

SYLLABUS

GERMAN 221 - Fall 2024

CONVERSATIONAL GERMAN

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REQUIRED TEXT:

(You will need the textbook on the first day of classes!!!!!!!!!!)

✚ Augustyn/Euba - Bundle: *Stationen: Ein Kursbuch für die Mittelstufe*, Fourth edition. 2019 **Loose-leaf Printed text** + MindTap: ISBN 9780357096659

OR

✚ Augustyn/Euba MindTap for Augustyn/Euba's *Stationen* 4/e 2020 **E-BOOK** stand-alone Multi-term ISBN 9780357029916

Complete packaged course materials are available at the USC campus bookstore and online via the publishing house's USC's custom Cengage store site:

RECOMMENDED TEXTS:

- ✚ Zorach, Cecile. *English Grammar for Students of German*. Ann Arbor: Olivia and Hill Press
- ✚ Strutz, Henry. *501 German verbs*.

WELCOME TO GERMAN 221!

COURSE OBJECTIVES

German 221 is a continuation of German 201. It is a student-centered course. The course curriculum is intended to:

- further your knowledge of the culture of 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 three semesters of German language instruction at USC.
- prepare you for advanced German classes by developing your language, your cultural and your critical skills in a learning environment that is interesting and challenging but not overwhelming. An environment where you take ownership of the class and the material we cover.

Can- Do statements:

Interpersonal Communication:

Students can communicate on familiar topics (including topics for German 201 plus art, music, events, basic political issues, starting to express basic opinions), using discrete and series of sentences, some of the narration is in the past tense, can handle a wider variety of social interactions (i.e. while travelling in an area where the target language is spoken) on familiar topics, can ask a wider variety of questions about everyday life and activities. (INTERMEDIATE LOW 60%)

Presentational Speaking:

Students can present information about familiar topics (including topics for German 201 plus art, music, events and basic political issues), by connecting phrases in a simple way using a series of sentences. Can narrate some simple stories and relate basic experiences in the past (INTERMEDIATE 60%)

Presentational Writing:

Students can write series of sentences about most familiar topics, experiences and personal interest. They can describe some experiences and express basic opinions. (INTERMEDIATE 60%)

Interpretive Listening:

Students can understand the main idea and more details in announcements and presentations on familiar topics in clear standard speech. They can understand the main idea of basic conversations including some past narration and can also understand some forms of media. (INTERMEDIATE 60%)

Interpretive Reading:

Students can understand the main idea and more details of longer texts on familiar topics with high frequency, everyday vocabulary such as description of events in the past, feelings and wishes. (INTERMEDIATE 60%)

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 websites:

<https://www.actfl.org/sites/default/files/publications/standards/World-ReadinessStandardsforLearningLanguages.pdf>

<https://www.languagetesting.com/pub/media/wysiwyg/PDF/commercial-brochure.pdf>

For the learning objectives of the German Studies Program at USC please visit:
<http://dornsife.usc.edu/usc-german-studies-program/german-studies-program-learning-objectives/>

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, music and at least one movie.

1) ATTENDANCE AND TARDINESS

Since in-class-time is designed to focus primarily on oral and listening development in German, as well as on answering your questions about homework assignments, grammar etc., your presence and punctuality every day is imperative.

ATTENDANCE is essential and absolutely necessary for language learning to take place, since class time is your opportunity to practice your oral listening and speaking skills as well as to interact with other students and the instructor in person.

Official USC policies allow for excused absences in case of serious illness, observance of religious holidays, deaths of immediate family members, jury duty and active participation in university sponsored events (ROTC activities, athletic competitions etc.)

It is of particular importance that a student who anticipates absences receives prior approval from the instructor, and in case of illness notifies the instructor as soon as possible. If you have to miss a class period, 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 missed class time. In the absence of written documentation, the instructor will assume you were absent without an excuse. More than two unexcused absences will adversely affect your participation grade. Numerous absences will obviously also have an effect on your performance on tests and the oral examination due to the lack of practice and interaction in the language. Absence from more than 10 percent of the scheduled class sessions, whether excused or unexcused, is excessive and the instructor may suggest to you to drop the class.

Coming late to class or leaving early is disruptive to the learning/teaching process. **TARDINESS** will have an adverse effect on your participation grade

2) **Class PARTICIPATION** 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. Please, keep in mind that the goal in class for participation is communication not absolute perfection. You are not expected to speak without ever making any errors!! In fact, mistakes are expected and part of a successful learning process!!

Your participation grade will be assessed using the following criteria:

- You 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 we have already covered in class will help you in expanding your vocabulary and communicative skills.
- Active participation in individual, pair and group work and successfully completing the given tasks. This includes helping your fellow students.

