

Beginning Intensive German I

GER 1130 Section 3543

Class Periods: 9th period

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

Zoom-Link:

Academic Term: Fall 2020

Instructor

Dr. Overstreet

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Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:00 – 3:00 PM
and by appointment

Zoom-Link:

Course Description

GER 1130 (Beginning German I) is a five-credit course for beginning learners of German with **no prior experience** learning German. The course concentrates on development of overall skill in language (speaking, listening, reading, writing, vocabulary, grammar) and cultural knowledge.

Course Placement

- **No previous experience in German?** GER 1130 is the correct course.
- **Some previous experience learning German** in High School or other institution? Contact the Undergraduate Coordinator ([Dr. Will Hasty](#)) to enroll in the appropriate German language course.

Course Objectives

By the end of the semester, students will be able to communicate in basic spoken and written German. Through daily homework, portfolio tasks, quizzes, and test, they will learn to describe themselves and others, discuss their likes and dislikes, talk about their cultural topics, and explain simple present and past events in German. Students who successfully complete the course will be at the A1 level on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

Required Textbooks and Software

- *Kontakte* 8th edition eBook by Tschirner et al. from McGraw-Hill through [UFALLACCESS](#) ○ Note: Some students find it helpful to have a printed version of the textbook, which is available at additional cost as a loose-leaf.
- Connect: GER 1130 sections are participating in the UF All Access program for the Fall 2020 semester. ○ Students will have the option to “opt-in” to Connect access through a link provided in Canvas for a reduced price and pay for these materials through their student account. Opting-in by following the instructions provided in Canvas will provide the most affordable option.
 - Please await instructions for when you will be able to purchase the required Connect access through Canvas. The opt-in portal should be available a few days before start of term.

Recommended Materials

- *English Grammar for Students of German* by Zorach et al. from Olivia & Hill Press (ISBN-13: 9780934034388 / ISBN-10: 0934034389)

Course Schedule

See separate document on Canvas (“Kursplan”).

Attendance Policy, Class Expectations, and Other Policies 1.

Attendance and Participation:

Becoming fluent in a language requires extensive, repeated exposure to that language. For this reason, **attendance is essential** in this class, and is considered mandatory. Excused absences must be consistent with university

policies in the undergraduate catalog (<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>) and **require appropriate documentation**. A penalty will be imposed for excessive unexcused absences:

- After **4 hours of class time missed, 1% per unexcused absence is deducted** from your overall course grade.
- **Be advised that attending class is not the same as participating**. Your instructor will not only record your attendance, but also make note of how well and how much you participate in classroom activities and respond to questions. **Repeatedly being unprepared to answer or take part in activities will result in a reduction of your participation grade.**
- **Excessive, consistent tardiness or arriving more than 5 minutes late on 3 occasions will count as one missed class.**
- In general, there are **no make-up tests or exams**. This policy is strictly enforced; therefore, please do not schedule dental appointments or car maintenance for the days of exams! Medical emergencies will be handled on a case by case basis but require appropriate documentation for consideration. No changes to the final exam day schedule will be made except for University sanctioned make-up exams (see University schedule for specific policies).

Students experiencing difficulties that interfere with class attendance/performance are encouraged to speak with their instructor immediately or contact a team member at <https://umatter.ufl.edu/>

2. Classroom and Study Approach:

We teach our classes primarily **in German**. Communicative contexts and grammatical guides are introduced in class through a variety of activities; acquisition is reinforced by interactive use of new structures and vocabulary. **Daily attendance, thorough preparation outside of class, and participation in class are of utmost importance**. Students normally spend **two hours working outside of class (previewing and reviewing)** for each hour in class to keep up with the pace of the course. It is best to **work often** for short periods of time on a **daily, regular basis**. To actively participate in class and be prepared for exams and other tasks, it is imperative that you:

- **Preview** the topics of the day listed on the course plan **prior to coming to class**, including vocabulary, grammar topics in the “Blaue Seiten” of the textbook, and corresponding homework exercises – to be completed on Connect (unlimited attempts).
- **Review** the content that was covered after each class, complete the corresponding electronic workbook/lab manual (eWBLM) homework on Connect (3 attempts), and listen to any of the audio and video segments that accompany the textbook for further listening practice.

