

GERMAN 103 – ELEMENTARY GERMAN

Gettysburg College – Fall 2014



Course Description

Willkommen! This semester you signed up for this class to learn German and you did so for a very good reason: Within the European Union German speakers represent the largest group. German is an official language in Germany, Austria, Belgium, and Switzerland. German 101 presumes no formal knowledge of German and provides an introduction to all elements of the German language.

This course will serve as an entryway into the German speaking cultures, by providing you with the abilities to listen to, speak, read, and write in basic (High) German. It follows a communicative approach – it is taught primarily in German, but complex grammar instruction may be provided in English at times. During the semester you will learn and practice how to express yourself in German. In addition, you will have gained a better understanding of German history and cultures.

MATERIALS

Please acquire a copy of *Vorsprung*, 3rd edition as soon as any possible. This textbook is vitally important for our course, and we will need it beginning from day 1. The workbook will be online, you will receive a code to enroll. Other materials (PowerPoint slides, Syllabus,

Class:
M-W-Th-F: 9-9.50 am
McKnight 10

PTA Sessions:
Tuesdays (starting
September 9) ·
11:25-12:15 am
(Room t.b.a.)

Instructor:
Jonathan Fine

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Office Tel.: x6884

Office Hours:
Mondays 11-12 am
Thursdays 10-11 am
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Office Hours:
Mondays 11-12 am
Wednesdays 10-12 am

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Homework assignments, additional audio and video files) are available on Moodle.

SUGGESTED:

- Zorach, Cecile and Charlotte Melin: *English Grammar for Students of German*. Ann Arbor: The Olivia and Hill Press, 2001
- A good English-German/German English Dictionary (a good online resource is: <http://dict.cc/>)

Course Goals

This course will provide you with the basis for navigating a variety of simple situations in German. By the end of the semester, you should be able to speak and write in complete sentences about where you live, family and friends, and what you like to do in your free time. You will master fundamental vocabulary pertaining to family, school, daily activities, telling time, travel, restaurants, professions, and more. You will be able to express preference and opinions in both the present and past tense. Additionally, you will receive a solid foundation in grammar points that you will use during all future study of German (verb conjugation, asking questions, word order, modal and two-way verbs, pronouns, possessive adjectives, prepositions, past perfect, future tense, nominative, accusative & dative cases).

In accordance with the language proficiency goals laid out by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language ([ACTFL](#)), students should attain at least a “novice-mid” level in speaking, listening, writing, and reading by the end of the semester (and “novice-high” by the end of German 102).

A further goal is to provide you with the groundwork for achieving a working knowledge of German culture and history. The German language will provide you with the tools to understand authentic texts including news stories, literature, film, theater, music, and more. It will help you meet Gettysburg College’s goal of [Informed Citizenship](#). With German, you gain access not only to the cultures of Germany, Austria, and Switzerland, but also to the EU and points beyond.

Grading Scale

I.	Active Class Participation, Attendance	10%
II.	Homework (including workbook)	10%
III.	Essays (three total, diary, Facebook posts)	15%
IV.	Movie Maker Projects (individual & group)	10%
V.	Oral Proficiency Interview	10%
VI.	Vocabulary quizzes	10%
VII.	Chapter Tests	20%
VIII.	Final Exam	15%



A: 100-93	A-: 92-90	B+: 89-87	B: 86-83	B-: 82-80
C+: 79-77	C: 76-73	C-: 72-70	D: 69-63	F: 62 or less

I. Active Class Participation

Class meets four times a week (M-W-Th-F). In addition, you will meet with a Peer Teaching Assistant (PTA) for conversation hour every Tuesday from 11:25-12:15pm. PTAs are advanced students of German, often German majors, who will work with you to practice listening and speaking. The goal of these weekly 45-minute Tuesday practice sessions is to provide additional time for practice using new vocabulary and grammatical structures.

See page 6/7 of this syllabus for a detailed description of how to earn participation points in German 101. Active class participation entails being on time and well prepared for class, speaking only German, and demonstrating enthusiasm for the material. It means volunteering your answers, opinions, and ideas, or asking a question when you don't understand something. Showing respect for the ideas of your instructors and peers is also of paramount importance.

Since class participation constitutes a substantial part of the final grade, all students are expected to attend every class meeting and every Tuesday practice session. It is your responsibility to make up anything you miss. If you miss more than three classes, your grade will drop one-third of a grade with each absence, for example from A- to B+. If possible, notify your instructor before a class you won't be able to attend; speak with your professor during the first week of class about special circumstances that might prevent you from attending class on a test day. See also page 7 of the [Student Handbook](#) for more information on the attendance policy.

