

The University of Toronto

# INTRODUCTION TO GERMAN I

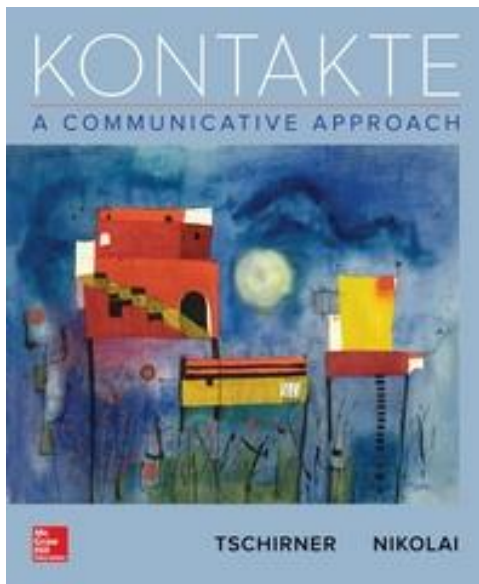
## Synchronous Online Course

GER100Y1 Summer 2021

**Classes meet on Zoom 6pm-8pm EST on Mon, Tue, Wed & Thu**

	Name	Email	OHS
Instructor Term 1:	<b>Yasmin Aly</b>	<a href="mailto:yasmin.aly@mail.utoronto.ca">yasmin.aly@mail.utoronto.ca</a>	Tue& Wed 5-6 pm
Instructor Term 2:	<b>Dena Khamseh</b>	<a href="mailto:dena.khamseh@mail.utoronto.ca">dena.khamseh@mail.utoronto.ca</a>	TBA

## DESCRIPTION AND COURSE GOALS



The GER100Y language course is an introductory German course for students with *no* prior knowledge of the language. Based on a communicative and task-based approach, it is designed to develop proficiency in oral and written communication skills while providing students with knowledge and understanding of the societies and cultures of German-speaking countries.

Students will develop their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills through a variety of stimulating off- and on-line activities. Vocabulary will be presented in the context of culturally significant issues.

Topics cover areas such as introducing and talking about oneself, shopping, telling time and recounting a day, family life, describing and renting an apartment, travel, health and fitness or studying abroad. Additionally, the course will provide students with a foundation in a number of basic grammatical structures and concepts.

Online sessions will be devoted mostly to communicative and interactive exercises. In addition to preparation at home, regularly participating in and attending the live online sessions is paramount in order to successfully complete the course.

## MATERIALS

The textbook package is sold online and includes the access code to the Electronic Textbook and the Connect Online Workbook. You will need this access code in order to do your homework assignments. A ppt presentation with detailed instructions on how to purchase the book and access to the online platform will be provided on the first day of class.

**ISBN: 1259891453 / 9781259891458 - TSCHIRNER | GEN COMBO KONTAKTE; CONNECT ACCESS CARD | 2017 | 8**

Suggested list price \$129.95

<https://connect.mheducation.com/class/g-ger100-ger100---spring-2021>

### Summer Semester:

Erwin Tschirner et al. KONTAKTE. 8th ed. New York: McGraw Hill, 2017.

ISBN 9781259689383

Herzlich Willkommen und viel Erfolg!

## REQUIREMENTS

Comprehensive Final Assessment	20%
4 Tests (2 per term)	18%
2 Oral Assessment (1 per term)	12%
4 Compositions (2 per term)	15%
Homework	15%
Preparation, Attendance & Participation	20%

In order to be able to fully participate in this course and the live Zoom meetings, students will need a stable internet connection, a camera and a microphone. Turning your camera on will be required, particularly during presentations, group discussions and online assessments.

