

GERMAN 109
BEGINNING GERMAN I

BULLETIN INFORMATION

GERM 109 - Beginning German I

Course Description:

Introduction to grammar and practical vocabulary necessary for fundamental communication skills

Note: Restricted to those who have never studied German or who have placed by examination into GERM 109. Credit may be received only for one of the following: GERM 109/110; 111; 121.)

SAMPLE COURSE OVERVIEW

German 109 is the first course in a three-semester sequence for beginning students of German (109, 110, 122). All four foreign language skills (reading, writing, speaking, and listening) will be addressed to help you acquire a reasonable level of proficiency in the German language.

ITEMIZED LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of German 109, students will be able to:

1. Communication
 - a. Demonstrate an understanding of simple ideas and a few supporting details of written and spoken communication in the present time frame on topics of introducing oneself and describing where and how one lives, friends and family, pastimes, holiday celebrations, and a typical day etc.
 - b. Engage in simple oral and written exchanges in present tense with a focus on providing and obtaining basic information, expressing feelings and preferences, describing and narrating, and exchanging opinions on topics of personal interest such those mentioned above.

2. Cultures
 - a. Demonstrate an understanding of surface-level cultural information and relationships between cultural perspectives, products, and practices, such as German IDs and family gatherings, especially as they relate to the German-speaking countries featured in the text.
 - b. Demonstrate use of appropriate cultural behavior for at least 1/3 of the class in social and survival situations, such as what to do when meeting a new person

3. Connections
 - a. Interpret and discuss in simple words and phrases to reinforce and learn new information in academic areas such as history, geography, art, anthropology, and literature

4. Comparisons
 - a. Demonstrate the development of basic insights into your own language and culture through readings, listening, and classroom activities which deal with German speakers in your community and abroad.

5. Communities
 - a. Embrace opportunities and attend one event to practice and hear the German language outside of the classroom in activities such as concerts, movies, lectures, exhibits, festivals, and conversational exchanges with German speakers.
(Assessment: voluntary participation at weekly Kaffeeklatsch conversation hour, attendance and review of a German movie shown at German movie night)

SAMPLE REQUIRED TEXTS/SUGGESTED READINGS/MATERIALS

1. *Deutsch – Na Klar!* 6th Edition
2. Textbook (DiDonato, Clyde, Vansant: McGraw-Hill, 2012)
3. Workbook (Jeanine Briggs: McGraw-Hill, 2012)
4. LabManual (Daves-Schneider, Büsges: McGraw-Hill, 2012)
5. Audiofiles accompanying *Deutsch – Na Klar!* are available through the Blackboard Course site

SAMPLE ASSIGNMENTS AND/OR EXAMS

1. **Quizzes:** There will be a quiz at least once a week. Learn vocabulary as it is practiced and presented in each chapter, try to keep your acquisition in context! Use flashcards or any other method that works for you. Be sure to learn the gender and plural of nouns, practice verb conjugations and pay attention to idiomatic expressions. Do not wait until the night before the quiz! Always be prepared for a quiz: they could be announced or unannounced.

2. **Three Chapter Tests and a Final Exam:** You should not have to learn anything new the night before a test, rather begin a review a couple of days before the test, covering the exercises done in class and in your workbook.

3. **Journals:** At the end of each chapter in your workbook, you are asked to write a journal entry. The topics are located at the end of each chapter in the workbook. Each contribution should be typed and contain newly acquired vocabulary and grammatical structures. As with most other assignments, creativity is highly valued, feel free to add pictures, drawings, etc., but submit only quality work. Submissions with unreasonable amounts of avoidable mistakes or otherwise sloppy work will not be accepted. Your instructor will mark mistakes according to the attached list of correction symbols. Correct your entries as indicated and hand in your second draft, attached to your first draft, with your next assignment. Only then will you receive a grade for your entry; the total of these grades will then be your grade in the “journal” category.

