
TENNESSEE TECH UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Elementary German II - 11541 - GERM 1020 - 501

Class 9:30 am - 10:50 am TR LIVE STREAM Jan 19, 2021 - May 06, 2021

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor's Name: Dr. Julia K Gruber

Office: MS Teams online

Telephone Number: 931-372-3787

Email: jgruber@tntech.edu

Office hours: T/TR 8.00 am-9.00 am and by appointment.

I will respond during regular business hours.

COURSE INFORMATION

PREREQUISITES

Prerequisites: Students at this level are expected to be familiar with basic German vocabulary or grammar structures as learned in Germ 1010.

TEXTS AND REFERENCES

Required: *Netzwerk A 1 Neu*: Kursbuch & Online Übungsbuch

COMPUTER ACCESS

Students are required to have high-speed Internet access for at least two hours/day. Several labs on campus are available for student use. Make sure you make good use of these online resources:

<https://www.klett-usa.com/netzwerk-neu/r-2188/605#reiter=konzepion>https://www.facebook.com/netzwerk.lehrwerk/?tn-str=k*F

<https://www.nthuleen.com/teach/grammar.html>

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this class, students further develop their German reading, speaking, listening and cultural skills while building their general vocabulary. Interconnected vocab, grammar, and phrases ensure sustainable language learning. We use mediated strategies that are key to independent language production. By the end of the course, students should be able to handle high/intermediate-low level tasks, such as engaging in simple conversations, e.g. make plans, talk about birthdays, order in a restaurant, describe an apartment, express likes/dislikes, talk about past events, talk about clothing, understand and exchange information about the city of Berlin.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, the successful student will:

- Understand most written and spoken German selected for beginning and intermediate learners
- Speak and write in simple sentences with minor grammatical errors that do not impede communication
- Speak with pronunciation sufficiently accurate so as not to impede communication
- Ask and answer oral and written questions related to familiar topics, such as personal information, school, careers, family, actions, and daily activities
- Describe people, places, and things in the present and past
- Converse on an elementary level, observing basic courtesy requirements and social demands of the culture
- Understand the diverse culture of the German-speaking world and describe some of its basic geographical facts.

The curriculum emphasizes the development of intercultural competence (the ability to communicate effectively with persons from other cultures), as well as communicative language skills. This approach reflects the latest trends in language education and is aligned with Tennessee Technological University's goals of preparing students to succeed in the global environment. Such competence involves a greater understanding of cultural differences and similarities; instead of being a side issue, cultural understanding is fundamental to the class.

In speaking and writing activities, students are guided from contextualized form-focused exercises to more open-ended activities in which they express individual preferences and viewpoints. Speaking and writing tasks synthesize material, add depth to chapter content, and provide opportunities to communicate in real-life contexts.

Listening practice is also provided in stages, ranging from highly structured to completely unscripted excerpts of spoken language. The *Netzwerk* videos put students face-to-face with real speakers from the target culture, adding both visual and cultural interest to listening comprehension activities.

Reading practice encourages students to negotiate meaning in the target language in realia and informational texts.

Vocabulary development is crucial to this communication-focused course. The *Übungsbuch* provides vocabulary lists in each chapter. We also will add at least two new words/week on <https://padlet.com/jukiuni/vw7uijcpwh216tc8>

Pronunciation Practice activities help students develop strong pronunciation skills that enhance their ability to communicate effectively.

MAJOR TEACHING METHODS

Lectures, demonstrations, discussion, recitation reading, written assignments and team work

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONAL PLATFORM/MATERIALS

We will interact on MS Teams. Assignments, updates to the schedule etc. will be posted there as well.

Make use of the **Library**. Students can also schedule appointments for free help with finding resources, developing a presentation, creating a research poster, and getting documents notarized. The library also offers free, individual peer tutoring to any student for help with courses, study skills, test prep, writing papers, and resumes. There are also special group tutoring sessions for select classes to prepare for tests and exams. Appointments and reservations for all of these services are made online.

TOPICS TO BE COVERED

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to ask and answer personal questions in the present and past, and communicate effectively in the following contexts: friends, the family, and everyday life. Furthermore, students will learn an appreciation for the German-speaking countries' cultures.

GRADING AND EVALUATION PROCEDURES

In-class participation

20 %

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Homework	20 %
Two written assignments	10 %
Chapter Tests	15 %
Vocabulary Quizzes	15 %
Final Exam	
Written Component	10%
Oral Component	10%
	100%

GRADING SCALE

A	93-100
B	85-92
C	75-84
D	70-74
F	0-69

In-Class participation: (20%) Involvement in class activities. Students must come to class prepared. Textbook, German folder, pencils, etc. Active participation means speaking and collaborating in pair and group exercises, volunteering thoughtful answers, and completing both in-class writing assignments and on-line preparatory assignments. In our classroom, emphasis is placed on communicative skills, pair/small group work, and conversation. A positive attitude is therefore essential. Everyone's presence and effective participation supports our collective success. Classroom discussions stress communication over grammatical accuracy. Participation should be in German as much as possible when speaking with another student and with the professor. Off topic discussions in English will hurt your daily participation grade. Speaking any foreign language can be frustrating at first. Nevertheless, like any skill, the more you practice, the better you become. Therefore, avoid translating into English. Try your best to work only in the foreign language. Enjoy the limitation.

