# GRMN 101 Elementary German I

# Autumn Semester 2014

## Instructor information:

Instructor: Reinhard Wogg

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Office Hours: M 11.10-12.10

 W 02.10-3.10

 F 12.10-01.10

 And by appointment

## Textbooks:

RobertDi Donato, Monica D. Clyde, and Jacqueline Vansant. *Deutsch: Na klar!* Sixth Edition. Boston: McGraw-Hill, 2012.

Jeanine Briggs. *Workbook to Accompany Deutsch: Na Klar!* Sixth Edition. Boston: McGraw-Hill.

## Course Level

Willkommen! Welcome to German 101, Elementary German. This course is designed for students who are at the *beginning* level of learning German. It is not assumed students have had prior experience with the German language upon entering class. If you have had previous language experience with German in formal coursework or otherwise, you may want to consult your instructor and/or take the MCLL language placement exam to see if this course represents the appropriate level for your needs and interests. It is your responsibility to make sure you are in the correct level of German.

## Course Overview

GRMN 101 is a four-skills course that teaches listening, speaking, reading, and writing with a focus on communication and every day, useful situations. You will learn how to communicate in German about such topics as your friends and family, your courses, where you live, your leisure-time activities, your likes and dislikes, and shopping . At the same time, we will be investigating the rich diversity of culture in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland.

This course meets five times a week and is intended to give you as much of an immersion experience as possible. You will not understand each word, and, at this stage--you are not supposed to. Try to follow by focusing on the context, not each individual word. Pick out words you may recognize to be able to find the meaning. Your instructor will use gestures, pantomime, pictures, and other clues to get the message across. You will find that your comprehension increases as the course progresses.

Grammatical structures and vocabulary are a key component of the course, but they will be presented as they fit into the chapter themes. We will also work on your ability to make educated guesses in German given known contexts, cognates, and vocabulary. As you learn the structure of German, your understanding of English will also increase.

## Course Expectations

To excel in this course, you will have to commit to learning the four basic elements of any language: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The last two are emphasized (though not exclusively) in homework assignments and in chapter tests. Listening and speaking are emphasized in the classroom.

### Participation

Participationis a crucial element in learning a language, and you can only participate if you attend class (see **Attendance Policy** below). The majority of the in-class work is comprised of *interactivities*, language exercises you complete with other students that get you to communicate with each other. You and your fellow students make up a community of German speakers and are each other’s best resource. For this to work, however, each and every one of you is required to initiate conversation, to take chances with the language and to be open to learning from your successes and mistakes. Expect to speak and interact with others every class period. The participation grade is calculated according to the following: Does the student volunteer in class? Is s/he paying attention? Does s/he speak in German during pair work and milling activities? Does the participation involve effective use of material covered in class and in the homework? Does s/he complete the exercise? Does s/he work with a variety of students?

### Homework

Homework will consist of exercises from the workbook and from the textbook as well. When turning in homework, please staple pages together before class and turn in neat homework. Do your best, and be sensitive to assignments you are not certain about. We can discuss them in class, or you can bring them to me during my office hours. In general, assignments from the workbook will follow the sections of the chapter we’re currently discussing. It is very important to keep up with homework as it is assigned. An important component of any written assignment is learning from one’s mistakes.

### Quizzes

At least once per chapter there will be a brief quiz on vocabulary and grammar. As well as being discussed in the “Wörter im Kontext” sections of the book, the end of each chapter has a vocabulary list of new words for your reference.

### Tests

Tests are given at the end of each chapter. They are cumulative in nature because language learning is cumulative. Tests can only be made up with advance notice unless a sufficient and documented excuse is provided.

### Final Examination

The final for all sections of GRMN 101 will take place on Monday, December 8th from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm in LA 11. It will be cumulative.

## Attendance Policy

As mentioned above, attendance in a language course is essential. This class will move at a brisk pace. Therefore, it is important that you **attend regularly** in order not to fall behind. Aside from specified holidays, this course meets on a daily basis. Excused absences may be allowed, but they must be specific and verifiable. Excused absences include illness, family emergencies, athletic or university-sponsored activities that can be verified by an administrator or official organization, and religious holidays, among others. If you have an excusable absence it is up to you to contact me either beforehand or within two sessions after your absence. For extended emergencies, exceptions can be made. Otherwise your absence will be considered unexcused. You will be allowed **four (4)** unexcused absences for the course without grade penalty. Thereafter you will be assessed a **twenty (20)**-point demotion for every absence. **Twelve** **(12)** unexcused absences may become grounds for failing the course solely because of absences. Note that both the instructor and the students are responsible for maintaining a climate of consideration and respect for everyone participating in the course. Please conduct yourself with the presence of others in mind. You will likely find that you will learn a lot from what your classmates have to share and offer. Take down the phone number or e-mail address of several classmates so that you can inquire about homework, should you miss class.

## Grading

Final grades will be calculated in the following way:

* Participation 170 pts (1 x 20, 6 x 25) (14 %)
* Homework and Preparation 140 pts (7 x 20) (11 %)
* Quizzes 140 pts (7 x 20) (11 %)
* Tests 600 pts (6 x 100) (48 %)
* Final Exam 200 pts ( 1 x 200) (16 %)

1250 points

**Please note**: there will be no extra-credit assignments. Please do the homework assignments as given.

## Electronic Devices (Cell Phones, Laptops, Music Players, etc.)

If you bring a cell phone to class, please set it either on vibrate or mute. Unless specified for a class activity, personal computers, music players, and messaging devices are not to be used in class.

## Students with Disabilities

This course offers equal opportunity in education for all participants, including those with documented physical and documented learning disabilities. For information regarding documentation of disabilities, approaching your instructor with pertinent information, and establishing guidelines for potential accommodation, you may consult the [Disability Services for Students (DSS)](http://life.umt.edu/dss) [http://www.umt.edu/dss/website.] Please note that accommodations can only be established via consultation with DSS and take effect only after the instructor has been informed. The DSS Office is located in Lommasson 154; the phone number is 243-2243.

## Plagiarism and Academic Honesty

Please refer to the [Student Conduct Code of the University](http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.php)

[<http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.php>]as it pertains to your responsibility to hand in work and/or perform activities assigned to be your own as indeed representing your own efforts and research.

# German 101

# Fall Semester, 2014

## COURSE SCHEDULE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Aug. 25 – Aug. 29  | Einführung |
| Sept. 1  | LABOR DAY – NO CLASS |
| Sept. 2 – Sept. 4 | Einführung |
| Sept. 5 – 16  | Kapitel 1 |
| Sept. 17  | Test on Kapitel 1 |
| Sept. 18 – Sept. 30  | Kapitel 2 |
| Oct. 1  | Test on Kapitel 2 |
| Oct. 2 – 14  | Kapitel 3 |
| Oct. 15  | Test on Kapitel 3 |
| Oct. 16 – 28  | Kapitel 4 |
| Oct. 29  | Test on Kapitel 4 |
| Oct. 30 – Nov. 13  | Kapitel 5 |
| Nov. 4 | ELECTION DAY – NO CLASS  |
| Nov. 11 | VETERAN’S DAY – NO CLASS |
| Nov. 14  | Test on Kapitel 5 |
| Nov. 17 - Nov. 25  | Kapitel 6 |
| Nov. 26 – Nov. 28 | THANKSGIVING – NO CLASS |
| Dec. 1 -2 | Kapitel 6 |
| Dec. 3  | Test on Kapitel 6 |
| Dec. 4 – 5  | Review for Final |

NOTE: The Final Exam is a common final for all sections of the German 101 and does not correspond to the exam schedule for the individual classes.