Michigan Technological University: Herbst 2012
Deutsch HU 2281, Sektion R02
German Lang and Cult

Kursbeschreibung (Syllabus)

Dozent: Frau Prof. Karin B. Schlenker
Lehrraum: Fisher 127
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; andere Zeiten nach Vereinbarung

Lehrmaterialien: Deutsch Heute, Introductory German, 10th Edition – Textbuch und Student Activities Manual (available online through the iLrn website)

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 pair and 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. The written part of chapter exams will be taken online and will be submitted electronically on the scheduled dates. The Oral Component of the Exams will be at the beginning of class on the scheduled dates. Exams are always announced and will always include a review session the class before the exam where I will go over the chapter and answer any questions that you may have. You can also use the self-tests online to review for exams.

Quizzes will also be taken online and will be submitted electronically.
The Workbook assignment is normally due by the beginning of class of the review session. The Lab assignment is normally due the day of the Exam. Both the workbook and the lab will be found online on the iLrn website and will be submitted electronically.

Other homework may also be assigned during the study of each chapter. I will be communicating mostly through Announcements on Canvas and by email. Please make sure that your settings on Notification Preferences on Canvas for Announcements is set on “Notify Me Right Away”.

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. The Kapitelplan also includes dates for quizzes and Exams. 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>
<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%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>82-86%</td>
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<td>B/C</td>
<td>77-81%</td>
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<td>C</td>
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<td>C/D</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>62-66%</td>
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<td>F</td>
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Exam Schedule:
(The written part of the Exam is to be taken online and handed in by 11:59 on the scheduled date, expect where otherwise indicated. The Oral section will be done at the beginning of class on the scheduled date, unless otherwise indicated.)

Exam #1 (Einführung): September 21st
Exam #2 (Kapitel 1): October 10th
Exam #3 (Kapitel 2): October 26th
Exam #4 (Kapitel 3): Oral component: November 14th beginning of class; Written: due on November 15th
Exam #5 (Kapitel 4): Oral component: December 14th beginning of class; Written: due on December 17th by 2:00 pm.

Your total grade for each Exam consists of your grade for the Oral and Written components.

Quizzes are also to be taken online and are due at 11:59 on the scheduled date.

Quiz #1 (Kapitel 1): September 28th
Quiz #2 (Kapitel 2): October 22nd
Quiz #3 (Kapitel 3): November 5th
Quiz #4 (Kapitel 4): December 7th

Grade:

5 Exams @ 7% each = 35%
4 Quizzes @ 3.5% each = 14%
5 Workbook @ 2.5% each = 12.5%
5 Lab Manual @ 2.5% each = 12.5%
Other Assignments 5%
Participation 10%
Oral Exam 11%

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 Free Environment
This class room is a cell phone free environment from 9:05 to 9:55 p.m. Students who use their cell phones during class will lower their final grade by half a grade. Lap tops will only be permitted for those students who are using the online textbook. If you are one of those students, please let me know the first week of class.

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.

About me: I'm a native New Yorker and sometimes we get a little bit loud. I'm not yelling at you or mad at you so please don't take it personally :-) If you have any questions or problems, I'm always available. Please feel free to talk to me any time.

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
- Summer Internships for juniors and seniors in German companies and universities
- Graduate Student Exchange with a number of German and Swiss universities