Participation in Activities Outside the Classroom (*counts toward class participation*)

During the course of the semester, you are expected to take part *in at least 7 activities* of the German Department, such as Kaffeeklatsch, film screenings, and lunch with TA Sandra.

Kaffeeklatsch. Mondays 4-5 in the TA house (Hanson House/63 West Lincoln) refreshments and conversation with other students and German faculty

Film Series. Thursdays at 7 in McKnight 15; most films have English subtitles

Stammtisch. Thursdays 12-1pm at Servo/Dining Center; join Juliane for lunch to learn vocabulary and customs associated with food in the German-speaking world (you must attend at least one Stammtisch)

Community Stammtisch. Every last Tuesday each month at the Ugly Mug Café from 5-6pm

Winterfest (mandatory): Wednesday, Dec. 3, 5-6:30 pm in Glatfelter Lodge



Other Noteworthy (Optional) Events in Fall 2014

Monday, September 8

Reading with Zora del Buono (Writer/Journalist, Berlin/Zürich)

Wednesday, October 29, 4-5 pm

Colloquium with Prof. Eric Scheuffler: ""Collecting the Past: Challenging the Tradition of the Historical Novel in Ilija Trojanow's *Der Weltensammler*."

Wednesday, November 19, 4-5 pm

Colloquium with Prof. Henning Wrage "January 29, 1947: German Postwar Culture, Radio Drama, and the Promise of Interactivity"

II. Homework

Be prepared to devote approximately 2 hours every night to preparing homework assignments for this class. This includes studying vocabulary on your own; don't wait until the night before a test to learn all of the vocab words from that chapter! You will receive a zero for homework not turned in on time. Assignments range from exercises in the textbook and workbook, to additional written and oral assignments as specified by your professor. You will receive detailed homework assignments at the end of each class.

III. Essays and Diary

You will write three essays that range in length from 1/2 page to 1 page. You will receive corrections on your first version and use them to rewrite the essay (correction code to be handed out before the first essay assignment). Your professor will provide more details about each essay assignment at a later date.

Beginning with week 2, you will keep a diary: You are expected to write an entry for every day. At the beginning, the entries will obviously be shorter. I'll collect the diaries every Friday for grading. Essays and diary will constitute the overall grade for this segment.

IV. Film Project

You will use film editing software such as Movie Maker or iMovie to create short group movie projects. Project specifics will follow. Best films will be shown at Winterfest.

V. Oral Proficiency Interview

Oral proficiency interviews will be held in December. Students will meet with the professor for a 10-minute conversation to assess proficiency according to the [ACTFL](#) scale. You will receive detailed information of how to prepare for this assignment.



VI. Vocab Quizzes & Chapter Tests

Five chapter tests and (almost) weekly vocab quizzes will evaluate your mastery of chapters 1-5.

VII. Final Exam

Your final exam will take place on Tuesday, December 16, from 1:30 - 4:30.

Other Course Policies and General Information

You cannot pass this class if you do not complete all major assignments such as essays and projects. Missed tests and quizzes cannot be made up unless there is a documented medical or family emergency. Late work will not be accepted unless there are extenuating circumstances. Please contact your professor in writing (by email) with any requests for extensions or other accommodations. Extensions may be granted at the discretion of the professor. All cell phones, iPods, tablets, laptops, and other electronic devices must be silenced and put away upon entering the classroom. Any device that makes an appearance in class is subject to immediate confiscation and will be returned at the end of the session.

Excused Absences

Please inform your instructor as soon as possible about any planned field trips or travel required for sports or other organizations, or if you anticipate absences due to religious holidays. Advance notice (one week in advance) is required for excused absences.

Special Needs

Please notify your professor during the first week of class if you have special needs related to a disability that may affect your performance in this course. An official accommodation sheet from the college is required for special provisions on tests or quizzes. Be assured that this information will be handled confidentially and every effort will be made to accommodate you.

Tutorial Assistance

You have several options for extra assistance with learning the course material:

- 1) Make an appointment with your professor or FLTA Juliane Petermann
- 2) Schedule free tutoring sessions with one of our peer tutors, who are all advanced students of German employed through the Peer Learning Program. Tutors may hold weekly office hours and review sessions.

