Course Title

German language, Intermediate II

Course Number
GERM-UA9004001

SAMPLE SYLLABUS – ACTUAL SYLLABUS MAY VARY

Instructor Contact Information
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Office hour: Tue 12:30pm-13:30pm, room Schöneberg

Course Details
MTR 11:00am – 12:15pm
NYU Berlin in der Kulturbrauerei

Prerequisites
You have taken GERM-UA9003001 Intermediate German I at NYU and received a passing grade; or you have taken two semesters or equivalent of introductory German 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 Coordinator.

Units earned
4

Course Description
Intermediate German II is the second part of a two-semester-long intermediate sequence. You will continue to study grammar, vocabulary and other aspects of language. You will also learn about the cultural and historical context of the German language. The class is entirely taught in German and emphasizes the language skills necessary to communicate effectively in a foreign language – speaking, listening, viewing, reading and writing. During the course, you will engage with a large variety of up-to-date subject matters.

This course aims to create a balance between working with intellectually stimulating subjects and practicing the skills needed to communicate in a foreign language. To learn another language requires a great deal of commitment, diligence, discipline, and effort on the part of the student. 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 fourth part of a four part German sequence. Together these courses (Elementary I and II; 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. At the end of Intermediate German II (or Intensive Intermediate German) you will be prepared to successfully take a proficiency exam.

**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>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Active Participation</td>
<td>200 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework, Portfolio</td>
<td>250 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compositions (3x50)</td>
<td>150 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tests (3 x 50)</td>
<td>150 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oral Presentation</td>
<td>50 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>200 points</td>
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<tr>
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<td>(written exam 170 points; oral proficiency exam 30 points)</td>
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**Grade Conversion**
Your instructor may use one of the following scales of numerical equivalents to letter grades:

- B+ = 87-89
- C+ = 77-79
- D+ = 67-69
- F = below 65
- A  = 94-100
- B   = 84-86
- C   = 74-76
- D   = 65-66
- A-  = 90-93
- B-  = 80-83
- C-  = 70-73

Alternatively:

- A= 4.0
- B+ = 3.3
- B= 3.0
- B- = 2.7
- C+ = 2.3
- C = 2.0
- C- = 1.7
- D+ = 1.3
- D = 1.0
- F = 0.0.

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 **entirely 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.
Please note: There will be regular online exercises on the learning site of our course book “Neue Blickwinkel”. Please go to http://learningsite.waysidepublishing.com/site/login, choose a username and password and use the code in your course book to register for our class, which is called “Intermediate II NYU Berlin Spring 2016”.

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 Portfolio 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 (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. 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 (equaling 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).

NYUB 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)

ISBN 987-1-938-026-00-3

ISBN 978-3-192015755

Books can be bought at Saint Georges bookshop in Wörther Straße 27 near NYUB, where the books are pre-ordered for students. Additionally, one copy of each book is kept in the Reading Room of NYUB's Academic Center, for you to read in the center but not to take out.

Supplemental Text(s) (not required to purchase)

Your professor will provide supplemental materials.

Internet Research Guidelines

On your computer, smart phone, or tablet you can use the following authentic resources as websites or apps in order to stay up-to-date:
- Spiegel online (German news magazine)
- Stern (German news magazine)
- Die Zeit (German weekly newspaper)
- Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung/FAZ (daily newspaper)
- Süddeutsche Zeitung (daily newspaper)
- Deutsche Welle (German newscast)
- ARD (German TV station with an extensive media library)
- ZDF (German TV station with an extensive media library)

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

These are all free and a great way to practice your German (reading, audio files, videos) wherever you are.

Additional Required Equipment

You will be asked to use a *dictionary*. You can rely on the online mono- and bilingual *dictionary from Pons*: http://de.pons.eu%C3%BCbersetzung?l=dedx and the online German/English *grammar dictionary from Canoo*: http://www.canoo.net/index_en.html

Semesterplan

Week 1 – [1 Feb – 4 Feb]
Content/Communication Goals
Einführung: Students get to know each other; classroom policies
Märchen: read and listen to a fairy-tale of the Brothers Grimm; write your own fairy-tale

Grammar Topics
Revision of past tenses: perfect tense, imperfect tense, past perfect; modal verbs

Week 2 [8 Feb – 11 Feb]
Neue Blickwinkel: Kapitel 4 Die Kunst und die Revolution

Content/Communication Goals
Kapitel 4 Graffiti und der künstlerische Widerstand: explore the East Side Gallery; discuss graffiti as a form of art

Grammar Topics
Revision of noun declension, n-declension; comparison of adjectives

Week 3 [15 Feb – 18 Feb]
German resistance during WWII

Content/Communication Goals
Die Weiße Rose: read and discuss excerpts of a novel
Die letzten Tage der Sophie Scholl: watch and discuss a movie

Grammar Topics
Subjunctive II for present and past

Requirement
Thursday, 18 Feb: Composition 1

Week 4 [22 Feb – 26 Feb]
Neue Blickwinkel: Kapitel 5 Grenzen überschreiten: Ein Blick in die Vergangenheit

Content/Communication Goals
Kapitel 5 Deutschland nach dem zweiten Weltkrieg: learn about Germany after WWII

Grammar Topics
Reported speech

Requirement
Make-Up Day: Friday, 26 Feb: Test 1

Week 5 [29 Feb – 3 March]
Neue Blickwinkel: Kapitel 5 Grenzen überschreiten: Ein Blick in die Vergangenheit

Content/Communication Goals
Kapitel 5 Deutschland – Zwei Länder, zwei Systeme: learn about the division of Germany

Grammar Topics
Reported speech with subjunctive I

**Requirement**
Tuesday, 01 March, 09:30am-01:00pm: Theatre workshop at the Maxim Gorki Theater! The workshop will be followed by a visit to a performance at the MGT (day and time of the theatre visit will be announced in a timely manner!).

