

**GERMAN 109  
BEGINNING GERMAN I**

**BULLETIN INFORMATION**

GERM 109 - Beginning German I

**Course Description:**

Introduction to grammar and practical vocabulary necessary for fundamental communication skills

Note: Restricted to those who have never studied German or who have placed by examination into GERM 109. Credit may be received only for one of the following: GERM 109/110; 111; 121.)

**SAMPLE COURSE OVERVIEW**

German 109 is the first course in a three-semester sequence for beginning students of German (109, 110, 122). All four foreign language skills (reading, writing, speaking, and listening) will be addressed to help you acquire a reasonable level of proficiency in the German language.

**ITEMIZED LEARNING OUTCOMES**

**Upon successful completion of German 109, students will be able to:**

1. Communication
  - a. Demonstrate an understanding of simple ideas and a few supporting details of written and spoken communication in the present time frame on topics of introducing oneself and describing where and how one lives, friends and family, pastimes, holiday celebrations, and a typical day etc.
  - b. Engage in simple oral and written exchanges in present tense with a focus on providing and obtaining basic information, expressing feelings and preferences, describing and narrating, and exchanging opinions on topics of personal interest such those mentioned above.
  
2. Cultures
  - a. Demonstrate an understanding of surface-level cultural information and relationships between cultural perspectives, products, and practices, such as German IDs and family gatherings, especially as they relate to the German-speaking countries featured in the text.
  - b. Demonstrate use of appropriate cultural behavior for at least 1/3 of the class in social and survival situations, such as what to do when meeting a new person
  
3. Connections
  - a. Interpret and discuss in simple words and phrases to reinforce and learn new information in academic areas such as history, geography, art, anthropology, and literature

4. Comparisons
  - a. Demonstrate the development of basic insights into your own language and culture through readings, listening, and classroom activities which deal with German speakers in your community and abroad.
  
5. Communities
  - a. Embrace opportunities and attend one event to practice and hear the German language outside of the classroom in activities such as concerts, movies, lectures, exhibits, festivals, and conversational exchanges with German speakers.  
(Assessment: voluntary participation at weekly Kaffeeklatsch conversation hour, attendance and review of a German movie shown at German movie night)

### **SAMPLE REQUIRED TEXTS/SUGGESTED READINGS/MATERIALS**

1. *Deutsch – Na Klar!* 6<sup>th</sup> Edition
2. Textbook (DiDonato, Clyde, Vansant: McGraw-Hill, 2012)
3. Workbook (Jeanine Briggs: McGraw-Hill, 2012)
4. LabManual (Daves-Schneider, Büsges: McGraw-Hill, 2012)
5. Audiofiles accompanying *Deutsch – Na Klar!* are available through the Blackboard Course site

### **SAMPLE ASSIGNMENTS AND/OR EXAMS**

1. **Quizzes:** There will be a quiz at least once a week. Learn vocabulary as it is practiced and presented in each chapter, try to keep your acquisition in context! Use flashcards or any other method that works for you. Be sure to learn the gender and plural of nouns, practice verb conjugations and pay attention to idiomatic expressions. Do not wait until the night before the quiz! Always be prepared for a quiz: they could be announced or unannounced.
  
2. **Three Chapter Tests and a Final Exam:** You should not have to learn anything new the night before a test, rather begin a review a couple of days before the test, covering the exercises done in class and in your workbook.
  
3. **Journals:** At the end of each chapter in your workbook, you are asked to write a journal entry. The topics are located at the end of each chapter in the workbook. Each contribution should be typed and contain newly acquired vocabulary and grammatical structures. As with most other assignments, creativity is highly valued, feel free to add pictures, drawings, etc., but submit only quality work. Submissions with unreasonable amounts of avoidable mistakes or otherwise sloppy work will not be accepted. Your instructor will mark mistakes according to the attached list of correction symbols. Correct your entries as indicated and hand in your second draft, attached to your first draft, with your next assignment. Only then will you receive a grade for your entry; the total of these grades will then be your grade in the “journal” category.

