

# Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures

## German 1101.01—German I

### Required Textbook

- *Netzwerk A1: Deutsch als Fremdsprache*. Kursbuch mit 2 Audio-CDs. ISBN 978-3-12-606128-5  
Authors: Stefanie Dengler, Paul Rusch, Helen Schmitz, Tanja Sieber
- *Online-Code to Digital Workbook*

We will complete chapters 1-9 in *Netzwerk A1*.

### Suggested Material

- *English Grammar for Students of German*, fifth edition, (Zorach/Melin/Kautz) The Olivia and Hill Press ISBN 978-0-934034-38-8

**Note:** You may purchase the Textbooks and the Online-Code to the Digital Workbook (*Blinklearning*) through the OSU bookstore (Barnes and Noble). The Online-Code is sold separately and is not included in the Textbook packet. However, you may also order your books or the code from the publisher's website directly at <http://www.klett-sprachen.de/netzwerk/r-1/187#reiter=titel&niveau=A1>

### Course Description

German 1101.01 is an introduction to the German language and German-speaking cultures. It is the first of a three-semester course sequence designed to address the goals of category **1. Skills: C. Foreign Language** of OSU's General Education Curriculum:

### Goals

Foreign Language coursework develops students' skills in communication across ethnic, cultural, ideological, and national boundaries, and an understanding and appreciation of other cultures and patterns of thought.

### Expected Learning Outcomes

1. Students employ communicative skills (e.g. speaking, listening, reading, and/or writing) in a language other than their native language.
2. Students describe and analyze the cultural contexts and manifestations of the peoples who speak the language that they are studying.
3. Students compare and contrast the cultures and communities of the language that they are studying with their own.

German 1101.01 is designed to help you learn to communicate in culturally appropriate ways in German. We aim to help you develop balanced skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. At the end of the semester you should be able to listen to simple conversations or stories and understand them, read and understand short texts, engage in brief conversations on everyday topics, and write short essays on familiar topics using the structures and vocabulary you have learned. In addition, you will learn about life and culture in the German-speaking countries. This course conforms to goals set by the European Common Framework of Reference for Languages at the A1 level: <http://www.goethe.de/ins/de/ler/kst/enindex.htm#A1>

### Placement Tests

You are required to fill out the "Student Information Form" (white card) to ensure that you are taking the appropriate level of German. If your last German language class was in junior and/or senior high school, you are required to take the language Placement Test. If your instructor finds that you need to take the German language placement test, you must do so before the first Friday of the semester. The German placement test is a computerized exam, administered by the *Center for Languages, Literatures, and Cultures*. You can find more information on here: <https://germanic.osu.edu/foreign-language-placement-testing>. If you have any questions regarding your German language placement talk to your instructor or contact the language program director Prof. Taleghani-Nikazm at [taleghani-nikazm.1@osu.edu](mailto:taleghani-nikazm.1@osu.edu).

### Recommendations for Success

Becoming proficient in German means developing culturally appropriate language SKILLS in addition to understanding how the language works. Language skills are developed through continuous and meaningful PRACTICE, including practice in using the language to communicate with others. In class, we will use a variety of practice activities and language tasks that require you to interact with others. These are designed to supplement the INDIVIDUAL STUDY and preparation that you can do best by yourself at home. You will find

that REGULAR rather than sporadic PREPARATION is essential for steady progress and good performance. Review lessons every day and review them at least three to four times a day for a period of 45-60 minutes. Keep up with your lessons! Language learning is cumulative. Timely completion of homework helps reinforce your learning and keep you up to date in class. REGULAR ATTENDANCE will give you the opportunity to practice using the language with others and to receive feedback from your instructor; it is also a courtesy to your instructor and the other learners when you attend regularly, fully prepared and motivated to work and learn. Repeated and/or lengthy, unexcused absences will result in the filing of an absence report with your college office.

Regular work with the audio and video programs will help you greatly to understand, pronounce, and speak German. If you work with the listening materials on a consistent basis you will have a distinct advantage in the classroom and on the listening comprehension portion of each test. We also recommend that you take advantage of extracurricular opportunities such as our weekly *Kaffeestunde* to practice your German language skills.

