



Image: Still from the film Jenseits der Stille, which we cover in our course.

GERM 2312.01: INTERMEDIATE GERMAN II
Sam Houston State University
Department of World Languages and Cultures
CRN 22359

Spring 2018 | 3 Credits

Instructor: Dr. Ervin Malakaj (he/him pronouns)
 M | W | F 1-1:50 p.m. (AB IV 301)
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Course Description & Goals

German 2312 is the second semester in a two-semester intermediate German language and culture sequence. In this course, we will review language structures introduced in the first three semesters, review basic vocabulary knowledge in German, and will learn new expressions intended to help you improve proficiency in German. Next to a number of short prose, lyrical, and visual texts, the course will be organized around German-language film. You will not only be exposed to some of the most important German cultural artefacts of the 20th and 21st centuries, but you will learn how to describe, summarize, and analyze these works of art, working toward proficiency at the intermediate level.

Course goals include to get you to speak in German as much as possible beyond the single sentence. This means that, by the end of the course, you should be able to talk at-length on a subject. You will also improve your writing, reading, and listening skills. Students successful in this course should be able to reach the **Novice High/Intermediate Low Proficiency Level defined by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Proficiency Guidelines.***

* Follow this link to reach the “Can-Do Statements” webpage, which will provide you with a self-assessment tool: <http://www.actfl.org/publications/guidelines-and-manuals/ncssfl-actfl-can-do-statements>.

Course Requirements/Grade Distribution

Attendance & Participation	20%
Homework	25%
Essays	25%
Spoken Exams	10%
Quizzes	10%
Group Project	10%

Grading Scale

A+ (98-100%);	A (93-97);	A- (90-92);
B+ (88-89);	B (83-87);	B- (80-82);
C+ (78-79);	C (73-77);	C- (70-72);
D+ (68-69);	D (63-67);	D- (60-62);
F (below 60).		

***Note:** You must receive a passing grade for each component to receive a passing grade in the course.

Required Texts

1. UT, Austin's Online German Grammar Guide *Grimm*: <https://coerll.utexas.edu/gg/gr/index.html>
2. A good German-English dictionary.
3. A separate vocabulary notebook just for German.
4. Additional materials available on our BlackBoard site.

Note on Course Format and Language Learning

Successful students of German regularly review past lessons, units, and completed work and explore aspects of German language and culture outside of class. For this reason, you should keep a notebook and keep handouts and other completed/graded work in a study folder.

You should prepare to spend about 1.5 hours of work outside of class for each hour of work you spend in class. This means that three (3) instructional units equal 4.5 (four and a half) hours of work outside of class per week! Regular attendance, active participation, completion of all exercises, and diligent studying and reviewing of material are crucial for your success in this course and for your language acquisition. You will be responsible for all the material on this syllabus. I highly recommend that you start and cultivate a vocabulary notebook for the course, which has been proven to be an effective way to learn and maintain vocabulary in the target language.

Course Participation

A principal course goal will be to get you to speak as much German as possible in order to improve your speaking skills. Speaking exercises will build on your learning new vocabulary and grammar at home, as well as the written work that you complete in advance. In short, you will be introduced to a lot of material in a short amount of time that is orchestrated in tandem. If you miss or delay one or more sessions, you will fall behind and it will be challenging for you to catch up. In extreme cases your absence will be excused and you can make up the work that you missed, hand in homework that you were unable to hand in, and make up a quiz or an exam. This includes illness, death in the family, etc. These sorts of instances are rare and will be treated as such. Please review the SHSU Student Absence Notification Policy administered by the office of the Dean of Students.

You cannot receive a passing grade if you miss substantial amounts of work. You will have regular assignment due dates, which you are required to meet and which you cannot make up. If you are unable to complete these in time, I **require** that you notify me via email **BEFOREHAND**. **You cannot pass the class if you miss 20 (or more) % of the sessions, which is 10 or more absences.**

Active contribution to the course and preparedness are hallmarks of successful language learning. You will not be able to succeed in this course without completing the activities planned for the semester and actively contributing to class discussion. You are required to review course materials every day (i.e., textbook, notes, homework assignments, etc.). You should have completed homework for the day it was assigned and have reviewed material covered in previous sessions to prime yourself for active participation. While completing assignments, take note of challenging vocabulary and grammar and culture points; your challenges make for great questions, which you can post in our virtual office section of BlackBoard OR bring to class. Likewise, if your fellow students encounter challenges that you don't perceive as such, you can become a great resource for them and will have an excellent opportunity to participate actively in our class.

You will make a lot of mistakes in the beginning and will continue making them! You should make mistakes!!

While you should certainly strive for accuracy, it is more important that you continue practicing German as much as you can. Do all you can to just speak up in German!

Homework

Regular homework will be assigned throughout the semester. It will help you learn and study vocabulary and grammar essential for your success in the course. Homework is to be completed for the day that it is assigned. You will receive full points if you hand homework in on time, have completed the assignment in its entirety, and show that you have put effort into using language actively, efficiently, and even creatively or experimentally. Points will be deducted for non-systematic and systematic errors as well as incomplete work. **You are responsible for knowing the due dates for assignments**, which will be posted in our Connect website. No late assignments will be accepted unless you receive permission from me.