Electronic devices may only be used for classroom activities when expressly asked by the instructor to use such devices. ALL OTHER USE of electronic devices is not acceptable. The classroom environment is interactive, requires active, focused participation and also relies on respectful behavior of all participants. Please, turn off your cell phones upon entering the classroom!!! ALL unauthorized use of electronic devices during class is not acceptable and will affect your participation grade!

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 interest you and to incorporate some of your suggestions into the curriculum for the course.

3) TESTING & MAKE-UP TESTS

After every chapter (“Station”) a chapter test will be administered. Test formats will be discussed prior to each exam. Though each test will focus on the material we covered during the chapter; you will also have to utilize information from the previous chapters (vocabulary, grammar) to complete most sections of each test. The FINAL exam will consist of an in-class vocabulary quiz and a take home final, testing your familiarity with the material covered in class.

The final assignments are handed to you Thursday, December 5th Due date: Monday, December 9th 2024, 12PM

MAKE-UP TESTS:

NO MAKE-UP TESTS WILL BE GIVEN unless PRIOR arrangements have been made in the event of an excused absence – in this case, you will have a week from the date of your absence to make up the written work.

THE DATE AND TIME OF THE FINAL EXAM are set by the University Scheduling Committee and permission to take the final at a different time or on a different day is granted only in very specific cases, such as if you have two finals at the same time or more than two finals scheduled for the same day.

4) HOMEWORK will be assigned daily. You are required to complete most assignments online at the publisher’s “MindTap.”

Brief MindTap user guide: https://help.cengage.com/mindtap/mt-student/mt_ui.html

MindTap Registration video: <https://play.vidyard.com/m52vRVVKTAAor2M5PCFMQ9S>

Course link:

Course key:

Tech Support:

Call (800) 354-9706

support.cengage.com

PLEASE, REMEMBER THAT THE USE OF (ONLINE) TRANSLATORS or ANY KIND of OUTSIDE HELP for class assignments is prohibited and violates THE UNIVERSITY CODE OF CONDUCT!!!! You may receive no credit and/or will be asked to re-submit your assignment for partial credit only if you do not adhere to the university code of conduct.

Make-up homework will be given only in the event of an excused absence.

The following is an outline of some of the other assignments:

There will be different kinds of oral and written ASSIGNMENTS throughout the semester – All written assignments (except for the workbook) must be done in a professional manner, fully written out (not just answers, but questions as well, complete text for” fill-in” exercises) and stapled if necessary. The written assignments must also be typed, double-spaced. The following is an outline of some of the assignments:

A. Conversation Lab

Four one-on-one conversations (15 minutes each) with any German instructor. All conversation credit must be signed on your lab sheet by the instructor. A schedule for conversation hours will be handed to you. Lab work will be checked at midterms, you will have to have two conversations completed at that time and the remaining conversations by the end of week 14.

B. Essays

Topics will normally be assigned on Thursdays and are due the following Tuesday. The minimum length of each composition is one typed double-spaced page. Please, save your work on your computer for rewrite. A second draft is mandatory. All essay assignments must be done in a professional manner, typed and turned in at the due date. No exceptions are made and no late work will be accepted.

C. Presentation

Each student has will give one oral presentation about a topic of his/her choice. Every student should talk about his/her ideas to the instructor before starting work on the project. All topics are due in week 4. The goal for the presenter is to give a presentation that is as interactive as possible and will lead to a class discussion. The use of PowerPoint is only acceptable for visuals, statistics etc. not as a script from which you are reading. Part of the presentation will be material/an article in German that you hand out to your fellow students (one class meeting in advance of your presentation) to give them a chance to get acquainted with the topic. You will also include a vocabulary primer for the discussion with the article - a copy of all the material has to be handed in to the instructor at least a week before the presentation. A written summary of approximately two pages in length must be submitted as part of your portfolio.

D. Vocabulary lists.

Each student is responsible for compiling vocabulary lists from the unfamiliar words covered in class – you will hand in an electronic version at the end of each week.

E. 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 German culture. You are required to attend 4 events during the semester that cover German culture. You receive 5 points each for a total of 20 points at the end of the semester. You could 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 a Leavey library.

If you are attending an (other than the German Studies 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, please).

For institutions around L.A. that offer events where you can experience German culture please check the program 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 film series. You should also like our German Studies Facebook page for announcements of lectures etc.:

<https://www.facebook.com/USCGermanstudies>

F.Portfolio

Each student is responsible for an individual portfolio due at the end of the semester. This will consist of all the essays and homework assignments, corrected vocabulary lists for each chapter/topic we covered in class, the presentation essay and a final statement about your learning experience.

