



COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
Multilingual Proficiency in English and German I/IV / Daugiakalbė komunikacija anglų ir vokiečių kalbomis I/IV d.	DSTMP1

Academic staff	Core academic unit(s)
Coordinating: Assoc. Prof. Dr Diana Babušytė Other: Lect. Jekaterina Šukalova	Vilnius University Faculty of Philology, Universiteto g. 5, LT-01131, Vilnius, tel. +370 5 268 7207, e-mail studijos@flf.vu.lt

Study cycle	Type of the course unit
1 st (bachelor)	Compulsory

Mode of delivery	Semester or period when it is delivered	Language of instruction
Face to face	1 st semester (autumn)	English and German German, as the language of instruction, will be introduced gradually, as students' skills in German progress throughout the course.

Requisites	
Prerequisites: ≥ B2 level of English	Co-requisites (if relevant):

Number of ECTS credits allocated	Student's workload (total)	Contact hours	Individual work
10	266	128	138

Purpose of the course unit		
The course "Multilingual Proficiency in English and German" consists of four parts in total. The purpose of the course is to enable students to communicate effectively in multilingual and intercultural contexts by strategically applying metalinguistic awareness, developing balanced proficiency in English and German, and reflecting on their own language learning processes. Students bring sophisticated metalinguistic awareness from their B2 English competence, enabling accelerated pattern recognition and strategic language learning in German while maintaining and enhancing their advanced English skills. The language level increases with each part accordingly. To facilitate the development of German language skills, which is the second foreign language, the students' workload is divided between languages as follows: EN (25%), DE (75%).		
Learning outcomes of the course unit	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
After completing the course, students will be able to:		
DK 3.1 and BK.4.1 English and German proficiency: Demonstrate reception, interaction, mediation, and production skills in English at CEFR level B2+; demonstrate reception, interaction, mediation, and production skills in German at CEFR level A1; code-switch strategically	Working with authentic texts and audio-visual recordings in both languages; individual practical tasks targeting specific language skills: open-ended and closed interactive exercises with progressive difficulty levels; speaking assignments:	Continuous assessment: quizzes, standardized proficiency tests aligned with CEFR descriptors for each level; integrated skills assessment through (multilingual) tasks

between simple German expressions and complex English explanations	recording videos with self-reflection components, presentations; partner work: dialogues/role plays, (online) interaction tasks with clear language targets; structured group discussions in English with integration of German expressions; writing assignments: producing texts of various genres with clear assessment criteria; collaborative multilingual group projects addressing real-world scenarios	(written and oral); presentations; Midterm (written) and exam (written and oral, with multilingual assignments and tasks)
BK.4.2 Intercultural competence and cross-linguistic awareness: Utilize advanced English skills to access German learning materials, cultural texts, and comparative linguistic resources; synthesize information from basic German sources and complex English academic materials into coherent multilingual presentations; apply B2+ level discourse strategies from English to basic German communication situations, adapting complexity appropriately	Contrastive linguistic analysis exercises highlighting similarities/differences; research tasks comparing linguistic and cultural aspects; multilingual presentations; information synthesis practice with sources in both languages; cultural sensitivity training through authentic materials; language switching practice in controlled communicative contexts	- Continuous assessment: quizzes, standardized proficiency tests aligned with CEFR descriptors for each level; integrated skills assessment through (multilingual) tasks (written and oral); presentations; - Midterm (written) and exam (written and oral, with multilingual assignments and tasks)
BK.4.5 Self-Assessment: Track and assess their progress, analyze their strengths and weaknesses, identify areas for improvement, and develop plans for future development; analyze language learning processes using B2+ English academic discourse to reflect on German A1 acquisition strategies	Critical reflection on language learning processes; self-assessment with guided reflection prompts; error analysis training with corrective strategies; goal-setting and progress monitoring instruction; self-directed learning planning	Individual learning plans with measurable objectives; oral reflection session with the course instructor(s)