**Week 6 [7 March – 10 March]**
Neue Blickwinkel: Kapitel 5 *Grenzen überschreiten: Ein Blick in die Vergangenheit*

**Content/Communication Goals**
Kapitel 5 *Wende und Wiedervereinigung*: learn about the fall of the Wall and the unification

**Grammar Topics**
Excursus: verbs with prepositions and da/wo-compounds; prepositions with accusative and dative

**Week 7 [14 March – 17 March]**
Life in the former GDR

**Content/Communication Goals**
Film *Barbara*: watch a movie and talk about what it meant to live in the former GDR; write a film review

**Grammar Topics**
Passive and passive substitutes

**Requirement**
Midterm office hour
Thursday, 17 March: Composition 2

**Week 8 [21 March – 24 March]**
Neue Blickwinkel: Kapitel 6 *Die deutsche Identität: Regional, national, international*

**Content/Communication Goals**
Kapitel 6 *Was ist Deutschland? Was ist Deutsch?:* talk about German stereotypes and try to find out what German identity is

**Grammar Topics**
Coordinating conjunctions and subordinating conjunctions

25 March – 3 April Spring Break - No Class

**Week 9 [4 April – 7 April]**
Literary excursus *Was ist deutsch? – Wie die Deutschen wurden, was sie sind* by Hans-Dieter Gelfert
Content/Communication Goals
Excerpt Verein from Was ist deutsch? – Wie die Deutschen wurden, was sie sind by Hans-Dieter Gelfert: talk about German clubs and other typical German concepts like Heimat und Gemütlichkeit

Grammar Topics
Coordinating conjunctions and subordinating conjunctions; discontinuous conjunctions

Requirement
Thursday, 7 Apr: Test II

Week 10 [11 April – 14. April]
Neue Blickwinkel: Kapitel 6 Die deutsche Identität: Regional, national, international

Content/Communication Goal
Kapitel 6 Deutsche Flagge – Deutsche Geschichte: read and discuss interviews with young Germans

Grammar Topics
Relative clauses; excursus: present and past participle as adjectives

Week 11 [18 April – 21 April]
Neue Blickwinkel: Kapitel 7 Deutschland: Immigration und Integration

Content/Communication Goal
Kapitel 7 Eine kurze Geschichte der Aus- und Einwanderung in Deutschland: learn about the history of immigration to Germany

Grammar Topics
Reflexive Verbs

Requirement:
Tuesday, 19 Apr, 10:00am-12:00pm: Excursion to the DDR-Museum. The DDR Museum focuses in its interactive exhibition on everyday life in the former GDR. It questions e.g. how did life in East Germany differ from experiences of West Germans and how did the state influence people’s lives?
Thursday, 21 Apr: Composition 3

Week 12 [25 April – 28 April]
Neue Blickwinkel: Kapitel 7 Deutschland: Immigration und Integration

Content/Communication Goal
Kapitel 7 Deutschland als Einwanderungsland: What does it mean to become a German citizen?

Grammar Topics
Infinitive sentences with and without “zu”

Requirement
Thursday, 28 Apr: Test 3

**Week 13 [2 May – 4 May]**
Neue Blickwinkel: Kapitel 7 *Deutschland: Immigration und Integration*

**Content/Communication Goal**
Kapitel 7 *Integration in Deutschland*: Germany as a multicultural country and its discussion about it

**Grammar Topics**
Future I; genitive and genitive prepositions

5 May Public Holiday - No Class

**Week 14 [9 May – 13 May]**
Film Almanya – Willkommen in Deutschland; review

**Content/Communication Goal**
Watch and discuss the film Almanya. Willkommen in Deutschland (Yasemin Samdereli, 2011) Review

**Make-Up Day: Friday, 13 May**

**Requirements:**
Oral Presentation: Tuesday, 10 May

**Week 15 [17 May – 19 May]**
Final exam: Tuesday, 17 May, 10:00am-12:00pm
Proficiency examination: 5-8 minutes free conversation on Thursday, 19 May

**Classroom Etiquette**
No phones or eating in class, please!

**Required Co-Curricular Activities**
1. Theater workshop at Maxim Gorki Theater, Tuesday, 01 Mar, 2016, 09:30am-12:45pm
   Julia will accompany you to the Maxim Gorki Theater workshop, where you will reflect on acting on the stage in a theatre and also play short sequences of a play that you can also watch later.

2. Excursion: Visit of the DDR Museum on Tuesday, 19 Apr, 10:00am-12:00pm
   The DDR Museum focuses in its interactive exhibition on everyday life in the former GDR. It questions e.g. how did life in East Germany differ from experiences of West
Germans and how did the state influence people’s lives? Other questions are where did citizens feel the hand of the dictatorship? What, if anything, was good about the GDR? What is the truth behind popular prejudices and stories about life in East Germany? All these questions are addressed in a light-hearted and often ironic fashion.

**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**
Julia Buchholz has been teaching German courses at NYU since 2013. She holds an MA in translation and teaching German as Foreign Language from Bonn University. Her academic interests include intercultural communication and language learning and teaching methods. Julia grew up near Düsseldorf and after teaching German at a Korean University in Seoul, South Korea, for three years, she came to Berlin via Hamburg in 2012. Julia lives now with her family in Pankow.