Course Title

German Language, Intensive Intermediate

Course Number
GERM-UA9020001

Sample Syllabus – Actual Syllabus May Vary

Instructor Contact Information
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Office hours: Thursdays, 1:45pm – 2:45pm, room: Pankow

Course Details
MTR 11:00am – 1:30pm
NYU Berlin in der Kulturbrauerei

Prerequisites
You have taken GERM-UA9002001 Elementary German II at NYU and received a passing grade; or you have taken two semesters or the 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
6

Course Description
In this course you will continue to study grammar, vocabulary and other aspects of the German language. The class focuses on the language skills necessary to communicate effectively in a foreign language – speaking, reading, viewing, writing, and listening. During the course, you will engage with a large variety of topical subjects from German culture and history as well as art, films, theater, literature and music. 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 this course, please be prepared to complete up to two hours of homework per classroom session.

Course Objective
This course covers the second two parts 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, and 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Components</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Active Participation</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework, Portfolio</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compositions (3 x 50)</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tests (3 x 50)</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Presentation</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam (written exam)</td>
<td>200</td>
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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.

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](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 “Intensive Intermediate 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.

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

**Grade Conversion**
Your instructor may use one of the following scales of numerical equivalents to letter grades:
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 978-1-938-026-00-3
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 dictionaries from Pons: http://de.pons.eu/%C3%BCbersetzung?l=dedx

Semesterplan
(Subject to change)
Week 1 – [1 Feb – 4 Feb]
Neue Blickwinkel: Kapitel 1 Junges Leben in Deutschland; Märchen

Content/Communication Goals
Einführung: Get to know each other; classroom policies
Kapitel 1 Der erste Schultag: Talk about childhood memories
Märchen: Listen to a fairy-tale by the Brothers Grimm; write your own fairy-tale

Grammar Topics
Revision and past tenses: Perfekt and Präteritum, word order in main and subordinate clauses, temporal clauses with als, wenn, wann

Week 2 [8 Feb – 11 Feb]
Neue Blickwinkel: Kapitel 1 Junges Leben in Deutschland
Kapitel 2 Schule, Bildung, Beruf

Content/Communication Goals
Kapitel 1 Schule und Freizeit: Talk about free-time activities
Stationen im Leben: Discuss the appropriate legal age e.g. to drive a car, to marry, to vote, to drink alcohol, etc.
Kapitel 2 Schulen in Deutschland - Mehr Chancen?: Learn about the educational system in Germany, discuss advantages and disadvantages

Grammar Topics
Reflexive verbs, Plusquamperfekt, temporal clauses with nachdem, bevor, seit/seitdem

Week 3 [15 Feb – 18 Feb]
Neue Blickwinkel: Kapitel 3 Mobilität und Medien: Erfindungen, Engagement, Kommunikation

Content/Communication Goals
Kapitel 3 Deutschland, Land der Technik: Learn about inventions made in Germany

Grammar Topics
Passive

Requirement
18 Feb: Composition 1

Week 4 [22 Feb – 26 Feb]
Neue Blickwinkel: Kapitel 3 Mobilität und Medien: Erfindungen, Engagement, Kommunikation

Content/Communication Goals
Kapitel 3 Engagement durch Medien: Discuss chances and risks of the Internet
Die Privatsphäre im Internet: Talk about privacy protection on the Internet

Grammar Topics
Passive of modal verbs, future I

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

**Week 5 [29 Feb – 3 Mar]**
Neue Blickwinkel: Kapitel 4 *Die Kunst und die Revolution*

**Content/Communication Goals**
Kapitel 4 *Die Kunst und die Gesellschaft*: Talk about works of art and learn about Expressionism in Germany

**Grammar Topics**
Declination of adjectives, excursus: verbs with prepositions and da-/wo-compounds

**Requirement**
Tuesday, 01 March, 09:30am-01:00pm: Theater 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 theater visit will be announced in a timely manner!).

