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# GER-302

## Advanced Stylistics, Composition, and Conversation

This class is conducted in German

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### Course Description & Objectives

GER-302 offers the opportunity to increase sophistication of written and spoken German in a variety of contexts. We will do so by reading and discussing short German texts from a variety of sources and watching film and/or other media. In addition, we will review aspects of German grammar that present difficulties to many English speakers.

After this class, you will have an increased awareness of and practice with a variety of German language genres and styles. You will be able to discuss and analyze texts, movies, articles, and other material. You will have improved your reading and writing skills as well as your accurate use of German grammar and your speaking ability. In addition, you will have expanded your active and passive vocabulary knowledge beyond the level of German 201 and 301.

Student performance in this course will be measured through in-class discussions and presentations, in-class participation, short quizzes, five writing assignments, homework, and successive revisions of your and your fellow students' material.

This class is held in German (even if some reading material may be in English). I expect you to speak in German with your fellow students as well—during peer reviews, classroom discussions, or simple small talk. If you had a great day, we want to hear about it in German!

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Prerequisites:** GER-301

#### Grading Scale

94-100	A	87-89	B+	77-79	C+	60-69	D	0-59	F
90-93	A-	83-86	B	70-76	C				
		80-82	B-						

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Instructor: Ines Martin

Fall 2018

MWF 1:30-2:20pm

Room: 157 Burrowes

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Office: 253 Burrowes

Office Hours: MWF 9-11, TR 2-4 & by appointment

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### Materials

- **Required textbook:** *Schreiben lernen, A Writing Guide for Learners of German*. Ed. by Pennylyn Dykstra-Pruim and Jennifer Redmann. Yale UP 2011. (ISBN: 978-0-300-16603-3)
- additional course materials all available on Canvas or as handouts
- **Recommended grammar:** Zorach, Cecile and Charlotte Melin. *English Grammar for Students of German* (or any other good reference material)
- **Recommended dictionaries:** [linguee.de](http://linguee.de), [en.pons.com/translate](http://en.pons.com/translate)

### Grade Distribution

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20%

Participation

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20%

5 Quizzes (best 4 of 5)

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40%

5 Writing Assignments (several drafts with revisions)

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10%

Homework

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10%

Grammar Presentation

# Requirements

## Attendance/Participation -- 20%

Attendance and participation in this class is very important because learning happens in in-class discussions and presentations and peer-to-peer discussions as well as through your assigned readings and writing assignments. If (when!) you come to class and participate actively, you will know, understand, and appreciate the material thoroughly.

Participation will be assessed through your oral participation in partner, group, and class discussions, questions you ask, comments you have, or any other productive way you can contribute to the material. You may miss no more than 3 classes during the semester without prior approval (e.g. medical emergency). Each absence beyond the third will result in a successive lowering of your participation grade.

### Evaluation Guidelines for Participation

90-100 % You are well prepared, as demonstrated by your comments made in class; you are interested in and respect others' opinions; you ask and respond to questions; demonstrate knowledge of course materials; foster a vibrant intellectual community. You are genuinely engaged with the class.

80-89 % You are generally prepared, you make an effort to refer to readings and course topics; you are willing to participate in discussions in class.

70-79 % You only reluctantly participate in class activities and you are often unprepared; rarely practice critical thinking; do not demonstrate sufficient knowledge of course materials.

60-69 % You are not willing to participate in class activities and are unable to ask or answer questions; you are generally unprepared; demonstrate little knowledge of course materials.

0-59 % You are absent (physically or mentally), unprepared, or disruptive in class. [Emailing, messaging, or spending time on facebook in class counts as being mentally absent.]

## Quizzes -- 20%

There will be 5 quizzes about grammatical issues and new vocabulary throughout the semester. These quizzes will help you evaluate your own knowledge of grammatical concepts that are crucial for successful writing and test you on the growth of your vocabulary throughout the semester.

The lowest grade of your five quizzes will be dropped (= best 4 out of 5). All quizzes will take place in class and cannot be made up. Each missed quiz counts as a grade of 0%, that means that you can miss one quiz without consequences to your grade, but the second quiz you miss will influence your quiz grade average.

## 5 writing assignments (= writing portfolio) -- 40%

You will hand in five writing assignments that will cover different genres of German writing styles. On the detailed schedule below, you can see deadlines for all eight writing assignments that we will work on during this class. You only have to hand in **five (of eight)** assignments for your final grade! You can freely choose which five assignments you want to hand in – once they are handed in, however, the grade counts and cannot be made up by handing in another assignment exceeding the five assignments. Hand-in-time (electronically through Canvas preferred, or in-paper if necessary) is always at the beginning of class that day.

