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Language/Integration

Information

In order to find your way around Germany and be able to work, you need to learn German. You can find jobs with appropriate language courses here.

There are many ways to learn German. Courses are offered by various institutions and also by private individuals. There is no one-size-fits-all answer as to which course is best for you. Your residence status also has an influence on this. The following pages provide an overview of the most important providers. Contact the institutions listed, even if the course you are looking for is not currently being offered. You can only plan your programme if the providers are aware of your needs. The providers have many years of experience and can also provide you with information on costs, funding and possible travel allowances.

You will also find contacts who can put you in touch with volunteers. Volunteers are people who support you without asking for payment.

Language level and certificates

German courses are organised according to level of difficulty. There are six levels: A1, A2, B1, B2, C1 and C2. They start with A1 and end with mother tongue level C2. The six levels mean in detail:

A1: Beginner

You can understand and use simple words and sentences.

You can introduce yourself and others. For example: My name is Maria. I am 30 years old.

I live in Germany. This is my boyfriend. His name is Paul.

You can ask questions about yourself. For example: What is your name? Where do you live?

You can answer questions. For example: How are you? I am doing well.

A person speaks slowly and clearly. You can have a conversation with them.

A2: Basic knowledge

You can understand sentences and frequently used words. You understand words in these areas: Personal and family information, shopping, work and your neighbourhood.

You can communicate in simple, everyday situations. You can describe your background, education and environment.

B1: Advanced use of language

You can understand a lot. It's about work, school, leisure and so on.

You can make yourself understood when travelling. You can say something about familiar topics and personal interests. You can talk about experiences and events. They can describe dreams, hopes and goals. You can give brief reasons or explanations for plans and opinions.

B2: Independent use of language

You can understand the most important content of complex texts on concrete and abstract topics. You can also understand specialised discussions in your field of specialisation.

You can communicate spontaneously and fluently. A normal conversation with native speakers is possible without much effort on either side. You can express yourself clearly and in detail on many different topics. You can explain a point of view on a topical issue. You can state the advantages and disadvantages of various options.

C1: Specialised language skills

You can understand a lot of demanding, longer texts. You can also grasp implicit meanings. You can express yourself spontaneously and fluently. You do not have to search for words often. You can use the language effectively and flexibly in social and professional life or in training and studies. You can express yourself clearly, in a structured and detailed way on complex issues. You can use different means of linking texts appropriately.

C2: (Almost) native speaker level

You can understand practically everything you read or hear with ease. You can summarise information from different written and oral sources. You can give reasons and explanations in a coherent presentation. You can express yourself spontaneously, very fluently and precisely. You can also make clear finer nuances of meaning in more complex situations.

If you want to find out how good your German is, you can also do this online on the [Goethe-Institut website](https://www.goethe-institut.de).

Language Courses

German courses

The adult education centre (VHS) offers a wide range of courses for all interested parties. The VHS offers many courses in the area of "Language".

The courses are offered for people who have little knowledge of the German language. However, there are also courses for people who want to acquire special German language skills. For naturalisation you need a B 1 language certificate. You can also obtain this certificate at the VHS.

Here is the address:

Adult Education Centre Odenwaldkreis (VHS)

🏠 [Martin-Luther-Straße 45, 64711 Erbach](https://www.vhs-odenwald.de)

☎ [06062 701732](tel:06062701732)

✉ vhs@odenwaldkreis.de

🌐 www.vhs-odenwald.de

Language courses are also offered by F+U in Michelstadt. If you have an authorisation certificate from the

- Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF)
- Foreigners' Registration Office
- Municipal Job Centre (KJC)

you can take part in a German course. Participation is free of charge. Here is the address:

F+U Rhein-Main-Neckar gGmbH

🏠 [Frankfurter Str.37, 64720 Michelstadt](https://www.fuu.de)

☎ [06061/94370](tel:0606194370)

✉ Arbeitsmarkt.mi@fuu.de

🌐 www.fuu.de

Language courses for young people are offered by "Jugendwerkstätten Odenwald e. V." (JWO). Topics such as education, work, health and leisure are taught here. The language course level is B 1. Further information can be found at

Jugendwerkstätten Odenwald e.V.

🏠 [Schlossplatz 6, 64732 Bad König](#)

☎ [06063/8267104](tel:060638267104)

✉ jik@jwo-ev.de

🌐 www.jwo-ev.de

Further course providers can be found [here](#).

Integration courses

The **integration course** has 600 lessons. The courses take place up to a language level of B1. In 100 additional lessons you will receive information about culture, politics and social issues in Germany. There are also special integration courses. These courses are offered for women, parents and non-literate people. These courses can have more or fewer lessons.

