2013

GERM 102-01 Elementary German II

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Instructor: Dr. Erick Urbaniak

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Office Hours: Updated weekly on the Announcements page and by appointment.
        All office hours will take place using WebEx.

Required Texts: **Treffpunkt Deutsch** by Widmaier and Widmaier. 6th edition, Prentice Hall, 2013.

SAM (online student activities manual) to accompany **Treffpunkt Deutsch**

Websites: **Course Site**   https://blackboard.xavier.edu/webapps/login/

SAM (online workbook and textbook) http://mygermanlab.com/

Course ID for SAM: CRSKL87-2008413

Other requirements: A computer with internet access, microphone, speakers, and a web camera. Note that if some aspect of a module is not working like the voice boards or videos, it is advisable to try a different internet browser or program to watch a video. For videos, I recommend QuickTime or the VLC Player http://www.videolan.org/vlc/ and to have at least two different internet browsers on your computer such as Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, and Google Chrome. I will respond to all emails and questions within 24 hours during the week and 48 hours on the weekend. **It is expected that you check your email and the course Blackboard site every week day for updates or changes to assignments. All assignments are posted on the "Schedule of Assignments" found under "Course Documents".**

Course Objectives: The purpose of the course is to develop **skills** through **practice** in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Emphasis is placed on communicative skills, small group work, and conversation in the classroom. At the end of the two-semester course, the successful student will be able to function in all four language skills at an elementary level. **In virtual classroom sessions,** communication rather than grammatical accuracy is stressed; **written / typed and spoken homework assignments** are graded for accuracy.

Grade: Your grade at the end of the quarter will be calculated as follows:

Web Cam Sessions (5x)	15%
Quizzes	15%
Assignments	55%
Oral Final	5%
Final Exam	10%

What is expected of the student:

➔ **Web Cam Sessions: Attendance** at five web cam sessions is integral to the course as it provides a chance for you to listen and speak with the instructor and fellow classmates in real-time. These sessions will build upon previous modules, but focus on communicating using the grammar structures and the vocabulary covered in the pertaining module. Students will be required to choose one of the scheduled sessions for the week to attend. Directions on how to attend the sessions and how to schedule will be posted under "Course Documents" in the BlackBoard site. If a weekly session is missed, a 0% grade will be given to the student for that session and will be computed into the final grade as such. Sessions will be graded on the student's ability to communicate in German. Emphasis will be placed on pronunciation, listening comprehension, proper use of current and former themes, grammatical structures, and vocabulary found in the modules. These sessions will be conducted entirely in German! Students are strongly encouraged to conduct these sessions in a quiet space, free from distraction.

➔ **Assignments:** You are responsible for keeping up with the homework, computer lessons, and listening assignments on the syllabus and for turning in additional written assignments by submitting them through the Turnitin program in Blackboard. You can expect to spend about **four hours a day** on your assignments, learning and reviewing the material covered in the modules. We reserve the right to make changes to the syllabus as necessary; any revisions will be **announced via the online course management system.** Moreover, for online Discussion and Voice Board activities, you need to be prompt with your responses as you will be working with a partner in many of these activities. Your responses and sometimes later written reports on your conversations depend on these assignments being done in a timely manner. Be considerate of your fellow students in this regard! You are expected to submit all assignments on time; late homework will be corrected and returned, but only half credit will be given. Homework may consist of the following:

- Typed out assignments from the textbook. (You are required to **type out the whole assignment**, not just the answers in order to receive full credit)
- Assignments from the **Student Activities Manual or SAM** (online workbook)
- Discussion Board Activities
- Voice Board Activities
- Essays
- Various other Activities using PowerPoint or other computer programs
- Note that the mygermanlab.com website contains a variety of resources to aid in the learning process. Under "Course Materials" you can find the audio and video components to the textbook as well as additional practice assignments including practice tests. There are also "Readiness Checks" that you can take at the beginning of each chapter to help you understand the English grammar points that will be applied to German. You have the ability to listen to all of the vocabulary words in a chapter via the eText or downloading the audio files under the specific chapter. The website also has electronic Flashcards that you can use, print, or export to a mobile device. You are expected to listen to and practice your pronunciation of these words for each section. Naturally, you will also be required to learn the meanings of the words, the gender and plurals of the nouns, and conjugations and participles of the verbs.

