

Mobiles Deutschlernen

GERM 380, Spring 2016

F 1:00 – 1:50, ML 219

Instructor: Prof. Hiram Maxim

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Description

This one-credit course taught in German engages students in the use of geo-locative apps to create place-based interactions in German with places and spaces in and around Atlanta on one's smartphone or tablet. While the primary goal of the course is to further develop students' German language abilities through their development of these place-based sites for exploration and interaction, these apps also allow students to enhance one's engagement with specific places by using the technology to "augment reality" through the insertion of text, image, audio, and video. Students will begin by using Open Tour Builder, an app developed here at Emory for the creation of the mobile tour of the Battle of Atlanta (BattleAtl.org), and then they will move on to ARIS (arisgames.org), an app that can be used to create situated documentaries and place-based games. No prior computer programming or app development is required.

Goals

At the end of the semester students in this course will be able to

- Describe and contextualize places and spaces in and around Emory in German;
- Provide directions from one place to another in German;
- Narrate a brief history of Emory University;
- Use geo-locative apps to create tours and "games" around different places;
- Navigate historical documents for relevant information for their tours and games;
- Reflect about their own evolving views on place and space;

Prerequisites: Completion of German 201 or its equivalent or permission of the instructor

Course materials:

- Access to a smartphone or tablet;
- Access to a grammar reference book (e.g., Rankin & Wells or Dreyer & Schmitt);
- Access to a computer.

Assessment:

1. Participation and preparation (30%). The hands-on approach to this course requires active participation and thorough preparation. You will be allowed a maximum of 1 absence for routine doctor visits and travel for non-emergencies, etc., during the semester without penalty. Beginning with the 2nd absence, a penalty of -1% will be levied on the earned final grade for each class missed. The best policy to adopt is to **keep your instructor informed** if you miss any classes or assignments. Extended illnesses and family emergencies will be treated as exceptions, and absences for these purposes will be excused. Be prepared to show proof of the need for the absences, however, if your instructor asks for it. Varsity athletes can get excused with coaches' notification of announced absences but must, of course, do the required work.

Regular homework assignments could consist of any of the following activities: (re)reading an assigned text, working on one's own tour, working on the group project, taking a tour, providing feedback on a tour, practicing with the apps, collecting documentation/materials for the tour or group project. Homework will be graded according to the following criteria:

- "√+" (100%): Homework handed in on time and indicating a very thorough effort, including a conscious attempt to use language features emphasized in class;
- "√" (80%): Homework handed in on time and indicating a satisfactory effort;
- "√-" (60%): Homework handed in on time but indicating an unsatisfactory effort.

Note: Homework that receives a check or check minus can be corrected, turned back in, and, assuming the issues have been addressed, receive a mark of 90%. Late homework will not be accepted and will receive no credit. Students are encouraged to use the homework exercises to experiment with the language and become resourceful users of German. At the same time, they are expected to use online resources to check their work for any unnecessary errors. Specifically, it is expected that on take-home assignments students will use resources available to them (e.g., spellcheck in MS Word or Google Doc; websites with verb conjugations; online dictionaries with gender and plural forms) to avoid committing the following errors: gender (G), punctuation (I), case after prepositions (K), plural form of nouns (Pl), spelling and capitalization (R), and subject-verb agreement (SV) = GIKPRS! Random errors in these categories are unavoidable but consistent inattention to these avoidable errors will negatively affect the final grade.

2. Place-based tour using Open Tour Builder (35%). The first major assignment in this course will be to use the app Open Tour Builder to create a tour of a place at Emory or in Atlanta.
3. Peer feedback on tour (5%). In addition to producing your own tour, you will be asked to provide feedback on a classmate's tour according to a rubric developed in class.
4. Citizen journalism project using ARIS (30%). This group project will use the app ARIS to create an online presentation and exploration of a contested issue on campus or in Atlanta. Class participants will be responsible for researching the issue, finding materials (e.g., photos, documents) about the issue, and building a step-by-step game-like tour that walks the "player" through the issue.

Academic Honor:

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, expressions, and phrases. **However, use of online resources to translate entire sentences or paragraphs 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; http://college.emory.edu/home/academic/policy/honor_code.html

Semesterüberblick:

1. 15. Jan: course intro; pretest diagnostic
2. 22. Jan: Emory history and tour
3. 29. Jan: Emory history and own tour
4. 5. Feb: Tour Builder stop #1 and Emory history
5. 12. Feb: Tour Builder stop #2-3 and Emory history
6. 19. Feb: Tour Builder stop #4-5 and Emory history
7. 26. Feb: Completed tour
8. 4. März: Tour feedback & ARIS intro
9. 11. März: Spring break
10. 18. März: ARIS theme
11. 25. März: ARIS project background research
12. 1. April: ARIS event #1
13. 8. April: ARIS events #2-3
14. 15. April: ARIS events #4-5
15. 22. April: Completed project