

## **GERM 101-02: Elementary German I**

Fall 2009 – Binghamton University

Mondays, Wednesdays 10:50AM – 11:50AM, Fine Arts 247

Tuesdays, Thursday 10:05AM – 11:30AM, Fine Arts 247

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Tuesdays 11:30AM-12:30PM

And by appointment

**Texts:** Required: Tschirner, Erwin P., Nikolai, Brigitte, and Terrell, Tracy D: *Kontakte: A Communicative Approach*, Boston: McGraw-Hill Higher Education 2009 (textbook) – This book will also be used in the Spring for German 102.

Suggested: *English Grammar for Students of German*, by Zorach and Melin.  
A good German-English dictionary (larger than pocket-size edition). This will serve you well for all future German courses as well. I suggest HarperCollins or Oxford-Duden.

**Course objectives:** At the end of the German 101/102 sequence, students should understand all the basic structures of the German language. They should be able to interact with native speakers of German in simple everyday situations. They should also have a basic understanding of German culture and how it influenced the Western world in the past two centuries.

### **Requirements:**

- be prepared for all classes with homework as assigned
- listen to German audio at least once a day
- take three hour-long written exams and the weekly quizzes
- take an oral exam
- give a 20 minute team presentation about German culture (in English); hand in a written essay that summarizes the presentation.

Your grade is composed of these elements:

- midterm and final exams ..... 30%
- quizzes ..... 20%
- written homework..... 10%
- oral performance and participation..... 30%
- oral exam ..... 5%
- presentation..... 5%

Grading Scale:

A: 93-100 A-: 90-92  
B+: 88-89 B: 83-87 B-: 80-82  
C+: 78-79 C: 73-77 C-: 70-72  
D+: 68-69 D: 63-67 D-: 60-62  
F: 0-59

Except for documented emergencies, exams and quizzes must be taken during the designated period.

**Homework:** You are expected to read the assigned text and prepare for class at home, as in-class time will be used for discussion and practice. Workbook assignments will be collected as a complete unit at the end of each chapter. The solutions to most homework exercises are available on the Blackboard site. You are expected to correct the homework assignments yourself *in a different color ink pen* before turning in the assignments. Late homework will not be accepted. Homework will be graded on the basis of a  $\checkmark$ + (100%),  $\checkmark$  (85%),  $\checkmark$ - (70%) or missing (0%).

**Blackboard:** Students are expected to check the site <http://blackboard.binghamton.edu> for this course regularly for syllabus changes and other announcements. Supplemental readings and homework will be posted on Blackboard as PDF (Adobe Acrobat) files. Blackboard may also be used for collaborations and discussions outside of class-time.

**Class participation:** your participation will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- What you say demonstrates that you are prepared for the day's lesson;
- You contribute productively to group work;
- There is improvement on how you express yourself in German over the course of the semester.

You will probably have to overcome some resistance to speaking in class. Remember that doing it is the only way you'll overcome this reluctance. You should actively participate on a voluntary basis—do not wait to be called on!

How much time should you devote to studying German? Remember that you cannot cram a foreign language, so work consistently, every day, even if you can only devote half an hour on some days. Plan at least one hour outside of class for each hour in class. If you are striving for competency equivalent to an A, you will most likely need more daily practice.

**Presentations:** The “Global Interdependency” segment of the course consists of student presentations (teams of 2-3), followed by discussion. Presentations should not last longer than 10 minutes per student. A list of topic ideas will be handed out during the first week of the term, but feel free to bring up a subject you want to speak about. Presentations can be given on Tuesdays or Thursdays (only one per session). You can use any kind of media support you want, but it is your responsibility to bring machinery like slide projectors or laptops to class if you want to use it. I encourage you to see me during my office hours to talk about your project. Speakers will get feedback from the course not only on the content, but also on the form of their presentation.

**Attendance policy:** Attendance and active participation is crucial to your success in this course. You will not learn to speak German if you're not in class. Four absences will be granted for the semester, for religious holidays, weather related problems, family issues, health problems etc. Use them wisely. **You are expected to make up for the work you missed and do the home assignments.** 3% will be deducted from your oral performance and participation grade for each additional absence. **You are advised to drop the course if you have more than seven absences altogether.**

If you know that will be absent ahead of time, please let me know so we can plan accordingly. Punctuality is also important, and tardiness may be marked as absence.

