Michigan Technological University: Herbst 2008
Deutsch HU 3284, Sektion R01
Topics in German Literature and Culture
Kursbeschreibung (Syllabus)

Dozent: Frau Prof. Karin B. Schlenker
Lehrraum: Chemical Sciences and Engineering, Zimmer 104B
Zeit: Mo., Mi., Fr., 12 Uhr 05 bis 12 Uhr 55
Büro: Walker Arts and Humanities Center, Zimmer 336
Telefon: 487-3242
E-Mail: kbschlen@mtu.edu
Sprechstunden: Dienstag 11:00 Uhr bis 12:00 Uhr, Montag 14 Uhr 05 bis 14 Uhr 55; andere Zeiten nach Vereinbarung

Lehrmaterialien:

Required:
- Stationen, Ein Kursbuch für die Mittelstufe

A good German-English dictionary. I suggest: Oxford Duden

Recommended:
- English Grammar for Students of German, 4th edition
- 501 German Verbs, 4th edition

Willkommen in Houghton!!!

Ich freue mich, dass Sie an der Technischen Universität Michigan Deutsch noch weiter lernen möchten...

Course Goals: This course will be taught mostly in German. All four language skills (speaking, listening comprehension, reading and writing) will be stressed and by the end of the course, you will be able to use advanced language and structures to communicate.

All work in this course will stress the use of German as a means of communication.

Inhalt und Aufbau des Kurses

The prerequisite for this class is HU 3282 or HU 3283. In this class we will be reading and studying German history, literature and culture, mostly 20th century. We will be concentrating on the Inge Scholl book, but also be reading other texts as well. Mondays and Wednesdays will be used for the Inge Scholl text; Fridays will be reserved for other texts. Fridays may also be used for quizzes. Grammar will not be covered in this class UNLESS I see a need to cover a specific topic.
I will provide words for the "Wortschatz" and both comprehension and discussion questions for each section of the text we will be studying. You will work with a partner the entire semester so chose somebody who you will not have any problems getting together with. There will also be a lot of group work in class. Since the study of language involves using it frequently, class participation will be extremely important.

Since the text we are reading ("Die Weiße Rose") is an authentic text with no Wortschatz list, I have chosen words from the text for you to look up and have tried to gear the questions so that it will be easier for you to understand.

I have also placed abridged copies of the book in the language lab. Please note: The abridged copy will make it easier for you to understand but may also leave out parts of the text that are crucial to our class. You must ask the person behind the desk in the language lab for the abridged text and sign it in and out. You will only be able to use it in the language lab during regular hours. Please do not take it with you.

I have also included "Ihrer Meinung nach..." and "Schauen Sie nach..." questions. These will be discussed in class groups where everybody will share their findings first with their partner, then with group members and the rest of the class.

We will also be watching at least one film outside of class.

Specific Instructions on how to do assignments are attached to this syllabus.

The grade will consist of classwork, homework, quizzes, three Aufsätze and a Referat. There will not be any exams. Quizzes will be Wortschatz quizzes which will be given approximately every two weeks. I suggest that you get a 3-ring binder or a folder to keep your syllabi, corrected written assignments and other materials together.

Oral participation assumes regular attendance in class.

**How to Succeed in Learning German**

Learning a language is different from study in most other academic areas such as sciences and engineering. It involves both, the comprehension of ideas and the mastery of practical skills (listening, reading, speaking and writing). The latter requires intensive daily practice. Those of you who have learned to play a musical instrument or become proficient at any sport can appreciate that fact—knowing that one will be rewarded with a great feeling of success! Regular attendance in class and regular active participation is a required part of your work. Preparation of each daily assignment in advance of the class meeting, where you will get structured, guided practice in using German, is necessary for your own success in learning as well as for the success of the entire group's working together.

As a rule you will have homework assigned for almost every class meeting. Written assignments are to be submitted at the start of the class period for which they are scheduled. Homework submitted after the start of class will be corrected, but only for half credit. Do not skip class because of less than complete preparation. This will deprive you of essential knowledge and experience that can not be made up.

How much time should you spend studying German? The answer to that depends on many variables, e.g., your background, your native ability, but a good rule of thumb is: one hour (or at the most two hours) outside class for every hour in class. If you spend that amount of time each week, spread over the entire week (not all in one day or during one night before a test!), actively studying (not just sitting there looking at the book!), you should achieve the goals of this course successfully and also be rewarded with a great feeling of intellectual enrichment.
**Grading Scale:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>92-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A/B</td>
<td>87-91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>82-86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B/C</td>
<td>77-81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>72-76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C/D</td>
<td>67-71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>62-66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-61%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Tentative Quiz, Aufsatz and Referat Schedule:**

**Quizzes:**
- September 19th
- October 3rd
- October 17th
- October 31st
- November 14th
- December 5th

**Aufsätze:**
- Aufsatz #1 (150 words): September 26th
- Aufsatz #2 (200 words): October 24th
- Aufsatz #3 (250 words): November 21st

**Referat:** Monday, December 15th, 12:45 – 2:45 (finals week)

**Grade:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 Quizzes @ 5% each</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Aufsätze @ 10% each</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classwork</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referat</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Attendance**

*Attendance is required.* Students who miss more than two classes without university-approved excuses will have points taken off their participation grade. There will be no passing grade for students who miss more than 30% of classes without university-approved excuses. Excessive tardiness will also result in a grade reduction.

**Cell Phone Free Environment**

This class room is a "cell phone free environment" from 12:05 to 12:55 p.m. Students who use their cell phones during class will lower their final grade by half a grade.

**Academic Integrity**

MTU’s Academic Integrity Policy defines plagiarism as “knowingly copying another’s work and calling it one’s own or not giving proper credit or citation.” The penalties for plagiarism or other forms of cheating range from receiving a failure grade on work in question to expulsion from the university. Students who have any questions about the issue, or who have questions about whether they have cited their sources properly, should consult the instructor or a coach in the Writing Center.

**MTU’s Policy on Discrimination and Harassment**

Michigan Tech complies with all federal and state laws and regulations regarding discrimination, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you have a disability and need a