

Syllabus Spring 2020
German 201 Conversational German

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Required Texts: (You will need the textbook for the first day of class)

Stationen: Ein Kursbuch für die Mittelstufe (3rd Edition) by Prisca Augustyn and Nikolaus Euba, Thomson/Heinle. Bundle book plus ILrn access for workbook.

Complete packages course materials are available only at the USC campus bookstore and online via USC's custom Cengage store site: <http://www.cengagebrain.com/course/1-1WIJBA6>

We will cover the material through chapter 5 (Station 5) in German 201. You will also use Stationen for German 221

Recommended Texts:

English Grammar for Students of German by Cecile Zorach, Olivia and Hill Press; 501 German Verbs by Henry Strutz; German/English desk size dictionary

Welcome to German 201!

LEARNING OBJECTIVES FOR THE USC GERMAN STUDIES PROGRAM:

The student learning objectives of the German Studies Program at USC closely align with the Foreign Language Standards developed by the American Council of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). The 5 language learning goals (Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparisons and Communities) as outlined by ACTFL are at the core of the program's teaching philosophy. At each level of language acquisition and cultural proficiency training all 5 language-learning goals are integrated into the German Studies Program. Mastery of the language (the traditional four skills: listening, reading, writing and speaking) is informed by cultural knowledge and vice versa.

For more detailed information about the ACTFL Foreign Language Standards or 5Cs, please visit the following website: <http://www.actfl.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/World-ReadinessStandardsforLearningLanguages.pdf>

The learning objectives for students taking lower division language classes (up to and including German 221) to fulfill the Dornsife College language requirements are:

* oral proficiency in German on the intermediate level

http://www.actfl.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/public/ACTFLProficiencyGuidelines2012_FINAL.pdf), participating in conversations on personal interest and familiar topics. Ability to handle short social interactions in everyday situations. Presentational language abilities on familiar and some researched topics.

- * writing proficiency in German on the intermediate level on a variety of topics related to personal interest and everyday life. Presentational language abilities on familiar and some researched topics.
- * close reading skills of authentic texts (including written and other forms of texts) in German.
- * the ability to develop effective and some nuanced lines of interpretation of these texts.
- * to gain insight into the significance of cultural products and historical events in German speaking countries, evaluating these in a global context considering their impact on a variety of disciplines and world events.
- * to be able to exhibit awareness of cultural and historical differences between the culture of German-speaking countries and the student's native culture.

The learning objectives for the German Studies minor above and beyond the already mentioned expected learning outcomes are (provided that students who declared a minor do study abroad for at least one semester [which the majority of students do] and that German Studies minors take most of their electives taught in German within the German Studies Program):

- * achieve language proficiency skills on the advanced (low) level (http://www.actfl.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/public/ACTFLProficiencyGuidelines2012_FINAL.pdf), which will allow students to communicate actively, appropriately and effectively in a variety of settings (most informal and some formal). They can express their opinion about topics relating to everyday life and some more complex issues. Students can write on general interest and some academic and professional topics.
- * gain familiarity with a variety of representative cultural products and narratives of German-speaking countries including, texts and objects relating to fine arts, literature, film, music, pop-culture, philosophy, history, politics and the economy.
- * develop analytical and critical thinking skills demonstrated in the ability to interpret and critically analyze an array of texts and artifacts while paying attention to the socio-historical context in which they were produced.
- * attain some transcultural competency: an awareness of cross-cultural differences between societies and their economic and political structure, an understanding of how these differences inform cultural/personal identity. Students gain the ability to view themselves and the world from multiple perspectives.
- * develop the ability to formulate basic research questions, to locate and use library and Internet resources appropriately.

Course Objectives:

German 201 is a student-centered course. The course curriculum is intended to:

- further your knowledge of the culture of the German speaking countries.
- make you feel comfortable in communicating in German on an intermediate level.
- review and consolidate grammatical structures you have studied during the first two semesters of German language instruction at USC.

- ° prepare you for advanced German classes by developing not only your language skills, but also your cultural and critical skills in a learning environment that is interesting and challenging but not overwhelming. You create an environment where you take ownership of the class and the material we cover.

Course Description:

The course is designed to facilitate your language proficiency by means of class discussions, partner and group work, readings, writing assignments, language games, projects and grammar review. In addition to the topics covered in the textbook, we will discuss current news and events.

Attendance is essential and absolutely necessary in order for language improvement to take place. If you have to miss a class period due to illness, you are expected to cover the assignment for the missed class and come fully prepared to the next session. It is your responsibility to provide documentation (doctor's note/authorization for disclosure of medical information from the Health Center, court documents etc.) for any absence. Excused absences include illness, religious holidays, and approved USC events. In the absence of written documentation the instructor will assume you were absent without an excuse. Absence from more than 10 percent of the scheduled class sessions, whether excused or unexcused, is excessive and the instructor may choose to exact a grade penalty for such absences. It is of particular importance that a student who anticipates absences in excess of 10 percent of the scheduled class sessions receives prior approval from the instructor. More than two unexcused absences will seriously affect your participation grade. You can earn extra credit by attending the **GERMAN FILM SERIES**. For every movie you watch, you can earn one hour of extra credit. Look for flyers during the semester.

