Course Title

German Language, Elementary II

Course Number
GERM-UA9002001

Instructor Contact Information
Nina Gerland
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Mobile: 0151 / 19 65 17 42
Office hours: Mondays 1.30pm – 2.30pm
Room: Sprechzimmer

Course Details
MTR 9.30am – 10.45pm
NYU Berlin in der Kulturbrauerei

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 course. 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.

Grading
Grading for this course is based on a point-accumulation system. Every component of the course has a specific value on a scale of 1000 points. You accumulate credit through participation, tests, written assignments, and oral performances as follows:

**Assessment Components**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Active Participation</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework: Workbook, Portfolio/Lerntagebuch, Compositions</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Tests (3 x 70) &amp; Quizzes (40)</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Presentations</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>200</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Numerical Equivalent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>94-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90-93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>87-89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>84-86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80-83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>77-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>74-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70-73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>67-69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>65-66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>57-59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>below 50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Alternatively:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Numerical Equivalent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your active participation in the course is crucial and will be assessed by your instructor throughout the semester. Since the primary goal of our course is to become speakers of German, this class will be primarily conducted in German. You are expected to adequately prepare for each session.

Homework
Homework will be assigned daily and is absolutely crucial to the progress you make in class. In order to participate in class, you need to complete homework assignments. During the semester, you will receive a lot of additional handouts, texts, and exercises. Please use the binder distributed on the first day of class for keeping your materials and printouts organized and in sequence. If you intend on continuing with German, please hold on to all materials.

Tests
There will be three tests throughout the semester. Although all tests will be cumulative, they will focus on the most recently covered material. Bring your *Intensive Trainer* and to class on test days so that your instructor can check that you have completed all of the assignments.

**Attendance Policy**

Participation in all classes is essential for your academic success, especially in NYU Berlin’s content courses that, unlike most courses at NYU NY, meet only once per week in a double-session for three hours. 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. If you want the reasons for your absence to be treated confidentially and not shared with your professor, please approach NYUB's Director or Wellness Counselor. Your professor or NYUB's administration may ask you to present a doctor's note or an exceptional permission from the Director or Wellness Counselor. Doctor's notes need to be submitted to the Assistant Director for Academics, the Arts Coordinator, or the German Language Coordinator, who will inform your professors.

Unexcused absences affect students’ grades: In content courses each unexcused absence (equalling one week's worth of classes) leads to a deduction of 2% of the overall grade and may negatively affect your class participation grade. Three unexcused absences in one course may lead to a Fail in that course. In German Language classes two or three (consecutive or non-consecutive) unexcused absences (equalling one week's worth of classes) lead to a 2% deduction of the overall grade. Five unexcused absences in your German language course may lead to a Fail in that course. Furthermore, faculty is also entitled to deduct points for frequent late arrival to class or late arrival back from in-class breaks. Being more than 15 minutes late for class counts as an unexcused absence. Please note that for classes involving a field trip or other external visit, transportation difficulties are never grounds for an excused absence. It is the student’s responsibility to arrive at the announced meeting point in a punctual and timely fashion.

Exams, tests, 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; until this doctor’s note is produced the missed assessment is graded with an F. In content classes, an F in one assignment may lead to failure of the entire class.

**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 because of any religious observance should notify their instructor AND NYUB's Academic Office in writing via e-mail one week in advance before being absent for this purpose. If examinations or assignment deadlines are scheduled on the day the student will be absent, the Director or Assistant Director will re-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.

**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 instructor or to the Assistant Director for Academics, 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) Unless an extension has been approved (with a doctor's note or by approval of the Director or Assistant Director), work submitted late receives a penalty of 2 points on the 100 point scale for each day it is late.

(4) Without an approved extension, written work submitted more than 5 weekdays following the session date fails and is given a zero.

(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 (http://www.nyu.edu/life/safety-health-andwellness/students-with-disabilities.html) 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: http://nyu.libguides.com/citations).

NYU takes plagiarism very seriously; penalties follow and may exceed those set out by your home school. All your written work must be submitted as a hard copy AND in electronic form to the instructor. Your instructor 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 please see: www.nyu.edu/global/academic-policies

Required Text(s)
Books can be bought at Saint Georges in Wörther Straße 27 near NYUB. Readers can be bought at Sprintout behind Humboldt University (Georgenstraße/Universitätsstraße – S-Bahn-Bogen 190 - please allow five hours between booking and collecting readers).

