

German 82-221
Intermediate German I
Fall 2016

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Textbooks (first two books are available at the CMU bookstore)

- Goulding/Strehl/von Schmidt. *Mittendrin. Deutsche Sprache und Kultur für die Mittelstufe.* Pearson, 2013.
- Goulding/Strehl/von Schmidt. *Mittendrin. Deutsche Sprache und Kultur für die Mittelstufe.* Student Activities Manual. Pearson, 2013.
- A good dictionary

Course Goals

This course aims to increase your proficiency in all four language skills: reading, writing, speaking, and listening comprehension. You will get practice in speaking and listening through classroom discussions of the readings as well as group discussions of general topics. In addition to this, we will have a thorough grammar review.

Students should be able to

- increase their existing vocabulary significantly and be able to use those words effectively in a conversation or in writing
- review their grammatical knowledge and expand it through numerous homework assignments and through exercises in class
- fine-tune their writing skills through multiple individual blog entries

Requirements

This class uses a project-based learning approach, which has proven to be very effective in using and retaining a new language. Throughout the semester, you will all be assigned to groups and work together to produce a tourist guide for German-speaking countries that can help others in navigating the difficulties that arise when abroad. Your project will involve the engagement with five different regions/cities that you need to discuss and explore both within your groups and in your textbook/during our regular class time:

1. Northern Germany
2. Berlin
3. Thuringia

4. Vienna
5. Bavaria

In your groups, you will create content in form of blog entries and present this information when we reach the end of each chapter.

1. Blog entries

Working as a group, you will create substantive blog entries. While your groups are there to help you with the writing assignments and presentations, your work will be assessed individually. For each of the five regions/cities, you will create:

1. First blog entry: 200 words plus at least three pictures (per group member):
Recommend a restaurant (one restaurant per group member) that represents your budget and culinary preferences. In your description talk about the atmosphere, the price range of the respective dishes, those dishes you would like to try, the décor of the restaurant, and the crowd it might attract.
2. Second blog entry: 200 words plus at least three pictures (per group member):
Recommend an accommodation (one accommodation per group member) that is within your budget as a student and that you would like to try out. Comment on the atmosphere of the place, its décor, its location (right in the city-center, next to public transportation, next to the freeway (noise levels?), etc.), the level of cleanliness you can expect, the types of guests it might attract, and activities in your hostel/hotel/apartment you would like to participate in (tennis court, breakfast, evening activities, etc.). How long would you like to stay there?
3. Third blog entry: 250 words plus at least three pictures (per group member):
Describe a famous person – dead or alive – that you find intriguing. Provide three interesting facts of his or her life, and explain why and how your chosen person became well-known. Also, is it possible to visit specific sites (such as birthplace, monuments, museums, etc.) dedicated to your character? If so, where are they?
4. Fourth blog entry: 250 words plus at least three pictures (per group member):
Freizeit: You have an afternoon all to yourself. What would you be most interested in doing? Would you like to visit a museum? If so, which one and why? Would you spend your time at a coffee house to eat cake and have a cup of excellent coffee (that would be especially customary in Vienna)? Would you like to explore the area by bike? What could you see there? Is there an amusement park you would love to visit or an activity such as sky-diving or roller-skating along a river? Your options are endless. Describe one activity in more detail you would love to do and tell your readers why.
5. Fifth blog entry: 300 words plus at least three pictures (per group member):
We have already talked about many important things (such as accommodation or good restaurants) you need to know when traveling to different parts of Germany. Yet, what about regional specialties? If you were to bring back a specific item that characterizes the area/city you just visited what would it be? Would it be a box of chocolate, a cookbook with regional dishes, an item of clothing or poster with your favorite site on it? Describe and explain in greater detail.

There will be more specific information given in class at the beginning of each chapter. Yet, keep in mind that your blog entries are meant to help you practice new grammatical structures, vocabulary and

the expression of your own ideas. As a student of Intermediate German I with some prior knowledge of German, you might want to pay specific attention to the following mistakes:

1. Spelling mistakes
2. Gender mistakes
3. Incorrect plural endings
4. Missing capitalization of nouns or incorrect capitalization of verbs, adjectives, etc.

Consult a good dictionary if you are not sure. At the beginning you might have to use your dictionary quite often, but the more you get into the habit of looking up words, the easier it will get. Working in groups and having your work peer-reviewed will help you as well. In addition, you will be able to meet with Sang Xu, our language assistant, to go over recurring mistakes and to make sure that you understand how to use German in your own sentences.

