

**GERMAN 301: GERMAN LEVEL V  
 SPRING 2014  
 PURDUE UNIVERSITY  
 SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES AND CULTURES |  
 DEPARTMENT OF GERMAN AND RUSSIAN**

Instructor: **Christina Weiler**      **Email:** weilerc@purdue.edu      **Phone:** 765-491-8564  
**Office:** Stanley Coulter G054      **Office Hours:** Wednesday 3:30-4:30pm, Friday 12:30-1:30pm, and by appointment

### Course Goals and Description

GER 301 is the fifth semester of German language and culture for students at Purdue. This course enables students to continue to improve their ability to communicate in German at an intermediate high level (B1+) through interaction with each other and through reaction to a variety of German texts, audio, video, and internet sources. We emphasize all modes of communication in GER 301: interpersonal, presentational, and interpretive communication through speaking/listening and reading/writing. Throughout this process, you will learn more about German-speaking countries and have fun with the language while improving your language-learning strategies.

We use a communicative-based approach to language learning at Purdue. This recognizes that we gain the ability to communicate in a language both through exposure to the language and active practice in the language. The course focuses on providing as much input (exposure) in German as possible through various means—from the teacher, classroom activities, audio, the internet, and video. Most of this input will be exclusively in German.

Achieving the goals of the course requires regular practice with the language, both in class and individually, and a willingness to experiment with new structures, patterns of sounds, and phrases. In other words, you are responsible for much of your own learning: your continuous **participation** and regular **attendance** are vital parts of your commitment to learning and progress. The quality of your language learning will depend largely on the amount and quality of your effort.

### Required Materials:

1. *Aspekte*. (with DVD, audio CDs and workbook). Ute Koithan, Helen Schmitz, Tanja Sieber, Ralf Sonntag, and Nana Ochmann. Langenscheidt. 2007. **978-3-12-605142-2**.
2. A glossary (English-German translation) of all important vocabulary words in *Aspekte*; free to download at: [http://www.klett-langenscheidt.com/German/For\\_Adults/Aspekte/Overview/Components/9822](http://www.klett-langenscheidt.com/German/For_Adults/Aspekte/Overview/Components/9822)
3. A series of pdf files with grammar explanations and exercises (made available for free through Blackboard)

Please use order number 978-3-12-605142-2 for *Aspekte*. This is a Student Multimedia Pack that contains the textbook, audio CDs, DVD, and workbook. The bundle is available at Follett's and/or University Bookstores. For more information on different purchasing options directly from the publisher, visit [http://www.klett-langenscheidt.com/German/For\\_Adults/Aspekte/Overview/Components/9822](http://www.klett-langenscheidt.com/German/For_Adults/Aspekte/Overview/Components/9822)

It is also recommended that you obtain a **good dictionary** (English-German), such as *Collins Easy Learning Dictionary*.

### Additional Resources

The textbook website contains many useful tools and study materials. Please go to it [http://www.klett-langenscheidt.com/German/For\\_Adults/Aspekte/Overview/Components/9822](http://www.klett-langenscheidt.com/German/For_Adults/Aspekte/Overview/Components/9822)

1. Glossary (English-German translation of all important vocabulary words)
2. Interactive Online Exercises
3. Internet Projects

**Blackboard Learn**

A copy of this syllabus and other important course information can be found on the course's Blackboard Learn page. Registered students can access their section's Blackboard Learn page by following the link to Blackboard Learn on the Purdue homepage and logging in with their Purdue career account.

<http://www.itap.purdue.edu/learning/tools/blackboard/>

**Room Schedule**

<b>GER 301</b>	<b>M W F</b>
SC G040	1:30-2:20pm

**Grading**

Overall course grades are calculated using the following course weighting system:

Class Participation and Attendance	20%
Homework	15%
Quizzes	10%
3 Assessment Projects	15%
German Engagement Project	1%
2 Tests	20%
Final	19%

Grades will be calculated on the following scale:

A+ = 100 % - 98%	C+ = 79.99 – 78
A = 97.99-93	C = 77.99 – 73
A- = 92.99-90	C- = 72.99 – 70
B+ = 89.99 – 88	D+ = 69.99-68
B = 87.99 – 83	D = 67.99 – 63
B- = 82.99 – 80	D - = 62.99 – 60
	F = 59.99 and below

**IMPORTANT GER 301 COURSE INFORMATION****Attendance Policy**

Class meets four times each week (M,W,F) for 50 minutes. Your attendance in this course is expected and required at every scheduled session. All absences will be treated as unexcused unless students request each absence to be excused in advance of, or as soon as possible after the absence in question.