4. **Homework:** Your instructor will assign daily homework assignments for each chapter of *Deutsch – Na klar!* Some of these assignments may come from the workbook, lab manual, or textbook and others may be assignments your instructor has designed. For extra practice you should complete the corresponding Workbook and LabManual exercises (audiofiles are accessible through the link called “Hörverständnis” on the Blackboard website for this course) for each chapter section. Complete an activity, then check the answer key and correct your answers. Homework will be graded as satisfactory only if handed in on time, complete, and appropriately corrected when applicable. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to find out your homework assignment before you return to class.
5. **Speaking Tasks:** Three times during the semester, you will be required to record yourself speaking (in response to a question), save the file as an mp3 file, and submit it to your instructor’s drop box in Blackboard. The rubric that will be used to grade these audio files is at the end of the syllabus. The questions for the speaking task are listed in the syllabus and will be excellent practice for your oral interviews. Be sure to pay close attention to your pronunciation and the content of your message when making your recordings while keeping your audience in mind.
6. **Oral Interview:** Towards the end of the semester, you will sign up for an oral interview with your instructor. The interview is simply a conversation that covers many of the topics you covered this semester. If you participate in class, do your homework, and complete the speaking tasks, you should have no trouble doing well on the oral interview.
7. **Study Abroad Wiki Assignment:** This semester you will be working on a wiki with all of the other 100-level German students in order to learn more about the culture of German-speaking countries and help to prepare you for study abroad in a German-speaking country. Three times during the semester you will be given a text to read about German culture with questions to guide your reading. The next day in class, you will discuss the text with your class. Then, a group made up of 1/3 of the class will decide together what the most important parts of the reading were and what you should post on the wiki for the rest of the 100-level students to read (they won’t have read your same text). There may also be other German classes reading your wiki, so keep your audience in mind. One week after you have read the text and posted to the wiki, you will visit the wiki site again to read what your German colleagues wrote and then discuss it in class.
  - a. The following aspects should be included on your wiki post:
    - i. At least one picture, video, or audioclip to describe your topic
    - ii. 4-5 sentences to describe your topic
    - iii. It would be useful to have the following roles in your group:  
picture person, proofreader, writer, and formatter.

## **SAMPLE COURSE OUTLINE WITH TIMELINE OF TOPICS, READINGS/ASSIGNMENTS, EXAMS/PROJECTS**

- Class 1:** Introduction to course  
Hello! Welcome!  
How do you write that?  
Pronunciation practice  
Study new Vocabulary  
Start Workbook  
Start LabManual
- Class 2:** Introduction  
How do you write that?  
Hello! – Take care!  
Pronunciation practice  
Study new Vocabulary  
Continue Workbook  
Continue LabManual
- Class 3:** Last day to drop a course without a grade of "W"  
Introduction  
How are you?  
Counting  
Pronunciation practice  
Study new Vocabulary  
Continue Workbook  
Continue LabManual
- Class 4:** Introduction  
Useful Expressions  
Review for Quiz  
Complete Journal (at least 6 sentences)
- Class 5:** Videoclips  
Quiz #1  
Journal due  
Study new Vocabulary/Grammar  
Continue Workbook  
Continue LabManual
- Class 6:** Chapter 1 That's me  
Everything Clear?  
Personal Characteristics  
Grammar: Nouns, Gender, Articles  
Continue Workbook

Continue LabManual

**Class 7:** Chapter 1 Personal Characteristics  
Grammar: Personal Pronouns; The Verb: Infinitive and Present  
Continue Workbook  
Continue LabManual

**Class 8:** Chapter 1  
Asking Questions  
Grammar: Verbs; to be  
Read culture reading and answer questions

**Class 9:** Meet in computer lab to discuss wiki assignment  
Discuss culture reading  
Continue WB/LM

**Class 10:** Chapter 1  
Characteristics and Interests  
Grammar: Word Order  
Continue WB/LM  
Study for quiz

**Class 11:** Chapter 1  
Quiz #2 Characteristics and Interests  
Grammar: Asking Questions  
Study abroad wiki post due by midnight  
Read over study abroad culture wiki