Writing Assignments

You will complete regular writing assignments throughout the semester. You will receive specific prompts for each in advance. They need to be typed (Times New Roman, 12 pt., double spaced) and should have your name and course title listed in the top right corner. Hard copies of writing assignments are to be handed in on the dates they are due. No late submissions will be accepted except in the case of an excused absence. You will write assignments in stages, which include drafts, as well as workshop sessions in which the class engages in peer review. These assignments will help you practice and expand upon the vocabulary and grammar structures covered during the semester and will help you develop stronger cultural competency. Writing assignments need to be your original work. If you consult friends or family, or if you use online translation services or similar programs or devices to complete them, you are breaching the academic integrity policy.

Spoken Exams

There will be two spoken examinations in this class. One will take place mid-term and the second will take place at the end of the term. These will cover the material that was covered prior to the exam. You will receive more detailed information and guidelines for each as the semester progresses. The exams are required, scores will not be dropped, and there will be no make-up exam unless you have written permission from me. If you miss the exam without prior consultation with me, you will receive zero points for it.

Quizzes

There will be regular quizzes throughout the semester to help you study and assess vocabulary knowledge.

Creative Group Project

In the last five weeks of the semester, you will be working in groups of 2 or 3 to plan a presentation of a skit that you develop based on one of the texts we treat in class. The skit can be recorded and exhibited or live performed in class during the last week of the semester. You will receive more detailed information about this project.

Communication

You should regularly (i.e., daily) check your official SHSU email account for important announcements about our course. You should regularly check our BlackBoard site for updates. If you send me an email, please use the standard format for addressing faculty or standards employed in professional communication. Begin an email with a salutation such as "Dear Dr. Malakaj: . . ." and close with "Best/Yours/Sincerely, . . ." At the intermediate level, you should try to write to me in German as much as possible! Even if you have use interlanguage (mix between German and English)! The address in German is "Sehr geehrter Dr. Malakaj, . . ." and the closing is "Mit freundlichen Grüßen, ..."

Technology/Food in the Classroom/Other Distractions

Unless instructed to use them, there is no need for laptops, iPads, smart phones, or any other digital devices in the classroom. These are distracting to your learning, that of your fellow students, and to me. Likewise, you should refrain from texting or other distracting communication, which includes reading materials not required for the course. Avoid bringing food into the classroom (you should eat before or after class). You should not work on assignments for another class during German class.

Inclusive Course

You will effectively learn German in an inclusive space that continues to challenge you intellectually. I will strive to foster such a space in the classroom and in online forums used for class. Most of all, *you* are required to contribute to the shaping of such an inclusive and intellectually stimulating setting by honoring the diverse backgrounds, statuses, and experiences of your fellow students. Please communicate to me any concerns or needs that immediately relate to your learning.

Academic Integrity

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. You can find more information about the university's academic dishonesty policy on the website of the Office of the Dean of Students:

<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/dean-of-students/index.html>

You are expected to complete original work on your own in this class. If you enlist the help of others in completing your homework without prior consent of the instructor, you are breeching the academic integrity policy and will be reported to the university administration.

Accommodations

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) Office and to talk with me about how I can best accommodate your learning needs. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. Note: No accommodation can be made until you register with SSD, which is located in the Lee Drain North Annex building (next to Farrington), telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786. You can find more information about the office and its services online: www.shsu.edu/dept/disability

Religious Holidays Policy

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Section 51.911 (a) (2) defines a religious holy day as: "a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20...." A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/documents/aps/students/861001.pdf>

Visitors in the Classroom

Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office.

UNIT 1 GOALS (Personal Narrative and Basics: A Review)

By the end of this unit, you will

- have reviewed the basic structures for conversation in German introduced in previous semesters
- be able to communicate basic and advanced information about yourself and elicit information from others

1. Woche	Tagesthema	Hausaufgaben für nächste Sitzung
Mi. 17. Jan.	Willkommen	Vokabeln
Fr. 19. Jan.	Konversationsphrasen	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr. 1
2. Woche	Tagesthema	Hausaufgaben für nächste Sitzung
Mo. 22. Jan.	<i>Jojo sucht das Glück</i>	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr. 2
Mi. 24. Jan.	<i>Jojo sucht das Glück</i>	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr. 3
Fr. 26. Jan.	<i>Jojo sucht das Glück</i>	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr. 4

UNIT 2 GOALS (Thema: Kommunikationsschwierigkeiten)

By the end of this unit, you will

- Be able to dissect images and describe them using basic to intermediate vocabulary
- Be able to articulate opinions using structures beyond the sentence level

