German language certificates and learning German

Most degree programs at German universities are taught in German. That's why sufficient German language skills are generally required to study in Germany. Even if you're applying for an English-language degree program, learning German is helpful for everyday life and makes it easier to settle in. Speaking the local language usually helps you feel more comfortable and make friends more quickly.

Language Requirements at HSHL[1]

As a prerequisite for a German-language degree program, HSHL requires all applicants to have a high level of German proficiency. Only two degree programs at HSHL are taught exclusively in English and therefore do not require German language skills.
These are:

- B.Eng. Electronic Engineering
- M.Sc. Intercultural Business Psychology.

To enroll in a German-language degree program at HSHL, you must submit one of the following German language certificates:

- ✓ at least DSH 2(German Language Proficiency Test for University Admission)
- ✓ TestDaF (Test of German as a Foreign Language) with a minimum score of 4 in all sections
- ✓ Telc German C1 University
- ✓ Placement exam at a Studienkolleg
- ✓ Goethe Certificate C2 (Großes Deutsches Sprachdiplom)
- ✓ German Language Diploma Level 2 from the KMK

☞ Please note that HSHL does not offer German preparatory courses.

Where can I learn German in my home country?

- The Goethe Institutes are a good resource and have locations in many countries: https://www.goethe.de/en/spr/kur.html
- Ask your current school or university about German courses.
- Look for private language schools in your city.

(Free) online language courses and apps

- Deutsche Welle free online courses: www.dw.com/de/deutsch-lernen/s-2055
- VHS free online courses: deutsch.vhs-lernportal.de/
- BBC free online courses: www.bbc.co.uk/languages/german
- Rosetta Stone online courses: www.rosettastone.de/deutsch-lernen
- Babbel online courses: www.babbel.com/learn-german-online
- Duolingo, Quizlet, Memrise, or HelloTalk

[1] See the Enrollment Regulations of Hamm-Lippstadt University of Applied Sciences, Section 3 procedures, (3), 2., p. 4 .

I have been admitted to HSHL. Where can I continue learning German in Germany?

- For enrolled students, HSHL offers free German courses (in-person or online) at various levels throughout the semester: Language Center Hamm-Lippstadt University of Applied Sciences
- Adult education centers (Volkshochschulen = VHS) regularly offer language courses at reasonable prices (discount for students).

  Hamm: www.hamm.de/vhs

  Lippstadt: https://vhs.stadt-lippstadt.de/

☞ If you can't find a suitable course in Hamm or Lippstadt, consider VHS courses in Soest or Paderborn. You can travel there free of charge with your semester ticket.

How else can I improve my German?

- Take part in cultural events organized by AStA and the International Office, and take advantage of the University's sports programs to meet German-speaking students.
- Attend HSHL's "WednesDates" on the Lippstadt campus to meet other students every Wednesday
- Listen to German music and podcasts, and watch German TV shows and movies with subtitles.
- Look for a room in a shared flat with German-speaking students.
- Join local clubs or participate in cultural events in the area.
- Find a language tandem partner: two people help each other learn their native languages.

☞ You can post a "wanted" ad on the bulletin board at the Hamm campus (building H1.1-E00 or the cafeteria) or at the Lippstadt campus (building L2.1-E00). You can also use social media or the platform www.tandempartners.org for your search.