COORDINATOR / INSTRUCTOR

Course Coordinator: Prof. Dr. Kelley; Old Chem 742; kelleyjr@uc.edu
Instructor: Frau Dietz; Old Chem 706; dietzmh@mail.uc.edu
Office Hour: TBA Old Chem 740
Language Assistant: Frau Chew; Old Chem 706; chewec@mail.uc.edu

PREREQUISITES

The prerequisite for this course is GRMN 1002 or equivalent.
***Without prior arrangements with the instructor, failure to appear for the first two sessions of the class in which you are registered will result in an automatic drop.

REQUIRED TEXT


This course requires online access! Only buy books that include both the Supersite Plus (with vText) and WebSAM access codes!

*The 2nd Edition of Denk mal! represents a substantial overhaul of both the textbook and the online “Supersite;” therefore, the 1st edition cannot be used for this course.

COMMUNICATION

Your instructor uses the Blackboard e-mail function to communicate with students. It is your responsibility to ensure your e-mail on Blackboard is functioning properly (if you do not receive an e-mail for three or four weekdays, check with your instructor). All course documents (syllabus, worksheets, etc.) are posted to Blackboard. You, not the instructor, are responsible for making sure you are aware of assignments, guidelines, and due dates—no exceptions. Check the Blackboard course page at least daily for updates and announcements.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course is designed for students (especially German majors and minors) who have completed the basic German language requirement. Advanced linguistic skills will be developed with a comprehensive, thorough grammar review, vocabulary building, and extensive practice in listening, speaking, and writing. Emphasis is placed on communicative skills, small group and partner work, and conversation in the classroom. Outside the classroom, students are expected to learn and review German grammatical structures through the VHL Supersite and apply those structures in homework assignments and a series of short essays. During class discussions, communication rather than grammatical accuracy will be stressed; written homework assignments, however, are graded for accuracy.

In this course students will:
- demonstrate CEFR level A2+* proficiency in writing, speaking and understanding German.
- apply understanding of practical cultural differences between the US and German-speaking countries in preparation for possible travel.
- identify and explain cultural differences among the German-speaking regions covered in the course.
- critique and evaluate individual pieces of German culture within the context in which they were produced.
- work in groups to create a visual adaptation of a German text.
*Transitioning from A2 to B1. For an explanation and breakdown of CEFR levels see Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: Learning, Teaching, Assessment, esp. ch. 3.3–3.4.

### FINAL GRADE

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<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
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<td>Quizzes</td>
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<td>Unit Tests</td>
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<td>Homework</td>
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<td>Essays</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
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### WHAT IS EXPECTED OF THE STUDENT

“The one who does the work is the one who does the learning.”

– Learner Centered Teaching by Terry Doyle

In order to succeed in this class, you must ATTEND, PARTICIPATE, DO THE ASSIGNMENTS and BE PREPARED. Learning a second language is a challenge, but by doing your homework, coming to class and, if necessary, taking advantage of free tutoring, you will succeed!

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Each student is expected to visit one office hour (or otherwise arrange a meeting) over the course of the semester to check in with the instructor. This will count as a homework assignment and you will receive a zero for the assignment if you do not fulfill this requirement.

### ATTENDANCE

Attendance at all class sessions is integral to the course and its effectiveness and thus, mandatory. **There are no excused absences** in this class. The maximum number of absences allowed in a three-day/week course is FIVE. If, because of illness or other unavoidable circumstances, you must miss more than the maximum, you must communicate with your instructor to arrange for making up the absence. This usually requires attendance in a different section (two make-up sessions for EACH excess absence). Don’t wait until the last minute to talk to your instructor about excessive absences! Your grade will be reduced by 3% for each excess absence unless there is written documentation in your folder to show that the session has been made up.

### CLASS PARTICIPATION GRADE

Your classroom participation counts as 20% of your final grade in this course. If you are absent, that counts as a zero for the day. To get a 10/10 for participation **every day:**

- Be on time.
- Have the text, writing materials, homework, and any other materials out and ready to use when class begins.
- Be prepared, so that you can contribute to the discussion.
- Don’t wait to be called on.
- Speak German! Avoid English!
- Use the time for partner/group work wisely so that you can finish the exercise.
- Demonstrate a positive, supportive and respectful attitude toward the class, your classmates, and your instructor.

**NB:** **CELL PHONES/ ELECTRONIC DEVICES MUST BE TURNED OFF DURING CLASS TIME UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED.**
**HOMEWORK**

Students are responsible for checking the VHL Supersite and the online syllabus DAILY to confirm assignments and due dates. Assignments are due at 12:00 a.m. on the due date. Late homework can be turned in at any time for a grade of 50%. Extensions requested IN ADVANCE will be granted at the instructor's discretion.

**Online Assignments:** Follow the instructions [here](#) to enroll in the Supersite. You should expect to have online homework nearly every class.

**Technical Requirements:** You will be required from time to time in this course to record yourself speaking German. If you do not have a built-in microphone on your computer, you can either complete these assignments in the Language Resource Center (Old Chem 612) or purchase an external microphone (ca. $10 in most electronics departments or online).

**Essays:** Four brief writing assignments consisting of a draft and a final copy will be assigned over the course of the semester. The guidelines for essay formatting and submission are located in the “Kursdokumente” folder in Blackboard.

