

**GERMAN 121
ELEMENTARY GERMAN**

BULLETIN INFORMATION

GERM 121 - Elementary German (4 credit hours)

Course Description:

Grammar and vocabulary necessary for fundamental communication skills

Note: Assumes prior experience in German. Admission only by proficiency examination. Credit may be received for only one of the following: GERM 109/110; 111; or 121.

Prerequisite: Proficiency Exam

SAMPLE COURSE OVERVIEW

German 121 is the first course in a two-semester sequence for beginning students of German (121, 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 121, students will be able to:

1. Communication
 - a. Demonstrate an understanding of the main ideas and some supporting details of written and spoken communication of one's immediate environment, friends, shopping, hobbies, health, travel, etc.
 - b. Engage in simple oral and written exchanges in present and past tense with a focus on providing and obtaining basic information, expressing feelings and preferences, describing and narrating, giving directions, and exchanging opinions on topics of personal interest such those mentioned above.
2. Cultures
 - a. Demonstrate a mid-level understanding of cultural information and relationships between cultural perspectives, products, and practices, such as the differences between shopping in the US and in German-speaking countries, especially as they relate to the German-speaking countries featured in the text.
 - b. Demonstrate use of appropriate cultural behavior during at least 50% of the class in social and survival situations, such as how to set the table, making travel arrangements, shopping, getting medical care etc.
3. Connections

- a. Interpret and discuss in simple sentences to reinforce and learn new information in academic areas such as history, geography, art, anthropology, and literature.
4. Comparisons
 - a. Develop mid-level understandings 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 two events to practice and hear the German language outside of the classroom in activities such as concerts, German movie night, lectures, exhibits, festivals, Kaffeeklatsch, and conversational exchanges with German speakers.

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. **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.
2. **Speaking Tasks:** Four 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 will be provided by your instructor 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.
3. **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.

- 4. 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
 - b. It would be useful to have the following roles in your group: picture person, proofreader, writer, and formatter.
- 5. Tagebuch (Journal):** At the end of each chapter in your workbook, you are asked to write a journal entry. Each contribution should be at least 15 sentences long, 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.
- 6. Chapter Tests:** 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.
- 7. 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 learning 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.

8. Language Lab (Ted Mimms Foreign Language Learning Center): 1st floor of Humanities Classroom Building; Monday - Thursday: 8am – 7pm, Friday: 8am-5pm,

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

- Class 1:** Introduction to course
Wiederholung (Einführung)
Review Vocabulary
And Grammar
- Class 2:** Review (Chapter 1)
Review Vocab & Grammar
- Class 3:** Review (Chapter 2)
Review Vocab & Grammar
- Class 4:** Last day to drop a course without a grade of "W"
Review (Chapter 2-3)
Review Vocab & Grammar
- Class 5:** Review (Chapter 3)
Preview Chapter 4
Review for quiz
- Class 6:** Quiz on Introduction – Ch. 3
Preview Chapter 4
- Class 7:** Chapter 4
Time
Separable Prefix Verbs
Study Vocab./Grammar
Continue WB/LM
- Class 8:** Chapter 4
Making plans
Separable-Prefix Verbs
Continue WB/LM
Complete speaking task 1
- Class 9:** Chapter 4
Speaking task 1 due
Movies, music, theater
Modal Verbs

Write Journal – as much as you can about yourself (name, age, where you live, hobbies, interests, describe your family, general routines and habits)
Study for quiz

- Class 10:** Chapter 4
Quiz #2
Journal due (at least 15 sent)
Modal Verbs
Imperatives
Study new Grammar
Continue Workbook
Continue LabManual
- Class 11:** Chapter 4
Imperatives
Video Review for test
- Class 12:** Test #1
Read culture reading and answer questions.
- Class 13:** Meet in computer lab to discuss wiki assignment
Discuss culture reading
Preview chapter 5
- Class 14:** Chapter 5
Clothes
Study new Grammar
Continue Workbook
Continue LabManual
- Class 15:** Chapter 5
Shopping
Dative Case
Study Vocab./Grammar
Continue WB/LM
Post study abroad wiki post
- Class 16:** Chapter 5
Shopping
Dative Case
Read over study abroad culture wiki
- Class 17:** Discuss study abroad wiki topic
Study Vocab./Grammar

