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Class meeting times & Location: Mon., Tue., Thu., Fri. 01:05 - 02:25 PM -- Birks Building RM 105

Instructor Contact Information & Office Hours:

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Office hours: Mon. & Wed., 10:30-11:30 AM and by appointment - in person **or** on Zoom (Link on myCourses)

Course Goals: The main goal of the Intensive Advanced German course is to prepare students for upper-level literature and culture courses in the German language. This is a four-skills course, which means students will be working on improving their skills in reading, listening, speaking, and writing. At this level, they will increase their reading speed, develop their ability to discuss and interpret literary and non-literary texts and to explore a variety of social, historical and political topics with others. In keeping with the main course goal, students will expand their vocabulary and practice the art of expressing themselves in concise, precise written form. In addition, they will practice listening comprehension and strengthen their oral communicative competence in various modes of discussion, presentation, and everyday conversation.

Pre-requisites: German 300 or German 307 (D1 & D2) or equivalent or permission of the German unit. Please contact me if you have not taken any German language courses at McGill.

Required Texts (available at the McGill Bookstore):

- *Grammatik Aktiv B2-C1*, Cornelsen, 2017.
- Zweig, Stefan: *Schachnovelle*, Fischer, 1997.

Handouts & Links: Additional texts, instructions for activities and grammar exercises will be posted on myCourses. It is the students' responsibilities to download or print out texts posted online before class, as listed in the homework schedule (Content > Hausaufgaben > *Hausaufgabenplan*).

Recommended Texts: A soft-cover or hard cover German-English/English-German dictionary. (E.g.: *Webster's New World German Dictionary*, Concise Edition or *Harper Collins Beginner's German Dictionary*, 4th ed.)

Recommended Reference Works (*Humanities and Social Sciences Library*)

- Wahrig, Gerhard. *Deutsches Wörterbuch*. Gütersloh: Bertelsmann Lexikon, 2001.
- Martin Durrell, *Hammer's German Grammar and Usage*. London: Hodder Education, 2011.

Reference Online:

- Das Digitale Wörterbuch der deutschen Sprache des 20. Jahrhunderts (<http://www.dwds.de/>)
- Duden Online (<http://www.duden.de/>)
- LEO Online Wörterbuch (<https://www.leo.org/german-english/>)
- BEOLINGUS (<https://dict.tu-chemnitz.de/>)

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

Participation	10%
Homework & Preparation	24%
Tests (24%) & Quizzes (12%)	36%
Essays	15%
Oral Presentation	5%
Final Project	10%

Course Requirements & Assignments

Table of Contents

INSTRUCTIONAL METHOD: FLIPPED CLASSROOM	3
OFFICE OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES	3
PARTICIPATION (10%)	3
ATTENDANCE POLICIES	3
COPYRIGHT	4
HOMEWORK (HAUSAUFGABEN) (24%)	4
GRAMMAR EXERCISES:	4
HANDOUTS & SCHREIBAUFGABEN:	5
TESTS (24%) & QUIZZES (12%)	5
ESSAYS (AUFSÄTZE) (15%)	5
ORAL PRESENTATION (5%)	5
FINAL GROUP PRESENTATION (10%)	6
EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES	6
POLICY ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY	6
PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING	6
CLASS PARTICIPATION AND DAILY ORAL PERFORMANCE	7

Instructional Method: Flipped Classroom

The class consists of four class meetings (Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays). Following the flipped classroom model and the principle of learning by doing, **you will study the grammatical concepts and read texts at home before participating in class meetings.** I will guide you through this process through homework assignments you should complete before each class. This will allow us to reserve meeting times for practicing and developing your communicative skills and to discuss the readings and other course materials.

Office of Students with Disabilities

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. If you have a documented disability, please contact the OSD as soon as possible to request an official letter outlining recommended accommodations. This letter should be sent to me at the beginning of the semester. Please note that last minute requests for accommodations might not be approved.

Participation (10%)

To succeed in this course, it is necessary to attend class regularly and prepare thoroughly. Class time is valuable because you will be able to interact with other students, ask questions, and practice your oral communication skills. During class, 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 improving your German this year.