There is a pronunciation & orthography program included with the eWBLM, which was designed to enhance your speaking and writing skills. Regularly making a serious effort in **preparing daily for class** as well as completing the eWBLM exercises throughout the semester will provide the best preparation for the tests and other tasks.

3. Technology, Zoom Etiquette & Online Translators:

Access to and on-going use of a computer is required for all UF students. Reliable Internet access, camera, microphone, and speakers will be necessary for class (via Zoom) and all other course components. A cell phone is not a recommended device for viewing the eBook or acceptable for participating in Zoom conferences. More recommendations and requirements can be found <https://it.ufl.edu/policies/student-computing-requirements/> and <https://it.clas.ufl.edu/policies/student-computer-requirement/>

In addition to UF Netiquette policies, please be sure to review and adhere to the Zoom Etiquette Policies compiled by faculty of the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (posted on Canvas). To create a productive and positive learning environment for yourself and your classmates, it is imperative that you follow the **same rules of respectful interaction as you would in a face-to-face course**.

When learning a language, using an online translation service can be tempting. However, **using translation services or online dictionaries to look up more than a single word or phrase is not acceptable** and a form of plagiarism.

Instead of abusing the online resources available to you, **refer to the textbook, simplify the complex thoughts you are trying to communicate, use cognates, synonyms, and circumlocution with the words and structures that you know** to convey what you are trying to say/write.

Evaluation of Grades

Assignment	Percentage of Final Grade
Participation	10%
Homework – Textbook	10%
Homework – eWBLM	10%
Quizzes (4)	10%
Portfolio tasks (4)	20%
Chapter tests (3)	20%
Comprehensive final exam (written)	10%
Final oral task	10%
	100%

Homework, Quizzes and Portfolio Tasks

In general, we will spend three weeks per chapter, except for the introductory chapters. Homework will be assigned on Connect and should be completed on a **daily, regular basis** to better **prepare yourself for in-class participation**. LearnSmart tasks on Connect are a good review of course content and preparation for quizzes and tests. For each chapter, there will be a quiz and a portfolio task. Timed quizzes will be completed online using either Connect or Canvas. Portfolio tasks will be written or oral tasks corresponding to themes of the chapter. These will be announced and submitted on Canvas. Activities submitted after the due date will not be accepted for full credit without appropriate documentation.

Chapter Tests and Final Exam

Chapter exams will test your skills in familiar ways if you attend class regularly and take your Connect homework seriously.

- **Chapter tests** will be timed and administered online in Connect using McGraw-Hill’s proctoring software that you will be required to install. Each chapter test will generally consist of (1) listening and (2) reading comprehension exercises; (3) culture, vocabulary and grammar sections; and (4) a speaking task.
- **Final Exam** is comprehensive and follows the format used for chapter tests. It also includes a **Final Oral Task**, which will be in the form of a presentation during class time. Details will be announced in class and on Canvas well in advance.

Grading Policy

Percent	Grade	Grade Points
93.0 - 100.0	A	4.00
90.0 – 92.9	A-	3.67
87.0 - 89.9	B+	3.33
83.0 – 86.9	B	3.00
80.0 - 82.9	B-	2.67
77.0 - 79.9	C+	2.33
73.0 – 76.9	C	2.00
70.0 - 72.9	C-	1.67
67.0 - 69.9	D+	1.33
63.0 - 66.9	D	1.00

60.0 - 62.9	D-	0.67
0 - 59.9	E	0.00

More information on UF grading policy may be found at: [Grades and Grading Policies](#)

Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the <https://disability.ufl.edu/> It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing [online evaluations](#). Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students on the [Gator Evals page](#).

University Honesty Policy

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 honor 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](#) 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 your instructor.

Software Use

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

Student Privacy

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see the [Notification to Students of FERPA Rights](#).

Campus Resources:

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: counseling.ufl.edu/cwc, and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS) Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or police.ufl.edu.

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling.

Library Support, Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

Student Complaints Campus

