

# CAREERS IN **GERMAN**

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"If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his own language, that goes to his heart."

- Nelson Mandela

"If I am selling to you, I speak your language. If I am buying, dann müssen sie Deutsch sprechen."

- Willy Brandt

## **GFRMAN CARFFRS**

- 1. Professional interpreter/translator United Nations, European Union, NATO, NGOs
- 2. UK Government departments Foreign Office / Diplomatic Corps / Home Office etc
- 3. Lav
- 4. Tourism / Sports industry
- 5. Journalism (TV, paper, on-line)
- 6. Sales / Marketing / Recruitment (European / World-wide)
- 7. Investment Banking / Stock Broker / Accounting
- 8. International Business Management
- 9. Engineering (Siemens, Bosch, BMW, Bayer...)
- 10. Prime Minister/Chancellor of the Exchequer

German degrees have an excellent reputation and are popular amongst employers because graduates are literate, culturally aware and able to speak another language (obviously). They also have proven intellectual rigour and possess excellent communication, research and problem solving skills.

### WHERE TO FIND JOB ADVERTS FOR LINGUISTS

- Broadsheet daily and Sunday Newspapers, particularly the Financial Times
- Large employers of Linguists: United Nations, European Union, Government Departments, international blue chip companies

# **GERMAN DEGREES**

#### Subjects to study at A Level:

Any language (modern or ancient) but many courses offer ab initio courses in European and world languages if you haven't studied them at A Level but you may need to show ability in a language if you want to do this.

#### Wider reading:

Foreign Language news websites (e.g. <u>www.tagesschau.de</u>), ALL magazine and novels, plays, films, poems in German – anything in the foreign language is going to improve your knowledge and understanding! Try and keep abreast of current affairs in the countries where German is spoken.

Over 90 UK universities offer German. The top 10 UK Universities for German according to the Complete University Guide are:

- 1. Durham
- 2. Oxford
- 3. Cambridge
- 4. Exeter
- 5. Warwick
- 6. Bath
- 7. Surrey
- 8. Edinburgh
- 9. Birminghamm
- 10. Newcastle

(check UCAS website for entry requirements for these universities: www.ucas.com)

#### **Useful websites:**

- The Goethe Institut, London www.goethe.de/ins/gb/lon/deindex.htm
- NGO to promote language uptake <u>www.routesintolanguages.ac.uk/index.html</u>
- The Economist www.economist.com/blogs/prospero/2014/03/language-study

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The ratio of applicants to courses to study languages are among the best in the country and unemployment rates for language graduates are the lowest after medicine/dentistry and education. 30% of language graduates work in business services, 12% in manufacturing, 11% in banking and finance.

#### Facts at a glance:

Employed in graduate job: 41%

Employed in non-graduate job: 24%

• Unemployed: 6%

Average graduate salary: £21,032

Average non-graduate salary: £15,213

#### Did you know?

- 94% of the world does not speak English as their first language and 75% of the world does not speak English at all!
- 1 in 5 Europeans speak German as their mother tongue—that's over 100 million people!
- Germany is the UK's largest non-English speaking trading partner with combined sales of £2 trillion Germany is the world's 5th largest economy— (UK 8th, France 9th, Spain 14th)
- Germany is the biggest European economy and bedrock of the EU no Germany, no Euro!

#### **GRADUATE PROSPECTS**

#### Internships and Work Experience

Gumtree recently completed a poll of employers with the results showing that work experience makes you 95% more employable. The good news carries on, two thirds of employers think candidates with work experience were more knowledgeable, 44% think they are more confident and 40% say they are more committed.

Most language degrees offer a third year abroad either as a student, language assistant, working on placement or a combination of the above – all of these will make you more employable!

# CELEBRITIES WHO STUDIED LANGUAGES

FRENCH: Bradley Cooper / Jodie Foster / Audrey Hepburn / Freddie Highmore / Eddie Izzard / Diane Kruger / Ellen MacArthur / Kristin Scott Thomas. GERMAN: Sandra Bullock / Nick Clegg / Arsène Wenger. HEBREW: Natalie Portman. SPANISH: Nick Clegg / Tom Daley / Audrey Hepburn / Gwyneth Paltrow. RUSSIAN: Mila Kunis. ITALIAN: Colin Firth / Audrey Hepburn / Arsène Wenger.

