

GER 1131, Beginning Intensive German II, Spring 2019

Instructor's name: Navid Bargrizan

Office: MUB 324

Office hours: M 8 and F 6

Telephone:

E-Mail: nbargrizan@ufl.edu

Connect Course ID:

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:

GER 1131 (Beginning German II) is the 2nd course of the beginning sequence. It concentrates on development of overall skill in language (speaking, listening, reading, writing, grammar, vocabulary) and cultural knowledge. The students will continue to learn grammar in the context of a variety of topics/issues that allow them to connect and compare their own cultural environment with that of their German peers. By the end of the semester, they can talk about health and fitness and popular sports; they will be able to 'virtually' visit German cities, make travel arrangements, and book hotel reservations. They will speak about expectations, dreams, and explore future professions; they discuss living arrangements, finances, and the effects of social media on their own lives and public opinion. Finally, students will make a presentation about a global or local environmental problem/issue.

After successful completion of this course, we highly recommend the **UF in Mannheim Program** which takes place every summer from July to August. Contact UFIC for more information. Program Directors for UF in Mannheim 2019 are Dr. Susanne Hill and Dr. Overstreet.

1. REQUIRED MATERIALS:

The required textbook: **Deutsch: NA KLAR! by Di Donato & Clyde**, ISBN: 978-0073386355

Publisher: McGraw Hill

We recommend: **Grammar for Students of German** by Cecile Zorach and Charlotte Melin. Published by the Olivia and Hill Press. It is available from [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

GER 1130/GER 1131 sections are participating in the UF All Access program for the Spring 2019 semester. Students will have the option to "opt-in" to Connect access through a link provided in Canvas for a reduced price and pay for these materials through their student account. Opting-in by following the instructions provided in Canvas will provide the most affordable option. Please await instructions

for when you will be able to purchase the required Connect access through Canvas. The opt-in portal should be available a few days before start of term.

2. CLASSROOM APPROACH:

We teach our classes primarily in German. Communicative contexts and grammatical guides are introduced in class through a variety of activities; acquisition is reinforced by interactive use of new structures and vocabulary. DAILY ATTENDANCE, THOROUGH PREPARATION OUTSIDE OF CLASS, AND PARTICIPATION IN CLASS ARE OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE. READ THE BOOK BEFORE CLASS! In particular, LEARNSMART WORK is part of your daily preparation for class meetings. Failure to do so will result in a lowered preparation and participation score for the day or week.

In addition, the audio and video segments which accompany the textbook will provide further listening practice. Please note that the materials listed on your daily syllabus, including listening to the audio material, should be prepared and corrected before coming to class. Students normally spend TWO HOURS WORKING AT HOME FOR EACH HOUR IN CLASS to keep up with the pace of the course. A listening and pronunciation program has been prepared for use with your electronic workbook/lab manual (eWBLM). The eWBLM was designed to encourage you to work with German *every day*. It is best to work *often* for *short* periods of time. Audio files may be accessed through *Connect*. Your instructor will explain this procedure during the first week of class.

3. QUIZZES AND HOMEWORK:

As a rule, we take two weeks for each chapter, beginning with chapter 7. Quizzes and chapter tests are given on Fridays. At times, written quizzes may be replaced by oral performances/presentations according to the theme of a chapter, i. e. your morning routine, your fitness plan, planning a trip to a German city, describing and comparing people or things etc.

At the end of the semester, selections of Chapters 13 and 14 will be combined and tested as part of the final written and oral exam. Students are expected to do ALL activities assigned in *Connect*. Activities submitted after the due date will not be accepted for FULL credit without appropriate documentation. Activities may not be accepted on paper unless specified by the instructor.

4. CHAPTER EXAMS (30%) AND FINAL EXAM (20%)

6 German 1131 exams will test your skills in familiar ways, if you attend class regularly and take your work with CONNECT seriously.

Chapter exams (30%) will be administered online in Connect or as hard copies in the classroom on the dates noted on the daily calendar. In their content and format, each chapter exam will consist of (1) listening and (2) reading comprehension exercises; (3) vocabulary and grammar sections; and (4) a composition. Regularly making a serious effort on preparing daily for class as well as on completing the eWBLM exercises throughout the semester will provide the best preparation for the chapter and final

exams. The week after Spring Break, GER 1131 instructors will hold oral interviews to gauge progress in speaking proficiency. This interview is weighted like a chapter test.