**Supplemental Text(s) (not required to purchase)**

Your professor will provide supplemental materials.

- Online exercises
  [http://xportal.klett-langenscheidt.de/netzwerka2/](http://xportal.klett-langenscheidt.de/netzwerka2/)

- German News, Online Courses, Audiobooks, Podcasts:
  [http://www.dw.de/](http://www.dw.de/)
  [http://www.young-germany.de](http://www.young-germany.de)
  [http://simsalabim.reinke-eb.de/index.html](http://simsalabim.reinke-eb.de/index.html) (free courses on German phonetics & pronunciations)

**Internet Research Guidelines**
To be discussed in class

**Additional Required Equipment**
A German-English dictionary

**Semesterplan**
*(Subject to change)*

**Week 1 – [1 Feb – 4 Feb]**
**Content & Communication Goals**
*Netzwerk A2, Chapter 1*
Students get to know each other; classroom policies
Review: Greetings and personal information; talk about food; talk about likes and dislikes

**Grammar Topics**
doch; dative case; possessive article in dative case
Review: Conjugation in present tense; w-questions; yes-no-questions; word order; possessive articles, perfect tense, accusative case and dative case

**Office Hours**
Week 2 [8 Feb – 11 Feb]
*Netzwerk A2, Chapters 1 & 2*

**Content & Communication Goals**
Students get to know each other; classroom policies;
Review: Greetings and personal information; talk about food; talk about likes and dislikes
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;
Review: Modal verbs in the present tense; modal verbs in the past tense (Präteritum); perfect tense;
separable and inseparable verbs and verbs ending with –*ieren*; Präteritum of *sein* und *haben*;

**Office Hours**

Week 3 [15 Feb – 18 Feb]
*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;
Review: Modal verbs in the present tense; modal verbs in the past tense (Präteritum); Perfekt;
separable and inseparable verbs and verbs ending with –*ieren*; Präteritum of *sein* und *haben*;
accusative case and dative case

Week 4 [22 Feb – 26 Feb]
*Netzwerk A2, Chapter 2 & 3*

**Content & Communication Goals**
Talk about German media; learn how to express your opinion; talk about preferences; talk
about and comment on a film; talk about the past; summarize a film

**Grammar Topics**
Comparative and superlative forms of adjectives; comparison of adjectives with *als* and *wie*;
position of verbs in subordinate clauses; the conjunctions *dass*, *weil* and *obwohl*

**Requirement**
Thursday, 25 Feb: Test 1

**Make-Up Day: Friday, 26 Feb. German language excursion:** *Einkaufen in der Marheineke Halle*

Week 5 [29 Feb – 3 March]
*Netzwerk A2, Chapters 3 & 4*

**Content & Communication Goals**
Talk about German media; learn how to express your opinion; talk about preferences; talk
about and comment on a film; talk about the past; summarize a film

**Grammar Topics**
Comparative and superlative forms of adjectives; comparison of adjectives with *als* and *wie*; position of verbs in subordinate clauses; the conjunction *dass*; the past tense: *Präteritum schwache, starke und unregelmäßige Verben (Auswahl)* Subordinate sentences; sentences with *wenn... dann...*; the conjunctions *weil* and *denn*; declension of adjectives (definite and indefinite article)

**Week 6 [7 March – 10 March]**  
*Netzwerk A2, Chapter 4*  
**Content & Communication Goals**  
Learn how to congratulate; learn how to express emotions; listen to and talk about a song

**Grammar Topics**  
Subordinate sentences; sentences with *wenn... dann...*; the conjunctions *weil* and *denn*; declension of adjectives (definite and indefinite article)

**Week 7 [14 March – 17 March]**  
*Netzwerk A2, Chapters 5 & 6*  
**Content & Communication Goals**  
Review: Jobs and professions; talk about your dream job  
Talk about travelling; ask for information; directions

**Grammar Topics**  
The verb *werden*; future tense with *werden*; the prepositions *ohne* and *mit*;  
Clauses with indirect questions; locative prepositions; temporal prepositions; genitive case:  
*Name + s*

**Week 8 [21 March – 24 March]**  
*Netzwerk A2, Chapters 6 & 8*  
**Content & Communication Goals**  
Talk about travelling; ask for information; directions;  
Talk about sports; learn how to express feelings connected to sports; read and write comments; learn how to make suggestions and give advice; read and understand a report

