

Elementary German
Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences
GERM 2133 Intermediate German I
Fall 2019

Contact Information:

Instructor: Dr. Kyung Lee Gagum
Office: Bea Wood Hall 110
Office hours: by appointments and see below
Monday: 09:00am -10:00am and 12:30pm-1:30pm
Wednesday: 09:00am -10:00am and 12:30pm-1:30pm
Tuesday: 02:00pm - 03:00pm
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Course Description

The language teaching community agrees that learning language and culture are inextricably connected. Thus, this course focuses on developing students' German-language proficiency through modes of communication that reflect real life communication in the varied cultures of the German-speaking world. By employing interpersonal, interpretive and presentational communicative modes in German, students will explore the ideas, values, beliefs and other cultural aspects in German-speaking countries and how these aspects work together to affect human experience.

Course Goals

We will cover chapters nine (9) till twelve (12) of the textbook and watch German feature films. This is a four-skills language course, in which you will develop listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in German for the purpose of exploring ideas that foster aesthetic and intellectual creation in order that students may understand the human condition across cultures. By the completion of this course, students who have attended classes regularly and successfully completed all listening, written, lab, and computer assignments, as well as all exams (with a minimum grade of B-) should be able to:

- (a) Provide basic information about themselves, their families, interests, likes and dislikes, as well as daily activities in German.
- (b) Understand and participate in a simple conversation on a variety of everyday topics (e.g. weather, meeting new people, shopping etc.).
- (c) Read edited texts on familiar topics, understand the main ideas, and pick out important information from a variety of authentic texts (e.g. menus, signs, train schedules, etc.).
- (d) Fill in forms requesting general information, as well as write letters, notes, postcards, or messages providing simple information.
- (e) Provide general information about German-speaking countries (e.g. culture, geography, weather, formal versus informal addresses, customs).

- (f) Pronounce German well enough to be comprehensible to a German speaker accustomed to speaking to foreigners.
- (g) Describe and illustrate aspects of the cultures of German-speaking countries and make comparisons between these cultures and his/her own culture using basic linguistic structures and vocabulary in the target language.
- (h) Evaluate his/her own values, behaviors and worldviews on the socio-cultural topics presented and compare these to those of German-speakers.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

Required Texts:

“Deutsch: Na klar! An Introductory German Course” (Student Edition)
7th Edition.

Textbook (ISBN-10: 0073386359; ISBN-13: 978-0073386355)

Workbook/Lab Manual (ISBN-10: 1259290832; ISBN-13: 978-1259290831). Also available as E-book with the Connect Card.

Recommended Text:

Zorach, Cecile; Charlotte Melin. *English Grammar for Students of German*. ISBN: 0934034230

Study Hours and Tutoring Assistance

For each lesson you can expect approximately one and a half hours of homework/studying. Sometimes it is more, sometimes less. German tutoring is available in McCullough Hall.

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook-2018-19](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual’s to whom credit is given. Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the [Office of Student Conduct](#).

*** Please know that using Google Translate for homework assignments is considered plagiarism and therefore a violation of the honor code!**

Grading:

Course Grade: The following components make up the course grade. The number of quizzes and graded homework assignments will vary according to the discretion of the instructor.

Assignments	% of the Course Grade
Quizzes	10
Chapter Tests	30

Homework	15
Participation and Attendance	10
Essays in German	10
Presentation	10
Comprehensive Final Exam	15

Grade Breakdown

Grade	Percent
A	90 to 100
B	80 to 89
C	70 to 79
D	60 to 69
F	Less than 60

Classwork: Participation and Attendance

Attendance is taken every class meeting. Students are required to be in class for the entire 75-minute period. Students may be counted absent if arriving more than 10 minutes late or leaving class early. This syllabus serves as notice that a student may be dropped from the class without further notification if absent more than four times.

Absences due to official university functions or documented illness will be dealt with on an individual basis and should be discussed with the instructor outside of class time. There are no excused absences from regular class periods. If a student misses an exam, he or she must present documented proof of illness or university activity to the instructor before a make-up exam will be allowed.

Students will be expected to come to class prepared to participate actively in all discussions and activities. Participation grades will be given daily on a 0 to 10 scale based on both quality and quantity of your contributions, according to the following criteria:

0	is absent
7	is minimal (student is present, but does not contribute)
8	is fair (student contributes once)
9	is good participation (student contributes twice)
10	is very good participation (student contributes three times or more)

Quizzes

There will be regular 5-10 min.-long quizzes, as announced as in the Course Schedule, in which you will show how you have mastered the material of the previous day(s). Quizzes may not be made up, unless students can provide appropriate documentation for their absences (medical or university duty).

Essays and Chapter Tests

There will be three (3) essays and three (3) chapter tests. Both will be administered on the dates announced in the Course Schedule.

Essays will be written in German language and must contain at least 150 words. For the preparation, it is not necessary to consult other sources than the ones used in class (textbook and workbook). The instructions for the essays will be posted on D2L.

Tests will cover the material in individual chapters and will build upon previously discussed material. No chapter tests will be made up without a valid medical excuse. You must e-mail me before the exam is administered, or at least right after the test. If you miss a test and are not properly excused, your grade is calculated as 0.

Presentation

You will need to give a short presentation (7-10 minutes) primarily in German language. You have the choice of either creating a poster, a PowerPoint, or a video to accompany your oral presentation. Discuss what strikes you most about this piece of culture from a German-speaking country, and how it is similar or different from your own culture. Introduce some new related German vocabulary on a handout. You will present your project during class at the end of the semester. You should choose a topic that really interests you and demonstrates that you have engaged with it intensely. Presentations will be held during the last week of classes of the semester.