Participation in class is crucial. You are expected to come to class having prepared the homework and/or current class projects, to have reviewed the necessary grammar, and to have learned the words and phrases covered in class. It is not your attendance (just showing up) per se that counts, but your active engagement in class. Speak only German while in class (even when you have already finished your assignment/project) - this effort will definitely assist your language learning progress. Make it a point to use the structures and vocabulary we have covered in previous chapters as much as possible. To actively and continuously use the material already covered in class will help you in expanding your vocabulary and communication skills. Your active involvement is also called for in shaping the content of the class. I am very happy to hear what aspects of German studies interests you and to incorporate some of your suggestions into the curriculum of the course. Please turn off your cell phones - ALL cell phone use (including texting) in class is unacceptable and will affect your participation grade.

Homework will be assigned on a regular basis. You are required to complete most assignments online at the publisher's "ILrn-site" - please watch the following video to learn more about the site: <http://services.cengage.com/dcs/iLrn/start/prepare/register/#/selftrainingvideos/registration-and-login>

Tech Support: <http://support.cengage.com/magellanweb/ClassLandingPage.aspx?optId=11WIJBA6>

All written assignment must be done in a professional manner, fully written out and stapled if necessary. No late homework will be accepted and make up homework will be given only in the event of an excused absence.

Conversations with professors are an integral part of the course. Each student is required to have six one on one or small group conversations of fifteen minutes with any German instructor during the semester. All conversations must be recorded on your conversation sheet. Two conversations (30 minutes) are due by the end of the fifth week of the semester, two more before the end of the tenth week, and the final two before the end of the fourteenth week. Note: One of the conversations may be a modified Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI). There are no conversations during the first and last week of the semester.

Essays will be assigned on Wednesdays and are due the following Monday. A total of four essays will be assigned during the semester. The minimum length of each composition is one *typed double spaced* page. A second corrected draft is mandatory and is the version upon which the grade is based. Late work will be marked down.

Tests will be administered after every chapter except chapter 5. Test formats will include grammar, vocabulary, reading comprehension, culture and writing. NO MAKE UP TESTS WILL BE GIVEN unless prior arrangements have been made in the event of an excused absence. The final exam is mandatory for all students and will cover listening comprehension, grammar, vocabulary, reading comprehension, culture and writing, with an emphasis on Station 5. The final exam will take place on Saturday, May 9, 2020 from 4:30-6:30 pm.

Presentation: Each student will give either an oral presentation about a topic of their choice or conduct a filmed interview. Every student should talk about their ideas with the instructor before beginning work on the presentation. The goal for the presenter is to give a presentation that is as interactive as possible and that will lead to class discussion. The use of PowerPoint is only acceptable for visuals, statistics etc., not as script from which you are reading. Part of the presentation is an outline and vocabulary list to be handed out to your fellow students. All material for the presentation should be shown to the instructor before the presentation.

Culture: Learning a language and learning about the cultures of countries where the language is spoken are part and parcel of developing intercultural expertise. You will never be able to learn about one without the other. Thus it is important for you as a language learner of German to expose yourself to the culture of the German speaking countries. You are required to attend 4 events during the semester that cover German culture. You will receive five points each for a total of 20 points at the end of the semester. You can for instance attend the German film series, lectures on campus focusing on a topic related to German speaking countries, a Thornton Music School concert featuring German composers etc. You can also watch a film checked out from Leavy Library. Note: Two culture events (10 pts.) are due by the ninth week of the semester (March 13, 2020). The final two events are due by May 1, 2020.

If you are attending an event (other than the German Studies Program Film Series where an attendance sign-up sheet is available), you will have to write a short paragraph in English that shows personal engagement with what was covered during the event (not a summary taken from the Internet).

For institutions around L.A. that offer events where you can experience German culture, please check the German Studies website: <http://dornsife.usc.edu/usc-german-studies-program/about-the-program/>. On the bottom of the page is a list with different organizations in L.A. Under “Useful Campus Links” on the side of the page are also links to the School of Music events and the Film School series. You should also like our German Studies Facebook page for announcements about lectures and events: <http://www.facebook.com/USCGermanstudies>.

Practice is very important to acquire skills in a foreign language. Four hours of class time a week is not sufficient. Building your German language skills requires daily practice. Your instructor will do everything possible to help you along the way, but ultimately it is up to you to take the initiative. Here are some suggestions for additional practice:

- form study/conversation groups and practice your speaking skills outside of the classroom.
- watch German language movies in Leavy Library, on Netflix or at the Language Center.

<http://www.dw-world.de/dw/0,,265,00.html?id=265> or listen to German radio on the internet.

