

## German 102

**Instructor: Prof. Michelle Mattson**

**319 Rhodes Tower**

**Tel.: x3524**

**Office Hours: by appointment**

**E-mail: [mattsonm@rhodes.edu](mailto:mattsonm@rhodes.edu)**

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

German 102 is designed to introduce you to the German language (structure – grammar and syntax) and to German culture. By the end of this course, students should be able to communicate rudimentary information in German and be able to respond appropriately to basic information in the target language.

### **REQUIRED TEXTS:**

Terrell, Tschirner, Nikolai, Genzmer: *Kontakte*. Fifth Edition. McGraw Hill, 2003.

Felix & Theo. *Einer singt falsch*. Langenscheidt.

### **GRADING:**

Participation and homework preparation	20%
Three Projekte	15 %
Weekly journal submissions	10 %
Chapter Tests	40%
Final Exam	15%

### **EXPLANATION OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:**

**1. Homework Preparation and Participation (20%):** Central to your success in German 102 will be regular attendance, preparation and participation. Anticipate spending approximately 2 hours on preparation for each class hour, although time will vary with assignments. It is important that you be present and prepared every class day, and that you actively participate in class. Classroom activities give you the chance to speak, write, and read German, to listen to spoken German, and to understand and apply grammatical structures. Your visible, audible, constructive contribution to the class as a whole guarantees that you will receive participation credit, and more importantly, improves your language learning. The preparation and participation grade will be based on your participation in class discussions and partner/group activities, some of which require (written) preparation before class. Frequent and/or stubborn usage of English during our 50-minute class sessions will have a negative impact on your participation grade! There will be a number of announced, short quizzes. These will count as part of your homework grade. There will be no make-up quizzes.

A. Homework assignments: For each unit, I will post an assignment grid on our WebCT site. The pages listed for each day represent the work that should be done for (before) class that day.

B. Attendance:

Since attendance is crucial both to learning and participating, I will take attendance and grade participation daily. However, I realize that you may occasionally have legitimate reasons to be absent from class. More than three unexcused absences and more than five absences in total will lower your final grade by a minor letter grade (e.g., from A- to B+). Additional absences will lower your

participation grade. Repeated tardiness will also begin to count as additional absences. A word of caution: **If you miss more than 10 class sessions, you will fail this course.**

If you are ill or have another legitimate excuse to miss class (i.e., conference participation, family emergencies – documentation may be required), you must notify me either via telephone (x3524) or via e-mail ([mattsonm@rhodes.edu](mailto:mattsonm@rhodes.edu)).

## **2. Three Projects:**

In the course of the term, you will also complete three special assignments, *Projekte*. The first Projekt is a design for your dream home. In it, you will combine pictures and text. The second Projekt is an activity for the entire class, which you develop in a small group (2-3 students). The activities need to involve and target German grammar and vocabulary. Possible activities include charades, jeopardy, etc. The Third Projekt is a video film (approximately 10 minutes in length), which you create in a larger group of 4-5 students. The video should feature a story and involve every participant in spoken and sustained dialogue. As the project dates get nearer, you will find closer instructions and a breakdown in the grading for the project under “Related Materials” on WebCT.

### **Project completion dates:**

Projekt I: Ihr Traumhaus	January 31
Projekt II: Eine Aktivität für die ganze Gruppe!	between February 4 and March 8
Projekt III: Ein Video	April 20

## **3. Weekly journal submissions:**

I will post weekly writing topics on WebCT under “Weekly Writing Assignments”. You must pick one topic and write approximately 100 words on that topic in your notebook – typed and double-spaced. Three-hole punch them and collect them in a folder for the duration of the term. I will collect the notebooks once a month. I will correct your entries using a correction key and return them to you. You will then correct each entry before I collect the next set. There is a copy of the correction key on WebCT under “Korrekturschlüssel”.

## **4. Chapter Tests:**

An exam will be given after the completion of chapters 6-10. NO MAKE-UP EXAMS WILL BE GIVEN (with the exception of a written medical excuse from a physician or in the case of a documented personal emergency).

### **Tentative Chapter Test Dates:** (Subject to revision if necessary.)

Test 1 Chapter 6	February 1
Test 2 Chapter 7	February 20
Test 3 Chapter 8	March 14
Test 4 Chapter 9	April 4
Test 5 Chapter 10	part of final

**5. Final Exam:** The final exam will be comprehensive. It is scheduled for Tuesday, April 29 at 5:30 pm. **Please make your travel plans accordingly.**

**Academic Honesty:** Be aware that your work for this course should conform to the Honor Code. Academic dishonesty will result in either an "F" for the assignment or an "F" for the course. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating on assignments or examinations, plagiarizing (misrepresenting as one's own anything done by another), submitting the same or substantially similar papers (or creative work) for more than one course without prior consent of all instructors concerned, sabotaging another's work, and unauthorized collaboration (such as substantial rewriting of an essay by another) on assignments or exams.

Guidelines specifically for this class:

Internet translators are completely forbidden. Language instructors can always tell when their students use them, so don't.

Working with fellow 102 students: Of course, you can work together in this class. You can help each other with homework, quiz each other on vocabulary, and work on group projects together. You may **not** write each other's sentences.

Copying off of another student's exam is **so not allowed** that I won't even mention it.