



## Why Learn German?

- German is the second-most frequently spoken business language.
- Germany has provided a rich literary legacy.
- German is an official language at many international conferences.
- For most scientists, basic German reading skills are essential.
- One out of every 10 books published in the world is in German.
- Germany is located in the centre of Europe, and is a window to both the east and west.
- Germany is an industrial giant in Europe and its technology is world-renowned (vehicles, machinery, electronics, chemicals...).
- Germany is one of the three leading export nations in the world.

(Source: *Werbemappe*, New York: Goethe Institute, 1999)



## Did You Know?

- Alberta opened a trade office in Munich (Bavaria) during the Team Canada mission. (Source: "Germany-Alberta Relations," Alberta International and Intergovernmental Relations, [www.iir.gov.ab.ca/international\\_relations/documents/Germany-2006.pdf](http://www.iir.gov.ab.ca/international_relations/documents/Germany-2006.pdf))
- Second language courses, including current authorized locally developed/acquired language courses, may be used to meet the Alberta senior high school diploma requirements. Up to 25 credits of the 100-credit requirement may be earned in one or more second languages.
- A 30-level (Grade 12) second language course is accepted for university entrance and is a requirement for some faculties and programs. It may also help students meet the requirements for Rutherford scholarships.



## German Language Consultant

Alberta school jurisdictions benefit from the expertise of a German language consultant through an agreement between Alberta Education and the Zentralstelle für das Auslandsschulwesen (ZfA) in Germany. The consultant provides support to German language teachers in Alberta and oversees the German language proficiency exams (DSD) in western Canada.

For more information, contact the Curriculum Branch at 780-427-2984. To be connected toll-free inside Alberta, dial 310-0000 first.



### Curriculum Branch

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# Learn German



## Deutsch Lernen



## Provincial Programs of Study

The following provincial programs of study are available:

- German Language and Culture
  - German Language and Culture Nine-year Program, Grades 4–5
  - German Language and Culture Six-year Program, Grades 7–8–9
  - German Language and Culture 10-6Y, 20-6Y, 30-6Y
  - German Language and Culture 10-3Y, 20-3Y, 30-3Y
- German Language Arts
  - German Language Arts, Kindergarten to Grade 9
  - German Language Arts 10–20–30

Current provincial programs of study may be viewed and downloaded at [www.education.gov.ab.ca/k\\_12/curriculum/bySubject/languages](http://www.education.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/languages).

*Curriculum Handbooks for Parents* and *Curriculum Summaries* contain information on what students are expected to learn and be able to do in each subject by grade/course, including German. These resources may be viewed and downloaded at [www.education.gov.ab.ca/parents/handbooks](http://www.education.gov.ab.ca/parents/handbooks).

## Where Is German Offered?

A number of school jurisdictions offer German language programming. Contact your local school jurisdiction to find out more. Links to school jurisdiction Web sites can be accessed at [www.education.gov.ab.ca/ei/maps](http://www.education.gov.ab.ca/ei/maps).

## German Language Proficiency Exam

### Deutsches Sprachdiplom (DSD)

The Deutsches Sprachdiplom:

- is an internationally recognized examination
- has an oral and a written component
- has two levels—DSD I and DSD II
- is available to Alberta senior high school students.

Interested students may ask their German teacher for details.

Successful completion of the DSD II grants Alberta students access to post-secondary education at German universities (minimal or no tuition/fees).

## Exchange Programs

Over the last 20 years, more than 2000 high school students have participated in the Alberta/Germany reciprocal student exchange program.

A number of schools in Alberta have partnerships that involve short-term exchange opportunities with schools in Germany.

Scholarships are granted to Alberta students by the German government.

Contact your high school German teacher for more information.

## German Community

- Approximately one in six Albertans reported German ethnic origin in the 2001 Census.
- German–Canadian clubs are active in many cities in Alberta.
- The German Canadian Business and Professional Association (GCBPA) is involved in a variety of activities.
- Daily German radio programming is available from 4:00–5:30 p.m. on WORLD–FM 101.7.
- The *Albertaner* is a provincial German newspaper that is published monthly.



## Program Supports

- The German Language Education Consortium is a collaboration of stakeholders who support German language education in Alberta.
- The Goethe-Institut Toronto provides resources and language learning and professional development opportunities to teachers. For more information, visit [www.goethe.de/toronto](http://www.goethe.de/toronto).
- Three parent associations in Alberta—in Calgary, Edmonton and Sherwood Park—support German-language bilingual education in their region.

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