



Top 10 Reasons to Learn German at UIC

- 1) You will learn about a culture that has been **incredibly influential in the Western world**. The Chicago skyline, modern art, postmodernism, contemporary religious and meditation movements, classical music, chaos theory, etc. would be incomprehensible without a German influence.
 - 2) **Speaking and understanding German will improve your employment opportunities**. As the *New York Times* recently noted: “With corporate travelers now doing business in all four points of the globe, developing some fluency in foreign language is getting to be as important as taking along a laptop on an overseas trip” (20 February 2007). **After English, German is the second most commonly used language in the European Union (EU) and on the Internet.**
 - 3) **Knowledge of a foreign language has been rated as one “of the top five most important skills” for the 21st-century job seeker** (*Are They Ready to Work?*). The U.S. Department of Labor lists over 25 jobs that require a foreign language, from education to marketing or from air transportation to financial managers.
 - 4) Twelve million jobs in the U.S. are supported by our export economy. The EU is one of the top destinations for these exports, and **Germany is the largest U.S. trading partner in Europe**. U.S. jobs related to exports pay 13% higher than the average domestic wage and as much as 34% in the area of high-tech industry.
 - 5) **Our classes are small so you will get individual attention from our instructors and get to know your fellow students**. Throughout the year, we have social events from pizza parties and visits to the annual German Christmas market to book events and important lectures.
 - 6) Because our classes are based upon the latest in technology, you will **hone your technical skills**.
 - 7) You will **improve your English grammar skills**.
 - 8) We have numerous **scholarships, fellowships, and awards for our students**.
 - 9) We offer **free tutoring** for students enrolled in our language program as well as a weekly coffee hour where you can practice your German in a relaxed setting.
 - 10) You will be amazed **how quickly you will be able to communicate** in a foreign language and how wrong Mark Twain was when he would rather have declined two German beers than one German adjective!
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