5) PRACTICE: 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 initiative. Here are some suggestions for additional practice:

- **Follow our German Studies Facebook page for announcements of lectures, film series, concerts etc. and attend these events:**
<https://www.facebook.com/USCGermanstudies>
- **Form study/conversation groups and practice your speaking skill outside of the classroom.**
- **Watch German movies in Leavey Library: STREAMING:**
<https://libguides.usc.edu/c.php?g=1036334&p=7547006> , **VIDEO:**
https://uosc.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/discovery/search?query=holding_c_all_number,contains,lvydvd,AND&pfilter=rtype,exact,videos,AND&tab=LibraryCatalog&search_scope=MyInstitution&sortby=date_d&vid=01USC_INST:01USC&facet=lang,include,ger&lang=en&mode=advanced&offset=0 , on Netflix or Kanopy <https://usclib.kanopy.com>
- **Participate in the German Stammtisch and come to the German Club events organized each semester**
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/502269163134151/>
- **Attend events on campus organized by the Center for Languages and Cultures, German Club, Stammtisch meetings, Max Kade Institute etc. – these events will also be announced on our Facebook page.**
- **Use Language Line to practice your speaking skills:**
<https://languageprogram.com>. This is a program that was created by a high school student from Kentucky. It is connecting German speaking seniors with students who would like to practice their speaking skills. The program is for free!!!
- **Use the resources tab on the German Studies Website: You can also watch German news, visit the Deutsche Welle website:**
<https://www.dw.com/de/deutsch-lernen/s-2055> or listen to German radio/podcasts on the Internet etc.
- **Visit the Goethe Institut <http://www.goethe.de/ins/us/los/enindex.htm> or the Villa Aurora <http://www.villa-aurora.org/en/>**
- **Take advantage of the conversation/office hours all German instructors offer as much as you can (a list of times and location will be provided to you by your instructor)**
- **Consider to STUDY ABROAD. Ask you instructor about a semester or yearlong program in Berlin and visit the website of USC's office of Overseas Studies:**
<https://studenttravelabroad.usc.edu/index.cfm?FuseAction=Programs.ViewProgramAngular&id=10040>

Academic Conduct

Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – as well as using AI instead of writing your own text, 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 and Appropriate Sanctions

<https://policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b/>

Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. **Examples of Academic Misconduct include, but are not limited to:**

- **THE USE OF ANY TRANSLATION SOFTWARE or AI**
- **PLAGIARISM**
- **FAILURE TO CITE SOURCES IN AN ESSAY**
- **ANY EDITING/WRITING HELP FROM ONLINE TRANSLATORS, AI, or ANY PERSON other than USC instructors**

Additional information on USC Academic Conduct here:

<https://policy.usc.edu/studenthandbook/> especially pages 11-13.

On the following webpage are some guidelines on how to properly document outside sources and how to avoid plagiarism:

https://usclibraries.usc.edu/tutorials/avoiding-plagiarism/story_html5.html

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 <https://dps.usc.edu/contact/report/>. 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 Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention and Services

<https://sites.google.com/usc.edu/rsvpclientservices/home> provides 24/7 confidential support, and the following website also describes reporting options and other resources: <https://dps.usc.edu/safety-tips/sexual-assault-and-violence/>

SUPPORT SYSTEMS

Tutoring Services at USC

You are of course welcome to come to any of the German faculty member’s office hours. In addition, you can also request help at

<https://dornsife.usc.edu/tutoring>

Students seeking additional tutoring for courses not addressed on the list of classes already posted on the site should email tutoring@usc.edu to request help.

Kortschak Center for Learning & Creativity - Students receive assistance with organization, study skills, time management, and learning strategies.

Students also have the opportunity to work one-on-one with an academic coach: <https://kortschakcenter.usc.edu>

The Office of Student Accessibility <https://osas.usc.edu> 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 OSAS letter to him/her/them as soon as possible. OSAS 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 OSAS is: 213- 740 0776. E-Mail: OSASFRONTDESK@USC.EDU

**If an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, USC Emergency Information <https://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.
UPC: (213) 740-4321, HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24/7 on call**

USC Department of Public Safety - UPC: (213) 740-6000, HSC: (323) 442-120 – 24/7 on call dps.usc.edu Non-emergency assistance or information

Counseling and Mental Health:

