

**NEW: ACHIEVING A AND A\* IN A-LEVEL GERMAN**

CODE 8139

**ABOUT THIS COURSE**

This NEW course will demonstrate how to guide your best students from success at GCSE to achieving Grades A & A\* in A-Level German examinations. Led by our highly respected and successful presenter, Wanda Marshall, a very experienced German teacher and Examiner for AQA Paper 3 (Speaking), the course will demonstrate teaching and learning ideas for all the exam papers which will stretch and challenge able students and develop their higher level skills. Using feedback from the 2019 examinations, the course will outline what is expected of high ability students and explore ways to build your teaching practice around this.

The course will consider strategies to overcome the additional challenges caused by the disruption due to lockdown and any changes to examinations.

**PROGRAMME**

TIME

**Introduction: what does an A\* Candidate look like?**

10.00 – 10.30am

**How to achieve this?**

- From 'beschreiben' to 'analysieren' – how to bridge the gap from GCSE to A Level
- How to ensure maximum exposure to the language – an overview of resources available
- Aiming for Automaticity – how to achieve this
- Analysis of the recent exam series Examiners' Reports – what do students need to be able to do to get an A\*?

Discussion: coffee break

10.30 – 10.45am

**Paper 2 – Literature and Film. How to push your students to the top**

10.45 – 11.45am

- What are examiners looking for?
- A breakdown of what is required by Assessment Objective – how do AO4 and AO3 connect with each other?
- Planning to ensure effective use of 'terminology' (Edexcel) and a 'range of vocabulary and complex structures' (AQA)
- Approaches to ensure 'detailed reference to the work' (AQA) and lots of 'relevant supporting evidence' (Eduqas)
- Supporting students to write fool-proof plans and giving them strategies to self-monitor under exam conditions

**Reading, Writing and Translation**

11.45 – 12.45pm

- Building vocabulary skills – using German in the classroom to improve vocabulary
- Tips for answering the reading and listening questions – spotting and dealing with distractors
- Tackling the toughest sentences: developing the skills needed to unpick hard German
- Stretching top students with unseen texts
- Best resources and ideas for helping students revise for the listening and reading
- Getting students to self-monitor; routines and ideas for creating personal checklists to use in exam conditions

Lunch and informal discussion

12.45 – 1.45pm

**The Speaking Exam**

1.45 – 2.45pm

- No excuses for not getting full marks for AO4 (Knowledge of Society) – easy wins for the oral exam
- Major issues to cover from German speaking countries – what is current and how can you and your students keep track?
- Choosing and monitoring the IRP; what kind of titles do examiners like and why?
- Finding a suitable topic – getting a balance between interest and the level of language required to discuss the topic

**Conducting the Speaking Exam – a masterclass/workshop**

2.45 – 3.15pm

- How to conduct the exam to get the best out of your students
- Common pitfalls to avoid
- Helping students achieve their 'linguistic ceiling' without scaring them into silence
- What do examiners like to see/hear?

**Reflections on the day and Teach meet**

3.15 – 3.30pm

- A chance to discuss the outcomes of the day and network with colleagues
- Sharing ideas – what has worked for you? What could you recommend to colleagues?

LOCATION/DATE

**Online****Friday 29 January 2021****Thursday 29 April 2021****London****Friday 09 July 2021****COURSE LEADER**

**Wanda Marshall** is a German and French teacher of nearly 20 years' experience. She was formerly Head of German in a large north London comprehensive. She currently teaches Edexcel A Level German in a sixth form college and has also been an examiner for AQA A Level German (Paper 3, oral) for the past five years so she has first hand current experience of teaching and examining the two main boards.

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND?**

- All Teachers of A Level German
- Heads of Department for German
- Heads of Faculty for Languages

**BENEFITS OF ATTENDING**

- Focused on identifying the demands of Grades A & A\* and providing materials to help teachers prepare students effectively
- Recommendations for moving students on from being GCSE-describers to A Level-analysers
- Mark schemes and Examiners' Reports will be analysed to identify and clarify the requirements of the highest levels
- Sample answers at Grades A & A\* will be examined
- Materials will be provided that will allow teachers to cover the content effectively in innovative and student-friendly ways that push the highest ability students