

**University of Alabama at Birmingham
School of Arts and Humanities
Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures**

407 Humanities Building / 900 13th Street South / 205-934-4652
www.uab.edu/foreignlang/

**GN 201 – INTERMEDIATE GERMAN I
FALL 2009**

Section 1F: MWF 1:00-1:50 PM
HB 429

**Instructor of German:
Erika Hille Rinker, MA
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HB 402
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**Office Hours
M 2:00-3:00 PM
W 12:00-12:45 and 2:00-3:00PM
And by appointment.**

SYLLABUS

Revised August 2009

Course description: This course will continue to concentrate on the essentials of language needed for proficient communication and will include exercises in listening comprehension, speaking, writing, and reading. The prerequisite for German 201 is German 102. This course will continue to develop the four language skills in a cultural context with the goal of achieving a basic level of linguistic proficiency in German.

Objectives and goals: In order to develop communicative and cultural competence without de-emphasizing formal and structural patterns in the language, German 201 will

- occur in a low-anxiety, highly motivating environment offering students ample opportunity to practice the language,
- be instructed in the target language – models will be provided and translations will be avoided, and
- expose students to authentic materials and authentic language – students should not expect to comprehend every unfamiliar structure and vocabulary word in an authentic text.

You will become accustomed to managing your own learning by inducing grammar from many provided examples, taking risks with the language, and utilizing all resources at your disposal: the instructor; your textbook; and supplementary print, audio, and on-line materials.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, each student should be able to perform the following tasks *in German*:

- To greet one another formally and informally.
- To inquire about another's well-being and to answer appropriately when asked about one's own well-being.

- To formulate simple questions and appropriate answers as well as formal and informal commands addressed to individuals and to a group.
- To speak and to write simple and compound sentences in the present, past, and future tenses, in the subjunctive mood, and in the passive voice, based on chapter topics and vocabulary.
- To recognize gender, number, and case (nominative, accusative, dative, and genitive) inflections.
- To discuss in German the similarities and differences of German, Austrian, and American culture.

Required Texts and Materials

- Lovik, Guy, and Chavez. *Vorsprung*. Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, 2007. 2nd edition.
- *Note*: The textbook package contains an in-text, audio- program CD and an **online Quia workbook**. This online workbook serves as your self-guided tour through the material in the textbook. The assigned activities are required and may be repeated.

Grades

- Class participation: 10%
- Homework: 20%
- 3 Chapter exams: 30%
- *Referat*: 20%
- Oral Final Exam: 20%

Grading scale:

90-100 = A // 89.9-80 = B // 79.9-70 = C // 69.9-60 = D // 59.9 and below = F

Attendance policy: The University of Alabama at Birmingham recognizes that the academic success of individual students is related to their class attendance and participation. The Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures complies with the official UAB Attendance and Excused Absence Policy for Undergraduate Programs and therefore allows, with anticipated proper official documentation, absences due to jury or military duty as well as absences due to participation in specific university-sponsored activities.

UAB Attendance and Excused Absence Policy for Undergraduate Programs:

http://www.app.uab.edu/policy_change.asp#Attendance%20and%20Excused%20Absence%20Policy

GN 101 is a collaborative class. All students and I will be working together and learning together. Regular attendance is necessary to build a successful collaborative learning atmosphere. Repeated absences, tardiness, passivity, and silence will be reflected in your course grade. To that end, in addition to the UAB Attendance Policy, the Attendance Policy of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures will be in effect and is as follows: **2% from the final grade will be deducted for each unexcused absence above 4, and more than 9 absences will result in an automatic "F."**

Class participation: Participation will count for 10% of your grade. In addition to simply attending class, you will be graded on the following factors:

- Being alert, well-prepared, and respectful of the instructor and fellow students,
- Making *positive* contributions to the class, and
- Recycling concepts from previous chapters.

Homework will be assigned daily in the textbook (*Lehrbuch*) and/or in the online workbook (*Arbeitsbuch*). This work should be completed each day before you come to class. A foreign

language is best learned with repetition and regular work each day rather than hurriedly just prior to an exam. When you complete your homework, make every effort to comprehend the information and make sense of it for yourself. If you have questions, bring these immediately to my attention, either in class or via e-mail.

To complete homework assignments properly, attend to the words *lernen* and *schreiben*. *Lernen* means “to study.” When you are assigned pages with grammar points to study, read these carefully, analyze the examples provided to see the new structure in use, and break them down so that they make sense to you. You do not need to complete any of the associated activities.

