

Germany's 2015 Introductory German Language Course (Einstiegskurs) — A Cautionary Case: 230,000 Refugees Trained, No Employment Effect

Digital Inclusion · Good practice · Germany

Quality score: 68/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

Germany's rapidly scaled 320-hour 2015 course reached ~230,000 refugees but showed no employment effect, while the longer certified BAMF Integration Course lifted employment by 4.4 points.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Innovation level	2/5
Sustainability (ongoing)	0/1
Evaluation evidence	1/1
Demonstrated reach	1/1
Documented learning	1/1

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-10-14

[Federal Employment Agency \(Bundesagentur für Arbeit\); BAMF Integration Course as comparison](#) — accessed 2026-10-14

[Immigration Policy Lab research brief](#) — accessed 2026-10-14

[IAB project page](#) — accessed 2026-10-14

[Journal summary \(wbv\)](#) — accessed 2026-10-14

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