Content	Contact hours							Individual work: time and assignments	
	Lectures	Tutorials	Seminars	Workshops	Laboratory work	Internship	Contact hours, total	Individual work	Tasks for individual work
Identity and Digital Cultures German (A1): Personal introductions (name, origin, age, languages spoken). Family and friends (cultural similarities/differences). Basic expressions of likes, dislikes, and hobbies (introductory digital profiles or avatars). English (B2+): Digital identities and online self-presentation (social media, virtual worlds). National identity vs. global digital cultures (e.g., online subcultures, influencer culture, memes). Cultural comparisons: German Leitkultur debate and Anglo-American multiculturalism online.			20				20	22	Exercises, assignments, and tasks focusing on developing vocabulary, comprehension, production, interaction, mediation, and sociolinguistic skills according to the respective CEFR level: A1: vocabulary notebooks, short listening tasks, controlled writing tasks, preparing monologues using
Daily Life and Technological Change German (A1): Daily routines (cultural practices in Germany, Austria,			20				20	22	

Switzerland). Telling the time, describing schedules, and organizing simple digital calendars. English (B2+): Everyday life transformation under Industry 4.0 (smart home technology, digital workplaces, remote work). Work-life balance and digital detoxing (comparative cultural perspectives, German vs. Anglophone).								fixed prompts. B2+: critical comprehension tasks, writing structured essays and argumentative responses, reformulating simple German content into structured academic English, discourse analysis tasks (register, communication strategy), language adaptation tasks, breaking down complex information, amplifying dense texts, etc. Using GenAI tools for language learning: A1: chatbots to practice formulaic dialogues, creating vocabulary flashcards. B2+: critically evaluating AI-generated argumentative texts, prompt-engineering tasks, generating slide decks, creating infographics, deep research tasks etc.
Business Communication and Digital Economy German (A1): Basic transactions and shopping vocabulary in digital contexts (online shopping apps, simple transactions). Food and drink ordering using digital menus or apps. English (B2+): Cross-cultural business communication in digital formats (email etiquette, professional social networks). Corporate digital presentations and video conferencing skills. Digital negotiation skills and intercultural mediation in business settings.		22				22	22	
Midterm		2				2	3	Repetition, midterm-style tasks, mock midterm
Oral reflection session 1		2				2	1.5	Filling out a self-assessment checkpoint template
Real vs. Virtual Spaces German (A1): Describing immediate physical environment (home, neighborhood, simple maps and directions). Basic use of digital maps (navigation apps, virtual tours of German-speaking cities). English (B2+): Virtual worlds, augmented reality, and the impact of cyberspace on perception of place (Cyberpunk genre as critical reflection). Ethical issues regarding privacy and identity in virtual spaces.		20				20	22	Exercises, assignments, and tasks focusing on developing vocabulary, comprehension, production, interaction, mediation, and sociolinguistic skills according to the respective CEFR level: A1: vocabulary notebooks, short listening tasks, controlled writing tasks, preparing monologues using fixed prompts. B2+: critical comprehension tasks, writing structured
Communication Technologies German (A1): Basic digital communication (using devices, apps, simple messaging). Vocabulary and practice of basic technological interactions (online platforms, login procedures). English (B2+): Digital transformation and artificial intelligence. Digitalization		20				20	22	

challenges. Critical analysis of German engineering excellence in technology and innovation, contrasted with global tech trends (e.g., Silicon Valley vs. German Mittelstand).									essays and argumentative responses, reformulating simple German content into structured academic English, discourse analysis tasks (register, communication strategy), language adaptation tasks, breaking down complex information, amplifying dense texts, etc. Using GenAI tools for language learning: A1: chatbots to practice formulaic dialogues, creating vocabulary flashcards. B2+: critically evaluating AI-generated argumentative texts, prompt-engineering tasks, generating slide decks, creating infographics, deep research tasks etc.
Natural Environment, Sustainability, and Everyday Practices German (A1): Weather, seasons, and basic descriptions of the natural environment (clothing, simple weather apps). Basic environmental practices (recycling, simple sustainable actions at home). English (B2+): Global environmental policies and digital activism (social media campaigns, digital mobilization, eco-conscious apps). Comparative sustainability practices in German-speaking countries and Anglophone contexts.			20				20	22	
Oral reflection session 2			2				2	1.5	Filling out a self-assessment checkpoint template
Total			128				128	138	

