

Frequently asked questions about the selection of language courses and electives (AWPs)

1) What are the differences between electives (AWP), compulsory language courses and voluntary subjects?

An elective, or AWP subject (*Allgemeinwissenschaftliches Wahlpflichtfach*, engl. compulsory elective subject of a general academic nature) or a compulsory language course are subjects specified in your study and examination regulations you are required to complete and for which you usually receive 2 ECTS credits.

A voluntary subject, in contrast, is taken purely on a voluntary basis without accreditation of any ECTS credits. Voluntary subjects are not established in your study and examination regulations. They can only be selected in the so-called "Restplatzwahl" (selection of remaining free seats for the course) at the beginning of the semester in order to avoid overlapping lectures. It is entirely up to you whether you merely attend the course or whether you also register for and take the examination. Once you are registered for the examination, your examination achievement will automatically be entered in your grade sheet as a voluntary additional activity. However, ECTS credits and grade do not count towards the overall average grade.

To determine how many AWP subjects or compulsory language courses you are required to take and when, please refer to your respective study and examination regulations and the overview of AWP subjects and compulsory language courses on our homepage at: (https://th-deg.de/Studierende/AWP-Sprachkurse/Uebersicht_AWP-und_Sprachenwahl_DEG.pdf and/or https://th-deg.de/Studierende/AWP-Sprachkurse/Uebersicht_AWP-und_Sprachenwahl_PAN.pdf).

FWP subjects are "subject-specific compulsory electives" (*Fachbezogene Wahlpflichtfächer*) and administered by your faculty. They are completely unrelated to the AWP subjects and language courses!

2) Can I also choose a language course as an AWP subject?

Yes, it is possible and may even be a requirement in some degree programmes. If you are interested in taking an examination in a language held rather infrequently, please make sure at the beginning of the semester if this course is offered at all. For organisational reasons, a minimum of 15 students is required to establish a course.

3) Is it possible to have an intensive language course during the semester break recognised as an AWP subject or compulsory language?

Of course! Our fee-based intensive language courses (€39,00) are offered at the end of each semester break. You will have to decide which type of credit you would like to receive when selecting the course: either as AWP subject (2 ECTS), compulsory language course (2 ECTS) or voluntary subject (without ECTS).

The course fee is to be paid no later than on the first day of the course at the terminal in building B.

4) Can I select more than one AWP subject or compulsory language course for my next semester, even if I am only required to choose one AWP subject, for example?

Please only select the subject required in your next semester!

If an AWP subject or a compulsory language course is scheduled for a particular semester, the faculty blocks the AWP and language time slots in the corresponding semester (DEG: Mon. + Wed., 4th + 5th + 6th slot / ECRI: Tue., 4th + 5th + 6th slot and Fri., 1st + 2nd + 3rd slot) to ensure there are no lecture overlaps and you can make your choice without hindrance.

In case there are any remaining seats available, you'll be notified per e-mail at the beginning of the semester.

During the *Restplatzwahl* at the beginning of the semester, when your curriculum and lecture hours for the AWP subjects and languages have been announced, you'll once again have the opportunity to select your AWP subjects (2 ECTS), compulsory language courses (2 ECTS) or voluntary subjects (no ECTS).

5) Is it possible to prepone or postpone an AWP subject or compulsory language course (e.g. because of a semester abroad)?

If your lecture schedule allows it, you can also prepone or postpone subjects. Please select these subjects ONLY during the *Restplatzwahl* at the beginning of the semester to avoid lecture overlaps!

At this point, your lecture schedule and the lecture hours of the AWP subjects and language courses will already be known, and you will be able to choose the subjects accordingly. If you are not scheduled to take an AWP subject or language course, there are no free time slots planned for this in your lecture schedule! It is important that you have completed all required AWP subjects and compulsory language courses by the end of your degree programme.

6) I attended a voluntary subject in a previous semester. Is it possible to have it now recognised as AWP subject/compulsory language course?

No, a later recognition is unfortunately not possible.

You need to decide which type of credit you would like to receive for the subject the moment you register for the examination at the latest.

7) Can I take several subjects as AWP subjects/compulsory language courses and subsequently pick the subject with the best grade for my certificate?

No, this is unfortunately not possible.

The grade of the subject you first chose as AWP subject/compulsory language course counts and cannot be changed later on. It is also not possible to subsequently "exchange" the AdA certificate (*Ausbildung der Ausbilder*; engl. train-the-trainer certificate) for an AWP subject if you have already completed your required AWP subject.

8) Can I withdraw from a course during the semester if I don't like it?

You may only deregister from an AWP subject or a compulsory language course if you have not yet written an examination in the subject or have not yet received a grade for it, and if it is still possible to deregister (7 days before the examination date at the latest).

9) Can I switch to a different group if it is more suitable for my schedule?

No, unfortunately this is not possible and is only permitted in absolutely exceptional cases. Please contact us by e-mail (sprachenzentrum@th-deg.de) to clarify whether your case falls into this category.

10) Where can I find important information about my group assignments, lecture times, lecture postponements, general information, etc.?

You can find always all important information on our website: <https://th-deg.de/de/studierende/sprachkurse-awp-faecher!>

11) What happens if I fail an examination?

In this case, you will have to retake the examination in the second attempt in the following semester, or in a third attempt within one year. To do this, please register for the "repeat examination" during the examination registration period. If the course is offered during the semester of your second or third attempt, you will be able to take the regular semester examination. In case the course is not offered, a repeat examination date will be set specifically for this purpose. Please note that repeat examinations may already take place earlier during the semester.

The following applies to our language courses: As you have already fulfilled the attendance requirement, it is entirely up to you whether you repeat the course or not. Nevertheless, it is often helpful to discuss examination content with the lecturer in preparation, or to participate in the course again during the last few weeks before the examination date.

Take note of which lecturer is conducting the respective course in the current semester, who will then also hold the examination.

In case the course is not offered in the current semester, one of the lecturers in the Language and Electives Centre will be responsible for the examination.