About German I

Florida International University
Department of Modern Languages

GER 1130-U02, German 1, Spring 2015
T, TH 5 p.m. – 7.15 p.m. in Graham Center 286

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Course Outline

Required Texts and Materials
(The audio CDs are available at SIPA 240 Language Lab: CDs 1-4, for 9th edition of German I, textbook "Wie geht's?")

Recommended Text
Course Goals and Requirements

This is a four-skill language course in which you will develop listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in German.

Your instructor will speak German from the very first day of class. Your comprehension will only improve if you hear (and speak!) as much German as possible.

Because German 1 meets only twice a week, you will have to do more work on your own. Your instructor will not be able to cover everything in class. Quizzes and Vocab tests are provided to make you take this goal seriously...

You are expected to:

1. **Do your homework daily.** This means completing the assigned homework BEFORE you come to class. This pre-class preparation, which may take 2 hours per class session, is ESSENTIAL for understanding what your instructor will do IN CLASS. In order to succeed in class, you will have to do a substantial amount of work alone and outside of class.

2. **Listen to the assigned audio-tapes.** Developing the ability to understand spoken German will require you to spend 15-20 minutes (if possible daily) to listen to the tape program.

3. **Get the names and phone numbers of a couple of classmates and plan to establish a German study group.** This will permit you to discuss class assignments and readings (in German) with other classmates.

4. **Speak German in class.** (that includes asking questions). Remember you will only learn to speak German by – speaking! Don’t worry about making errors – this is part of learning another language. Let your instructor know if you need help, by using the following phrases:

   - **Wie bitte?** – I beg your pardon?
   - **Wiederholen Sie, bitte.** – Repeat that, please.
   - **Ich verstehe das nicht.** – I don’t understand that.
   - **Wie heißt _____ auf Deutsch?** – How do you _____ in German?

5. **Attend class every day and be on time.** If you come late and/or sporadically, you will quickly fall behind. Be in class – even if you are unable to complete the written or oral homework assignment. Missing class only multiplies the problem! Missing more than one week of instruction will result in lowered grade for class participation.

6. **Use your instructor’s office hours.** Get to know your instructor, tell him how things are going and why. If you have questions but can’t see the instructor during office hours, contact him by e-mail.

7. **Participate actively in paired/small group work.** Strengthening your language skills requires a lot of practice. By working in pairs and small groups, you will have more opportunities to speak German and to use the language in realistic situations. Relax and get involved! Stay on task and don’t resort to English.

8. **Chapter tests will be announced in advance and must be taken at the scheduled time.** No make-up tests will be given without a medical excuse. If you miss a test your grade for that test is 0.

9. **A solid knowledge of English grammar will help you in this course.** If you don’t think you know English grammar well enough, the recommended text *English Grammar for students of German* may help you.
Note to the students with disabilities: FIU welcomes students with disabilities into the University’s educational programs. If you have a disability-related need for modifications or reasonable accommodations in this course, contact Disability Resource Center.

**Grading Policy**

Your course grade is based on the following:

- **Attendance, class participation** 15%
- **Oral Presentation in German: Ich stelle mich vor** 10%
- **Oral presentations in English** 5%
- **Quizzes, Chapter tests, Final exam** 40%
- **Vocabulary Tests** 20%
- **Oral interviews in German** 10%
Week 1
Jan 13 (T) – “The Awful German Language” – Einführung/Introduction und Wie geht’s, Begin Schritt 1
Jan 15 (TH) – Vocab Test Schritt 1, Finish Schritt 1, Begin Schritt 2

Week 2
Jan 20 (T) – Vocab Test and Finish Schritt 2
Jan 22 (TH) – Quiz Schritt 1,2 - Begin Schritt 3

Week 3
Jan 27 (T) – Vocab Test and Finish Schritt 3
Jan 29 (TH) – Quiz Schritt 3, Begin Schritt 4

Week 4
Feb 3 (T) – Vocab Test and Finish Schritt 4
Feb 5 (TH) – Quiz Schritt 4, Vocab Test and Begin Schritt 5

Week 5
Feb 10 (T) – Vocab Test and Finish Schritt 5
Feb 12 (TH) – Quiz Schritte 1-5, Begin Kapitel 1: Familie, Länder, Sprachen

Week 6
Feb 17 (T) – Vocab Test Kapitel 1, Continue Kapitel 1
Feb 19 (TH) – Finish Kapitel 1
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Week 7
Feb 24 (T) – Test Kapitel 1, Review Schritte 1-5 + Kapitel 1
Feb 26 (TH) – Q&A Presentations

Week 8
Mar 3 (T) – German Presentation “Ich stelle mich vor”
Mar 5 (TH) – German Presentation “Ich stelle mich vor”

Week 9
Mar 10 (T) – SPRING BREAK
Mar 12 (TH) – SPRING BREAK

Week 10
Mar 17 (T) – Vocab Test and Begin Kapitel 2: Lebensmittel und Geschäfte
Mar 19 (TH) – Continue Kapitel 2

Week 11
Mar 24 (T) – Finish Kapitel 2
Mar 26 (TH) – Test Kapitel 2; Begin Kapitel 3: Im Restaurant

Week 12
Mar 31 (T) – Vocab Test Kapitel 3, Continue Kapitel 3
Apr 2 (TH) – Finish Kapitel 3

Week 13
Apr 7 (T) – Test Kapitel 3; Begin Kapitel 4: Feiertage und Feste
Apr 9 (TH) – **Vocab Test Kapitel 4**, Continue Kapitel 4

**Week 14**

Apr 14 (T) – Finish Kapitel 4

Apr 19 (TH) – **Test Kapitel 4** and **Oral interviews in German I**

**Week 15**

Apr 21 (T) – **Oral interviews in German II**

Apr 26 (TH) – Preperation for Final Exam

**Week 16**

**Final Exam**