Sprachpraxis English 2

Summer Semester 2026 – Oral Exams

Introduction

This document contains everything you need to know about the organization of the oral exams in the summer semester 2026. Please read it carefully and follow the instructions to ensure the oral exam process runs smoothly.

Moodle Course

The central coordination point for the oral exams will be a Moodle course entitled *Oral Exams Module 4/5 Sprachpraxis English*. You can access the course directly by clicking on the link, or you can find the course by searching for the title on Moodle.

If you are taking the oral exam this semester and have already signed up for it on eCampus, please join this Moodle course as a matter of priority. The password to join is: **OralExams_SS26**. Access to this course will be crucial for the scheduling and organisation of the oral exams. This is where the finalised exam timetable will be published. Please note that you must sign up for **BOTH** the oral exam on eCampus **AND** the Moodle course.

Exam Dates

The oral exams this semester will take place over a nine-day period, beginning on **Monday, 13 July 2026** and running until **Tuesday, 21 July 2026**. It will be possible to specify dates and times at which you are available to take the exam, but some flexibility is required. (See "registration" below for details). The exams will take place in **Kurt-Wolters-Str. 5, Room 4048.**

Exam format

You and one other student will be assessed in-person by two Sprachpraxis examiners. You will not be able to choose your examiners, nor the other student you are to be examined with. BA and Lehramt students will be examined differently, as follows:

BA students – approximate time 35-40 minutes (plus feedback)

- Come to the exam room (KW5, 4048) shortly before the designated time for your oral exam. Wait in the corridor until you are let into the exam room by the examiners.
- Introductions and general small talk.
- First student gives a 7-minute presentation in English on a topic of their choice.
- Discussion and questions based on the presentation involving all those present, including the other student.
- Second student gives a 7-minute presentation. Questions/discussion follow.

- Each student will be asked to read a selection of individual words or phrases aloud. These phrases are printed on index cards and are designed to focus on specific aspects of English pronunciation.
- Exam ends. You will be asked to wait outside the exam room while the examiners confer. Once the examiners are ready, they will invite you back in one at a time to give you your grade and feedback.
- You should schedule a full hour for your oral exam and the feedback, though you may be finished earlier.

Practicalities (BA):

You have free choice of topic for your presentation, but **it must NOT be a topic you have presented during any previous Sprachpraxis course**. The presentation should be well-structured, coherent, and of an appropriate register. You **should not** prepare a Powerpoint presentation, handout document or similar. You may use notes for your presentation. We recommend index cards. You **should not write out your speech in full and you must not simply read from your notes**.

It is important that you stick as closely as possible to the time guideline. We will stop you if you go much over 7 minutes, and you will be penalised if your presentation is significantly shorter than 7 minutes. We have no objection to you using a stopwatch or the timer on your phone to keep an eye on the timing of your presentation if you wish.

You will be asked to provide the topic of your presentation when you register for a time slot for the exam. This will occur via the Moodle course *Oral Exams*.

Lehramt students – approximate time 30-35 minutes (plus feedback)

- Come to the exam room (KW5, 4048) shortly before the designated time for your oral exam. Wait in the corridor until you are let into the exam room by the examiners.
- Introductions and general small talk.
- First student speaks freely for 2 minutes about one topic chosen from a list of up to five topics provided by examiners. (This list will be made available to you via the Moodle course *Oral Exams*. See “practicalities” below for details of preparation time).
- Discussion about this topic (involving all those present, including the other student).
- Second student speaks freely for 2 minutes about their chosen topic. Discussion follows.
- Each student reads a previously unseen passage from an English text aloud. The passage will be around half an A4 page in length.
- Each student will be asked to read a selection of individual words or phrases aloud. These phrases are printed on index cards and are designed to focus on specific aspects of English pronunciation.
- Exam ends. You will be asked to wait outside the exam room while the examiners confer. Once the examiners are ready, they will invite you back in one at a time to give you your grade and feedback.
- You should schedule a full hour for your oral exam and the feedback, though you may be finished earlier.

Practicalities (Lehramt):

In order to download your monologue topic choices, you will need to log in to the Moodle course **one hour before** your oral exam is due to begin. In the section *Lehramt students: Monologue topics*, you will find a document with your name on it containing five general discussion topics. This document will only become accessible one hour before your exam. You should choose **one topic** from this list for your two-minute monologue. Note that your fellow exam candidate will receive a different list of topics, so you need not be concerned about the possibility of both of you choosing the same one. You may then use the time to prepare in any way you wish. You are welcome to use dictionaries, reference works or any other online resources during your preparation time. You may make notes, which you will be allowed to refer to during the exam. We recommend index cards for this purpose. You **should not write out a speech in full and you must not simply read from your notes**.

Registration (all students)

You need to register for the exam on eCampus. **The registration deadline is Friday, 3 July 2026**. After registration has closed, you will receive an email from Matt Stevens reminding you to sign up for the Moodle course and asking you to indicate when you are available to take the exam using a poll in that course. This email will be sent to your Uni Kassel e-mail account. If you have not received it by the evening of Saturday, 4 July 2026, please check your spam folder first before emailing Matt Stevens to request re-sending. As stated above, BA students will be asked to indicate the topic of their presentation when they sign up for the timeslots. There will be a dedicated section in the Moodle course for this purpose. From Sunday, 5 July 2026, all further communication pertaining to the oral exams will take place via the Moodle course, so joining that course is a must.

Marking criteria

The grade for the oral exam is a holistic one, meaning many different factors are taken into account to assess the performance as a whole. All students are examined according to a variety of language criteria. In addition, students are assessed on the structure, length and coherence of their presentation/monologue.

Examples of the criteria:

- The accuracy and range of vocabulary and grammar
- The fluency and comprehensibility of speech
- The number of individual sound mistakes – pronunciation
- The use of natural features of connected speech
- The use of appropriate register for the situation (semi-formal spoken)

Contact

If you have queries, the person to contact is Matt Stevens (matt.stevens@uni-kassel.de), but please only do so if your question has not been answered in this document.