

GER 2240, Spring 2021  
Instructor: C. Overstreet, PhD  
Dauer Hall 255  
Office hrs: Tuesdays 7-9 periods (2:00-4.00 PM)  
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## Text and Materials

["Begegnungen B1+, Integriertes Kurs- und Arbeitsbuch"](#) required and "Begegnungen, Glossar B1+Englisch" can be helpful. The text is available as an e-book now but I do not recommend it. You can purchase the book as a hard copy with a key (Lösungsschlüssel) for self-checking.

"Begegnungen" is an 'all-in-one' text with CD's (to be downloaded or available also as mp3 files) for practicing listening comprehension. Each of the eight chapters consists of four parts: Teil A (Kernprogramm), Teil B (fakultatives Zusatzprogramm=Kultur/Wissen), Teil C (Grammatik- und Wortschatzübungen), und Teil D (Redemittel und Evaluation). You will read the assigned pages in the book and complete exercises in the book and use the 'Lösungsschlüssel' to check your work. Zoom Classroom time is reserved primarily for introducing new concepts and speaking.

Also, along with the textbook, the Schubert Verlag offers additional online exercises and a variety of 'Internet Aufgaben'. 'Internet Aufgaben' focus on cultural elements of each chapter. There will be quizzes, a test after each chapter, a midterm, and a comprehensive final administered in Canvas via Honorslock. In addition, we use VoiceThread for oral interaction among groups of students outside of class. Group members interact with each other on their group's VoiceThread slide and each member submits his or her script in the VoiceThread assignment page for feedback and grading.

## Course Objectives

The main objective of this course is to reach the B1 level of the Common European Framework of References for Languages. For each of the chapters of the book there are very specific goals.

### List of what the learner can do at the B1 Level:

- Can understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc.
- Can deal with most situations likely to arise while travelling in an area where the language is spoken.
- Can produce simple connected text on topics that are familiar or of personal interest.
- Can describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes and ambitions and briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans. ([Wikipedia](#))

## Class Policies

### Participation policy as prescribed by LLC

Participation in our class is fundamental since improving oral conversation skills is a key objective of the course. Thus, students are required to have their cameras on from start to finish during our classes on Zoom. A default setting for our sessions in Zoom is that participants will be muted when they enter, so you will unmute yourself when you comment orally during our whole-group conversations and when you are in small groups. Your instructor may also ask students to reply in the chat box for specific activities. Oral comments on camera and written comments in the chat box are considered activities for participation. If you have technical issues, please immediately consult UF IT Help to resolve them and then contact your instructor. Zoom sessions will not be recorded by the instructor and may not be recorded by students. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded material is prohibited.

You are expected to attend Zoom classes regularly and to complete all homework assignments on time, both online and in your "Begegnungen" workbook. Since you 'self-check' and I cannot check your assignments in the book, I will give unannounced quizzes to keep you on track.

Late homework is not accepted except for situations which count for an excused absence. For missed homework, missed midterm or final exam, you will receive 0 points. Work consistently and come to the classroom prepared to interact. Written text that is copied from the internet without giving credit to the author or copied from google translate is considered cheating.

Make sure your laptop is in good working condition. Take all tech problems to the HUB. Learn how to write ALL German letters requiring Umlaute and the ß. Words without the proper Umlaut or 'ss' rather than ß will be counted as mistakes.

### **Attendance and Late Policy**

Students will be permitted 3 unexcused absences per semester. Be wise! More than 3 unexcused absences will lower your final grade. An excused absence is either one for which a medical certificate is provided or a certified University activity for which you can show a written excuse from the University. A medical certificate must clearly state that the student was unable to attend class on the date the class was missed. While there is no limit to the number of excused absences, the student is still responsible for contacting the instructor to make up missed work.

### **Make-up Policy**

There are NO MAKE-UPS for quizzes or exams if there is no valid excuse as described above. The instructor may allow students to take exams and quizzes early or late in certain mitigating circumstances.

### **Final Grade**

Homework 20% (including Voicethread assignments and Internet Aufgaben)

Participation 10% (Discussion Board and classroom interaction)

Quizzes 15%

Chapter Tests 20%

Midterm (written and oral) 15%

Final Exam (written and oral) 20%

**Grading Scale** 100-93 A; 92-90 A-; 89-87 B+; 86-83 B; 82-80 B-; 79-77 C+; 76-73 C; 72-70 C-; 69-67; D+; 66-63 D; 62-60 D

### **Cell Phone Policy**

You may use the cell phone for looking up vocabulary or other information relevant to the class ONLY. The phone must not ring during class.

### **Grade Disputes**

Should a student wish to dispute any grade received in this class (other! than simple addition errors), the dispute must be in writing and be submitted to the instructor within a week of receiving the grade. The dispute should set out very clearly the grade the student believes the assignment should have received as well as why the student believes he or she should have received such a grade.

### **Students with Disabilities**

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation.

Ich freue mich auf ein erfolgreiches Semester!

Dr. Overstreet

