Michigan Technological University: Fall 2010

Deutsch HU 3281
LEVEL II-A GERMAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE
Kursbeschreibung (Syllabus)

Dozent: Janice Cox-Adolphs
Lehrraum: Walker, Room 109
Zeit: MW/F 3:05-3:55
Büro: Walker Arts and Humanities Center, Room 335
Telefon: 482-3182
E-Mail: iecoxado@mtu.edu
Sprechstunden: MW/F 4:00-4:30

Lehrbücher: Deutsch heute, Moeller, Adolph, Hoechert, Alden, Berger. 9th edition

Willkommen in Houghton!
Ich freue mich, daß Sie an der Technischen Universität Michigan weiter Deutsch
lernen möchten... I am pleased that you are going to continue your study of German and
hope that I can help you achieve a reasonable mastery of German during the time allotted
this semester.

Course Goals: Deutsch HU3281 is a continuation of your study of German language and of
representative cultural features of the main German-speaking countries. The
prerequisite for this course is the successful completion of HU2281 or an equivalent
knowledge demonstrated on the German placement test. By the end of the entire
academic year you should have improved your skills in order to:
• feel comfortable in a German-speaking environment
• have a thorough knowledge of German grammar and vocabulary
• read German of an introductory level of complexity
• participate in discussions and skits
• present your view on subjects of interest
• be more familiar with cultural similarities and differences
• write German texts like a personal letter, a journal, and short compositions.

All work in this course will stress the use of German as a means of
communication.
Inhalt und Aufbau des Kurses

The course covers four topics ("Themen") and the final four grammar chapters of Deutsch heute. During the entire course we will also try to apply newly learned skills by working in small groups (AGs = Arbeitsgruppen). There also will be time for German voice and music tapes, as well as videos. There will be at least four exams, a number of short quizzes, and a variety of homework assignments. Grades will be based on written work (50% tests and quizzes, 25% homework), and oral participation (25%). Oral participation assumes regular attendance in class.

You are welcome to discuss with me any matters related to the course and your studies. Alles Gute für dieses Herbstsemester -- und viel Spaß!

Orientierungshilfen zum Lernen von Deutsch als Fremdsprache

The Deutsch heute web site at

provides web search activities for each Thema, grammar exercises and practice tests, and lists additional information about the Thema.

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.

As a rule you will have homework assigned at least one per week. 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:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>92-100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>A/B</td>
<td>87-91.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>82-86.9%</td>
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<td>B/C</td>
<td>77-81.9%</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>72.76.9%</td>
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<td>C/D</td>
<td>67-71.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>62-66.9%</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>0-61.9</td>
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Attendance
Attendance is required. Students who miss more than three classes without university-approved excuses will lower their final grade by a full 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 3:05-3:55 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 failing grade on the 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
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 Dr. 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)

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.