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## *German for Travel*



**Course Number:** 01:470:103:01

**Semester:** Fall 2017

**Course Index:** 04349

**Credits:** 1

**Meetings:** Thursdays, 1:10 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. (Period 3) • AB-3100 (RU Academic Building, Room 3100)

**Prerequisites:** This course is designed for beginning students, i.e. those without prior knowledge of German. This course may be taken together with German 101 or 102 or independently.

**Instructor:** Alexander E. Pichugin

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**E-mail address:** [pichugin@rutgers.edu](mailto:pichugin@rutgers.edu)

**Office Hours:** Tuesdays, 11:30 – 12:30 & by appointment  
Scheduled meetings are given priority over walk-ins.

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## Course Description

This course will introduce students to the language and culture of German-speaking countries focusing on the language competencies particularly relevant in travel situations.

The course consists of four thematically connected modules of three sessions each:

1. **Reisen: Wer reist?** In this module, students learn to speak about themselves as travelers. They prepare to provide a basic information about themselves in a travel situation and engage in a simple dialog with people they might meet while traveling.
2. **Reisen: Wohin?** This module focuses on the German-speaking Europe. Students learn information on the German-speaking countries and their cultures. The students prepare to speak about the countries they intend to visit as well as about their home country.
3. **Reisen: Wie?** In this module, students learn about different means of transportation and accommodations one can use when traveling to and in Europe. The students prepare to book tickets and hotels on German-language websites as well as conduct basic dialogs about transportation and lodging.
4. **Reisen: Warum?** This module focuses on the reasons for travel. Students discuss their personal and professional interests and reasons they might want or need to travel. They learn how to express the likes and dislikes as well as basic comparisons.

By the end of the semester students will be able to:

- speak about themselves in general and as travelers;
- ask basic questions about travel;
- discuss their travel interests and express likes and dislikes;
- speak about German-speaking countries and their inhabitants;
- orient themselves in means of transportation and accommodations used in Europe;
- purchase tickets and book hotel rooms on German-language websites.

The course is taught in German with some explanation of grammar points and cultural references in English.

## Course Requirements

### Class Participation • 24%

Active class participation is crucial for language learning. The following are the rubrics for participation:

	Attentiveness	Contribution	Use of German
Expectations are met (90–100%)	The student always pays attention.	The student is always eager to contribute to class discussion, exercises, and group work. The student often asks questions. The student always volunteers answers.	The student speaks only German during class.
Expectations are almost met (80–89%)	The student pays attention most of the time.	The student is usually eager to contribute to class discussion, exercises, and group work. The student occasionally asks questions and volunteers answers most of the time.	The student speaks German almost always during class.
Expectations are barely met (70–79%)	The student sometimes pays attention.	The student is occasionally eager to contribute to class discussion, exercises, and group work. The student occasionally asks questions and sometimes volunteers answers.	The student speaks German most of the time during class, but sometimes still switches to English.
Expectations are not met (65–69%)	The student rarely pays attention.	The student almost never contributes to class discussion, exercises, and group work. The student almost never asks questions or volunteers answers.	The student speaks German some of the time during class, and often switches to English.

### Homework Assignments • 36%

- The homework assignments listed in the Syllabus must be completed by the date indicated. Please note that for each day that an assignment is overdue 10% of its score will be deducted.
- There will be homework assignments not listed on the Syllabus given by the instructor during class.

### Vocabulary Quizzes • 12%

Learning vocabulary is a crucial part of mastering a language. Each session students will write a 3-minute quiz based on the vocabulary portion learned for that session.

### Oral Tests • 28%

At the end of each module, students will complete a speaking test outside the classroom using the online tool *Vocaroo* (<http://vocaroo.com>) and send the audio file to the instructor by e-mail. The detailed instructions for each oral test will be uploaded on Sakai. These tasks will allow the students to demonstrate comprehensibility and fluency of their speech, their use of acquired vocabulary and grammar structures.

## Study Materials

1. The course does not require a textbook. All course materials are on Sakai or distributed as handouts.
2. Recommended: Cecile Zorach, Charlotte Melin, Elizabeth A. Kautz. *English Grammar for Students of German: The Study Guide for Those Learning German*. 6<sup>th</sup> ed. Ann Arbor, MI: The Olivia & Hill Press, 2014. ISBN-13: 9780934034432

### Course Website



**Sakai** (<http://sakai.rutgers.edu>) is the general website for our course. All students officially enrolled in this course already have access to it. Students who do not have access need to contact the instructor. Students should check the website frequently for the most recent announcements and assignments.

