Course Title

**German Language, Elementary II**

**Course Number**
GERM-UA9002001

**Summer 2017**

**Instructor Contact Information**
Name: Deike Benjoya
Mail: db130@nyu.edu
Office Hours: by appointment

**Course Details**
Sommer 2017
MTWR 10am – 12.30am
Fri. July 14th 10am – 12.30am
NYU Berlin in der Kulturbrauerei

**Units earned**
4

**Course Description**
This course continues your introduction to the language and everyday culture of German-speaking countries. You will expand your understanding of important vocabulary and customs regarding the following topics: food; school and childhood; German media; jobs and the workplace; travel; sports, music and art; emotions and clichés; contemporary German society and culture.

Since the goals of communicative and grammatical competence are ultimately inseparable, students are guided towards using German as accurately as possible.
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 second part of a four part German course. Together these courses (Elementary I and II; Intermediate I and II) should help you develop a level of proficiency in German that would 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.

**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.

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

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

**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 for the most part conducted in German. You are expected to prepare adequately for each session (reading background information in the *Glossary* about cultural topics, pronunciation and grammar), 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 where you keep 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. Each test will be cumulative, though with a focus on the most-recently covered material. Bring your *Arbeitsbuch* 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 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. See also [http://www.nyu.edu/about/policies-guidelines-compliance/policies-and-guidelines/university-calendar-policy-on-religious-holidays.html](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, 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, 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) **Please note**: end of summer 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.

**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: [http://nyu.libguides.com/content.php?pid=27555&sid=200118](http://nyu.libguides.com/content.php?pid=27555&sid=200118)).

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. All assignments in this course will be checked for plagiarism using Turnitin.

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.

**Required Text(s)**

**Supplemental Text(s) (not required to purchase)**
Rusch, Paul: *Netzwerk A2 Intensivtrainer*, Klett-Langenscheid, Münschen, 2013

Your professor will provide supplemental materials.

Online exercises accompanying the course book can be found at [http://xportal.klett-langenscheidt.de/netzwerka2/](http://xportal.klett-langenscheidt.de/netzwerka2/)

**Additional Required Equipment**
– For online German–English dictionaries use: [de.pons.com](http://de.pons.com) or [dict.leo.org](http://dict.leo.org) (both include pronunciation and the past tense forms of verbs)
– For flash cards use ankihrs.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](http://genusly.com) (marks German nouns in different colors according to their gender)
– A good workshop on German phonetics: [simsalabim.reinke-eb.de](http://simsalabim.reinke-eb.de)
– University of Iowa provides an excellent technical overview of German sounds and where and how they are produced anatomically at uiowa.edu/~acadtech/phonetics
– See Deutsche Welle (dw.de) for lots of interesting articles as well as free
– German online courses for independent study

Semesterplan
(subject to change)

Woche 1 19.6.– 22.6.
Netzwerk A2, Kapitel 1 + 2

• Students get to know each other, classroom policies
• Eating and drinking, talk about groceries and likes / dislikes regarding food, reading texts about foods/restaurants
• Talk about education, school and school systems (cross-culturally)
• Describe your work space, a dinner table
• Review: Introduce yourself, family and friends; give further information about yourself (city of residence, major at NYU, hobbies, etc.); numbers

Grammar Topics
• doch, possessive articles in dative case, reflexive verbs
• two-way prepositions (auf den Stuhl vs. auf dem Stuhl) + position vs. destination verbs (stehen, liegen vs. stellen, legen), modal verbs in preterite tense (Präteritum)
• Review: personal pronouns, conjugation of irregular verbs in present tense (haben & sein; sprechen, fahren, lesen), yes/no-questions, w-questions, indefinite articles & negative articles (nominative and accusative), plural forms, dative case after prepositions (e.g. mit, aus); local prepositions (auf/an/in/über...), possessive articles, modal verbs in present tense

Excursion #1: June 22
Marheineke Markthalle
Deike will accompany you to Marheineke Markthalle where you will practice speaking with local vendors as you ask for prices and the origin of produce. We will compare baked goods from different bakeries and of course you can also buy food for your daily needs. Afterwards, you will join Deike for a walk in the neighborhood.

