



Memorial University of Newfoundland
Department of Modern Languages, Literatures, and
Cultures

GERM 1000 Elementary German I All Sections

**** This syllabus is still subject to minor changes ****

Course Aims and Outcomes:

This course is for students with no prior knowledge of German. It aims at developing an ability to read, write, and understand German at a basic level and provides insight into the history, culture, and everyday life of the German speaking countries. The course also intends to further awareness of the structures of students' first languages and of the intrinsic connections between language and cultural meaning. In addition, it encourages positive attitudes towards other societies and cultures.

GERM1000 uses a task-based approach and makes use of online multimedia resources. The course provides a starting point and linguistic foundation for progression to Elementary German II. Upon successful completion of Elementary German I, students will be able to express themselves in German using simple sentences. They will have acquired the vocabulary, grammatical structures, and cultural knowledge to master basic social interactions and situations, such as introducing oneself, making plans, or talking about one's studies, hobbies, and routines. Students will be able to comprehend spoken German on the same topics, spoken at moderate speed. All aspects of language (e.g., vocabulary, structures, etc.) will be presented and used within specific communicative situations and the goal is for you to carry out activities and tasks using the language you have learned.

A few words about language learning:

Learning a language is a complex, long-term and highly rewarding process. By the end of the term, you will be able to hold a basic conversation about yourself with a Native German speaker, which is quite the accomplishment after 13 weeks! To achieve this, you will need to keep up with the assigned course work as well as constantly review already covered material. Completing the course work sequentially, following the course's stepwise approach, will be an essential component of your success, as each subsequent course component will build on all the previous course content.

It will also be important for you to find out how you learn best and to find opportunities for outside practice according to your interests (e.g., listening to German music, watching German films, reading small texts, etc.). Those strategies for memorizing and synthesizing the material

you are to learned, which will be crucial to your success in this class, are also transferable and will benefit you in many of your other classes.

Goethe Institute German Language Exams

GERM1000 and GERM1001 prepare you to take the Goethe Zertifikat A1 (<https://www.goethe.de/ins/ca/en/sta/tor/prf/gzsd1.html>). The German exams, offered by the Goethe-Institut Montreal at MUN in April of each year, correspond to the levels of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). Passing the A1 exam provides you with an internationally recognized certification of your language skills. All Goethe exams can be taken at Memorial University. Please contact Dr. Isabell Woelfel iwoelfel@mun.ca for further information regarding the exams.

Course Material and Resources:

Required:

FREE textbook: Kost, Claudia and Crystal Sawatzky. *Willkommen: Deutsch für alle*. Online at <https://openeducationalberta.ca/willkommen-deutsch/>

Brightspace: To access the course site, please log into Memorial@Home (<https://online.mun.ca/>) using your MUN Login ID and Password and click on GERM-1000.

Highly Recommended: *English Grammar for Students of German* (edited by Cecile Zorach and Charlotte Melin; any edition), available from various booksellers. This affordable small book provides simple, short explanations of grammatical terms, using examples from both English and German.

Course Evaluation Scheme:

Preparation and Practice – i.e., what **you** need to do to succeed

Conversation Classes & Participation	10%
Homework	
• Video and Written Assignments (4)	20%
• Vocab Quizlets (Quizlet.com)	5%
• Test Your Progress Quizzes (Bright Space)	10%

Evaluation- i.e. how I evaluate your level of success

Unit Quizzes (3)	15%
Oral Midterm	10%
Final Oral Exam	15%
Final Written Exam	15%

PLEASE NOTE VERY CAREFULLY:

For all assignments, quizzes, and any other course work, you must refrain from using online translation services, AI, any other outside help, or copying from others. Please note that it is really easy to spot the use of online translation tools and other forms of academic misconduct in a language class.

Academic Misconduct is a **SERIOUS OFFENSE** and can result in: Resubmission, reduction of grade, rescinding of scholarships/bursaries/awards, probation, suspension, expulsion and rescinding of degree (see here for details: <https://www.mun.ca/regoff/calendar/sectionNo=REGS-0748>).

Bottom line: **Not worth it!**

MISSED TESTING AND LATE POLICY

Please refer to Section 6.7.5 of the General Academic Regulations (Undergraduate) in the University Calendar: <http://www.mun.ca/regoff/calendar/sectionNo=REGS-0601> - REGS-0615.

