Course
Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2019-2020

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

Course

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 2019-2020

A (semester 1) German lecture 30.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2019-2020

Breitbarth, Anne LW06 lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2019-2020

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<tr>
<td>Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject Dutch - German)</td>
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<td>Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject French - German)</td>
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Teaching languages

German

Keywords

German, Old High German, Middle High German, Old Saxon, Middle Low German, Early New High 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.

The theoretical and encyclopedic knowledge will be applied and deepened in a small individual research task.

Students reading for an educational MA degree can work on the topic "Sprachgeschichte und Schule", for which findings from German language history are used to develop educational material to help understand better e.g. difficult grammatical topics like adjective agreement.

(Draft -- caution, this is not the final version)
Initial competences

Competencies from the Bachelor degree:
1 Good written and spoken command of German
2 Familiarity with linguistic terminology

Final competences

1 Be able to recognise the structure and features of older stages of High and Low German
2 Describe the language history of High and Low German (language proficiency: orally and written)
3 Place the processes of language change in High and Low German in their Germanic context
4 Be able to read, understand, and translate also texts that were not previously discussed in class
5 Place also texts that were not previously discussed in class in their (language-)historical and transmissional context
6 Carry out a small individual corpus research and write about its results according to the scientific standards in the target language (language proficiency aspect: research skills, academic writing skills)

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

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Lecture, seminar: coached exercises

Learning materials and price

Slides, reader with selected texts from all historical stages, grammar overview

References

Where applicable, articles and book chapters will be provided through Minerva

Course content-related study coaching

Collective and individual supervision

Evaluation methods

End-of-term evaluation

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

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

Not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

In-sessional evaluation:

Calculation of the examination mark

(Draft -- caution, this is not the final version)