German 2010
Second-year German I

Goals
This course is the first half of the intermediate sequence of German. We will build upon the foundation laid in the first two semesters and further the development of oral and written expression in the German language. The contextualized four-skills approach in Stationen is integrated with a review of fundamental principles of German grammar. Course activities related to German and Austrian culture (corresponding to each geographical “station” in the textbook) will further enrich your learning experience and give you opportunities to share your own cultural, academic, or artistic perspectives in class.

Requirements

10 % Active class participation
30 % Homework and quizzes
30 % Chapter tests
10 % German culture project
20 % Final exam

Grading Scale

A (100-93)  A- (92-90)  B+ (88-89)  B (83-87)  B- (82-80)  C+ (79-78)  C (77-73)

C- (72-70)  D+ (69-68)  D (67-60)  F represents a grade below 60

NOTE: The $24.00 course fee you have paid is used to staff and maintain the Language Lab (MAIN 004), provide language specific materials, and to pay teaching tutors who assist instructors in the classroom and lab.

Materials

Stationen textbook, 3rd Edition, and student activities manual, with online assignments and supplemental materials provided in class.

Extra Activities

Lied der Woche
Each week one or two students will choose a German song to share and discuss with the class.

Kulturpunkte (Culture Points)
Students can earn extra credit by attending films, concerts, or other events related to German or Austrian culture and writing a short summary.

Stammtisch (Conversation Table)
Each week students can practice conversation with others in German courses at USU.
Wochenplan

Week 1
Aug. 28: Willkommen in Berlin!
Aug. 29: Cultural vocabulary
Aug. 30: Grammar review (nouns, verbs, adjectives)
Aug. 31: Reading excerpt: Peter Schneider, Der Mauerspringer

Week 2
Sept. 4: LABOR DAY HOLIDAY
Sept. 5: Berlin, cont’d
Sept. 6: Active and passive voice
Sept. 7: Kulturtag: street-art presentation

Week 3
Sept. 11: Film excerpts & discussion: Himmel über Berlin
Sept. 12: Film excerpts & discussion: Das Leben der Anderen, Good-bye Lenin
Sept. 13: Grammar review
Sept. 14: Station 1 quiz

Week 4
Sept. 18: Willkommen in München!
Sept. 19: Vocabulary: opinions & argument
Sept. 20: Present perfect and imperative
Sept. 21: Reading: Herbert Rosendorfer, “Oktoberfestbesuch”

Week 5
Sept. 25: München, cont’d
Sept. 26: Film excerpts & discussion: Die weiße Rose
Sept. 27: Film excerpts & discussion: Munich
Sept. 28: Kulturtag: Spätzle!

Week 6
Oct. 2: Vocabulary
Oct. 3: Verb tense review
Oct. 4: Review for Station 1-2 exam
Oct. 5: Station 1-2 exam

Week 7
Oct. 9: Wilkommen in Heidelberg!
Oct. 10: Vocabulary: education in Germany
Oct. 11: Reading: Hermann Hesse, “Freunde”
Oct. 12: “Elegant argumentieren” exercise

Week 8
Oct. 16: Heidelberg, cont’d
Oct. 17: Hannah Arendt presentation
Oct. 18: Station 3 quiz
Oct. 19: FRIDAY SCHEDULE (NO CLASS)

Week 9
Oct. 23: Willkommen in Hamburg!
Oct. 24: Vocabulary: workplace & media
Oct. 25: Subjunctive II (Konjunktiv II)
Oct. 26: Film excerpts & discussion: Gegen die Wand
Week 10
Oct. 30: Hamburg, cont’d
Oct. 31: Verb tense & mood review
Nov. 1: Review for Station 3-4 exam (midterm)
Nov. 2: Midterm

Week 11
Nov. 6: Willkommen in Leipzig!
Nov. 7: Vocabulary: Cold War Germany & reunification
Nov. 8: Subjunctive I (Konjunktiv I, Indirekte Rede)
Nov. 9: Reading from Schumanns Tagebücher