Academic Integrity

- Under no circumstances will plagiarism, cheating, or dishonesty of any kind be tolerated in this course, which adheres to the Gettysburg College Honor Code. Everything you turn in must be entirely your own work, including homework, essays, papers, and presentations. In this course, the following acts constitute plagiarism:
 - Use of online translation programs for unique phrases longer than one or two words

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- (this excludes the use of online dictionaries to look up individual terms; be very cautious)
- about overusing online dictionaries when composing essays)
- Direct citations from any source without appropriate footnotes (including websites)
- Corrections or assistance provided by anyone other than the course instructor or TAs/tutors
- (any and all drafts on which you receive assistance from a TA must be submitted to your professor along with the final version of the assignment)

Study Abroad in Berlin or Heidelberg (or Vienna, or another German-speaking city)
Gettysburg College offers two exciting affiliated programs for study abroad in Germany. If you choose to study at the CIEEE in Berlin, you could take part in a program on European Studies available to German language speakers at all levels (some courses are taught in English, live with a host family). At the University of Heidelberg, you could participate in a program designed for advanced speakers. Please ask your professor or visit Off-Campus Studies if you would like additional materials about either of these programs.

German 103 Active Participation Grading Criteria

A students – volunteer multiple times each class period

- are on time, have all their materials, and use English only in exceptional circumstances
- are attentive to what is going on in class
- are always prepared for class
- display a positive attitude and enthusiasm for the subject
- work well with other students in groups
- stay on-task when working in groups or individually
- ask questions when they do not understand something
- almost always volunteer to answer open questions (“Was haben Sie am Wochenende gemacht?”)
- almost always volunteer/answer when going over assigned work

B students – volunteer at least once each class period

- are almost always on time, have their materials, and rarely speak English instead of German
- are attentive to what is going on in class
- are mostly prepared for class
- display a positive attitude and show interest in the subject
- work well with other students in groups
- stay on-task when working in groups or individually
- ask questions when they do not understand something
- often volunteer to answer open questions

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- often volunteer/answer when going over assigned work

C students – do not volunteer on a regular basis

- are generally on time, have their materials, and often speak English instead of German
- are attentive to what is going on in the class most of the time
- are usually or sometimes prepared for class
- work fairly well with other students in groups
- sometimes get off-task when working in groups
- do only the minimum when working individually
- do not ask questions when they do not understand something
- rarely volunteer to answer open questions
- almost never volunteer/answer when going over assigned work
- display an indifferent attitude in general

D/F students:

- are often late to class, forget to bring necessary materials, and speak more English than German
- do not pay attention to what is going on in class
- usually do not prepare for class
- chat with other students when they are supposed to be doing group work
- do little or nothing when they are supposed to be working individually
- almost never volunteer to answer open question
- almost never volunteer when going over assigned work
- are uncooperative in group work; disruptive to instructor and/or other students in the class;
- display an attitude that indicates they would rather be elsewhere



Semesterüberblick

(Detailed homework assignment sheets will follow for each unit)

– *Änderungen vorbehalten! Subject to alterations!*–
Homework will be assigned at the end of each session

Woche 1		Wichtige Termine
Mo, 01.09.	CHAPTER 1 Willkommen, Introduction and Syllabus, Wer ist Anna Adler? Vorschau #1	
Mi, 03.09.	Anlauftext I, Rückblick, Sprache im Alltag	
Do, 04.09.	Understanding commands and requests, Anlauftext II: Annas Traum, Greetings and Farewells	
Fr, 05.09.	Vocab quiz , Describing yourself and others, Asking for someone's name, das Alphabet, die Zahlen	
Woche 2		
Mo, 08.09.	Aussehen, Asking for information and clarification, Identifying people and classroom objects	
Mi, 10.09.	Nominative case, Definite articles, Nationalitäten	
Do, 11.09.	Indefinite articles, kein, pronoun substitution, Vocab review	
Fr, 12.09.	Vocab quiz , grammar review	
Woche 3		
Mo, 15.09.	Chapter test I	
Mi, 17.09.	CHAPTER 2 Anlauftext, Rückblick, Die Familie und die Verwandten	
Do, 18.09.	Indicating possession or ownership. Expressing what you like and don't like	
Fr, 19.09.	Vocab quiz , Describing actions, Studienfächer	
Woche 4		
Mo, 22.09.	Talking about what you like and don't like to do, Talking about what you have and don't have, Absprung: Vorschau	
Mi, 24.09.	Absprungtext, Rückblick, die Monate	
Do, 25.09.	Creating variety and shifting emphasis, die Wochentage, Zeitausdrücke	
Fr, 26.09.	Vocab quiz , Die Uhrzeit, Describing daily activities	
Woche 5		
Mo, 29.09.	Zieltext, Expressing negation	
Mi, 01.10.	Grammar review	
Do, 02.10.	Chapter test 2	
Fr, 03.10.	CHAPTER 3 Anlauftext	