Final Exam

This is a two-hour long written comprehensive final exam scheduled for Wednesday, December 11 at 1pm-3pm that covers the material of the whole semester.

Make Up Work/Tests

Students may make up missed tests, quizzes, and essays only with a valid medical or university excuse within one week of the missed quiz, essay or test. If you know you will miss an exam due to an official university function, please make arrangements with your instructor prior to the absence and as soon as possible. If you are absent from an exam, you must present documented proof of illness or university activity to your instructor before an early or make up exam will be scheduled.

Important Schedule Dates

Last day for term schedule changes: August 26-28

Deadline for December gradates to file for graduation: September 30

Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" October 28

Refer to: <https://msutexas.edu/registrar/calendars.php>

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general

course information. I You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Homework

Written homework is due as stated in the course schedule. Check the schedule to find the corresponding assignments for each class meeting. It is imperative to do your homework every day, because the assignments are specifically designed to practice what has been covered during class and to prepare you for the next class.

Grading of homework: Unlike your essays, you will not receive a letter grade, but check or check minus. You will receive a zero for an assignment you do not hand in.

For every assignment from the Workbook, there is an answer key provided in the back. You have to self-correct yourself, using a different **color** before submitting the assignment.

Late Work

Late submissions will not be accepted unless due to emergency or university approved absence.

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exists in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Grade Appeal Process

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [Undergraduate Catalog](#)

Technology Policy

One of the most important skills in learning a foreign language is the ability to improvise when you cannot remember a specific word or phrase. In order to build this skill and avoid distraction, you are asked to **refrain from using electronic devices during class time**. Unless you have spoken with me about a specific situation regarding the use of technology in the classroom, points will be deducted from your participation grade if your instructor sees you using laptops, cell phones etc. during class. On the rare occasion that such devices are required for class, your instructor will notify you in advance.

Instructor Policy

Please be polite to your instructor and fellow students. Pay attention to the instructor and to your fellow students when they are speaking. Do not engage your classmates in conversation in English during class.

No food or drinks, except for water, are allowed in our classrooms.

Email Policy

I will check email daily Monday through Friday and will make every effort to answer you within 24 hours. On the weekend, however, I might not be able to answer as quickly. Please make sure that you adhere to common rules of courtesy such as addressing me by name/title (Dr. Gagum), proofing spelling, and signing your name at the end of the email.

Name/Pronoun Policy

Learning a foreign language requires an interactive classroom environment. Therefore, it is important that we strive to make the classroom a respectful and inclusive place. If you feel comfortable doing so, you are encouraged to let me know during the first week of class what name you prefer to be called and if you prefer the use of masculine, feminine, or gender neutral pronouns. These preferences can be applied just to your interactions with me or to all of your in-class interactions with your peers.

Notice

Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

Course Schedule

Important Dates

Exams

Chapter 9: Thursday, September 12

Chapter 10: Thursday, October 10

Chapter 11: Thursday, October 31

Final Exam: Wednesday, December 11 at 1pm-3pm (TBA)

Essays

Aufsatz 1: Thursday, September 19

Rewrite 1: Thursday, September 26

Aufsatz 2: Thursday, October 17

Rewrite 2: Thursday, October 24

Aufsatz 3: Thursday, November 7

Rewrite 3: Thursday, November 14

Dates	Exams	Kapitel	Topics
Week 1: 08/27 – 08/29		Kapitel 9.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unterkunft online buchen • Genitiv
Week 2: 09/02- 09/05		Kapitel 9.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Im Hotel • Attribute adjectives
Week 3: 09/09- 09/12		Kapitel 9.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ringsrum die Stadt • Adjectives after an Indefinite Article
09/12	Exam 1	Kapitel 9	
Week 4: 09/17 – 09/19		Kapitel 10 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ich möchte verreisen • Attributive Adjectives in the Superlative
Week 5: 09/24 – 09/26		Kapitel 10.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Im Reisebüro • das Imperfekt (Simple Past Tense): Weak Verbs and Strong Verbs
Week 6:		Kapitel 10.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eine Fahrkarte, bitte!

Dates	Exams	Kapitel	Topics
10/01– 10/03			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Film
Week 7: 10/08 – 10/10		Kapitel 10.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attributive Adjectives in the Superlative das Imperfekt (Simple Past Tense): Weak Verbs and Strong Verbs
10/10	Exam 2	Kapitel 10	
Week 8: 10/15 – 10/17		Kapitel 11.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meine Interessen, Wünsche und Erwartungen das Futur
Week 9: 10/22 – 10/24		Kapitel 11.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Berufe Expressing Probability
Week 10: 10/29 – 10/31		Kapitel 11.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stellenangebote und Bewerbungen Relativpronomen/Relativesätze (Relative Pronouns and Relative Clauses) das Interrogativpronomen (Interrogative Pronoun)
10/31	Exam 3	Kapitel 11	
Week 11: 11/05 – 11/07		Kapitel 12.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finanzen der Studenten der Konjunktiv (Subjunctive)
Week 12: 11/12 – 11/14		Kapitel 12.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unsere eigene Wände der Konjunktiv (Subjunctive)
Week 13: 11/19 – 11/21		Kapitel 12.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unser Zuhause Talking about Contrary-to-Fact Conditions
Week 14: 11/26 – 11/28		Kapitel 12.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unser Zuhause Talking about Contrary-to-Fact Conditions
Week 15: 12/03 – 12/05		Presentations	
Week 16: 12/09– 12/13		Kapitel 9-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review for Final Exam
Wednesday 12/11 1:00 pm –	Final Exam	Kapitel 9-12	

Dates	Exams	Kapitel	Topics
3:00pm			