Course Syllabus

HU3280 Level IIB German Language and Culture

Department of Humanities

Fall 2013

Instructor Information

Instructor: Janice E. Cox-Adolphs
Office Location: 335 Walker Arts and Humanities Center
Telephone: Office – (906-482-3182)
E-mail: jecoxado@mtu.edu; hu3282-r01-fa13-l@mtu.edu
Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday, 10:30 am to 11:00 am
and by appointment

Course Identification

Course Number: HU3280-R01
Course Name: Level IIC German Language and Culture
Course Location: Walker Arts and Humanities Center, Room 109
Class Times: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 11:05 am to 11:55 am

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 HU3280 is the continuation of your Level I study of German language and representative cultural features of the main German-speaking countries. The prerequisite for this course is the successful completion of HU2282 or an equivalent knowledge demonstrated on the German placement test. By the end of the entire Level I sequence you should have improved your skills in order to:

- feel comfortable in a German-speaking environment
- have a good knowledge of German grammar
- read German of an introductory level of complexity
- participate in discussions
- present your view on subjects of interest
- be more familiar with cultural similarities and differences
- and be able to write a German text, such as a personal letter.

Inhalt und Aufbau des Kurses

The course covers four chapters of Deutsch heute. Throughout the course we will try to apply newly learned skills by working in small groups (Arbeitsgruppen). There also will be time for German voice and music tapes, as well as videos. There will be 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.
How to Succeed in Learning German

Learning a language is different from study in most other academic areas, such as science 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 as a result of daily practice. 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 receive 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 every class session. 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.

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

Orientierungshilfen zum Lernen von Deutsch als Fremdsprache

An important aid in language learning is the Humanities Digital Media Zone (HDMZ, next to our classroom). We have advanced students and native German speakers who can help you with assignments and other questions at certain hours.

Tentative Exam Schedule:

Exam 1 - October 4th  (Chapter 9 - Switzerland/reflexive verbs/comparisons)
Exam 2 - November 1st (Chapter 10 - 1945 to Present/simple past)
Exam 3 - November 29th (Chapter 11 - World of Work/subjunctive)
Exam 4 - December 11th (Chapter 12 - Multi-cultural Society/passive/relative clauses)
**Attendance is required.** Students who miss more than two classes without university-approved excuses will lower their final grade by half a grade; those who miss more than three will lower their 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.” 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.

**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 the 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).

**Other opportunities offered by MTU’s German Program**

- German Club
- 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
- Undergraduate and Graduate Student Exchange with a number of German universities

German Language Studies as Part of MTU’s General Education Requirements (for HU3282 Students)

Students who study a language at MTU may satisfy general education requirements, as well as requirements for the Minor and International Minor in German, and the Modern Language and Area Study Certificate. Depending on the student’s previous exposure to a language, there are four different options.

HU3282 will also replace the UN1025 (Global Issues) requirement. Students may continue with third- and fourth year courses of this language and count this course work toward the general education distribution (HASS) requirement.

Grading Scheme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade points/credit</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93% &amp; above</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB</td>
<td>87% – 92%</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>Very good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>82% – 86%</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BC</td>
<td>76% – 81%</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td>Above average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70% – 75%</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>Average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CD</td>
<td>65% – 69%</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>Below average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60% – 64%</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>Inferior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>59% and below</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>Failure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I
Incomplete; given only when a student is unable to complete a segment of the course because of circumstances beyond the student’s control.

X
Conditional, with no grade points per credit; given only when the student is at fault in failing to complete a minor segment of a course, but in the judgment of the instructor does not need to repeat the course. It must be made up by the close of the next semester or the grade becomes a failure (F). A (X) grade is computed into the grade point average as a (F) grade.