**Class code**
GERM-UA 9002

**Instructor Details**

Josef Ager

josef.ager@volny.cz

mobile: 732 579 132

office hours: Wed 11:00 – 12:00, professor’s office

**Class Details**

Elementary German II

Mon/Wed 1:30 – 2:50 a.m.

Location to be confirmed.

**Prerequisites**

Elementary German I at NYU; or a transfer credit for an introductory German course at another university.

**Class Description**

In Elementary German II students will continue to learn the basics of the language. Although the course introduces more complex grammatical concepts and is intended to enrich lexical knowledge, it focuses on the development of conversational ability. Students will grow more confident and more proficient while using various conversational strategies accompanied by a learning by doing attitude. Written assignments will support writing skills, which gradually are getting more important during the course. The textbook “Deutsch heute” in conjunction with assorted supplemental materials offer a multifaceted approach to developing essential language skills. By acquiring these competencies and by understanding some aspects of contemporary German life and culture students should achieve an initial knowledge of the language.

**Desired Outcomes**

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to

- make use of an enriched vocabulary to satisfy needs of various everyday situations
- talk about some general topics
- relate events that happened in the past or that are hypothetical
- create texts that are parts of modern communication
- react and interact in a more detailed way

**Assessment Components**

- Participation, preparation, homework: 20%
- Vocabulary quizzes: 20%
- Mid-term test: 20%
- Final exam: 40%

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

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:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Numerical Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94-100</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-93</td>
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<td>B+</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>84-86</td>
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<td>B-</td>
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<td>C</td>
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<td>C-</td>
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<td>D+</td>
<td>67-69</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>65-66</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>below 65</td>
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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 corroborations 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)


Internet Research Guidelines

To be discussed in class.

Additional Required Equipment

A good dictionary.

Session 1

Overview of course; Review: The present tense

Monday, February 11

Session 2

Review: Nominative, dative, accusative; Relatives
Wednesday, February 13

**Session 3**  
Fieldtrip: The New Jewish Cemetery

Friday, February 15  
(make up for Monday classes)

**Session 4**  
Chap.6: Review: The present perfect tense; Buying clothes

Monday, February 18

**Session 5**  
Chap.7: Two-way prepositions; Houses and apartments

Wednesday, February 20

**Session 6**  
Chap.7: The words *hin* and *her*; Traveling by train

Monday, February 25

**Session 7**  
Chap.7: Time expressions; Housework and chores

Wednesday, February 27

**Session 8**  
Chap.7: *Da*-compounds, *wo*-compounds; Indirect questions

Friday, March 1

**Session 9**  
Chap.8: Ordinal numbers; Vocabulary quiz I (Chap.6+7)

Monday,
March 4

Session 10 Chap. 8: The genitive case; Genitive prepositions

Wednesday, March 6

Session 11 Chap. 8: Adjective endings; Stating wants and desires

Monday, March 11

Session 12 Chap. 9: Reflexive verbs, reflexive pronouns; Body and health

Wednesday, March 13

Session 13 Chap. 9: Infinitives with zu; Switzerland

Friday, March 15

Session 14 Chap. 9: Comparative and superlative; Politics in Switzerland

Monday, March 18

Session 15 Midterm test (Chap. 6-9)

Wednesday, March 20

Session 16 Chap. 10: Uses of als, wenn, and wann; Theater and entertainment

Monday, March 25

Session 17 Chap. 10: The simple past tense; German political parties

Wednesday,
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 27</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
<td>April 1 - 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 8</td>
<td>Session 18</td>
<td>Chap.10: Strong verbs in the simple past; German history since 1945</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 10</td>
<td>Session 19</td>
<td>Chap.10: The past perfect tense; Dates</td>
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<td>April 15</td>
<td>Session 20</td>
<td>Chap.11: The future tense; Jobs, professions, unions</td>
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<td>April 17</td>
<td>Session 21</td>
<td>Chap.11: The European Union; Vocabulary quiz II (Chap.8-10)</td>
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<td>April 22</td>
<td>Session 22</td>
<td>Chap.11: The \textit{würde}-construction; Renting a car</td>
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<td>April 24</td>
<td>Session 23</td>
<td>Chap.11: Present-time subjunctive; Using the phone</td>
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<td>April 29</td>
<td>Session 24</td>
<td>Chap.11: Conditional sentences; The past subjunctive; Apprenticeship</td>
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<td>Session 25</td>
<td>Chap. 12: Relative clauses; Foreigners in Germany</td>
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<td>Monday, May 6</td>
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<tr>
<th>Session 26</th>
<th>Chap. 12: The passive voice; The multicultural society</th>
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<td>Monday, May 13</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 27</th>
<th>Chap. 12: man as a substitute for the passive voice; Review</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, May 15</td>
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<th>Final exam</th>
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<td>Monday, May 20</td>
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**Classroom Etiquette**
- Mobile phones should be set on silent and should not be used in class except for emergencies.
- Laptops are only be used with the express permission of the professor.
- Toilet breaks should be taken before or after class.

**Required Co-curricular Activities**
- none

**Suggested Co-curricular Activities**
- Make trips to Berlin and to Vienna.