

German 101 (Ger 101)

Basic German

Fall 2012 - Section F02 - Muskegon Community College

Room 234

Tuesdays and Thursdays 5.30-7.30 PM

Ted Rossman

Office / Phone: Room 242 / 231.777.0380

Office Hours: 20-30 minutes prior to and after classes in room 234

Email: theodore.rossman@muskegoncc.edu

Syllabus

Course Description

German 101 is an introductory language class with an emphasis on both the German language and the German culture. The goal of the course is to guide you toward proficiency in German in intercultural understanding and intercultural communicative competence. To achieve these goals, we will use a variety of tools, including; interactive work on the computer, individual practice, traditional class time.

Course Objectives

- You will be able to think critically about the effects that culture, language and worldview have on one another.
- 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 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.

Text

The text is titled *Auf Geht's! Beginning German language and culture, second edition*. This can be purchased through the MCC bookstore or it can be purchased directly through www.evialearning.com

Lee Forester and David Antoniuk, *Auf geht's! Beginning German language and culture, second edition*, Live Oak Multimedia, Inc. 2009

Lee Forester and David Antoniuk, *Auf geht's! Beginning German language and culture, second edition, Installer DVD-ROM, second edition*, Live Oak Multimedia Inc. 2009

The website for *Auf Geht's!* is www.aufgehts.com

German 101 utilizes a blackboard site <http://blackboard.muskegoncc.edu/> for announcements, assignments, and additional information.

There are no other texts necessary, although it may be helpful to have a German/English dictionary available, whether in print format or an online version. A good online dictionary can be found at <http://www.leo.org> Click on the "Deutsch / Englisch" box and enter the word in the search box in the upper left corner.

For this course it will be to your benefit to have a home computer and the ability to print. If that is not available to you, then you may use the 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.

Assessment

Assessment will be based on the following categories and will be cumulative for the entire semester:

A. Homework

DVD-ROM printouts - there will be approximately 20 printouts (20 x 10 = 200 points)

Compositions - there will be a written exercise each week and approximately 8-10 compositions graded (8 to 10 x 20 = 160 to 200 points)

B. Participation

Preparation for and performance in class - you will be assessed twice per unit for a total of 10 grades (20 x 5 = 100)

C. Quizzes / Tests

Chapter tests - each test will contain sections to assess your writing, speaking, listening, grammar, and reading skills. Tests are comprehensive and will occur after we have completed each unit. There will be 4 unit tests (4 x 100 = 400) and the final exam (200 points) (Unit 5 will not have a separate unit test because it will be completed just before taking the final exam. All of the information and materials contained in unit 5 will be on the final exam however.

Quizzes - there will be various vocabulary quizzes, grammar quizzes, and potentially pop-quizzes on homework assignments throughout the semester (10 points each - total value will vary based on the number of quizzes given).

Grading Scale

	A = 93-100%	A- = 90-92%
B+ = 87-89%	B = 83-86%	B- = 80-82%
C+ = 77-79%	C = 73-76%	C- = 70-72%
D+ = 67-69%	D = 63-66%	D- = 60-62%
F = 59 or less		

Expectations

- Attend and participate in every class.
- Bring your text and all materials to every class.
- Study to the point that the material becomes fluent and you're ready for class ahead of time.
- Listen attentively in class.
- Try to speak German in class as much as possible.
- Do your own work. Please DO NOT use translation services or have native speakers to do your work. It is very easy to spot and WILL RESULT IN 0% FOR THE ASSIGNMENT.

Attendance

Regular attendance in a foreign language course is essential. You are expected to attend all class sessions and are responsible for all information covered and assignments made. You cannot gain from class discussions and in-class activities if you're not there. Your success in this course will be highly dependent on your regular attendance and participation. Learning a language means building on skills learned. Each class period relies on the previous one and new materials are based on those already learned. It is the policy of MCC that the student should attend class sessions in order to fulfill his/her part of the learning contract. Excessive absences will result in a reduced grade and/or removal from class.

Academic Integrity Policy

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:

- 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.
- Plagiarism. Plagiarism is defined as the use of another's words or ideas without acknowledgement.
- Penalties for violation of these standards of conduct may result in sanctions of up to and including suspension or expulsion from MCC.

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*.

Statement on Dispute Resolution Process

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:

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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 Student Assessment and Accreditation

Muskegon Community College is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission located in Chicago (<http://ncahlc.org/>). The Higher Learning Commission accredits degree granting postsecondary educational institutions in the North Central Region. Accreditation helps ensure students that they are receiving a quality education and can transfer to other colleges and universities with ease and confidence. MCC is committed to an essential part of the accreditation process: assessing student learning. You will likely be asked to participate in assessment activities as part of MCC's assessment of programs and general education.

Statement on MCC Email

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

Contacting the Teacher

At any point during the semester, if you have a question, please ask it! I will be in the room before and after class and will be happy to help you in any way I can. If a question arises outside of class time, please send me an email to my MCC account. I can't guarantee an immediate response, but I'll get back to you as soon as possible. Also pay attention to the course Blackboard for announcements, reminders, assignments, etc. You'll have a tough time finding me via a MCC telephone extension, but you might try the Social Sciences office in room 242 at 231.777.0380. theodore.rossman@muskegoncc.edu

I look forward to working with you and wish you much success in our class!

Ted Rossman