

GERM 307: Fall 2020 – Winter 2021 Intermediate German



Course Description

This intermediate German language course builds on skills acquired in beginners' German. The course is designed to review German grammar and further develop students' linguistic and cultural competencies. Students will practice their German reading and speaking skills by reading and discussing a variety of texts, and they will practice their listening and cultural competencies by watching and working with short films. The themes in the textbook will provide a springboard for in-class activities, assignments, and vocabulary building. Students will practice grammatical structures and phrases that allow them to express opinions, agreements, and disagreements in communicative situations encountered in work, school and travel. By learning about German, Austrian, and Swiss cities featured in the textbook, students will get to know regional differences in German-speaking countries.

Course Goals:

- to strengthen students' communicative skills in speaking and writing
- to improve receptive skills in listening and reading
- to build vocabulary
- to provide a thorough grammar review
- to expose students to important historical, cultural, social and political topics in the German-speaking countries through selected readings and class discussion

Prerequisites

German 200 or German 202 (202 D1 & D2) or equivalent. Students who did not study German at McGill must obtain permission of the German Language Program Director (sun-young.kim2@mcgill.ca).

Credits: 6 credits. GERM 307 is a full-year course. You must complete both semesters to earn 6 credits.

(Virtual) Meeting Times & Locations

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays, 50 minutes per class. In the fall, all class meetings will take place online.

		Fall 2020			Winter 2021	
Sec. 1	M, W, F 09:35	CRN 21967	Sun-Young Kim sun-young.kim2@mcgill.ca	Zoom	CRN 18881	TBA
Sec. 2	M, W, F 13:35	CRN 21968	Sophie-Marie Schönberg sophie-marie.schonberg@mcgill.ca	Zoom	CRN 18882	Sophie-Marie Schönberg

- The instructors' names, Zoom links for virtual class meetings, contact information, and virtual office hours will be posted on myCourses.

- This is a full-year course. **Students must stay in the same section in both fall and winter terms.**
- Mode of delivery, times and instructors may change in the winter semester, but not your individual section number (E.g. If you are in section 1 in the fall term, you must stay in section 1 in the winter term). Please verify the information on Minerva before January 4th, 2021.

Required Texts:

- Handouts and links on myCourses, to be downloaded and printed out
- (e-Book and online Workbook) Augustyn Prisca and Nikolaus Euba. **MindTap for Augustyn/Euba's Stationen, 4 terms Instant Access**, 4th ed. Cengage, 2020. Available on the LeJames. \$99.95 + tx. The access code is available on the McGill Website: <https://lejames.ca/textbooks>

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	40%
Tests	30%
Oral Evaluations	15%
Essays	15%

Course Requirements

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Mode of Delivery & Technical Requirements

Classes will meet remotely during the regularly scheduled class times. All students are required to have access to a computer, the internet, a microphone, and a webcam. 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, so that we can find a solution together and make appropriate accommodations.

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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](#)

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Instructional Method: Flipped Classroom

The class consists of three (virtual) class meetings (Mondays, Wednesdays, 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, we 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 \(https://www.mcgill.ca/osd/\)](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.

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Recordings

Generally, virtual class meetings will **not** be recorded. If a portion of a Zoom session be recorded on rare occasion, you will be notified through a “pop-up” box in Zoom during a meeting. You can turn off your camera, so that only your name appears on screen. If you do not feel comfortable being in a class that is recorded, you may leave the meeting by logging off Zoom. In the latter case, you should watch the recording later so that you do not miss any content. The recordings will be uploaded to myCourses.

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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.

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Homework (40%)

The weekly homework schedule lists detailed assignments for each day and it will be posted on myCourses (see Module “Homework”). Plan on spending at least **1-1.5 hours on studying and preparing** for the class per day (more on some days, less on other days). We expect you to have **read the textbook selections** and handouts and completed exercises 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:

- **MindTap** (eWorkbook): Complete the online exercises (including grammar, reading, writing, listening, and speaking exercises) for each day as indicated in the MindTap assignment calendar. Unless otherwise indicated, homework will be due before 11:59 p.m. (Montreal time) on due dates. Late homework will not be accepted.
- **Worksheets and mini-quizzes on myCourses & other online activities:** Unless otherwise indicated, worksheets on myCourses will be graded on a scale of 1-10:
 - 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)You will find the instructions on individual activities in the homework schedule.

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Tests (30%)

You will write **six** tests (three tests per term) **on myCourses**. - There is no final exam in this course. - The semester overview lists all test dates. These timed tests (60 minutes + grace period) will be completed outside regular class meeting times and within a window of approximately 33 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.

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Oral Evaluations (15%)

- **Video 1: Presentation on Idiomatic Expressions (6%):** This assignment consists of a short video presentation on myCourses **and** an online discussion with your peers. The purpose of this interactive exercise is to allow you to practice speaking and writing in a more informal setting and participate in collaborative learning. Prompts will be posted under “Video Assignments”. You may work on the assignment alone or in pairs. Further information will be posted on myCourses.
- **Video 2: Presentation on Cities/History/Cultural Artefact (9%):** The topics of these presentations will be culled from the overall thematic context of the course. Students may present alone or in pairs. Further information will be posted on myCourses under “Video Assignments”.

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Essays (Aufsätze – 15%)

- You will be assigned **four** essays (two essays per term) that will be done 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**. You will **submit two drafts of each essay**; you must submit a second draft regardless of your grade on the first. 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). and [Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures](#), Section C. Academic Offenses, p. 5 for more information).
- **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.”**

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Extracurricular activities

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

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