

Testimonials for German

Pakawut Amarinat heads a new Thailand branch of the German automotive design and modelling company, *am Surf Martin Gabler*, following a stint with the company as an undergraduate student at RMIT. "My study at RMIT has helped to develop my skills in both the technical and social aspects, especially having studied in Germany. This gave me lots of opportunities to work in a multicultural environment and it gave me the chance to work in what I love to do."

Blake G., B Eng (Elec & Comp Eng)/B Business), Queensland University of Technology

Realising the international applicability of my Electrical Engineering degree, I took advantage of the second language (German) I'm studying at QUT by applying for some work experience with Siemens AG in Germany.

Although I've always considered a second language an advantage, the importance really hit me during my experience overseas. I noticed that people generally gravitate towards people who speak their language and as a consequence, I found many people going out of their way to be helpful. I suspect that this was also the motive for the company sending me around the country all expenses paid!

Studying the second language at QUT gave me a head start in my work experience, making my time in Germany both more enjoyable and more valuable.

Cameron – University of Melbourne, 2007

I am studying this semester at Humboldt Universität Berlin on a scholarship provided by the DAAD (*Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst*). They pay for flights, Uni fees and insurance, and a healthy living allowance. I have a mentor at the university and it made doing an exchange really easy. Berlin is amazing in summer - the nightlife is very distracting for students.

I was also here with the DAAD over January/February 2006. They paid for me to take part in a two-month "*Deutschlandkundlicher Winterkurs*" in Leipzig with 30 students from Australia, NZ, Argentina, Brazil, and Chile. This included flights, accommodation, course fees, and living allowance.

I think the support given by the German government is not matched by any other European country and is definitely something to keep in mind when picking tertiary subjects.

I am doing a double major in German and International Studies in my Arts/Law degree. I will be working as a lawyer in London when I graduate and the law firms there were very enthusiastic about my German skills.

So it turns out that German was not a bad language to learn after all!

Cameron was also President of the German Club at University.

An Australian, **Simone Young**, is the CEO of the Hamburg State Opera until 2015 & conductor of the Hamburg Philharmonic orchestra. Simone speaks 5 languages.

German Beyond Secondary School

There are opportunities in most career pathways, if not every field of human endeavor.

Every University in Victoria has direct links with German-speaking countries either through offering the formal study of German or through links with tertiary institutions.

German is offered at Monash University & the University of Melbourne and both have international partnerships with German-speaking countries for most faculties.

RMIT boasts international partnerships with 10 countries and 4 of them are with German-speaking countries. But the most interesting fact is that **104** of the **112** international companies are in Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

Deakin University has 13 partner institutions where students can study towards their degree.

Swinburne University of Technology has 9 & Design students go to Germany on a Study Tour. Ballarat University also has links & the Australian Catholic University has many.

Facts about German & Germany

- 125 million speak German in Europe as their 1st language
- 15 million of 82 million in Germany have a migrant background
- German-speaking migrants have been arriving in Australia since 1838
- 110,400 German-born residents in Australia
- 30,000+ live in Victoria
- 140,000+ German tourists to Australia each year
- People in the Asia-Pacific region are very keen to attract investment from the world's third largest economy – and are learning German.

**„If I'm selling to you, I speak *your* language.
If I'm buying, dann müssen Sie Deutsch sprechen.“**

Willi Brandt – former Chancellor of Germany

- German companies are using Australia as a base for investment in our region
- 135 German companies in Victoria alone with 14,000 employees
- Hugo Boss sends its employees to learn German at the Goethe-Institut in Melbourne
- Siemens run in-house German courses for employees at its site in Bayswater

Austria, Switzerland & Liechtenstein have strong links with Australia as well.

Young people all over the world are learning German to prepare for life in a global community, especially in Eastern Europe, China & even the USA.

You can reach greater levels of proficiency in a shorter time when you commit to German and you will develop intercultural language skills - essential skills for global citizens. Learning other languages becomes easier as well. You cannot predict which language you will need.

Facts about English

- Most people in the world don't speak English
- Not all ideas & information are translated into English
- 27% of Australians speak another language at home
- Most people in the world speak more than one language
- English speakers can learn other languages

**Deutsch für die Zukunft
Learn German for the Future**