2. Itinerary description

In addition to your respective blog entries, I would like you to create an itinerary description over the course of our last chapter with your group members. Your itinerary will be part of your last presentation and explain the different means of transportation you will have to take in order to arrive at your chosen destinations. There will be a separate handout in class to explain the assignment in more detail. The itinerary description will be part of your blog.

3. Presentations

You will give three presentations with your group members over the course of the semester. The presentations are based on your blog entries and will give you a chance to practice your oral skills in German. You will be able to practice your presentations within your groups before giving them in front of the entire class. Also, I (and your classmates) will give you specific feedback as to the strengths and weaknesses of your performances so that you will be able to improve significantly over the semester. Your presentations will only be graded individually.

4. Grammar exercises

There are 28 grammar assignments to be handed in at the end of class. Your exercises are due on the day they are listed on the syllabus and marked with a number in parenthesis. In order not to “ruin” your student activities manual, I would like you to **type** your answers of the respective exercises on a separate sheet of paper. Put down the page number and the number of the exercise, double-space your answers and use Times New Roman font 12. In order to give you more credit for your grammar assignments, I would like you to correct your assignments yourselves. The answer key for each grammar exercise is posted on Blackboard (you can find the key under **Course Documents** in the **Grammar Key** folder) so that you can self-correct your homework assignments. Use a **red pen** and mark **everything** that is wrong (that includes spelling, word order, endings, etc.). Bring your assignments to class so that I can collect your corrected assignments and take a look at them. I will give you full credit if you completed and checked all answers – the number of mistakes is not a factor in assigning credit for your homework.

Keep in mind that you are doing all these grammar exercises to significantly improve your grammar skills. Even though the answers are posted on Blackboard, do not look at them before you have completed your exercises on your own. Pay attention to recurring mistakes, and make sure to go over some of the grammar explanations in your Kursbuch if certain rules are not clear to you. Also, don't hesitate to ask questions during class.

5. Kursbuch exercises/quizzes

For almost every class period, there are texts to be read or exercises to be completed in your Kursbuch. These texts/exercises are the prerequisite for a successful participation in class. I will not collect these exercises on a daily basis but will give five unannounced quizzes throughout the semester in order to make sure that everybody is doing their homework. Quizzes are short, approximately five-minute tests in English or German worth 10 points each. **Quizzes cannot be made up.**

6. Vocabulary quizzes

In order to ensure that you are memorizing new words for each chapter, there will be five announced vocabulary quizzes – each quiz pertaining to one Kursbuch chapter. Throughout each chapter, we will actively practice new words at the beginning of each class. Make sure to study carefully: Pay attention to the gender and plural form of nouns, past tense forms, and conjugations when dealing with verbs. **Quizzes are five minutes long and can only be made with a medical document in hand.**

7. Language assistant

We will not have an oral performance grade. Instead, I would like you to schedule **three** mandatory meetings with our language assistant Sang Xu. You can email him to set up a 20-minute appointment: sangx@andrew.cmu.edu. Based on your mistakes in your grammar and blog entries, I will give you specific assignments that you are supposed to work on with Sang. Once you have met with Sang, bring a signed and dated language assistant form (you can find the form on Blackboard) to class so that I can give you credit for your meeting. In addition, you are welcome to see Sang anytime you feel lost in class, are in need of additional help, or need someone to talk with in German.

Grading

Final Grades

Final grades are determined according to the following percentages:

90% = A

80% = B

70% = C

60% = D

Below 60% = R

Blog entries

1. blog entry	30
2. blog entry	50
3. blog entry	75
4. blog entry	75
5. blog entry	100

Presentations of blog content

1. presentation	50
2. presentation	70
3. presentation	100

Itinerary description (group project)

Grammar exercises	28x10	280
Vocabulary quizzes	5x10	50
Content quizzes	5x10	50
Language Assistant	3x10	30

Homework policy

Your homework needs to be turned in at the end of class on the day it is due. If you must miss class, you should still turn in your homework via email by **1:30pm** on the day it is due. Otherwise, it will be counted as late. In general, I will not accept email attachments; yet, as I know that many of you have trouble printing your homework assignments, I will accept your homework via email in exceptional cases but it needs to be in my email inbox by **1:30pm** on the day the assignment is due. If you forget to turn in your homework, I will still accept it but will deduct 10% for **each day of the week** that your homework is late. If your assignment is due on Monday but you turn it in on Friday, your maximum grade will be 60%, a D.

