

About the Language Centre

The University of Luxembourg Language Centre was set up in 2014 during Rolf Tarrach's term as Rector of the University. Professor Michel Margue, who at the time was responsible for multilingualism at the University, was placed in charge of the administrative management of the centre, while Professor Adelheid Hu managed the academic and educational aspects. When the Language Centre was set up, three senior lecturers for French (Eve Lejot), German (Birgit Huemer) and English (Katrien Deroey) – the three languages of the University – were recruited to develop its activities. They were supported by an administrative assistant (Emmanuelle Ambroisien).

From the outset, the Language Centre aimed to promote the official university languages – French, German and English – by running academic language courses on topics such as academic writing and presentation skills, while providing support for students enrolled on multilingual study programmes. In cooperation with an external partner, the Language Centre also offered language courses to university staff to help them work effectively in a multilingual environment. The main research focus of the Language Centre was applied linguistics and educational science, with the aim of developing innovative multilingual pedagogical approaches for higher education.

In 2016, Professor Adelheid Hu became sole Head of the Language Centre, a position she held until January 2021. Over this period, the teaching and research programme was developed and the structure of the Language Centre was consolidated. The centre was also closely involved in the development of the University's language policy during this time.

Since February 2021, Birgit Huemer (assistant professor) has been Head of the Language Centre and coordinator of the German language course programme. Katrien Deroey (assistant professor) is coordinator of the English language course programme and Eve Lejot (assistant professor) is coordinator of the French language course programme. Emmanuelle Ambroisien provides administrative support for the team. The Language Centre currently has two translators, Sarah Cooper and Maria Cristina Piticco, a research assistant, several student assistants and 12 to 15 adjunct teaching staff members.

In addition to its course programme, the Language Centre has also implemented several alternative, independent and digital teaching methods and organised various academic conferences. It is involved in the development of the academic series *Schreibwissenschaft* (academic writing) for the publisher Böhlau Verlag. It develops strategic cooperation, partnerships and networks to facilitate international research and teaching exchanges. The Language Centre is committed to promoting talented early career researchers by supervising doctoral candidates and training students to be peer tutors. Until the end of 2021 it will particularly be involved in supporting, shaping and guiding the implementation of the recently adopted multilingualism policy.