

Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures
German 1101.01—German I
Autumn Semester 2015

Instructor:

Office:

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Office Hours:

Required Textbooks and Materials

- *Berliner Platz 1 Neu: German for Beginners: Student Pack PLUS, English Edition* Langenscheidt Publishers, 2009 (blue cover)*

Student Pack Plus includes: textbook and workbook (one book), 2 CDs and *Intensivtrainer*. ISBN 978-3-468-96993-5

- *English Grammar for Students of German*, fifth edition, (Zorach/Melin/Kautz) The Olivia and Hill Press ISBN 978-0-934034-38-8

***See the document “How to purchase materials for German 1101” on CARMEN course website for details!**

Instructional Materials Available on CARMEN Course Website

- German Grammar Instruction: Powerpoints and Worksheets
- Cultural Information: Powerpoints
- Vocabulary List
- List of verbs
- Additional Materials
- Useful Resources (link to the digital library for audio and video files)

Course Description

German 1101.01 is an introduction to the German language and German-speaking cultures. It is the first of a three-semester course sequence designed to address the goals of category 1. **Skills: C. Foreign Language** of OSU's General Education Curriculum:

Goals

Foreign Language coursework develops students' skills in communication across ethnic, cultural, ideological, and national boundaries, and an understanding and appreciation of other cultures and patterns of thought.

Expected Learning Outcomes

1. Students employ communicative skills (e.g. speaking, listening, reading, and/or writing) in a language other than their native language.
2. Students describe and analyze the cultural contexts and manifestations of the peoples who speak the language that they are studying.
3. Students compare and contrast the cultures and communities of the language that they are studying with their own.

German 1101.01 is designed to help you learn to communicate in culturally appropriate ways in German. We aim to help you develop balanced skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. At the end of the semester you should be able to listen to simple conversations or stories and understand them, read and understand short texts, engage in brief conversations on everyday topics, and write short essays on familiar topics using the structures and vocabulary you have learned. In addition, you will learn about life and culture in the German-speaking countries. This course conforms to goals set by the European Common Framework of Reference for Languages at the A1 level:
<http://www.goethe.de/ins/de/ler/kst/enindex.htm#A1>

We will complete chapters 1-8 in *Berliner Platz 1 Neu!*

Recommendations for Success

Becoming proficient in German means developing culturally appropriate language SKILLS in addition to understanding how the language works. Language skills are developed through continuous and meaningful PRACTICE, including practice in using the language to communicate with others. In class we will use a variety of practice activities and language tasks that require you to interact with others. These are designed to supplement the INDIVIDUAL STUDY and preparation that you can do best by yourself at home. You will find that REGULAR (daily) rather than sporadic PREPARATION is essential for steady progress and good performance. Timely completion of homework helps reinforce your learning and keep you up to date in class. REGULAR ATTENDANCE will give you the opportunity to practice using the language with others and to receive feedback from your instructor; it is also a courtesy to your instructor and the other learners when you attend regularly, fully prepared and motivated to work and learn.

Repeated and/or lengthy, unexcused absences will result in missed practice opportunities and a lower final grade.

Regular work with the audio and video program will help you greatly to understand, pronounce, and speak German. If you work with the listening materials on a consistent basis you will have a distinct advantage in the classroom and on the listening comprehension portion of each test. To supplement your work with the listening comprehension activities, you can also download the audio .mp3 files and view the streamed video files from our OSU "virtual lab" at <http://telr.osu.edu/languagelab/> Just click on "German" and sign in with your OSU login.

We also recommend that you take advantage of extracurricular opportunities such as our weekly *Kaffeestunde* to practice your German language skills.

Class Participation and Homework

Class participation and preparation are essential to your learning and will contribute significantly to your performance. They are an expected part of the course. Participation will be assessed using the CLASS PARTICIPATION SCALE provided by your instructor on the CARMEN course website.

