Beginning German – GER 1402-01  Fall 2004  
MWF 12-12:50 and TR 12:30-1:20  
OM 205

Frau Rita Abercrombie  
Office: Draper 410  
Rita_Abercrombie@Baylor.edu  
Office: 710-6013  
www.baylor.edu/german  
www.prenhall.com/treffpunkt  
Office: FL Phone: 710-3711  
Home:755-6869 (vor 21 Uhr)

Office hours: MW  9-10am and 2-3pm; TR  10:00-noon and always by appointment.

Final Exam: Friday, December 10 from 9:00-11:00  
Names, phone numbers, email of at least two other students in the class.

Required Course Materials:  
Treffpunkt Deutsch: Text (4th edition)  
Treffpunkt Deutsch: Arbeitsbuch / Hörverständnis (WORKBOOK)  
Recommended: Audio CD (bookstore and LAC)

Course Description: For those having completed 1401 or showing the equivalent on one college semester’s knowledge of German. Emphasis on basic comprehension, speaking, reading and writing skills. Systematic inclusion of cultural aspects. Meets five days a week. (4 credit hours).

About This Course:  
This course will continue to introduce you to the German language and the culture of German-speaking people. The emphasis of the class will be on interaction and communication. Your course materials and the professor will be using a teaching approach that is both student-centered and communicative. The intent is to create a Treffpunkt: “a meeting place, where students will get to know one another better through the target language” (Widmaier xvii). This approach will give you the opportunity to begin to understand and produce “everyday German.” You will get to know the German-speaking world through the language itself, as well as readings, photos, discussions, activities, and your own exploration. If you speak perfect German, this class is not for you. It is for those who are willing to try hard, participate and prepare for each class.

The primary aim of this course is to allow you to enjoy and experience (hear, see, read, understand, and write) as much German and German culture as possible. In order to achieve this goal, classes will be conducted mostly in German—the professor will speak German and you will quickly learn to express yourself.

You are not expected to be perfect or to know how to speak German from the beginning. You are required to TRY HARD, participate and prepare for each class.
Use the Language Acquisition Center (LAC) Draper third floor and Treffpunkt website for additional practice.

**Summary of Course Workload:** Students in the course will be expected to attend class, complete homework assignments and readings by the assigned dates. An assignment sheet for each chapter will guide you through these exercises. Students must also participate in class activities and complete all examinations.

We will work through Chapters 7-12 of the Treffpunkt text and workbook and experience various cultural products such as poetry, video, dialogue, songs, etc.

**Goals of the Course:**
1. To become more acquainted with the culture of Germany and the German-speaking world.
2. To become more familiar and comfortable with the sounds of the German language.
3. To acquire novice-high to intermediate low proficiency in speaking, listening, writing and reading German. These skills will allow you to function in everyday situations using authentic and culturally appropriate language.

After your second semester of German, you should be able to respond to more complex questions about the most common features of daily life. You should also be able to convey basic meaning by creating sentences with acquired vocabulary and grammar structures. These skills should allow you to satisfy a number of immediate needs in German.

**Instructional Methods:** This course is conducted mostly in German. It is preparation-intensive and requires study between classes (check your chapter Lehrplan). In order to be successful learning a language you must consistently spend time previewing and reviewing material and activities. The in-class time will be spent practicing communication skills such as listening, speaking, viewing video, discussing, reading and writing. We will often use group work, pair work, games, discussions, listening, dictation, and writing exercises to learn German.

Respect is an important factor in any class. In this particular class, each student will sometimes be outside of her/his comfort zone because we are trying to communicate with one another in German. All students will be afforded respect by the teacher and the other students for their efforts and diligence. Remember, no one makes progress without making a few errors.

**Expectations:** Please work together in and outside of class to help each other to learn German and to succeed in this class. HOWEVER, academic dishonesty will not be tolerated—do not cheat, copy or “share” your work. Work (tests, homework, papers, etc) that you do for this course must be your own. Be familiar with the guidelines of the Honor Code as spelled out in the Student Handbook. Please see the instructor with any additional questions.

If you have a disability that may require assistance or accommodations, or if you have questions related to any accommodations for testing, note taking, reading, etc., please speak with me as soon as possible. Students also may call the Office of Access and Learning Accommodation (OALA) at (710-3605) for information about services available at Baylor University.
Finally, I ask that you take hats off and turn beepers, phones etc. off during class. If you finish an activity, you may work ahead or review material we have already covered—as long as it is German. The more time you spend doing German, the more you will succeed in this class. Please be prompt; I record tardiness as well as absences.