Schreiben means “to write.” Those activities assigned with the verb *schreiben* always need to be completed, either online or on a separate piece of paper to be turned in for correction.

Please note: All students must attend a minimum of two cultural events – at least one of which is related to German – in order to complete the homework component of the course. Attending Stammtisch (our German language table) twice is required and may be counted as one cultural event. The cultural credit received will be 2% of the final grade.

Cultural Event Report Guidelines

All students must attend a minimum of two (2) cultural events – at least one (1) of which is related to German – in order to complete the homework component of the course.

You only have five (5) days after the event to turn in your **1-page, double-spaced, typed**, cultural event reports, no more. I strongly suggest that you do not wait until the last month of classes to attend events. This way you will have choice and options.

Each cultural event report must include, but is not limited to, the following elements:

- Title, date, and location of the event
- Duration of the event and duration of time you spent at the event
- Name of event organizer(s)
- Stated purpose of the event
- Your expectations before attending the event
- Your general impressions of the event
- An assessment of how the event represented concepts from the course, if at all

The above elements must be incorporated into complete, grammatically correct sentences. You may write in English, but *do not submit a list of the above elements in place of a well-written report.*

Mauerfall (9. November 1989) In preparation for our discussion of the twentieth anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall, all students must view the films *Das Leben der Anderen* and *Good Bye Lenin!* before November 6, 2009. Both movies are available on the FLMS computers and to be checked out from the FLMS.

Exams must be taken on dates and at times indicated. There will be NO make-ups, except with a documented medical excuse and an official UAB excused absence.

Referat Students will work in pairs to plan and deliver an oral presentation to the class that will take the place of an oral midterm. Please meet with me during an office hour *before* Friday, September 25, so that I can give you materials that need to be included in the presentation.

Other class policies:

Please turn off your cell phone when in class and put it in your bag/purse. **No use of cell phones** is permitted in class. Laptop computers are only allowed for note taking.

UAB Honor Code: UAB expects all members of its academic community to function according to the highest ethical and professional standards. Academic misconduct undermines the purpose of education. Unacceptable behaviors such as abetting, cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, and misrepresentation are serious violations of the UAB Academic Honor Code and are punishable by a range of penalties. Any form of plagiarism or cheating in this class will result in serious consequences for your grade. For more information, please visit the UAB website: http://www.catalog.uab.edu/UAB-Catalog2004-2006/progress_toward_degree.pdf

UAB Disability Services: UAB is committed to making its academic programs and services accessible to students with disabilities. Qualified students with disabilities are protected from discrimination based on their disability, as guaranteed by the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. If you are registered with Disability Support Services, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible to discuss accommodations that may be necessary. If you have a disability but have not contacted Disability Support Services, please call 934-4205 or visit DSS at 516 Hill University Center. For more information about DSS, please visit the UAB web site: <http://students.uab.edu/services/>

Early Alert System (EAS): EAS is designed to help students be more successful academically at UAB. If you receive an email with EAS in the title, please open it, read it and take advantage of the support that UAB offers to all students. UAB is committed to ensuring that students receive academic support and are aware of the resources available that will help assist them in successfully completing their degree program.

Additional Information:

FLMS (Foreign Language Media Services) is a computer lab for Foreign Languages students located on the 4th floor of the Humanities Building (HB 402).

For more information about **foreign language courses and study-abroad opportunities**, please visit our UAB Department of Foreign Languages homepage: <http://www.uab.edu/foreignlang/>

International Scholars and Students Services offer a variety of international programs that you may be interested in. Please check their website and click on ISSS Calendars and Activities: <http://www.uab.edu/iss>

For more information about **free screenings of foreign films at UAB**, please visit the UAB Foreign Film Series webpage: <http://www.uab.edu/foreignlang/Foreign-Film-Series-2008-9.html>

