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GRMN 101.03: Elementary German I

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GRMN 101 Elementary German I Autumn Semester 2021

Instructor Information:

Instructor: Marton Marko

Office: LA 435

Email: marton.marko@mso.umt.edu

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday 3 – 4 p.m., Friday 1 – 1:50 pm, and by appointment

Professor Marko's Zoom Address: <https://umontana.zoom.us/j/5827670655>

Class Meetings : MTWR 10 – 10:50 am LA 201

Textbook:

Robert Di Donato, Monica D. Clyde, and Jacqueline Vansant. *Deutsch: Na klar!* 8th Edition. Boston: McGraw-Hill. E-Book.

An automatic deduction is made to your student account for payment for access and use of the electronic version of the book and book-related resources via Connect. This deduction is at a reduced price provided by the publisher. If you wish to opt out of the automatic deduction you may do so via RedShelf. Keep in mind, if you opt out of the automatic deduction, you will still need to provide yourself with electronic access as well as a hard copy of the textbook and the cost of each may be higher than cost provided by the publisher via that automatic deduction. If you are considering this, please consult your instructor first. Information to register for electronic access will be provided by instructor.

A loose-leaf copy of the text is also provided at a reduced cost, bundled with the electronic resource package.

Both the electronic and loose-leaf versions of the textbook are required.

Course Level

Willkommen! Welcome to German 101, Elementary German I. This course is designed for students who are at the *beginning* level of learning German. It is not assumed students have had prior experience with the German language upon entering class. If you have had previous language experience with German in coursework or otherwise, consult your instructor and/or take the WLC Department language placement exam to see if this course is the appropriate level for you. To set up an appointment to take the exam, contact WLC Department student advisor Rachel Dierken at rachel.dierken@umontana.edu

Course Overview

GRMN 101 is a four-skills course that teaches listening, speaking, reading, and writing with a focus on communication and everyday, useful situations. You will learn how to communicate in German about such topics as your friends and family, your studies, where you live, and what you like to do. At the same time, you will investigate the rich diversity of culture in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland and learn about important roles German-speaking culture plays globally. As one of the world's economic powers and centers of industry, technological innovation, and the arts and humanities, knowing German is a real academic and professional plus in addition to a fun way to get to know about a culture that also has close ties to the U.S. and Montana. German is the most common heritage culture among Americans and Montanans – Montana's population has one of the highest percentages of German background among U.S. states.

Learning and practicing will be contextualized by theme. As we cover each theme along with the Einführung (Introduction) we will learn and practice targeted grammar patterns and vocabulary. Keep in mind: Learning German, which is a Germanic language like English, is also going to give you the chance to learn about and improve your use of English and see it in a new way!

Learning Goals and Course Outcomes

As mentioned, this course will help develop your ability to use the four basic skills of German: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The last two are emphasized (though not exclusively) in homework assignments and in chapter tests. Listening and speaking are emphasized in class meetings. You will learn in an incremental fashion beginning with simple phrases, eventually working toward sentences based on topics that will help you get to know basic aspects of German-speaking culture. In addition to what's provided in the electronic and hard-copy textbook, you will encounter a variety of materials that will get you to practice your skills of listening and reading comprehension along with speaking and writing and help you explore and identify aspects of German-speaking culture which are similar to your own and different.

Participation

Participation will be essential to growing and expanding your skills, and it is important that you take part in the course (see **Attendance Policy** below). Expect to speak and interact with others. Your participation grade is calculated according to the following: Do you volunteer in sessions? Are you speaking in German during activities targeting use of the language? Does your participation involve effective use of material covered in class and in the homework?

Homework

Homework will mostly consist of exercises and explorations provided via the electronic textbook and McGraw-Hill Connect. If there is material you are not certain about or are having trouble with, bring it up in class. We can discuss your questions in class meetings, or you can talk to me individually during my office hours. It is very important to keep up with homework as it is assigned and comes up in the sequence of our work Remember: An

important part of any assignment is learning from not always getting things right. That's OK. We'll be working together to improve your skills and confidence all semester long!

Quizzes

At least once per chapter there will be a brief quiz that will cover cultural topics, vocabulary, and grammar items. The "Wörter im Kontext" ("Words in Context") sections of the textbook will be discussed in each chapter segment and there is a vocabulary list of important terms at the end of that chapter. Be sure to take note of them while we cover the chapter topics.

