Course Title

German Language, Intermediate II

Course Number
GERM-UA 9004001

Summer 2016

Syllabus last updated on: 06-June-2016

Instructor Contact Information
Julia Buchholz
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Office Hours: by appointment

Course Details
Sommer 2016
MTWR 10am – 12:30pm
Fri., July 8th, 10am – 12:30pm
Fri., August 5th, 10am – 12:30pm
NYU Berlin in der Kulturbrauerei
Room: TBA

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 taught entirely 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) will help you develop a level of proficiency in German that will enable you to study abroad in German-speaking countries, to pursue the 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
- Active participation in class: 200 points
- Homework: Workbook & Portfolio: 250 points
- Chapter Tests (2 x 100): 200 points
- Oral Presentation: 100 points
- Final Examination: 250 points

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

Grade Conversion
NYU Berlin uses the following scale of numerical equivalents to letter grades:

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

Participation & Language Use
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 prepare adequately for each session (reading background information about cultural topics, grammar etc.), so that you can actively participate in class.

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 summer, you will receive a lot of additional handouts, texts, and exercises. Please purchase an organizer/folder/binder for keeping your materials and printouts organized in sequence. If you intend on continuing with German, please hold on to all materials.
Tests
There will be 2 tests throughout the semester. Although all tests will be cumulative, they will focus on the most recently covered material. Bring your Homework and 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. 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 the summer program director Tom Ertman (te11@nyu.edu).

Unexcused absences affect students' grades: Missing one week's worth of classes (consecutive or non-consecutive) without an excuse 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. Furthermore, your Professor 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 and submit it to the Program Director Tom Ertman; 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 the Program Director Professor Tom Ertman 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 Program 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. See also http://www.nyu.edu/about/policies-guidelines-compliance/policies-and-guidelines/university-calendar-policy-on-religious-holidays.html
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 Program Director, 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) Work submitted late receives a penalty of 2 points on the 100 point scale for each day it is late, unless an extension has been approved (with a doctor's note or by approval of the Program Director), in which case the 2 points per day deductions start counting from the day the extended deadline has passed.

(4) Without an approved extension, written work submitted more than 5 weekdays following the submission 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)

Your computer should use either Safari, Google Chrome or Firefox (Please do not run the Stationen on Explorer).

Supplemental Text(s) (not required to purchase)


Your professor will provide supplemental materials.

Online excercises accompanying the course book can be found at http://xportal.klett-langenscheidt.de/netzwerka2/

Additional Required Equipment
– For online German–English dictionaries use: de.pons.com or dict.leo.org (both include pronunciation and the past tense forms of verbs)
– For flash cards use anki.com (How to best make use of this tool will be discussed in class if desired)
– Genusly is a useful gender-marking tool: genusly.com (marks German nouns in different colors according to their gender)
– A good workshop on German phonetics: simsalabim.reinke-eb.de

On your computer, smart phone, or tablet you can also 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)
- www.wissen.de [enormous knowledge portal]
- www.dhm.de [Deutsches Historisches Museum; offers a virtual museum when you click on the LEMO link; there is also an option for “DHM in leichter Sprache” (in easy German); click the “Leichte Sprache” link]
Semesterplan
(subject to change)

Woche 1 [7 Jul – 8 Jul]
Supplementary Material: Welcome to Berlin!
Neue Blickwinkel: Kapitel 4 Graffiti und der künstlerische Widerstand

Content / Communication Goals
- Course introduction and classroom policies. Students get to know each other.
- Learn about the different districts in Berlin, attractions and the most interesting places of the city.
- Read and discuss texts about people who have came to Berlin.
- Neue Blickwinkel: Kapitel 4 Graffiti und der künstlerische Widerstand: Explore the East Side Gallery and discuss graffiti as a form of art.