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Woche 6		
Mo, 06.10.	Describing activities, Expressing relationships or ownership	ESSAY 1, Version 1 due!
Mi, 08.10.	Expressing additional and contrastive information and justifications, Stating personal preferences	
Do, 09.10.	Expressing what you would like to do, Lebensmittel	
Fr, 10.10.	Vocab quiz , Sprache im Alltag, Absprung: Vorschau	
Woche 7		
Mo, 13.10.	READING DAY	
Mi, 15.10.	Absprungtext, Rückblick, Freizeitaktivitäten, Expressing possibilities	ESSAY 1, Version 2 due!
Do, 16.10.	Talking about people and things that you know, expressing relationship or ownership	
Fr, 17.10.	Vocab quiz , Zieltext	
Woche 8		
Mo, 20.10.	Review grammar	
Mi, 22.10.	Chapter test 3	
Do, 23.10.	CHAPTER 4 Deutsch im Beruf 1, Kapitel 4 Anlauf: Vorschau	
Fr, 24.10.	Anlauftext, Rückblick, Studienmöglichkeiten für Deutschlernende	
Woche 9		
Mo, 27.10.	Das Gepäck, Telling friends and relatives to do something	ESSAY 2, Version 1 due!
Mi, 29.10.	Expressing ability, fondness, and expected obligation, Absprungtext: Vorschau	
Do, 30.10.	Absprungtext, Rückblick	
Fr, 31.10.	Vocab quiz , Expressing permission, prohibition, necessity, and strong desire	
Woche 10		
Mo, 03.11.	Eigenschaften, Expressing: spatial movement, the recipient of something, opposition and omission	
Mi, 05.11.	Zieltext	ESSAY 2, Version 2 due!
Do, 06.11.	Freie Kommunikation und Schreibecke	
Fr, 07.11.	Vocab quiz , Review grammar, Kapitel 5, Anlauf: Vorschau	
Woche 11		
Mo, 10.11.	Chapter test 4	
Mi, 12.11.	CHAPTER 5 Anlauftext, Rückblick, Talking about past events	
Do, 13.11.	Talking about past events (cont.), das Wetter, die Jahreszeiten	
Fr, 14.11.	Vocab quiz , Talking about past events (cont.), Absprungtext: Vorschau	
Woche 12		
Mo, 17.11.	Absprungtext, Rückblick	FILM PROJECT: Scripts,

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		Version 1 due!
Mi, 19.11.	Freundschaft und Liebe, expressing complex ideas with a subordinating, Conjunction, expressing a condition	
Do, 20.11.	Vocab quiz , Giving reasons, positioning information in a German sentence	
Fr, 21.11.	Talking about activities that continue from the past into the present, Zieltext, Review Grammar	FILM PROJECT: Scripts, Version 2 due!
Woche 13		
Mo, 24.11.	Chapter test 5 (parts)	FILM PROJECT: Start filming!
Mi, 26.11.	THANKSGIVING	
Do, 27.11.	THANKSGIVING	
Fr, 28.11.	THANKSGIVING	
Woche 14		
Mo, 01.12.	Leftover: Chapter 5, Anfang Chapter 6	ESSAY 3, Version 1 due!
Mi, 03.12.	Screening Filmprojects, Leftover: Chapter 5, Anfang Chapter 6	<i>Winterfest (mandatory)</i>
Do, 04.12.	Mündliche Prüfung, Gruppenarbeit	
Fr, 05.12.	Mündliche Prüfung, Gruppenarbeit	<i>Mündliche Prüfung</i>
Woche 15		
Mo, 08.12.	Wiederholungstag: Vorbereitung auf die Abschlussprüfung	
Mi, 10.12.	Wiederholungstag: Vorbereitung auf die Abschlussprüfung	ESSAY 3, Version 2 due!
Do, 11.12.	Wiederholungstag: Vorbereitung auf die Abschlussprüfung	
Fr, 12.12.	Wiederholungstag: Vorbereitung auf die Abschlussprüfung	
Woche 16		
Di, 16.12.	1:30 - 4:30: Final Exam	