### Class Participation and Homework

Class participation and preparation are essential to your learning and will contribute significantly to your performance. They are an expected part of the course. Therefore, you are encouraged to volunteer often and participate actively. Making errors is natural and part of your language development, so it is necessary that you make your best effort to speak German at all times, and do not wait to be called on before speaking. The following class participation scale is used to assess your weekly performance grade:

<b>100%</b>	high level of preparation; answers when called on; willingly participates in class activities; stays on task during partner/group work; uses German almost exclusively; volunteers answers to open questions (not directed at anyone). Shares pertinent information. Asks questions or volunteers information
<b>90%</b>	regularly prepared; answers when called on; willingly participates in class activities; stays on task during partner/group work; makes a conscious effort to use as much German as possible; volunteers answers to open questions (not directed at anyone).
<b>80%</b>	usually prepared, but preparation inconsistent; answers when called on; uses German when required; willingly participates in class activities; stays on task during partner/group work.
<b>70%</b>	rarely prepared; rarely able to answer when called on; rarely volunteers.
<b>0-60%</b>	not prepared for class; does not participate

As mentioned above, regular practice and preparation are necessary for steady development and success in language learning. Therefore, your instructor will assign daily homework, so you can study the new materials and practice listening, reading and writing German outside the class. Your instructor will typically assign homework from the digital workbook portion of *Netzwerk A1: Deutsch als Fremdsprache, Arbeitsbuch*, and the *German grammar* instructional materials (powerpoints and worksheets) available on the CARMEN course website. The *German grammar* instructional materials provide explicit and clear explanations about German sentence structures and other necessary grammatical items.

**Using your cell phone, texting, checking e-mail, social media, or doing homework during class time will have a negative impact on your grade!**

### Attendance

Daily class attendance is crucial for the development of your language skills and therefore for success in this course regular attendance is expected. Absences will be closely monitored and fall into three categories: "grace sessions", excused absences, and unexcused absences.

Over the course of the semester, you will be permitted **four** days of absences as "grace sessions" (equivalent to one week of class) without the need for official documentation. Any absence beyond the four "grace sessions" can be excused, if you have an acceptable and verifiable reason. Each unexcused absence will result in the lowering your final course grade by 1% at the end of the semester. For example, if your grade is 85% with the fifth unexcused absence beyond your "grace sessions" your grade will be reduced to 84% and 83% with the sixth unexcused absence and so on.

**Note:** *Should you be absent the day of an exam, you must present official, documented proof of illness or of some other calamity in order to be able to make it up. Otherwise, you will receive a zero!*

Absences are only excused with a valid, written excuse. If you have to be absent or are ill, contact a classmate or your instructor to find out the assignments that you missed.

Some examples of **ACCEPTABLE** excuses include:

- Emergency/extreme situations such as illness, family medical emergency, or death in the family
- A career interview that cannot be rescheduled outside of class time (upon verification)
- Governmental duties such as subpoenas, jury duty, and military service

Some examples of **UNACCEPTABLE** excuses include:

- Family vacations
- Conflicts with work schedule (You are a student first at OSU. Instructors expect students' class schedule/performance to take precedence over work schedules.)
- Athletic/recreational activities that are not affiliated with OSU

*Note: The falsification of official documents is a serious offense that will be reported to COAM. See the discussion on Academic Misconduct.*

**Tardiness:** Coming late to class is disrespectful to the students in class and the instructor. It also disrupts the lesson. Repeated **tardiness** will lower your grade. **Four** times 15 minutes late or more will be counted as one full day of unexcused absence.

**Excessive Absences:** Students with 16 or more total absences will not receive a passing grade regardless of the reasons for the absences (grace days, excused, unexcused) since in-class communicative activities cannot be made up. If a student has 16 or more absences and can provide valid documentation for those absences, we will support the student's petition to withdraw from the course late or to do a retroactive withdrawal. Students who find themselves in this situation should notify their academic counselor as soon as possible to explore options.

In sum, make sure that you clearly understand the attendance and tardiness policies for this course, that you keep track of your own attendance and tardiness records (see attached form), and that you make wise decisions regarding if and when you miss class.

## Tests & Assessments

Your grade in this course will be based primarily on your **PERFORMANCE** on assessments that test your German communication skills and knowledge of German culture.

**Quizzes:** There will be one quiz for each chapter (*Kapitel*), a total of 9 quizzes during the semester.

**Tests:** You will also write 2 tests: Test 1 (Kapitel 1-5) and Test 2 (Kapitel 6-8). Dates for all chapter tests will be announced in advance.

All tests and assessments will be graded on a percentage basis. Missed tests or quizzes will count as ZERO. Only in the case of verifiable (documented) illness or emergency will a make-up be given.

