

ONLINE INTERMEDIATE GERMAN

GER 2300

3 CREDIT HOURS

SPRING 2017

Student-Instructor Meeting Time: M | Period 7 - 8 (1:55 PM - 3:50 PM)

INSTRUCTOR: *Dr. Will Hasty:*

263a Dauer Hall

hasty@ufl.edu

(352) 273-3780

OFFICE HOURS (REQUIRED): Students can message the instructor using the Canvas Inbox to schedule office hours.

Please allow 24 hours for a response. Questions posted over the weekend will not receive a response until the beginning of the following week.

COURSE WEBSITE: <http://elearning.ufl.edu>, then navigate to GER2300

COURSE COMMUNICATIONS: For any course-related questions, students should check the Start Here section. If a student has problems with the technology tools used in the Canvas course, he or she should contact the UF Computing Help Desk in the HUB. Private questions should be sent to the instructor through the Canvas Inbox tool (this would include questions about grades, late work, etc.).

MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES (REQUIRED): You MUST have a headset with microphone and a web camera for this course. The cost for such a microphone ranges from \$10.00 - 50.00, and the cost of a web camera is similar. These can be purchased at most electronics stores, online, or at the UF Bookstore.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: *This is GER 2300 (still GER 2200 in Spring 2017): Online Intermediate German. Like the GER 1125-GER 1126 "Discover German" beginning sequence, this 3-credit intermediate course is web-based and offered on a distance-*

learning format. There are no classroom meetings. The course provides instructional and practice materials in various forms that allow students to learn on their own. Thanks to the collaborative tools in Canvas, students do a considerable part of their course work in groups to which they will be assigned. These groups have weekly assignments and meet biweekly with their instructor for short feedback sessions in one of the Conference rooms in Canvas. Therefore, students have to keep the two periods as indicated in the Registrar's course listing page (Spring 2017: M | Period 7 – 8, 1:55 PM - 3:50 PM) free for the meetings with the instructor.

GER 2300 is an online version of the classroom GER 2200 Intermediate German. However, whereas GER 2200 is designed as a continuation of the regular classroom-based GER 1130 and GER 1131, GER 2300 is designed as an online continuation of the online beginning German sequence GER 1125 and GER 1126 ("Discover German"). GER 2300 has the advantage of preparing students for the online course-format of some upper-division level online German courses that are currently in development. Students need to know that either GER 2200 or GER 2300 will serve perfectly well to prepare students for all upper division German courses at UF, but if you enjoy and benefit from a more flexible online learning format, and have self-discipline in your study habits, you will find GER 2300 "Online Intermediate German" a good choice.

If you have taken any one-year-long beginning German sequence elsewhere (i.e. 10 total credit hours of beginning German), you may take GER 2300. However, you should be aware that GER 2300 is designed principally as a continuation of UF's Online "Discover German" Sequence. Students with some experience and familiarity with online language-culture instruction may find it easiest to adapt to the online format of GER 2300. However, some students may find the online format different and challenging if they are not used to self-directed language-culture study.

COURSE GOALS AND/OR OBJECTIVES (REQUIRED): In GER 2300 students will transition from the A2 towards the B1 proficiency level as defined in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). These two different proficiency levels are described as follows:

A2: Waystage – familiar with frequently used expressions and able to express oneself in everyday situations.

Listening I can understand phrases and the highest frequency vocabulary related to

areas of most immediate personal relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local area, employment). I can catch the main point in short, clear, simple messages and announcements.

Reading	I can read very short, simple texts. I can find specific, predictable information in simple everyday material such as advertisements, prospectuses, menus and timetables and I can understand short simple personal letters.
Spoken interaction	I can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar topics and activities. I can handle very short social exchanges, even though I can't usually understand enough to keep the conversation going myself.
Spoken production	I can use a series of phrases and sentences to describe in simple terms my family and other people, living conditions, my educational background and my present or most recent job.
Writing	I can write short, simple notes and messages relating to matters in areas of immediate needs. I can write a very simple personal letter, for example thanking someone for something.

It is assumed that students who have already had first year German at a university will have achieved approximately the A2 level. In GER 2300, we will be working both on consolidation of our A2 level proficiencies at the same time as we work in the direction of achieving the B1 proficiency levels, which are defined this way:

B1: Threshold – can describe experiences, events, dreams and expectations and give his or her own opinion.

Listening	I can understand the main points of clear standard speech on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc. I can understand the main point of many radio or TV programmes on current affairs or topics of personal or professional interest when the delivery is
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relatively slow and clear.

