

GERMAN 1

2023-2024

Course Description

German 1 is designed for beginning German learners. The successful student will improve their proficiency in German from receptive to imitative to reflective by engaging in a variety of communicative activities that focus on developing speaking, listening, reading and writing skills in the German language. In addition, the student will develop cultural awareness and become prepared to encounter real life situations outside of the classroom through discussions of cultural customs and behaviors.

Course Objectives

Students who successfully complete the course will be able to do the following in German...

- spell words, name the days of the week and the months of the year
- count in German from 1 to 100 and say when their birthday is
- greet people and say goodbye to them
- identify people- student, teacher, friend, coach, etc.
- describe how old people are and discuss hobbies and interests
- share about where they live, their house and their room
- talk about what foods and drinks they like
- name the members of their family and describe them
- identify school subjects, days, times and opinions of classes and grades
- tell about clothing they wear or would like to buy, and how it looks
- make plans with others including ordering food and visiting places in a city
- explain who does what chore at their house and what they can do for others
- describe the weather and various animals
- give commands to others and defend their reasoning for doing things



Learning Outcomes

Students will complete...

- daily bell work including the Bible verse of the week every Monday
- in class communicative activities using the language to obtain and present information
- in class chapter packets organizing vocabulary and grammar
- in class video and audio activities
- in class writing activities
- around 3 written homework assignments per chapter
- an oral presentation for each chapter
- around 4 tests per semester

Teaching Methods

The instructor will...

- elicit student responses in the target language
- present vocabulary through
 - Total Physical Response (TPR)
 - pictures and storytelling
 - textbook visuals and activities
 - video series and audio series
- present grammar through
 - lecture and note taking
 - textbook diagrams and activities
 - sentence writing
 - communicative activities

PREVIOUS STUDENTS SAID:
"The games really help you learn the material."
"This is the only class where I get to move around and be active in learning."
"I liked using the packets as a guide because they helped me a lot with studying."
"I've learned to have confidence when working with others and when speaking a foreign language."

PREVIOUS STUDENTS SAID:
"Frau always makes sure we know what to do and the information is presented in a way that makes it easy to learn."
"We have fun together every single class."
"Profe spoke and wrote in Spanish a lot so we could learn and understand it better."

Evaluation

Students will be graded on...

- Participation (25%)
 - *Students are expected to actively participate in class activities and speak the target language when asked. Each period is worth 5 points and each block is worth 10 points for a total of 25 points per week. Not having your binder or chapter packet with you will result in a slight loss of participation points that day. Not participating in class activities, not attempting to speak the target language when asked, and being disruptive will result in a major loss in participation points that day.*
- Homework (25%)
 - *There are three homework assignments per chapter, generally one or two homework assignments per week, depending on how the days fall. The homework consists of worksheets that practice the vocabulary and grammar from each chapter. These are essential for practicing writing and using the language on an individual basis.*
- Tests (25%)
 - *A test will be given at the end of every chapter that includes the following sections: listening, reading, writing, culture, vocabulary and grammar.*
- Oral Presentations and Compositions (25%)
 - *At the end of every chapter students will prepare an oral presentation. The two parts to this include: 1) writing a paragraph on a given topic before class, and 2) working with a partner in class to ask and answer questions about what you wrote. Students may also be asked to do in class writing or in class dialogues which would also fall in this category.*

The final exam is worth 20% of the semester grade.

If we move to online learning only, be prepared to use Google Classroom to access lessons and assignments. In that case, the grading will be adjusted to 50% Participation (did you watch the videos and do the practice activities?) and the other 50% Accuracy (how accurate were you in the work you did?). There will be no tests and no written homework assignments given during online learning for Foreign Language. Any tests missed will be made up when we return to in person class and instead of written homework assignments we will do various online practice activities using Quizlet, Kahoot, Google Forms, Google Drawing, Google Slides and Google Docs

Language Learning Resources

The following are some websites and apps that students can use for extra help and practice.

*LEO Dictionary <http://dict.leo.org/> and APP available for Android and iPhone

*Conjuguemos <https://conjuguemos.com/index.php> for verb conjugation and vocabulary practice (no app available)

****Please note that dict.leo.org is the preferred online dictionary, using google translate to translate entire sentences IS plagiarism (see policy on the next page)****

Materials

Students will use the school provided textbook in class occasionally: Komm mit! Level 1 by Holt, Rinehart & Winston 2006. Textbooks will remain in the classroom this year. Students will need a one inch three ringed binder with divider tabs and notebook paper for German class. **German 1 needs 8 tabs for the year and should be labeled as follows: Kapitel 1, Kapitel 2, Kapitel 3, Kapitel 4, Kapitel 5, Kapitel 6, Kapitel 7, Kapitel 8.**

Teacher Availability

If you have questions about your grade or something for class please email me at emeier@lhskc.com. It is my goal to update the online gradebook every weekend so please check this frequently and do not hesitate to ask about grades.

Classroom policies

1) Absences and Tardies:

- Students are responsible for making up missed work and gathering missing notes and handouts. No matter the reason for your absence (illness, sports, family, vacation, etc) you will lose points for being absent UNLESS you inform me of your absence and ask for the work you missed (email works great for this- remember emeier@lhskc.com). Google Classroom will be used to share notes, homework or activities missed.
- Students will be considered tardy if not in a desk in the classroom when the bell rings. The student will not be informed of the tardy; it will simply be noted on the participation sheet. Unexcused tardies impact your grade so make sure you are getting a pass from the office or a teacher if there is a legitimate reason for your tardy.

2) Homework:

- All homework is expected to be completed BEFORE class on the due date. Late work will be accepted, but will not be given full credit. Homework turned in late will have points taken off the total earned score. The amount of points taken off depends on how late the assignment is and what the reason is for the assignment being late. This is up to the discretion of the teacher.

3) Cheating and Plagiarism:

- All work submitted in this class is expected to be created solely by the student. Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated.
- If students are found to have copied another student's work, BOTH the student who copied the work and the student who allowed their work to be copied will receive a 0 and will not be allowed to re-do the assignment.
- Using online dictionaries is acceptable. I recommend www.dict.leo.org. Dictionaries are to be used to solely look up individual words or two word phrases (i.e. tank top), however. Using any online translator or a native speaker to translate *entire sentences and/or paragraphs* of your assignment is considered plagiarism. Such work will be given a 0 and students must meet with the teacher to determine if the work can be redone or not.
- Don't even try it. Believe me, I will know when you have used an online translator and/or native speaker.

4) Electronics:

- Students are NOT allowed to use electronics (cell phones, smart phones, iPads, laptops, etc.) during class. Cell phones must be kept in your locker or in the "Handy Haus" cell phone receptacle at all times. Any phone that is seen during class or used in any way without permission will be confiscated. Checking the time and texting your parents are NOT acceptable reasons to use your cell phone.
- Students are NOT to use ipads or laptops in class without explicit permission from the teacher. Permission will only be granted for academic reasons relating to what we are working on in class.
- Students should not have earbuds in their ears or headphones on during class. Students will be asked to remove them on the first offense and after that, the teacher has the right to confiscate them for the remainder of class if they are becoming a problem.
- Confiscated electronic devices will be given to the office where they can be retrieved for a fee.



STUDENTS FROM LAST YEAR SAID:

"I started from nothing and now have basic German speaking, reading and writing skills."

"I've learned more Spanish this year, and it actually stuck with me, than I have in my entire life up to this point."

"I feel like I could have a conversation with a German person successfully."

"I can actually form sentences and I use what I learn- the grammar program and the retention activities in this class are excellent."