

“Wer ich bin: Das Selbstkonzept”

Elementary German II: Exploring Self-Identity in the German-speaking World

German 102.004, Spring 2020

MW 3:00 – 4:15pm

Th 3:00 - 3:50pm

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Sprechstunde: Montag 12.00 – 13.00 Uhr und Donnerstag 16.00 - 17.00 Uhr, und nach Vereinbarung

Büro: Modern Languages 214

Welcome to GERMAN 102!

We in the Department of German Studies are glad you have decided to continue learning German at Emory. German 102 is the second semester of the Department of German Studies’ integrated four-year, content-oriented undergraduate curriculum. We hope that you will come to see why Emory’s German Studies Department has been nationally recognized as a **Center of Excellence** by the American Association of Teachers in German (AATG).

Course Description and Approach:

The title of the two-course sequence in first-year German (101 & 102), “*Wer ich bin: Das Selbstkonzept*,” indicates the thematic focus throughout the year as students explore the roles and group affiliations that contribute to the identity formation of young adults in the United States and the German-speaking world. Specifically, you will examine the following six different roles or groups this academic year, devoting 4-5 weeks to each:

German 101: (1) Student; (2) Hobbyist; (3) Family member

German 102: (4) Consumer; (5) Tourist/Traveler; (6) Citizen

This overarching topic for German 101-102 reflects the teaching philosophy of the Department of German Studies that language is best acquired when learners have to explore content and communicate meaningfully about it.

Because of its explicit thematic emphasis that frames and informs how the language is approached, this course differs from traditional first-year language courses. For each unit we will focus on those aspects of the German language that are needed to communicate effectively about that theme. In an ideal world, there would be a textbook that would adhere to this approach, but that is unfortunately not the case. As a result, we will supplement the textbook with additional texts that deliver the content that we feel is important for the topic. **We will not progress through the textbook in a chronological order.** If a certain language feature needed to communicate effectively about a theme does not appear until later in the textbook, we will jump ahead and study it for its relevance to the unit. This flexibility with the textbook will take some adjustment. Otherwise, much will resemble a typical first-year language course: you will read texts, learn relevant vocabulary, study grammatical structures, complete exercises for homework on the grammar and vocabulary, interact with classmates and the instructor on specific topics, and complete writing assignments. All of these activities aim to introduce you to the language and the content that you will need to communicate meaningfully about the topic at hand.

The class will be conducted mainly in German, and you will be expected to make your best effort to respond in German. For the rest of your day, you can speak English, but when you are in German class, really push yourself to use the German language to communicate. Finally, we want to remind you that learning a language is a long-term, non-linear, and error-full process. In other words, you will make wonderful progress this year, but you should not get frustrated by the challenges that the language presents. You will make mistakes, and that is completely normal. In fact, your errors are what indicate to

us where we need to focus more attention and how your abilities are developing. You also might find that some aspects of the language that you thought you understood or had a firm grasp on are now causing your trouble. That, too, is completely normal. There is only so much that your brain can handle at a given point, and it is typical that new material takes up cognitive resources that you had used earlier for some other component of the language.

Course Objectives:

In this course you will continue exploring the roles and group affiliations that contribute to the identity of young adults in the United States and the German-speaking world. Through the exploration of life in German-speaking countries you will be introduced to more principles of the German language and to life in German-speaking countries, and you will continue the long-term development of your ability to speak, understand, read and write German.

Course Materials:

1. Di Donato/Clyde/Vasant. *Deutsch: Na klar! An Introductory German Course*, 7th Edition. McGraw-Hill, 2016. This text was used in German 101. There are two versions of the text that you can purchase:
 - a. E-book version (includes the online materials “Connect”). You can purchase online access directly from the McGraw-Hill website (<http://www.mheducation.com>) or via an “Access Code Card” from the Emory bookstore. ISBN: 1259290867 / 9781259290862 - Connect Access Card for *Deutsch: Na klar!*, 7th edition. Cost: ca. \$140. You can also choose at any time, within Connect, to add a binder-ready, printed loose-leaf copy of the text for only \$40.00, and it will be delivered directly to their home address. Total cost to student for Connect direct online access and loose-leaf book purchase, ca. \$180. Once you purchase the book, the online materials “Connect” can be accessed at <http://www.mhmm.com/>
 - b. Hard copy version (either as loose-leaf or hardback). The loose-leaf version can be purchased at the Emory bookstore and includes an access code for the online component “Connect.” ISBN: 1308520913 / 9781308520919 - *Deutsch: Na Klar!*, 7th edition. Cost: ca. \$170. The hard copy version can be purchased online at the McGraw-Hill website or through other online vendors (e.g., Amazon). Cost: ca. \$230.
2. A course reader with supplemental texts for each thematic unit will be handed out in hardcopy at no cost and an electronic version is also available on the course Canvas site: <https://canvas.emory.edu>
3. Janosch, *Oh, wie schön ist Panama*. Weinheim: Beltz, 2002. ISBN: 978-3407805331. Please buy this as soon as possible as books not bought at the beginning of the semester get returned by the bookstore early.

