

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**
<https://uofa.ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies>

2017-2018 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: W 11-12 Th 10-11
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 and helpful conversation sessions 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 access to a good, comprehensive German dictionary. The Collins is recommended; Langenscheidt, Collins and others are also suitable.

Grade Distribution (see “Explanatory Notes”):

Class attendance and participation	10%
Work in 4th Hour	15%
Homework Assignments (<i>completed throughout term</i>)	10%
Tests (<i>of various lengths upon completion of units throughout term—announced in advance</i>)	20%
Writing assignments (<i>tentative due dates: Feb 9 and April 6</i>)	20%
Term paper (<i>1000-1200 words on Short Story, due March 30</i>)	15%
Group Presentation (<i>for Short Story unit Feb 26 to March 16 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 the [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#) 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

www.governance.ualberta.ca) and avoid any behaviour that 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 that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The Department urges anyone who feels that this policy 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 direct 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 [Office of the Student Ombuds](#). Information about the [University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures](#) is described in [UAPPOL](#).

Academic Honesty:

All students should consult the information provided by the [Student Conduct & Accountability Office](#) 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, digital or otherwise, 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. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course 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 [Attendance](#) and [Examinations](#) 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, German 304, 10% 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. You are expected to attend class, be prepared to interact in German in a variety of situations, 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 any term work (e.g., classes, 4th Hour, assignments, quizzes, written assignments, 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.

Policy for Late Assignments:

Students who *consult in advance* with the instructor regarding contingencies preventing the timely completion of an assignment may, at the *discretion of the instructor*, be granted an extension. Otherwise, late assignments will have a **5%-per-class-day penalty** assessed for each *calendar day* of lateness.

Any 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***.

In cases of potentially excusable absences (emergency conditions, incapacitating mental and/or physical illness, severe domestic affliction, legitimate University-related business, or for circumstances as described in the University's Discrimination, Harassment and Duty to Accommodate Policy), students may apply for an excused absence for missed term work (such as quizzes, presentations, or exams) to receive the opportunity to make-up the missed term work. Please note:

- For an absence to be considered excused, instructors will request adequate documentation to substantiate the reason for the absence (i.e. in the form of a "Medical Declaration Form for Students" (<https://uofa.ualberta.ca/arts/-/media/arts/student-services/documents/medicaldeclarationformforstudents.pdf>)).
- Providing any kind of document(s) does not imply an automatic approval; it will be at the discretion of the instructor to accept or decline a document and/or grant the student's request for an excused absence.
- A student must inform the instructor ***within two working days*** following the term work which was missed, or as soon as the student is able, with regard to the circumstances underlying the absence.
- For missed exams or term work, **no extension will be given after this deadline has elapsed and a grade of ZERO will be assigned.**
- For an excused absence where the cause is religious belief, a student must contact the instructor(s) within two weeks of the start of Fall or Winter classes; and within three days of the start of Spring or Summer classes.

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 [Student Accessibility Services](#), contact their office immediately (1-80 SUB; Email sasrec@ualberta.ca; Email; phone 780-492-3381).

Grading:

Assessment of the individual course components may be in the form of numerical marks or letter grades. The final letter grade will be based on "a combination of absolute achievement and relative performance in a class" (University Calendar, [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#)). The University Grading Procedure mandates that "a student's level of achievement of the goals/outcomes of a course, their grade, and the descriptor of that grade must be aligned" (<https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/>). The following guidelines have been adopted by the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies:

“MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale”

Descriptor	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	%
Excellent. A+, A or A- is earned by work which is superior in content and form and demonstrates an exceptional grasp of the subject matter. The grade of A+ designates work that far exceeds course expectations. Grades in the A range are normally achieved by a small number of students.	A+	4.0	97-100
	A	4.0	93-96
	A-	3.7	90-92
Good. B+, B or B- is earned by work that demonstrates a thorough comprehension of the course material and a good command of relevant skills. Grades in the B range are normally achieved by the largest number of students.	B+	3.3	87-89
	B	3.0	83-86
	B-	2.7	80-82
Satisfactory. C+, C or C- is earned by work that demonstrates an adequate grasp of the course material and relevant skills. Grades in the C range designate work that has met the basic requirements of the course.	C+	2.3	77-79
	C	2.0	73-76
	C-	1.7	70-72
Poor/Minimal Pass. D+ or D is earned by work that demonstrates minimal familiarity with the course material. Grades in the D range generally indicate insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.	D+	1.3	65-69
	D	1.0	60-64
Failure.	F	0.0	0-59