German 101 (GER 101)
Basic German
Winter 2013 – Section W01

K. Tosa
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Office Hours: See last page
Email: katherine.tosa@muskegoncc.edu

SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

German 101 is a new approach to language learning with emphasis on both the German language and the German culture. This course is the first semester of a communicative language course designed to guide students toward German proficiency in intercultural understanding and intercultural communicative competence. All four modalities – listening, speaking, reading and writing – will be addressed as well as key grammar topics necessary for communicative needs.

This course is 4 credit hours, 4 contact hours per week. German 101 is part of the Associate in Science and Arts Degree. Students are expected to demonstrate that they are ready to succeed before enrolling in German 101. (See requirements in the schedule of classes).

The course objectives are as follows:

You will be able to think critically about the effects that culture, language and worldview have on each other.

You will be able to view your home culture from a non-home perspective and the German culture from inside that culture.

You will be able to demonstrate familiarity with some of the basic “common” knowledge of an average person of the German culture.

You will be able to develop the ability to express, interpret and negotiate meaning effectively in the German language by employing linguistic, social and historical knowledge about the German culture and people.

You will be able to comfortably and actively use the German language as it is spoken and written today through practice in all four skill areas --- listening, speaking, reading and writing.

You will be able to understand German that is spoken at moderate conversational speed and that deals with everyday topics.
You will be able to engage in simple conversations with speakers of German in everyday situations and understand the cultural differences.

You will be able to read non-technical German of moderate difficulty on various aspects of German culture.

You will be able to write simple sentences correctly on the topics presented in the text.

You will be able to handle actively a basic vocabulary as well as grammatical structures at an Intermediate-low proficiency level on the ACTFL proficiency guidelines scale.

There are no additional costs to the student beyond tuition and fees. However, it will be very helpful to have a **home computer** and the **ability to print**. If that is not available, then you may use computers in the Information Commons Area of the Library. Our text *Auf Geht’s* will be loaded on the computers for use by enrolled German 101 students.

**TEXT**

The text and CD is available in the MCC Bookstore or may be purchased directly at [www.evialearning.com](http://www.evialearning.com).


The web site for *Auf Geht’s* is [www.aufgehts.com](http://www.aufgehts.com).

A good German/English English/German dictionary will be very useful BUT is not required.

German 101 utilizes a Blackboard site [http://blackboard.muskegoncc.edu/](http://blackboard.muskegoncc.edu/) for announcement, assignments and additional information.

**TOPICAL OUTLINE**

Cultural topics include:
Small talk
  Greetings and good byes,
  The year and the weather
Family and Friends
  About my family
  About myself
  My interests
Living
  Student life
  Housing
Going Out
  Meals and restaurants
  Celebrations and the calendar
Geography and cultural differences in Germany
  The North
  The South
  The East
  The West

Grammatical topics include:
  Present tense of verbs, regular and irregular
  Present tense modals
  Some separable prefix verbs
  Introduction to present perfect tense
  Nominative and accusative cases
  Pronouns in nominative
  Plurals
  Comparison statements
  Sentence structure – word order for statements and questions
  Coordinate and some subordinate conjunctions

LEARNING IS AN INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCE.

It is my responsibility to help you in that activity by presenting the German language in an interesting, exciting, understandable way. I am your resource person. It is your responsibility to:

1. Set your goal for this class and then work toward that goal.
2. Attend all the class sessions prepared. Complete the assignments on the CD and in the Lehrbuch.
3. Participate in class both verbally and non-verbally in a positive fashion. Being present is great, but you also need to SPEAK. Goethe (a famous German philosopher/writer) once said, “Aller Anfang ist schwer.” All beginnings are difficult but things do get easier.
4. Take the tests in class on the scheduled date. Make-up tests are
discouraged. However, under special conditions and with prior approval, tests may be made up within one week of the scheduled date. There will be no make-up for the extra credit portion of any test.

5. Turn in all assigned work on time. A 10% penalty will be assessed each class session the work is late.

6. Communicate with me! If conflicts arise, see me. If you are unable to come to class, phone the office. Leave a message on my voice mail 231-777-0376, or e-mail me katherine.tosa@muskegoncc.edu.