**Crisis support: Students are encouraged to walk-in for urgent matters at both Engemann and Eric Cohen Student Health Centers. If after closing hours, please call the 24/7 line, [213-740-9355 \(WELL\)](tel:213-740-9355).
1-800-273-TALK National Suicide Prevention Lifeline – soon you will also just be able to dial 988.**

**Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention and Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-9355(WELL), press “0” after hours – 24/7 on call
studenthealth.usc.edu/sexual-assault Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm.**

Office of Equity and Diversity (OED)- (213) 740-5086 | Title IX – (213) 821-8298 equity.usc.edu, titleix.usc.edu Information about how to get help or help someone affected by harassment or discrimination, rights of protected classes, reporting options, and additional resources for students, faculty, staff, visitors, and applicants. The university prohibits discrimination or harassment based on the following protected characteristics: race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, physical disability, medical condition, mental disability, marital status, pregnancy, veteran status, genetic information, and any other characteristic which may be specified in applicable laws and governmental regulations. The university also prohibits sexual assault, non-consensual sexual contact, sexual misconduct, intimate partner violence, stalking, malicious dissuasion, retaliation, and violation of interim measures.

Reporting Incidents of Bias or Harassment - (213) 740-5086 or (213) 821-8298 usc-advocate.symplicity.com/care report Avenue to report incidents of bias, hate crimes, and microaggressions to the Office of Equity and Diversity | Title IX for appropriate investigation, supportive measures, and response.

**Campus Support & Intervention - (213) 821-4710 campussupport.usc.edu
Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.**

Diversity at USC - (213) 740-2101 diversity.usc.edu Information on events, programs and training, the Provost's Diversity and Inclusion Council, Diversity Liaisons for each academic school, chronology, participation, and various resources for students.

GRADING POLICY

Participation	15%
Homework (100 pts.)/Essays (100pts)	20%
Final	15%
Quizzes	25%
Presentation	10%
Portfolio	5%
Culture	5%
Conversation Lab	5%

Please, note: a grade of Incomplete cannot be assigned by the instructor without an official request from the student! You can find the necessary form here: https://dornsife.usc.edu/assets/sites/1193/docs/Incomplete_Form.pdf

GRADING SCALE

A	94 – 100	D+	67 – 69
A-	90 – 93	D	63 – 66
B+	87 – 89	D-	60 – 62
B	84 – 86	F	59 and under
B-	80 – 83		
C+	77 – 79		
C	74 – 76		
C-	70 – 73		

TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE

Week(s)	Topic(s)
1 - 2	<p>Introduction/getting to know course participants -- Station 6: Frankfurt Goethe, High-rise Buildings, Immigration—"Cultural Note": Body Concepts -- Grammar: Passive, Passive Alternatives – Redemittel</p>
3	<p>Station 6 continued</p>
4 – 5	<p>CHAPTER TEST WEEK 4 (Presentation topics due) Station 7: Köln Heinrich Böll, Karneval -- “Cultural Note”: Patriotism -- Grammar: Modal Verbs, Future, Future II – Redemittel</p>
6 – 7	<p>CHAPTER TEST WEEK 6 Station 8: Dresden Die Brücke, Degenerate Art, -- “Cultural Note”: Daniel Barenboim /Wagner -- Grammar: Conjunctions – Redemittel</p>
8	<p>Station 8 continued</p>
9 – 10	<p>CHAPTER TEST WEEK 9 Film Discussion of Film/Analysis -- Background Information</p>
11-12	<p>Station 9: Salzburg Austria and Germany, Mozart -- Grammar: Relative Clauses, Reflexive Pronouns --Redemittel Station 10: Wien/Presentations Sigmund Freud – Grammar: Infinitive Constructions, Adverbs -- Redemittel CHAPTER TEST WEEK 11</p>
13 – 14	<p>Station 10 continued Station 11: Zürich /Presentations Switzerland and Germany, Max Frisch, Dialects -- Grammar: Adjectives, Comparative and Superlative, Adjectives/Verbs and Prepositions (da- and wo-compounds) -- Redemittel CHAPTER TEST WEEK 14</p>
15	<p>Chapter 11 continued Chapter 12: Germans Abroad Bertolt Brecht, Exile</p>

IMPORTANT DEADLINES:

- September 13th:** last day to register and add classes
last day to change enrollment option to Pass/No Pass or Audit
- September 13h:** last day to drop a class w/o mark of “W” on the transcript
- October 11th:** Last day to change a Pass/No pass to a letter grade
- November 15th:** last day to drop a class with mark of “W”



CHRISTO AND JEANNE-CLAUDE: Wrapped Reichstag, Berlin 1971-95, Germany.
Photo: Wolfgang Volz. Copyright Christo 1995-2005.