Assessment strategy	Weight %	Deadline	Assessment criteria
Continuous assessment of semester performance: average grade	30%	During the semester	All specific details regarding the grading of quizzes, written and oral assignments, and tasks will be provided to students by the instructors prior to the beginning of the course. The average grade of the continuous assessment must be at least 5 to gain admission to the examination.
Midterm	20%	In the middle of the semester	Single integrated multilingual test. Ten-point assessment scale: 10 (excellent). Excellent, exceptional knowledge and abilities. 95-100% of questions answered correctly.
Written exam	20%	During the exam period	9 (very good). Very good knowledge and abilities. 85-94 % of questions answered correctly. 8 (good). Knowledge and abilities are above average. 75-84 % of questions answered correctly. 7 (average). Average knowledge and abilities; there are a few non-essential mistakes. 65-74 % of questions answered correctly. 6 (satisfactory). Knowledge and abilities are below average; there are mistakes. 55-64 % of questions answered correctly. 5 (weak). Knowledge and abilities meet the minimum requirements. 51-54 % of questions answered correctly. 4, 3, 2, 1. Minimum requirements are not met to varying extents.

Oral exam	20%	During the exam period	Single integrated multilingual exam. The following qualitative aspects of spoken language use are assessed according to the descriptors of the respective CEFR level (German: A1, English: B2+): range of language, grammatical accuracy, fluency, interaction, discourse coherence, and multilingual strategies. Three bands are used: excellent (2 points), satisfactory (1 point), insufficient (0 points). Detailed descriptions of respective performance levels will be provided to students by the instructors prior to the beginning of the course. All accumulated points will be converted into the grade.
Two individual oral reflection sessions with the course instructor(s)	10%	In the middle of the semester and at the end of the semester	Not graded activity. Points (0.5 + 0.5) are given for meaningful participation in the reflection session.

Author (-s)	Publishing year	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing house or web link
Required reading				
VU	2025	Interactive learning units on Moodle.		https://emokymai.vu.it
Beck, Ulrich	2002	The Cosmopolitan Society and Its Enemies: Special Issue on Cosmopolis	<i>Theory, culture & society</i> 19.1–2, pp. 17–44.	https://doi.org/10.1177/026327640201900101
Funk, Hermann [u. a.]	2020	<i>Das Leben. Deutsch als Fremdsprache. A1: Gesamtband. Kurs- und Übungsbuch inkl. E-Book und PagePlayer-App</i>	1. Auflage	Cornelsen Verlag GmbH
House, Juliane, Gabriele Kasper, and Steven Ross (eds.)	2003	<i>Misunderstanding in Social Life: Discourse Approaches to Problematic Talk.</i>	(excerpts)	Routledge https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/viluniv-ebooks/detail.action?docID=1798367
Papacharissi, Zizi	2011	<i>A Networked Self: Identity, Community, and Culture on Social Network Sites</i>	(excerpts)	Routledge https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/viluniv-ebooks/detail.action?docID=574608
Recommended reading				
		Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: Learning, teaching, assessment – Companion volume.	Newest version	https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages/level-descriptions
Castells, Manuel	2016	Networks of Outrage and Hope: Social Movements in the Internet Age.	Blaug, Ricardo. Democracy, pp. 433–435.	Edinburgh University Press https://research.ebsco.com/linkprocessor/plink?id=5f646705-0de5-30f5-865c-b1387ca3086e
Liu, Shuxian, and Edgar Gómez-Cruz	2025	‘Temu Is Evil, but I Still Use It’: Platform Cynicism in Platform Capitalism	New media & society: n. pag.	https://doi.org/10.1177/14614448251365269

Copilot (free version)			Study and learn mode	https://copilot.microsoft.com/
ChatGPT (free version)			Study and learn mode	https://chatgpt.com/
Claude (free version)			Learning or explanatory style	https://claude.ai/
Excalidraw				https://excalidraw.com/
Meta (free version)				https://www.meta.ai
Mindly (free)				https://mindlyapp.com/
Mimind (free version)				https://mimind.cryptobees.com/
NotebookLM (free version)				https://notebooklm.google.com/
PDFtoVideo (free)				https://pdftovideo.ai/
Perplexity (free version)			Academic mode	https://www.perplexity.ai
Text to speech (free)				https://www.text-to-speech.online

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