



Learn German efficiently: tailor-made and online



DeutschTutor, a private German language school, offers an innovative alternative for people wanting to learn German. The lessons are given 'live' over the internet from qualified, experienced German teachers and are created individually for every student to meet specific needs and to reach goals as efficiently and fast as possible.

TEXT: NANE STEINHOFF | PHOTOS: DEUSCHTUTOR

German as a foreign language gets more and more important due to the region's economic strengths. A large number of skilled workers and managers now want to learn German but traditional language courses pose obstacles for busy working people.

In 2013, Réka Hamza, a German philologist and experienced German teacher for corporate and private clients, established an alternative with DeutschTutor. After realising the extensive range of possibilities the internet has to offer through eLearning plat-

forms, she completed training to become an eTutor, created the DeutschTutor system with a team of web and eLearning specialists and decided to offer flexible, efficient, individual and high-quality language training. "Our primary target group is internet-oriented skilled workers and managers with a business background, who want to learn German quickly and efficiently for professional purposes. Especially people, who often travel during their work, who have busy lives, or who live in places which do not provide good German teach-

ers: they decide to learn with us because other fixed course timetables and inflexible group courses, which don't consider individual needs, pose a problem for our clients," Réka Hamza, the project's initiator says.

The course is held over a modern, interactive eLearning platform – a 'virtual classroom' with a whiteboard, which can be written on by students and teachers, where textbook tasks can be worked on, videos can be watched and audio material listened



Main image: Photo: Yuri Arcurs - fotolia.com

Portrait left:

Réka Hamza, founder and owner of DeutschTutor.

Photo: Lancademy e.U.

Opposite page:

All tutors are qualified 'DaF-trainers'.

Photo: Syda Productions - fotolia.com. (left)

All you need for class is computer, webcam and headset.

Photo: Agency Photographer - fotolia.com. (right)

to. Additionally, live pictures of teachers and students can be constantly seen so that the counterparts are always visible.

The timetable and contents of lessons are determined by the goals and needs of the individual clients. Existing German proficiency, the professional environment and different

learning behaviour is considered. In practice, this individuality means individual lessons with one teacher per student.

Tailor-made solutions

"We differ from other language schools, because we teach over the internet and therefore are available from anywhere in the world with an internet connection. Therefore, we can choose teachers solely based on their qualifications – regardless of where they live. This combination of flexibility in time and place, which creates stress-free and concentrated learning situations from anywhere in the world, competent teachers, modern eLearning and maximum individualisation cater to a high level of efficiency in comparison to conventional language schools," project initiator Réka Hamza says. And she continues: "We provide an interactive, exciting, varied and therefore a highly efficient course, which also boasts a high degree of individualisation: every course is different and is tailored for the needs of the learners."

The course timetables are solely based on the student's wishes and availability – and this can mean seven days per week at every hour of the day. "Our experienced and qualified teachers have been chosen according to strict quality guidelines and they hold a university qualification called 'DaF-trainer' (German as Foreign Language). This means that they hold the necessary didactic and educational knowledge for an efficient and professional lesson design."

Simple and universally accessible

The teaching portfolio includes German courses for all language levels. Additionally,

conversation classes, preparation for examination classes and professional language training for individual job fields are offered. The German business language and vocabulary of the client's profession is taught especially for everyday working life; students, who are looking for a job in Germany, Austria or Switzerland can expect job interview training and help with the creation of a German CV.

Regular monitoring and measurement of the student's learning process is provided so that agreed goals are achieved. Everyone with an internet compatible computer, laptop, tablet with a headset and webcam can take part in the virtual learning experience. Even a modern smartphone can make participation possible.

"The internet has extremely simplified our communication and will also simplify the way we learn in the future. It gives me great pleasure to use this development with DeutschTutor. Our overall goal is to provide a simple, universally accessible entry to high-quality, firstclass, efficient language courses for people, who want to learn German. It's our philosophy, to try and make our clients' lives a bit easier and more satisfying."

And this effort seems to pay off: "We get a lot of positive feedback. Especially, our friendly, motivating teachers are valued. This is also one of the most important criteria we consider when choosing our teachers," Réka Hamza says.

www.deutschtutor.com

