Intermediate German – GER2310-01  Fall 2004
MWF 10:00-10:50
OM 213

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

Final Exam: Monday, December 13 from 9:00-11:00 am

Names, phone numbers, email of at least two other students in the class.

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**Required Course Materials:** These books will be used for two semesters, 2310 and 2320.  
*Fokus Deutsch*, TEXT (Di Donato et al. 2000)  
*Neue kommunikative Grammatik* (John Klapper and Trudi McMahon).

**Course Description:** Further development of communicative skills and knowledge of culture.  
Prerequisites: GER 1401/1402, or three years or more of high-school German, or consent of the division director. Meets three days a week. (3 credit hours).

**About This Course:** This course will continue your study of 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 allow students to “communicate in German in meaningful contexts, as they learn about and develop an understanding of German-speaking cultures.” (Di Donato xix) This approach will give you the opportunity 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.

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 and to become more sophisticated in those skills. In order to achieve this goal, classes will be conducted mostly in German—you and the professor will speak German.

**You are not expected to speak perfect German in this class. You are required to TRY HARD, participate and prepare for each class.**

Use the Language Acquisition Center (LAC) Draper third floor for additional practice.

10/22/04
Summary of Course Workload: Students in the course will be expected to attend class, and 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 *Einführung* and chapters 25-30 of the *Fokus Deutsch* text and specific chapters of *Neue kommunikative Grammatik* to review the structures and skills introduced in the first year of language study. Students will also experience various cultural products such as poetry, video, dialogue, songs, etc.

Goals of the Course:
1.) To become acquainted with the culture of Germany and the German-speaking world.
2.) To become familiar and comfortable with the sounds of the German language.
3.) To acquire intermediate-low to intermediate-mid proficiency in speaking, listening, writing and reading German. These skills will allow you to function comfortably in everyday situations using authentic and culturally appropriate language and to make great strides in your language study with practice and repetition.

After this semester of German, you should be able to respond simple questions on the common features of daily life. You should be able to describe events in the present, past and future and to speak about concepts beyond your everyday life. These skills should allow you to satisfy immediate needs in German and communicate with German speakers.

Instructional Methods: This course is conducted mostly in German. It is preparation-intensive and requires approximately 2 hours of study between classes. You will receive an assignment sheet to accompany each chapter. In order to be successful learning a language you must consistently spend time previewing and reviewing material. The in-class time will be spend 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.

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. You should be familiar with the guidelines of the Honor Code 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.

10/22/04
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. This means that any more than 9 absences will result in an automatic course grade of F. I will deduct 4 points for each absence.

- **Participation (5%)** Every class both reviews and introduces material. This class is a participatory experience that involves the skills of listening, reading, writing, and speaking German. “Research…provides compelling evidence linking students’ involvement in their [foreign language] classroom interaction to their communicative development.” (Joan Kelly Hall, “The Communication Standards” 1999). Therefore I will deduct 2 points for each absence. Your contribution to the class will be graded during and after EACH class. 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. 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.

- **Portfolio (writing) (10%)** In this class you will do thinking, reading and writing on a variety of German-related subjects. The portfolio will allow you to see your writing more objectively and assess your strength and weaknesses, as well as your progress.

- **Homework Assignments (10%)** Students should come to class with the two copies of the written assignment; 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 or Portfolio #) of the assignment on all homework pages. Sections from Neue kommunikative Grammatik will be graded periodically during the semester; do not tear pages out of the book. 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%) – Vocabulary and other Quizzes (10%)** Periodic quizzes and dictation activities will ensure that you are learning the material as you go. These short quizzes and dictations will usually be announced one class before they occur.
Unannounced quizzes will be necessary **ONLY** if students consistently do not prepare for class. After every two chapters, there will be a test. Any of these assessment activities may be replaced by other appropriate learning experiences if the professor is confident 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.

- **Written Final Examination (20%)** - The written examination is comprehensive through chapter 36 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 will be held in my office and will be 10-15 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:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
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<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>
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<tr>
<td>70-75</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 60%</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
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**Themen für die Porfolios:**

Portfolio #1: Meine Familie: beschreiben Sie Ihre Familie. Wer sind sie? Wie sehen Sie aus? Was machen Sie gern? Was für ein Familienleben haben Sie?

Portfolio #2: Meine Kindheit/meine Jugend: beschreiben Sie ein Ereignis aus Ihrer Kindheit oder Jugendzeit. Was ist passiert? Wer ist dabei gewesen? Haben Sie etwas dabei gelernt?

Portfolio #3: Suchen Sie ein Bild/Postkarte/Photo aus. Machen Sie eine Liste von Wörtern (mehr als 50!), die das Bild beschreiben können. Von dieser Liste bauen Sie Sätze, die das Bild beschreiben.

Portfolio #4: Was würdest Du machen, wenn Du die Lotterie gewinnen würdest?

Portfolio #5 Wie stellen Sie sich das Berufsleben vor? Schreiben Sie über den Beruf und den Alltag beim Berufsleben.

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Portfolio #6: Zusammenfassung: Lesen Sie Ihre Portfolio Einträge. Was haben Sie beim Schreiben gelernt? Wie haben Sie Ihr Schreiben verbessert? Was für eine Note würden Sie sich für das Portfolio geben? Warum? You are encouraged to may write this portfolio in English. Here are the steps:

1. Assemble your portfolios, drafts and notes from this semester.
2. Prepare a table of contents page with the title of the portfolio, draft number and grade for each entry.
3. Read through your portfolio drafts and assess them for commonly made errors and skills you practiced.
4. Write an assessment of your writing this semester (portfolio #6): talk about what has improved, what still needs work, which portfolio topic you found most satisfying and why. Answer the question: How has my German improved through this process?
5. Looking at all your drafts, grades and personal assessment--assign yourself a fair grade (the grade you earned) for your portfolio based on your overall achievement of the writing goals. Justify the grade you give yourself with specific examples of your success. Remember that the portfolio is worth 10% of your final grade. Final tip: do not say "I spent a lot of time on it" or "I really tried" as justification --this grade is about achieving and demonstrating German writing skills.

6. I will take into consideration your self-assessment and the grade you believe you earned. I may or may not agree, but it will help me to learn about your skills and about the ability of the writing assignments to help you "teach" yourself.

August
Montag, den 23. August Wiederholung
Mittwoch, den 25. August Wiederholung
Freitag, den 27. August Einführung mit Vokabelquiz #1

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

Kapitel 27  1. Okt. – 18. Okt. (Test Kap. 27)
Kapitel 28  20. Okt. – 1. Nov. (Test Kap. 28)
Kapitel 29  3. Nov. – 17. Nov. (Test Kap. 29)