➔ **Exams:** There will be an online final exam which will be found on the Blackboard site and will be announced on the course schedule. Along with this "written" portion, students will also have to schedule a time with the instructor to conduct the final oral interview. Here, the student will be graded on pronunciation, listening comprehension, and ability to converse with the instructor about one of the themes discussed in the course.

➔ **Quizzes:** Short quizzes will be used to test the knowledge gained at the conclusion of a module. These quizzes will be timed and taken online. They will cover vocabulary and grammatical concepts discussed within that module, but it is important to note that studying a language is an ongoing process and thus students will be expected to retain and use knowledge gained in prior modules correctly.

Academic Honesty: Class policy for academic integrity listed below comes from the Xavier University Catalog entry on Academic Honesty. You may access the online Xavier Catalog at this web address: http://www.xavier.edu/catalog or consult the online tutorial on the subject at http://www.xavier.edu/library/xututor/index.cfm. In short, all work submitted for assessment must be the student's own. The direct and unattributed use of another's work is not permitted as is the submission of any work that is not one's own. Penalties for violations of this policy may include one or more of the following: a zero for that assignment or test, an "F" in the course, and expulsion from the University. This includes the use of such programs as Google Translate. Though the product is neat and helpful, it does not help in the learning of another language. This program does not represent the work of the student. Moreover, the results of using such technologies are incorrect more often than not. I do encourage the use of online dictionaries, but be mindful when selecting a word.

Academic Support & Tutoring Services: The Learning Assistance Center (http://www.xavier.edu/lac/) located at 514 Conaton Learning Commons offers Xavier students tutoring in all subjects as well as help with time management and study skills.

The Learning Assistance Center (LAC) provides support services to facilitate learning. The LAC has two main purposes: tutoring and disability services. The tutoring services include subject specific tutoring, drop-in sessions, study skills assistance, and Supplemental Instruction (SI). For students with documented disabilities, our disability services provides accommodations such as extended time on exams, reduced distraction testing environment, note-taking assistance, and assistive technology. We provide these services in a positive and encouraging environment which promotes appreciation for diversity and Cura Personalis.

Remember that we are here to help you!

Technical Assistance:

Please call the **Xavier Help Desk: 513 745-4357** or you can search the website for tips and tutorials http://www.xavier.edu/ds/. Please identify yourself as a Xavier student. If your problem is related to Blackboard please have the course number and instructor name available.

<u>Core Curriculum</u>: This course fulfills three of the six credit hours for the core language requirement and the successful student will obtain the following goals of the core curriculum and achieve the following Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs):

- ➢ Students will organize and express their ideas in writing and orally.
- ➢ Students will analyze and interpret texts, images, objects, artifacts.
- ➢ Students will utilize their imagination and creativity, individually and collectively, to innovate and generate new perspectives to problems.
- ➢ Students will create, perform, and produce work that synthesizes technical execution and expressively communicates to its audience.
- ➢ Students will recognize and interpret artistic and literary expression.
- ➢ Students will relate their knowledge and skills in a reflective and constructive way to their life experiences and the challenges confronting today's world.
- ➢ Students will describe contributions made by individuals from diverse and/or underrepresented groups to local, national, and global communities.
- ➢ Students will consider perspectives of diverse groups when making decisions.
- ➢ Students will interact with sensitivity as members of society and as professionals with people who have ideas, beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors that are different from their own.
- ➢ Students will engage Catholic, ecumenical, cross-cultural, and inter-religious perspectives in reflecting upon contemporary issues of significance.
- ➢ Students will communicate in a foreign language and to read and interpret cultural materials related to the language studied.