



DIE DEUTSCHAKADEMIE

Die Deutschakademie des Gouverneurs

Ben Shivers, Direktor

May 15, 2020

Welcome! You have been selected from among hundreds of applicants to be a participant in the Virginia Governor's World Language Academies. On behalf of the Virginia Department of Education and Washington and Lee University (WLU), I would like to extend our congratulations to you. I look forward to meeting you when the Academy opens on June 22nd.

The following forms are included in this packet. ***Please read and sign all forms by May 27, 2020.*** They can be signed digitally using the links provided.

- Director's Welcome Letter
- Behavior Guidelines (to read and to sign)
- Explanation of Policies and Expectations (to read)
- Waiver of Liability and Assumption of Risk Agreement Under Policies and Expectations (to read and to sign)
- Computer and Internet Acceptable Use Policy (to read)
- Computer and Internet Agreement (to read and to sign)
- Student Release Form for Use of Photograph, Image, Voice, Performance and Appearances (to read and to sign)

Please also take our technology survey here: <https://forms.gle/xWw4JHKCbQ85gAbF8>. Your response is requested by May 27, 2020.

Once again, on behalf of the Virginia Governor's World Language Academies, we congratulate you on your acceptance to this unique and exciting program. Best wishes as the end of your school year approaches.

Bis bald!

Ben Shivers

Ben Shivers, Director
Virginia Governor's German Academy
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Ben Shivers, Direktor

15. Mai 2020

Liebe Schülerinnen und Schüler,

herzlichen Glückwunsch zu eurer Aufnahme an der Deutschakademie 2020! Ihr gehört zu den besten Schülerinnen und Schülern im Fach Deutsch im Bundesstaat Virginia. An der Akademie werdet ihr eure Deutschkenntnisse erweitern und eure kulturellen Kenntnisse vertiefen. Die Akademie wird euch herausfordern und auch bereichern.

Ihr werdet euch an eine lange Tradition der Deutschakademien anknüpfen. Gleichzeitig seid ihr Vorreiter einer neuen Akademieform, denn ihr seid die Ersten, die in Virginia die Deutschakademie komplett online besuchen. Wir sind überzeugt, dass wir auch auf dieser Weise eine bereichernde und bedeutungsvolle Erfahrung haben können, die eine Menge Spaß macht. Von euch erbitten wir eure volle Hingabe und viel Flexibilität. Es ist schließlich auch für uns das erste Mal, eine solche Erfahrung aus der Ferne zu organisieren.

Während der Akademiezeit gibt es natürlich Unterricht, wo ihr die Gelegenheit haben werdet, viel mehr über die deutschsprachigen Länder, aktuelle Themen und Traditionen, Geschichte, und weitere Themen zu lernen. Aber das ist noch lange nicht alles! Wie auf einem deutschen Gymnasium habt ihr auch noch die Möglichkeit, eine zweite Fremdsprache zu erlernen. Dieses Jahr wird das Polnisch sein. Außer den Kursen gibt es AGs, in denen ihr euren besonderen Interessen nachgehen könnt.

Das Akademierteam von vier Lehrern und fünf Betreuern möchte, dass eure Zeit hier unvergesslich wird. Schnell werdet ihr Freunde finden und mit ihnen zusammen viel lernen, denn: **Wir sprechen nur Deutsch!**

Nochmals ein herzliches Willkommen von unserem Lehrer- und Betreuerteam. Wir freuen uns auf euch. Wenn ihr Fragen habt, dann schreibt bitte direkt an mich.

Viele Grüße

Ben Shivers
Direktor

VAGermanAcademy@gmail.com

Student Conduct: Behavior Guidelines and Expectations

We are fortunate to serve the brightest and most motivated language students in Virginia, and all of you have been highly recommended by your teachers and schools. Therefore, disciplinary infractions are rare and 99 percent of you will finish the program with no problems. In all cases of disciplinary issues or concerns, parents will be informed as soon as possible.

You are expected to:

- Participate in all required Academy events;
- Be on time;
- Be prepared (bring whatever you need for classes/activities);
- Show respect and consideration to others;
- Maintain a positive attitude and contribute positively to the community spirit of the Academy;
- Follow all Academy rules, regulations, and procedures, and comply with faculty and staff instructions.
- Use the target language at all times during online courses and activities.

Use of English

German Immersion Academy: Full immersion in a world language is the best way—and some say the only way—to become a fluent speaker of that language. With the exception of the opening ceremonies, all events of the Governor's German Academy will be conducted exclusively in German.

Students are expected to use exclusively German during all Academy events. Students of the German Academy **may be dismissed for deliberate and/or repeated use of English or other languages during virtual meetings, activities or academic classes.** Students **are** permitted to use English at home while not participating in Academy events.

Please make sure you have the commitment to make the continual effort to use the target language at all times. We understand that this will be challenging in the beginning, and the Academy staff will do everything in their power to support you and ease the transition to fluency in the Academy language. We promise that the skills you have developed in your target language will benefit you for a lifetime.

Dress Code

Clothing should be casual for classes and activities. Please use the following guidelines for what to wear during your virtual experience.

- Clothing should be neat, modest, comfortable, and appropriate.
- Shoes and shirts must be worn at all times.
- Shorts/skirts/dresses must be at least fingertip length.
- Spaghetti straps, strapless dresses and shirts, bare midriffs, cleavage, exposed undergarments, and offensive messages are not permitted.
- Pajamas and swimwear are not permitted.

German Academy students should avoid clothing with English texts. Names of places or brand names are fine. You are encouraged to wear clothes that emphasize the culture of German-speaking countries or the German language.

Video Conferencing Etiquette

- Keep your video on at all times. This allows everyone to know it is really you and that you are currently participating. If you need to leave, ask permission or excuse yourself just as you would in an in-person class or gathering.
- Don't participate while in bed.
- If possible, make an effort to show a neutral background rather than personal spaces such as a bedroom.
- Virtual backgrounds must be in good taste. A neutral color or photo representative of one of the Academy target cultures is preferred. No lewd, indecent, or offensive photos or videos are permitted.
- Register with your own first name. You may not attempt to enter a meeting under someone else's identity.
- Do not record video or audio or take a screenshot without permission from the facilitator or teacher.
- Unless it is being used as your primary device for accessing Academy events, please have your cell phone turned off and not visible during online instruction.

Students and parents/guardians, please sign your acknowledgement of these guidelines using the form at <https://forms.gle/hMU6zodEHcMqgHzt8>.



Washington and Lee University, the Host Site, requests that parents/guardians and students/participants in the online full-immersion language academies (French, German, and Spanish) review and sign, where applicable, those documents listed below. The document titles are the links themselves. Please act upon this prior to 11:59 PM on May 27, 2020.

[Explanation of Policies and Expectations \(to read\)](#)

[Waiver of Liability and Assumption of Risk Agreement Under Policies and Expectations \(to read and to sign\)](#)

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