**Week 6 [7 Mar – 10 Mar]**
Neue Blickwinkel: Kapitel 4 *Die Kunst und die Revolution*

**Content/Communication Goals**
Kapitel 4 *Die Kunst und der Widerstand*: Learn about the resistance of authors during the Nazi period
*Graffiti und der künstlerische Widerstand*: Explore the East Side Gallery; discuss graffiti as a form of art

**Grammar Topics**
Declination of adjectives, present & past participles as adjectives

**Requirements:**
Midterm Office Hour (1)

**Week 7 [14 Mar – 17 Mar]**
Neue Blickwinkel: Kapitel 5 *Grenzen überschreiten: Ein Blick in die Vergangenheit*

**Content/Communication Goals**
Kapitel 5 *Deutschland nach dem Zweiten Weltkrieg*: Learn about Germany during and after the Second World War
Film: *The comedian harmonists*: Watch and discuss a movie

**Grammar topics**
Reported speech (subjunctive I)

**Requirements:**
17 March: Composition 2
Midterm Office Hour (2)

**Week 8 [21 Mar – 24 Mar]**
Germany during and after the Second World War
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
Past tense of subjunctive I, introduction subjunctive II

25 Mar – 3 Apr – Spring Break – No Class

Week 9 [4 Apr – 7 Apr]
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
*Der Tag des Mauerfalls*: Germany during the Cold War; the fall of the Wall

Grammar Topics
Subjunctive II

Requirement
7 April: Test 2

Week 10 [11 Apr – 14 Apr]
Life in the former GDR

Content/Communication Goals
*Am kürzeren Ende der Sonnenallee*: Read excerpts from a novel by Thomas Brussig
*Sonnenallee*: Watch the movie and compare it to the novel
*Barbara*: Watch a movie and talk about what it meant to live in the former GDR; write a film review

Grammar Topics
Conjunctions

Requirement
14 April: Composition 3

Week 11 [18 Apr – 21 Apr]
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, try to find out what German identity is
*Deutsche Flagge – Deutsche Geschichte*: Read and discuss interviews with young Germans

Grammar Topics
Relative clauses

**Requirement:**
Tuesday, 19 Apr, 10:00am-12:00pm: Excursion to the DDR-Museum. The DDR Museum focuses on everyday life in the former GDR in its interactive exhibition. It questions how life in East Germany differed from experiences of West Germans and how the state influenced people’s lives.

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

**Content/Communication Goals**
Kapitel 7 Eine kurze Geschichte der Aus- und Einwanderung in Deutschland: Learn about the history of immigration to Germany
Kapitel 7 Deutschland als Einwanderungsland: What does it mean to become a German citizen?

**Grammar Topics**
Conjunctions (Konnektoren), prepositions with accusative and dative

**Requirement**
28 April: Test 3

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

**Content/Communication Goals**
Kapitel 7 Integration in Deutschland: Germany as a multicultural country
Film Almany - Willkommen in Deutschland: Watch and discuss a movie

**Grammar Topics**
Prepositions with genitive, excursus: n-declination

5 May – Public Holiday – No Class

**Week 14 [9 May – 13 May]**
Deutschland heute... und morgen?

**Content/Communication Goals**
Read some articles, portraits and interviews and discuss the diversity and perspectives of Germany today
Review

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

**Week 15 [17 May – 19 May]**
Final Examination: Written exam on 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
   Antje will accompany you to the Maxim Gorki Theater workshop. You will reflect on the process of acting on the stage 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 on everyday life in the former GDR in its interactive exhibition. It questions how life in East Germany differed from experiences of West Germans and how the state influenced people’s lives. Other topics that are questioned include the aspects of life in which citizens most felt the hand of the dictatorship; what, if anything, was good about the GDR; and what the truth behind popular prejudices and stories about life in East Germany is. All of 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
Antje Rebecchi has been teaching German courses at NYU since 2006. She holds an MA in German and Theatre Studies from the Free University of Berlin and an additional degree in German as a Foreign Language. Antje comes from Hamburg and came to Berlin in 1989. In 1993, she founded an independent theater group and has been creating theater projects since before she started working as a language teacher with international students in 2000. Antje lives in Kreuzberg.