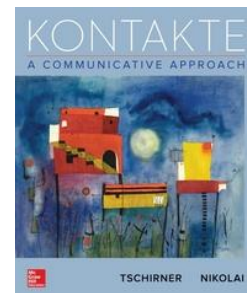


Course Goals

Learning a foreign language is an inspiring and challenging experience. This class will enable you to learn the phonetic and grammatical structures of a new language and inform you about current cultural issues at stake in the German-speaking countries. Our emphasis will lie on providing you with a stimulating communicative context, while giving you equal opportunities for developing your listening, speaking, writing and reading skills. A selection of short texts and web-based exercises will complement the cultural content addressed in the textbook. The course aims at introducing you to cultural aspects of the German-speaking countries and practicing German through communicative exercises, however, truly mastering a new language will come only over time.

**Prerequisites**

For students with little or no prior knowledge of German. Students with prior knowledge of German must obtain permission of the German Language Program Director (sun-young.kim2@mcgill.ca).

Credits: 6 credits

Instructor: Dr. Maria Morrison

Email: maria.morrison@mcgill.ca

(Virtual) Meeting Time & Location

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays, 4:05-5:25 (80 minutes per class). All class meetings will take place online. Students are strongly encouraged to attend all virtual meetings.

Recordings

Generally, virtual class meetings will **not** be recorded, because the nature of the class lies in providing opportunities for students to practice what they have learned. In lieu of recordings, extensive Powerpoints will be posted daily for those students who are obliged to miss class.

- The Zoom link for the virtual class meetings, contact information, and virtual office hours will be posted on myCourses.

Required Materials

- KONTAKTE + ONLINE ACCESS CODE to CONNECT: Erwin Tschirner et al., Kontakte, McGraw-Hill, 8th edition. \$89 + tx. The package is available on the McGill Website: <https://lejames.ca/textbooks>
- Worksheets and articles with additional readings and grammar exercises on myCourses and Connect (the online workbook).

Recommended Texts

- ENGLISH GRAMMAR FOR STUDENTS OF GERMAN, Zorach C., Olivia & Hill Press, 6th edition. <https://www.oliviahillpress.com/english-grammar-for-students-of-german>
- Recommended online dictionaries:
 - <https://dict.leo.org/german-english/>

- <https://dict.leo.org/französisch-deutsch/>

N.B.: In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the University's control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course is subject to change.

Evaluation

Forms of Assessment	Percentages
Homework & Preparation	41%
Tests	35%
Oral Evaluations	12%
Essays	12%

Course Requirements

Table of Contents

Mode of Delivery & Technical Requirements	2
Remote Learning Resources	3
Instructional Method: Flipped Classroom	3
Copyright	4
Homework (41%).....	4
Tests (35%).....	4
Oral Evaluations (12%).....	4
Essays (Aufsätze – 12%)	5
Extracurricular activities	5

Mode of Delivery & Technical Requirements

All students are required to have access to a computer, the internet, a microphone, and a webcam. The webcam is mainly required for oral assessments (oral presentations, interviews, and speaking exercises as part of your regular homework). Please see the section on [oral evaluations](#) for further information.

Classes will meet remotely during the regularly scheduled class times. While a webcam is not required for the regular virtual classes, its use is highly recommended to promote interaction among students and to meet the learning objectives in the course. Interaction is key to helping you progress in a language class and using these tools is essential to deepening engagement in the remote environment. Being able to hear and see you will allow us to give you feedback on your communicative strategies, pronunciation, and intonation, all of which involve facial muscles, vocal cords, and physical gestures. Non-verbal cues are important in sending and receiving “messages” when you practice your oral skills in a foreign language. In addition, we will engage in a variety of activities, including games for reinforcing vocabulary and grammatical concepts, writing and rehearsing dialogues for developing fluency in oral production, which works best if you can see and hear each other. Using a microphone and a webcam facilitates spontaneous exchanges, which will help

you advance from studied speech to more natural and fluent production. Finally, language exists to help us connect with one another, and using the tools to hear and see each other will help us to create a sense of community of language learners, even when we do not meet in person.

