

Course Name: Selected Business Topics - The role of Hamburg in Commodity Trade

Degree programmes:

Responsible Lecturer: Erika Kullmann

Workload: 150 hours**Lecture hours per week:** 4**ECTS Credits:** 5**Course objectives:**

To make the students aware of the role of Hamburg in international commodity trade and thus also to make them familiar with their host city, Hamburg.

To further develop the student's

- linguistic (English) competence for international business,
- methodology for acquiring and developing language knowledge and skills in Business English
- autonomy as a learner,
- academic reading skills,
- research skills,
- presentation skills

Contents: Language work and study will be centred on internationally traded commodities, their use and impact on our daily life. We can look at commodities such as coffee and tea to name just two, but also raw materials such as copper, and finally so-called mass-produced commodities such as sticking plaster, and study the economic, environmental, social and health implications of the supply chains in question. We will take our findings as the starting point for further reading and research especially in the field of sustainability.

About didactics and workload distribution:

- Teaching methods:
 1. short lectures
 2. group work
 3. plenary and group discussions
 4. simulations
 5. impromptu presentations
 6. field trips
- Independent study:
 - reading
 - researching
 - studying texts for their linguistic content and relevance

Requirements for participation:

English at Level B2 – preferably C1 – of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)

German (reading comprehension only) at CEFR Level B1 desirable, but not compulsory.

Native speakers of English are invited to participate.

Course language:

English

Type of exam / Assessment:

Presentation and/or research report in class **plus** a piece of writing done at home **or** oral exam

Literature:

Research topics to be discussed, and required reading to be announced, in the first two sessions