

VWU German Courses at ZIB Training

Binding Guidelines for Successful Course Participation

General Information:

1. Each course group comprises a variety of different personalities. We see this **diversity** as a **great strength**. Therefore, we expect everyone to treat each other with **respect, openness and tolerance**, regardless of their origin, language, religion, gender or personal opinions. Our courses have no tolerance for discrimination, disrespectful behaviour or any form of verbal or physical violence.
2. We encourage **active participation** in class and expect everyone to follow basic communication rules, such as letting others finish speaking, listening actively, and maintaining a respectful tone. Please save private conversations and social media activities for the breaks.
3. If you have any questions or require information about your course, your trainer should be your first point of contact. If they cannot help, you are welcome to visit our course office (Room 1125) or contact us by email at germanforvienna@zib.training.
4. Your success in learning German largely depends on your **personal commitment**. We recommend spending at least as much time learning and practising German outside of class as you do in class. Try to actively apply what you learn to your everyday life.
5. During this course, you are required to submit **only your own written work**. All submissions must meet the **academic standards** common in higher education, such as correctly citing sources. Any form of plagiarism will not be tolerated or graded.

Course Attendance:

6. Please arrive **on time for class** and ensure that you keep your number of absences to a minimum. Late arrivals and early departures will be recorded as absences. If you arrive **more than 10 minutes late or leave early, one lesson will be deducted from your attendance record**. Each course day consists of four lessons, each lasting 45 minutes. To take part in the **third midterm test**, you **must have achieved at least 70% attendance by 16 December 2025**. Additionally, a minimum attendance of 70% is required throughout the entire course in order to successfully complete it. This may be important for course confirmation, which is required by institutions such as MA 35 for visas or residence permits. You are responsible for keeping track of your own attendance.

Midterm Tests and Progression Rules:

7. There are **three midterm tests** each semester. If you miss a test, it will automatically be graded as a '5' (fail). **There are no make-up tests or alternative dates**. You must **pass at least two of the three** midterm tests, and you **must pass the third test** in any case.
8. Your progress result, meaning which level you will attend next semester, is based on your overall performance throughout the semester. Students in levels **AN, AV and EV** with **less than 70% attendance** or **with insufficient test results** may take a **written progression exam** at the end of the semester.
9. **All students in levels AN, AV and EV** must take an **oral progression exam** at the end of the semester.
10. Students in levels FG and WF do not have to take progression exams (oral or written). However, FG students who achieve an **average grade of less than 3.0 in the three midterm tests cannot progress to level WF**. You may repeat the FG level or, at your own risk, take the EPD (Ergänzungsprüfung Deutsch) directly.
11. The levels FG (Advanced) and WF (Highly Advanced) are generally designed to prepare students for the EPD (Ergänzungsprüfung Deutsch).