7. Dropping this class is your responsibility. If you do not bother to drop the class (fill out forms, see me, etc.) you will be assigned a grade based on the work completed.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment will be based on the following:

1. **Homework**
   - **CD printouts** – There will be approximately 20 printouts (20 x 10 = 200 points).
   - **Compositions** - There will be a written exercise each week. There will be approximately 8 -10 compositions graded (8 - 10 x 20 = 160 - 200 points)

2. **Participation**
   - **Preparation for class**
     - 10 sessions will be assessed during the semester. (10 x 5 = 50 points)
   - **Performance in class** - 50 points

3. **Assessment**
   - **Chapter tests** ---- Each test will consist of sections testing speaking, listening, grammar, reading and writing. Tests are comprehensive and occur approximately every two to three weeks. There will be 4 unit tests (4 x 100 = 400 points) and the Final (150 points)
   - **Quizzes** – vocabulary and other (10 points each)

**GRADING SCALE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90 - 100%</td>
<td>A Range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 - 89%</td>
<td>B Range</td>
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<tr>
<td>70 - 79%</td>
<td>C Range</td>
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<tr>
<td>60 - 69%</td>
<td>D Range</td>
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<tr>
<td>59% and below</td>
<td>E Range</td>
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</tbody>
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Plus and minus grades will be given when appropriate.

**ATTENDANCE**

Attendance is very important especially when learning a language. You are expected to attend all class sessions and are responsible for all information covered and assignments.
made. You can not participate and practice the language if you are not present. Success correlates directly with regular attendance and effort.

STATEMENT ON STUDENT BEHAVIOR

Muskegon Community College is a community of scholars whose members include administrators, faculty, staff, and students. Mutual respect and civility are expected in the classroom or other college academic settings, as well as, in any communication.

- MCC has the duty of providing students with privileges, opportunities, and protections that best promote learning;
- Students have the right to a non-threatening learning environment;
- Students have the responsibility to refrain from infringing on the right of others to learn or the right of teachers to teach; and
- Any student whose behavior disrupts learning may be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the Muskegon Community College Student Handbook/Planner.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Muskegon Community College expects that all faculty and students will adhere to high standards of personal and academic honesty. This means that all academic work will be done by the student to whom it is assigned without unauthorized aid of any kind. Faculty members, for their part, will exercise care in the planning and supervision of academic work so that honest effort will be positively encouraged.

Academic dishonesty consists of, but is not limited to:

A. **Cheating.** Cheating is defined as using or attempting to use, giving or attempting to give, and obtaining or attempting to obtain, materials or information, including computer material pertaining to a quiz, examination, or other work that a student is expected to do alone.

B. **Plagiarism.** Plagiarism is defined as the use of another’s words or ideas without acknowledgement.

C. Penalties for violation of these standards of conduct may result in sanctions of up to and including suspension or expulsion from MCC.

Should a student not agree with a faculty member’s decision or actions as they may relate to this policy, the following steps shall be followed:

1. A student suspected of academic dishonesty shall be notified in writing within two school days of the time the violation is discovered. Copies of the written notification shall also be filed with the department chair and Vice President of Student Services.

2. The student should try to reach resolution of the matter through direct discussion with the involved faculty member within three (3) school days of the written notification.

3. If the matter is not resolved in Step 2, the student shall bring the matter to the attention of the department chairperson of the involved faculty member.

4. If the matter is not resolved at the department chairperson level, the student shall bring the matter to the attention of the Vice President for Academic Affairs who
shall render a decision within five school days of the receipt of the dispute information.

5. If a satisfactory solution is not reached at the Step 4 level, the student may file a written request with the Vice President of Student Services for a hearing before the disciplinary board. This meeting shall be held not more than 20 days following the written request. A student may request a hearing before the disciplinary board. The disciplinary and judicial procedures are outlined in the Muskegon Community College Student Handbook/Planner.

STATEMENT ON MCC EMAIL

All email communication originating from MCC to students will be via their email account. CHECK YOUR MCC EMAIL FREQUENTLY.

OFFICE

My office is in Room 242 Social Science Department.
Office Telephone: 777-0376 or 773-9131 ext. 376
e-mail: katherine.tosa@muskegoncc.edu

Office Hours:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Montag (Monday)</td>
<td>10.00 – 11.00, 12.15 – 14.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dienstag (Tuesday)</td>
<td>10.00 – 11.00, 12.15 – 13.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mittwoch (Wednesday)</td>
<td>10.00 – 11.00, 12.15 – 14.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donnerstag (Thursday)</td>
<td>10.00 – 11.00, 12.15 – 13.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Freitag (Friday)</td>
<td>By appointment</td>
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If any problem should arise, don't hesitate to contact me. Appointments are not necessary unless you need extended blocks of time, or want to be certain that I am in the office. Meetings and professional duties required me to be out of the office but on campus some days.

ALLES GUTE!