

# German 101

Herbst 2009

## COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GUIDELINES



### Instructors:

#### Frau Ward

Sektion 01: 11.10 – 12.30; Montag, Mittwoch, Donnerstag  
Founders Hall 126

Büro: Founders 403 Tel.: x 2582 E-Mail: mward@wellesley.edu

Sprechstunden: Mo. 14-16; Do. 9.30 -11.00 und nach Vereinbarung (by appt.)

#### Frau Hans

Sektion 02: 8.30-9.40; Dienstag, Mittwoch, Freitag

Founders Hall 319

Büro: Founders 406 Tel.: x 2581 E-Mail: ahans@wellesley.edu

Sprechstunden: Di. & Mi. 13.30-14.40; Fr. 9.50-11 & 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 cultural competence 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*. 7th edition (Houghton Mifflin Co., 2009) packaged with

Student Activities Manual to accompany *Neue Horizonte* (combined workbook and laboratory manual) referred to with the acronym SAM or in our syllabus as AH = *Arbeitsheft*

### (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. [http://www.wellesley.edu/German/Academics/101/German101-102/German\\_homepage/german\\_home.html](http://www.wellesley.edu/German/Academics/101/German101-102/German_homepage/german_home.html)

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 *Arbeitsheft* and hand these in to be corrected by your instructor. To use the Audio Program: User name: GermanStudent  
Password: Berlin1989

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

- **CD-ROM:**  
Beginning with the 7<sup>th</sup> 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:**  
[http://college.cengage.com/languages/german/dollenmayer/neue\\_horizonte/7e/instructor\\_home.html](http://college.cengage.com/languages/german/dollenmayer/neue_horizonte/7e/instructor_home.html)

The site provides activities from German-language web sites to complement the cultural theme of each chapter in the textbook. There is also a self-testing section for practice on grammar and forms, plus an activities section. The site can also be accessed through our German Home Page on the CWIS. 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.

- **Video Programs:** As part of every chapter, we shall view segments of the new *Neue Horizonte* video.



## Course Policies

Your instructor may elaborate and/or amend these.

### (a) Daily Attendance and Participation:

Regular attendance is crucial to your success. Tell your professor (if possible, ahead of time) 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 4 unexcused absences, you may be asked to withdraw from the course.

- Please no cell phones on or text-messaging while in the classroom.
- Please do not eat during class. Drinks in spill-proof containers are permissible.



### (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. Please write homework legibly in ink and leave a blank line between each line of text. On each assignment, please give your name and identify the assignment (e.g., p. 67/D) at the top of the page. You may also type homework and print it out. Your textbook includes instructions on the proper use of umlauts in German ä, ö, ü, Ä, Ö, Ü. These are crucial for German orthography, as is ß as opposed to ss.

### Workbook:

Look through the Student Activities Manual [*Arbeitsheft*] and familiarize yourself with its two-part organization. Annotations in the margins of *Neue Horizonte* coordinate the textbook with exercises in the *Arbeitsheft*. Assignments 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 *Arbeitsheft* exercises will usually be due the day you take the chapter test (or the day you receive a take-home test). **After correcting them using a contrasting color ink, please collate the exercise section and the audio lab section, staple all the pages together, and hand them in.** It is more important to carefully correct your mistakes than to worry about how many mistakes you have made initially. We are interested in which exercises and topics are posing the most difficulties, and we will pay attention to your own effort and progress. We correct those sections for which you have no answer key, including the *Diktat* (dictation). Note: An efficient way to **review** the semester is

to work through the *Zusammenfassung und Wiederholung* [Summary and Review] sections in the *Arbeitsheft*. These provide short grammar presentations followed by self-correcting exercises.

**(c) Tests:**

**All tests and quizzes are administered under the Wellesley Honor Code.** This allows us to give tests and quizzes on different days in the two sections and to give occasional take-home tests. Please, refrain from discussing quizzes or tests with anyone until after all test and quizzes have been returned to all students in both sections. If in doubt, do not discuss. There will be 8 short vocabulary (*Wortschatz*) quizzes [abbreviated *Wq*] and 7 chapter tests (ca. 40 minutes) throughout the semester. They are noted on the syllabus, although the specific dates and whether in-class or take-home is subject to some changes as needed. There is no midterm exam. The final exam will be scheduled since it includes an aural (listening comprehension) section. **Do not make travel plans for December until you know when the exam is scheduled.** As part of the final work, you will also have an oral interview that will be scheduled individually during Reading or Exam Period with your instructor.

**(d) Grading:**

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

Class preparation and participation (see below) (10 %)	150
Chapter Tests (7 x 100) (ca. 50%)	700
Vocabulary quizzes (8 x 35 points) (ca. 20%)	280
Final work: (ca. 25%)	250
Written Final Exam with	
Aural (listening comprehension) section	60
Oral interview (scheduled with instructor)	60
Points total for semester:	1500

- Class preparation and participation: This grade reflects your willingness to participate actively in pair and group work. It also takes into account the consistency of your preparation. Although letter grades are not given for written homework assignments, they are marked with a system of checks: check plus indicates work exceeding expectations, i.e. nearly perfect; check = expected level; check minus = below expectation); or zero if an assignment is not received. Homework with a check minus can become a check or check plus if you redo it.

**(e) 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 (PLTC). Your instructor will set you up with a tutor if this is advisable.