Reading	I can understand texts that consist mainly of high frequency everyday or job-related language. I can understand the description of events, feelings and wishes in personal letters.
Spoken interaction	I can deal with most situations likely to arise whilst travelling in an area where the language is spoken. I can enter unprepared into conversation on topics that are familiar, of personal interest or pertinent to everyday life (e.g. family, hobbies, work, travel and current events).
Spoken production	I can connect phrases in a simple way in order to describe experiences and events, my dreams, hopes and ambitions. I can briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans. I can narrate a story or relate the plot of a book or film and describe my reactions.
Writing	I can write simple connected text on topics which are familiar or of personal interest. I can write personal letters describing experiences and impressions.

(CEFR proficiency levels from <http://www.eur.nl/english/ltc/alumni/cefr/b1/>)

Corresponding to the B1 Proficiency levels as goals, which in some contexts are defined as "independent language user," we rely in this course on students taking the initiative in the language-culture learning process!

HOW THIS COURSE RELATES TO THE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES IN THE GERMAN PROGRAM:

GER 2200 plays a transitional role in the German program, articulating between first year German and more advanced, upper-division courses in the German Studies, for which the Student Learning Objectives are:

1. Describe, explain and apply the knowledge of the cultures of German-speaking countries.

2. Explain and demonstrate proficiency in the German language as defined by criteria established by recognized European and German benchmarks appropriate to the chosen area of study within German studies.
3. Evaluate the significance of information gathered from authentic sources in German and German-related countries and apply it effectively.
4. Articulate clearly in speech and in writing using the German language.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS: *By using a variety of teaching and learning tools of the course management system, students will be provided with the necessary information and opportunities to practice their language skills within the performance and cultural contexts set forth in the modules. The materials and tools in each module help students to develop speaking, reading, listening comprehension and writing skills, in the first half of the course, and in the second part of the course become familiar with a number of cultural contexts and topics that are associated with some of the upper division courses in UF's German Studies curriculum (see below).*

In GER 2300, cultural learning takes place through the use of authentic Web materials and formats, which students may later be using -- should they eventually decide to do so -- more intensively and in more focused ways in online German courses at the 3000- and 4000- level of the online German studies curriculum, such as "Advanced German Grammar," "Speaking and Listening Comprehension," "Reading German Texts," "Writing German Texts," "Business German," "German Cities as Cultural Centers," "Cultural Identity and Intercultural Competence," etc.

COURSE POLICIES:

ATTENDANCE POLICY FOR INSTRUCTOR MEETINGS:

Your group will meet with your instructor once for 10-20 minutes in every Module using the Conferences tool in Canvas. Students should arrive prepared in these meetings and should be using their webcams (because the visual cues that we see are sometimes as important as the words that we hear!). The meeting time will be set during the two-hour block that has been assigned to your section (Spring 2017: Mondays | Period 7 – 8, 1:55 PM - 3:50 PM).

QUIZ/EXAM DATES/POLICIES (REQUIRED): Students will be informed about how to proceed in proctored exams. They will be reminded a week before the proctored exam takes place to contact the proctoring service and to sign up for the coming exam in time. For the proctoring of the exams:

- You will need a webcam and some type of speakers and microphone.
- You must register with ProctorU. If you already have an account, there is no need to register again. You must sign up for a test time prior to the 4 day deadline.
- If you are in need of a specific time, sign up for a time early.
- Once you sign up for a time, you should receive a confirmation e-mail. If you do not receive the confirmation e-mail, you should contact ProctorU immediately.
- If you make a last-minute schedule change with ProctorU, you will incur a \$5.00 fee.
- The video of the proctor will freeze while you are taking the exam, but the proctor is still watching.
- You will also be required to show picture identification to your proctor at the time of your exam. Approved forms of identification include, but are not limited to, a driver's license, military identification card, passport, or school-issued identification card.
- No breaks are allowed during your testing session and cell phones and other devices will not be permitted in the testing area.
- No other people are allowed in the area in which the test is being taken.
- Any unauthorized notes or other attempts to cheat will abort the test session and will be reported to your instructor.

LATE WORK: *As a rule, unless a student has a medical excuse or a confirmed family emergency with documentation from the Dean of Students Office, late assessments, assignments, and exams will not be accepted.*

Any technical difficulties with assignments have a Help Desk ticket number if you plan to request an extension. The extension request MUST be submitted within 24 hours of the technical difficulty.