**Class 12:** Discuss study abroad wiki topic  
Complete Journal (at least 10 sentences)

**Class 13:** Chapter 1  
Journal due  
Language in Context (Reading)  
Review for Test  
Review for test

**Class 14:** Test #1 Preview Kapitel 2  
Complete speaking task 1

**Class 15:** Chapter 2 How I live  
Everything Clear?  
Looking for an apartment  
Grammar: The Plural of Nouns

Speaking task 1 due Study new Vocabulary/Grammar  
Continue WB/LM

- Class 16:** Chapter 2  
Looking for an apartment  
Grammar: Nominative and Accusative  
Study new Vocabulary/Grammar  
Continue WB/LM
- Class 17:** Chapter 2  
Looking for furniture  
Grammar: Nominative and Accusative  
Study new Vocabulary/Grammar  
Continue WB/LM
- Class 18:** Chapter 2  
What we like to do  
Grammar: Nom. and Acc.;  
to have; negations  
Study new Vocabulary/Grammar  
Continue WB/LM  
Review for quiz
- Class 19:** Chapter 2  
Quiz #3  
Grammar: Verbs with Stem-Vowel Changes Complete Journal (at least 10 sentences)
- Class 20:** Chapter 2  
Journal due  
Language in Context (Reading)  
Grammar: Demonstrative Pronouns  
Review for Test
- Class 21:** Test # 2  
Read culture reading and answer questions
- Class 22:** Discuss culture reading  
Preview Kapitel 3
- Class 23:** Last day to drop a course without a grade of "WF" being recorded  
Chapter 3 Family and Friends  
Everything Clear?  
Family Tree

Study new Vocabulary/Grammar  
Continue Workbook/LM

**Class 24:** Chapter 3  
Family Tree  
Grammar: Possessive Adjectives  
Post study abroad wiki post by midnight  
Read study abroad wiki

**Class 25:** Discuss study abroad wiki topic  
Study new Vocabulary/Grammar  
Continue Workbook/LM  
Complete speaking task 2

**Class 26:** Chapter 3  
The Calendar: Weekdays and months  
Grammar: Possessive Adjectives  
Speaking Task 2 due  
Study new Vocabulary/Grammar  
Continue Workbook/LM

**Class 27:** Chapter 3  
The Calendar: Weekdays and months  
Grammar: Pronouns in the Accusative  
Study new Vocabulary/Grammar  
Continue WB/LM

**Class 28:** Chapter 3  
Festivals  
Grammar: Prepositions with the Accusative  
Review for quiz

**Class 29:** Chapter 3  
Festivals  
Grammar: The verbs to become, to know  
Quiz # 4  
Complete Journal (at least 10 sentences)

**Class 30:** Chapter 3  
Journal due  
Language in Context (Reading)  
Review for Test

**Class 31:** Test #3  
Prepare for speaking practice day

- Class 32:** Speaking Practice  
Study new Vocabulary/Grammar  
Continue WB/LM
- Class 33:** Chapter 4 My Day  
Time  
Study new Vocabulary/Grammar  
Continue WB/LM
- Class 34:** Chapter 4  
Time  
Grammar: Separable-Prefix Verbs  
Read culture reading and answer questions
- Class 35:** Discuss culture reading  
Study new Vocabulary/Grammar  
Continue WB/LM
- Class 36:** Chapter 4  
Time/Making Plans  
Grammar: Separable-Prefix Verbs  
Study new Vocabulary/Grammar  
Continue WB/LM
- Class 37:** Chapter 4  
Making plans  
Movies, music, theater  
Grammar: Modal Auxiliary Verbs  
Post study abroad wiki post by midnight  
Review for quiz  
Complete speaking  
task 3
- Class 38:** Chapter 4  
Quiz #5  
Grammar: Modal Verbs; Imperatives  
Prepare for oral interview  
Speaking Task 3 due Study new Vocabulary/Grammar  
Continue WB/LM  
Prepare for oral
- Class 39:** Interview  
Read study abroad wiki



Complete journal

**Class 40:** Journal due  
Discuss study abroad wiki topic

**Class 41:** Chapter 4  
Grammar: Imperatives Kapitel 4  
Language in Context (Reading)  
Study new Vocabulary/Grammar  
Continue WB/LM  
Complete study abroad paper

**Class 42:** Review for final  
Study abroad paper due  
Study for Final

**Exam according to university exam schedule**