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Office Hours: Wednesday, 3-4 p.m. and by appointment

Course title: Elementary German (4 credits)
01:470:101-05; index 70079
Spring 2012
Course location: Hardenbergh A2
Meeting times: Monday, 4:30-5:50 p.m.; Wednesday, 4:30- 7:30

Course Description

This course will introduce you to the language, accents, and cultures of German-speaking countries, using theme- related vocabulary, grammatical structures and authentic materials. You will practice speaking, writing, reading, and listening to German. At the end of this semester, you will be able to communicate in German regarding the following situations: introducing yourself and giving personal information about yourself, your family, your professional and private life; talking about your daily activities at college and during your leisure time; having simple conversations/small talk about the weather and your private life in formal and informal dialogues; describing people and objects; talking about your talents and obligations at home and at work; describing living arrangements; expressing wishes and feelings. You will be able to use the German language to express present, past and future events in simple statements and questions by applying the vocabulary and grammar that you have practiced in class, at home, and in the language lab.

You will also learn about cultural perspectives, products, and practices of German-speaking cultures and compare them to your own country. Some of the topics addressed this semester include geography and landscape; building styles and regional architecture; university studies and professional education, laws and regulations; and customs and holidays.

This course is *taught in German*.

PREREQUISITES: This course is designed for beginning students who have no prior knowledge of German.

Anyone who has taken 2 or more years of high school German may not enroll and if they do enroll will not receive credit. Such students should instead register for German 121.*"

Students enrolled in German 101 are strongly encouraged to enroll in the Elementary German Lab 103 (T 4, 1:10-2:30) at LLB 119.

Final Grade

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| Class participation: | 10% |
| Homework and Lab work: | 15% |
| Written exams/quizzes/essays: | 30% |
| 2 oral exams: | 10% |
| Final oral exam: | 5% |
| Final written exam: | 30% |

Grade distribution

A=90-100%; B+=85-89; B=80-84; C+=75-79; C=70-74; D=65-69; F=64 and below

Required texts

Kontakte: A Communicative Approach. Ed. by Erwin Tschirmer, Brigitte Nikolai and Tracy D. Terrell. Boston et al.: McGraw-Hill, 6th edition 2008.
(ISBN: 978-0-07-353533-3)

Kontakte: Arbeitsbuch (includes Audio Program). 6th edition, 2008.
(ISBN: 978-0-07-335515-3)

Available at Rutgers Bookstore the Ferren Deck Mall in New Brunswick (across from train station)

Additional materials online: www.mhhe.com/kontakte6

Important End-of-Semester Information

Classes end: Monday, April 30, 2012

Reading days: Tuesday and Wednesday, May 1st and May 2nd

Final exam: Friday, May 4, 4-7 p.m.

Cell Phones

Cell phones and all other technological devices (beepers, iPods, MP3players...) must be turned off during class out of respect for the instructor and fellow students. Please schedule all important phone communications outside of class time.

Departmental policies

Attendance

All students must attend regularly and arrive prepared; if you expect to miss one or two classes, please use the University absence reporting website <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An email is automatically sent to me. 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). Three late arrivals count as one absence. Note: It is the responsibility of students who have been absent (for any reason) to find out what they have missed and obtain materials that may have been handed out.

Photocopies

Department photocopying fees add up quickly and impressively; we will therefore need to collect from each student 5 cents per page toward the cost of handouts other than the syllabus, quizzes and tests.

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 teachers about these issues at the beginning of the term. All such conversations will be kept strictly confidential.

Academic Integrity

Violations of academic integrity are an extremely serious matter, and 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 your own, always acknowledge your sources clearly and completely, whether you are quoting or paraphrasing. Note also that use of online translation services is not permitted as a tool for generating work that you submit for course credit. Please see the University's policies on academic integrity at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/>, and discuss with your instructor any questions you may have about this and related issues.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Homework assignments: Homework, reading, and lab assignments are due on the day noted in the syllabus. Please check Sakai for updates on all homework assignments. **Late homework will not be accepted.**

Additional homework not listed on the syllabus may be assigned in class by the instructor.

Written assignments: To practice your written language skills, you will write three essays of up to 150 words during the semester (that's one essay every four weeks). Each essay will be written twice: your first version will be evaluated and commented on regarding content, comprehensibility, use of language, and accuracy. You are required to hand in a second, corrected version that will also be evaluated. The final grade for each essay will be the average of the first and second version. I will give you more information on the criteria I use in evaluating your essays and on the format you should use for your essays before you write the first essay.

Oral exams: There are three oral exams for this course. They will be administered in the World Language Institute Language Lab, 20 Seminary Place, room 119. The precise dates have not been assigned yet. But we do know that the exams will take place during the following weeks.

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| Oral exam 1: | week beginning February 20, 2012 |
| Oral exam 2: | week beginning March 26, 2012 |
| Oral exam 3: | week beginning April 23, 2012 |

Language Lab: You are required to go to the language lab *at least* once a week to complete the lab assignments. Be sure to sign in via the internet each time you visit; sign-in information is forwarded to your instructor each week and will be included in your grades. Rutgers-New Brunswick language labs can be found at the following locations:

CAC: World Language Institute Language Lab, 20 Seminary Place, room 119

Douglass: Ruth Adams Building, room 102

Livingston: Tillett Hall, room 202

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.