- visit the Goethe Institute <http://www.goethe.de/ins/us/los/enidex.htm> or the Villa Aurora <http://www.villaurora.org/index.php?page=home>

- take advantage of the conversation hours all German instructors offer as much as you can.
- use the Language Center resources: <http://language.usc.edu/languages/german.html>

- consider STUDYING ABROAD. Ask your instructor about a semester or year long program in Berlin or Dresden and visit the web-site of USC's Office of Overseas Studies: <http://college.usc.edu/germany-berlin>

- review sections of the textbook which have been covered in class on an ongoing basis.

STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC CONDUCT AND SUPPORT SYSTEMS

ACADEMIC CONDUCT

Plagiarism – presenting someone else's ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in SCampus in Section 11, Behavior Violating University Standards <http://scampus.usc.edu/1100-behavior-violating-university-standards-and-appropriate-sanctions>. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. Examples of Academic Misconduct include, but are not limited to:

- * THE USE OF ANY TRANSLATION SOFTWARE
- * PLAGIARISM
- * FAILURE TO CITE SOURCES IN AN ESSAY
- * ANY EDITING/WRITING HELP FROM ONLINE TRANSLATORS OR ANY PERSON OTHER THAN USC INSTRUCTORS

See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct, <http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct/>.

Discrimination, sexual assault, and harassment are not tolerated by the university. You are encouraged to report any incidents to the Office of Equity and Diversity <http://equity.usc.edu/> or to the Department of Public Safety <http://capsnet.usc.edu/departments/departments-public-safety/online-forms/contact-us>. This is important for the safety of the whole USC community. Another member of the university community – such as a friend, classmate, advisor, or faculty member – can help initiate the report, or can initiate the report on behalf of another person. The Center for Women and Men <http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/cwm/> provides 24/7 confidential support, and the sexual assault resource center webpage sarc@usc.edu describes reporting options and other resources.

SUPPORT SYSTEMS

A number of USC's schools provide support for students who need help with scholarly writing. Check with your advisor or program staff to find out more. Students whose primary language is not English should check with the American Language Institute <http://dornsife.usc.edu/ali>, which sponsors courses and workshops specifically for international graduate students. The Office of Disability Services and Programs http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange the relevant accommodations. Please make sure to alert your instructor to the requested academic accommodations immediately and to deliver the DSP letter to him/her as soon as possible. DSP is located in Grace Ford Salvatori Hall 120, 3601 Watt Way and is open from 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM Monday through Friday. The phone number for DSP is: 213-740-0776. E-mail ability@usc.edu

If an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, USC Emergency Information <http://emergency.usc.edu/> will provide safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued by means of blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technology.

Grading Policy:

Attendance/Participation	15%
Homework	15%
Essays	10%
Presentation	10%
Conversations	5%
Chapter Tests	25%
Culture	5%
Final	15%
	100%

Grading Scale:

A	100-94	C	76-74
A-	93-90	C-	73-70
B+	89-87	D+	69-67
B	86-84	D	66-64
B-	83-80	D-	63-60
C+	79-77	F	59 and under

Important Deadlines:

Jan.31, 2020	Last day to drop without notation on permanent record Last day to register and add classes Last day to change enrollment option to pass/no pass or audit
April 10, 2020	Last day to drop class with a "W."
May 9, 2020	Final exam from 4:30-6:30 in TBA

Course Content

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topics</u>
1. 13-15 Jan.	Station 1: Berlin: Berlin and its history, Marlene Dietrich, traditional Berlin foods, German lunch break activities, video about Berlin, cases, the passive voice, declination, present tense
2. 22 Jan.	Station 1
3. 27-29 Jan.	Station 1
4. 3- <u>5</u> Feb.	Station 1, Test Station 1-Feb. 5 , Station 2: München: Munich and its history, Christian Morgenstern, recycling in Germany, video about Munich, the present perfect tense, the imperative
5. 10-12 Feb.	Station 2
6. 19 Feb.	Station 2
7. 24-26 Feb.	Station 2
8. 2-4 March	Test Station 2-March 2 , Station 3: Heidelberg: Heidelberg and its history, Hannah Arendt, the German school system, German universities, differences between German and American universities, video about Heidelberg, the imperfect tense, <i>als</i> , <i>wenn</i> and <i>wann</i> , the past perfect tense, Presentation Topics Due
9. 9-11 March	Station 3
16-18 March	Spring Break
10. 23-25 March	Station 3
11. 30-1 April	Test Station 3-March 30 , Station 4: Hamburg: Hamburg and its history, Sabine Christiansen, the Hanseatic league, German work place customs, differences between <i>Sie</i> and <i>du</i> , video about Hamburg, the subjunctive II in the present and past tenses and with modal verbs
12. 6- 8 April	Station 4
13. 13- 15 April	Station 4, Test Station 4-April 15 , Station 5: Leipzig: Leipzig and its history, Clara and Robert Schumann, East Germany, historical preservation, the subjunctive I, Presentations
14. 20-22 April	Station 5, Presentations
15. 27-29 April	Station 5, Presentations
May 9, 2020	Final Exam Saturday, May 9, 2020 from 4:30-6:30 pm.