**Academic Integrity:** The Student Academic Honesty Code applies to this course. Make yourself familiar with it. You may wish to note that each year academic honesty violations (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on quizzes or exams) can and do result in Harpur students being suspended from the University for multiple semesters. You can find out more about the Honesty Code in the bulletin: <http://bulletin.binghamton.edu> (Click on [Academic Policies and Procedures - All Students](#)).

**Cell Phone Policy:** Please turn off your cell phones entirely or turn off the ringer. If your telephone rings during class, you be asked to leave the classroom to answer the telephone, and you will be marked absent for that day. If you are expecting any important phone calls during class, please set your phone to vibrate. Text messaging during class will not be tolerated.

**Students with Disabilities:** Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) provides a wide range of assistance to enrolled students with physical, learning or other disabilities. If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact Services for Students with Disabilities, Phone: 607-777-2686 (voice/TTY), Fax 607-777-6893. E-mail: [bjfairba@binghamton.edu](mailto:bjfairba@binghamton.edu)

**National Standards for Foreign Language Learning:** Courses in the Department of German and Russian Studies are based on the conceptual framework of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages: [Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities](#). This course addresses in particular the areas of communication (standards 1.1, 1.2, 1.3), culture (standards 2.1 and 2.2), and comparisons (standard 4.1 and 4.2).

At the completion of this course students should:

- be able to give instructions, ask and answer simple questions, make simple statements on various topics, greet others, give personal information, describe themselves and others, discuss their daily routines and tell time, express their personal likes and dislikes, and talk about events that have happened in the past.
- be able to read and write simple sentences at a level appropriate for the course, as well as short essays.
- possess a basic knowledge of culture and geography of countries where German is spoken.

To reach these goals, students will study grammatical structures such as verb forms in the present tense, personal and possessive pronouns, grammatical gender, numbers, adjectives, interrogatives, prepositions, modal verbs, and nominative and accusative case.

### SCHEDULE:

Datum	Inhalt	Lesen 	Schriftliche Aktivitäten (Arbeitsbuch) 
Montag, 31. August	Einleitung - Syllabus	-	-
Dienstag, 1. September	<b>Einführung A</b> - Commands, greetings, <i>heissen, Sie/du</i>	S. 2-7, 12-13, 19-21, 23	S. 1-4, 7
Mittwoch, 2. September	Gender, numbers	S. 8-11, 14-18, 21-22	S. 10,14-16
Donnerstag, 3. September	Review / catch-up		
Montag, 7. September	Labor Day - Tag der Arbeit - Kein Unterricht		
Dienstag, 8. September	<b>Einführung B</b> - Definite and indefinite articles, <i>haben</i>	S. 24-28, 40-42	S. 18-21
Mittwoch, 9. September	Plural nouns	S. 29-31, 43-44	S. 17, 23-25
Donnerstag, 10. September	Personal pronouns, <i>woher?</i> , possessive adjectives	S. 32-39, 45-47	S. 26-29
Montag, 14. September	Review / catch-up	Workbooks due	S. 33-37
Dienstag, 15. September	Quiz - Einführung A + B		
Mittwoch, 16. September	<i>Kultur und Landeskunde</i>		
Donnerstag, 17. September	Study Abroad	<a href="http://www2.binghamton.edu/oip/study-abroad/">http://www2.binghamton.edu/oip/study-abroad/</a>	
Montag, 21. September	<b>Kapitel 1.1</b> - Present Tense	S. 50-52, 69-70	
Dienstag, 22. September	1.2 - <i>gern / nicht gern</i>	S. 50-52, 71-72	S. 41
Mittwoch, 23. September	1.3 - Telling time	S. 53-55, 72-73	S. 43
Donnerstag, 24. September	1.4 - Word order	S. 56-60, 74	S. 44-45
Montag, 28. September	Yom Kippur - Kein Unterricht		
Dienstag, 29. September	1.5 - Seperable prefix verbs	S. 56-60, 75	
Mittwoch, 30. September	1.6 - Word order / questions	S. 60-68, 76-77	S. 47-48
Donnerstag, 1. Oktober	Review / catch-up	Workbooks due	S. 56-59
Montag, 5. Oktober	Quiz - Kapitel 1		
Dienstag, 6. Oktober	<b>Kapitel 2.1</b> - Accusative	S. 78-82, 98-99	
Mittwoch, 7. Oktober	2.2 - <i>kein(e)</i>	S.78-82, 99-100	S. 61
Donnerstag, 8. Oktober	2.3 - <i>möchten</i>	S. 83-86, 100-101	S. 63-64
Montag, 12. Oktober	2.4 - Possessive adjectives	S. 87-91, 101-104	S. 65-67
Dienstag, 13. Oktober	2.5-2.6 verbs with stem-changes, imperative	S. 92-97,104-107	S. 70
Mittwoch, 14. Oktober	Review / catch-up	Workbooks due	S. 79-82
Donnerstag, 15. Oktober	Prep for 1st test		
Montag, 19. Oktober	<b>Prüfung 1</b>		