## Assessment

### Grade Composition

Aspect	Percentage
 Class Participation (12)	24%
 Homework Assignments (12)	36%
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vocabulary Quizzes (12)	12%
 Oral Tests (4)	28%

### Grade Distribution

Grade	Points (%)
A	90–100
B+	85–89
B	80–84
C+	75–79
C	70–74
D	65–69
F	Below 65

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## Recommended Activities

### 1-Credit Introductory German Course

**104 • German Conversation** • Wednesdays, 2:50 – 4:10 p.m. • AB-3450

This course will introduce the students to the language and culture of German-speaking countries focusing on the language competencies particularly relevant for oral communication in everyday situations. You will learn how to speak about yourself; ask basic questions; share basic information about your family and relatives; speak about your studies; speak about objects relevant to everyday situations; speak about the weather; and express your likes and dislikes.

This course is designed primarily for students enrolled in Elementary German 101 and 102. It is a 1-credit course and has no exam at the end. This course will give the students an additional opportunity to practice German at an introductory level.

### German Movie Nights

All Rutgers students of German are invited to German Movie Nights organized bi-weekly. The movies are shown in German with English subtitles. Admission is free. For more information contact Francisco Rodrigues at [fjr58@scarletmail.rutgers.edu](mailto:fjr58@scarletmail.rutgers.edu) / 908 608 4510 (for text messages).

## Communication with the Instructor

### @ E-Mail

The best way to contact the instructor outside the classroom is to e-mail [pichugin@rutgers.edu](mailto:pichugin@rutgers.edu). Generally, the e-mails are answered within two business days. The e-mail subject line should start with **103 – FirstName LastName**, e.g. **103 – Michael Smith – Question re...** This will help direct the message to the correct folder for quick processing. If the subject line is formatted differently, the message may be read with delay.

### Progress Reports

On the dates indicated in the Syllabus, students will write short progress reports, where they reflect upon the course and their individual progress. They will describe what they have learned, what more they would like to learn, what aspects of the course they like or dislike and why. The reports are not graded. They help the instructor better coordinate the students' expectations and progress with the learning goals of the course. The reports have to be sent as PDF files named **103 – Progress Report # – FirstName LastName.pdf**, e.g. **103 – Progress Report 2 – Michael SMith.pdf** and attached to an e-mail message sent to [pichugin@rutgers.edu](mailto:pichugin@rutgers.edu) with the subject line starting **103 – Progress Report # – FirstName LastName**, e.g. **103 – Progress Report 2 – Michael Smith**.

### Mandatory Office Hours

Students will be required to attend two mandatory office hours (students are always welcome during regular office hours). This will give the students an opportunity to work with the instructor on individual language and skill needs and discuss individual questions and concerns. The sign-up sheet for the mandatory office hours will be circulated in class.

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## Department and School Policies

### Academic Integrity

Violation of academic integrity is an extremely serious matter; it can lead to a student's failing the course and being referred to the University's Office of Student Conduct for disciplinary action. When referring to ideas other than their own, students should always acknowledge their sources clearly and completely, whether they are quoting or paraphrasing. Note also that use of online translation services is not permitted as a tool for generating work submitted for course credit. Please see the University's policies on academic integrity at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu> and discuss with the instructor any questions about this and related issues.

### Attendance

All students must attend regularly and arrive prepared. If a student expects to miss one or two classes, he/she should use the University Self-Reporting Absence website (<https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra>) to indicate the date and the reason for the absence. An e-mail notification is automatically sent to the instructor. Those who miss more than two class sessions without a compelling excuse should expect a one-step reduction in the course grade (i.e. an A becomes a B+, a B+ becomes a B). Every additional three absences may entail a further one-step grade-reduction. Three late arrivals count as one absence.

**Note:** It is the responsibility of the student who has been absent (for any reason) to find out what he/she has missed and obtain materials that may have been handed out.

### Electronic Devices

Cell phones and all other electronic devices (iPods, iPads, tablets, audio players, etc.) must be turned off during class out of respect for fellow students and the instructor.