Class participation and attendance

Attending and participating in class discussions is vital for both the improvement of your German and for your understanding of the chapter topics. I will count attendance as follows: Each student gets two "free" **excused** absences (if you cannot make it to class, you need to send me an email **before** class on the **same day explaining** your absence), after which each absence counts as -10 points against your total grade for the semester. If you miss, for example, four classes beyond the two absences, then 40 points will be deducted from your final average. That would mean that a 91% average (A) would suddenly become a 87% average (B).

Lateness

I will not tolerate lateness. If you arrive past **12:30pm**, I will automatically deduct **one point for each minute** you arrive late. Should you arrive after **12:40pm**, you will be marked as absent. Lateness disrupts the class and distracts your fellow students from learning.

Policy on making up tests or presentations

You are supposed to be in class on the day of a test or presentation. Should you fail to do so, your grade will be an F unless you provide me with a medical document stating that you had to see a doctor on that very day. Otherwise, no test or presentation can be made up.

Class Materials

It is vital for you to have all your class materials with you. Make sure to bring your textbook to class since we will use it on a daily basis. The same pertains to the materials for group work on the days it is scheduled on the syllabus.

Electronic devices

No cell phones are allowed in this class. Switch off your cell phones and leave them in your bags. Do not check messages or send messages.

Email-Etiquette

Corresponding via email requires a salutation and a good-bye with your name at the bottom of your email. If your email does not contain these basic items I will not respond or accept your attachments. Remember to use Hi, Dear, Hello and my name (you can call me Gabi, Prof. Maier, Dr. Maier – whatever makes you feel most comfortable) and a closing such as Best or Sincerely and your name. Remember to include those items in every email you send.

Academic Honesty

Your name at the top of your written assignments and tests will be your word to me that the work handed in is completely your own. Do not use online translation devices or copy someone else's words (both your fellow students' and academic scholars'). You are welcome to study together, but do not

collaborate in preparing your written assignments. Students who copy their assignments, who allow their assignments to be copied, who use quotes in their papers without citing them properly or who cheat on tests will fail the assignment or test on the first offense and fail the entire course on the second. If you have any questions about the policy on academic honesty, you should consult with me and/or refer to your student handbook. Information on the university's policy on academic honesty can also be found at:

http://www.cmu.edu/student-affairs/theword/acad_standards/individual.html

http://www.cmu.edu/student-affairs/theword/acad_standards/integrity.html

Equal Opportunity Services

The Office of Equal Opportunity Services provides support services for both physically disabled and learning disabled students. For individualized academic adjustment based on a documented disability, contact Equal Opportunity Services at <eos@andrew.cmu.edu> or (412) 268-2012.

Wochenplan

KB Kursbuch

SAM Student Activities Manual

29. August

Einführung

Kapitel 1: Norddeutschland

31. August

KB Lesen Sie: *Einführung* (S. 2) und *Dialekttipp: Plattdeutsch* (S. 3)

Lesen Sie *Grammatik*: 1. Present tense (S. 27-28)

SAM

Grammatik: 01-24, 01-25 (#1)

Gruppenarbeit (10 min)

→ make up

2. September

KB

Lesen Sie *Lesetext 1*: "Stadtrundfahrt Hamburg" (S. 4-6) und lesen Sie *Kulturtipps* (S. 7)

Lesen Sie *Grammatik*: 1. Present tense: Separable prefix verbs (S. 29)

SAM

Grammatik: 01-27, 01-28 (#2)

5. September

Keine Klasse – Labor Day

7. September

KB

Lesen Sie *Hörtext 1*: "Urlaubsziel Mecklenburg-Vorpommern" (S. 13) und lesen Sie *Kulturtipps* (S. 14)

Lesen Sie *Grammatik*: 1. Present tense: Modal verbs (S. 30-31)

SAM

Grammatik: 01-29, 01-31 (#3)