**Excused Absences**

Absences may only be excused at the discretion of your instructor for legitimate personal / family / medical emergencies, or for university related events. Students must document their request to have an absence excused in a signed note to their instructor that includes the student's course and section, the date(s) of absences, and a concise explanation for the request. Each request will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. The instructor reserves the right to limit the number of excused absences granted to any student in a semester.

**Unexcused Absences**

In the event of an **unexcused absence**, students forfeit the ability to submit/make-up any work completed during their absence (including quizzes, exams and projects). Students are, however, still responsible for finding out what information was covered in their absence. Instructors are not obligated to respond to students' emails regarding

information/missed work for unexcused absences. **Any student exceeding 7 unexcused absences will automatically receive a failing grade (F) for the course.** Students should monitor their absences throughout the semester.

### **Active Participation**

Students are expected to prepare all assigned work before each class in order to be able to actively participate. Your concentrated engagement in class activities and willingness to practice your skills by volunteering information in class are crucial in your development of your proficiency in German and to being successful in this course. It is not sufficient to simply be present in class. Your participation will be graded according to the criteria listed on page 5 of this syllabus.

Please respect your class and instructor by refraining from the use of electronic devices during class, unless otherwise instructed to do so. Help to reduce distractions by disabling audible notifications on your mobile devices during class.

### **Homework**

You should expect to spend **a minimum of one hour** preparing for the next day's German class by completing assigned work, and review of material and regular practice of vocabulary. Keep in mind that homework is 15% of your overall course grade (more than a full letter grade). Late homework will not be accepted.

### **Quizzes**

Students will write short in-class quizzes on vocabulary and/or grammar from assigned material during each chapter. Quizzes may be announced or unannounced. If you miss a quiz due to an unexcused absence, you will receive a zero for that quiz. No make-up quizzes are allowed.

### **Assessment Projects**

During the course of the semester, you will complete 3 projects that will assess your progress in writing and speaking. Students will write two in-class writing assessment projects that will engage key grammar and vocabulary from the textbook. Each assignment will coincide with the topic of the chapter that you are working on at that time. You will be allowed to use your textbook and/or a dictionary. In addition, there will be a speaking assessment where you will demonstrate knowledge of vocabulary and grammar extemporaneously.

### **German Engagement Project**

Over the course of the semester each student will be responsible for completing The German Engagement Project (1% of course grade), a task-based activity where students will actively engage with the German language, culture, or arts (film) for about 2-3 hours. Students will have the option of attending one of the Department of German and Russian's film screenings, attending two German coffee hour sessions, another departmental event such as a lecture, or participating in a German language research study that may be held in your course. Students can choose what they want to participate in, and will submit a short writing assignment that deals with their chosen activity. Your instructor will provide more details on the film and coffee hour schedules, as well as the activity that will accompany each task.

### **Tests and Final Exam**

There will be two tests in GER 301. Each test will cover two chapters of the textbook and focus on listening, reading, vocabulary, grammar, and writing.

The final exam will be scheduled during Finals Week (May 4-10, 2014). It will cover grammar, vocabulary, reading, writing, and listening. It will be partly a test on the last two chapters of the semester and partly a cumulative assessment that covers the semester's material. Please do not make travel plans to travel until Purdue releases the final exam schedule.

**Extra Credit**

Extra credit is available in this course for attending a German film screening (introduction/screening/short discussion; must sign attendance list) and completing a short writing assignment. Extra credit for film screenings is offered in parallel with the German Engagement Project (you may choose to view a film for the Engagement Project, and also attend a film for extra credit). Instructors will have more details on film schedules and extra credit activities. Students must turn in their extra credit activity no later than one week from the viewing of the film in order to be eligible. Students may only submit one extra credit activity (but are encouraged to attend all the films). For complete extra credit submissions, instructors will apply up the three points on students' final exam score.

**Academic Integrity**

The School of Languages and Cultures requires the same high level of academic honesty and integrity that Purdue University expects of its students. Therefore, you will be expected to turn in your own work, without help from others or the use of online translation engines/services.

All work submitted for this class must be entirely your own work completed for this course during this semester. Students are not allowed to use any translation service or software for any course work (unless instructed otherwise), and may not receive any help from others on any work for credit in this course.

