



LUDWIG-  
MAXIMILIANS-  
UNIVERSITÄT  
MÜNCHEN

FAKULTÄT 13/I  
INSTITUT FÜR DEUTSCHE PHILOLOGIE  
STUDIENZENTRUM GERMANISTIK



## Institut für Deutsche Philologie

### Information for Visiting Exchange Students (ERASMUS etc.)

#### 1. Curriculum

German studies at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität cover three subjects:

- German Linguistics (“Germanistische Linguistik”)
- Modern and Early Modern German Literature (“Neuere deutsche Literatur”)
- Medieval German Studies (“Germanistische Mediävistik”).

All classes we offer are designed as **academic, scholarly training**. This implies that *we do not offer job-oriented courses* in translating or interpreting *nor any practical language classes in German*. We assume that all our students arrive with sufficiently advanced German language skills to follow our regular classes!

*We also do not offer any special didactics classes for teachers of German as a foreign language*. All our didactics classes are part of the German teacher training program, aimed at future teachers of German at regular schools in Germany. Therefore we do not recommend these classes for exchange students.

#### 2. Arrival & Start of Semester

We are often faced with latecomers, i.e. exchange students arriving during the second or third week **after** the start of our semester. This is *extremely unfavourable* for several reasons:

1. Professors can deny you access to their classes if you do not show up for the first session.
2. Many seminars are overcrowded and will not accept latecomers.
3. You will fall behind with your workload and miss important orientation meetings. If the worst comes to the worst, you might waste an entire semester trying to catch up.

Therefore we urgently recommend you to arrive early enough to spend *at least the entire first week before the start of the semester* already in Munich. Some extremely important information events will take place during these days. It is imperative for all exchange students at Institut für Deutsche Philologie to attend the special orientation meeting we offer on Monday that week, i.e. exactly one week before the first day of semester.

#### 3. Preparation / Course Registration

Since German studies are very popular at LMU, there are hundreds of students enrolled in our programs. With all these students competing for places in the seminars, *many courses are overcrowded and can be closed for latecomers*. As classroom space is limited, professors teaching central and popular seminars (e. g. “Einführung in die Syntax des Deutschen”) are often forced to reject even regular applicants. Hence exchange students are frequently denied access to their favoured seminars if these are already overcrowded. They also often start their courses far less well prepared than their fellow students, who enrolled already at the end of the preceding semester and were given reading instructions for the holidays.

We therefore recommend all exchange students *to register for their favoured classes as early as possible*. The online course catalogue will help you to find out about the upcoming semester's classes in time.

**All exchange students should study the course catalogue well in advance, at least 2 or 3 months before beginning their first semester in Munich.** The new course catalogue goes online at the end of the preceding semester, i.e. in **mid- or late July** for the winter semester (ca. mid-October till mid-February), in **early February** for the summer semester (ca. mid-April till mid-/late July). The best strategy for you is to study the course catalogue immediately after it has been published and to contact the professors teaching your favoured courses at once. Get in touch with them, write a polite e-mail and ask to be accepted into their seminars! Otherwise you will have to settle for courses that are not closed yet when semester starts.

#### 4. Learning Agreement

**You should phrase your *Learning agreement* rather abstractly, without referring to individual course titles.** This is advisable because our course offerings usually change every semester, meaning that a seminar offered once will probably not be available the following semesters. *It is pointless to base your planning on individual course titles of past semesters*, since these do not permit a prognosis for the future.

Instead, you should use the abstract module titles as given in the guidelines of the BA degree programme ("Studienordnung") and listed in the course catalogue, e.g. „Proseminar: Schwerpunkte der Neueren deutschen Literatur“. These modules will be offered every semester, always filled with different individual content.

#### 5. ECTS Credits

You will receive 3 ECTS credits for attending a lecture, 6 ECTS credits for a Proseminar or Fortgeschrittenenseminar, 9 ECTS credits for an Einführungsseminar, provided that you pass the corresponding exams. *These numbers are absolutely non-negotiable!* If your home university awards more credit points for a similar workload, please contact your local exchange coordinator and ask her/him to adapt the amount of credit points in your favour.

#### 6. More Information

- Institut für Deutsche Philologie: <http://www.germanistik.lmu.de>
- LMU Course Catalogue: <http://www.lsf.lmu.de>
- LMU Auslandsamt/International Office: [http://www.uni-muenchen.de/studium/studium\\_int/studium\\_lmu/index.html](http://www.uni-muenchen.de/studium/studium_int/studium_lmu/index.html)

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