**Course Requirements and Grading:**

- **Attendance (5%)** Attendance will be taken daily. According to departmental regulations you must attend at least 80% of all classes in order to receive credit for this course. I will deduct 3 points per absence from your attendance grade. This means that any more than 15 absences will result in an automatic course grade of F. Every class both reviews and introduces material. If you miss a class meeting or want to review material, you may speak with a classmate, arrange a study group, and/or work with a tutor. I will not “make up” class time in my office. After you have attempted the material, feel free to bring questions to me. In case of illness, emergency etc., inform your professor; you may need to provide written proof. You are responsible for work missed.

- **Participation (10%)** – This class is a participatory experience that involves the skills of listening, reading, writing, and speaking German. If you are not in class you can not participate, so significant absences will affect this section of your grade – 2 points per absence. Other factors that adversely affect your learning are habitual lateness, lack of attention, or unwillingness to work with your peers. Periodically, we will discuss your participation privately so that you will know how you are doing. “Research…provides compelling evidence linking students’ involvement in their [foreign language] classroom interaction to their communicative development.” (Joan Kelly Hall, “The Communication Standards” 1999). Your contribution to the class will be graded during and after EACH class.

- **Homework Assignments (15%)** – Students should come to class with the two copies of the written assignment for that date; you may also note any difficulties or questions that you had with the assignment or the previous day’s class at the end of the assignment. Please place one copy of the assignment on the teacher’s desk at the beginning of class, the other copy is yours to refer to during class, take notes, better the assignment, and for later review of the material. Put your name, the date and the title (Hausaufgabe #) of the assignment on all homework pages. Workbooks will be graded periodically during the semester; do not tear pages out of the workbook. The teacher will assume that you have learned the vocabulary of the material covered so make lists for your folder (or flashcards) and learn those words!

- **Chapter Tests (30%)** – Dictation and Vocabulary Quizzes (10%) Periodic vocabulary quizzes and dictation activities will ensure that you are learning the material as you go. Students may expect a short vocabulary quiz on most Tuesdays; and a dictation activity on most Thursdays. After every two chapters, there will be a test. Unannounced quizzes will be necessary ONLY if students consistently do not prepare for class. Any of these assessment activities may be replaced by other appropriate learning experiences if the professor is comfortable that the class has mastered the material. As a general rule, there
are no make-ups. In case of an emergency, it is your responsibility to contact your instructor before the class begins via email, phone or voice mail.

- **Written Final Examination (20%)** - The written examination is comprehensive through chapter 12 and may include other topics discussed in class (not in the book). It will focus on listening comprehension, reading comprehension, vocabulary, writing and grammar. You will receive a study outline two weeks prior to the final examination.

- **Oral Examination (10%)** Mündliche Prüfung - To improve your oral proficiency in German, you should speak and listen to as much German as possible and practice what has been done in class. Remember that you cannot cram for an oral exam; only steady practice will make you proficient. This examination be held in my office and will be 5-10 minutes long. It will be scheduled between midterm and the end of classes (not during finals week).

**Grading Scale:** Your letter grade will be based on the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86-89</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-85</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76-79</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 60%</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 15 classes missed</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**August**

Montag, den 23. August  
Introductions, Syllabus, Lehrplan und Wiederholung Treffpunkt (Kap. 1-6)

Dienstag, den 24. August  
Wiederholung (Kap 1-6)

Mittwoch, den 25. August  
Aufsatz: Meine Ferien und Wiederholung (Kap 1-6)

Donnerstag, den 26. August  
Vokabeln S. 234 Kap. 7 / Feste und Feiertage

Freitag, den 27. August  
Feste und Feiertage / Vokabeln / Berlin

A detailed Lehrplan will be given at the beginning of each chapter.

Kapitel 7  
August 26 – September 9 (chapter test)

Kapitel 8  
September 10 – September 24 (chapter test)

Kapitel 9  
September 25 – October 11 (chapter test)

Kapitel 10  
October 12 – October 27 (chapter test)

Kapitel 11  
October 28 – November 12 (chapter test)

Kapitel 12  
November 15 – December 1 --- December 2, 3, and 6 are Review for Final Exam

10/22/04