## CLASS FORMAT

The online sessions will be entirely conducted **in German**, and you are encouraged to try your best to use the German phrases and sentences your instructor will teach you during instruction times. You will see progress swiftly if you concentrate on speaking German during online sessions all the time. Your instructor will use many partner and group activities, which are to be completed entirely in German. Don't be afraid to make mistakes! They are part of the learning

**This is a preliminary copy of the syllabus. Contents may still be subject to change.**

process. Note that you will not be graded on error-free speech, but on your **continuous efforts to speak in German!** This course will provide you with a **welcoming, respectful, and fast-paced environment for learning German.**

## LIVE RECORDINGS OF ONLINE SESSIONS

Please note that the online sessions of this course **may** be recorded and uploaded on Quercus for reference. These live recordings will be available for a short period only. They are intended to be used as a student study aid and are not a substitute for regular attendance unless there are special circumstances (i.e., you are out of the country and in a different time zone) and you have an explicit permission from the course instructor.

Video recordings will mostly capture the instructor and the shared screen. However, your voice and video, may be captured as well. If you have any concerns about being recorded, please speak to your instructor.

Live recordings of online sessions **may not be reproduced or posted or shared** anywhere other than the official course Quercus site and should only be used by students currently registered in the course. Because live recordings of online sessions will be provided for all lectures, students may not create additional audio or video recordings without written permission from the instructor. Permission for such recordings will not be withheld for students with accommodation needs.

## PRIVACY CONSIDERATIONS

Students may not record any portion of a lecture without the prior and explicit written permission of the course instructor. Provostial guidelines on the Appropriate Use of Information and Communication Technology, available at <https://www.provost.utoronto.ca/planning-policy/information-communication-technology-appropriate-use/>, state that:

**The unauthorized use of any form of device to audiotape, photograph, video-record or otherwise reproduce lectures, course notes or teaching materials provided by instructors is covered by the Canadian Copyright Act and is prohibited. Students must obtain prior written consent to such recording. In the case of private use by students with disabilities, the instructor's consent must not be unreasonably withheld.**

Students may not create **audio recordings** of classes with the exception of those students requiring an accommodation for a disability, who should speak to the instructor prior to beginning to record lectures. Students creating unauthorized audio recording of lectures violate an instructor's intellectual property rights and the Canadian Copyright Act. Students violating this agreement will be subject to disciplinary actions under the Code of Student Conduct.

Students may not take **screenshots** of class chats, class discussion board entries or any other course content without the prior and explicit permission of the course instructor. Taking screenshots of class chats, discussion board entries or other class content and distributing them

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via the Internet using social media such as Facebook, peer-to-peer file sharing such as One Drive or Dropbox, or other distribution channels may be considered a **violation of privacy** and of intellectual property rights. Students violating this agreement will be subject to disciplinary actions under the Code of Student Conduct. In accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005, persons who have special needs will be accommodated.

## ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION

This is a synchronous online language course that meets four times a week Monday to Thursday from 6pm - 8pm on Zoom. The Department allows each student to miss maximum two online meetings (i.e. four hours) per term. For each subsequent unexcused absence, a student will incur a 10% penalty off the class participation and attendance grade of the course. An excused absence is defined as one that has been validated in writing by a physician, surgeon, nurse practitioner, dentist, and clinical psychologist, or a person of authority, e.g. college registrar. Absenteeism inherently has indirect bearing upon all other aspects of the grade weighting. Test material and homework assignments are based on tasks, activities and information presented during the online meetings. If, for any reason, you cannot attend class, please contact your instructor. They will inform you on the best ways to catch up on the material.

Students will be further required to regularly contribute to online discussion boards and complete online vocabulary quizzes. Discussion board entries and vocabulary quizzes each account for 25% of your attendance & participation grade.

## HOMEWORK

You can expect to spend approx. 4 hours on homework every week. You will be assigned homework from the online textbook, workbook, and on the Quercus discussion board, among others. The homework exercises will provide you with ample opportunities to practice the materials covered. No late homework will be accepted without a legitimate excuse. **Advice:** In order to have a meaningful learning experience, you should do the homework assignments on a daily basis, rather than all at once at the end of the week. It is important that you complete your homework regularly because the independent work you do will have a direct influence on your ability to actively participate in all other off and on-line activities.

