

GERM 1000 Elementary German I Online



Section	Instructor
081	Sam Schirm (rsschirm@mun.ca)

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.

Please note that this course is entirely taught online. **HOWEVER:** You will be asked to participate virtually in [synchronous, live sessions](#) for conversation classes, an oral midterm and an oral final exam. (Further details below). You will also write a proctored final exam and will have to both study and meet technical requirements in order to write it.

*****Due to the oral live midterm exam and oral final exam, you have to MEMORIZE the vocab and the grammatical structures assigned.** You need to do this memorization (rather than rely on having your vocab lists next to your computer) in order to be able to use the language, to successfully pass this course, and so that you can be successful in GERM1001. In addition, the final exam is proctored, so you will not be able to use any aids during the final exam; aids are also not permitted during the oral exams. Together, the two oral exams and the final exam make up 50% of your mark, so it will not be possible for you to pass this course unless you **MEMORIZE.*****

A few words about language learning:

Learning a language is a complex, long-term and highly rewarding process. In just the 13 weeks of term, you will be able to hold a basic conversation about yourself with a German speaker! To be successful, however, you will need to keep up with the assigned coursework as well as constantly review already covered material. Completing the coursework sequentially, following the course's stepwise approach, will be essential to 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 learn, which will be crucial to your success in this class, are also transferable and will benefit you in many of your other classes.

Technological Requirements

The technological requirements for taking an online course are listed here <https://citl.mun.ca/learning/fs/whatsneeded.php>. A decent camera and microphone are a **MUST** for this course, since we will have synchronous conversation classes and two virtual live oral exams. All synchronous components will take place over **WebEx**. For more information about accessing WebEx via MUN, see <https://www.mun.ca/cio/it-services/network-mobile-devices-and-phones/virtual-meetings-webex/>.

There are also specific requirements to participate in a final exam administered by ProctorU. These will be communicated to you by parties other than your instructor, so make sure you read ALL emails concerning this course carefully. Your instructor has no knowledge nor influence over the final exam process.

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.

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	6%
Tasks	
• Video (6) and Written (2) Assignments	24%
• Vocab Quizlets (Quizlet.com)	5%
• Progress Quizzes (18, Bright Space)	15%

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

Midterm Oral Exam	15%
Final Oral Exam	15%
Final Written Exam	20%

PLEASE NOTE VERY CAREFULLY:

You are expected to complete all assignments, quizzes, and any other coursework, independently or with your assigned partner. Online translate software, such as Google Translate or DeepL, or AI chatbots, are strictly forbidden; use of any such software will constitute an academic offense (See below). Also note that use of such software is easy for language instructors to spot, particularly in introductory language courses.

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>).

The use of online **dictionaries**, such as dict.cc or linguee.de, is permitted, as they only provide translations of single words and not entire texts; however, check with your instructor as to the suitability of a translation.

LATE POLICY

Exams, etc.:

If you are applying for a waiver of regulations, request a deferred final exam or assignment/paper, etc., please refer to General Academic Regulations in the University Calendar:
- “Missed Testing and Late Policy” 6.7.5 <http://bit.ly/2c7v3ba>
- “Exemptions From Final Examinations and Procedures for Applying to Write Deferred Final Examinations” 6.8.2 <http://bit.ly/2bZ08gM>

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). All conversation classes will take place over WebEx.

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!

Progress Quizzes

- ca. 2-3 per week, 15% in total
- You find these on Brightspace; they are both linked into the courses and found under “Assessment” – “Quizzes”
- The progress quizzes have start and due dates.
- 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 them 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 the quizzes are primarily to encourage you to keep up with the course content rather than a form of 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 following the instructions found in this pdf.
- 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.

Video Assignments

- 6 in total, worth 3% each
- These have state 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.
- Your instructor will go about assigning partners in the first week of class. If you have a classmate with whom you would like to work, then contact your instructor ASAP so they can put you together.
- The video assignments will take place over Bongo, accessible through the Brightspace course via the "Video Assignment" in the top banner on the course page. So that your instructor can assign you a partner, you must have opened Bongo once; please do so in the first week of class.

Written Assignment

- 2 in total, worth 3% each
- Again, these have start and due dates to allow you to prepare.
- Again, one of them involves partner work.

Midterm Oral Exam

You will meet your instructor via WebEx for a total of 15 minutes; the oral exam will last 10 minutes. Sign up will occur over the Office Hours tools in the Brightspace course. During the exam, you will:

- engage in a conversation on several different topics covered in class up to that point using the vocabulary you will have acquired by the point of time;
- you will be asked some random vocabulary times based on the vocab sets covered up to that point;
- and you will answer questions in English regarding grammatical concepts.

You will be graded on your ability to use correct German vocabulary, syntax, grammar, pronunciation, as well as how well you know the vocabulary and grammatical structures learned. Attending conversation classes throughout the term will prepare for the midterm and final oral exam.

*** You need to have two pieces of ID and will be asked to show the room around you, sitting such that your instructor can see the door. In this way, the instructor can ensure that you are not using any aids that are not allowed and that no one else enters the room to 'help'.***

Final Oral Exam

You will meet your instructor via WebEx for a total of 15 minutes; the oral exam will last 10 minutes. Sign up will occur over the Office Hours tools in the Brightspace course. During the exam, you will:

- engage in a conversation on several different topics covered in class up to that point using the vocabulary you will have acquired by the point of time;
- you will be asked some random vocabulary times based on the vocab sets covered up to that point;
- and you will answer questions in English regarding grammatical concepts.