If you receive benefits from the Social Welfare Office or the Municipal Job Centre (KJC), the courses are free of charge for you.

You may be asked to take part in an integration course by the [local job centre](#), the [social welfare office](#) or the [foreigners authority](#).

If you do not receive an invitation to attend an integration course and would like to participate, apply for the course at the [BAMF \(Federal Office for Migration and Refugees\)](#).

If you need help with the application, please contact the asylum social counselling service or the [migration counselling](#) service in Michelstadt. The migration counselling service at the Diakonisches Werk supports adult migrants and their families. This involves organising language courses and integration courses. You will also receive help with

- Residence in Germany
- Questions about everyday life in Germany
- Writing to the authorities

Integration courses for adults are offered by F+U in Michelstadt.

F+U Rhein-Main-Neckar gGmbH

🏠 [Frankfurter Str.37, 64720 Michelstadt](#)

☎ [06061/94370](tel:0606194370)

✉ Arbeitsmarkt.mi@fuu.de

🌐 www.fuu.de

If you are under 27 years old and would like to live in Germany permanently, you have the option of attending a **youth integration course**. The aim of the course is integration in the areas of language, school, work and social life. These courses are offered in the Odenwald by the Jugendwerkstätten Odenwald (JWO):

Jugendwerkstätten Odenwald e.V.

🏠 [Schlossplatz 6, 64732 Bad König](#)
☎ [06063/8267104](tel:060638267104)
✉ ik@jwo-ev.de
🌐 www.jwo-ev.de

You can view all course providers and course locations in Germany [here](#).

Literacy courses

The F+U in Michelstadt offers literacy courses in the Odenwald:

F+U Rhein-Main-Neckar gGmbH
🏠 [Frankfurter Str.37, 64720 Michelstadt](#)
☎ [06061/94370](tel:0606194370)
✉ Arbeitsmarkt.mi@fuu.de
🌐 www.fuu.de

If there is no course in Michelstadt, you can also contact the adult education centre (VHS) in Dieburg:

Volkshochschule Darmstadt-Dieburg
🏠 [Albinstraße 23, 64807 Dieburg](#)
☎ [06151/8812301](tel:061518812301)
✉ vhs@ladadi.de
🌐 www.vhs.ladadi.de

or to the basic education centre in Darmstadt:

Grundbildungszentrum Darmstadt und Darmstadt-Dieburg
Bildungswerk der Hessischen Wirtschaft e. V.
🏠 [Rheinstraße 94-96a, 64295 Darmstadt](#)
☎ [06151/2710989](tel:061512710989)
✉ gbz@bwhw.de
🌐 www.bwhw.de

The way to the reading and writing course in Darmstadt is explained [here](#).

Vocational language courses (DeuFöV)

Learn, deepen and consolidate your knowledge in a job-related German course. The course can be attended after the integration course. The course can also be attended alongside work or an apprenticeship.

The course comprises three modules with 300 lessons each. In the course you will acquire language level C2.

Each module concludes with an examination. You need a language level of B1 to attend the course.

F+U Rhein-Main-Neckar gGmbH
🏠 [Frankfurter Str. 37, 64720 Michelstadt](#)
☎ [06061/94370](tel:0606194370)
✉ Arbeitsmarkt.mi@fuu.de

 www.fuu.de

The Adult Education Centre Odenwaldkreis offers so-called "German at the workplace" courses. These are less extensive and B1 is not a prerequisite.

Volkshochschule Odenwaldkreis

 [Martin-Luther-Straße 45, 64711 Erbach](#)

 [06062 701732](tel:06062 701732)

 vhs@odenwaldkreis.de


 www.vhs-odenwald.de

If you need support between A2 and B1 and are interested in dual training, please contact the Bildungswerk der Hess. Wirtschaft. Here you will receive vocational guidance and language support.

Integration support and socio-educational counselling.

Bildungswerk der Hessischen Wirtschaft e. V.

 [Frankfurter Str. 37, 64720 Michelstadt](#)

 [06061/943802](tel:06061/943802)

 michelstadt@bwhw.de


 www.bwhw.de

Voluntary language courses

In addition to the official German courses, there are other ways to learn German at Odenwaldkreis. There are groups run by volunteers in the local communities. Anyone can take part in these courses. The Odenwald District Volunteer Agency can help you find these courses. The Ehrenamtsagentur can also help you find language mentors.