4. **Homework:** Your instructor will assign daily homework assignments for each chapter of *Deutsch – Na klar!* Some of these assignments may come from the workbook, lab manual, or textbook and others may be assignments your instructor has designed. For extra practice you should complete the corresponding Workbook and LabManual exercises (audiofiles are accessible through the link called “Hörverständnis” on the Blackboard website for this course) for each chapter section. Complete an activity, then check the answer key and correct your answers. Homework will be graded as satisfactory only if handed in on time, complete, and appropriately corrected when applicable. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to find out your homework assignment before you return to class.
5. **Speaking Tasks:** Three times during the semester, you will be required to record yourself speaking (in response to a question), save the file as an mp3 file, and submit it to your instructor’s drop box in Blackboard. The rubric that will be used to grade these audio files is at the end of the syllabus. The questions for the speaking task are listed in the syllabus and will be excellent practice for your oral interviews. Be sure to pay close attention to your pronunciation and the content of your message when making your recordings while keeping your audience in mind.
6. **Oral Interview:** Towards the end of the semester, you will sign up for an oral interview with your instructor. The interview is simply a conversation that covers many of the topics you covered this semester. If you participate in class, do your homework, and complete the speaking tasks, you should have no trouble doing well on the oral interview.
7. **Study Abroad Wiki Assignment:** This semester you will be working on a wiki with all of the other 100-level German students in order to learn more about the culture of German-speaking countries and help to prepare you for study abroad in a German-speaking country. Three times during the semester you will be given a text to read about German culture with questions to guide your reading. The next day in class, you will discuss the text with your class. Then, a group made up of 1/3 of the class will decide together what the most important parts of the reading were and what you should post on the wiki for the rest of the 100-level students to read (they won’t have read your same text). There may also be other German classes reading your wiki, so keep your audience in mind. One week after you have read the text and posted to the wiki, you will visit the wiki site again to read what your German colleagues wrote and then discuss it in class.
 - a. The following aspects should be included on your wiki post:
 - i. At least one picture, video, or audioclip to describe your topic
 - ii. 4-5 sentences to describe your topic
 - iii. It would be useful to have the following roles in your group:
picture person, proofreader, writer, and formatter.

SAMPLE COURSE OUTLINE WITH TIMELINE OF TOPICS, READINGS/ASSIGNMENTS, EXAMS/PROJECTS

- Class 1:** Introduction to course
Hello! Welcome!
How do you write that?
Pronunciation practice
Study new Vocabulary
Start Workbook
Start LabManual
- Class 2:** Introduction
How do you write that?
Hello! – Take care!
Pronunciation practice
Study new Vocabulary
Continue Workbook
Continue LabManual
- Class 3:** Last day to drop a course without a grade of "W"
Introduction
How are you?
Counting
Pronunciation practice
Study new Vocabulary
Continue Workbook
Continue LabManual
- Class 4:** Introduction
Useful Expressions
Review for Quiz
Complete Journal (at least 6 sentences)
- Class 5:** Videoclips
Quiz #1
Journal due
Study new Vocabulary/Grammar
Continue Workbook
Continue LabManual
- Class 6:** Chapter 1 That's me
Everything Clear?
Personal Characteristics
Grammar: Nouns, Gender, Articles
Continue Workbook

Continue LabManual

Class 7: Chapter 1 Personal Characteristics
Grammar: Personal Pronouns; The Verb: Infinitive and Present
Continue Workbook
Continue LabManual

Class 8: Chapter 1
Asking Questions
Grammar: Verbs; to be
Read culture reading and answer questions

Class 9: Meet in computer lab to discuss wiki assignment
Discuss culture reading
Continue WB/LM

Class 10: Chapter 1
Characteristics and Interests
Grammar: Word Order
Continue WB/LM
Study for quiz

Class 11: Chapter 1
Quiz #2 Characteristics and Interests
Grammar: Asking Questions
Study abroad wiki post due by midnight
Read over study abroad culture wiki

Class 12: Discuss study abroad wiki topic
Complete Journal (at least 10 sentences)