We will use **Zoom** and the link to the meetings will be posted on myCourses. Please do the following before you join the course:

- Create a basic account by clicking on the following link: <https://mcgill.zoom.us/> You must sign in with your McGill username/password. Having a Zoom account will help you facilitate virtual meetings for collaborative assignments.
- Read this article on [getting started](#). If the link does not work, go to: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362033-Getting-Started-on-Windows-and-Mac>
- Contact your instructor if you do not have a webcam or microphone or have privacy concerns, so that we can find a solution together and make appropriate accommodations following the guidance of the Office of Dean of Students. Alternative methods of participation in Zoom may include using audio and the chat function instead of video.

[\[Back to TOC\]](#)

Remote Learning Resources

Since learning remotely is a new skill that we all have to acquire, I would encourage you to look at the resources that McGill's Teaching and Learning Services compiled:

<https://www.mcgill.ca/tls/students/remote-learning-resources>

Consider looking at all the tips, particularly the following points:

- [5 Strategies for Success](#)
- [Study Tactics](#)
- [Learning Strategies Inventory](#)
- [Learning with Zoom](#)

[\[Back to TOC\]](#)

Instructional Method: Flipped Classroom

The class consists of four (virtual) class meetings (Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays) and asynchronous activities that you are expected to complete on your own. While we do not take any attendance, we strongly recommend that you attend all Zoom sessions. This time is valuable because you will be able to interact with other students, ask questions, and practice your oral communication skills. Following the flipped classroom model and the principle of learning by doing, you will study the grammatical concepts and learn about cultural topics individually at home before participating in class meetings. We will guide you through this process through a list of activities you should complete before each live session. This will allow us to reserve the meetings for practicing and developing your communicative skills, to discuss cultural topics, and to answer your questions on the course materials. During these live sessions, your instructor will use many partner- and group activities, which are to be completed entirely in German. You will not be graded on error-free speech, but on your continuous efforts to speak in German. You will progress swiftly if you concentrate on speaking and writing in the target language. This course will provide you with a welcoming, respectful as well as active and fast-paced environment for learning German this year.

The Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures endeavours to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with your instructor and the *Office for Students with Disabilities* (<https://www.mcgill.ca/osd/>): 514-398-

6009. Students with a documented disability should contact the OSD as soon as possible to request an official letter outlining authorized accommodations. This letter should be given to the instructor at the beginning of the semester. Please note that it might not be possible to accommodate last minute requests for accommodations.

[\[Back to TOC\]](#)

Copyright

© Instructor-generated course materials (e.g., handouts, notes, summaries, exam questions) are protected by law and may not be copied or distributed in any form or in any medium without explicit permission of the instructor. Note that infringements of copyright can be subject to follow up by the University under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures.

[\[Back to TOC\]](#)

Homework (41%)

Plan on spending at least **1.5-2 hours on studying and preparing** for the class per day (more on some days, less on other days). I expect you to have **read through the textbook selections** and handouts as indicated on the weekly homework schedule **before each class meeting**. If you cannot attend a live session, you must study the lecture slides and complete the activities in the slides (posted on myCourses) carefully on your own, so that you can follow the course contents. The following types of assignments must be submitted on time over the course of the term:

- **Connect (eWorkbook):** Complete the online exercises (including grammar, reading, writing, listening, and speaking exercises and mini-quizzes) for each day as indicated in the Connect assignment calendar. Please note that 10% per day are deducted for late homework. The clock starts ticking at midnight (Montreal time)! Mini-Quizzes must be completed by the due date; late quizzes will not be accepted.
 - **Worksheets or Web-based Activities on Connect and myCourses:** Unless otherwise indicated, worksheets will be graded on a scale of 1-10: To receive full credit, all Worksheets **must be corrected carefully with the distributed answer key**. Use a **different colour pen** for the corrections. Please make sure that I can tell that you have corrected your work. If everything is correct a big check mark over/next to the exercise will suffice. Self-correction helps learners gain insight into problems they might be having with selected structures. Homework which has not been self-corrected will automatically be awarded 50%.
 - 9-10: on time, complete, well-presented, and evidence of effort and creativity, exceeds expectations
 - 7-8: on time, complete, well-presented, and evidence of effort
 - 5-6: partially complete, evidence of carelessness
 - 0: late or of poor quality (i.e. error-filled, sloppy, not well presented)