**Final exam:** The final exam will be comprehensive but will be weighted more heavily towards chapters 8 and 9. The exam will take place during Final Exam Week. The date of your final exam is \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_. This date is determined by the university and cannot be changed.

**Speaking Assessment:** Your ability to speak and understand spoken German will be assessed in the form of a **SPEAKING PORTFOLIO** which consists of a collection of your work that demonstrate your progress and achievement in your German speaking abilities. For your speaking portfolio you will submit the following activities/assignments:

**Speaking Activities: Part I** (graded, rubric available on CARMEN)

- 2 *Einzelperformance/Monologue + Pronunciation exercises*
- 1 *Partnerperformance/Conversation*

**Speaking Activities: Part 2** (graded, rubric available on CARMEN)

- 1 *Einzelperformance/Monologue + Pronunciation exercises*
- 2 *Partnerperformance/Conversation*

All speaking activities will be announced in advance. You will receive a handout detailing the requirements for these assignments.

**Please Note.** Don't hesitate to visit your instructor during office hours to discuss questions or problems regarding the course. Your instructor is a good source for strategies to help you increase your learning. If you cannot come to office hours, please contact your instructor to arrange a time that you can meet.

**Email Notifications.** All notifications are sent via Carmen. You should set in your OSU account *Conversation Messages On* to receive Carmen notifications so as not to miss important announcements.

The departmental language program director is **Professor Taleghani-Nikazm**, 438 Hagerty Hall, e-mail: taleghani-nikazm.1@osu.edu. The Department office is in 498 Hagerty Hall, phone 292-6985. Visit our department's WEB SITE at <http://germanic.osu.edu>.

### Course Evaluation

<i>Hausaufgaben</i> (Daily Homework)	15%	Speaking Portfolio	15%
Quizzes (9)	5%	Final Exam	25%
Chapter Tests (3)	25%	Class Participation	15%

The Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures uses the following scale:

A = 93-100	C+= 78-79	E = below 63
A-= 90-92	C = 73-77	
B+= 88-89	C-= 70-72	
B = 83-87	D+= 68-69	
B-= 80-82	D = 65-67	

### Office of Student Life's Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS)

If you feel a need to see a counselor/therapist, there is a broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus through the Office of Student Life's Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS). You can visit their website ([ccs.osu.edu](http://ccs.osu.edu)) or call [614-292-5766](tel:614-292-5766). CCS is located on the 4th Floor of the Younkin Success Center and 10th Floor of Lincoln Tower. You can reach an on-call counselor when CCS is closed at [614-292-5766](tel:614-292-5766) and 24 hour emergency help is also available through the 24/7 National Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273-TALK or at [suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://suicidepreventionlifeline.org).

### Academic integrity policy

Academic integrity is essential to maintaining an environment that fosters excellence in teaching, research, and other educational and scholarly activities. Thus, The Ohio State University and the Committee on Academic Misconduct (COAM) expect that all students have read and understand the University's *Code of Student Conduct*. It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term "academic misconduct" includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct <http://studentlife.osu.edu/csc/>.

**If I suspect that a student has committed academic misconduct in this course, I am obligated by University Rules to report my suspicions to the Committee on Academic Misconduct.** If COAM determines that you have violated the University's *Code of Student Conduct* (i.e., committed academic misconduct), the sanctions for the misconduct could include a failing grade in this course and suspension or dismissal from the University.

If you have any questions about the above policy or what constitutes academic misconduct in this course, please contact me.

Other sources of information on academic misconduct (integrity) to which you can refer include:

- The Committee on Academic Misconduct web pages ([COAM Home](#))
- *Ten Suggestions for Preserving Academic Integrity* ([Ten Suggestions](#))
- *Eight Cardinal Rules of Academic Integrity* ([www.northwestern.edu/uacc/8cards.htm](http://www.northwestern.edu/uacc/8cards.htm))

## Policies for this course

You must complete all tests, assignments, and homework, without any external help or communication with for example native speaker friends and family members, online translation programs (Google Translate), or tutors.

## Students with Disabilities

The University strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion. SLDS contact information: [slds@osu.edu](mailto:slds@osu.edu); 614-292-3307; [slds.osu.edu](http://slds.osu.edu); 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

RECORD OF ABSENCES & TARDIES  
(for use by the student)

Key to abbreviations used in chart
G = <i>Grace Day</i> (four 55-minute sessions available to each student)
E = <i>Excused Absence</i> (Acceptable and verifiable reason for missing class)
U = <i>Unexcused Absence</i> (Absent without a valid or permissible reason.)

