Michigan Technological University: Frühjahr 2010

Deutsch HU 2281, Sektion R01
German Lang and Cult

Kursbeschreibung (Syllabus)

Dozent: Frau Prof. Karin B. Schlenker
Lehrraum: Walker Arts and Humanities Center, Zimmer 109
Zeit: Mo., Mi., Fr., 9 Uhr 05 bis 9 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, Freitag 13 Uhr 50 bis 14 Uhr 50; andere Zeiten nach Vereinbarung

Lehrmaterialien: Deutsch Heute, Introductory German, 9th Edition – Textbuch und Arbeitsheft

Willkommen in Houghton!!!

Ich freue mich, dass Sie an der Technischen Universität Michigan Deutsch lernen möchten.... I am pleased that you are going to study German and hope that I can help you achieve a reasonable mastery of basic German during the time allotted this semester.

Course Goals: All four language skills (speaking, listening comprehension, reading and writing) will be taught equally and at the end of the course you should be able to communicate using basic German. German culture will also be covered.

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

Inhalt und Aufbau des Kurses

Role-playing, worksheets, etc. will be used in class to emphasize the goals of each chapter. Often there will be group work. The grade will include homework from the Workbook and the Lab Manual, quizzes and exams, class participation as well as written and oral practice, and at the end, an “Oral Exam” (more about that later). Since the study of language involves using it frequently, class participation will be extremely important. Oral participation assumes regular attendance in class.

After each chapter, there will be a chapter exam. These are always announced and will include a review session the class before the exam where I will go over the chapter and answer any questions that you may have. The Workbook assignment is due by the beginning of class of the review session. Other homework may also be assigned during the study of each chapter.
An important aid in language learning is the language laboratory. You are required to go to the lab and complete the lab assignment for the chapter. The Lab Manual assignment is due by the beginning of the exam. The Modern Language Laboratory is located on the first floor in Walker, across from the Writing Center. You should spend as much time as is needed to complete the assignment. Of course, you do not have to do it all in one sitting. In fact, going there several times will be much better.

Alles Gute für dieses Frühlingssemester—und viel Spaß!

Orientierungshilfen zum Lernen von Deutsch als Fremdsprache

You will receive a chapter syllabus (Kapitelplan) with the goals for that chapter. I suggest that you get a 3-ring binder or a folder to keep your syllabus, corrected written assignments and other materials together.

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 cannot 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:

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>92 - 100%</td>
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<td>A/B</td>
<td>87 - 91%</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>82 - 86%</td>
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<td>B/C</td>
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<td>C</td>
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<td>D</td>
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Tentative Exam Schedule:

Einführung   January 29th  Kapitel 3  April 7th
Kapitel 1   February 22nd  Kapitel 4  Final Exam week
Kapitel 2   March 19th

Quiz dates to be announced.

Grade:

5 Exams @ 7% each = 35%
4 Quizzes @ 3% each = 12%
5 Workbook @ 2.5% each = 12.5%
5 Lab Manual @ 2.5% each = 12.5%
Other Assignments 5%
Participation 11%
Oral Exam 12%

Attendance
Attendance is required. Students are allowed two absences. Your final participation grade will be lowered by 5 points for each additional unexcused absence.

Cell Phone and Lap Top Free Environment
This class room is a cell phone and lap top free environment from 9:05 to 9:55 p.m. Students who use their cell phones and/or lap tops 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 reasonable accommodation for equal access to education or services at Michigan Tech, please call the Dean of Students Office, at 487-2212. For other concerns about discrimination, you may contact your advisor, department head or the Affirmative Action Office, at 487-3310.

This course description and all schedules are tentative and may be changed. If any such changes are made, you will receive a printed update during our regular class meetings.
Other opportunities offered by MTU’s German Program

- German Club: The MTU German Club (presently inactive) is a charter affiliate of the American Association of Students of German.
- MTU Minor in German
- MTU International Minor in German
- MTU Certificate in Foreign Language and Area Study
- Advanced Certificate in Foreign Language and Area Study
- Summer Internships for juniors and seniors in German companies and universities
- Graduate Student Exchange with a number of German and Swiss universities