Course Title

German Language, Elementary II

Course Number
GERM-UA 9002 D01

SAMPLE SYLLABUS

Lecturer Contact Information
Kandice Nora Chapman
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Course Details
MTR / 9:30am to 10:45am

Location
Rooms will be posted in Albert before your first class. Please double check whether your class takes place at the Academic Center (BLAC) or at St. Agnes (SNTA).

Prerequisites
You have taken GERM-UA9001001 Elementary German I at NYU and received a passing grade; or you have taken a first-semester introductory German course at another university and have been awarded transfer credit for the course; or you have been referred to this course after a placement test or interview with the Language Program Coordinator.

Units earned
4

Course Description
This course continues your introduction to the language and everyday culture of German-speaking countries. You will expand your understanding of important vocabulary and customs regarding the following topics: food; school and childhood; German media; jobs and the workplace; travel; sports, music and art; emotions and clichés; contemporary German society and culture.

Since the goals of communicative and grammatical competence are ultimately inseparable, students are guided towards using German as accurately as possible.

In order to succeed in our classroom, please be prepared to spend up to one and a half to two hours of independent study per classroom hour.
Course Objective
This course covers the second part of a four-part German sequence. Together, these courses (Elementary I and II and Intermediate I and II) should help you develop a level of proficiency in German that will enable you to study abroad in German-speaking countries, to pursue advanced study of German in the US, or to use German for travel, leisure, and work.

Assessment Components
Active Participation 200
Homework: Workbook, Portfolio, Compositions 250
Chapter Tests (3 x 70) & Quizzes (40) 250
Oral Presentation 100
Final Examination 200

Failure to submit or fulfill any required component may result in failure of the class, regardless of grades achieved in other assignments.

Required Text(s)
Electronic Resources (via NYU Classes / NYU Library)

Books can be bought at Dussmann on Friedrichstraße 90, where the books are pre-ordered for students.
One copy of each book is kept in the Reading Room of NYU Berlin's Academic Center, for you to read in the center but not to take out.

NYU Berlin Library Catalogue or follow the link on NYU Berlin's website (Academics/Facilities & Services).

Supplemental Text(s) (not required to purchase)
- Online exercises
- Grammar Reader, provided by your instructor
- Genusly is a useful gender marking tool: (marks German nouns in different colors according to their gender)
- Young Germany provides cultural information on Germany under the section “Live”
- Simsalabim provides a good workshop on German phonetics.
- University of Iowa provides an excellent technical overview of the sounds of German.
- See Deutsche Welle for lots of interesting articles as well as free German online courses for independent study
Internet Research Guidelines
To be discussed in class

Additional Required Equipment
German–English dictionary, e.g. de.pons.com or dict.leo.org (both include pronunciation, gender and plural indication of nouns and past tense of verbs)

Semesterplan
(subject to change)

Week 1 – [3 Sept – 6 Sept]
Content & Communication Goals
Netzwerk A2, Chapter 1 & supplemental material
Greetings and personal information; introduce yourself and others; classroom policies; read a text about Berlin; talk about food; express likes and dislikes; adverb gern; dative verbs gefallen, schmecken + Dat; learn how to contradict with doch

Grammar Topics
Doch; verbs and pronouns in dative case; possessive article in dative case; dative after prepositions
Review: Conjugation in present tense; word order in sentences and questions; ADUSO & subordinating conjunctions; possessive articles; perfect tense

Week 2 – [10 Sept – 13 Sept]
Netzwerk A2, Chapters 1 & 2
Content & Communication Goals
Talk about feelings in German; read and understand a text

Grammar Topics
Prepositions with dative; reflexive verbs; subordinating conjunctions (weil, dass)
Review: Modal verbs in the present tense; perfect tense; Präteritum of sein und haben;

Week 3 – [17 Sept – 20 Sept]
Netzwerk A2, Chapter 2
Content & Communication Goals
Talk about school; learn how to describe the position of objects

Grammar Topics
Two-way prepositions with the dative and accusative cases; verbs with two-way prepositions (liegen – legen, stehen – stellen, hängen – hängen, sitzen – setzen); modal verbs in the past tense (Präteritum)

Requirement: Quiz 1: 20 Sept

Week 4 – [24 Sept – 27 Sept]
**Netzwerk A2, Chapter 2 & 3**

**Content & Communication Goals**
Describe the position of objects; talk about German media and films; learn how to express your opinion

**Grammar Topics**
Verbs with two-way prepositions (*liegen – legen*, *stehen – stellen*, *hängen – hängen*, *sitten – setzen*); the subordinating conjunctions *dass, weil* and *obwohl*; comparative and superlative forms of adjectives

**Requirement:** Test 1: 27 Sept

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**Week 5 – [1 Oct – 4 Oct]**