9. September
 KB Lesen Sie *Grammatik*: 2. Simple past tense (S. 32-33)
 SAM **Grammatik: 01-33 (#4)**
Gruppenarbeit (peer review among group members) (20 min)
12. September
 KB Lesen Sie *Lesetext 3*: "Die Zukunft der Windkraft liegt im Meer"
 (S. 16-18). Machen Sie *Beim Lesen* (S. 16)
 SAM **Grammatik: 01-34 (#5)**
14. September
 KB Lesen Sie *Hörttext 2*: "'Die Stadt' von Theodor Storm" (S. 25)
 Lesen Sie *Grammatik*: 3. Future tense (S. 35)
 SAM **Grammatik: 01-36, 01-38, 01-39 (#6)**
Vokabeltest (SAM S. 10)
16. September
 Grammatikwiederholung
Gruppenarbeit (15 min)
19. September
Präsentationen (Gruppe A)
Feedback from peers
Blog entry due by midnight
- Kapitel 2: Berlin**
21. September
 KB Lesen Sie *Einführung* (S. 39) und *Dialekttipp: Berlinerisch* (S. 40)
 Lesen Sie *Grammatik*: 1. Present perfect tense (S. 65-67)
 SAM **Grammatik: 02-26, 02-27, 02-28 (#7)**
Gruppenarbeit (10 min)
23. September
 Lesen Sie *Lesetext 1*: „Freie Universität Berlin“ (S. 41-43)
 und machen Sie *Beim Lesen* (S. 41)
 SAM **Grammatik: 02-30 (#8)**
26. September
 KB Lesen Sie *Hörttext 1*: „Erinnerungen an den Mauerfall: Fünf Fragen an
 Brunhilde Heß“ (S. 51) und *Kulturtipps* (S. 52)
 Lesen Sie *Grammatik*: 2. Past perfect tense (S. 69)
 SAM **Grammatik: 02-33, 02-35 (#9)**
28. September
 KB Lesen Sie *Grammatik*: 3. Gender of nouns (S. 70-71) und 4. Nouns: Plural
 forms (S. 72)
 SAM **Grammatik: 02-37, 02-42 (#10)**
Gruppenarbeit (peer review with a different group) (20 min)

30. September
- KB Lesen Sie *Lesetext 4*: „Ein Wochenende in Berlin“ (S. 58-59) und *Kulturtipps* (S. 60)
- SAM Lesen Sie *Grammatik*: 5. Imperative mood (S. 73-74)
Grammatik: 02-44, 02-46 (#11)
3. Oktober
- KB Lesen Sie *Hörttext 2*: „Ausflugsziel Brandenburg?“ (S. 62) und *Kulturtipps* (S. 63)
Vokabeltest (SAM S. 37)
5. Oktober
- Grammatikwiederholung
Gruppenarbeit (15 min)
7. Oktober
- Präsentationen (Gruppe B)**
Feedback from peers
Blog entry due by midnight
- Kapitel 3: Thüringen**
10. Oktober
- KB Lesen Sie *Einführung* (S. 77) und *Dialekttipp: Thüringisch* (S. 78)
 Lesen Sie *Grammatik*: 1. Noun Cases (S. 104-105)
- SAM **Grammatik: 03-26 (#12)**
Gruppenarbeit (10 min)
12. Oktober
- KB Lesen Sie *Lesetext 1*: „Auf den Spuren Johann Sebastian Bachs in Thüringen“ (S. 79-81) und machen Sie *Beim Lesen* (S. 79)
 Lesen Sie *Grammatik*: 1. Noun Cases (S. 106-107)
- SAM **Grammatik: 03-28 (#13)**
14. Oktober
- KB Lesen Sie *Hörttext 1*: „Tourismus im Thüringer Wald in Zeiten des Klimawandels“ (S. 89-91) und *Kulturtipps* (S. 91)
 Lesen Sie *Grammatik*: 2. Articles: der-words and ein-words (S. 108) und Indefinite articles/ ein-words (S. 109-110)
- SAM **Grammatik: 03-29, 03-30 (#14)**
17. Oktober
- SAM **Grammatik: 03-34, 03-35 (#15)**
Gruppenarbeit (peer review among group members) (20 min)
19. Oktober
- KB Lesen Sie *Lesetext 4*: „Universitätsstadt Weimar“ (S. 96-99) und machen Sie *Beim Lesen* (S. 97)
 Lesen Sie *Grammatik*: 3. Personal pronouns (S. 111-112)
- SAM **Grammatik: 03-36 (#16)**

21. Oktober

Keine Klasse – Mid-Semester Break

24. Oktober

KB

Lesen Sie *Hörtext 2*: „Zwei Studentinnen in Weimar“ (S. 102) und *Kulturtipps* (S. 103)

