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Dear Fresher,

I look forward to welcoming you to Emmanuel soon, and write with further information about the German side of your course. For German *ab initio*, you will study three papers across the year:

- **GeA1:** Introduction to the German Language 1 – Listening, Comprehension and Writing
- **GeA2:** Introduction to the German Language 2 - Translation from and into German
- **GeA3:** Introduction to German 3 - German Culture

[see <https://www.mml.cam.ac.uk/mml/ia>]

Intensive teaching for the two language papers, GeA1 and GeA2, begins in the Michaelmas term and takes place in classes at the MMLL Faculty. The course book for this, which you should purchase, is *DaF Kompakt NEU* (Klett, 2016) by Ilse Sander et al. You will also begin lectures for the culture paper, GeA3, in Michaelmas, with lectures on History, Kafka's *Die Verwandlung*, and the Marx/Engels text *Manifest der Kommunistischen Partei*. A preparatory reading list is available here:

<https://www.mml.cam.ac.uk/gea3>

It will be difficult to read the texts in German at this stage, but much of the History material is in English, and it would be a good idea to read the other two texts in translation, read some background material, or try out some passages in German to get a flavour for them. This will help you follow the lectures in Michaelmas. Please purchase the Reclam edition of the Kafka story; if you'd also like to use an online German text with clickable English definitions/grammar information, the below link is useful:

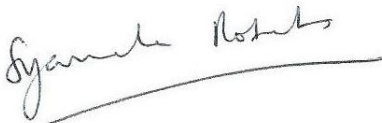
<https://annotext.dartmouth.edu/texts/10026>

For the Lent Term, you will then study four topics in greater depth in ‘supervisions’, for which you are expected to read the texts in the original German. I will be your main supervisor for this, and we’ll discuss preparation and reading techniques towards the end of the first term. Beyond that, it will stand you in good stead to familiarise yourself with the basics of German grammar, to begin building up your vocabulary by reading parallel texts or short news items online, and to get used to the sounds of German by listening to the radio or podcasts. Watching German films with subtitles would also be a great introduction. You may already know of useful resources; I’d recommend those of *Deutsche Welle*, which is all in German, available here:

<https://learngerman.dw.com/de/deutsch-lernen/s-9095>

The *ab initio* course is fast-paced, so preparatory work and consolidation in the vacations is important, but don’t worry if anything seems difficult at this stage. It is likely to be a big step up from school work, but you will have plenty of guidance once the course begins. Please don’t hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions; otherwise, I look forward to meeting you in person in October!

Mit freundlichen Grüßen,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Syamala Roberts". The signature is written in black ink and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

Dr Syamala Roberts