

Note:

The following curriculum is a consolidated version. It is legally non-binding and for informational purposes only.

The legally binding versions are found in the University of Innsbruck Bulletins (in German).

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Curriculum for the
University Continuing Education Programme
University Preparation Programme for Supplementary Examinations
at the University of Innsbruck

Contents

- § 1 Qualification profile
- § 2 Objectives
- § 3 Admission
- § 4 Placement
- § 5 Scope and duration
- § 6 Courses
- § 7 Compulsory modules
- § 8 Examination regulations
- § 9 Evaluation
- § 10 Coming into force

§ 1 Qualification profile

Within the scope of the Continuing Education Programme, graduates improve their language skills to independently manage everyday academic life in Austria and in other German-speaking countries. They have sufficient skills in German to follow and actively participate in courses. The acquisition of study-specific skills enables them to shape their learning processes independently and responsibly. This strengthens their ability to act autonomously as well as professionally and linguistically competent in everyday university and non-university life.

As part of their language skills, graduates can communicate spontaneously and fluently in terms of productive skills in accordance with level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), so that a normal conversation with native speakers is easily possible without much effort on either side. They can express themselves clearly and in detail on a wide range of general, professional and subject-specific topics, explain a viewpoint on a topical issue and indicate the advantages and disadvantages of different options.

Corresponding to B2+ level receptive skills, the graduates can understand the main contents of complex texts on concrete and abstract topics in study and everyday life as well as professional articles. They can follow discussions from their own field.

Moreover, graduates are able to take detailed notes on lectures from their field of interest and summarise long and challenging texts. They can understand the vocabulary and structures of general scientific language.

§ 2 Objectives

The continuing education course “University Preparation Programme for Supplementary Examinations” (abbreviated: University Preparation Programme) has the task to prepare international study candidates for passing the supplementary examination for proving knowledge of the German language (§63 par. 10a and 10b Universities’ Act 2002) and to enable them linguistically to pass supplementary examinations in other subjects (§64 par. 2 Universities’ Act 2002). The according to the notice of admission required supplementary examination in German is deemed to have been delivered with the successful passing of the University Preparation Programme.

§ 3 Admission

- (1) Persons who have received a notice by the Rectorate of the University of Innsbruck that they require a supplementary examination in German and possibly one or several other supplementary examinations before being admitted as degree students, are admitted to the University Preparation Programme for Supplementary Examinations.
- (2) Upon registration to the University Preparation Programme the valid admission notice of the University of Innsbruck must be presented and the fee for the continuing education programme paid.

§ 4 Placement

Participants who – based on the regulations of the Rectorate – can proof language skills at level A2 of the CEFR are admitted to module 1. Upon presentation of proof for language skills at level B1 of the CEFR that is recognised by the Admission Department, the placement is made by means of a placement test based on the levels of the CEFR.

§ 5 Scope and duration

- (1) The University Preparation Programme covers altogether 45 ECTS-Credits. One ECTS-Credit corresponds to a workload of 25 hours.
- (2) The University Preparation Programme usually lasts two semesters. Students who require only the supplementary examination in German are entitled to join the courses of the University Preparation Programme for three semesters. Students who have to take supplementary examinations in other subjects in addition to the University Preparation Programme are entitled to participate in the courses of the preparatory programme for four semesters.
- (3) In justified cases, the responsible member of the Rectorate may approve of a maximum of two further semesters of participation. Important reasons of justification are reasons preventing students from continuing the University Preparation Programme (e.g. illness, pregnancy, family obligations or other unforeseeable or inevitable events).

§ 6 Courses

- (1) Practical courses (UE) focus on the practical treatment of concrete scientific tasks within an area. Practical courses are courses with continuous performance assessment.
- (2) The language is taught by means of action-oriented language teaching with training of the four language skills (listening, reading, speaking, writing) in the practical courses. The contents of the course are taught in three groups with a maximum of 25 participants each, using adequate teaching materials adapted to the group (textbooks and workbooks, authentic audio and reading texts, videos, online offers, etc.). Depending on the level, they include topics from everyday life, the world of study and work as well as the political, social and cultural environment. They also serve the development of learning strategies, as well as the promotion of intercultural and socio-cultural competence and other specific competences, relevant for a successful and self-responsible participation in university life.

