinations will I have to take to get my qualification?

Unit	Type	Exam	Marks
1	Listening; Reading; Writing	2 Hours 30 Minutes	50%
2	Writing (based on book and film studied)	2 Hours	20%
3	Speaking (including speaking about an individual research project)	20 Minutes (inc. 5 minutes' preparation time)	30%

Types of Activities

Listening, Reading and Writing (Paper 1)

A variety of task types including true / false, gap fill, sequencing, questions in English and questions in the target language. Translation into English and into the target language are also important features.

Writing (Paper 2)

Responding to stimulus material about the film / books studied. Students will need to write two essays of approximately 300 words each. Essays will need to be critical and analytical.

Speaking (Paper 3)

Responding to stimulus material, discussing the issues involved, putting forward one's point of view and giving reasons for opinions. Then, students enter into a discussion about a topic they have researched themselves based on their own areas of interest.

What could I go on to do at the end of my course?

- Follow a degree course in languages or combine a language with another subject at degree level. Language graduates are among the most likely to find a suitable job at the end of their degree.
- Use the language in the world of work – fewer and fewer UK citizens are learning a foreign language to a high standard, so their skills make them highly employable.
- Use the skills you have learned by studying a language. It is widely recognised as a difficult subject and therefore highlights dedication and resilience - all qualities looked for by employers.

Additional Information

There is the possibility of undertaking work experience in and/or visits to France/Germany and students will be given the opportunity to attend enrichment courses, such as language conferences run by the Association for Language Learning.