Week 12
Nov. 10: Bach in Leipzig
Nov. 11: Contemporary media in Leipzig
Nov. 12: Grammar review
Nov. 13: Station 5 quiz

Week 13
Nov. 20: Culture project presentations
Nov. 21: Culture project presentations
Nov. 22-24 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Week 14
Nov. 27: Willkommen in Frankfurt!
Nov. 28: Vocabulary: global business & commerce
Nov. 29: Active & passive voice II
Nov. 30: Quiz & Kulturtag

Week 15
Dec. 4: Goethe in German and world literature
Dec. 5: Semester review
Dec. 6: Review for Final Exam (Stations 5-6 inclusive of earlier material)
Dec. 7: Holiday party!!

Week 16
FINAL EXAM Wed., Dec. 13 9:30 – 11:20 a.m. in our classroom

Attendance

In accordance with USU policies, regular attendance is expected of all students. As this is a fast-paced and group-oriented method of learning, attendance is mandatory. Attendance means physical as well as mental attendance. Planned absences should be discussed with the instructor beforehand. If you need to be absent due to an emergency, please notify me at your earliest convenience. Examples of planned absences that are excused are: university duties or trips and required court attendance. Examples of emergency absences that are excused are: serious illness or injury of the student or a close member of the student’s family. Medical excuses have to be signed by a physician. Written documentation for excused absences must be provided at your next attendance. All missed work must be completed and handed into to me within one week from the day you return. It is the responsibility of each student to make up missed material. Please get notes from someone else in the class or talk to me during my office hours.

Students should plan to arrive on time and stay for the duration of the class. I reserve the right to regard constant tardiness (more than twice) as an unexcused absence. Excessive unexcused absences (more than three) will result in a lower grade. Classroom etiquette will be expected (e.g. students will refrain from reading material not related to class and packing up possessions prior to the end of the lecture). Cell phones are to be turned off before class begins (silent not vibrate). If you feel like an exception is necessary, please see me. Students are encouraged to take thorough notes, participate in class discussion, and ask clarifying questions.
Homework & Workbook

Homework and workbook assignments are part of your final grade. Weekly homework assignments are due each Monday at the beginning of class. If you do not hand in your work on the day it is due or asked for it counts as a 0. Both handwritten and online assignments will be given in this class.

Oral participation

Active participation of the student in class is required. Oral practice of the German language is essential to become comfortable with it and the culture. Oral participation also includes repeating, readings, conversations with partners, group debates, role plays, etc.

German Culture Project

Students will produce a creative project of their own choice (for example, poster board, photo collage, educational short film, audio podcast, sculpture, painting, comic, poem, model, invention, etc.) and of a topic related to German culture. Please note that the project may NOT address stereotypical cultural areas, such as German beer, cars, soccer, sausages, sauerkraut, lederhosen, etc. A brief 200 word abstract in English and German will be submitted along with the project that explains the cultural context. This is a pass/fail assignment and extra credit will be given on creativity effort.

Tests & Quizzes

There will be absolutely no make-up assignments/quizzes/tests, unless you have a reason you can document. In case of emergency, you are responsible for contacting me prior to the exam. There will be a mandatory written final exam.

Physical Impairments

Students with ADA- documented physical, sensory, emotional or medical impairments may be eligible for reasonable accommodations. Veterans may also be eligible for services. All accommodations are coordinated through the Disability Resource Center as early in the semester as possible. In class alternate format materials (braille, large print, digital or audio) are available with advance notice.

Honor Code Policy

As stated in The Student Code, “Each student has the right and duty to pursue his or her academic experience free of dishonesty. The Honor System is designed to re-enforce the higher level of conduct expected and required of all Utah State University students.” Complete academic honesty is expected in this course. Cheating on exams or plagiarism on written assignments will result in a failing grade and may result in further action according to university policy.