

German Linguistics: Historical Evolution of the German Language (A003087)

Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)

Credits 5.0 Study time 150 h Contact hrs 40.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2016-2017

A (semester 2) German lecture 30.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2016-2017

Farasyn, Melissa	LW06	staff member
Witzenhausen, Elisabeth	LW06	staff member
Breitbarth, Anne	LW06	lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2016-2017

	crdts	offering
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject Dutch - German)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject English - German)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject French - German)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject German)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject German - Greek)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject German - Italian)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject German - Scandinavian Studies)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject German - Spanish)	5	A
Master of Arts in Historical Linguistics and Literature	5	A
Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature	5	A

Teaching languages

German

Keywords

(Low) German, Old High German, Middle High German, Early New High German, Old Saxon, Middle Low German, historical development

Position of the course

The development of the German language since the beginning of textual transmission, also considering the historical development of Low German (Old Saxon, Middle Low German)

Contents

After a brief introduction to the historical background, the grammar (phonology, morphology and syntax) of each historical stage of High and Low German is discussed, as well as the diachronic processes connecting them.

Initial competences

Competencies from the Bachelor degree:

- 1 Good command of German
- 2 Being acquainted with linguistics terminology

Final competences

- 1 To recognize the structure and the features of the older stages of High and Low German
- 2 To describe the history of the German language
- 3 To place the processes of language change in (Low) German in their Germanic context
- 4 To understand, analyse and translate also texts that were not discussed in class
- 5 To place also texts that were not discussed in class in their context in terms of (language) history and transmission

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

Lecture, seminar: coached exercises

Extra information on the teaching methods

exercises: working with texts from different historical stages of (High/Low) German (reading, translation, grammar)

Learning materials and price

Handouts

References

(besides historical grammars and dictionaries:)

Bergmann, Rolf, Claudine Moulin & Nikolaus Ruge. 2011. *Alt- und Mittelhochdeutsch*. Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht.

Peters, Robert. 1973. Mittelniederdeutsche Sprache. In Jan Goossens (Hg.), *Niederdeutsch – Sprache und Literatur*. Bd. 1: Sprache, 66.-115. Neumünster: Wachholtz.

Peters, Robert. 1998. Zur Sprachgeschichte des niederdeutschen Raumes. *Zeitschrift für deutsche Philologie* 117, Sonderheft Regionale Sprachgeschichte, ed. Werner Besch & Hans Joachim Solms, 108.-127.

Speyer, Augustin. 2010. *Deutsche Sprachgeschichte*. Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht.

Wegera, Klaus-Peter, Schultz-Balluff, Simone and Bartsch, Nina.

2011. *Mittelhochdeutsch als fremde Sprache: Eine Einführung für das Studium der germanistischen Mediävistik*. Berlin: Erich Schmidt Verlag.

Course content-related study coaching

support / exercises by two assistants, next to office hours of lecturer

Evaluation methods

end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Written examination

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Written examination

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Participation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

Assessment moment:

80% post-sessional

20% in-sessional

Assessment form:

Post-sessional: written exam

In-sessional: weekly assignments

Calculation of the examination mark

80% written exam

20% in-sessional assessment

Facilities for Working Students

1. Possible exemption from certain educational activities requiring student attendance

2. Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year

3. Feedback can be given by email, telephone or by appointment

For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy