

Learning German

Language is the key to a country's culture. And even if communication in English is no problem at research institutes, your stay in Germany is not all work but everyday life and leisure as well.

After their stay is over, nearly all research fellows emphasize that knowledge of German contributes significantly to integrating, especially your family, into everyday life and making your stay a richer experience. It is very helpful to get a basic knowledge of German before you come to Germany and at least grapple with the fundamentals of the language (alphabet, grammar, etc.).

It is strongly recommended for research fellows to participate in intensive German courses as experience shows that they can spend more time practicing the language and, on top of this, get to know other newcomers with whom they can talk about initial difficulties and turn to for mutual support if problems occur. In scientific subjects, in particular, knowledge of specialized German vocabulary can facilitate communication with technicians, laboratory staff, and assistants. Thus, at the beginning of the stay at the host institute it might be helpful to attend seminars and lectures in German or to get together with a German colleague in order to learn this special vocabulary.

At Kiel University German language courses are available at different levels from the "[Lektorat Deutsch als Fremdsprache](#)" (German as a foreign language).

Additionally the International Center offers each year two summer courses. Read more: [Summer courses at Kiel University](#).