



Dear exchange students,

We're very happy that you'll be studying at the Viadrina and taking language courses at our Language Centre! Here you'll find answers to many important questions before the semester begins. Please read the information carefully.

Do you still have questions? Then call us or send us an e-mail. We're looking forward to hearing from you.

[Contacts at the Language Centre](#)

[Website of the Language Centre](#)

I would like to learn a new language. What do I have to do?

Register for a course of your desired language at the Grundstufe 1 level.

Registration for all languages at the G1 level except for Polish is on the website of the [viadrina sprachen gmbh](#) (click "Jetzt buchen" below the timetable).

Registration for Grundstufe 1 for Polish is through [ViaCampus](#).

I would like to continue learning a language. I have background knowledge of this language. What do I have to do?

Register by e-mail for the [placement test of your desired language](#). The tests for languages except English will be held on 29.10 and 30.10. The test for English will be available from 26.10 until 29.10. But you have to register in advance. Please go to the [website of your desired language at the Language Centre](#) and register for the placement test. [Registration information for English is found here](#).

After the placement test you will be notified of your placement level. Then you can register for a course at that level.

You can find information about registration here: **Where and by when do I register for a language course?**

Which course levels are at the Language Centre?

The course levels are:

Grundstufe 1 (beginner)

Grundstufe 2

Mittelstufe 1

Mittelstufe 2

Oberstufe (upper intermediate)

Wissenschaftskommunikation (academic communication)

The course levels at the Language Centre cover the A1-C1 range of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). (Note: German offers C2 level courses and English does not offer A1-A2)

Which languages can I learn at the Language Centre?

German, English, French, Italian, Polish, Russian, Spanish, Turkish

How many languages can I learn at one time?

There is no rule for this. Theoretically you can choose all of our offered languages. But practically you should consider how much space you have for languages in your study plan.

What do language courses cost?

- One German course per semester is free for exchange students
- Language courses that you book through the *viadrina sprachen gmbh* cost 190 euros each (4 hours of class per week). If you regularly attend these classes, the course fees will be reimbursed at the end of the semester. In this case, the university will bear the cost.
- Language courses that you book through *viaCampus* are free of charge.

Details on the cost of language courses

1. Free courses

- One **German** course per semester is free for exchange students. (But most German intensive courses between the semester lecture periods have a fee).
- **Polish**: all courses are free of charge.
- **English**: All courses starting from the "Oberstufe" level are free of charge.
- **All other languages**: all courses from the "Mittelstufe 1" level are free of charge.

- In other words, all courses that you can book through viaCampus are free of charge.

2. Courses with fees

- English: Mittelstufe 1 and Mittelstufe 2 cost 190 euros each. (English doesn't offer Grundstufe 1 and 2).
- All languages except German, Polish, and English: Grundstufe 1 and Grundstufe 2 cost 190 euros each.
- Note: If you regularly attend these classes, the course fees will be reimbursed at the end of the semester. In this case, the university will bear the cost.

Where and by when can I register for a language course?

For language courses at the Grundstufe 1 and 2 levels (and English Mittelstufe 1 and 2) register online through the [viadrina sprachen gmbh](#). Registration ends on 04.11.2020 at 12:00 a.m. (midnight).

For other languages register online through viaCampus. Registration ends at 04.11.2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Note: Remember that you have to take a placement test before you register, except if you want to register for Grundstufe 1. Be sure to check the dates for these.

When will I know if I received a spot in a desired course?

When you register for a course through the website of the viadrina sprachen gmbh, you receive an immediate place in the course.

When you register for a course through viaCampus, you first receive a confirmation that you have given your course preferences. After the course allocation on Friday 06.11.2020 at 10:00 a.m., you can check viaCampus to see which courses you have.

Do I earn ECTS credits for language courses?

Exchange students obtain ECTS credits when language courses are regularly attended (at least 75%) and successfully completed.

Language courses that meet for 2 hours per week: 3 ECTS credits

Language courses that meet for 4 hours per week: 6 ECTS credits

Language courses that meet for 8 hours per week: 12 ECTS credits

Note: Credits are limited by course level and language: e.g., maximum 6 credits for Grundstufe or Oberstufe; 12 credits for Wissenschaftskommunikation

Where is the Language Centre?

The Language Centre is in the seminar building in August-Bebel-Straße 12 (Tram stop "Witzlebenstraße", lines 2 and 5)

What's in the Language Centre?

In the Language Centre there is a self-study centre that you can use at any time. There are also many seminar rooms, the offices of the Language Centre's staff, and a small cafeteria.

In winter semester 2020/21 all languages are taught online until the end of 2020; then in January 2021 we plan to have lessons in person. But the Language Centre will still be open in 2020. You can use the self-study centre there. And after arranging an appointment, you can meet with the staff of the Language Centre.