

# Utah State UNIVERSITY

Department of Languages, Philosophy &  
Speech Communication  
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## COURSE OUTLINE

Spring 2008

GERMAN 3050/GERM 3050 #11602

Advanced Grammar and Composition

9:00 a.m.-10:15 a.m. T R in Old Main, Room 117

Professor: Dr. Renate Posthofen

Office: Old Main 212, OM 212

Phone: 797-1336 (voice mail), 797-1209 (main office), and 757-7936 (cell)

Office hours: Monday and Wednesday 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. and any other time by appointment or just drop by my office.!!!

### Required Textbooks:

1.) Handbuch Zur Deutschen Grammatik: Wiederholen Und Anwenden, 4th Ed. By Larry D. Wells. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 2004. Fourth Edition (Basic Textbook)

2.) Arbeitsheft: Handbuch Zur Deutschen Grammatik: Wiederholen Und Anwenden, 4th Ed. By Jamie Rankin, E. Pauline Hubbell. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 2004. Fourth Edition (Basic Workbook)

### COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The course is designed as the second semester component to cover advanced German language and grammar throughout the third year of advanced language instruction with an emphasis on its applications in grammar and composition.

While we aim to comprehensively review and apply the more advanced concepts of German Grammar by employing our basic textbook within the classroom setting, the student will systematically review and use the reviewed principles by completing the chapters in the Arbeitsheft on his/ her own, independently.

At the same time our emphasis will extend to include oral comprehension, that is speaking and listening as we practice applying grammatical principles. Once grounded firmly within newly applied linguistic features, unique to the German language, students will work on advancing their writing skills to include basic German essay writing with a built in systematic progression to include more sophisticated stylistic features and applications. The main goal is to expand grammatical principles and knowledge, while gaining solid ground in more complex writing assignments that employ those principles in practical and stylistically meaningful ways. This includes a systematic review of vocabulary in German while understanding and applying the basic and advanced grammatical concepts along with fine tuning new vocabulary, thus expanding the students' semantic and idiomatic capabilities. Writing and reading skills will be developed and expanded by participating in class and working on specific essay writing assignments at home. The language lab is the place where you will obtain the CD's which accompany this textbook for a nominal fee of 6:00 \$ after the first week of classes have started and you have completed the 16th workbook chapter without the Listening/ Comprehension exercises as the Cd's are only available in the second week on class time in the Language Lab.

**Language Lab:** The lab is located in room 002 of Old Main. The laboratory is open MTWHF from **8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.** You will have the opportunity to practice listening and speaking skills in the lab using the Laboratory exercise portion in your Workbook/Laboratory Manual, should you be unable to purchase the Cd's on your own. Language laboratory attendance is strongly recommended and weekly visits to the facility are strongly suggested. Students are expected to complete the listening and comprehension exercises for each chapter by attending the lab for a total of 30 minutes each week.

**PLEASE NOTE;** When students enroll in courses that utilize the Language Laboratory, a fee of \$ 24.-- is included in their overall fees. This helps defray the cost of lab tutors, control room staff, and lab equipment maintenance. The latter are essential, course-mandated components of language instruction.

Course grades will be based on the following core components:

- 1.) Participation and performance/interaction in class, based on current and assigned textbook, and workbook exercises, as well as the audio-tape sequences.
- 2.) Attendance: more than three absences will lower your grade!
- 3.) Work book assignments (written and oral): handed in/checked on time: not accepted late!
- 4.) Language Lab assignments ( credit will be given for the proper completion of the corresponding textbook, workbook, Lab book assignments): LAB assignments are to be handed in/checked on time together with the WORKBOOK assignments/portions: not accepted late! PLEASE STAPLE THOSE ITEMS TOGETHER IN ORDER TO RECEIVE FULL CREDIT. (= WORKBOOK ASSIGNMENTS AND LANGUAGE LAB PORTIONS OF ANY GIVEN CHAPTER, as comprehensively listed under each Kapitel in the Arbeitsheft). The written Lab book credit will be included in the workbook points -see 1.) b.) below, the oral Lab part will receive credit by simple completion, but not by registered/ mandated

Language Laboratory attendance.

5.) Two 3 page essays, developed from two drafts, where each drafts counts 100 points toward your grade. handed in to, and corrected by the instructor.

6.) Grade on the Final exam

**Grades will be weighted accordina to the followina accumulatina points and percentage breakdowns:**

**1.) a.)** Class participation, oral performance/interaction, team/group work efficiency and motivatina learnina disposition in the classroom (includes pronunciation, sentence structure, vocabulary and comprehension for all of these four elements)

100 pts. = 10%

Attendance and Workbook Manual assignments

(to include all of the written **Arbeitsheft** parts as well,

20 points per chapter completed and handed in, 15 units) 300 pts. = 30%

**2.)** Two 3 page essays, developed from two drafts, handed in to, and corrected by the instructor, up to 100 points each, equal:

400 pts. = 40%

**3.)a.)** Final exam (see below)

200 pts. = 20%

**Please note:**

Homework, written and oral assignments, as well as Lab work/workbook chapters need to be handed in on the date indicated in order to be considered toward your grade. Late work will no lonær be accepted!!