**Grammar Topics**  
Clauses with indirect questions; locative prepositions; temporal prepositions;  
The coordinating conjunctions *deshalb* and *trotzdem*; subjunctive II: verb *sollte* (*Ratschläge*); verbs with dative and accusative; word order

**Requirement**  
Thursday, 24 Mar: Test 2

**Midterm Office Hours**

25 March – 3 April Spring Break - No Class

**Week 9 [4 April – 7 April]**  
*Netzwerk A2, Chapters 8 & 9*  
**Content & Communication Goals**
Talk about sports; learn how to express feelings connected to sports; read and write comments; learn how to make suggestions and give advice; read and understand a report
Polite requests; talk about the past;

Grammar Topics
The coordinating conjunctions deshalb and trotzdem; subjunctive II: verb sollte (Ratschläge); verbs with dative and accusative; word order
Subjunctive II: könnte / würde (polite requests); subordinate clauses with als and wenn

Midterm office hours

No class on Monday: 4. April

Week 10 [11 April – 14. April]
Netzwerk A2, Chapter 9
Content & Communication Goals
Polite requests; talk about the past; talk about pets

Grammar Topics
Subjunctive II: könnte / würde (polite requests); subordinate clauses with als and wenn

Requirement
12 & 14 Apr: Oral Presentation

Week 11 [18 April – 21 April]
Netzwerk A2, Chapter 11
Content & Communication Goals
Talk about different phases of life; talk about time and time travelling; express wishes; give pieces of advice; talk about plans and trips; talk about German sayings

Grammar Topics
Subjunctive II: wäre / hätte / würde / könnte / sollte; verbs with prepositions; Präpositionaladverbien (worauf – darauf etc.)

Requirement
Tuesday, 19 Apr: German Language Excursion: Theater workshop

Week 12 [25 April – 28 April]
Netzwerk A2, (Chapter 10)
Content & Communication Goals
Talk about music and concerts; learn about German musicians and bands; talk about art and German artists; learn how to describe a picture

Grammar Topics
Was für ein (e)?; Welcher / -es / -e?; the pronouns man, jemand, niemand, alles, etwas, nichts

Requirement
Thursday, 28 Apr: Test 3
Week 13 [2 May – 4 May]
Netzwerk A2, Chapter 12
Content & Communication Goals
Talk about different cultures and traditions; understand information about different cultures; duzen or siezen?; talk and write about clichés

Grammar Topics
Final clauses with damit / um… zu

5 May Public Holiday - No Class

Week 14 [9 May – 13 May]
Netzwerk A2, Chapter 12
Content & Communication Goals
Talk about different cultures and traditions; understand information about different cultures; duzen or siezen?; talk and write about clichés

Grammar Topics
Review Final Exam

Make-Up Day: Friday, 13 May

Week 15 [17 May – 19 May]

Final Examination: 17 May, 10:00am – 12:00pm

Classroom Etiquette
No phones or eating in class, please!

Required Co-Curricular Activities

Exkursion #1 – „Shopping“: Wir gehen zusammen in die Marheineke Halle und kaufen ein – we go shopping and practise everything we have learnt.

Exkursion #2 – Excursion Theaterworkshop, Tuesday, 19 April 2016, 9:30am – 12:45pm
Evening show, t.b.a.
In this workshop at Maxim Gorki Theater, students will have the opportunity to practice their German language skills in a fun and creative way through improvisations and role-playing games. The three-hour workshop provides an authentic, immersion-like situation and an intensive language learning experience. Students will also learn about key aspects of a recent play and see the show shortly after the workshop.

Suggested Co-Curricular Activities
Please use the opportunity to take part in the Tandem Program, the Language Trainings and the Tutoring Program at NYU Berlin.
**Your Instructor**
Professor Gerland was born in Bochum and grew up in Munich, Nuremberg and Berlin. She studied German and Italian Literature at University of Potsdam and at Universitá degli Studi di Perugia. After her M.A. she moved to London where she discovered her passion for teaching while working at the Goethe-Institute and Brunel University. She also worked as a translator and editor. After a period of travelling in 2010 she finally came back to Berlin in 2011 where she became a member of NYU in the same year. Nina lives in Charlottenburg (which she considers the most beautiful part of Berlin) and in her freetime you can meet her either on concerts in Berlin or strolling through one of Berlin’s wonderful parks and fleamarkets.