



## Language courses, activities and learning resources for students and researchers from Ukraine at UZH and ETH Zurich (11.05.2023)

### 1. Language courses

- See our website: <https://www.sprachenzentrum.uzh.ch/en/Sprachkurse.html>. To view available courses, select your university (ETH or UZH) and your target group.
- Please note that due to high demand, the number of language courses you can enroll in is limited.
- To enroll in a course, use your AAI login, if possible. Otherwise, use the workaround directly below the AAI link. If you can't see a link to enroll, check the enrollment date at the bottom of the course description page. Please enroll as soon as possible once enrollments open, so the Language Center can create more courses if the demand is very high.
- If you do not know your language level, please see **4.)** below.
- Costs:
  - For Bachelor's and Master's students, the cost of semester German courses will be waived in the fall semester of 2023 if, when you enroll, you put the word "Ukraine" in the field "Wofür brauchen Sie dieses Angebot" / "What is your main reason for taking this course/service."
  - Bachelor's and Master's students are required to pay the registration fee for the non-semester intensive courses.
  - PhD/doctoral students and staff are required to pay the usual fees for German courses (as listed in the course descriptions).
  - For all the other languages and all other target groups, the usual fees (as listed in the course descriptions) apply.
- If you have questions about language courses, please find the contact information here: <https://www.sprachenzentrum.uzh.ch/de/Kontakt.html>



## 2. Activities and learning opportunities available to you in the meantime

### 2.1 Activities and support offered by the Language Center's Self-Access Centers (SACs)

- Language learning activities: Go to <https://www.sprachenzentrum.uzh.ch/en/Autonomes-Lernen/Lernaktivit%C3%A4ten.html> and click on the "SAC overview page" link. To see available activities, follow the enrollment instructions above. Look for **study groups** or **Sprachtreffs**.
- Please note:
  - All SAC activities are free of charge (for all languages).
  - All SAC activities are not language courses but informal study groups led by students who work at the SAC.
  - Some of the online activities can also be attended on-site (mostly at the SAC Höggerberg). See the description for the activity you're interested in for more information.
- If you have general questions about our SACs and their activities, write to [slz@sprachen.uzh.ch](mailto:slz@sprachen.uzh.ch) for SAC Zentrum or [slz@library.ethz.ch](mailto:slz@library.ethz.ch) for SAC Höggerberg.

### 2.2 How to find someone to practice with:

- **Tandem:** <https://www.sprachenzentrum.uzh.ch/en/Tandem.html> (language exchange). The Language Center will try to find you a learning partner for you who wants to learn your language and who can help you learn their language (for instance Russian or Ukrainian and German). We cannot guarantee a match, as there might be more people who speak your language than those who wish to learn it, but give it a try.
- **Students Across Borders:** <https://www.studentsacrossborders.org/f%C3%BCr-nachhilfesch%C3%BCle> (volunteers will help you with your German or English in Zurich for about one hour a week)
- The form is entirely in German. If that's a problem, use an online translator such as <https://www.deepl.com/translator> or Google Translate.
- **lologu4free** provides free one-on-one online language lessons to refugees in Switzerland. It was launched as a volunteer initiative by staff and students from the Universities of Teacher Education in Switzerland and lologu. To register, follow the instructions on their website: <https://lologu.com/refugees>



### 3. Materials

#### 3.1 Materials at the SAC:

- Both **Self-Access Centers** (at the Zentrum campus, Rämistrasse 74, Room J15, and at the Hönggerberg campus) have a lot of materials for learning German and English (e.g., textbooks, audiobooks, books to prepare for language certificates and more). The **addresses** and **opening hours** are here: <https://www.sprachenzentrum.uzh.ch/de/Autonomes-Lernen.html>
- To **borrow** materials (textbooks, DVDs, graded readers, language learning games, etc.), you need a library account. Register here: <https://registration.slsp.ch/?lang=en>. Your account can also be used at many other UZH and ETH libraries.
  - When you register for a library account, you will be asked to connect your UZH or ETH account (via AAI login) to your switch edu id, which you create during the registration process. This allows you to access online literature and magazines that your university has subscribed to. If you haven't yet received your AAI login, you can do this later.
  - If you have not received a student card with a bar code yet, you can get a library card from the Self-Access Center in Rämistrasse 74.
- If you have general questions about the SACs, please write to [slz@sprachen.uzh.ch](mailto:slz@sprachen.uzh.ch) for SAC Zentrum or [slz@library.ethz.ch](mailto:slz@library.ethz.ch) for SAC Hönggerberg.

#### 3.2 Online self-study materials

##### German

- **Nicos Weg** (language course, A1-B1)
  - English: <https://learngerman.dw.com/en/overview>
  - Russian: <https://learngerman.dw.com/ru/overview>
  - Ukrainian: <https://learngerman.dw.com/uk/overview> (available for A1 and A2)
- **Deutschtrainer** (vocabulary):
  - English: <https://learngerman.dw.com/en/deutschtrainer/c-56705009>
  - Russian: <https://learngerman.dw.com/ru/deutschtrainer/c-57409152>
  - Ukrainian: <https://learngerman.dw.com/uk/overview> (Available for A1)
- **Alphabet and pronunciation:** <https://learngerman.dw.com/en/deutschtrainer/c-56705009>
- **VoCHabular:** Swiss-specific German textbook for beginners. All dialogs are available in standard German and in the Swiss-German dialect. The texts are printed in different colors, so you can easily ignore the dialect part that is not relevant to you.
- **Duolingo** (learn German from English or Russian) → app for iPhone or Android; a web-based version is also available.
- **Babbel** offers 3 months for free for people from Ukraine. See here: <https://uk.babbel.com/babbeldiaukrainy>



## English

- *BBC Learning English*: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/>). There are several options in the course section. (Intermediate is equivalent to B1 level.)
- An American-English option is *Voice of America Learning English*:  
<https://learningenglish.voanews.com/>

Both sites offer a variety of current news articles for learners (some with vocabulary explanations).

**Duolingo** and **Babbel** also offer courses for English, but they are better suited to lower-level learners.

## 4. Assess your language level

If you are a **beginner in German** with some previous knowledge, you can do the placement test for A1 of Nicos Weg here: <https://learngerman.dw.com/en/placement-test-a1/l-36696748>

If you are not an absolute beginner, take one of the following tests (mainly for listening and reading):

- **Dialang** (<https://dialangweb.lancaster.ac.uk/>) is a diagnostic test for **English and German** (and some other languages). It is free and more comprehensive than most other tests available.
  - Unfortunately, the Dialang server is sometimes down. If it doesn't work, consider one of the other tests.
  - There is no time limit on the test, but if you take too long, the results are not valid. Try to do the test as quickly as possible but without hurrying. I suggest doing the listening.
  - and the **reading parts only**.
  - Before you do the first module (either listening or reading) there is a *short vocabulary test* and a *self-assessment*. These also provide valuable insights.
- To roughly assess your speaking and writing skills in either German or English, see <https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages/table-2-cefr-3.3-common-reference-levels-self-assessment-grid>. Choose a language you are familiar with.
- **Goethe placement test for German**: <https://www.goethe.de/de/spr/kup/tsd.html>
- For English, another test is **English Score** (designed by the British Council).
  - You receive your global score (vocabulary, grammar, reading, and listening) for free. A score of 300-399 is B1, 400-499 is B2, and 500 to 599 is C1.
  - The app works fine on Android; we have not tested it on Apple devices.