Explanation of Course Components:

Conversation Class

Over the course of the semester, you must attend **6** conversation classes of your choice over the course of **6 different weeks**. You will be able to choose from different time slots (look for the Conversation Class Module for links and times – these will be updated within the first two weeks of class). Conversation classes are an essential component of preparing you for the midterm and final oral exams and a fun way to help you practice speaking in a smaller group setting with a Native speaker. In addition, you will learn more about contemporary German culture. If you want to improve your spoken German, we highly recommend that you attend a class each week!

Check Your Progress Quizzes

- ca. 2-3 per week, 15% in total
- You find these on Brightspace; found under “Assessment” – “Quizzes”

- You have MULTIPLE (3) ATTEMPTS at these, but to take full advantage of the attempts, you need to start them well before the due date.
- Your best attempt will be counted towards your grade, so:
 - If you get a question wrong the first time, go back to your notes and try again.
 - If you get it wrong the second time and have no idea why, contact your instructor, copy the question and your answer (do NOT say ‘Question 1 a, since every student will have a different Question 1a) and request feedback or further explanation.
 - In order to receive feedback, you have to contact your instructor a min. 2 days before the due date so as to allow him/her time to respond.
 - You can then do your third attempt knowing that you are ready and having learned something in the process.
 - TROUBLESHOOTING: To be respectful of everyone’s time, troubleshoot things like capitalization and punctuation BEFORE contacting your instructor. Your instructor will reserve the right to give priority to answering questions from those students whose questions pertain to issues not related to lack of diligence and attention to detail. The progress quizzes are machine corrected, so make sure that you are very diligent: Capitalize the words that need to be capitalized (beginning of sentences; ALL nouns in German); put periods, commas, and questions marks where they belong, and so on.
 - Keep in mind that this is part of your learning rather than evaluation. You are doing the progress quizzes with all your study notes in front of you. Doing all the assigned exercises before attempting the quizzes will significantly contribute to your success in this component.

Quizlets

- ca. 2-3 per week, 5% in total
- You find these on our Quizlet.com class page. It is crucial that you sign into our course for any work you will be doing there so we can track your progress (and attached marks to this).
- Enroll in the course by clicking on this link:
<https://quizlet.com/join/GcWNdR9AW?i=33m3qd&x=1rqt> using the following format: “**lastname firstname middlename**” (as they appear on Brightspace; use an easily recognizable abbreviation or leave out your middle name if you don’t have enough space)
- In order to obtain marks for this, you need to do the “**TEST**” function on the Quizlets for each set that you are assigned.
- You will then be given a mark for how many of the tests you did with at least an 80% mark.

Unit Quizzes

- There will be 3 unit quizzes written **in-class**.
- They will test you on all material covered in class up to that point, including vocabulary and grammatical concepts.

Video Assignments

- 2 in total, at 5% each
- These have **start dates and due dates**. Because they require a significant amount of preparation and often also partner work, make sure you start them when they are assigned so you can hand them in on time.
- Finding a partner and then a time when you are both free, takes time. That's why they have a start date. Make sure to allow for that by starting when you are asked to, rather than just before the due date.
 - You can find instructions on how to enroll in a group in a video assignment here***.
 - If you want to work with a particular student in the class that you happen to know, the two of you should set a time to make your group – one of you puts down their name and then the other one theirs right away. Otherwise, someone else might join you while you wait for your friend. If that happens, we cannot do anything about this from our end – in that case, you'd just have to work with whatever partner you then end up with (it's also not that bad since practicing speaking with a variety of different people is actually a good thing).

Written Composition

- 2 in total, at 5% each
- Again, these have start and due dates to allow you to prepare.
- Again, one of them involves partner work.

Midterm Oral Exam / Final Oral Exam

You will meet with your instructor in person for 10-15 min. Make sure to sign up for your exam on the google sign-up sheet on Brightspace in due time! During the exam, you will engage in a conversation on several different topics covered in class up to that point using the vocabulary and grammatical structures you will have acquired by the point of time.

You will be graded on your ability to use correct German vocabulary, syntax, grammar, pronunciation. Attending conversation classes throughout the term will prepare for the midterm and final oral exam.

Final Written Exam

The final exam will be written during the exam period. The exact date will be determined by the registrar's office. Since language acquisition is a cumulative process, the final exam will test you on all of the material covered during the term.

