Michigan Technological University: Herbst 2013
Deutsch HU 3281, Sektion R01
German Lang and Culture

Kursbeschreibung (Syllabus)

Dozent: Frau Prof. Karin B. Schlenker
Lehrraum: Fisher 127
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, andere Zeiten nach Vereinbarung
Pre-requisite: HU 3280 or between 321 and 420 on Placement test

Lehrbücher:

English-German/German-English dictionary

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 HU3282 is a continuation of your study of the German language and of representative cultural features of the main German-speaking countries. The goals of this course are to:
1. feel more comfortable in a German-speaking environment
2. have a better knowledge of German grammar and vocabulary
3. read German of an intermediate level of complexity
4. participate in discussions and skits
5. present your view on subjects of interest
6. be more familiar with cultural similarities and differences
7. be able to 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

Chapters 1-3 will be covered in HU3282. Each chapter is divided into Kulturlesestücke, Literatur and Grammatik. The majority of the grammar is review, although new topics will also be covered. Students will work often with partners or in groups. The grade will include classwork, homework from the textbook, exercises from the Übungsbuch (available on Canvas), Aufsätze, other assignments, 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 the week before 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. Quizzes will be announced. Additionally, for each chapter, an "Aufsatz" will be assigned. Other homework will be assigned regularly. **In order to succeed, you must come prepared to class.**

An important aid in language learning is the HDMZ "language laboratory". You are required to go to the HDMZ and complete the lab assignment for the chapter. Remember to sign in when you go. The consultant schedule can be found online (Go to [http://www.hu.mtu.edu/index.php](http://www.hu.mtu.edu/index.php) Resources, then Humanities Digital Media Zone). 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.

Another aspect of the class will be the use of the *Kurzfilm* (Chapter 2), which will be shown during class time. There will also be one required film shown outside of class.

Since I will be communicating a lot by email and through the announcements on Canvas, to ensure that you receive all messages, your notification preferences on Canvas for Announcements should be set to "Right Away"

*Alles Gute für dieses Herbstsemester—und viel Spaß!*

**Orientierungshilfen zum Lernen von Deutsch als Fremdsprache**

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

You can have access to the *Kaleidoskop* web site by clicking on the link below and following the instructions:


**Click on the bottom: I don’t have an access code or course key**

**Type in the ISBN #: 9781111344207**

**Click “Add” on the bottom**

It will take you to the Registration screen, which you should fill out.

**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 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:

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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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<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>
<td>72-76%</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>
<td>0-61%</td>
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Tentative Test Schedule:

Kapitel 1  October 4th  Kapitel 3  December 13th
Kapitel 2  November 4th

Quizzes and Aufsätze will be announced on the Hausaufgaben schedule for each chapter.

Grade:

3 Exams @ 10% each = 30%
3 Quizzes @ 5% each = 15%
3 Aufsätze @ 5% each = 15%
Homework @ 5% each = 15%
Classwork 5%
Participation 10%
Oral Exam 10%

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 12:05 to 12:55 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.

**MTU’s Policy on Student Work**

Student work products (exams, essays, projects, etc.) may be used for purposes of university, program, or course assessment. All work used for assessment purposes will not include any individual student identification.

*This course description and all schedules are tentative and may be changed. If any such changes are made, you will receive a printed update.*

**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

**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.