Homework: (20%) in your *Übungsbuch* is assigned regularly. This daily preparation is important when learning the language, but more importantly, it forms the basis

for informed class participation and understanding. As is the norm in higher education, ideally you should spend about two hours outside of class on your homework.

Perhaps more than in other courses, each GERM 1020 class meeting builds on the last meeting.

At the end of most classes, I will model new structures and vocabulary and ask students to summarize what they have learned.

At home, you will review the points from the end of class again before you begin your online homework.

You will then complete all the assigned homework before the next class.

You will come to class ready to use the new structures during our interactive exercises. You are not expected to demonstrate mastery of each new structure, but you must be able to use new structures with some degree of success.

Chapter Tests: (20%) assess your progress. After we complete a chapter, you will be given the opportunity to show your progress by taking a chapter test. We will discuss the structure of these tests when we review. Classroom exercises and our online component should adequately prepare students. Once I have returned each test, you will be able to correct mistakes and resubmit to make up half the points you missed.

Two written assignments: (5 %) will be assigned during the semester to offer an opportunity to develop your writing skills. The topics will be connected to the course material. More details TBA later in the semester.

Vocabulary Quizzes: (15%) will be completed online to assess your knowledge of vocabulary in context. We also will add at least two new words/week on <https://padlet.com/jukiuni/vw7uijcpwh216tc8>.

Final Exam: (20%) The written component of the final exam will be similar to the chapter tests. There will be an oral component. More information on this TBD.

OTHER MATTERS

To show that you have read this syllabus, please look up a typical German food/drink and post a picture of it on the general MS Teams page, telling us **in German** whether you would like or are scared to try it.

COURSE POLICIES

STUDENT ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT POLICY

Maintaining high standards of academic integrity in every class at Tennessee Tech is critical to the reputation of Tennessee Tech, its students, alumni, and the employers of Tennessee Tech graduates. The Student Academic Misconduct Policy describes the definitions of academic misconduct and policies and procedures for addressing Academic Misconduct at Tennessee Tech. For details, view the Tennessee Tech's Policy 217 – [Student Academic Misconduct at Policy Central](#).

UNIVERSITY PLAGIARISM POLICY

When you use (for example, quote or even summarize or paraphrase) someone else's media, words, data, ideas, or other works, you must cite your source. You should be especially careful to avoid plagiarizing Internet sources (for example, e-mail, chat rooms, Web sites, or discussion groups). It does not matter whether you borrow material from print sources, from the Internet, from online databases, or from interviews. Failure to cite your source is plagiarism. Students who plagiarize may receive an "F" or a "0" for the assignment, or an "F" for the course. For more info on plagiarism and what constitutes plagiarism, go to:

<http://iweb.tntech.edu/kosburn/plagiarism.htm>

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

Students with a disability requiring accommodations should contact the Accessible Education Center (AEC). An Accommodation Request (AR) should be completed as soon as possible, preferably by the end of the first week of the course. The AEC is located in the Roaden University Center, Room 112; phone 931-372-6119. For details, view the Tennessee Tech's Policy 340 – [Services for Students with Disabilities at Policy Central](#).

COVID – 19

1. Students must take personal responsibility in following the recommended CDC COVID-19 guidelines. Students are expected follow all COVID-19 directives published by Tennessee Tech including, but not limited to, notices on Tennessee Tech's webpage, building and facilities signage, and similar publications. The university's Return to Campus Student Handbook can be found at <https://www.tntech.edu/return/index.php>.

2. According to Tennessee Tech University's protocols, face coverings must be worn (covering the mouth and nose) by students in the classroom at all times.
3. Students must abide by predetermined social distancing guidelines and seating arrangements. Movement during class sessions should be limited as to not endanger other students or faculty. Students should be conscious and respectful of others and their health concerns.
4. Students who refuse to comply with university protocols on these matters will be reported to the Tennessee Tech Dean of Students.
5. Students should direct all requests for excused class absences related to COVID-19, regardless of where the COVID-19 testing is performed, to Tennessee Tech's Health Services. The Office of Student Affairs will provide notifications to faculty members of student absences and the expected length of the absence.

WELCOME TO GERM1020: Thank you for your continued interest in learning a foreign language! Have a great semester!