**Netzwerk A2, Chapter 3 & 4**

**Content & Communication Goals**
Learn how to congratulate someone; learn about traditions in Germany

**Grammar Topics**
Declension of adjectives; clauses with *wenn … dann*; verbs with dative and accusative (*Ditransitive Verben*)

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**Week 6 – [8 Oct – 11 Oct]**

**Netzwerk A2, Chapter 6 & supplemental material**

**Content & Communication Goals**
Talk about traveling; learn how to ask for information and give directions; orientation in the city

**Grammar Topics**
Local and directional prepositions with dative and accusative

**Requirement:**
- **Excursion 1:** Stadtspaziergang, 11 Oct
  We’ll go on a scavenger hunt through the *Scheunenviertel* in the neighborhood of *Mitte* to practice orientation in the city by following directions in German. During the scavenger hunt, students will search for information by reading signs and asking locals, as well as learn about the history of the neighborhood.

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**Week 7 – [15 Oct – 18 Oct]**

**Netzwerk A2, Chapter 4 & supplemental material**

**Content & Communication Goals**
Talk about your study-abroad experience and professions

**Grammar Topics**
Declension of adjectives; prepositions with dative and accusative

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**22 Oct – 28 Oct**
Fall Break – No Class
Week 8 – [29 Oct – 1 Nov]
Netzwerk A2, Chapter 5, (6)
Content & Communication Goals
Talk about professions

Grammar Topics
The verb *werden*; indirect questions

Week 9 – [5 Nov – 8 Nov]
Netzwerk A2, Chapter 7
Content & Communication Goals
Talk about studying; learn how to make suggestions and give advice

Grammar Topics
Subjunctive II: verb *sollte* (*Ratschläge*), *könnte* (*Vorschläge*); temporal prepositions; the coordinating conjunctions *deshalb* and *trotzdem*; Genitive: *Name + s*

Requirements:
- Test 2: Tuesday, 6 Nov
- Excursion Day: 8 Nov

Week 10 – [12 Nov – 15 Nov]
Netzwerk A2, Chapter 9
Content & Communication Goals
Talk about living together – your life with pets and flat mates

Grammar Topics
Subjunctive II: *wäre / hätte / würde / könnte / sollte*; the subordinating conjunctions *als, wenn* & *wann*

Week 11 – [19 Nov – 22 Nov]
Netzwerk A2, Chapter 11
Content & Communication Goals
Talk about your dreams

Grammar Topics
Subjunctive II; verbs with prepositions; *Präpositionaladverbien* (*worauf – darauf* etc.)

Requirement:
- Quiz 2: Thursday, 22 Nov

Week 12 – [26 Nov – 29 Nov]
Netzwerk A2, Chapter 11 & supplemental material
Content & Communication Goals
Read a fairy tale

Grammar Topics
Perfect tense vs. Preterit tense (*Präteritum*)
Requirement:
- Test 3: Thursday, 29 Nov

Week 13 – [3 Dec – 6 Dec]
Netzwerk A2, Chapter 12
Talk about different cultures and traditions; understand information about different cultures; talk and write about clichés

Grammar Topics
German tenses

Requirement:
- Oral Presentation: Thursday, 6 Dec

Week 14 – [10 Dec – 13 Dec]
Catch up and review

Week 15 – [17 Dec – 20 Dec]
Final Examination: Tuesday, Dec 18, 10:00am to 12:00pm

Classroom Etiquette
Be kind and respectful one another, have fun and speak in German. Be punctual and please don’t use your cell phones.

Suggested Co-Curricular Activities
Please use the opportunity to take part in the Berlin Buddies Program and the Tutoring Program at NYU Berlin.

Your Lecturer
Kandice Chapman teaches classes for the German Language Program at NYU Berlin. She holds an M.A. in Teaching German as a Foreign Language from Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and a B.A. in German Literature and Culture from NYU. Her academic interests include contrastive linguistics and the acquisition of German grammatical gender. Her non-academic interests include music (jazz and post-punk), karaoke, crochet and surrealist film. Kandice lives in (and really likes) her neighborhood, Friedrichshain.
Academic Policies

Assessment Expectations

Grade A: The student makes excellent use of empirical and theoretical material and offers well-structured arguments in their work. The student writes comprehensive essays / answers to exam questions and their work shows strong evidence of critical thought and extensive reading.

Grade B: The candidate shows a good understanding of the problem and has demonstrated the ability to formulate and execute a coherent research strategy.

Grade C: The work is acceptable and shows a basic grasp of the research problem. However, the work fails to organize findings coherently and is in need of improvement.

Grade D: The work passes because some relevant points are made. However, there may be a problem of poor definition, lack of critical awareness, poor research.

Grade F: The work shows that the research problem is not understood; there is little or no critical awareness and the research is clearly negligible.

