

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

www.mlcs.ualberta.ca

2015-2016 GERM 306 A1 (Fall Term)

Introduction to German Linguistics: Phonetics and Phonology

Instructor: Professor Jennifer Dailey-O'Cain
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Time: Tu/Th 9:30-10:50
Place: HC 2-38
Office Hours: Tu/Th 1pm-2pm,
or by appointment
Course Website: none

Course Prerequisite: German 212 or consent of department

Course-based Ethics Approval in place regarding all research projects that involve human testing, questionnaires, etc.?

Yes No, not needed, no such projects approved.

Community Service Learning component

Required Optional None

Past or Representative Evaluative Course Material available

- ~~Exam registry—Students' Union~~
<http://www.su.ualberta.ca/services/infolink/exam/>
- See explanations below
- Document distributed in class
- Other (templates for Exam I and Exam II distributed and discussed in class)
- NA (no final exam)

Additional mandatory Instructional fees (approved by Board of Governors)

Yes No

Course Description and Objectives:

In this course you will learn about the sound systems of the German and English languages. The comparison of English and German serves as a way of correcting problems of interference from one language in the learning of another. You will study the phonetics of both languages and learn about phonetic transcription. The goal of this course is practical—it should help students and future teachers to be able to correct phonological problems in students of German as a second language—but the theoretical aspects can also serve as an introduction to German linguistics.

Texts:

There is no textbook for this course. All required readings can be downloaded from eclass.

Grade Distribution (see “Explanatory Notes”):

Your end-of-semester grade will be calculated on the basis of the following:

- Participation: 15% (throughout the semester)
- Homework/In-class-work: 15% (throughout the semester)

Exam I: 25% (22 October 2015)

Exam II: 25% (26 November 2015)

Five-page paper and presentation: 20% (presentations in final two class periods, paper due Tuesday, 8 December 2015 at 4pm)

Date of Deferred Final Exam (if applicable):

Not applicable.

Homework/In-class-work:

In class (and continuing at home if necessary), you will do a couple of different kinds of exercises concerning pronunciation. You should regard these exercises as preparation for the exams. These homework assignments will be graded on a "check" system: if you do the work, you get a check; if you do the work very well, you get a check-plus, and if you do the work poorly or if the work is unfinished, you get a check-minus. (Consistent checks correspond to a low A.)

Five-page paper and presentation:

The final paper is due after the semester is over. This paper should have to do with an aspect of the course material that interests you. Students who have German as a major must write it in German; others may choose between writing it in German or English. It should be approximately five pages long, but it may be a bit longer or a bit shorter. In the last few class periods, you will also be expected to present the information in these papers in class as presentations. These presentations should be approximately ten to fifteen minutes in length, and you should speak in the language of the paper. After the presentation, each speaker should expect to entertain questions from the class or from the teacher, so that you can get feedback on your work and use these ideas in your paper if you see fit.

Exams:

The exams consist of short-answer questions and exercises. They should be written in German, but just as with the homework, I will not count language errors against your grade. You may use dictionaries during the exams; these will be provided in class (please do not bring your own). Both exams will take the length of a regular class period.

Required Notes:

Policy about course outlines can be found in Section 23.4(2) of the University calendar.

Academic Integrity:

“The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarized themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at <http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/en/CodesofConductandResidenceCommunityStandards/CodeofStudentBehaviour.aspx>) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.”

Learning and Working Environment:

The Faculty of Arts is committed to assuring all students; faculty and staff are able to study and work in an environment safe and free of discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The Department urges anyone who feels this policy has been or is being violated to:

- Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; or

- If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that directs discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.

For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the student ombudservice (<http://www.ombudservice.ualberta.ca/>).

Information about the University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures is described in UAPPOL at

<https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/PoliciesProcedures/Pages/DispPol.aspx?PID=110>

Academic Honesty:

All students should consult the information provided by the [Office of Judicial Affairs](#) regarding avoiding cheating and plagiarism in particular and academic dishonesty in general (see the [Academic Integrity Undergraduate Handbook](#) and [Information for Students](#)). If in doubt about what is permitted in this class, ask the instructor.

Students involved in language courses and translation courses should be aware that on-line “translation engines” produce very dubious and unreliable “translations.” **Students in language courses** should be aware that, while seeking the advice of native or expert speakers is often helpful, **excessive editorial and creative help** in assignments is considered a form of “cheating” that violates the code of student conduct with dire consequences.

An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handled in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the [Academic Discipline Process](#).

Recording of Lectures:

Audio or video recording of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Recorded material is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components:

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by email within two days. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections 23.3(1) and 23.5.6 of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of the grade for the “attendance and participation” component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed in or completed as a result.

In this course, if you cannot attend a regular class (i.e. non-exam or presentation) period, you will simply be required to *email Dr. Dailey-O’Cain anytime before the beginning of that class period* to let her know that you will be absent (or, in an emergency where you cannot get to your computer, please contact the main office at 780-492-4926 and leave a message for Dr. Dailey-O’Cain). If you do this, your absence will be marked as *excused*. You do not need to give a reason for your absence, but please remember that you can’t participate in discussions and other class activities if you are not present, and that frequent absences, even excused ones, will necessarily have an effect on your participation mark. If you do *not* let Dr. Dailey-O’Cain know ahead of time that you will be absent, your absence will be marked as *unexcused*, and you will receive an automatic zero for any in-class activities or writing assignments that day, as well as for any at-home assignments due that day.

