

Integrated Academic Language Centres: A concept of learning advice to promote autonomy in language learning

In a bilingual university (German and French) with an increasingly important use of English, the question of supporting languages is taken for granted. But in curricula which are more and more complex, the time available for taking language courses is limited. The extension of language skills is often only possible through a (semi-)autonomous approach.

In my presentation, I will develop our concept of an Integrated Academic Language Centre, which offers a range of learning possibilities (such as language courses, special-purpose language courses, language Tandems – a partnership of two speakers with different mother tongues – and a self-access-centre). Integration means the combination of several learning possibilities between a language contract and other autonomy-supporting instruments like learner journals, awareness-raising meetings, and European Language Portfolio documents. At the end of my contribution, I will show what is necessary in the future to strengthen the concept.