

The University of Victoria
Department of Germanic and Slavic Studies

German Studies 302: Advanced German II

Winter 2021

Mondays: asynchronous online
Thursdays: Zoom Meeting 11.30-12.50

Instructor: Dr. Gerlinde Weimer-Stuckmann
Office: CLE D257
Office hours: ZOOM Th 14:00 to 15:00
by appointment
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Description

This course serves as a continuation of German 301. It uses an intercultural approach to review and learn complex syntactic structures with an emphasis on developing reading, writing, speaking and listening skills at the B1/B2 level of proficiency.

Format

This is a blended learning course that combines asynchronous and synchronous elements. Lesson plans for the digital textbook and other material are available on Brightspace. Every Thursday, there is a MANDATORY live ZOOM session from 11:30 to 12:50 that is used to review the material, to answer questions, engage in discussions, do group work, discuss assignments and write quizzes and tests. Every Monday, you are encouraged to work through the provided material on your own.

Learning Outcomes

You continue learning vocabulary and grammar in context. The learning outcomes are to recognize and identify syntactic-morphological structures, to choose and plan those structures into the correct word order, to formulate complete sentences.

The course is taught in German.

Course material and organization

Required Texts

Schritte International B1.2 (Hueber, 2019) Kursbuch und Arbeitsbuch digital

Available at: [hueber.de/digitale-lehrwerke/hueber-interaktiv](https://www.hueber.de/digitale-lehrwerke/hueber-interaktiv) (for instructions how to download: contact the instructor)

Further to that, short stories and other authentic material is provided by the instructor. Honoring the 100th anniversary of the German writer Friedrich Dürrenmatt we will explore his work “Die Physiker” in film and text.

Marking Scheme

A+	90 -100	B-	70 – 72
A	85 – 89	C+	65 – 69
A-	80 – 84	C	60 – 64
B+	77 – 79	D	50 – 59
B	73 – 76	F	0 – 49

Preparation & Participation: (5%)

Participation marks are awarded for active preparation before class and participation in class. Learning a language means to be actively engaged with the material.

As important part of this participation mark you will be asked to contribute to the class interaction and discussion by posting on 5 of the class discussion forums.

Although there are no points for attendance, attendance shall be taken on a regular basis by your instructor. If more than six classes are missed, the instructor will no longer accept work by the student who will be awarded a final grade of N for the course (See University Calendar for details). It is the student’s responsibility to be aware of his or her own attendance status; instructors will keep records of attendance but are not expected to keep running totals and/or provide weekly updates.

Two Tests: (2 x 20% = 40%)

These 60-minute tests will take place on the dates specified in the syllabus and will primarily cover grammar material from the textbook.

Two Vocabulary Quizzes: (2 x 10% = 20%)

These 30-minute vocabulary quizzes will take place on the dates specified in the syllabus. The vocabulary to be studied can be found in the textbook.

One Writing Assignment (20%)

This assignment is a take-home assignment (see syllabus for the exact due dates) answering one of two discussion questions about the material we read or watched in class (supplied by the instructor). You will have to hand in your first draft, for which your instructor will provide a grade and feedback. This draft – which should be a complete and fully-formed essay -- will count for 10%. After receiving feedback, you are asked to correct and improve your essay yourself. After improving and submitting your final draft (on the specified due date), your essay will be graded again, this time for 10%, with a strong emphasis on how you improved your writing by taking into account your corrections and editing suggestions.

Spoken Assignment (15%)

This assignment consists of a 10-minute presentation you do and a 5-minute one-on-one interview with the instructor. The topic is on the film we will watch and discuss. The assignment takes place during the last week of the term.

Course Policies

Registration:

Students are not permitted to take GMST 301 while taking another language course in German. Furthermore, students are not permitted to take any course out of sequence (i.e. to take a higher level course (GMST 301) before a lower-level course (GMST 202)). Waitlisted students must attend the class in which they wish to register in order to be admitted into the course. Students who do not attend class within the first seven calendar days of the course's beginning may be deregistered.

Add/Drop Deadlines:

It is the student's responsibility to attend to ADD/DROP dates as published on page 6 in the Calendar and the Undergraduate Registration Guide and Timetable. You will not necessarily be dropped automatically from a class that you do not attend.

