

**This is a preliminary version of the syllabus, changes might occur.**

The University of Toronto

## **INTRODUCTION TO GERMAN II**

GER 200Y1Y, 2015/2016

Instructors: TBA

Office: 50 St. Joseph Street,  
Odette Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

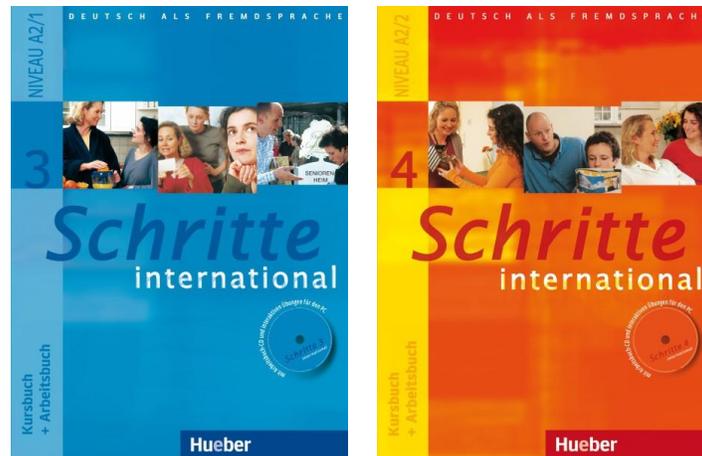
Office Hours: check German website  
www.german.utoronto.ca

Department:

Germanic Languages and Literatures

Classes meet on

**MTWF at 9-10, MTWF at 10-11, MTWF at 11-12, MW at 6-8,  
TR at 6-8**



### **DESCRIPTION AND COURSE GOALS**

This language course will provide students with genuine communication experiences in order to deepen their understanding of German-speaking countries. It has been designed to further develop communicative proficiency in each of the four language skills listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

The textbooks are motivating and encourage interest in culture and language through their unique approach to authentic material illustrating vocabulary in context, communicative functions of grammatical structures, and cultural highlights. All readings, videos, projects, and presentations in class explore historical, social, political, and popular topics while aspects of Germanic and North American cultures are being compared.

Learning strategies and self-assessment are part of every chapter, allowing for differentiation among various types of learners. The topics cover areas such as introducing and talking about oneself, shopping, telling time and recounting a day, family life, describing and renting an apartment, health and fitness etc. Cultural and linguistic variants of all three German-speaking countries are featured.

Class periods will be devoted mostly to communicative and interactive exercises. In order to participate successfully in these activities, preparation at home and regular class attendance are paramount.

**Herzlich Willkommen und viel Erfolg!**

## REQUIREMENTS

6 Chapter Tests (3 per term)	45%
4 Essays (2 per term)	20%
2 Oral Exams (1 per term)	20%
Preparation, Attendance and Active Class Participation	15%

## MATERIAL

Schritte International has been specially developed for teaching in non-German-speaking countries. Target groups are adults and young adult learners throughout the world at elementary levels (A1–B1). Two volumes of the six-volume series lead up to levels A1, A2, and B1 respectively. Each of the six stages is composed of a Coursebook-Workbook combination including an Audio-CD/CD-ROM with listening material and interactive practice for use with a PC. The material will be available at the **University of Toronto Book Store** (214 College Street).

### Fall semester:

Niebisch, Daniela, et al. Schritte International 3 - A2/1. Munich: Hueber, 2013.  
ISBN 3-19-001853-6

Caesar, Sophie, et al. Schritte International 3 – Glossary XXL. Munich: Hueber, 2013.  
ISBN 3-19-451853-7

### Winter semester:

Niebisch, Daniela, et al. Schritte International 4 - A2/2. Munich: Hueber, 2014.  
ISBN 3-19-001854-3

Caesar, Sophie, et al. Schritte International 4 –Glossary XXL. Munich: Hueber, 2012.  
ISBN 3-19-451854-4

## TESTS

6 tests (3 each term) will be given during the year, covering vocabulary, grammar and readings from the course. No make-up quizzes or tests are allowed unless the student has an excused absence. 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. If you should fall ill on the day of the test, please send an e-mail **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 either in the form of group oral presentations or interviews with the course instructor. Sufficient class time will be devoted to prepare for this exam which will be graded for general ability to hold a conversation about a set topic (short article about contemporary issues in the German-speaking societies, picture, quotation, etc.), competence and fluency in everyday situations as well the use of acquired vocabulary. Exact times will be arranged with the course instructor.

