

### Where can I find a suitable German course?

Compile a folder with the following information:

- Length of schooling and nature of school-leaving qualification
- Vocational qualification
- Occupational experience
- English, French or other foreign-language skills
- German language skills: have you attended a German course in your own country?
- Your goals: how intensive should the language course be? (Would you like to speak and write fluent German? Would you like to learn German for everyday situations? Would you like to concentrate on business German?)

Present your information to advisers based at the following establishments and ask which language course might suit your needs. Approach:

- your local commissioner for foreigners' issues or the commissioner for integration.
- the social services for migrants or foreigners at the charitable organisations like Arbeiterwohlfahrt (AWO), Caritas, Diakonie.
- your local employment agency.

If a German course is recommended to you: find out about the structure of participants in the course. Check that it actually suits you:

- Is attention paid to ensuring that the age differences between the participants are not too great?
- Is the level of schooling and training of the participants similar?
- Are the participants attending the course voluntarily, and are thus particularly highly motivated?
- Is the number of participants appropriate (maximum ten to twelve)?
- Does the course last at least three months with 4-5 hours a day?

Work out how much you can invest.

- For a decent-quality German course lasting two to three months, you will have to expect to pay EUR 600 to 800.
- It is also possible to start with evening classes at the Volkshochschule, which are much cheaper.
- And some of the universities offer German courses for non-students. Their quality is generally good, and the fees are relatively low.