Lesen Sie *Grammatik*: 4. Word order: Accusative and dative objects (S. 113)

SAM

Grammatik: 03-39 (#17)

Vokabeltest (SAM S. 67)

26. Oktober

Grammatikwiederholung

Gruppenarbeit (15 min)

28. Oktober

Präsentationen (Gruppe A)

Feedback from peers

Blog entry due by midnight

Kapitel 4: Wien

31. Oktober

KB

Lesen Sie *Einführung* (S. 116) und *Dialektipp: Wienerisch* (S. 117)

Lesen Sie *Grammatik*: 1. Prepositions: Accusative prepositions (S. 142-143)

SAM

Grammatik: 04-26 (#18)

Gruppenarbeit (10 min)

2. November

KB

Lesen Sie *Lesetext 2*: „Stephansdom“ (S. 126-128) und machen Sie *Vokabelarbeit* (S. 129)

Lesen Sie *Grammatik*: 1. Prepositions: Dative prepositions (S. 143-145)

SAM

Grammatik: 04-28 (#19)

4. November

KB

Lesen Sie *Hörtext 1*: „Ein Anruf beim Vienna Ticket Office“ (S. 124)

Lesen Sie *Grammatik*: 1. Prepositions: Genitive prepositions (S. 146-147)

SAM

Grammatik: 04-30 (#20)

7. November

KB

Lesen Sie *Grammatik*: 1. Two-way prepositions (S. 147-150)

SAM

Grammatik: 04-32, 04-34 (#21)

Gruppenarbeit (peer review with a different group) (20 min)

9. November

KB

Lesen Sie *Lesetext 3*: „Kaffee. Wien – Mit Leib und Seele“ (S. 130-132) und machen Sie *Beim Lesen* (S. 131)

Lesen Sie *Grammatik*: 2. Da- and wo-compounds (S. 151-152)

SAM

Grammatik: 04-36, 04-38 (#22)

11. November
 SAM **Keine Klasse – Gabi bei Konferenz**
Grammatik: 04-35 (#23) (due on Monday)
14. November
 Grammatikwiederholung
Vokabeltest (SAM S. 96)
Gruppenarbeit (15 min)
16. November
Präsentationen (Gruppe B)
Feedback from peers
Blog entry due by midnight
18. November
 KB **Kapitel 5: Bayern**
 Lesen Sie *Einführung* (S. 156) und *Dialekttipps: Bairisch* (S. 157)
 Lesen Sie *Grammatik*: 1. Adjective endings (S. 185-188)
 SAM **Grammatik: 05-22 (#24)**
Gruppenarbeit (10 min)
21. November
 KB Lesen Sie *Lesetext 2*: „Vier Geheimtipps von Bayern für Bayern“ (S. 163-166) und lesen Sie *Kulturtipps* (S. 166-167)
 SAM **Grammatik: 05-23 (#25)**
- 23.-25. November
Keine Klasse - Thanksgiving
28. November
 KB Lesen Sie *Hörttext 1*: „Praktikum bei BMW“ (S. 169)
 Lesen Sie *Grammatik*: 2. Degrees of adjectives and adverbs: Positive, comparative, superlative (S. 189-191)
 SAM **Grammatik: 05-31, 05-33 (#26)**
30. November
Gruppenarbeit (peer review among group members) (20 min)
2. Dezember
 KB Lesen Sie *Lesetext 4*: „’Das doppelte Lottchen’ von Erich Kästner“ (S. 181-183 und machen Sie *Vokabelarbeit* (S. 184; 5-33)
 Lesen Sie *Grammatik*: 3. Cardinal numbers (S. 192) und 4. Ordinal numbers (S. 193)
 SAM **Grammatik: 05-35, 05-36, 05-39 (#27)**
5. Dezember
 KB Lesen Sie *Hörttext 2*: „Weihnachtsmarkt mit langer Tradition“ (S. 178-79)
 Lesen Sie *Grammatik*: 5. Dates (S. 194)
 SAM **Grammatik: 05-27, 05-29 (#28)**
Vokabeltest (SAM S. 119)

7. Dezember

Grammatikwiederholung
Gruppenarbeit (15 min)

9. Dezember

Independent work on itinerary (How would you get from one place to another? Write down trains/flights and costs.)

Final presentations (alle Gruppen): TBD