

Guide to understanding the courses offered

German Term	English Term	Explanation	Type of exam given during the course
Vorlesung	lecture	Professor gives a lecture, outlines a topic. Usually no discussion, number of participants is not limited.	Possible exam upon consultation with professor (written or oral exam, or no course assessment)
Seminare	seminar/workshop	Lecturer gives input, afterwards discussion and presentations by students. Usually limited number of participants.	Usually presentation and/or homework assignments (written elaboration of a topic) are required
Einführungsseminar	introductory seminar	Overview of a subject.	Usually written exam
Proseminar	Basic seminar	Seminar introducing a topic.	Usually presentation and/or homework assignments (written elaboration of a topic) are required
Hauptseminar	Main seminar	Seminar that gives in-depth knowledge of a subject area. More suitable for advanced students.	Usually presentation and/or homework assignments (written elaboration of a topic) are required
Oberseminare	Advanced seminar	Seminar preparing for the degree.	Usually presentation and/or homework assignments are required (written elaboration of a topic)
Tutorium/Übung/ Besprechung	Tutorial/exercise/discussion	Chance to discuss learning material, or to ask questions. Often conducted by student workers, research assistants, or students	Often no exams, otherwise mostly practical projects, short presentations, reports etc.,...

		from upper semesters	
Kolloquium	Colloquium	Offers a chance to exchange knowledge with other students before the final degree	Usually no exam.
Einführungsveranstaltung	Introductory course	Provides a rough overview of a subject area; one-time event.	None, if one-time event.
Blockveranstaltung	Block course	Compact 2-4-day seminar; 6-8 hours per day	Usually like a seminar.
Praktikum	Internship	Practical use of acquired knowledge.	Practical project, usually internship work report.
SWS (Semesterwochenstunden)	SWS (semester hours per week)	Lessons (1 SWS is equal to 45 minutes) per week	
Credits	Credits	Number of Credits (ECTS-Points), that you can acquire in this course. You acquire credits through regular attendance and by taking an exam. Credits indicate the volume of work. One credit point is 25-30 working hours (incl. preparation and studying at home). In many subjects ECTS credits are not listed. If that is the case, please inquire with the instructor. In many cases, the number of ECTS credits depends on the type of exam, which can	

		often be arranged individually, e.g. when you need more points, or fewer points. Negotiation of credits is not guaranteed.	
s.t. (sine tempore)	s.t. (sine tempore)	Event starts and ends at the assigned time.	
c.t. (cum tempore)	c.t. (cum tempore)	Event starts 15 minutes later and ends 15 minutes before the assigned time.	