§ 7 Compulsory modules

The following compulsory modules must be passed:

1.	Compulsory Module: German – Independent Language Use I (Target Level B1/B1+)	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	UE German I (B1/B1+) Language skills corresponding to level B1 in the field of productive skills to participate in everyday conversations relatively easily, to communicate in familiar conversation situations and to be able to conduct conversations on topics of one's own fields of interest as well as to write notes, letters or e-mails in everyday situations relating to events, feelings or desires. Linguistic tools and interpretation strategies corresponding to level B1+ in the field of receptive skills, in order to understand relatively complex and detailed information and texts on study-relevant and job-related topics and to follow longer conversations on current topics; Imparting of a wide range of language learning strategies – such as working with (online) dictionaries or corresponding tools, interpretation strategies and techniques for independently expanding the range of one's vocabulary, such as the use of world and prior knowledge to decode texts, to recognise key words or the formation on hypotheses	10	15
b.	UE German for Studying I	4	3

	<p>Work with key text types and imparting of basic linguistic actions for studying and for orientation in university environment: understanding information texts and essential information from university-related e-mails and writing emails, creating short presentations, handouts, reports, simple transcripts, summaries and excerpts, interpretation of diagrams, graphics and statistics, researching, collecting and structuring of information;</p> <p>Introduction of university services (e.g. advising services and special university institutions such as the Student Service Centre, the ÖH students' union, the USI), use of fundamental technologies and offers of information procurement such as library services and learning platforms</p>		
	Total	14	18
	<p>Learning Outcomes:</p> <p>With regards to their productive skills, graduates are able to express themselves on level B1 in relation to their personal fields of interest; They are able to summarise short stories, simple and clearly structured articles or lectures relating to a familiar subject-area, to express their opinion and report on personal experiences.</p> <p>With regards to their receptive skills at level B1+, graduates are able to understand – with limited exactness – actual information given in professional and everyday situations, take the essential information from texts of different subject areas, understand information relating to everyday, job-related and study-related topics and follow the argumentation of a discussion of their own field of interest relatively easily.</p> <p>In addition, graduates can present a prepared presentation on a familiar topic in their area of expertise so clearly that it is usually easy to follow, with the main points being explained with sufficient precision. Graduates have a command of basic working techniques and can for example use dictionaries and technical aids in a targeted and efficient manner, thereby working out new specialist fields. They have a command of learning and working strategies that enable them to better understand and structure information. Moreover, the graduates know about the organisation of studies in Austria.</p>		
	Prerequisites: none		

3.	Compulsory Module: German – Independent Language Use II (Target Level B2/B2+)	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	<p>UE German II (B2/B2+)</p> <p>Language skills corresponding to level B2 in the field of productive skills to participate in (professional) conversations and discussions, to understand and pass on complex information, to comment on something, to substantiate one's own opinion in a detailed way and to contradict someone based on arguments;</p> <p>Language skills and interpretation strategies corresponding to level B2+ in the field of receptive skills to understand the main contents of complex texts on concrete and abstract topics in the study programme and everyday life as well as to follow subject-specific texts and discussions in one's own field of expertise.</p>	10	17
b.	UE German for Studying II	4	7

	Working with demanding text types and imparting of complex linguistic actions for studying: holding of simple specialist presentations, adequate design of presentation media, creation of excerpts, summaries and transcriptions of subject-specific lectures or texts as well as writing of protocols; introduction to writing scientific papers (e.g. basic means of scientific language, research, structuring, bibliography); insights into academic learning traditions, discussion and feedback cultures		
	Total	14	24
	<p>Learning Outcomes: Graduates are able to communicate spontaneously and fluently with regard to productive skills in accordance with level B2, so that a normal conversation with native speakers is possible without great effort on both sides. They can express themselves clearly and in detail on a wide range of general, professional and subject-specific topics, explain a point of view on a topical issue and state the advantages and disadvantages of different possibilities.</p> <p>With regard to the receptive skills according to the level B2+, graduates are able to understand the main contents of complex texts on concrete and abstract topics in studies and everyday life as well as subject-specific articles. They are able to follow discussions in their own subject field.</p> <p>Moreover, graduates are able to take detailed notes during a scientific lecture in their field of interest and summarise long and challenging texts. They are able to understand the vocabulary and structure of general scientific language.</p>		
	Prerequisites: successful completion of module 1		

§ 8 Examination regulations

- (1) A module is completed with the positive evaluation of its courses. Practical courses are courses with continuous performance assessment. There is compulsory attendance to the extent of at least 75 per cent.
- (2) Course instructors have to inform the students on the targets, contents and methods used as well as on the contents, methods and evaluation criteria of the course examinations in a suitable manner before the start of the semester.
- (3) In all other respects, the applicable regulations for exams stipulated in the Universities' Act and the part of the statutes relating to the Study Law Regulations of the University of Innsbruck apply.

§ 9 Evaluation

Continuing education programmes are evaluated according to the legal regulations of the University of Innsbruck.

§ 10 Coming into force

- (1) This curriculum comes into force one month after its announcement.
- (2) The modifications of the curriculum as published in the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 23 July 2020, Issue 43, No. 494 come into force one month after their publication.