## TESTS

4 tests (2 per term) will be given, covering vocabulary, grammar and readings from the course. No make-up tests are allowed unless the student has a legitimate excuse and has communicated this to their instructor **prior to the assignment**. If you should fall ill on the day of the test, please let the instructor know **before class**. A make-up test must be written no later than a week after the actual assessment date.

## ORAL EXAM

At the end of each term, students will have an oral exam in the form of interviews with the course instructor. Sufficient time will be devoted to preparing for this exam which will be graded for general ability to hold a short conversation, competence and fluency in everyday situations as well

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the use of acquired grammar and vocabulary. Exact times will be arranged with the course instructor.

## COMPOSITIONS

You will write four (4) written compositions altogether (2 in each term). The topic and length of the essay will be indicated by your course instructor. Each essay consists of a draft and a final version. In order to receive the full grade, you must turn in 2 versions of each essay. Your instructor will return the first version with corrective annotations. You will write the final version of your essay based on these corrections. This is a very important reflective exercise to develop your writing skills and to understand the source of your mistakes. The first version will count 60% and the second 40%. **To receive a complete score for each composition assignment, you must submit the marked-up draft with the final version.** Late assignment submission will result in 5% grade reduction for each day past the deadline, for up to 5 days.

Having your essays proofread by someone else who is proficient in German can be considered **plagiarism**, as you are submitting someone else's work as your own. The use of translation software or online translation tools such as Google translate will not only be considered **cheating**, but you will miss a chance to reflect upon and improve your writing skills. The purpose of the composition is to show your ability to use the vocabulary and grammar learned in the course in accordance with your level of German.

All students will be required to self-report when you have used anything beyond the Kontakte textbook and a traditional dictionary search to compose a written composition. If you are using grammar structures that we have not yet covered in class, then you have to note this and explain why you used an aide, or how you knew to use the form. For example, if you taught yourself a grammar tense from another book, you need to comment with the sentence you used it in, the name of the tense, and what book you learned it from. Learning it from google translate will not be an accepted explanation.

This assignment can (and should) be fulfilled entirely using grammar that we have covered in Kontakte up to the point of the assignment. If you cannot explain **WHY** you used advanced grammar concepts or how those concepts work, **DO NOT USE THEM**. Find another way to write the sentence instead of reverting to an aide (for example: change to using the active voice instead of the passive, using new complete sentences instead of relative clauses). If there is still clear evidence of aides being using, outside of what has been self-reported, the I will consider it plagiarism and proceed accordingly. The goal of this assignment is to demonstrate that you understand and can use the concepts covered in class. Please email me if you have any further questions about the policy.

## MOBILE DEVICES

In order to minimize distractions during class time, we ask that phones or similar mobile devices be off during online meetings unless requested otherwise by the course instructor.

## ACCESSIBILITY

The department is committed to ensuring that all students have equal access to programs, facilities, and admissions. This course welcomes students with diverse learning styles and needs.

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If you have a consideration or a circumstance that requires specific accommodation for attending online course sessions, participating in group-work, or completing homework and assignments, we invite you to contact the course instructors and Accessibility Services ([accessibility.services@utoronto.ca](mailto:accessibility.services@utoronto.ca)) as soon as possible to make necessary arrangements.

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT

Academic integrity is defined as the pursuit of scholarly activity in an open, honest and responsible manner. All students should act with personal integrity, respect other students' dignity, rights and property, and help create and maintain an environment in which all can succeed through the fruits of their efforts. Dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated in this course. Dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabricating information or citations, facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, using online translators, or tampering with the academic work of other students. Students who are found to be dishonest will receive academic sanctions and will be reported to the University's Judicial Affairs office for possible further disciplinary sanction. Please visit <http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm> for additional information on the code of behavior on academic matters.

## GRADING SCALE

Percentage	Letter Grade
90-100	A+
85-89	A
80-84	A-
77-79	B+
73-76	B
70-72	B-
67-69	C+
63-66	C
60-62	C-
57-59	D+
53-56	D
50-52	D-
0-49	F