



TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

Department of Foreign Languages

Course Information

Elementary German II - 11589 - GERM 1020 - 001

Jan 21, 2020 – May 7, 2020

MWF: 11.15 am – 12.10 pm

Instructor

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Office Hours: MWF 10.00-11.00 am and by appointment

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

Required Materials:

Netzwerk A 1 Neu: Kursbuch & Arbeitsbuch

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-](https://www.klett-usa.com/netzwerk-neu/r-2188/605#reiter=konzepion)

[2188/605#reiter=konzepion](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 Germ1020, students further develop their German readings, speaking, listening and cultural skills while building their general vocabulary. Interconnected vocabulary, grammar, and phrases ensure sustainable language learning. We will use mediated strategies that are key to independent language production. At the end of the course, the successful student 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 Berlin.

Course Objectives/Student learning outcomes

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.

Upon completion of this course, students will:

- Understand most written and spoken German selected for beginning and intermediate learners;

Communication: Interpretive (Listen, Read/View)

- Speak and write in simple sentences with minor grammatical errors that do not impede communication;

Communication: Interpersonal (Speak, Write, Listen)

Communication: Presentational (Speak, Write, Listen)

- Speak with pronunciation sufficiently accurate so as not to impede communication;

Communication: Presentational (Speak, Listen, Read/View)

- Ask and answer oral and written questions related to familiar topics, such as personal information, school, careers, family, actions, and daily activities;

Communication: Interpersonal (Speak, Write, Listen, Read/View)

- Describe people, places, and things in the present and past;

Communication: Presentational (Speak, Write, Listen, Read/View)

- Converse on an elementary level, observing basic courtesy requirements and social demands of the culture;

Communication: Interpersonal (Speak, Listen, Read/View)

- Understand the diverse culture of the German-speaking world and describe some of its basic geographical facts. Cultures (Relating Cultural Products to Perspectives)

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 *Arbeitsbuch* provides vocabulary lists in each chapter.

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

Topics to be covered: By the end of Germ 1020, students will:

Be able to tell the time, make an appointment on the phone

Be able to talk about family and invite someone to a birthday party

Be able to talk about events

Be able to understand simple instructions

Be able to understand and respond to letters

Be able to understand ads for apartments, describe their living situation

Be able to talk about family, shopping and other activities, useful everyday objects, occupations

Be able to describe people, places, and things

Be able to discuss daily routines, food and meals, abilities, necessities, wishes and likes

Grading and evaluation procedures

In-class participation 20 %

Homework 20 %

Two written assignments 5 %

Chapter Tests 20 %

Vocabulary Quizzes 15 %

Final Exam

Written Component 10%

Oral Component 10%

100%

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.

Please turn off your cellphone and do not stare at your laptop screen. If I see you turn into a cell phone/laptop zombie, you will get a 0 for participation.

Homework: (20%) in your *Arbeitsbuch* 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.

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 send me a picture of it, telling me **in German** whether you would like or are scared to try it. For extra credit, post to the German Klub Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/TTUGermanclub/>

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 Roader 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.

Other matters

➔ **All students** are required to attend **at least two (2) events** offered by the German Klub each semester; this includes German film evenings, *Stammtisch* (a regular meeting where only German is spoken), Wandertag, WOW, film evenings etc. Many of these German culture events feature free refreshments.

➔ Make use of these **Additional Services**: Students can reserve study rooms and use technology for group work and to practice presentations. 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.

➔ In order to show that you have read this syllabus, please email me a picture or video relating to a topic related to German culture/civilization that you want to learn about and tell me why you chose it. Post to the German Klub Facebook page for extra credit.

Welcome to Germ1020. Please sign below to confirm that you have read and understood the syllabus; please return this last page of the syllabus to your folder. Danke!

I have read the syllabus: _____ (date and signature)

I agree to have my pictures posted on social media: _____ (date and signature)

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