

# GERMAN

The German language is a pluricentric language with different national standards in Austria, Germany and Switzerland, and with regional varieties across Europe. As intercultural communication continues to be an essential skill in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, students who study German at Viewbank College gain the ability to communicate in a language spoken by over 140 million people around the world.

## UNIT 1

Students who have previously studied 3 to 4 years of German focus on building their existing German language skills to interpret the language of other speakers, and present information and ideas on a range of themes and topics. Students also develop and extend skills in listening, speaking, reading, writing and viewing in German to develop cultural understandings about German-speaking communities, and explore the interplay between language and culture so they may interpret this in texts and incorporate it their own work.

### AREAS OF STUDY & OUTCOMES

#### **Outcome 1 (Interpersonal Communication):**

On completion of this unit, students should be able to *exchange meaning in a spoken interaction* in German.

#### **Outcome 2 (Interpretive Communication):**

On completion of this unit, students should be able to interpret information from multiple texts on the same topic presented in German, and *respond in writing in German and English*.

#### **Outcome 3 (Interpersonal Communication):**

On completion of this unit, students should be able to *present information, concepts and ideas in writing* in German on a selected topic, considering specific audiences and purposes in their work.

## UNIT 2

As students continue to Unit 2, they are able to consolidate and extend their vocabulary, grammar knowledge and language skills through increasingly complex tasks. Students also explore how cultural products or practices can be used to demonstrate how culture and perspectives may vary between communities. Students reflect on the interplay between language and culture, and its impact on meaning, understanding and the individual's language use in specific contexts and for specific audiences.

### AREAS OF STUDY & OUTCOMES

#### **Outcome 1 (Interpersonal Communication):**

On completion of this unit, students should be able to *respond in writing* in German to spoken, written or visual texts presented in German.

#### **Outcome 2 (Interpretive Communication):**

On completion of this unit, students should be able to analyse and use information from multiple texts to produce an extended *written response in German*.

#### **Outcome 3 (Interpersonal Communication):**

On completion of this unit, students should be able to *explain information, ideas and concepts orally* in German to a specific audience about an aspect of culture within communities where German is spoken.

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### PRESCRIBED THEMES AND TOPICS

- *The individual* (personal identity, relationships, aspirations, education, careers);
- *German-speaking communities* (cultural heritage, historical and contemporary perspectives, lifestyles in German-speaking communities)
- *The world around us* (global societies, communication and media, and the influence of science and technology)