Ehrenamtsagentur Odenwaldkreis

 [Michelstädter Str. 12, 64711 Erbach](#)

 [06062 701185](tel:06062 701185)

 engagiert@odenwaldkreis.de

 www.odenwaldkreis.de

Courses where you can learn German are offered by various local authorities in the Odenwald district. It is best to enquire at the [administration of the town or municipality](#) in which you live or take a look at the list:

Bad König

Frank Schoenmaker

 [0160/59666](tel:0160/59666)

 fluechtlingshilfe.badkoenig@t-online.de


Oberzent

Harald Braner

 [06068/3652](tel:06068/3652)

Reichelsheim

Annemarie Knichel

 [06164/3975](tel:06164/3975)

Erbach

Evangelical Free Church

☎ [06062/4287](tel:060624287)

Michelstadt

Tatjana Schmied

☎ [06061/74159](tel:0606174159)

Diaconal work

☎ [06061/96500](tel:0606196500)

Sandbach

Sibel Cakir

☎ [06165/388084](tel:06165388084) or ☎ [06163/7090](tel:061637090)

Breuberg

Daniel Serra da Silva

☎ [0152/06147985](tel:015206147985)

✉ <mailto:Kopfsteinpflaster.bb@jwo-ev.de>

Online language courses

You can learn German on your smart phone or computer. The courses are often free of charge. Use the offers to make good use of the waiting time for a language course. The offers can also help during a language course. You can find more information about the language levels (A1-C2) [here](#).

🌐 [Einstieg Deutsch](#): A free language learning app for initial language skills.

🌐 [Ankommen App](#): Information on life in Germany and the topics of asylum, training and work. The Ankommen app also contains a self-study course for the first few weeks in Germany from level A1.

🌐 [Serlo ABC](#): A free alphabetisation app for self-study or as a supplement to a language course. The app is approved as a textbook for integration courses.

🌐 [Mein Deutschbuch](#): A comprehensive range of resources for learning German. The website is aimed at learners and teachers, A1-B2.

🌐 [Deutsch-Uni Online \(DUO\)](#): Language learning programmes for A1 to C2.

🌐 [Basis-Sprachkurs der Deutschen Welle](#): Online language course with modules on literacy and job-related language skills. There is also a placement test.

🌐 ["Die Stadt der Wörter"](#): App and website for learning vocabulary without prior knowledge in German, English, French and other languages.

🌐 [Ich-will-Deutsch-lernen](#): This portal is run by the German Adult Education Association and offers exercises at levels A1 to B1+. The portal is free of charge. All exercises are also available in an app for Android and iOS.

🌐 [VHS learning portal](#): Free German courses. You can also learn to write, read and do maths. There is also help for preparing for school-leaving exams in German, maths and English.

🌐 [Language placement test](#): onSET-online language placement test for refugees and for language categorisation for helpers

🌐 [PONS picture dictionary](#): The learning app contains an extensive vocabulary for learners of levels A1 to C1 with 15,000 words from various subject areas.

🌐 [Buchstaben.com](#): Online German course for refugees with individual learning tools

The following offers are available in the online dictionary section:

🌐 [LanguageGuide](#): This app contains vocabulary by subject area with pictures and audio files.

Various YouTube channels also offer exercises:

[Alphabetisation](#) for Arabic speakers to learn the alphabet and the basics of German on their own

[Mein Weg nach Deutschland](#) shows interactive exercises from the Goethe Institute

[Nicos Weg](#) contains videos with exercises for the German course "Nicos Weg" by Deutsche Welle.

[Typisch ?](#) shows videos of everyday manners in Germany

Interpreter

If you go to the authorities, such as the [immigration office](#), you will need an **interpreter**. An interpreter is also very helpful for [visits to the doctor](#) or for discussions at school or kindergarten.

💡 Some authorities and organisations have their own interpreters and can use them during meetings. When you make an appointment, please always ask whether an interpreter will be provided free of charge.

💡 Official documents such as certificates and deeds may only be translated by state-certified translators in Germany. These translations are often expensive. It is best to check in advance whether you really need a certified translation. Compare the prices beforehand.

If you need an interpreter, please contact Ehrenamtsagentur des Odenwaldkreises. Here you will find an overview of interpreters. These interpreters are available to you free of charge. Here is the address:

Ehrenamtsagentur (Landratsamt Odenwaldkreis)

🏠 [Michelstädter Str. 12, 64711 Erbach](#)

☎ [06062 701185](#) or [06062 70127](#)

✉ engagiert@odenwaldkreis.de

🌐 www.odewaldkreis.de

Become an interpreter

Do you speak English or German very well? Then you can support your compatriots who do not speak English or German. If you are interested in working as an interpreter, please contact the Volunteer Agency.