As mentioned above, regular practice and preparation are necessary for steady development and success in language learning. Therefore, your instructor will assign daily homework, so you can study the new materials and practice listening, reading and writing German outside the class. Your instructor will typically assign homework from the workbook portion of the *Berliner Platz Neu 1*, the *Intesivtrainer*, and the *German grammar* instructional materials (powerpoints and worksheets) available on the CARMEN course website. The *German grammar* instructional materials provide explicit and clear explanations about German sentence structures and other necessary grammatical items.

You can also visit <http://xportal.langenscheidt.de/berlinerplatz/> for online exercises for each chapter of *Berliner Platz 1 Neu*.

Please Note. Don't hesitate to visit your instructor during office hours to discuss questions or problems regarding the course. Your instructor is a good source for strategies to help you increase your learning. If you cannot come to office hours, please contact your instructor to arrange a time that you can meet.

Attendance

In this course, you will be permitted **four** unexcused absences during the semester, which is the equivalent of a full week of class in this course. Starting with the **fifth** unexcused absence, your grade will be lowered by 1% for each time you have an unexcused absence. This will be repeated up to **five** unexcused absences. For example, if you have already used up your four free unexcused absences and your grade is 85% with the fifth unexcused absence your grade will be reduced to 84% and 83% with the sixth unexcused absence and so on. After a total of **nine** (4+5) unexcused absences your overall grade will be lowered by one full letter grade for each additional unexcused absence. For example, if your grade is a B and you already have 9 unexcused absences, with your tenth unexcused absence your grade will be lowered to a C.

Absences are only excused with a valid, written excuse. If you have to be absent or are ill, contact a classmate or your instructor to find out the assignments that you missed.

Tardiness: Coming late to class is disrespectful to the students in class and the instructor. It also disrupts the lesson. Repeated **tardiness** will lower your grade. **Four** times 10 minutes late or more will be counted as one full day of unexcused absence.

Tests & Assessments

Your grade in this course will be based primarily on your PERFORMANCE on assessments that test your German communication skills and knowledge of German culture.

Written Chapter tests will be given for Chapters 1-3 and 4-6. Chapters 7 and 8 materials will be included on the final. Dates for all chapter tests will be announced in advance.

There will be a number of short written or oral quizzes, **announced** and **unannounced**.

All tests and assessments will be graded on a percentage basis. Missed tests or quizzes will count as ZERO. Only in the case of verifiable (documented) illness or emergency will a make-up be given.

There will be a comprehensive departmental final that will count 35% of your course grade. The exam will be designed by all 1101.01 instructors. The date of your final exam is _____ at _____. **THIS DATE IS DETERMINED BY THE UNIVERSITY AND CANNOT BE CHANGED.**

Your ability to speak and understand spoken German will be assessed in the form of two graded in-class role-plays. The oral portion of the final exam (25% of final exam points) will take place in the 15th week of the semester. It will consist of a 15-20 minute oral interview/role play conducted with a partner outside of class. All oral assessments will be announced in advance. Grading criteria and expectations will be provided to you by your instructor.

Grading

You will be graded on your performance:

Final Exam	35% (25% of final exam points=oral interview)
Chapter Tests (2)	30%
In-class roleplays (2)	5%
Quizzes (oral or written)	15%
Class Participation	5%
Homework	10%

The Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures uses the following scale:

A = 93-100	C+= 78-79	E = below 63
A-= 90-92	C = 73-77	
B+= 88-89	C-= 70-72	
B = 83-87	D+= 68-69	
B-= 80-82	D = 63-67	

The departmental language program director is Professor Taleghani-Nikazm, 438 Hagerty Hall, e-mail: taleghani-nikazm.1@osu.edu. The Department office is in 498 Hagerty Hall, phone 292-6985. Visit our WEB SITE at <http://germanic.osu.edu>.

Academic Integrity

Our Department expects students who enroll in our courses to demonstrate the highest degree of academic integrity. In upholding OSU's policies, we are obligated to report all suspected cases of academic misconduct to the Committee on Academic Misconduct.

Please be informed about OSU's Code of Student Conduct: <http://oaa.osu.edu/coamresources.html>

"It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term "academic misconduct" includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487.)"

Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/> .