

Deutsch 201
Department of World Languages, CSUSM.
Dr. Michael Hughes
Sprechstunden: Montags und Mittwoch 13:00-14:00
and by appointment

Herbst 2007
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Büro: MARK 244

Course Description

Objectives: Upon successful completion of the course, you should be able to:

- Comprehend and produce German, in oral and written form, so as to carry out a range of real-world functions including: greeting others; describing yourself and your surroundings; taking care of basic 'survival' needs such as securing medical attention, making travel arrangements, obtaining housing, planning a career and obtaining a job, etc.; expressing your opinion about a range of topics; narrating and reporting about past, present and future events; giving advice and/or instructions about a range of concrete topics; comprehend/interpret menus, schedules, job and housing ads and announcements, television and radios ads, short pieces of radio and television programs, and short newspaper and magazine articles on common and familiar topics.
- Express yourself in the above situations, orally in short to longer phrases, and in writing with complete sentences in up to a two page text, with enough appropriateness and accuracy so as to be understood by native speakers who are accustomed to speaking with non-native speakers.
- Recognize many important people, celebrations, and events in German speaking countries, as well as understand many of the cultural similarities and differences with respect to family and home life, workplace situations, art, and news events between North American culture and those cultures that use the German language.

Prerequisites: German 102 or equivalent course, or two years of High School German completed within the past two years.

Required texts:

Di Donato, Robert, Monica D. Clyde, and Jacqueline Vansant. *Deutsch: Na Klar!*, 4th ed. McGraw Hill, 2004.

You must also purchase a *Quia* code so you can do the online workbook .

Recommended texts:

Zorach, C. and C. Melin. *English Grammar for Students of German*.

A good two-way German-English dictionary.

Course requirements: Your evaluation in this course will be based on your performance on the following work.

Class participation		10%	
Course work (homework, quizzes, etc.)		15%	
Short Essays		10%	
Chapter exams	(3 x 10%)	30%	(9/19, 10/17, 11/19)
Compositions	(2 x 10%)	20%	(11/15, 12/4)
Final exam		15%	(12/12, 9:15-11:15)
Attendance		+ / -	(see below)

Class participation (10%): You cannot develop skills in German without frequently using the language in a variety of ways. It is for this reason that you are required to actively participate in class discussions and activities throughout the semester. Your participation will be evaluated on a daily basis and will take into account a number of variables including, but not limited to, 1) your willingness to use and practice German; 2) your willingness to participate; 3) your cooperation in group and pair work; and 4) the quality of the overall effort you put into the course.

Course work (15%): This category includes workbook assignments, quizzes, and homework.

You are responsible for completing the electronic workbook (*Quia*) for each chapter. You should have completed these pages by the day of the corresponding chapter exam. Since the *Quia* activities correspond to the textbook

activities, it is recommended that you complete this work as you work through the chapter and NOT the night before the exam. Students who do the *Quia* work regularly tend to perform better on chapter exams. In addition to the above work, additional tasks may be assigned throughout the semester, however, even when no specific work is assigned, you still have homework. To be a successful language learner, and to do well in this course you should study every day.

Quizzes may occur at any time, though most will be announced in advance. These quizzes cannot be made up for any reason. If you don't want to miss a quiz, don't miss class.

Short Essays (10%) You will submit a writing assignment 10 times during the semester. The writing prompts are available on the course website. You should write at least 2 paragraphs of your best German. Due dates and topics for these essays can be found on the course website. Please turn these assignments in as an attachment to an email. The subject of the email should include the words: 'German 201'. The file name you're your homework should include your last name and first initial (for example, John doe would name his first writing assignment file like this: doe.j.write1.doc). The purpose of these short essays is to give you the opportunity to practice (and take chances with) the vocabulary and grammatical structures that you are learning in class. You won't be graded down for mistakes with unfamiliar or new constructions. As the semester wears on, I will have less patience for mistakes on constructions you should have mastered. DO NOT use an computerized translating device to translate English paragraphs to German. This almost never results in a good essay, and does not help you improve your German. Your professor can usually determine when these devices have been used. The assignments and due dates are available here: <http://courses.csusm.edu/grmn201/mh/kurze.Aufsaetze.htm>

Compositions (20%): You will be required to write **two** 2-page compositions this semester, each worth 10% of your final grade. These assignments must be typed (double spaced in 12 pt. font –use a standard academic font, like *Times New Roman*) and spell-checked before being turned in. German language spell-checkers are available on the Language Laboratory computers. **You may consult with the tutor in the Language Learning Center on drafts of your compositions**, but s/he will not write the essay for you. For each essay, you may turn in *one* rough draft to the professor for corrections and comments. You will not get graded on the draft, nonetheless, students who turn in drafts tend to get better final grades than students who do not. As with the short writing assignments, **do not use computerized translators to help you with this assignment.**

Chapter exams (30%): There will be three midterm exams. These tests will include listening, reading comprehension, and written production of German. Dates for exams are posted above. Before each exam, a review sheet will be posted on the website detailing the material to be covered, and providing you with practice exercises. We will go over these in class before the exam, but you should do them at home first, so you can check your work and ask better questions. **EXAM MAKE-UPS ARE ONLY GIVEN IN EXTREME CIRCUMSTANCES**, e.g. you are too ill to come to class, you have been in an accident, etc. In such an extreme emergency, written documentation (such as a doctor's note) is required before any make up will be scheduled.

Final exam (15%): Your final exam will be comprehensive, thus you cannot wait until the last minute to study for the test. Doing so *might* enable you to squeeze through a chapter exam, but probably won't help you acquire and store the skills and vocabulary in your long-term memory. Mark your calendars now for the final exam, no make-ups will be given.

Attendance: You will not gain course credit for attending class because the mere act of filling a seat is not what helps you acquire a language (it is actively engaging in class activities that will help you). However, if you do not attend class you cannot participate, so a failure to attend class will result in the lowering of your grade. Therefore, you will be bound by the following attendance policy:

- You are allowed three absences throughout the semester.
- Each absence after the third will lower your final grade by one letter level (B+ to B).
- Should you be forced to miss class because of an uncontrollable circumstance (e.g. jury duty, you become physically incapacitated, etc.), after documenting this condition, you will need to consult with me as to whether you will be able to continue in the course. A short term absence under these conditions might be excused,

provided all missed work is satisfactorily made up. However, long term absences are impossible to make up and you might be forced to take the course at another time.

Classroom etiquette: At California State University, San Marcos your instructors are committed to social justice and academic integrity. Every effort will be made to foster an atmosphere of friendship, trust, and acceptance in the classroom. Thus, discrimination, intolerance, disrespect, or dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated. If you have any suggestions as to how to further such an atmosphere, please feel free to share them with me.

If you have a disability and anticipate needing any type of accommodation to participate in this class, please inform me as soon as possible so that your needs can be accommodated properly.

Academic Integrity: You are encouraged to study together with your classmates. However, any written work you turn in should be your own. Cheating on any assignment, or plagiarism on a composition will result in your receiving no credit. Names of students caught cheating *will* be reported to the Dean of Students. Cheating on any assignment, or plagiarism on a composition will result in your receiving no credit. *Use of electronic translation devices (except for dictionaries) will be regarded as academic dishonesty.* Names of students caught cheating *will* be reported to the Dean of Students.

Important note for fulfilling the CSUSM Foreign Language Requirement: To fulfill the CSUSM language requirement you must achieve a C or better in German 201. If you are at risk of getting a C- or lower, do not wait until the end of the semester to get help. Very little can be done at that point.