You will be graded on your ability to use correct German vocabulary, syntax, grammar, pronunciation, as well as how well you know the vocabulary and grammatical structures learned. Attending conversation classes throughout the term will prepare for the final oral exam.

*** You need to have two pieces of ID and will be asked to show the room around you, sitting such that your instructor can see the door. In this way, the instructor can ensure that you are not using any aids that are not allowed and that no one else enters the room to ‘help’.***

Final Written Exam

The final exam will be written during the exam period. Since language acquisition is a cumulative process, the final exam will test you on all of the material covered during the term. The exact date will be determined by the registrar’s office. Whether you write the exam in person or online over Brightspace will depend on your proximity to a MUN campus and will be communicated well in advance of the exam period; make sure that your address in your Self-Service is up-to-date. For those writing the exam online, it will be invigilated using ProctorU. To understand this process and to ensure that you meet the requirements to take the exam, read the following information about Online Exam Supervision with ProctorU:
<https://blog.citl.mun.ca/resourcesforstudents/online-exams-with-proctoru/>

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>.

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All other Brightspace content is the property of its creator, Dr. Maria Mayr.

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.

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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Detailed Schedule

Week	Unit	Tasks	Assessments Due
Week 1 Jan 10-12	Intro Unit 1.1 Unit 1.2 Unit 1.3	Complete the Introduction, all the units and Quizlets assigned for this week and attend conversation classes.	
Week 2 Jan 13-19	Unit 1.4 Unit 1.5 Unit 1.6	Complete all the units and Quizlets assigned for this week and attend conversation classes. <i>Start Video Assignment #1</i>	Jan 15: Progress Quiz 1.2 Jan 19: Progress Quiz 1.4 & 1.6
Week 3 Jan 20-26	Unit 1.7 Unit 1.8 Unit 1.9	Complete all the units and Quizlets assigned for this week and attend conversation classes. <i>Start Video Assignment #2</i>	Jan 26: Progress Quiz 1.8, <i>Video Assignment #1</i>
Week 4 J 27- Feb 2	Unit 1.10 Unit 2.1 Unit 2.2	Complete all the units and Quizlets assigned for this week and attend conversation classes. <i>Start Video Assignment #3</i>	Feb 2: Progress Quiz 1.10 & 2.2, <i>Video Assignment #2</i>
Week 5 Feb 3- 9	Unit 2.3 Unit 2.4 Unit 2.5	Complete all the units and Quizlets assigned for this week and attend conversation classes. <i>Start Video Assignment #4</i>	<i>by Feb 4: Sign-Up for Midterm Orals</i> Feb 9: Progress Quiz 2.4, <i>Video Assignment #3</i>
Week 6 Feb 10-16	Unit 2.6 Unit 2.7 Unit 2.8	Complete all the units and Quizlets assigned for this week and attend conversation classes.	Feb 16: Progress Quiz 2.6 & 2.8, <i>Video Assignment #4</i> <i>Feb 15-18 MIDTERM ORAL EXAMS</i>
Week 7 Feb 17-23	Unit 2.9 Unit 2.10 Unit 2.11	Complete all the units and Quizlets assigned for this week and attend conversation classes. <i>Start Video Assignment #5</i>	Feb 23: Progress Quiz 2.10 <i>Feb 15-18 MIDTERM ORAL EXAMS</i>
<i>Feb 21-25: Midterm Break</i>			
Week 8 F 28-Mar 2	Unit 2.12 Unit 2.13	Complete all the units and Quizlets assigned for this week and attend conversation classes.	Mar 2: Progress Quiz 2.12, <i>Video Assignment #5</i>
Week 9 Mar 3- 9	Unit 2.14 Unit 3.1	Complete all the units and Quizlets assigned for this week	Mar 9: Progress Quiz 3.2

	Unit 3.2	and attend conversation classes. Start Written Assignment #1	<i>Mar 3: Last day to drop without academic penalty</i>
Week 10 Mar 10-16	Unit 3.3 Unit 3.4 Unit 3.5	Complete all the units and Quizlets assigned for this week and attend conversation classes. Start Written Assignment #2	Mar 16: Progress Quiz 3.4 Written Assignment #1
Week 11 Mar 17-23	Unit 3.6 Unit 3.7 Unit 3.8	Complete all the units and Quizlets assigned for this week and attend conversation classes Start Video Assignment #6.	Mar 23: Quiz 3.6 & 3.8 Written Assignment #2
Week 12 Mar 24-30	Unit 3.9 Unit 3.10 Unit 3.12	Complete all the units and Quizlets assigned for this week and attend conversation classes.	by Mar 25: Sign-Up for Final Orals Mar 30: Video Assignment #6
Week 13 Mar 31-6	Unit 3.14 Unit 3.15 Unit 3.16	Complete all the units and Quizlets assigned for this week and attend conversation classes.	April 6: Quiz 3.12, 3.14 & 3.16 April 4-8: FINAL ORAL EXAMS
Week 14 Apr 7, 8			April 4-8: FINAL ORAL EXAMS
Final Exam Period April 13-23, 2022 (No examinations on Apr 15th) Exact date of our exam TBA: https://www.mun.ca/regoff/grades_exams/			