Tests

Tests are given at the end of each chapter. While they will focus on material from a given chapter, they will also include some previous material, reflecting the cumulative nature of language learning. Tests can only be made up with advance notice unless a sufficient and documented excuse is provided.

Final Examination

The final exam is planned to be taken together by both sections of GRMN 101 and is scheduled for 7 pm MST, Monday, December 13, 2021.

Attendance Policy

Attendance in this course is essential; it is important that you **attend sessions regularly** in order not to fall behind. If you have an excused absence, please let your instructor know. Excused absences include illness, family emergencies, university-sponsored activities that can be verified by an administrator or official organization, and religious holidays, among others. If you have an excusable absence it is up to you to contact me either beforehand or within two sessions after your absence. For extended emergencies and health issues, exceptions can be made. Otherwise your absence will be considered unexcused. You will be allowed **four (4)** unexcused absences for the course without grade penalty. After that you will be assessed a **six (6)**-point demotion for every absence. **Twelve (12)** unexcused absences may become grounds for failing the course solely because of absences. Note that both the instructor and students are responsible for maintaining a climate of consideration and respect for everyone participating in the course. Please conduct yourself with the presence of others in mind. You will likely find that you will learn a lot from what your classmates have to share and offer.

Grading

Final grades will be calculated in the following way:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Participation | 250 pts (5 x 50) (20 %) |
| • Homework, Written Assignments | 300 pts (5 x 60) (24 %) |
| • Quizzes | 100 pts (5 x 20) (8 %) |
| • Tests | 400 pts (4 x 100) (32 %) |
| • Final Exam | 200 pts (1 x 200) (16 %) |

1250 points

Letter-grade breakdown:

1162 – 1250 Points (93% - 100%) = A
1125 – 1161 Points (90% - 92.9%) = A-
1087 – 1124 Points (87% - 89.9%) = B+
1037 – 1086 Points (83 % - 86.9%) = B
1000 – 1036 Points (80% - 82.9%) = B-
962 – 999 Points (77% - 79.9%) = C+
912 – 961 Points (73% - 76.9%) = C
875 – 911 Points (70% - 72.9%) = C-
837 – 874 Points (67% - 69.9%) = D+
787 – 836 Points (63% - 66.9%) = D
750 – 786 Points (60% - 62.9%) = D-

749 Points and Below = F

Please note: There will be no extra-credit assignments. Please do the homework assignments as given.

Students with Disabilities

This course offers equal opportunity in education for all participants, including those with documented physical and documented learning disabilities. For information regarding documentation of disabilities, approaching your instructor with pertinent information, and establishing guidelines for potential accommodation, you may consult the Office of Disability Equity (formerly DSS) at: <https://www.umt.edu/disability>

Please note that accommodations can only be established via consultation with DSS and take effect only after the instructor has been informed. The DSS Office is located in Lommasson 154; the phone number is 243-2243.

Student Conduct Code and Mask/Face Covering Policy in Class

Please refer to the Student Conduct Code as it pertains to your responsibility to hand in work and/or perform individual activities assigned to be your own as indeed representing your own efforts and work. All students must practice academic honesty and respectful behavior and communication toward others in the course. In addition, based on the CDC guidelines and recommendations of the Missoula City/County Health Department (MCCHD), mask use is required, regardless of vaccine status, in all UM classrooms and academic laboratories, including computer labs. Due to the risk to the community's health and safety, violations of this directive would be considered Disruptive Behavior under the Student Code of Conduct. Academic and/or personal misconduct are subject to penalty

endorsed or given by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code and the current mask / face coverings policies as of August 2021. This information is available for review at: <https://www.umt.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/default.php>

COURSE SCHEDULE

Mon August 30	First Introduction, Course Overview
Wed Sep 1	Begin E-Book / Connect Einführung (Introduction)
Wed September 1 – Thu September 16	Einführung
Mo September 6	LABOR DAY – No Class Session
Thu September 16	Einführung-Quiz
Mon September 20 – Tue October 5	Kapitel 1
Wed October 6	Test on Kapitel 1
Thu October 7 – Mon October 25	Kapitel 2
Tue October 26	Test on Kapitel 2
Wed October 27 – Wed November 10	Kapitel 3
Thu November 11	VETERANS DAY – No Class Session
Mon November 15	Test on Kapitel 3
Tue November 16 – Mon December 6	Kapitel 4
Tue December 7	Test on Kapitel 4
Wed December 8 – Thu December 9	Course Review
Mon December 13 7 pm Location TBD	Final Exam
Mon December 20	Winter Break Begins!