Class 13: Chapter 1
Journal due
Language in Context (Reading)
Review for Test
Review for test

Class 14: Test #1 Preview Kapitel 2
Complete speaking task 1

Class 15: Chapter 2 How I live
Everything Clear?
Looking for an apartment
Grammar: The Plural of Nouns

Speaking task 1 due Study new Vocabulary/Grammar
Continue WB/LM

- Class 16:** Chapter 2
Looking for an apartment
Grammar: Nominative and Accusative
Study new Vocabulary/Grammar
Continue WB/LM
- Class 17:** Chapter 2
Looking for furniture
Grammar: Nominative and Accusative
Study new Vocabulary/Grammar
Continue WB/LM
- Class 18:** Chapter 2
What we like to do
Grammar: Nom. and Acc.;
to have; negations
Study new Vocabulary/Grammar
Continue WB/LM
Review for quiz
- Class 19:** Chapter 2
Quiz #3
Grammar: Verbs with Stem-Vowel Changes Complete Journal (at least 10 sentences)
- Class 20:** Chapter 2
Journal due
Language in Context (Reading)
Grammar: Demonstrative Pronouns
Review for Test
- Class 21:** Test # 2
Read culture reading and answer questions
- Class 22:** Discuss culture reading
Preview Kapitel 3
- Class 23:** Last day to drop a course without a grade of "WF" being recorded
Chapter 3 Family and Friends
Everything Clear?
Family Tree

Study new Vocabulary/Grammar
Continue Workbook/LM

Class 24: Chapter 3
Family Tree
Grammar: Possessive Adjectives
Post study abroad wiki post by midnight
Read study abroad wiki

Class 25: Discuss study abroad wiki topic
Study new Vocabulary/Grammar
Continue Workbook/LM
Complete speaking task 2

Class 26: Chapter 3
The Calendar: Weekdays and months
Grammar: Possessive Adjectives
Speaking Task 2 due
Study new Vocabulary/Grammar
Continue Workbook/LM

Class 27: Chapter 3
The Calendar: Weekdays and months
Grammar: Pronouns in the Accusative
Study new Vocabulary/Grammar
Continue WB/LM

Class 28: Chapter 3
Festivals
Grammar: Prepositions with the Accusative
Review for quiz

Class 29: Chapter 3
Festivals
Grammar: The verbs to become, to know
Quiz # 4
Complete Journal (at least 10 sentences)

Class 30: Chapter 3
Journal due
Language in Context (Reading)
Review for Test

Class 31: Test #3
Prepare for speaking practice day

- Class 32:** Speaking Practice
Study new Vocabulary/Grammar
Continue WB/LM
- Class 33:** Chapter 4 My Day
Time
Study new Vocabulary/Grammar
Continue WB/LM
- Class 34:** Chapter 4
Time
Grammar: Separable-Prefix Verbs
Read culture reading and answer questions
- Class 35:** Discuss culture reading
Study new Vocabulary/Grammar
Continue WB/LM
- Class 36:** Chapter 4
Time/Making Plans
Grammar: Separable-Prefix Verbs
Study new Vocabulary/Grammar
Continue WB/LM
- Class 37:** Chapter 4
Making plans
Movies, music, theater
Grammar: Modal Auxiliary Verbs
Post study abroad wiki post by midnight
Review for quiz
Complete speaking
task 3
- Class 38:** Chapter 4
Quiz #5
Grammar: Modal Verbs; Imperatives
Prepare for oral interview
Speaking Task 3 due Study new Vocabulary/Grammar
Continue WB/LM
Prepare for oral
- Class 39:** Interview
Read study abroad wiki

Complete journal

Class 40: Journal due
Discuss study abroad wiki topic

Class 41: Chapter 4
Grammar: Imperatives Kapitel 4
Language in Context (Reading)
Study new Vocabulary/Grammar
Continue WB/LM
Complete study abroad paper

Class 42: Review for final
Study abroad paper due
Study for Final

Exam according to university exam schedule