Woche 2 [26.6. – 29.6.]
Netzwerk A2, Kapitel 3 + 4
Content / Communication Goals
• Talk about German media, learn how to express your opinion, talk about preferences, talk about and comment on a film, talk about the past, summarize a film
• Learn how to congratulate, express emotions, listen to and talk about songs

Grammar Topics
• Comparative and superlative forms of adjectives (schön, schöner, am schönsten), comparison of adjectives with als and wie
• Subordinate sentences; the conjunctions weil, dass, obwohl; sentences with wenn..., dann...; position of verbs in subordinate clauses
• Review: adjective declination (nom. & acc. cases), Perfekt, separable and inseparable verbs and verbs ending with –ieren + Präteritum of haben and sein

Requirement
Test #1 — June 29

Woche 3 [3.7. – 6.7.]
Netzwerk A2, Kapitel 5 + 6

Content / Communication Goals
• Review: Jobs and professions, talk about your dream job
• Talk about your travels, narrate in past tense, ask for information, directions in the city
• Learn to talk about problems / difficulties, make suggestions and give advice; formulate polite requests
• Talk about sports and events, express opinions

Grammar Topics
• The verb werden & future tense with werden, indirect question clauses
• Review: local prepositions (an... vorbei; durch), temporal prepositions, genitive case: Name + s
• The coordinating conjunctions deshalb and trotzdem, subordinating conjunction als
• Subjunctive II: verb sollte (Ratschläge); (ditransitive) verbs with two objects

Woche 4 [10.7. – 13.7. & 14.7. make-up Friday]
Netzwerk A2, Kapitel 7 + 8

Content / Communication Goals
• Talk about trip / travel plans, different phases of life, talk about time and time travelling, express wishes, give advice, German sayings and idioms
Grammar Topics
- Subjunctive II: könnte / würde (polite requests) & wäre / hätte (hypotheticals), subordinate clauses with als and wenn, verbs with prepositions, wo- & da-compounds (worauf – darauf, etc.)
- Review: Conjunctions denn & weil

Requirement
Test #2 — July 13

Woche 5 [17.7. – 20.7.]
Netzwerk A2, Kapitel 9 + 10

Content / Communication Goals
- Talk about living situations, cultures, converse about German customs and traditions, talk about what it means to ‘be German’, duzen or siezen?, talk and write about clichés
- Music shows / concerts / theater; learn about German musicians and bands, talk about art and German artists, learn how to describe a picture

Grammar Topics
- Interrogative article ein: Was für ein(e)n?; Welcher / -es / -e?; indefinite pronouns man, jemand, niemand, alles, etwas, nichts
- relative clauses (nominative)
- Final clauses with damit / um... zu

Requirement
Oral Presentation

Excursion #2: July 18
Künstlerhaus Bethanien
You will learn about an important part of Berlin’s squatting history. After we take a look at the inside of Künstlerhaus Bethanien we will also explore the surrounding neighborhood.

Woche 6 [24.7. – 27.7.]
Netzwerk A2, Kapitel 11 + 12

Content / Communication Goals
- Express wishes, talk about hypothetical situations
- Attending festivities and celebrations

Grammar Topics
- Relative clauses (accusative)
- Review Final Exam
Final Examination: 27.7. 10am – 12.30pm

Your Instructor
Deike holds an M.A. in American Literature and German Language & Literature from Freie Universität and Humboldt Universität Berlin. She also studied Cognitive & Linguistic Sciences as well as Creative Writing at Brown University where she began to teach German. In 2007 Deike joined Deutsches Haus at NYU and in 2010 the German Department at NYU. She recently moved to Berlin with her family. The 2017 summer session will be her first semester on NYU’s Berlin campus.