Continue Workbook
Continue LabManual
Complete Speaking task 2

- Class 18:** Chapter 5
Speaking task 2 due
Food
Dative Prepositions
Review for quiz
Complete journal
- Class 19:** Kapitel 5
Quiz #2
Journal due (at least 15 sent)
Interrogative pronouns
Study new Vocab./Grammar
Continue WB/LM
- Class 20:** Chapter 5
Video, "Shopping trip"
Reading
Review for test
- Class 21:** Test #2
Preview chapter 6
- Class 22:** Chapter 6
Restaurants
Study new Vocab./Grammar
Continue WB/LM
- Class 23:** Chapter 6
Menu, please!
Two-way Prepositions
Study Vocab./Grammar
Continue WB/LM
- Class 24:** Chapter 6
Menu, please!
Two-way Prepositions
Study Vocab./Grammar
Continue WB/LM
- Class 25:** Chapter 6

At the restaurant
Two-way Prepositions
Study Vocab./Grammar
Continue WB/LM
Review for quiz

- Class 26:** Quiz #3
Describing Location
Study Vocab./Grammar
Continue Workbook
Continue LabManual
- Class 27:** Chapter 6
Describing Placement
Expressing Time with preps.
Simple Past of haben and sein
Study Vocab./Grammar
Continue Workbook/LM
Complete journal
- Class 28:** Chapter 6
Journal due (at least 15 sent)
Simple Past of Modals
Video Review for test
- Class 29:** Test #3
Preview chapter 7
- Class 30:** Discuss culture reading
Chapter 7
Everything Clear?
Prepare for speaking day
- Class 31:** Last day to drop a course w/o grade of "WF" Speaking Day
Study new Vocab./Grammar
Continue Workbook/LM
- Class 32:** Chapter 7
Sports
Coordinating Conjunctions
Study new Vocab./Grammar
Continue Workbook/LM
- Class 33:** Chapter 7

Hobbies
Present Perfect Tense
Read culture reading and answer questions.

Class 34: Discuss culture reading
Study Vocab./Grammar
Continue WB/LM

Class 35: Chapter 7
Hobbies
Seasons and weather
Present Perfect Tense
Study new Vocab./Grammar
Continue Workbook/LM
Post study abroad wiki post and read over it.

Class 36: Chapter 7
Seasons and weather
Present Perfect Tense
Discuss wiki post
Review for quiz
Complete journal

Class 37: Chapter 7
Quiz #4
Expressing Comparisons
Journal Due (15 sentences)
Study new Vocab./Grammar
Continue Workbook/LM

Class 38: Video / Reading
Expressing Comparisons
Review for Test

Class 39: Test # 4
Preview chapter 8

Class 40: Chapter 8
Fit and healthy
Study Vocab./Grammar
Continue WB/LM

Class 41: Chapter 8
The body

Subordinating Conjunctions
Study Vocab./Grammar
Continue WB/LM
Complete speaking task 3

Class 42: Chapter 8
Speaking task 3 due
Morning routine
Subordinating Conjunctions
Study Vocab./Grammar
Continue WB/LM

Class 43: Chapter 8
Morning routine
Reflexives
Study Vocab./Grammar
Continue WB/LM

Class 44: Chapter 8
Reflexives
Review for quiz

Class 45: Chapter 8
Reflexives
Quiz #5
Study Vocab./Grammar
Continue Workbook
Continue LabManual
Complete journal

Class 46: Chapter 8
Journal due (at least 15 sent)
Video / Reading
Review for Test

Class 47: Test #5
Read culture reading and answer questions

Class 48: Discuss culture reading
Preview chapter 9

Class 49: Chapter 9
Booking accommodation online
Study Vocab./Grammar

Continue Workbook
Continue LabManual
Post wiki topic

- Class 50:** Chapter 9
In the hotel
Genitive Case
Study Vocab./Grammar
Continue Workbook
Continue LabManual
- Class 51:** Chapter 9
Around the city
Prepositions with the Genitive
Read over study abroad wiki topic
- Class 52:** Discuss study abroad wiki topic
Prepare for oral interview
- Class 53:** Oral Interview
Study Vocab./Grammar
Continue WB/LM
Review for quiz
- Class 54:** Quiz #6
Chapter 9
Around the city
Prepositions with the Genitive
Attributive Adjectives Complete journal
- Class 55:** Chapter 9
Attributive Adjectives
Journal Due (15 Sentences)
Begin reviewing for final
- Class 56:** Chapter 9
Adjectives
Video/Reading
Review for final
Complete study abroad paper
- Class 57:** Review for final
Study abroad papers due

Final exam according to university exam schedule