Accommodations

Memorial University is committed to facilitating and promoting an accessible, inclusive, and mutually respectful learning environment. Students requiring special accommodation are asked to communicate first with the Glenn Roy Blundon Centre (<http://www.mun.ca/blundon>) at the earliest opportunity. University policies and procedures pertaining to accommodations for students with disabilities can be found at <http://www.mun.ca/policy/site/policy.php?id=239>.

Copyright

Willkommen: Deutsch für alle by Claudia Kost and Crystal Sawatzky is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License](#), except where otherwise noted.

All other Brightspace content, class notes, etc. are the property of its creator, Dr. Maria Mayr and/or other instructors.

Academic Advice

I would be happy to answer any questions about this course. If you need information about your program requirements and course selections, you might begin by consulting the University Calendar (<http://www.mun.ca/regoff/calendar/>) or make an appointment with the German undergraduate liaison, Dr. Maria Mayr mmayr@mun.ca.

Campus Support

There are several excellent student support services available to students on campus:

- Students seeking advice about a specific Major or Minor should contact the designated undergraduate advisor in that department. For German, please contact Dr. Maria Mayr <mailto:mmayr@mun.ca>.
- The *Academic Advising Centre* (SN-4053) provides academic guidance to students in their first year of study.
- The *Commons* (QEII library) provides access to print, electronic and technology resources.
- The *Counselling Centre* (UC-5000) helps students develop their personal capabilities, ranging from study strategies to assisting distressed students.
- *Student Affairs and Services* (UC-3005) answers questions about such things as courses, housing, books, financial matters and health.
- The *Writing Centre* (SN-2053) is a free, drop-in facility for students and helps them become better writers and critical thinkers.
- The *Glenn Roy Blundon Centre* (UC-4007) serves students whose disabilities involve conditions affecting mobility, vision, hearing, learning (disabilities), chronic illness, or

mental health; support is also provided to students with documented temporary illnesses and injuries.

- *Student Life* (ASK, UC-3005) answers questions about such things as courses, housing, books, financial matters and health.
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Academic Misconduct <http://bit.ly/1X4w8QT>

From the University Calendar 6.12.4 “Academic Offences”:

Academic offences shall be deemed to include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

- Cheating on examinations or any other tests, theses, assignments, work term reports, projects, laboratory assignments, laboratory reports or internship reports: This includes copying from another student's work or allowing another student to copy from one's own work; consulting with any unauthorized person during an examination or test; possessing unauthorized aids; using unauthorized aids; or knowingly recording or reporting false empirical or statistical data. The work referred to includes examinations, theses, assignments, work term reports, projects, laboratory assignments, laboratory reports, internship reports, or any other tests which are to be used in judging the student's performance in a course or program of study, or on any special tests which the University may offer.
- Impersonating another student or allowing oneself to be impersonated: This includes the imitation of a student or the entrance into an arrangement with another person to be impersonated for the purposes of taking examinations or tests or carrying out laboratory or other assignments.
- Plagiarism: Plagiarism is the act of presenting the ideas or works of another as one's own. This applies to all material such as essays, laboratory assignments, laboratory reports, work term reports, design projects, seminar presentations, statistical data, computer programs, research results and theses. The properly acknowledged use of sources is an accepted and important part of scholarship. Use of such material without acknowledgment is contrary to accepted norms of academic behaviour. Information regarding acceptable writing practices is available through the Writing Centre at www.mun.ca/writingcentre
- Theft of examination papers or other material: This includes obtaining by any improper means examination papers, tests, or any other such material.
- Use and/or distribution of stolen material: This includes the use of material which the student knows to have been improperly obtained and/or the distribution of such material.
- Submitting false information: This includes falsifying academic forms or records, submitting false credentials, medical or other certificates, or making a false, misleading or incomplete declaration to the University.
- Submitting work for one course or work term which has been or is being submitted for another course or work term at this or any other institution without express permission to do so: This includes the presentation of an essay, report or assignment to satisfy some or

all of the requirements of a course when that essay, report, or assignment has been previously submitted or is concurrently being submitted for another course without the express permission of the professor(s) involved.

- Prevention or obstruction of access to works or materials provided by the University needed by others for academic purposes.
 - Attempt of bribery, and/or threat of blackmail to influence the award of any credit, grade, honour or academic decisions.
 - Failure to follow relevant University/Faculty/School guidelines on ethics.
 - Failure to follow the Memorial University of Newfoundland Code.
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