

The University of Toronto
Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures
GER 401HS: Advanced German II
Spring 2020

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Class: MW 10-12 in TF201
Office hours: MW 1-2

Course Description

This course is aimed at students with a high level of competence in German. Building on material covered in GER100, 200, 300 and 400, it offers advanced studies of German language, including text-based analysis and with a focus on improving communication skills. It includes a systematic review and expansion of grammar and stylistics, and additional emphasis lies on vocabulary building. The course is partly based on newspaper articles, literary texts, films and websites.

Course Objective

The primary objective of this course is to improve general language competency through review and expansion of grammar, syntax, and vocabulary.

Course Material

Sicher C.1.1. Kursbuch & Arbeitsbuch (available at U of T Bookstore)

Course Requirements

Attendance & Participation (15%) Participation represents a substantial part of your final grade. To be adequately prepared, you should arrive to every class punctually, having completed all the readings and assignments before class. Always bring your copy of *Sicher* as well as any additional assignments necessary for the class.

Vocabulary and Grammar Quizzes (20%) Each week you will write a short quiz based either on grammar or vocabulary covered over the previous two weeks (in class and homework). No make-up quizzes will be granted. Lowest mark will be dropped (e.g. if you are absent and miss a quiz, that one will be dropped).

Two writing assignments (each 10%) You will have one in-class writing assignment and one take-home writing assignment. Criteria will follow.

All courses with a GER denominator count toward German degree programs, but certain rules apply (e.g. a limited number of courses taught in English; see the sections on German degree programs).

Related Matters

FIRST-YEAR SEMINARS: Like all FAS Departments, we offer 2.0 FCE of first-year seminars each year. These courses (GER 196H/197H/198H/199H) are open to first-year students only and provide a small-course experience that allows these newcomers to develop core academic skills. They may count toward German degree programs.

INDEPENDENT STUDY COURSES: Advanced students may, under certain circumstances, undertake an independent reading & research project of their own choice. GER 490H is designed to provide an opportunity to work with an instructor on a project of mutual interest. Often this involves delving deeper into an area of special interest touched upon in a course already taken. To be eligible to take GER 490, a student must have standing in at least 14 courses. The student must have at least a 75% average in all of his or her Germanic literature courses. No student may take this course more than once. It does carry specialist and major credit.

Procedure: After finding a faculty member willing to act as supervisor, student & supervisor work out a project between them and then submit their proposal in writing to the department for approval. A substantive research component is essential to this course (i.e. a literature review alone is not sufficient). Since supervision of GER 490 is "overload," no faculty member is required to take on such supervision; participation is voluntary. Moreover, no faculty member may supervise more than one such course in a given academic year. Given the constraints, the number of sections of GER 490 is limited. Interested students should check the regulations and note particularly the deadlines for application: Permission needs to be obtained by March 1st (Summer Term), May 1st (Fall Term) and by Nov. 1st (Spring Term).

COGNATE COURSES: Certain courses taken outside of the German program may count towards a German major or specialist. Precondition: The course in question should contain a 'significant German element' and a considerable amount of the course reading and work (esp. final essay) has to deal with German topics. Cognate courses require advance approval by the Undergraduate Coordinator, unless they have been identified as such. For a list of identified cognate courses offered each year, see the departmental website.

STUDY ABROAD & CREDIT: The Department of German offers a wide variety of opportunities to pursue language studies in German-speaking countries, ranging from exciting summer programs to full year exchange programs in Berlin and other areas of Germany. In order to assure academic credit for courses taken abroad, they should be pre-approved by the Undergraduate Coordinator. Full-year programs and short intensive summer programs for credit are possible. Contact the department and/or the Centre for International Experience for more information. Information is also available on the German Department website and on p. 32-35 in this handbook.

GERMAN LANGUAGE CITATION: The Citation is intended to offer those who study German and do not assemble enough courses for the Minor a transcript credential. (Note that if you study for a German degree, this citation is of no additional value to you.) To qualify you need two full courses beyond the 100-level with a minimum grade of B- in each of them. Check this website and contact the Undergraduate Coordinator for more information.

Relevant Dates 2019-20

July/August/Sept.	<u>Placement Tests</u> ; please check <u>our website</u> for exact dates
September 5 (Thu)	F/Y classes start
September 13	Waiting lists close
September 18	Last day to add courses with F and Y section codes
October 14	Thanksgiving; University closed
November 4	Last day to drop F-courses from academic record and GPA
November 4-8	Study Break; no classes
December 4 (Wed)	F classes end
December 5	Makeup Monday (at instructor's discretion)
December 6	Study Break
December 7-20	Final Exam period
Dec. 23 - Jan. 3	Winter Holidays; University closed
January 6 (Mon)	S classes begin, Y classes resume
January 16	Waiting lists close
January 19	Deadline to enrol in S section code courses
February 17	Last day to drop Y-courses from academic record and GPA
February 17-21	Reading Week; no classes
March 15	Last day to drop S-courses from academic record and GPA
April 3 (Fri)	S/Y classes end
April 6-25	Final Exam period
April 10	Good Friday

