

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

The University of Toronto
INTERMEDIATE GERMAN I

GER 201H, Winter 2020

Instructors: TBA

Office: 50 St. Joseph St.,
Odette Hall 3rd Floor

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

Department:
Germanic Languages and Literatures

Classes meet on
MTWF at 9-10, at 11-12; MW at 3-5; TR at 6-8



DESCRIPTION AND COURSE GOALS

This intermediate German language is the equivalent of the **second half** of GER200Y. It is designed to review and further develop students' linguistic and cultural competencies. Students will practice their German speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills by engaging with a variety of texts and by working with short films. The themes in the textbook will provide a springboard for in-class activities, assignments, and vocabulary building. Students will practice grammatical structures and acquire vocabulary that will allow them to express opinions, agreements, and disagreements in communicative situations encountered in work, school, and travel. By learning about German, Austrian, and Swiss cities featured in the textbook, students will get to know regional differences in German-speaking countries. 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.

NB: Students who wish to take this course are *required* to take a placement test at the German Department in order to ensure appropriate language course level. Please contact our Undergraduate Assistant, Gayle Grisdale at gayle.grisdale@utoronto.ca to schedule an appointment as early as possible.

Herzlich Willkommen und viel Erfolg!

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REQUIREMENTS

3 Tests	40%
Quizzes	10%
2 Essays	15%
Oral Exam	10%
Homework	10%
Participation at German Events	5%
Preparation, Attendance and Active Class Participation	10%

MATERIAL

The textbook will be available at the **University of Toronto Book Store** (214 College Street). Please purchase the **bundle package**, which includes the textbook and the access code to the SuperSite Plus, and the WebSAM (web-based student activities manual). You will need access to the **online workbook** in order to do your homework assignments.

Fall and Winter Semester:

Barske, Tobias, et al. *Denk mal! Deutsch ohne Grenzen*. 3rd Edition. Boston: Vista Higher Learning, 2020.

HOMEWORK

You can expect to spend 6 hours on homework every week. You will be assigned homework from the textbook, online workbook, and in the form of handouts. The homework exercises will provide you with ample opportunities before and after class 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 do your homework regularly because the work you do outside of class will have a direct influence on your ability to actively participate in class.

TESTS

3 tests will be given over the course of the semester 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

Near the end of the first semester students will have an oral exam in the form of interviews in pairs. In the last month of the second semester students will hold group oral presentations. These oral assessments will be graded for thorough preparation, coherent, fluent and compelling presentation, accurate use of acquired grammar and vocabulary. Exact times will be arranged with the course instructor.

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ESSAYS

You will write two essays altogether. 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.

PARTICIPATION AT GERMAN EVENTS

5% of your overall grade will be earned through your participation at German events either hosted by the German Department, the Goethe-Institut Toronto, or other German-language related events around the city (e.g. Kaffeestunde, scholarly talks related to German Studies, German-language film screenings, cultural events sponsored by the Goethe-Institut or the German Consulate, German-language operas/plays/Liederabend). If the event, which you are planning on attending, is not organized by the German Department or the Goethe-Institut, **please consult your instructor and get his or her approval first before attending.** In order to earn the full 5%, you will need to attend a **minimum of two events per semester** and provide proof of your attendance, be it by having a supervising faculty member or organizer sign a ticket stub or event program (alternative documentation options must be discussed with and approved by your instructor), and submit a written reaction to the event in 150 words **within one week** of attending the event.

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 15% 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 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

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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 as soon as possible.

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Class Participation

	Attentiveness	Contribution	Use of German
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