
Spring 2008 – Kursbeschreibung (syllabus)

Dozent: Frau Rebecca (Becky) Austin
Zeit: Montag, Mittwoch und Freitag, 11:05-11:55 (Fisher 125)
Büro: Walker Arts & Humanities, Zimmer 331
Telefon: 487-3251 (Büro); 482-1086 (privat)
E-Mail: rhudson@mtu.edu

Sprechstunden: Dienstag 13:00-14:30
(anderen Zeiten nach Vereinbarung)
Montag, Mittwoch und Freitag 9:45-10:45 (im Büro mit 3 Kindern)
Donnerstag 9:00-11:00 (im Sprachlabor mit 2 Kindern)

Lehrbücher: We will not be using any one particular textbook, rather bits and pieces from many sources that will either be provided for you in copy/electronic form or in the language lab. I ask that you handle any and all resources with care – some are from my personal library and difficult or expensive to replace.

We will be doing many grammar exercises out of the following book. I will keep a few copies of it in the language lab for you to use. If you wish to do extra grammar work or do the exercises at home, I would encourage you to purchase your own ($35-40). Assignments should, however, be turned in on loose-leaf paper.


Other titles that might be used or of interest:
English Grammar for Students of German: The Study Guide for Those Learning German
A Practical Review of German Grammar
Deutsche Geschichte erzählt von Manfred Mai
Briefe von Felix. Ein kleiner Hase auf Weltreise
Dein buntes Wörterbuch: Prinzessinnen

Anderes: You will need a three-ring binder in which to keep all papers, notes, homework and compositions. It would also be wise to own a good German dictionary.

Course Goals:
Deutsch HU3283 is a continuation of your study of the German language with emphasis on composition and conversation (writing and speaking). By the end of the semester you should:
• feel comfortable in a German-speaking environment.
• have an extended knowledge of German sentence structure and vocabulary.
• read German at an intermediate level of complexity.
• be able to participate actively in discussions and skits.
• be able to present your view on subjects of interest.
• be able to write German texts of varying natures.

All work in this course will stress the use of German as a means of communication and be a building block to improving each student’s writing and speaking abilities. (see page 3)
Grading policy: I DO NOT grade on a curve.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>92-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB</td>
<td>87-91.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>82-86.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B/C</td>
<td>77-81.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>72-76.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>62-66.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-61.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We will be doing five “units” (Einheiten) this semester. Each unit will have its own number of points which will be figured into a grade out of 100 at the end of the unit.

Example Unit

- 25% Grammar & Vocabulary (homework & quizzes)
- 25% Composition
- 25% Oral & Aural (listening)
- 25% other homework (reading, culture, etc.), class participation & lab time

The units will be added together with two “big projects” (50 pts. each) and 100 other discretionary points for a total of 700 points for the semester.

Final Grade Breakdown

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Grade Breakdown</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unit 1</td>
<td>Weeks 2/3: January 21 - February 1</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 2</td>
<td>Weeks 4/5: February 4 - February 15</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 3</td>
<td>Weeks 6/7: February 18 - February 29</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project #1</td>
<td>Week 8: March 3 – March 7</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPRING BREAK</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 4</td>
<td>Weeks 9/10: March 17 – March 28</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 5</td>
<td>Weeks 11/12: March 29 – April 11</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project #2</td>
<td>Week 13: April 14 – April 18</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>other</td>
<td>Weeks 1&amp;14</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Attendance: Regular class attendance and active participation is a required part of your work. You will only earn participation points if you are present for at least two-thirds of the class hour and prepared.

Grammar Homework: Grammar homework is not required, but is designed to help you learn and become more confident with these concepts. Any completed assignments will be figured into the 25% grammar/vocab grade for the unit. If no homework is completed, the grade will be based solely on the quizzes. You must, however, be prepared and able to participate and answer questions in class based on the grammar homework.

All Other Homework: Required unless otherwise stated. Some assignments will be scored, some will simply be pass/fail. There may not be any warning regarding that decision.

Modern Language Lab (Walker 114): As an important tool in language learning, you will be expected to spend time in the lab during each unit. I will be placing materials on hold for assignments and general perusal. You will be asked to participate in active conversations in German with the German consultants. I require one hour of lab use a week but encourage more. If this is impossible, please talk to me.

Pluspunktabend/Stammtisch: Because one of the goals of the course is to increase your comfort level in German-speaking situations I require you to attend TWO of these meetings this semester. Participating in more will earn bonus points. Please go and practice speaking.

Helping Your Grade: If you wish to aid your grade, you are always welcome to engage a consultant or myself in a 5-10 minute conversation in German on a certain topic. It must be a focused, fairly spontaneous dialogue. You may prepare by picking a topic and preparing a few thoughts. To get credit both you and the conversing consultant must send me an email summarizing the talk. Points will be assigned at my discretion and will not exceed that of a homework assignment. I reserve the right to alter this policy at any time.
General Set-up for the week:
We will be working with a new topic approximately every two weeks (for example: travel, shopping/in the kitchen, using your imagination, etc.). You will receive a *Wochenplan* with the specific assignments and general outline at the beginning of each unit.

Although the theme and specific exercises for each unit will change, the basic daily/weekly setup, for the most part, will not. We will be using materials from many different sources including some from the language lab, some from my own stash, and some from the internet. I do reserve the right to change things if the needs of the class so dictate. I hope to provide exercises that will enhance and improve your writing and speaking skills.

Mondays #1:  
due *(Corrected composition from previous topic; new vocab)*  
In-class free writing -- to introduce topic  
Vocab list (20 words from me; 30 from students)  
Grammar review -- HOMEWORK  
Partner conversations  

Wednesdays #1:  
due *(Grammar homework)*  
Small Vocabulary Quiz  
Partner conversations  
Listening comprehension/video clip  
Go over grammar homework -- more HOMEWORK  
**Hwk. Consultant interview/conversation (due Monday/consultant review)**  

Fridays #1:  
due *(Vocab study; Grammar homework)*  
Small Grammar Quiz  
Reading/use of realia/lecture -- (ON-LINE?) HOMEWORK  
Composition Prompt discussion -- COMPOSITION  

Mondays #2:  
due *(Realia homework; **Consultant interview/conversation)*  
Discussion of homework discovery  
Grammar review -- HOMEWORK (*self-corrected, due Friday)  
Partner conversations  
Dictation  
*Do grammar hwk., get signed for completion by MLL consultant, then check answers in lab. (due Friday)*  

Wednesdays #2:  
due *(Composition due)*  
Listening comprehension/video clip  
Role-playing exercise prep  

Fridays #2:  
due *(Grammar homework from Monday; study; Role-Playing Exercise)*  
Grammar/vocab quiz  
Role-playing exercise in front of class  

**Extra Help:** If you find yourself in need of extra help/practice, having any problems, or are concerned about something, *talk to me.* I am here to help (so are the consultants). Catch before or after class, email me, or feel free to call me at home before 9pm.

**Please note:** MTU complies with all federal and state laws regarding discrimination, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). If you have a disability and need a reasonable accommodation for equal access to education or services at MTU, please call Gloria Melton, Associate Dean of Students (487-2212). For other concerns about discrimination, you may contact your advisor, department chair, or the Affirmative Action Office (487-3310).