Grade Conversion
Your lecturer may use one of the following scales of numerical equivalents to letter grades:

A = 94-100 or 4.0
A- = 90-93 or 3.7
B+ = 87-89 or 3.3
B = 84-86 or 3.0
B- = 80-83 or 2.7
C+ = 77-79 or 2.3
C = 74-76 or 2.0
C- = 70-73 or 1.7
D+ = 67-69 or 1.3
D = 65-66 or 1.0
F = below 65 or 0

Attendance Policy
Participation in all classes is essential for your academic success, especially in courses that meet only once per week. Your attendance in both content and language courses is required and will be checked at each class meeting. As soon as it becomes clear that you cannot attend a class, you must inform your professor by e-mail immediately (i.e. before the start of your class). Absences are only excused if they are due to illness, religious observance or emergencies. Your professor or NYU Berlin's administration may ask you to present a doctor's note or an exceptional permission from NYU Berlin's Director or Wellness Counselor as proof. Emergencies or other exceptional circumstances must be presented to the Director. Doctor's notes need to be submitted to the Academics Office, who will inform your professors. Doctor's notes need to be from a local doctor and carry a signature and a stamp. If you want the reasons for your absence to be treated confidentially, please approach NYU Berlin's Director or Wellness Counselor.
Unexcused absences affect students' grades: In content courses each unexcused absence (equaling one week's worth of classes) leads to a deduction of 2% of the overall grade and may negatively affect your class participation grade. In German Language classes two or three (consecutive or non-consecutive) unexcused absences (equaling one week's worth of classes) lead to a 2% deduction of the overall grade. Three unexcused absences in one content course and five unexcused absences in your German language course may lead to a Fail in that course. Being more than 15 minutes late counts as an unexcused absence. Furthermore, your professor is entitled to deduct points for frequent late arrival or late arrival back from in-class breaks. Please note that for classes involving a field trip, transportation difficulties are never grounds for an excused absence. It is the student's responsibility to arrive in time at the announced meeting point.

Exams, tests and quizzes, deadlines, and oral presentations that are missed due to illness always require a doctor's note as documentation. It is the student's responsibility to produce this doctor's note and submit it to the Academics Office; until this doctor's note is produced the missed assessment is graded with an F and no make-up assessment is scheduled. In content classes, an F in one assignment may lead to failure of the entire class.

Regardless of whether an absence is excused or not, it is the student's responsibility to catch up with the work that was missed.

**Attendance Rules on Religious Holidays**
Members of any religious group may, without penalty, excuse themselves from classes when required in compliance with their religious obligations. Students who anticipate being absent due to religious observance should notify their lecturer AND NYU Berlin's Academics Office in writing via e-mail one week in advance. If examinations or assignment deadlines are scheduled on the day the student will be absent, the Academics Office will schedule a make-up examination or extend the deadline for assignments. Please note that an absence is only excused for the holiday but not for any days of travel that may come before and/or after the holiday. See also [University Calendar Policy on Religious Holidays](#).

**Late Submission of Work**
(1) Written work due in class must be submitted during the class time to the professor.

(2) Late work should be submitted in person to the lecturer or to the Academics Office, who will write on the essay or other work the date and time of submission, in the presence of the student. Another member of the administrative staff may also personally accept the work and will write the date and time of submission on the work, as above.

(3) Work submitted late receives a penalty of 2 points on the 100 point scale for each day it is late (excluding weekends and public or religious holidays), unless an extension has been approved (with a doctor's note or by approval of NYU Berlin's administration), in which case the 2 points per day deductions start counting from the day the extended deadline has passed.

(4) Without an approved extension, written work submitted more than 5 days (excluding weekends and public or religious holidays) following the submission date receives an F.

(5) End of semester essays must be submitted on time.
(6) Students who are late for a written exam have no automatic right to take extra time or to write the exam on another day.

(7) Please remember that university computers do not keep your essays - you must save them elsewhere. Having lost parts of your essay on the university computer is no excuse for a late submission.

Provisions for Students with Disabilities
Academic accommodations are available for students with documented disabilities. Please contact the Moses Center for Students with Disabilities at 212-998-4980 or see their website for further information.

Plagiarism Policy
The presentation of another person’s words, ideas, judgment, images or data as though they were your own, whether intentionally or unintentionally, constitutes an act of plagiarism. Proper referencing of your sources avoids plagiarism (see as one possible help the NYU library guide to referencing styles.

NYU Berlin takes plagiarism very seriously; penalties follow and may exceed those set out by your home school. Your lecturer may ask you to sign a declaration of authorship form.

It is also an offense to submit work for assignments from two different courses that is substantially the same (be it oral presentations or written work). If there is an overlap of the subject of your assignment with one that you produced for another course (either in the current or any previous semester), you MUST inform your professor.

For a summary of NYU Global’s academic policies.