This syllabus is subject to change: Check Sakai regularly for UPDATES on assignments and due dates.

| Week/Date | Content | Materials |
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| Week 1: Jan 18 | <p>Einführung A and beginning of Einführung B</p> <p>Introduction to course, syllabus, textbook, and additional materials, incl. website activities.</p> <p>Getting to know each other: <i>Begrüßung und Verabschieden</i>; how to introduce yourself; use of formal “Sie” and informal “du” and giving basic personal information; introduction to basic grammar structures: gender; the case system; personal pronouns; singular and plural in German.</p> | <p>Situation 1-6 S.4--9 Wortschatz: S. 17--18 Übungen: 1-3 S. 19--22 Einführung A Übungen: 4-5: S. 20-23 Wortschatz: Einführung A: Study and memorize.</p> |
| Week 2: Jan 23-Jan 25 | <p>Einführung B</p> <p>Expressing and inquiring about origin/ nationality; expanding personal information by talking about the family; small talk about the weather; common idiomatic expressions; How to ask yes/no questions with “sein” and “haben”:</p> | <p>Einführung B: Situation 1-7: S. 25--31 Übungen: 1-10: S.40--S.47 Wortschatz: Einführung B: Study and memorize</p> |
| Week 3: Jan 30-Feb 1 | <p>Kapitel 1: Wer ich bin und was ich tue:</p> <p>Expressing likes and dislikes with various verbs + “(nicht) gern”; word placement in German sentences and questions; talking about leisure time and professional life/ university; describing daily routines; basic verb conjugations and separate verbs; Numbers in context: telling time (official time and colloquial time vs. the US);</p> | <p>Kapitel 1: Wortschatz: S. 66-S 68 Situationen 1--8: S.50--55 Übungen: 1-6: S. 69-73</p> |

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| Week 4: Feb 6-Feb 8 | <p>Kapitel 1: Wer ich bin und was ich tue; More interpretive, interpersonal and presentational activities from DVD; First essay in class (first version); Correction of essay version 1 due; Quiz on Wortschatz and Grammatik of Kapitel 1</p> | <p>Wortschatz: S. 67--68 Study & Learn Übungen 7-12: S. 74--77 Workbook Exercises Oral Tape Drill</p> |
| Week 5: Feb 13-15 | <p>Kapitel 2 : Besitz und Vergnügen Expressing wishes with “möchten”; talking about things you possess and want to give to others; negating with “kein” and “nicht”; giving your opinion about taste and style using idiomatic expressions with “stehen” / “gefallen” “(nicht) gut finden” ; expressing preference with comparative and superlative forms of “gern”; Expressing possession with possessive adjectives</p> | <p>Wortschatz: S. 95--97 Situationen: 1-12: S. 80-89 Übungen: S.98--103 1--6</p> |
| Week 6: Feb. 20-22 | <p>Kap. 2: Besitz und Vergnügen Asking people to do things with the imperatives for “du”, “Sie” (reviewed from Einführung A), “ihr”; Review Kapitel 1+2, exam #1</p> | <p>Wortschatz: S. 95--97 Study & Learn Übungen: 7-13: S. 104--107</p> |
| Week 7: Feb. 27-29 | <p>Review of Kap.1/2 Exam; Kapitel 3: Talente, Pläne, Pflichten Introduction to modal verbs in context: describing talents (können); making plans (wollen, möchten); expressing obligation, permission, and necessity (müssen, sollen, dürfen). Compound nouns; word order in dependent clauses; personal pronouns in accusative case.</p> | <p>Situationen: 1-8: S.110-117 Wortschatz: 128--129 Study & Learn Übungen: S. 130--134: 1--6</p> |

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| Week 8: Mar. 5-Mar. 7 | Kap. 3: Talente, Pläne, Pflichten Describing how you and others feel; Word order in dependent clauses; accusative case of personal pronouns; Quiz Kap. 3, Kapitel 4 | Übungen : 135--137; Übung 7--10 Wortschatz: Kapitel 3: 128--129 Oral Drill; German Film before break |
| Spring Recess: March 10 to March 18 | | |
| Week 9: Mar 19-21 | Kapitel 4: Ereignisse und Erinnerungen: Talking about things that happened in the past, using present perfect tense; talking about memories; talking about specific dates and times in the past, using time expressions, prepositions of time and ordinal numbers | Wortschatz: S. 158--160 Kapitel 4: Situationen: 1-8 S. 140--147 Übungen: 1--6 S.161--165 |
| Week 10: Mar.26-28 | Kapitel 4: Ereignisse und Erinnerungen, review for Kap. 3+4, chapter exam #2: Kap.3+4 | Wortschatz: Kapitel 4: S. 158-160 Movie Review: discussion Übungen: 7--11: S. 167--169 |
| Week 11: April 2-4 | Review of chapter 3/4 exam; Kapitel 5: Geld und Arbeit: Talking about shopping jobs and the workplace; talking about future career plans using "werden"; expressing likes and dislikes with "gefallen"; idiomatic expressions with dative | Wortschatz: Kapitel 5: S. 190--192 Situationen: 1--9 S. 172--181 Übungen 1--3: S. 193--195 |
| Week 12: Apr. 9-11 | Kapitel 5: Geld und Arbeit Review vocabulary and grammar from Kap. 5, then take Quiz on Kap. 5; Begin Kapitel 6 | Dative Review Wortschatz: Kapitel 5: S. 190--192 Übungen: 4--9: S. 196--201 |

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| <p>Week 13: Apr 16-18</p> | <p>Kapitel 6: Wohnen Describing where you live; finding a place to live, and talking about housework and chores</p> | <p>Wortschatz: Kapitel 6: S. 222-224 Übungen: 1---6: S.225-229 Situationen: S. 204---213: 1---9 .</p> |
| <p>Week 14: Apr 23-25</p> | <p>Kap. 6: Wohnen Two-way prepositions after wohin/ wo Quiz Kap. 6</p> | <p>Wortschatz: Kapitel 6: S. 222-224 Übungen: 7---10 S.232---235</p> |
| <p>Apr. 30 Last Day of Classes</p> | <p>Review for Final Exam</p> | <p>Review of everything covered during this semester+</p> |