Placement:

Students are expected to be honest and forthcoming about their level of German knowledge. The department reserves the right to place students with previous knowledge of German at an appropriate level.

Communication

The most efficient way to talk to your instructor is after class or during office hours. If you decide to communicate by email, please be advised that instructors only check and answer UVic emails from Monday to Friday between 9.30 a.m. and 4.30 p.m. PST. Due to the volume of emails received by instructors, there can be delay of 72 hours or more until your email is being answered. When emailing your instructor, please use a proper form of address and clearly state your question.

Absences and Incomplete Work:

Regular attendance, completion of in-class tests and quizzes and the punctual submission of assignments and/or other work are important and mandatory components of completing the course successfully. If an in-class test or quiz is missed, proper documentation (in form a note from UVic's medial or counseling office) is required to reschedule the test or quiz. A rescheduled test or quiz is to be written the first business day after the time period, the student is excused for, expires.

The instructor reserves the right to not accept assignments and/or other work that is submitted past the deadline. Further to this, 5% of the mark will be taken off for each day the assignment and/or other work is handed in late.

Concessions and Documentation:

Students may ask for an academic concession, such as the rescheduling of a quiz or test or an extension for an assignment, upon providing proper documentation of a personal or medical affliction or of a time conflict.

Proper documentation would include a doctor's note or a memo from Counseling Services, or a memo from a coach, employer or faculty member. It must be dated before or close to the time of the missed work or classes.

Withdrawals and Deferrals:

Students who miss more than six classes for documented medical or personal reasons may still be asked to apply for a *backdated withdrawal*. Even when the reasons for failing to meet course requirements are

valid, it is neither academically sound nor fair to others in the course to allow students missing significant amounts of work to continue in the course and receive credit.

Students who miss substantial amounts of class and assignments without documentation will be asked to withdraw, as they will receive an N at the end of the semester. Students are to familiarize themselves with the withdrawal dates on page 6 of the academic calendar.

Students may only apply for a *course deferral* if a) they have serious and documented medical or personal reasons for not completing some of the end-of-term requirements and b) they have already completed practically all the course requirements at the time of their application.

In situations in which a student cannot complete the course requirements and a deferral is not a viable option, he or she must have completed 80% of the course requirements for an **AEG (aegrotat)** grade to be assigned.

A Note on Academic Integrity and Plagiarism:

Actions such as plagiarism, multiple submissions, falsifying materials used in academic evaluations, cheating or aiding others to cheat violate University policies on academic integrity and are considered serious offences. You must inform yourself about the university regulations (see the [Uvic Policy on Academic Integrity](#) in the University Calendar).

Please note that it is not allowed to use automated translation programs (such as google) or have advanced German speakers edit, rework, and/or write your assignments.

Unauthorized Use of an Editor

An editor is an individual or service, other than the instructor or supervisory committee, who manipulates, revises, corrects or alters a student's written or non-written work. The use of an editor, whether paid or unpaid, is prohibited unless the instructor grants explicit written authorization.

Online Conduct:

The University of Victoria is committed to promoting critical academic discourse while providing a respectful and supportive learning environment. All members of the university community have the right to this experience, and the responsibility to help create, such an environment. The University will not tolerate racism, sexualized violence, or any form of discrimination, bullying or harassment.

Please be advised that by logging into UVic's learning systems and interacting with online resources you are engaging in a university activity.

All interactions within this environment are subject to the university expectations and policies. Any concerns about student conduct, may be reviewed and responded to in accordance with the appropriate university policy.

Accessibility Statement:

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please consult with the Center for Accessible Learning (CAL). CAL staff members are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

Information on Campus Services supporting Student Wellbeing and Success

A note to remind you that there are a number of services available to you at UVic:

Counselling Services - *Counselling Services can help you make the most of your university experience. They offer free professional, confidential, inclusive support to currently registered UVic students.* <https://www.uvic.ca/services/counselling/>

Health Services - *University Health Services (UHS) provides a full service primary health clinic for students, and coordinates healthy student and campus initiatives.* <http://www.uvic.ca/services/health/>

Center for Accessible Learning (CAL) - *Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the CAL as soon as possible. CAL staff members are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations.* <https://www.uvic.ca/services/cal/>

Commitment to Inclusivity and Diversity:

The University of Victoria is committed to promoting, providing, and protecting a positive, supportive, and safe learning and working environment for all of its members.