• Absolutelv no individuallv scheduled makeup tests!! Should you, for any reason miss a test as preliminarily scheduled below, you may make additional efforts to focus on the other course components to demonstrate your knowledge of the material and appropriate chapter(s) in question. However there will not be a standardized provision to receive extra credit in case of your absence on a test date!

**Plagiarism and cheating** will be handled according to Student Code and are considered grounds for dismissal from class and further evaluation.

**UPDATED TENTATIVE SYLLABUS** (unforeseen changes of dates will be announced in class)

Chapter sixteen: January 7 - January 11 WB due Januarv 11

Chapter seventeen: January 14 - January 18 WB due Januarv 18

Chapter eighteen: January 22 - January 25 WB due Januarv 25

Chapter nineteen : January 28 - January 31 WB due: Januarv 31

Chapter twenty: February 4 - February 7 WB due: Februarv 7

**First Essay due., February. 7. 27th, das Thema wird sein: Meine beruflichen Pläne und Meine Karriere**

Chapter twenty one: February 11 - February 14 WB due: February 14

Chapter twenty two: February 19 - February 21 WB due: Februarv 21

Chapter twenty three: February 25 - February 28 WB due: Februarv. 28

Chapter twenty four: March 3 - March 6 WB due: March 6

Chapter twenty five: March 17 - March 20 \_\_\_\_\_

**Second essay due, March 21st**  
**bitte beschreiben Sie sie im**  
**Detail zum Thema: Mein bester**  
**Freund. Meine beste Freundin,**

Chapter twenty six: March 24 - 27 WB due: March 27

Chapter twenty seven: March 31 - April 3 WB due: April 3

Chapter twenty eight/  
twenty nine: April 7 - April 10 WB due: April 10

Chapter twenty nine/  
thirty: April 14 - April 17 WB due: April 17

Chapter thirty: April 21 - April 24 WB due April 24

**Final:** (**Tuesday, April 29. 7:30 a.m. - 9:20 a.m.**). Formatted like a regular in - class test, to cover comprehensively all materials from chapters fifteen through thirty, focused mostly on the materials from the **Handbuch Zur Deutschen Grammatik: Wiederholen Und Anwenden**, cumulative in nature. Additional materials and concepts, that you studied during your first two years of beginning and intermediate German<sup>1</sup> covered in class need to be applied to a certain degree as well to successfully master the final exam.

\* Please note: This syllabus is subject to modification and amendments, with respect to

<sup>1</sup> Or any other in-depth (non)- academic experience with the German Language as it is applied within the context of this class, that you feel would enable you to successfully master and complete the requirements for this class, German 3040.

materials covered, and examinations administered, should it become necessary.

### **JOIN THE GERMAN CLUB!**

The German section of the Department of Languages Philosophy & Speech Communication offers those who are interested in German the opportunity to share their interests with others. The German Club will hold its first regular meeting sometime soon. Date, time and location to be announced! Please sign in the list, as we will decide where and when to meet soon thereafter.

### **Study Tips**

Be prepared to spend up to two hours at home per classroom contact hour!

Develop your own responsible study and work plan that suits your learning habits best!

Study habits may be discussed in class.

Start with the **Workbook/Laboratory Manual** as early as after the first class meeting for a given chapter so you are able to hand it in before the next test. The written parts are very important to determine your progress.

Be ready to use your analytical skills to prepare any given section in a chapter entirely on your own: clarify a given grammatical concept with the rules and guidelines in the textbook. Make your own judgments to choose exercises from the **WORKBOOK**, that might help you personally best to apply, emphasize and repeat a given structure, so that you can gain a more focused understanding of the grammar through your own work outside of class.

Start learning and reviewing new and previous vocabulary on your own at the beginning of a chapter.

Use the Language Lab not only for the additional **tapes/Cd's** that go with a chapter but rather to watch videos, practice pronunciation with the various programs, to watch German news and to work with the German Computer programs and word processors. There are new language programs on video as well.

If you feel you have fallen behind: go over your old Lab book/ Work book assignments, redo written and oral exercises, go over past vocabulary and devote an additional half hour or so per day to catch up.

Find a partner for your speaking and conversational interactive classroom work. As you converse in German together, you might form study groups, meet outside of class and work on some topics together. While you can only really motivate yourself to study, it is **good** practice to gain understanding of larger concepts when you work with one another.