Eligibility:

Students are eligible to enroll in German 102 if they have (1) completed German 101 at Emory; (2) completed the equivalent of German 101 at another college or university; OR (3) placed into 102 based on their performance on the German Department’s placement exam.

Grade Distribution:

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-----|--|-----|
| 1. Participation | 10% | 5. Writing Assignments, Unit 4+5 (5%, 10%) | 15% |
| 2. Homework (+5%) | 20% | 6. Midterm oral (+5%) | 10% |
| 3. LearnSmart exercises (LS) | 10% | 7. Final Exam | 15% |
| 4. Unit 4 Test | 10% | 8. Final oral exam | 10% |

The grade F for any assignment factors in as 50%; an assignment not done as a 0.

1. Informed Participation (10%)

Coming unprepared to class will be noted. Overall participation will be assessed according to the following criteria:

| Grade | Criteria |
|-------|--|
| A | always well-prepared always is attentive and eager to volunteer always tries to use German with classmates and instructor always makes the most of each exercise shows real resourcefulness and imagination when using the language always responds to and engages classmates in a respectful manner remains critical and open-minded toward target and native culture |
| B | usually well-prepared usually is attentive and volunteers occasionally usually tries to use German with classmates and instructor usually makes the most of each exercise completes exercises with some imagination and resourcefulness makes some effort to engage fellow students shows some development of cultural sensitivity |
| C | adequately prepared and attentive occasionally needs to be reminded to use German with instructor and classmates responds and completes exercises with minimal imagination does not engage classmates beyond the minimum requirements for an assignment |
| D | usually unprepared makes little effort to participate or complete exercises rarely tries to use German with instructor or classmates |
| F | makes no contribution to class whatsoever |

Attend German Events

As part of your participation grade, you must attend three extra-curricular events (such as a film screening, a German House party, or departmental guest lecture). There is a great amount of flexibility as to what counts as an appropriate activity because we want you to seek out those aspects of the German-speaking culture that interest you. For each event, please enter the relevant information in your “Kulturpass” from last semester. To avoid waiting until the end of the semester to complete this course requirement, you are asked to attend one event during each instructional unit. **Not fulfilling this requirement results in a 3% deduction of your participating grade per event missed.** You can always find the latest information on events in the department at <http://german.emory.edu/home/events/index.html>.

Attendance

You are allowed a maximum of 4 absences during the semester without penalty. Beginning with the 5th absence, a **penalty of -1%** will be levied on the final semester grade for each class missed. **Keep your instructor informed** if you miss any classes or assignments. Extended illnesses and family emergencies will be treated as exceptions and handled on a case-by-case basis. Note that you can make up for one absence by participating in a 4th departmental extra-curricular event and entering it in your “Kulturpass.”

2. Homework (15%)

Completing homework thoroughly, regularly, and on-time is extremely important. A common homework assignment for most class periods will be completing an *Arbeitsblatt* (= worksheet = AB). You are expected to complete each AB on time, and you are welcome to turn in each one for feedback, but your instructor will grade about one AB per week. When you know you will miss a class, send or turn in your

homework before class, or ask for an extension. Late homework will not be accepted and will receive no credit.

Homework will be graded according to the following criteria:

| | |
|--------------|--|
| √+ (100%) | Homework turned in on time and indicating a very thorough effort, including a conscious attempt to use and experiment with language features emphasized in class. Random grammar mistakes, particularly as part of experimentation, will not adversely affect your grade. |
| √ (80%) | Homework handed in on time and indicating a satisfactory effort but consisting of no more than the minimum and/or displaying consistent mistakes on grammar already covered in class. |
| √- (65%) | Homework handed in on time but indicating an unsatisfactory effort. |
| <i>Note:</i> | Homework that receives a check or check minus can be corrected, turned back in by the end of the following week , and, assuming the issues have been addressed, receive a mark of 90%. |

Easily avoidable mistakes (gender and spelling) will lower your language evaluation grade. Make use of online resources to check gender and spelling. Google Docs and Microsoft Word (Tools → Language → German) also have built in spellcheck programs that you are encouraged to use.

3. LearnSmart Exercises (10%)

One component of the e-textbook are **LearnSmart exercises** that you will be assigned and expected to complete within a one week time frame. They will not be reopened so be sure to finish in time. Feel free to keep taking the online quiz until you achieve 90% success or better. If the explanations do not make sense to you or you are still having difficulty with a topic and would like to discuss it in English, **come to office hours or tutoring**. The exercises can be found at <http://www.mhbm.com/>. Your instructor will provide you with the specific URL for logging in to her/his class section.

