

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

<https://uofa.ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies>

2015-2016 Germ 304 B1: Advanced German II
Winter Term

Instructor: Ute-Brigitte Blunck
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Time: MWF 12-1
Place: Arts 550
Office Hours: Tues 9-9:30, M W 11-12
or by appointment

Note:

Students will be required to *sign up* for a *fourth hour of instruction* per week. Details will be given during first week of classes.

Course Prerequisite:

German 303 or departmental consent. Students considered overqualified will be re-assigned to an alternate class. If you have questions or doubts about your language skills, consult with the instructor.

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 (please specify)
- NA

Additional mandatory Instructional fees (approved by Board of Governors)

Yes No

Course Description and Objectives:

German 304 is a continuation of German 303 designed to further improving skills in communicating in correct, academic-level German. Instruction focuses on reviewing and practicing difficult and advanced grammatical topics and developing vocabulary through films, news items and literature. Practice and participation in group and class discussions figure strongly as students work to improve fluency and a wider range of vocabulary. Students will be able to summarize texts, analyze short stories, prepare oral presentations, participate in debates, defend and justify their opinions and to draft and revise their own writing.

Required Texts:

Anders gedacht, Motyl-Mudretzkyj/Späinghaus, Boston: Houghton-Mifflin, *third edition*

Students should also have a good, comprehensive German dictionary. The Collins is recommended; Langenscheidt,

Schöffler-Weiß, and others are also suitable.

Grade Distribution (see “Explanatory Notes”):

Class attendance and participation	5%
Work in 4th Hour	15%
Homework Assignments (<i>completed throughout term</i>)	15%
Tests (<i>of various lengths upon completion of units throughout term—announced in advance</i>)	25%
Writing assignments (<i>tentative due dates: Feb 3 and April 8</i>)	15%
Term paper (<i>1000-1200 words on Short Story, due March 18</i>)	15%
Group Presentation (<i>for Short Story unit Feb 22 to March 4. Sign up sheet will be posted</i>)	10%

Final Exam Information:

There is no final exam for this course. Marks are calculated on the basis of work completed throughout the term.

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

Homework is assigned regularly and may be in the form of reading or viewing to prepare for discussion or written tasks. Assignments submitted *after* the remainder of the class has had their marked assignments returned will be *assigned a mark of 0* and be *marked for feedback only*.

Tests are varied in length and always announced in class. Material covered includes grammar structures, vocabulary and topics covered in the chapter and in class discussions.

You will be given a choice of topics for **Writing Assignments**. Please type and double space these and staple the marking rubric to the front of your assignment. More information in class.

The **Term Paper** will be written on a Short Story of your choice from the unit. The choice of topic is yours, but it must be discussed and approved in advance. As with the Writing Assignments, this paper must be typed and double spaced and include the rubric.

For the **Group Presentation** you will present and discuss the Short Story assigned to you to the class orally. Although you will present as part of a group, you will receive an individual mark. More information in class.

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 familiarize 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 ensuring 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 languages 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 handed 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 e-mail 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, 5% for attendance and participation will be based on attendance and the effort made to contribute to class by adequate preparation of assignments assigned for oral work – a component upon which extensive unexcused absence will, of course, have a negative impact. Students are expected to attend regularly and be prepared to interact in German in a variety of situations. Each student will be allowed a total of three (3) unexcused absences in the term. Each subsequent absence will result in a loss of 5% of the grade allotted to attendance and participation. Instructor’s discretion prevails with respect to acceptability of excuse.

Policy for Late Assignments:

Students missing a quiz or the submission of an assignment must seek an excused absence from the course instructor ***within two working days*** following the term work missed or as soon as possible with regard to the circumstances underlying the absence or missed submission. Students are expected to keep up with the material, complete and hand in assigned homework, and take exams and quizzes. There are no make-up assignments. When a student misses term work (e.g., assignments, quizzes, presentations, reports, etc.) without acceptable excuse, ***a final grade will be computed using a raw score of zero for the term work missed***. Instructor’s discretion prevails with respect to acceptability of excuse.

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 sasrec@ualberta.ca; Email; 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	Excellent: 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	Excellent: Clearly above average performance with complete knowledge of subject matter.
B+	82-85%	3.3	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	Poor: 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	Failure: Unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.