Active participation means all of the points below and will account for participation grade:

- attending class
- arriving to class on time
- completing all preparatory and required work before class
- always having all the necessary material in class (book, photocopies, readings, etc.)
- answering questions and volunteering answers on a regular basis
- making a concerted effort to use German at all times
- being engaged in all in class activities
- volunteering effective comments and questions that advance the level and depth of classroom dialogue in a variety of activities (discussions on assigned readings, roleplays, other types of cooperative work, etc.)
- participating in the Q & A period of peers' oral presentations
- asking questions to clarify doubts or to receive a second explanation on the material studied in class
- showing steady progress in written and oral assignments and exams
- learning from and self-correcting mistakes

Attendance Policies

- You may miss up to two (2) classes without an excuse. If you miss more than four classes, you must present an authorized notification specifying the exact date(s) and time of your absence within a week. **Otherwise, 5 % per absence will be deducted from your participation grade.**
- If you are unable to attend class for any reason, please do not hesitate to contact your instructors.

- Absences for religious reasons are excused, but you inform the instructors ahead of time. For further information see: [University Holy Days Policy](#).

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.

Homework (Hausaufgaben) (24%)

Homework consists of reading, vocabulary exercises, preparations for speaking activities in class, grammar activities, listening exercises, web-based activities, written responses on the discussion board and oral responses on educational platforms. Daily assignments will be posted under “Hausaufgaben” on myCourses. Please keep informed of the weekly assignments and any changes. It is expected that you come to class prepared.

Written grammar exercises will be collected on a bi-weekly basis through assignments on myCourses. This collection schedule is designed to give you some flexibility, so that you have time to review or revise your written answers if necessary.

Late homework will be accepted with deduction (10% per day) up to 2 days after the due date. No late homework will be accepted after this grace period unless you have a legitimate reason. In such cases, you must provide me with official documentation, such as a medical note for illness.

Unless otherwise indicated, homework will be graded on a scale of 0-10:

- 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 **or** of poor quality (i.e. error-filled, sloppy, not well presented); late with permission
- 0: late or not completed

Grammar Exercises:

The grammar and listening homework will be from *Grammatik Aktiv* or from handouts on myCourses. While the homework should be done on a daily basis, they will be collected in bundles on a bi-weekly basis, on a date announced by the instructor. Note the following guidelines:

- Only the assigned pages should be submitted.
- Homework consists of the **exercises and corrections**. The textbook’s/handout’s grammar explanations must be read thoroughly. **Answers in the Arbeitsheft must be corrected carefully with the distributed answer key (Lösungsschlüssel)** in the back of the book or on myCourses. 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%. Make sure when you upload your homework that the page number and exercise number are clear.**
- Not all the chapters of the grammar book will be covered this semester. It is therefore highly recommended that you go over chapters not addressed in class on your own for additional practice.

Handouts & Schreibaufgaben:

- For several readings and video clips, you will be required to complete exercises on handouts (posted on myCourses). Your sentences on the handouts must reflect that you spent reasonable time (i.e. about one hour), unless you gain an understanding of the text in a shorter period.
- A few times in the term, you will write short compositions. These writing exercises will help you verbalize your reflections and serve as a practice for the larger scale compositions. It is essential that you further build on your skills of expressing yourself in your own words in precise and accurate way, to experiment with the linguistic means at your disposal, and incorporating new vocabulary and grammatical structures you have learnt in the course.

Tests (24%) & Quizzes (12%)

3 tests and 3 quizzes are indicated on myCourses > Kursinformation > **Semesterübersicht**. Please take note of the test and quiz dates. Changes will be announced ahead of time on myCourses > Announcements. If you must miss a test/quiz due to medical or university sanctioned activities, contact me ahead of time, provide proper documentation, and arrange to write the test/quiz. Otherwise, you will receive a zero for a missed test/quiz.

Essays (Aufsätze) (15%)

You will write three essays (5% per paper). The papers will be graded on content, form, vocabulary, and use of grammatical structures. Detailed information will be posted on myCourses in a timely manner. The due dates are listed in the **Semesterübersicht** (semester overview). Note the following points:

- **The first two essays will be written in two drafts** (1st draft = 60%; 2nd draft = 40%). You will revise the first draft based on my correction symbols and notes at home. **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.** In addition, there must be evidence that you made effort to improve your draft. If you do not correct your own mistakes in an acceptable manner, points will be deducted.
- **You will write only one version of the third essay**, as it is the final assessment of your writing skills in the class.
- If you miss an essay, you cannot make it up unless you have a legitimate reason and provide me with proper documentation.
- **Keep the following points in mind 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.
 - Please read the [Policy on Academic Integrity](#) below. **Include the following sentence at the bottom of all drafts that you complete at home to acknowledge that you read the academic honour code** (see the last page of this document) before you begin writing the essay: **“I will be fair and honest in my coursework. I will neither give nor receive unauthorized aid on completing any assignments.” OR in German (Eigenständigkeitserklärung): „Hiermit bestätige ich, dass ich die vorliegende Arbeit selbständig verfasst und keine anderen als die erlaubten Hilfsmittel benutzt habe.“**

Oral Presentation (5%)

The topics of the oral presentations will be culled from the overall thematic context of the course. You may present alone or in pairs. The presentations will be held during the regular class time, unless otherwise specified.

Guidelines and tips for the oral presentation will be posted under “Referate” on myCourses. Further information on the presentations will be distributed later in the term.

Final group presentation (10%)

The final project is intended to further your interest in contemporary German culture and language and to showcase the knowledge and linguistic abilities they have deepened over the course of the term. The project consists of a presentation and student-led activities. Further information will be distributed later in the term.

Extracurricular activities

During the semester, you can take advantage of culturally relevant opportunities to earn bonus points. These will be announced on myCourses. If you participate in at least 3 (virtual) extracurricular events during the semester, you can earn up to bonus points (6%) toward your class participation grade. Extracurricular events include participation in the online Stammtisch or Kaffeestunde hosted by McGill’s German Student Association. For more information, please visit <https://www.facebook.com/GSAMcgill/>. Alternatively you may choose to create a short video presentation in German and upload it to MyCourses. You will find more information and a detailed list of examples on. myCourses > Discussions > Extracurriculare Aktivitäten.

Policy on Academic Integrity

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 <http://www.mcgill.ca/integrity> 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 <http://www.mcgill.ca/integrity>).

Plagiarism and Cheating

Everyone will be evaluated on the basis of their own work. McGill’s handbook of Student Rights and Responsibilities explains what plagiarism and cheating means: [Plagiarism and Cheating](#), Articles 16-19. Please read the articles carefully to avoid these academic offenses. If there is reasonable doubt that you plagiarized or cheated, you are free, without penalty of grade, to choose an alternative way of attesting to the authenticity of your work. Alternatives are:

- submitting copies of multiple drafts that you wrote before completing the final version of a paper
- taking an oral examination directed at issues of originality
- providing a written report regarding the process of completing the work.

Class Participation and Daily Oral Performance

	Attentiveness	Contribution	Use of German
<p>Expectations are exceeded</p> <p>A The Student misses no more than 4 classes.</p> <p>A- Student misses no more than 5 classes.</p>	<p>Student always pays attention, brings required handouts, etc. before class, stays consistently engaged (e.g student responds to questions class, etc.)</p>	<p>The student is always eager to contribute in class, during partner and small-group activities, and asks questions. The student is prepared when called upon and always answers open-ended questions in a complete sentence with some detail.</p>	<p>The student attempts to consistently speak in German during class time.</p>
<p>B+ Student misses 6 classes.</p> <p>B Student misses no more than 7 classes.</p>	<p>The student pays attention most of the time (e.g camera is mostly on in online sessions, student responds to questions contributes in groups.)</p>	<p>The student is eager to contribute in class and in break-out room activities and occasionally asks questions. The student is mostly prepared when called upon and answers the question asked without elaborating.</p>	<p>The student tries to speak German most of the time.</p>
<p>C</p> <p>The Student misses 8 or more classes.</p>	<p>The student pays attention sometimes and at other times is clearly distracted. Student leaves early.</p>	<p>The student is occasionally eager to contribute in class, in group and pair work activities and ask questions sometimes. The student volunteers answers sometimes. The student does not answer open-ended questions in complete sentences but in 2 or 3 word phrases.</p>	<p>The student sometimes speaks in German, but often switches to English or French.</p>
<p>C- the student misses 9 classes</p> <p>D – the student misses 10 classes</p> <p>F – the student misses 12 or more classes.</p>	<p>The student rarely pays attention.</p>	<p>The student almost never contributes in class, in group and pair work activities, never asks questions or volunteers answers.</p>	<p>The student speaks German only occasionally but speaks English or French most of the time.</p>