## **ESSAYS**

You will write four (4) essays altogether (2 in the fall term, 2 in the winter 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 essay, you must submit the marked-up draft with the second draft.**

**Do not have your essays proofread by someone else who is proficient in German!** This can be considered plagiarism, as you are submitting someone else's work as your own. **Do not use translation software or online translation tools such as Google translate!** It 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 class in accordance with your level of German. If there is any suspicion whatsoever that you have not written an essay yourself, it will not be accepted. 10% will then be deducted from your overall essay grade and you will be asked to resubmit the assignment. If you reoffend, you will receive an "F" on the essay.

## **ATTENDANCE**

The Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures allows each student a maximum of four unexcused absences (i.e. four hours) per semester. For each subsequent unexcused absence, a student will incur a 10% penalty off the class participation and attendance grade of the course. If a student misses more than 25% of one or any semester (i.e. more than 12 hours) unexcused, the entire course will count as failed with a final grade of 0%. 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 integrated into class time instruction.

## **INAPPROPRIATE USE OF MOBILE DEVICES/COMPUTERS**

**Phones or similar mobile devices must be off during class time!** Mobile phones can be used during class only with the explicit permission of the instructor. **No texting is allowed.** In case of repeated texting despite warnings from the instructor, the student's participation grade will be lowered automatically by **10%**!

**Use of computers for anything other than class work during class time** is highly disruptive and your participation will be lowered automatically by **10%**!

## **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.

## **DISABILITY ACCESS**

The department encourages qualified people with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities and is committed to the policy that all people shall have equal access to programs, facilities, and admissions without regard to personal characteristics not related to ability, performance, or qualifications as determined by university policy or by provincial or federal authorities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation in this course or have questions about physical access, the classrooms as well as course materials, please contact Accessibility Services and visit <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility> or [disability.services@utoronto.ca](mailto:disability.services@utoronto.ca) as soon as possible.

## **TENTATIVE COURSE CALENDAR**

### **Fall 2014**

Week 1:	Kennenlernen
Week 2:	Kennenlernen/ Zu Hause
Week 3:	Zu Hause
Week 4/5:	Guten Appetit!
Week 6:	Guten Appetit! / Arbeitswelt
Week 7:	Arbeitswelt / Sport u. Fitness
Week 8:	Sport u. Fitness
Week 9:	Sport u. Fitness / Ausbildung u. Karriere
Week 10:	Ausbildung u. Karriere / Fest u. Geschenke
Week 11:	Feste u. Geschenke
Week 12:	Neue Kleider

### **Winter 2015**

Week 1/2:	Am Wochenende
Week 3/4:	Warenwelt
Week 5/6:	Kommunikation
Week 7/8:	Unterwegs
Week 9/10:	Reisen
Week 11:	Geld
Week 12:	Lebensstationen

## Class Participation

	<b>Attentiveness</b>	<b>Contribution</b>	<b>Use of German</b>
Expectations are exceeded (80%-100%)	Student always pays attention.	The student is always eager to contribute in class, in group and pair work activities and asks questions. The student always volunteers answers.	The student attempts to consistently speak in German during class time.
Expectations are met (70%-79%)	The student pays attention most of the time.	The student is usually eager to contribute to class discussion, exercises and group work. The student occasionally asks questions and volunteers answers most of the time.	The student tries to speak German most of the time.
Expectations are barely met (60%-70%).	The student pays attention sometimes.	The student is occasionally eager to contribute to class discussion, exercises and group work. The student occasionally asks questions and sometimes volunteers answers.	The student sometimes speaks in German, but often switches to English or French.
Expectations are not met (50%-60)	The student rarely pays attention.	The student almost never contributes to class discussion, exercises and group work. The student almost never asks questions or volunteers answers.	The student speaks German only occasionally but switches to English most of the time.

## 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