Grammar Topics
Revision of past tenses: perfect tense, imperfect tense, pluperfect

Requirement:
Friday, 8 July: Make-Up Day

Woche 2 [11 Jul – 14 Jul]
Neue Blickwinkel: Kapitel 4 Graffiti und der künstlerische Widerstand

Content / Communication Goals
Neue Blickwinkel: Kapitel 4 Graffiti und der künstlerische Widerstand: Explore the East Side Gallery and discuss graffiti as a form of art
Die Weiße Rose: Read and discuss excerpts of a novel
Die letzten Tage der Sophie Scholl: Watch and discuss a movie

Grammar Topics
Revision of adjective declension
Present and past participles as adjectives
Revision of noun declension, n-declension

Requirement:
Tuesday, 14 July: Test 1

Woche 3 [18 Jul – 21 Jul]
Stationen: Station 8 Dresden
Neue Blickwinkel: Kapitel 5 Grenzen überschreiten: Ein Blick in die Vergangenheit

Content / Communication Goals
Stationen: Station 8 Dresden: Learn about the Künstlergruppe “Die Brücke”.
Neue Blickwinkel: Kapitel 5 Deutschland nach dem zweiten Weltkrieg: Learn about Germany after WWII and listen to an excerpt from Erich Kästner’s autobiographical book, *Als ich ein kleiner Junge war*.

**Grammar Topics**
- Coordinating conjunctions, subordinating conjunctions and discontinuous conjunctions
- Passive and passive with modal verbs
- Passive substitutes

**Woche 4 [25 Jul – 28 Jul]**
Stationen: Station 9 Salzburg
Neue Blickwinkel: Kapitel 5 Grenzen überschreiten: Ein Blick in die Vergangenheit

**Content / Communication Goals**
Stationen: Station 9 Salzburg: Talk about music. Learn about Salzburg’s “Kaffeehauskultur” and compare it to Berlin’s.
Neue Blickwinkel: Kapitel 5 Deutschland – Zwei Länder, zwei Systeme: Learn about the division of Germany
Film *Barbara*: Watch a movie and talk about what it meant to live in the former GDR; write a film review

**Grammar Topics**
- Relative clauses and relative pronouns
- Reflexive verbs
- Subjunctive II in the present and past tenses

**Requirement:**
Thursday, 28 July: Test 2

**Woche 5 [1 Aug – 5 Aug]**
Stationen: Station 11 Zürich
Stationen: Station 12 Die Deutschen im Ausland

**Content / Communication Goals**
Stationen: Station 11 Zürich: Learn about the author Max Frisch and Friedrich Dürrenmatt. Read an excerpt from Dürrenmatt’s play *Die Physiker*.
Stationen: Station 12 Die Deutschen im Ausland: Talk about travelling and read an excerpt from Judith Hermann’s essay “Aqua alta”.

**Grammar Topics**
- Subjunctive II for present and past
- Prepositions
- Verbs with prepositions and da-/wo-compounds

**Requirement:**
Friday, 5 August: Make-Up Day
Excursion (meeting point to be discussed in class)

Woche 6 [8 Aug – 11 Aug]
Neue Blickwinkel: Kapitel 6 Die deutsche Identität: Regional, national and international
Berlin: Yesterday – Today – Tomorrow

Content / Communication Goals
Neue Blickwinkel: Kapitel 6: Read and talk about German stereotypes in order to try to find out what the German identity means.
Watch and work with a movie about Berlin.
Listen to a song by the German singer Peter Fox about nights in Berlin.
Prepare and conduct interviews with different people living in Berlin about the topic: “Which topical developments can you observe at the moment in Berlin? What do you think will happen in the next 5 to 10 years to Berlin?” Then discuss your findings in class.

Grammar Topics
Futur I
Review for the Final Exam

Requirement:
Oral Presentation

Woche 7 [15 Aug]

Requirement:
Final Examination: 10am – 12.30pm

Your Instructor
Julia Buchholz grew up near Düsseldorf and studied translation and teaching German as Foreign Language at Bonn University. After three years of teaching German at a Korean University in Seoul, South Korea, she came to Berlin via Hamburg in 2012. She has been teaching German at NYU Berlin since 2013. In addition to that, she has recently been working on Korean-German translation projects. Her special interests include intercultural communication and language learning and teaching methods. When Julia came to Berlin, she immediately fell in love with the city, because she really appreciates the (inter)cultural life, and enjoys the city’s creative potential and liveliness. After living in Berlin-Lichterfelde und Berlin-Neukölln, she now lives with her family in Pankow and enjoys cooking various (side) dishes from the Korean cuisine.