**Class code**
GERM-UA 9091

**Instructor Details**
Josef Ager
josef.ager@volny.cz
mobile: 732 579 132
office hours: Wed 11:00 – 12:00, professor’s office

**Class Details**
Advanced German Tutorial

Time - TBA

Location to be confirmed.

**Prerequisites**
Intermediate German II at NYU; or transfer credit for two semesters or equivalent of Intermediate German at another university.

**Class Description**
Advanced German Tutorial is intended to develop communication, writing, and argumentation abilities at a high level. Students examine, discuss, and value texts of various genres, then write essays related to these areas. The course includes a selected review of advanced grammar, idioms, and structures necessary for the effective written (and oral) expression of systematic concepts. Therefore it is focused on the diversification in the fields of syntax, style, and phraseology. Other features of the course are presentations, guided writing, and written analysis. On the basis of assorted passages and articles from the internet, various books, and selected magazines students train to comprehend and to analyze present-day issues of German-speaking countries. However, the main objective of the course is to improve and to consolidate students' command of spoken German.

**Desired Outcomes**
Upon completion of the course, students will be able to
- make use of an eloquent vocabulary to present their viewpoints
- discuss, analyze, and criticize opinions
- value events and express probability
- create analytic texts and reports that are parts of modern business life
- react and interact in a coherent and consistent manner

**Assessment Components**
- Participation, preparation, homework: 20%
- Composition assignments (6): 30%
- Mid-term test: 20%
- Final exam: 30%

Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.
Assessment

Grade A: Excellent work
Grade B: Very good work
Grade C: Satisfactory work
Grade D: Passable work
Grade F: Failure to achieve a passable standard

NYU in Prague uses the following scale of numerical equivalents to letter grades:

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

Grading Policy

NYU in Prague aims to have grading standards and results similar to those that prevail at Washington Square. At the College of Arts and Science, roughly 39% of all final grades are in the B+ to B- range, and 50% in the A/A- range.

We have therefore adopted the following guideline: in any non-Stern course, class teachers should try to ensure that no more than 50% of the class receives an A or A-. A guideline is not a curve. A guideline is just that - it gives an ideal benchmark for the distribution of grades towards which we work.

Attendance Policy

Each unexcused absence will result in your final grade being reduced by 3%. Absences only for medical reasons will be excused. To obtain an excused absence, you are obliged to supply either a doctor’s note or corroboration of your illness by a member of the housing staff (either an RA or a Building Manager). Absences due to travel will not be excused.
Late Submission of Work

Written work due in class must be submitted during the class time to the professor. Unless an extension has been approved, work submitted within 5 weekdays after the submission time receives a penalty of 2 points on the 100 point scale. Written work submitted more than 5 weekdays after the submission time receives a penalty of 5 points. End of semester essays must be submitted on time.

Plagiarism Policy

According to the Liberal Studies Program Student Handbook, plagiarism is defined as follows:

Plagiarism is presenting someone else’s work as though it were one’s own. More specifically, plagiarism is to present as one’s own a sequence of words quoted without quotation marks from another writer, a paraphrased passage from another writer’s work; facts or ideas gathered, organized and reported by someone else, orally and/or in writing. Since plagiarism is a matter of fact, not of the student’s intention, it is crucial that acknowledgment of the sources be accurate and complete. Even where there is no conscious intention to deceive, the failure to make appropriate acknowledgment constitutes plagiarism.

The College of Arts and Science’s Academic Handbook defines plagiarism similarly and also specifies the following:

“Presenting an oral report drawn without attribution from other sources (oral or written), writing a paragraph which, despite being in different words, expresses someone else’s idea without a reference to the source of the idea, or submitting essentially the same paper in two different courses (unless both teachers have given their permission in advance).

Receiving help on a take-home examination or quiz is also cheating – and so is giving that help – unless expressly permitted by the teacher (as in collaborative projects). While all this looks like a lot to remember, all you need to do is give credit where it is due, take credit only for original ideas, and ask your teacher or advisor when in doubt.”

“Penalties for plagiarism range from failure for a paper, failure for the course or dismissal from the university.” (Liberal Studies Program Student Handbook)

Required Text(s)

Assorted articles, excerpts and passages from the internet and various books. (Provided by the teacher)

Internet Research Guidelines

To be discussed in class.

Additional Required Equipment

A good dictionary.

Session 1

Overview of course; Sie vs. du

Monday, February 11

Session 2

The past perfect tense; The world population explosion
Wednesday, February 13

**Session 3**  
Fieldtrip

Friday, February 15  
(make up for Monday classes)

**Session 4**  
The present subjunctive; Competition, qualifications, languages

Monday, February 18

**Session 5**  
The past subjunctive; Pros and cons of modern communication

Wednesday, February 20

**Session 6**  
The special subjunctive; Fast food, obesity, vegetarianism

Monday, February 25

**Session 7**  
Relative clauses; Pros and cons of the euro and the European Union

Wednesday, February 27

**Session 8**  
Phrases related to the body; J.P. Hebel’s *Kannitverstan*

Friday, March 1

**Session 9**  
Non-standard plural forms; German politics (1948 – 2012)

Monday,
March 4

Session 10  Compound words; Franz Kafka’s Der Traum

Wednesday, March 6

Session 11  Two-way prefixes; Working time models

Monday, March 11

Session 12  Adjective nouns; Turks in Germany

Wednesday, March 13

Session 13  Expressing and defending opinions; Art, Christo, Reichstag, Berlin

Friday, March 15

Session 14  Prepositions as verbal compliments; Manipulation tactics

Monday, March 18

Session 15  Midterm test

Wednesday, March 20

Session 16  Designing a presentation; Albert Einstein and Prague

Monday, March 25

Session 17  Colloquial German(some phrases); Kurt Tucholsky’s Groß-Stadt

Wednesday,
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<td>April 1 - 5</td>
<td>Prepositions after adjectives; Typical artifacts of our time</td>
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<td>Session 18</td>
<td>Multiple meaning words; Hermann Grab’s <em>Hochzeit in Brooklyn</em></td>
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<td>Wednesday, April 10</td>
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<td>Nouns and prefixes; Face book and addiction</td>
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<td>Phrases that include color; Erich Kästner’s <em>Entwicklung der Menschheit</em></td>
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<td>Idioms expressing pessimism; Headlines, titles, quotations</td>
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<td>Idioms expressing optimism; German universities</td>
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