

# NYU Prague

## GERM-UA9001P01

### Elementary German I

### Fall 2018

#### Instructor Information

- **Josef Ager, PhD**
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- **Office hours:** Mon/Wed 11:30 – 12:00, professor's office
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#### Course Information

- GERM-UA9001P01
- Elementary German I
- Co-requisite or prerequisite: none
- Monday/Wednesday 12:00 pm – 1:20 pm
  - Jesenska classroom, BB

#### Course Overview and Goals

In Elementary German I students will learn the basics of the language. The course is focused on conversational skills; by learning a simplified structure of German grammar in a clear and concise format, students will be encouraged to use the new language as often as possible. The first steps into the four language skills (listening, speaking, reading, writing) will be accompanied by an introduction to contemporary life and culture in German-speaking countries. The textbook "Deutsch heute" in conjunction with assorted supplemental materials offer a balanced approach to developing language competencies. At the end of the course students should be able to handle some essential structures of the (real-life functional) language and achieve a rough idea about the way how the German language works. (Format of the course: Lectures)

#### Upon Completion of this Course, students will be able to:

- make use of a basic vocabulary to satisfy needs of various everyday situation
- talk about some everyday topics
- relate personal experiences that happened in the recent past
- create short texts that are parts of modern communication
- react and interact by applying simplified language tools

#### Course Requirements

##### Class Participation, Homework

Class participation is important for this type of course; therefore, it will form a considerable part of a student's grade (20%).

### **Vocabulary quizzes**

Multiple choice tests covering only vocabulary (20%)

### **Mid-term test**

Grammar test (20%)

### **Final exam**

Grammar and vocabulary test (40%)

### **Grading of Assignments**

The grade for this course will be determined according to the following formula:

<b>Assignments/Activities</b>	<b>% of Final Grade</b>
Participation, homework	20%
Quiz I	10%
Quiz II	10%
Mid-term test	20%
Final examination	40%

### **Letter Grades**

Letter grades for the entire course will be assigned as follows:

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Percent</b>
<b>A</b>	92.5% and higher
<b>A-</b>	90.0 – 92.49%
<b>B+</b>	87.5% - 89.99%
<b>B</b>	82.5% - 87.49%
<b>B-</b>	80% - 82.49%
<b>C+</b>	77.5% - 79.99%
<b>C</b>	72.5% - 77.49%
<b>C-</b>	70% - 72.49%
<b>D+</b>	67.5% - 69.99%
<b>D</b>	62.5% - 67.49%
<b>D-</b>	60% - 62.49%
<b>F</b>	59.99% and lower

## Assessment Expectations

**Grade A:** Excellent work.

**Grade B:** Very good work.

**Grade C:** Satisfactory work.

**Grade D:** Passable work.

**Grade F:** Fails to meet the requirements.

## Course Schedule

### Topics and Assignments

Week/Date	Topic	Grammar	Assignment Due
Session 1 Monday, September 3	Overview of course	Getting acquainted	
Session 2 Wednesday, September 5	Introduction: numbers, colors, days of the week	Nouns, gender	
Session 3 Monday, September 10	Chap.1: In the restaurant	The present tense	
Session 4 Wednesday, September 12	Chap.1: Telling time	The words <i>gern</i> and <i>nicht</i>	
Session 5 Monday, September 17	Chap.1: The German alphabet	Asking questions, interrogative pronouns	
Session 6 Wednesday, September 19	Chap.2: Word order in independent clauses	The verbs <i>haben</i> and <i>sein</i>	
Session 7 Monday, September 24	Chap.2: Talking about the weather	The nominative case; plural forms	
Session 8 Wednesday, September 26	Chap.2: Names of countries	Possessive adjectives	Vocabulary Quiz I (Introduction chapter, Chap.1+2)
Session 9 Monday, October 1	Chap.3: Foods, meals	Verbs with stem-vowel change e>i	
Session 10 Wednesday, October 3	Chap.3: In the shop	Imperatives	
Session 11 Monday, October 8	Chap.3: Business hours for stores	The accusative case	