Any student who cheats, copies work, commits plagiarism, or submits work that is otherwise not their own may be subject to punitive grading up to and including receiving a failing grade for the assignment or for the course grade. Cases of academic dishonesty may be referred to the Office of the Dean of Students for further adjudication and/or record keeping. For further information regarding student conduct, see Sections II and III of the Purdue University Regulations.

**Federal Compliance**

Students are respectfully reminded that instructors are unable to discuss specific grade information by e-mail to protect students' educational records in compliance with FERPA regulations.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), all qualified students enrolled in this course are entitled to "reasonable accommodations." Any students with disabilities which could affect classroom performance should schedule an appointment to speak privately with the instructor before the end of the second week of classes.

**College of Liberal Arts Classroom Civility Statement**

Purdue University is committed to fostering diversity and inclusion and welcomes individuals of all ages, religions, sex, sexual orientations, races, nationalities, languages, military experience, disabilities, family statuses, gender identities and expressions, political views, and socioeconomic statuses. Please respect the different experiences, beliefs and values expressed by everyone in this course. Behaviors that threaten, harass, discriminate or that are disrespectful of others will not be tolerated. Inappropriate behaviors will be addressed with disciplinary action, which may include being referred to the Office of the Dean of Students. Please visit Purdue's Nondiscrimination policy for more information: [http://www.purdue.edu/purdue/ea\\_eou\\_statement.html](http://www.purdue.edu/purdue/ea_eou_statement.html)

**Emergency Situations**

In the event of a campus or medical emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances beyond the instructor's control. In such an event, monitor your @purdue email address, our course's Blackboard, and Purdue University's homepage for further information.

**GER 301 Participation Grading Criteria**

An **A** student:

- ◆ is on time and has all their materials with them
- ◆ is attentive to what is going on in class
- ◆ always prepared for class
- ◆ displays a positive attitude and enthusiasm for the subject
- ◆ works well with other students in groups
- ◆ stays on-task when working in groups or alone
- ◆ asks questions when they do not understand something
- ◆ almost always volunteers to answer open questions (such as “Was hast du am Wochenende gemacht?” (what did you do this weekend?))
- ◆ almost always volunteers/answers when going over assigned work

A **B** student:

- ◆ is almost always on-time and has their materials with them
- ◆ is attentive to what is going on in class
- ◆ mostly prepared for class
- ◆ displays a positive attitude and shows interest in the subject
- ◆ works well with other students in groups
- ◆ stays on-task when working in groups or alone
- ◆ asks questions when they do not understand something
- ◆ sometimes volunteers to answer open questions
- ◆ sometimes volunteers/answers when going over assigned work

A **C** student:

- ◆ is generally on time and has their materials with them
- ◆ is attentive to what is going on in class most of the time
- ◆ usually or sometimes prepared for class
- ◆ works ok with other students in groups
- ◆ sometimes gets off-task when working in groups
- ◆ does the bare minimum when working alone
- ◆ does not ask questions when they do not understand something
- ◆ rarely volunteers to answer open questions
- ◆ almost never volunteers/answers when going over assigned work
- ◆ displays an indifferent attitude and is generally just a warm body

A **D/F** student:

- ◆ is often late to class and often forgets to bring the necessary materials
- ◆ does not pay attention to what is going on in class
- ◆ usually does not prepare for class
- ◆ chats with other students when they are supposed to be doing group work
- ◆ does little or nothing when they are supposed to be working alone
- ◆ never volunteers to answer open questions
- ◆ never volunteers when going over assigned work
- ◆ is uncooperative in group work
- ◆ is disruptive to instructor and/or other students in the class
- ◆ displays an attitude that indicates that they would rather be anywhere else

**GER 301 Spring 2014 Schedule\***

\*may be subject to change

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
January 12	13 Introduction	14	15 Kapitel 1	16	17	18
19	20 MLK Jr Day No Class	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 Kapitel 2	Feb 1
February 2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 <b>Test 1</b>	15
16	17 Kapitel 4	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	March 1
March 2	3 <b>Project 1</b>	4	5 Kapitel 5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Spring Break	18 Spring Break	19 Spring Break	20 Spring Break	21 Spring Break	22 Spring Break
23	24 Last Day to Withdraw	25	26	27	28 <b>Test 2</b>	29
30	31 Kapitel 6	April 1	2	3	4	5
April 6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 <b>Project 2</b>	15	16 Kapitel 8	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 <b>Oral Assessment</b>	29	30 <b>Oral Assessment</b>	1	2 <b>Review</b>	3

**Final Exam** during week of May 4-10; time and date are TBA