

German 101

Instructor: Prof. Michelle Mattson

319 Rhodes Tower

Tel.: x3524

Office Hours: by appointment

E-mail: mattsonm@rhodes.edu

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

German 101 is designed to introduce you to the German language (structure – grammar and syntax and vocabulary) and to German culture. By the end of this course, students should be able to communicate rudimentary information in German.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

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

Kontakte Arbeitsbuch assignments will be made available periodically on WebCT.

Felix & Theo. *Ein Mann zu viel*. Langenscheidt. [Will use in the six weeks of the semester.]

GRADING:

Participation and homework preparation	20%
Three Projekte	15 %
Two short written texts (150 words)	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 101 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. 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 automatically fail this course regardless of the reason for your absences.**

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).

2. Three Projects:

In the course of the term, you will also complete three special assignments of *Projekte*. The first Projekt is a personal collage which conveys an idea of your background, your interests, likes and dislikes in a combination of words and images. The second Projekt is a taped dialogue of circa 4-5 minutes in length. For this project, you will need to work with a partner. Your instructor will give you a number of topics to choose from for this dialogue. For the Third Projekt you will write a poem in German (yes, a poem!). 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: Collage über sich selbst

Projekt II: Ein Dialog (mit einem Partner)

Projekt III: Ein Gedicht

3. Two Short Written Texts (10%):

In addition to regular homework assignments, you will be required to write two short, typewritten (double-spaced) compositions (150 words each). Topics will vary. They will be announced in advance. I will give you a choice of topics for each essay. I will correct your first draft according to a correction code and return it to you for revisions. There is a copy of the correction key in our WebCT site. You will have a week to revise and submit your final copy. You will receive half credit for each draft. These will be evaluated in terms of fluency, accuracy, grammar and content. Work turned in late will be marked down.

The tentative dates for these two very short texts are:

Text 1: November 1 (revisions due November 12)

Text 2: November 29 (revisions due at the final)

Check WebCT for more details on formatting concerns for these texts.

4. Chapter Tests:

An exam will be given after the completion of chapters A-B, 1-6. 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 Einführung A+B: den 5.9.

- Test 2 Chapter 1: den 19.9.
- Test 3 Chapter 2: den 3.10.
- Test 4 Chapter 3: den 22.10.
- Test 5 Chapter 4: den 5.11.
- Test 6 Chapter 5: den 19.11
- Test 6 Chapter 6: mit dem "Final"

5. Final Exam: The final exam will be comprehensive. It is scheduled for scheduled for Friday, December 7 at 1 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** – for words, sentences, phrases, everything! Language instructors can always tell when their students use them, so don't.

Working with fellow 101 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 or do each other's homework.

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