German 101

Herbst 2007

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GUIDELINES

Instructors:

Herr Hansen
Sektion 01: 9:50 – 11:00; Montag, Mittwoch, Donnerstag
Founders Hall 126
Büro: Founders 412  Tel.: x 2255  E-Mail: thansen@wellesley.edu
Sprechstunden:  Mo, Mi, Do 11.15-12.00;  Mo 4.00-4.30 und manchmal auch Do 4.00-4.30 nach Vereinbarung (by appt.)

Frau Ward
Sektion 02: Montag  2:50-4:00; Mittwoch  3:35-4:45;  Donnerstag  2:50-4:00
Founders Hall 126
Büro: Founders 403  Tel.: x 2582  E-Mail: mward@wellesley.edu
Sprechstunden:  Mo. 11.30-12.30 & Di/Do 10.30-11.30 und nach Vereinbarung (by appt.)

Objectives of German 101-102:

This is a two-semester four-skills course. This means that we emphasize listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. The fifth skill of culture is also incorporated into the process. After the second semester of this course you should be able to:

- perceive all the sounds of German and distinguish them from one another
- pronounce German accurately enough to be understood by a native speaker
- express ideas in simple sentences using vocabulary from the textbook
- read and understand simple, non-technical German prose
- guess intelligently at new vocabulary items
- write a paragraph in German both with and without a dictionary about topics covered in the text without any major errors.

You will also have been introduced to important aspects of everyday culture in the German-speaking countries, for example, climate and geography, family life, school and university life, jobs, and urban life, and how they differ from North American culture. You will also gain insights into cultural and historical differences between the Federal Republic, Switzerland, and Austria and gain an elementary knowledge of some more problematic aspects of contemporary German life such as nationalism.
Material for German 101-102:

(a) Required texts

♣ Neue Horizonte; A First Course in German Language and Culture.
♣ Workbook - laboratory manual to accompany Neue Horizonte.

(b) Required Audio Program

The digitized audio program accompanying the basic text is a crucial component of your language study. You can now have access to this component as web stream audio on the German 101-102 homepage. This means you can practice at your own computer or on any machine on campus. Plan to listen to the audio program for each chapter (preferably 20-30 minutes per day 4 days a week). At the end of each chapter, please do the dictation (Diktat) in the laboratory manual and hand these in to be corrected by your instructor.

(c) Additional Video and Audio Components for self-study and enrichment

♣ CD-ROM:
   Beginning with the 6th edition, the interactive CD-ROM program to accompany Neue Horizonte is provided to you bundled with the textbook. Because this technology is for your own self-study, the CD-ROM is not coordinated with the syllabus. Please consider this an additional learning resource to be used at your own speed and discretion. We will occasionally direct you to it for particular exercises or assignments.

♣ Neue Horizonte Web Site:
   This site provides activities from German-speaking web sites to complement the cultural theme of the chapter in the textbook. There is also a self-testing section for practice on grammar and forms, plus an activities section. The site is available through our German Home Page on the CWIS:
   http://www.wellesley.edu/German/. Although this material does not appear on your syllabus as required work, you can benefit from the extra practice enjoy the activities on this site.
   To use the Audio Program:       User name: GermanStudent;
                                 Password: Berlin1989

♣ Video Programs:
   At regular intervals we shall watch segments of the Neue Horizonte video, which was filmed in Berlin with native speakers. Please note that clips of this video are available on the CD program, also.
Course Policies

Your instructor may elaborate and amend these.

(a) Daily Attendance and Participation:

Regular attendance is crucial to your success. Tell your professor (if possible, ahead of the missed class) if you must miss class for illness or family emergency, and be in touch afterwards for help so you can catch up. Your level of participation and preparation constitutes a significant portion of your grade. Please be in close communication with your instructor if you have, for any reason, missed 5 class meetings. If you accumulate 5 unexcused absences, you may be asked to withdraw from the course. Also, please note:

• Please no cell phones in the classroom.
• Please do not chew gum in class.
• Please do not eat during class. Drinks in spill-proof containers are permissible, but finish breakfast before, not during, class.

(b) Homework:

The date noted in the left column of the syllabus is the day on which the assignment is due. It is important for your progress to complete assignments on time (otherwise you easily fall behind). Please write homework legibly in ink (no pencil please) and leave a blank line between each line of text. Please give your name and identify the assignment (e.g., p. 67/D) at the top of the page.

(c) Workbook:

Look through the Workbook/Laboratory Manual [AH = Arbeitsheft] and familiarize yourself with its organization. Annotations in the margins of Neue Horizonte coordinate the textbook with exercises in the Workbook and Lab manual. Assignments in the Workbook and Lab Manual are largely self-correcting (answer keys at back) and serve as important reinforcement of new material. Some students like to do them right after reading new grammar to reinforce the textbook; others prefer to do them after working with the material in class. Find the method that works best for you, but whatever you do, do not leave all the workbook assignments for one sitting.

The completed workbook exercises will usually be due the day you take the chapter test (or the day you receive the take-home test). Please collate the workbook section and the lab section, correct them in a different color ink, staple and hand in on the day they are due. How carefully you correct your errors is more important than the number of errors you initially make. We are interested in which exercises and topics are posing the most difficulties, and we will pay attention to your own effort and progress in this independent segment.
of the course. We correct those sections (Diktat and random others in the AH) for which you have no answer key.

Note: An efficient way to review the semester is to work through the Zusammenfassung und Wiederholung [Summary and Review] sections 1 and 2 in the Arbeitsheft. These provide short grammar presentations followed by self-correcting exercises (also see answer key for these).

(d) Tests:

All tests and quizzes are administered under the honor code. Please keep in mind that the two sections will have quizzes at different times. There will be 6 short vocabulary (Wortschatz) quizzes [abbreviated Wq] and longer chapter tests (ca. 40 minutes) throughout the semester. They are noted on the syllabus. Do not discuss this material with students in other sections who may not yet have taken the tests and quizzes.

There is no midterm exam.

The final exam will be self-scheduled. As part of the final work, you will be given an oral interview that will be scheduled individually during Reading and Exam Period with your instructor.

(e) Grading:

♣ Your semester grade will be based on the following point distribution. Progress during the course will be taken into consideration.

♣

Class participation (see below) 100
Chapter Tests (6 x 100) 600
Vocabulary quizzes (7 x 30 points) 210
Final work: Oral and Written Final Exam 250
Oral interview 40

Point total for semester: 1200

♣ Class participation and preparation: This grade reflects your willingness to speak in class and participate actively in pair and group work. It also takes into account the consistency of your preparation for class. Although letter grades are not given for daily written homework assignments, they are marked with a system of checks: check = expected level or higher; check minus = below expectation); or zero if an assignment is not received.

(f) Having Problems?

Don't hesitate to come to your instructor about any aspect of the course that is a cause of concern. We will try to help you with particular aspects of the language and will suggest study skills. There is also peer tutoring available through the Learning and Teaching Center (LTC). Your instructor will set you up with a tutor if this is advisable.