### Disability Support Services

Students who may be requesting accommodations due to disabilities are encouraged to familiarize themselves with procedures and policies regarding disability support services at the following website: <http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu>. It is recommended that students seeking accommodations begin filing paperwork as soon as possible as the documentation review process may take up to 30 business days. Students are encouraged to speak with the instructor about these issues at the beginning of the term. All such conversations are kept strictly confidential.

### Additional Assistance

Students are encouraged to come to their instructor's office hours with any questions and problems pertaining to class. Any student who needs additional help should contact the Learning Resource Center or the Department's tutors as soon as possible. Additional practice is available at the conversation tables offered each semester at the Language Institute. Informal conversation sessions are also held weekly in the Rutgers Student Center. Check the Department website for further details: <http://german.rutgers.edu>.

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## Semesterplan

**Legend:**  
 = Hausaufgabe = Homework  
 = Vocabulary Quiz  
 = Wortschatz = Vocabulary for learning  
 = Information related to German-language culture  
 = Vocabulary Quiz  
 = Work with video clips  
 = Oral test  
 = Progress report sending date

LV	Datum	Thema	Hausaufgaben	Arbeit in der Klasse
01	Do 07.09.	Einführung		Einführung – Kennenlernen – Semesterplan
02	Do 14.09.	Modul 1 Wer reist?	 Aufgabe 1.1 <b>W</b> 1.1 • Hallo! Ich heiße ...	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1.1 • Hallo! Ich heiße... Greetings in different German-speaking regions  Dialoge
03	Do 21.09.		 Aufgabe 1.2 <b>W</b> 1.2 • Woher kommen Sie?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1.2 • Woher kommen Sie? Nationalities  Dialoge
04	Do 28.09.		 Aufgabe 1.3 <b>W</b> 1.3 • Was nehme ich mit auf die Reise?  Fortschrittsbericht 1 (Progress Report 1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1.3 • Was nehme ich mit auf die Reise? ...  Dialoge
05	Do 05.10.	Modul 2 Reisen: Wohin?	 Aufgabe 2.1 <b>W</b> 2.1 • Wohin reisen Sie gern?  Oral Test 1  <a href="http://vocaroo.com">vocaroo.com</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2.1 • Wohin reisen Sie gern? Countries and Cities  Dialoge
06	Do 12.10.		 Aufgabe 2.2 <b>W</b> 2.2 • Deutschland und Europa	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2.2 • Deutschland und Europa Germany: Geography  Dialoge
07	Do 19.10.		 Aufgabe 2.3 <b>W</b> 2.3 • Mein Lieblingsreiseziel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2.3 • Mein Lieblingsreiseziel Euro  Dialoge
08	Do 26.10.	Modul 3 Reisen: Wie?	 Aufgabe 3.1 <b>W</b> 3.1 • Verkehrsmittel  Oral Test 2  <a href="http://vocaroo.com">vocaroo.com</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3.1 • Verkehrsmittel Transportation in Europe  Dialoge
09	Do 02.11.		 Aufgabe 3.2 <b>W</b> 3.2 • Haben Sie ein Zimmer frei?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3.2 • Haben Sie ein Zimmer frei? European tourism  Dialoge
10	Do 09.11.		 Aufgabe 3.3 <b>W</b> 3.3 • Online-Bestellung  Fortschrittsbericht 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3.3 • Online-Bestellung German-language Internet  Dialoge
11	Do 16.11.	Modul 4 Reisen: Warum?	 Aufgabe 4.1 <b>W</b> 4.1 • Andere Länder, andere Sitten  Oral Test 3  <a href="http://vocaroo.com">vocaroo.com</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4.1 • Andere Länder, andere Sitten Austria  Dialoge
12	Di 21.11.		 Aufgabe 4.2 <b>W</b> 4.2 • Warum reist man?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4.2 • Warum reist man? Switzerland  Dialoge
13	Do 30.11.		 Aufgabe 4.3 <b>W</b> 4.3 • Reisen: beruflich und privat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4.5 • Reisen: beruflich und privat Luxembourg and Liechtenstein  Dialoge
14	Do 07.12.	Zusammenfassung	 Oral Test 4  <a href="http://vocaroo.com">vocaroo.com</a>	Zusammenfassung

**The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the Syllabus.**

The latest version of this Syllabus is available on [Sakai](#) → [Syllabus](#).