[\[Back to TOC\]](#)

Tests (35%)

Unless otherwise specified, you will write all tests on the platform Connect. These timed tests (65 minutes + grace period) will be completed outside regular class meeting times and within a window of 48 hours. Consult with the instructor ahead of time if you have a legitimate excuse for missing a scheduled test. Make-ups should not be taken for granted and vacation plans do not constitute grounds for deferring or re-scheduling tests.

[\[Back to TOC\]](#)

Oral Evaluations (12%)

- **Video Assignment (4%)** (Videobeitrag) At the end of January you will make a short video introducing

yourself. The prompt will be posted under “Video Assignments” on MyCourses. The assignment will be graded for required length, completion, punctuality, and language.

- **Interview** (4%, at the end of February). During the final week of February, you and a partner will sign up for an interview outside of regular class time. Information will be posted on myCourses.
- **Show and Tell** (4%) Beginning after Spring Break, you will be required to do a two minute ‘live’ presentation to the class on a topic of your choice. Students who have issues with time zones will be given the opportunity to present at an alternate time to the professor via zoom.
- **N.B.:** If you do not have a webcam on your laptop/computer, you could use another device with a built-in camera, such as a smartphone or tablet for completing an oral assessment. Please contact your instructor if none of these options are available to you or if you have privacy concerns, so that we can find an appropriate solution together. Alternative methods of completing the oral assessments may include using audio instead of video.
-

[\[Back to TOC\]](#)

Essays (Aufsätze – 12%)

- You will be assigned **three** essays that you will write in two drafts (60% for the first draft; 40% for the second draft). The semester overview lists all due dates.
- Submit your essays as **Word-Documents (.doc or .docx-format)** on myCourses’ **Assignments**. Essays submitted as Pages Documents or as PDFs will not be accepted. You will **submit two drafts of each essay. You must submit a second draft regardless of your grade on the first. If you do not, you will receive 0% on the second draft.** Your essays will be graded for both content and grammar/style.
- McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures” (see www.mcgill.ca/integrity and Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures, Section C. Academic Offenses, p. 5 for more information).
- L'université McGill attache une haute importance à l'honnêteté académique. Il incombe par conséquent à tous les étudiants de comprendre ce que l'on entend par tricherie, plagiat et autres infractions académiques, ainsi que les conséquences que peuvent avoir de telles actions, selon le Code de conduite de l'étudiant et des procédures disciplinaires (pour de plus amples renseignements, veuillez consulter le site www.mcgill.ca/integrity et Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures, Section C. Academic Offenses, p. 5).
- **Please remember the following points when you write your essay:**
 - It is a violation of the honour code to have your essays proofread by someone else.
 - It is a violation of the honour code to use translation software or online translation tools.
- Include the following sentence at the bottom of your first draft to acknowledge that you read the academic honour code before you begin writing the essay: **“I will be fair and honest in my coursework. I will neither give nor receive unauthorized aid on any assignments, quizzes, or exams.”**

[\[Back to TOC\]](#)

[\[Back to TOC\]](#)

Extracurricular activities

During the semester, you can take advantage of culturally relevant opportunities to earn bonus points. If you participate in at least 3 extracurricular events during the semester, you can earn bonus points (2% per activity and up to a total of 6% per semester) toward your homework grade. For more information, see “Extracurricular activities” on MyCourses.

[\[Back to TOC\]](#)