**Plagiarism:** In completing writing assignments, you may make use of reference materials and the Internet (see Blackboard for resources), but note the following important **caveat:** Plagiarism is a serious offense! Don’t rely on a translation program; it will be obvious if you do. Put in quotations all the text you use directly. When paraphrasing and summarizing, use your own words and your own style to express ideas. If you are not sure whether you have paraphrased or summarized the source correctly, ask your instructor. Written assignments that are plagiarized, **even in part,** will receive a zero with no opportunity for making up the work. If plagiarism occurs a second time, the provisions for sanctions in the [Student Code of Conduct](#) will be applied.

**Learning Strategies:**

- It is much more efficient to study often for shorter times than to cram everything into a mega-session once every week.
- Learning a new word or phrase usually takes at least 60 successful recalls or uses. You can never review too much!
- “Authentic Input” (German produced by native speakers) is essential for learning a new language. Actively reading, watching and/or listening to German media are all great ways to improve your German. If you’re having trouble finding something, ask your instructor for recommendations.
- The best source of authentic input is a native German speaker. If you don’t know any German speakers, go meet some! The German Club and/or the German 2003 conversation course offer opportunities to do so at UC. There is no substitute for real people and real relationships/interaction.
- A schedule of free tutoring/GTA office hours will be posted on Blackboard by the second week of the semester. All sessions will be held in Old Chem 740. Take advantage of this free service!
- Don’t let yourself fall behind in class.
- If you are having trouble with an assignment or don’t understand what you are supposed to do:
  -- go to a tutoring session/office hour and/or
  -- contact your instructor with your question.

**Tests**

There will be one in-class test at the end of each chapter. Any make-ups for the tests are given at the instructor’s discretion and must be arranged in advance.

**Quizzes**

**Verb of the Day:** There will be a brief quiz at the beginning of each class on a “verb of the day.” For each verb you should know the present tense conjugation for each person/number, as well as its simple/one-word/narrative past stem (e.g., sein > war) and its helping verb and past participle (e.g., sein > sein, gewesen). There are NO make-ups for in class quizzes; the lowest 5 quiz grades will be dropped. Missed quizzes will be dropped first.
**Tagesschau in 100 Sekunden:** Keeping up with current events in Germany is an excellent way to practice your listening skills, learn new words and learn about German culture.* To those ends, every Wednesday there will be a Blackboard quiz on a recent episode of *Tagesschau in 100 Sekunden.* These Quizzes must be submitted by 10:00 a.m. the following Friday. The episode will available for download from Blackboard. There are no drops and no make-ups for Blackboard quizzes.

*You can subscribe to *Tagesschau in 100 Sekunden* as a video podcast for even more practice daily.

**FINAL EXAM**

For your final in this class you will choose a German-language film to watch and review. I will post a list to the Blackboard page by week 12 of the semester from which you may select a film. The two page (double spaced, 12 pt. font, Times New Roman) film review written in German will consist of a summary of the film’s content and any of the following: your assessment of the actors and actresses performances; your assessment of the editing and special effects or music; your analysis and critique of the film’s genre, content, and/or any elements you found problematic in the film and why; your suggested target audience for the film and why. You may submit a draft to me AT LEAST A WEEK AHEAD OF THE DUE DATE if you would like feedback and correction suggestions. *The review is due by Thursday of exam week (April 28) at 5 p.m.***

**FILM PROJECT**

The film project is a group project that you will complete over the course of four weeks. You can either select a product to sell (it can already exist or be something you design/invent), making a short commercial or you may choose to make a short film trailer for an upcoming film release. These are the two options. You will then write a script, which I will help you edit, and finally film the project and compile/edit it for presentation in class. It should be NO LONGER THAN 5 MINUTES TOTAL. Guidelines will be posted to Blackboard under Kursdokumente. Details will be discussed in class no later than Week 5. The project is due at the beginning of Week 11.

**Special Needs:**

If you have a disability (e.g., visual impairment, hearing impairment, physical impairment, communication disorder, and/or specific learning disability, etc.) which may influence your performance in this course, you must meet with the Disability Services Office (DSO) to arrange for reasonable accommodations to ensure an equitable opportunity to meet all the requirements of this course. If you require accommodations due to disability, please contact DSO at 513-556-6823, Campus Location: 210 University Pavilion. You will be provided an Accommodation Form indicating your accommodation needs for the quarter. Please present this form to your instructor AS SOON AS POSSIBLE to ensure your accommodation needs are discussed, agreed upon, and provided.

**Notice of Non-Discrimination:**

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender is a Civil Rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, etc. *If you or someone you know have been harassed or assaulted,* you can contact the Title IX Coordinator, Jyl Shaffer at (513) 556-3349, Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at (513) 556-0648, the Women’s Center at (513) 556-4328 and/or Campus Police at (513) 556-1111. Requests for confidentiality are respected by CAPS and on a more limited basis at the Women’s Center. See [http://www.uc.edu/titleix/confidentiality.html](http://www.uc.edu/titleix/confidentiality.html) for more details.

**ONLINE WITHDRAWALS AFTER THE DROP PERIOD (Jan. 25) ARE NOT PERMITTED IN THIS COURSE AND WILL RESULT IN AN F.**

The [STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT](http://www.uc.edu/titleix/confidentiality.html) is an integral part of this course policy. Read it carefully!