**Tentative schedule
Änderung vorbehalten!**

Mittwoch 19. August	Wie war der Sommer? Wohin sind Sie gereist? Lehrplan Quia: http://books.quia.com/books/bookstore.html
Freitag 21. August	Wiederholung
Montag 24. August	Anlaufertext: Karl hat ein Vorstellungsgespräch bei der Wiener Staatsoper – S. 332
Mittwoch 26. August	Relativpronomen – S. 338 Wissenwerte Vokabeln: <i>Berufe</i> – S. 340
Freitag 28. August	Konjunktiv II (Einführung) – S. 344
Montag 31. August	Absprungtext: Wien: Treffen Sie den guten Ton! – S. 347
Mittwoch 2. September	Adjective endings – S. 354 Endings on adjectives after ein -words: nominative case – S. 354 Wissenwerte Vokabeln: Eigenschaften von guten Bewerbern – S. 356
Freitag 4. September	Endings on adjectives after ein -words: accusative and dative case – S. 358 Endings on adjectives after definite articles – S. 359
Montag 7. September	Labor Day Holiday – Der Unterricht fällt aus.
Mittwoch 9. September	Rotary Luncheon – Der Unterricht fällt aus. Endings on unpreceded adjectives – S. 361 Forming adjectives from city names – S. 362
Freitag 11. September	Wissenwerte Vokabeln: Österreichs Leute und Länder – S. 364 Komparativ – S. 365 Superlativ – S. 368
Montag 14. September	Wiederholung
Mittwoch 16. September	1. Prüfung (Kapitel 9)
Freitag 18. September	„Das Mißverständnis“ <i>Erich Fried</i> Kontext: Der Anschluss: Wien 1938 Vergangenheitsbewältigung und Vergangenheitsverdrängung
Montag 21. September	Anlaufertext: Aschenputtel – S. 382

Mittwoch 23. September	Das Präteritum – S. 391 Schwache Verben – S. 391
Freitag 25. September	Das Präteritum: starke Verben – S. 395
Montag 28. September	Das Präteritum: sein, haben, und die Modalverben – S. 398 Das Präteritum: gemischte Verben – S. 399
Mittwoch 30. September	Absprungtext: Braunwald autofrei: Ein Wintermärchen...hoch über dem Alltag – S. 402
Freitag 2. Oktober	Das Plusquamperfekt – S. 411
Montag 5. Oktober	<i>als</i> – S. 413 <i>wenn</i> vs. <i>wann</i> vs. <i>ob</i> – S. 415
Mittwoch 7. Oktober	Der Genitiv – S. 418
Freitag 9. Oktober	Der Genitiv: Präpositionen – S. 423
Montag 12. Oktober	Wiederholung
Mittwoch 14. Oktober	Last day to withdraw 2. Prüfung (Kapitel 10)
Freitag 16. Oktober	Fall Break – Der Unterricht fällt aus.
Montag 19. Oktober	Referat: <i>Der Struwwelpeter</i> von Heinrich Hoffmann Kontext: Kindheit Referat: Tagebuch 1914-1916 (Textausschnitt) von Käthe Kollwitz Kontext: Krieg, Revolution und Inflation
Mittwoch 21. Oktober	Referat: <i>Neue Sachlichkeit</i> Kontext: Entartete Kunst (Degenerate Art) Referat: „Die Küchenuhr“ <i>Wolfgang Borchert</i> Kontext: Trümmerliteratur
Freitag 23. Oktober	Anlaufftext: Was würdest du dann vorschlagen? – S. 432
Montag 26. Oktober	Der Konjunktiv II (Fortsetzung) – S. 439
Mittwoch 28. Oktober	<i>an deiner Stelle</i> + Konjunktiv II – S. 445 Der Vergangenheitskonjunktiv – S. 445 Der Doppelinfinitiv – S. 446

Freitag 30. Oktober	<i>wenn</i> + Konjunktiv II – S. 447 Konjunktiv II: schwache Verben, starke Verben, und gemischte Verben – S. 448
Montag 2. November	Absprungtext: Die Geschichte Berlins – S. 453
Mittwoch 4. November	Absprungtext: Die Geschichte Berlins (Fortsetzung)
Freitag 6. November	Mauerfall <i>Nachdenken</i> (Textausschnitt) <i>Christa Wolf</i>
Montag 9. November	Mauerfall <i>Das Leben der Anderen</i>
Mittwoch 11. November	Mauerfall <i>Good Bye Lenin!</i>
Freitag 13. November	Das Passiv – S. 459 Das Passiv Präteritum – S. 461 Das Passiv Perfekt – S. 461
Montag 16. November	Impersonal passive – S. 463
Mittwoch 18. November	Wissenwerte Vokabeln: Die Landeskunde Deutschlands – S. 465
Freitag 20. November	Wiederholung
Montag 23. November	3. Prüfung (Kapitel 11)
Mittwoch 25. Nov. – Sonntag 29. Nov.	Thanksgiving Break – Der Unterricht fällt aus.
Montag 30. November	Wiederholung
Mittwoch 2. Dezember	Mündliche Abschlussprüfung (Freitag 11. Dezember 10:45 AM – M N PM)