Datum	Inhalt	Lesen 	Schriftliche Aktivitäten (Arbeitsbuch) 
Dienstag, 20. Oktober	<b>Kapitel 3.1</b> - Modal verbs	S. 108-114, 130-131	S. 83
Mittwoch, 21. Oktober	3.2 - Modal verbs	S. 115-118, 131-132	S. 86-87
Donnerstag, 22. Oktober	3.3 - Personal pronouns in accusative	S. 119-122, 133-135	S. 88-89
Montag, 26. Oktober	3.4 - dependent clauses	S. 123-129, 135-136	
Dienstag, 27. Oktober	3.5 - seperable-prefix verbs in dependant clauses	S. 123-129, 137	S. 91-92
Mittwoch, 28. Oktober	Review / catch-up	Workbooks due	S. 96-101
Donnerstag, 29. Oktober	Quiz - Kapitel 3		
Montag, 2. November	<i>Kultur und Landeskunde</i>		
Dienstag, 3. November	<b>Kapitel 4.1</b> - Perfect tense	S. 138-145, 161-162	S. 103-104
Mittwoch, 4. November	4.2 - Past participles	S. 145-149, 163-164	S. 106-107
Donnerstag, 5. November	4.3 - Dates and ordinal numbers	S. 150-153, 165	
Montag, 9. November	4.4 - Time prepositions	S. 150-153, 166-167	
Dienstag, 10. November	4.5 - Past participles	S. 154-160,167-169	S. 110-111,112
Mittwoch, 11. November	Past participles continued		
Donnerstag, 12. November	Review / catch-up	Workbooks due	S. 118-121
Montag, 16. November	<b>Prüfung 2</b>		
Dienstag, 17. November	<i>Prepare for Oral Exams</i>		
Mittwoch, 18. November	Oral Exams		
Donnerstag, 19. November	Oral Exams		
Montag, 23. November	<b>Kapitel 5.1</b> - Dative case	S. 170-176,193-195	S. 123A
Dienstag, 24. November	5.2 - Question pronouns	S. 170-176,195	S. 123B
25. - 29. November	Erntedankfest - Kein Unterricht		
Montag, 30. November	5.3 - <i>werden</i>	S. 176-180, 196-197	S. 126-129
Dienstag, 1. Dezember	5.4 - <i>in, an, auf</i> + Dative case	S. 180-183, 197-199	S. 131-133
Mittwoch, 2. Dezember	5.5 - Dative case, personal pronouns	S. 184-192, 199-201	S. 134-135
Donnerstag, 3. Dezember	Review / Catch-up	Workbooks due	S. 140-143
Montag, 7. Dezember	Review - Einführung A + B		
Dienstag, 8. Dezember	Review - Einführung K.1 + K.2		
Mittwoch, 9. Dezember	Review - K.3 + K.4		
Donnerstag, 10. Dezember	Review K.5 + Course evaluations		
14.-18. Dezember	Schlußprüfung		