<b>Week/Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Grammar</b>	<b>Assignment Due</b>
Session 12 Wednesday, October 10	Chap.3: The euro	Accusative of pronouns	
Fall Break October 13-21	Fall Break		
Session 13 Monday, October 22	Chap.3: Living in a dormitory	Accusative prepositions	
Session 14 Wednesday, October 24	Chap.4: College majors	Verbs with stem-vowel change e>ie	
Session 15 Monday, October 29	Chap.4: Free time, hobbies	The verbs <i>werden, wissen, kennen</i>	
Session 16 Wednesday, October 31	Mid-term test (Chap.1-4)		
Session 17 Monday, November 5	Chap.4: The educational system in Germany	Modal auxiliaries	
Session 18 Wednesday, November 7	Chap.4: Family and relatives	The verbs <i>mögen</i> and <i>möchten</i>	Written assignment <i>Meine Familie</i>
Make-up Day Friday, November 9 (9am-5pm)	Make-up day for missed classes		
Session 19 Monday, November 12	Chap.4: Professions	Separable and inseparable-prefix verbs	
Session 20 Wednesday, November 14	Chap.5: Austria	Verbs with stem-vowel change a>ä	
Session 21 Monday, November 19	Chap.5: Clothing	Coordinating and subordinating conjunctions	Vocabulary Quiz II (Chap.3-5)
Session 22 Wednesday, November 21	Cap.5: Travelling	The dative case	
Session 23 Monday, November 26	Chap.5: Giving directions	Dative verbs	Written assignment <i>Eine Reise in Europa</i>
Session 24 Wednesday, November 28	Chap.5: Public transportation	Dative prepositions	
Session 25	Chap.6: Sports	The present perfect tense	

<b>Week/Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Grammar</b>	<b>Assignment Due</b>
Monday, December 3			
Session 26 Wednesday, December 5	Chap.6: Computer and television	Past participles I	Written assignment <i>Eine Biographie</i>
Session 27 Monday, December 10	Chap.6: Holidays and vacation	Past participles II	
Session 28 Wednesday, December 12 (last day of classes)	Adjective endings	Review	
Session 29 Monday, December 17	Final exam (Introduction Chapter, Chap.1-6)		
Session 30 Wednesday, December 19	Student consultation		

## Course Materials

### Required Textbooks & Materials

- Textbook: "Deutsch heute", Introductory German, Moeller/Adolph/Hoecher/Alden/Berger/Lalandell, Houghton Mifflin, Boston – New York 2013 (Copies available in the library)

### Supplemental Text (not required to purchase, copies available in NYU P Library)

- To be discussed in class

### Resources

- **Access your course materials:** [NYU Classes](http://nyu.edu/its/classes)(nyu.edu/its/classes)
- **Databases, journal articles, and more:** [Bobst Library](http://library.nyu.edu) (library.nyu.edu)
- **Assistance with strengthening your writing:** [NYU Writing Center](http://nyu.mywconline.com) (nyu.mywconline.com)
- **Obtain 24/7 technology assistance:**[IT Help Desk](http://nyu.edu/it/servicedesk) (nyu.edu/it/servicedesk)
- **NYU Prague library:**[Tritius Catalog](https://nyu.tritius.cz/?lang=EN) (https://nyu.tritius.cz/?lang=EN)

## Course Policies

### Attendance and Tardiness

Absences only for medical reasons and for religious observance 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). To be excused for religious observance, you must contact the instructor and the Academic Director via e-mail one week in advance of the holiday. Your absence is excused for the holiday only and does not include days of

travel associated with the holiday. Unexcused absences will be penalized with a 2% percent deduction from your final course grade for every week of classes missed.

**Please note that Friday, November 9 (9am – 5pm) is reserved as a make-up day for missed classes. Do not schedule any trips for this day.**

## **Late Submission of Work**

All assigned written work is to be submitted by the proper deadline. Any late submission will be penalized by deducting 5% from the assignment grade for each day of the delay. Written assignments will not be accepted for grading if delivered more than 10 days after the original deadline.

## **Academic Honesty/Plagiarism**

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)**

## **Classroom Etiquette**

Eating is not permitted in the classroom. No cell phones and **no use of the Internet for other than educational purposes** in the classroom. **Tardiness of more than 20 minutes without a reasonable excuse will be regarded as an absence.**

## **Disability Disclosure Statement**

Academic accommodations are available for students with disabilities. Please contact the Moses Center for Students with Disabilities (212-998-4980 or [mosescsd@nyu.edu](mailto:mosescsd@nyu.edu)) for further information. Students who are requesting academic accommodations are advised to reach out to the Moses Center as early as possible in the semester for assistance.