In cases of potentially excusable absences on *exam or presentation days* due to illness or domestic affliction, *notify Dr. Dailey-O’Cain by email within two days*. Regarding absences that may be excusable

and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections 23.3.1 and 23.3.2 of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of the grade for the “attendance and participation” component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed in or completed as a result.

☛ **Policy for Late Assignments:**

If your absence is excused (i.e., if you have notified Dr. Dailey-O’Cain before the absence that you will not be there; see the previous section for details), your late assignment should be turned in at the next class period. If your absence is not excused (i.e., if you have NOT notified Dr. Dailey-O’Cain before the absence that you will not be there), your late assignments will not be accepted. If you do have an excused absence, you are still responsible for asking Dr. Dailey-O’Cain at the next class meeting you attend what the missed assignments were, and for asking a fellow student for any in-class notes you have missed.

Student Accessibility Services:

If you have special needs that could affect your performance in this class, please let me know during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If you are not already registered with Specialized Support & Disability Services, contact their office immediately (2-800 SUB; email ssdsrec@ualberta.ca; phone 780-492-3381; WEB www.ssds.ualberta.ca).

Grading:

Marks for assignments, tests, and exams are given in percentages, to which letter grades are also assigned, according to the table below (“MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale”). The percentage mark resulting from the entire term work and examination then produces the final letter grade for the course.

“MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale”

Letter	%	Pts	Descriptor
A+	95-100%	4.0	Outstanding: Superior performance showing understanding and knowledge of the subject matter far exceeding expectations.
A	90-94%	4.0	Excellent: Superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
A-	86-89%	3.7	Very good: Clearly above average performance with complete knowledge of subject matter.
B+	82-85%	3.3	Very good
B	75-81%	3.0	Good: average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
B-	70-74%	2.7	Good
C+	66-69%	2.3	Satisfactory: Basic understanding of the subject matter
C	61-65%	2.0	Satisfactory
C-	58-60%	1.7	Satisfactory
D+	55-57%	1.3	Minimal Pass: Marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.
D	50-54%	1.0	Minimal Pass: Marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.
F	0-49%	0.0	Fail: Unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

Einführung

September

1. – Kurseinführung
3. – Moulton I (Introduction)
8. – Rausch/Rausch I (Ansatzrohr), Nützliche Vokabeln
10. – Rausch/Rausch II (Transkription), phonetisches Beschreibungsschema
15. – Vermeer (Akzent)

Konsonanten

17. – Rausch/Rausch III (Konsonanten)
In der Diskussion besprechen wir an diesem Tag auch die Verschlusslaute und Affrikata.
22. – Moulton II (Phonemics: The Consonants of English)
In der Diskussion besprechen wir an diesem Tag auch die Reibelaute.
24. – Moulton III (Phonemics: The Consonants of German)
In der Diskussion besprechen wir an diesem Tag auch weiterhin die Reibelaute.
29. – Moulton IV (Phonemic Problems)
In der Diskussion besprechen wir an diesem Tag auch die Nasallaute.

Oktober

1. – Moulton V (Phonetic Problems)
In der Diskussion besprechen wir an diesem Tag auch die Laterallaute.
6. – Moulton VI (Allophonic Problems)
In der Diskussion besprechen wir an diesem Tag auch die Zitterlaute.
8. – Moulton VII (Distributional Problems/Consonant Clusters/Voiced-Voiceless Alternations)
In der Diskussion besprechen wir an diesem Tag auch die Gleitlaute.
13. – KEIN UNTERRICHT (DR. DAILEY-O'CAIN IST WEG)
15. – KEIN UNTERRICHT (DR. DAILEY-O'CAIN IST WEG)
20. – WIEDERHOLUNGSTAG
22. – **PRÜFUNG I**

Vokale

27. – Rausch/Rausch IV (Vokale)
In der Diskussion besprechen wir an diesem Tag auch die hohen Vordervokale.
29. – Moulton VIII (Phonemics: The Vowels of German)
In der Diskussion besprechen wir an diesem Tag auch die mittleren Vordervokale.

November

3. – Moulton IX (Phonemics: The Vowels of English)
In der Diskussion besprechen wir an diesem Tag auch die niederen Vordervokale.
5. – Moulton X (Points of Conflict)
In der Diskussion besprechen wir an diesem Tag auch die mittleren Zentralvokale.
10. – KEIN UNTERRICHT (FALL BREAK)
12. – KEIN UNTERRICHT (FALL BREAK)
17. – Moulton XI (schwa and other unstressed vowels)
In der Diskussion besprechen wir an diesem Tag auch die niederen Zentralvokale.
19. – Moulton XII (i/u, e/o, a/a, o)
In der Diskussion besprechen wir an diesem Tag auch die hohen Hintervokale.
24. – Moulton XIII (ü/ö, stressed vowels before /r/), und Rausch/Rausch V (Diphthonge)
In der Diskussion besprechen wir an diesem Tag auch die mittleren und niederen Hintervokale, und die Diphthonge.
26. – **PRÜFUNG II**

Dezember

1. – VORTRÄGE
3. – VORTRÄGE

Your final papers are due Tuesday, December 8th, at 4pm. Please *print* them (do not email them!) and deliver them to my office. If I am not there, please shove it under the door. Thank you!