4. Unit tests (20%)

There will be a 50-minute written test after each of the first two units.

5. Writing assignments (15%)

At the end of each unit you will complete a writing assignment on a topic relevant to the unit. Submit your writing as a hard copy to your instructor. The first draft will be annotated and returned for revision and an improved grade. Please use 12p font and double space. Late work will be penalized 10% for each calendar day it is late.

6. Speaking events (Midterm 5%; Final 10% = 15%)

The midterm speaking task will be a 5-minute dialogue with a classmate outside of class. The final speaking task will be a 5-minute interview during finals' week with your instructor.

7. Final written exam (15%)

This exam resembles the unit tests but is more comprehensive. This semester the exam will take place on **May 4th, 6:30-9:00pm**. This time slot is determined by the registrar as a block exam for all 102 students and is not negotiable. Keep this in mind when making any summer travel plans.

Tutoring

There are two options if you would like to seek free tutoring help on campus:

1. The German Studies Department provides free individual help sessions every day (Mon – Thurs). Our Austrian Fulbright Teaching Assistant Marlene Danner and advanced German students will

serve as the peer tutors this semester. See times and locations soon at <http://german.emory.edu/home/academics/tutors.html>.

- Emory College also offers free tutoring through the **EPASS** tutoring program. You are allowed to attend a total of 2 EPASS appointments per week during the semester. For information about EPASS policies and scheduling appointments, visit https://collegeconnect.emory.edu/portal/Language_tutoring.

Additional learning resources can be found on the German Studies Department's website: http://german.emory.edu/home/academics/learning_resources.html

Honor Code

The Honor Code of Emory College is in effect throughout the semester. By taking this course, you affirm that it is a violation of the code to cheat on quizzes and exams, to plagiarize, to deviate from the instructor's instructions about collaboration on work that is submitted for grades, to give false information to a faculty member, and to undertake any other form of academic misconduct. You agree that the instructor is entitled to move you to another seat during examinations, without explanation. You also affirm that if you witness others violating the code you have a duty to report them to the honor council. The central issue is that any work submitted to an instructor for evaluation should be one's own. Within the German Studies Department assistance is possible and even encouraged in two limited situations: online or in person. Online resources can be used for grammatical explanations (e.g., verb conjugations) or the translation of words or expressions. **However, use of online resources (e.g., Google Translate, Bing Translate, iTranslate) to translate entire sentences, paragraphs, or assignments is not permitted.** Seeking assistance in person should be limited to receiving suggestions, reviewing certain topics, and addressing revisions, but the ultimate production of the work to be turned in will rest with you.

The Honor Code, a list of offenses and the Honor Council process may be found at <http://catalog.college.emory.edu/academic/policies-regulations/honor-code.html>

Inclusive Instruction.

Emory University is committed under the Americans with Disabilities Act and its Amendments and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act to providing appropriate accommodations to individuals with documented disabilities. If you have a disability-related need for reasonable academic adjustments in this course, provide the instructor(s) with an accommodation notification letter from Access, Disabilities Services and Resources office. Students are expected to give two weeks' notice of the need for accommodations. If you need immediate accommodations or physical access, please arrange to meet with instructor(s) as soon as your accommodations have been finalized.

<http://portals.emory.edu/instruction/instruction/disability-statement.html>

Office for Undergraduate Education

- The Office for Undergraduate Education (OUE) central office is located in White Hall 300
- Please visit or call 404.727.6069 with questions about academic affairs, concerns or policies.
- All Emory College of Arts and Sciences policies may be found in the College Catalog: <http://catalog.college.emory.edu/>
- Students who have any academic concerns or questions about Emory College of Arts and Sciences policies should first meet with an OUE academic advisor. If an academic advisor is unavailable, students may meet with an OUE dean during open hours. Make an appointment with an OUE Academic Advisor online (www.emory.edu/asst), by phone (404-727-6069), or by email (oue.advising@emory.edu).
- There is a range of resources available to Emory undergraduates designed to enrich each student's educational experience. Visit <http://college.emory.edu/oue/student-support/index.html> for a list of support programs and appointment directions.

Final words of advice:

Come to class prepared, having **read the assigned pages in the textbook before class** and completed work online or on a worksheet. Ask questions in class. Get off to a good start. Postponing your studies will only make learning the language that much harder. Seek your instructor's advice during office hours if you are having trouble. Don't wait too long! Have fun with German online watching videos, listening to music, playing games, etc. Visit the department's learning resources page for possible places to start exploring (http://german.emory.edu/home/academics/learning_resources.html).

Finally, view this class as an exciting opportunity to learn how others live and communicate and, in turn, come to better understand how you live and communicate.

Viel Erfolg und viel Spass!