

Notes on language tandems

Language tandems bring together students who speak different languages. The idea is that for a certain time one student is the teacher of one language and the other student is the learner, then they switch.

In our case the initiative comes from international students being in Ludwigsburg for one semester. They attend German courses at the PH (four hours, different levels) and would also like to improve their German skills in a direct exchange with a German-speaking student. The German language skills of the guest students vary. The International Office (Denise Wintrich) asks the guest students which language they could teach. The Department of Language teaching (Sprachdidaktisches Zentrum, Stefan Jeuk) is the intermediary. When German-speaking students contact Stefan Jeuk (e.g. "I would like to learn Korean"), he establishes contact with the international guest student. The students make contact independently and plan everything else in tandem. We recommend that you meet at least once a week for up to two hours to speak German in one hour and the other language in the other hour. Topics and content are free. The times can be freely chosen. It is NOT about systematic language teaching, but about communication and contact.

Of course, it is also possible for the German-speaking students to support the guest students in their studies, but joint activities are also meaningful and important. Please note that we do a small survey (email) at the end of the semester.

If you have any questions, please contact Stefan Jeuk (jeuk@ph-ludwigsburg.de).