3. Woche	Tagesthema	Hausaufgaben für nächste Sitzung
Mo. 29. Jan.	<i>Jenseits der Stille</i>	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr. 5
Mi. 31. Jan.	<i>Jenseits der Stille</i>	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr. 6
Fr. 2. Feb.	<i>Jenseits der Stille</i> Quiz Nr. 1	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr. 7
4. Woche	Tagesthema	Hausaufgaben für nächste Sitzung
Mo. 5. Feb.	<i>Jenseits der Stille</i>	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr. 8
Mi. 7. Feb.	Kein Unterricht! Konferenzreise!	Schreibaktivität Nr. 1 (1. Fassung)
Fr. 9. Feb.	<i>Jenseits der Stille</i>	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr. 9
5. Woche	Tagesthema	Hausaufgaben für nächste Sitzung
Mo. 12. Feb.	<i>Jenseits der Stille</i>	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr. 10
Mi. 14. Feb.	<i>Jenseits der Stille</i>	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr. 11
Fr. 16. Feb.	<i>Jenseits der Stille</i> Quiz Nr. 2	Schreibaktivität Nr. 1 (2. Fassung)

UNIT 3 GOALS (Thema: Geheimnisse und Kommunikation)

By the end of this unit, you will

- Be able to describe longer passages from texts and articulate opinions at the sentence level
- Be able to dissect short written passages and accompanying visual material

6. Woche	Tagesthema	Hausaufgaben für nächste Sitzung
Mo. 19. Feb.	<i>Die Abenteuer der Schwarzen Hand</i>	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr.12
Mi. 21. Feb.	<i>Die Abenteuer der Schwarzen Hand</i>	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr.13
Fr. 23. Feb.	<i>Die Abenteuer der Schwarzen Hand</i>	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr.14
7. Woche	Tagesthema	Hausaufgaben für nächste Sitzung
Mo. 26. Feb.	Helga Novaks „Fahrkarte, Bitte“	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr.15
Mi. 28. Feb.	Helga Novaks „Fahrkarte, Bitte“	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr.16
Fr. 2. März	Helga Novaks „Fahrkarte, Bitte“ Quiz Nr. 3	Schreibaktivität Nr. 2 (1. Fassung)
8. Woche	Tagesthema	Hausaufgaben für nächste Sitzung
Mo. 5. März	Wolf Biermanns „Ermutigung“	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr.17
Mi. 7. März	Wolf Biermanns „Ermutigung“	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr.18
Fr. 9. März	Mündliche Zwischenprüfung!	Schreibaktivität Nr. 2 (2. Fassung)
9. Woche		
10.-19. März Frühlingsferien: kein Unterricht!		

UNIT 4 GOALS (Thema: Kommunikation und Hindernisse)

By the end of this unit, you will

- Be able to describe longer visual material and evaluate scenes beyond the sentence level
- Be able to articulate longer opinions about material using the conversational past

10. Woche	Tagesthema	Hausaufgaben für nächste Sitzung
Mo. 19. März	<i>Das Wunder von Bern</i>	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr.19
Mi. 21. März	<i>Das Wunder von Bern</i>	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr.20
Fr. 23. März	<i>Das Wunder von Bern</i>	
11. Woche	Tagesthema	Hausaufgaben für nächste Sitzung
Mo. 26. März	<i>Das Wunder von Bern</i>	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr.21
Mi. 28. März	<i>Das Wunder von Bern</i> Quiz Nr. 4	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr.22
Fr. 30. März	Good Friday! Kein Unterricht!	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr.23
12. Woche	Tagesthema	Hausaufgaben für nächste Sitzung
Mo. 2. April	<i>Das Wunder von Bern</i>	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr.24
Mi. 4. April	<i>Das Wunder von Bern</i>	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr.25
Fr. 6. April	<i>Das Wunder von Bern</i>	Schreibaktivität Nr. 3 (1. Fassung)
13. Woche	Tagesthema	Hausaufgaben für nächste Sitzung
Mo. 9. April	<i>Das Wunder von Bern</i>	Vokabeln

		Arbeitsblatt Nr.26
Mi. 11. April	<i>Das Wunder von Bern</i>	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr.27
Fr. 13. April	<i>Das Wunder von Bern</i>	Schreibaktivität Nr. 3 (2. Fassung)

UNIT 5 GOALS (Neue Welten)

By the end of this unit, you will

- Be able to articulate extended opinions about complex topics

14. Woche	Tagesthema	Hausaufgaben für nächste Sitzung
Mo. 16. April	<i>Almanya—Willkommen in Deutschland</i>	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr.28
Mi. 18. April	<i>Almanya—Willkommen in Deutschland</i>	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr.29
Fr. 20. April	<i>Almanya—Willkommen in Deutschland</i>	Schreibaktivität Nr. 4 (1. Fassung)
15. Woche	Tagesthema	Hausaufgaben für nächste Sitzung
Mo. 23. April	<i>Almanya—Willkommen in Deutschland</i> Quiz Nr. 5	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr.30
Mi. 25. April	<i>Almanya—Willkommen in Deutschland</i>	Vokabeln Arbeitsblatt Nr.31
Fr. 27. April	<i>Almanya—Willkommen in Deutschland</i>	Schreibaktivität Nr. 4 (2. Fassung)
16. Woche	Tagesthema	Hausaufgaben für nächste Sitzung
Mo. 30. April	<i>Almanya—Willkommen in Deutschland</i>	
Mi. 2. Mai	Präsentationen	
Fr. 4. Mai	Präsentationen	
17. Woche		
	Mündliche Abschlussprüfung	