The Final Exam (20%) is comprehensive and follows the format used for Chapter Exams. It also includes the **Final Oral Exam** consisting of a presentation/project about a global or local environmental problem/issue. Regular and willing participation in classroom activities is the only way to prepare for the Interview, which will count as approximately 10% of your Final Exam grade.

5. FINAL GRADES:

Preparation and participation (10%)
Quizzes (10%)
Written homework and eWBLM activities (30%)
6 chapter exams (including 1 oral interview) (30%)
Comprehensive Final Exam (including oral component counting 10%) (20%)

6. 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; E=below 60%.

S is equivalent to C or better. The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences requires that students earn a final grade of C or better (or S) in GER 1130 in order to advance to GER 1131. Note that a C- does not satisfy this requirement; students must earn a C or better in the course in order to move on to the next course and satisfy the language requirement.

According to university guidelines, letter grades will convert to GPA as follows: A = 4.0; A- = 3.67; B+ = 3.33; B= 3; B- = 2.67; C+ = 2.33; C = 2.0; C- = 1.67; D+ = 1.33; D = 1.0; D- = .67; E = 0; WF = 0; I = 0 NG = 0; S-U = 0

A note on learning a foreign language:

Research has shown that “people who take the initiative in learning (pro-active learners) learn more things and learn better than do people who sit at the feet of teachers, passively waiting to be taught (reactive learners).... They enter into learning more purposefully and with greater motivation” (Knowles, 1975). We therefore encourage you to take as active a role as possible in this class – do your homework daily; take full advantage of all materials accompanying the text; don’t be afraid to ask questions or request clarification, and most importantly, ATTEND ALL CLASSES! Consider that the role of your teacher is not to ‘teach’ you German, but to help you to understand it on your own terms!

POLICIES

ATTENDANCE:

Becoming fluent in a language requires extensive, repeated exposure to that language. For this reason, attendance is essential in this class, and is considered mandatory. A SEVERE PENALTY WILL BE IMPOSED FOR EXCESSIVE ABSENCES: After **3 hours of class time missed**, 1% per absence is deducted from your final grade. Excused absences due to sickness must be documented. Arriving consistently more than 5 minutes late on 3 occasions will count as one missed class. Students experiencing difficulties that interfere with class attendance/performance are encouraged to speak with their instructor immediately or contact a counselor.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS:

Students and faculty must cooperate to allow each person to observe faith. Following UF policy, a student must **inform** the faculty member of the religious observances of his or her faith that will **conflict** with class attendance, with tests or examinations, or with other class activities **prior to the class or occurrence of that test or activity**. **No make-ups will be given after a holiday unless arrangements were made in advance with the instructor.**

MAKE-UP EXAMS:

In general, there are **NO MAKE-UP EXAMS!** This policy is strictly enforced; therefore, please do not schedule dental appointments or car maintenance for the days of exams! Medical emergencies will be handled on a case by case basis, but require appropriate documentation for consideration.

No changes to the **FINAL EXAM** day schedule will be made except for University sanctioned make-up exams (see University schedule for specific policies).

S/U OPTION:

If you are eligible, you may take GER 1130 on the S/U option, although we discourage most students from doing so because of the strong temptation to neglect S/U courses when under pressure. Daily involvement with the language is the key to success. Submit S/U applications directly to the Registrar. Consult the Undergraduate Catalog for further clarification. *Students must earn a C or better in order to earn an S in this course. (A C- converts to a U under university guidelines.)*

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

The University of Florida statement regarding academic honesty and more specifically “giving and/or receiving unauthorized aid on student’s work” reads as follows:

“Giving information includes, but is not limited to, allowing other students to use or copy work or answers to exam questions either while the exam is being given or after having taken the exam.

Further, the taking of information includes, but is not limited to, copying from the answers provided in the book or ancillary materials, copying from another student’s paper [...], using information already written in books, [...], or asking anyone, students or not to review and/or correct assignments.

Students found in violation of this policy will be referred to the appropriate administration for appropriate action according to the student judicial process.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

The University of Florida policy related to accommodations for students with disabilities reads as follows:

“Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.”

ELECTRONICS IN CLASS:

Use of electronics for anything other than coursework is distracting to both you and those seated around you, and will not be tolerated. It is expected that you will silence all electronic equipment upon entering the classroom and, with the exception of an ebook used only for GER 1131, will not consult it during class. (Emergency exceptions should be brought to the attention of your instructor.) Consultation of email, social media or text messages during class will result in loss of your preparation / participation points for the day.

COURSE EVALUATION PROCESS:

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available at:

<https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>