COURSE TECHNOLOGY: Access to and on-going use of a computer is required for all students. Competency in the basic use of a computer is required. Coursework will require use of a computer and a broadband connection to the Internet. For additional information on UF College of Liberal Arts and Sciences policy regarding computer requirements you can visit: <http://it.clas.ufl.edu/policies/student-computer-requirement/>

For additional information on UF Online policy regarding computer requirements you can visit: <http://ufonline.ufl.edu/resources/computer-requirements/>
Students are required to have speakers, a microphone, and a webcam to take the proctored exams and to participate in the group activities and instructor meetings.

- <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu>

- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2

ONLINE COURSE EVALUATION: Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semesters, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>.

COURSE WORK:

- Proceed through all the assigned pages, individual assessments and assignments, and the group assignments according to the schedule given in Canvas.
- Expand your working vocabulary by learning the vocabulary list of each module actively and do all the relevant work on the grammar topics that are reviewed in each module (grammar review exercises and assessments will be taken from the Discover German sequence for this purpose).
- Take the graded and proctored Midterm and Final Exams during the time indicated below. These exams are comprehensive and will cover all grammar, vocabulary, and topics covered in the first and second parts of the course respectively.
- Prepare yourself for the weekly group activities, especially for the tasks assigned to you. Participate in all meetings with your group partners. It has been proven that the successful completion of this course depends to a very high degree on the collaboration of the groups. It is, therefore, very important that group members can rely on the constructive and timely cooperation of all others. Make sure that you are prepared for your group work so that it does not take an unnecessarily long time.
- In each module, at indicated times, students in their groups will meet briefly for a required live conference with the course instructor to discuss the students' progress, practice areas that need additional attention, and prepare for coming assessments, assignments, and exams.

UF POLICIES:

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACCOMMODATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

(REQUIRED): “Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc) by providing

appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.”

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACADEMIC CONDUCT: UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

CLASS DEMEANOR OR NETIQUETTE: All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats. [Describe what is expected and what will occur as a result of improper behavior [See Sample Netiquette Document](#)]

U MATTER WE CARE: Your well-being is important to the University of Florida. The U Matter, We Care initiative is committed to creating a culture of care on our campus by encouraging members of our community to look out for one another and to reach out for help if a member of our community is in need. If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu so that the U Matter, We Care Team can reach out to the student in distress. A nighttime and weekend crisis counselor is available by phone at 352-392-1575. The U Matter, We Care Team can help connect students to the many other helping resources available including, but not limited to, Victim Advocates, Housing staff, and the Counseling and Wellness Center. Please remember that asking for help is a sign of strength. In case of emergency, call 9-1-1.

GETTING HELP:

For issues with technical difficulties for Canvas, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu>

- (352) 392-HELP (4357)
- Walk-in: HUB 132

Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by the ticket number received from the Help Desk when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You MUST e-mail your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

Other resources are available at <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help> for:

- Counseling and Wellness resources
- Disability resources
- Resources for handling student concerns and complaints
- Library Help Desk support

Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course please visit <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaints> to submit a complaint.

GRADING POLICIES:

METHODS BY WHICH STUDENTS WILL BE EVALUATED AND THEIR GRADE DETERMINED

See <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx> for general UF grading policies. Grades for the course will be based on the following:

Individual Assessments and Assignments 30%

Group Assignments 30%

Midterm Exam 14%

Final Exam 16%

Instructor Meetings 5%

Review Quizzes 5%

INFORMATION ON CURRENT UF GRADING POLICIES FOR ASSIGNING GRADE POINTS:

- <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

GRADING SCALE: (& GPA equivalent):

<i>A 100-93(4.0)</i>	<i>C 76-73 (2.0)</i>
<i>A- 92-90(3.67)</i>	<i>C- 72-70(1.67)</i>
<i>B+ 89-87(3.33)</i>	<i>D+ 69-67(1.33)</i>
<i>B 86-83 (3.0)</i>	<i>D 63-66 (1.0)</i>
<i>B- 82-80(2.67)</i>	<i>D- 62-60(0.67)</i>
<i>C+ 79-77(2.33)</i>	<i>E 59-(0)</i>

COURSE SCHEDULE:

CRITICAL DATES:

Midterm Exam: From Feb 16, 2017 8am to Feb 17, 2017, 10pm

Final Exam: From April 27, 8am to April 28, 10pm

A WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS:

A listing of the assignment deadlines is available in e-learning on the Syllabus page.

Disclaimer: This syllabus represents my current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, these plans may need to change to enhance class learning. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.