Each graded writing assignment consists of two parts: a first draft and a final (second) draft – this is in addition to all the peer-review drafts you have already completed at the point of handing in your work. You will receive feedback from me on your first draft and have

to use this feedback to make revisions for the final draft. In order to receive full credit for the assignment, you have to submit **both** parts by their respective deadlines. You will have to work with the *Korrekturschlüssel* (found on Canvas and distributed in class) to make revisions.

Despite the fact that you will only submit five of the writing assignments, you still have to complete all eight of them as we will work with them in class (they are part of your homework grade, see below). You will have to have these assignments with you at all times (either electronically on your laptop, or printed out) so that you can work on them at any time. You will have to bring drafts to class that you will work on together with other students during class-time (either on the computer or on paper). Part of writing is recognizing your own mistakes, which is already challenging in your native language but can get even trickier in German. In order to facilitate your ability to correct your own papers, you will have to help revise papers of your fellow students. These revisions are part of your grade and should be done with great care. Your goal is to improve your peers' writing as well as your own. Peer-review is one of the main academic methods of evaluating knowledge and improving skills.

### Homework -- 10%

Throughout the class, you will have to complete homework assignments that pertain to the topics that are discussed in class. These homework assignments (i.e., the official eight writing assignments and other smaller assignments) should provide you with an opportunity to produce texts or work presentations without time pressure and in a comfortable environment (coffee shop? couch? lawn? Where can you think and write best?). I would like to see your engagement with the topic at hand and your willingness to share your knowledge with the class. Use your ability to teach others and accept other people's teaching. You should complete any of the homework assignments with care, since they help improve your overall writing skills.

### Grammar Presentation -- 10%

Students pair up to present a grammar topic (see schedule for list of topics). The presentation will be in German and will deal with the grammar topic at hand (explanation, examples, handouts, videos, games, .... get creative!). You will be able to sign up for a presentation topic on the second day of class.

## Schedule

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Please feel free to bring your personal laptop to each session so you won't have to print out drafts or reading material that we will work on in the lessons. You will always have to have all your writing and homework assignments as well as all the readings and the book with you so you can refer back to them when needed. (Please do not mistake the permission to use your personal laptop in class as an invitation to spend your time on Facebook or messenger apps – even though I will not point out every time I catch you on FB during class, I will mark your participation grade for that day as zero.)

### Week 1:

Date	Day	Grammar Presentations	Text Genre	Quizzes/ Assignments Due
8/22	M	Einführung, Syllabus, Erwartungen, Kennenlernen		
8/24	W	Verteilung der Grammatikpräsentationen, Top 10 Fehler beim Schreiben, Wie man ein Wörterbuch benutzt		
8/26	F		Biografie	

## Week 2:

Date	Day	Grammar Presentations	Text Genre	Quizzes/ Assignments Due
8/29	M		Biografie	
8/31	W	Vergangenheitsformen	Biografie	
9/2	F	Präsens und Futur	Biografie	

## Week 3:

Date	Day	Grammar Presentations	Text Genre	Quizzes/ Assignments Due
9/5	M	Labor Day – no class!		go BBQ'ing and have fun ☺
9/7	W	Passiv	Nachrichtenartikel	
9/9	F		Nachrichtenartikel	

## Week 4:

Date	Day	Grammar Presentations	Text Genre	Quizzes/ Assignments Due
9/12	M		Nachrichtenartikel	Quiz 1
9/14	W	Nebensätze: Konjunktionen	Nachrichtenartikel	
9/16	F	Nebensätze: Relativsätze	catch-up day	WA #1: Nachrichtenartikel Draft 1

## Week 5:

Date	Day	Grammar Presentations	Text Genre	Quizzes/ Assignments Due
9/19	M	Nebensätze: Infinitive mit zu	Inhaltsangabe	
9/21	W		Inhaltsangabe	
9/23	F	FILM: HONIG IM KOPF	Inhaltsangabe	

## Week 6:

Date	Day	Grammar Presentations	Text Genre	Quizzes/ Assignments Due
9/26	M	FILM: HONIG IM KOPF	Inhaltsangabe	WA #1: Nachrichtenartikel Draft 2
9/28	W		Inhaltsangabe	
9/30	F		kreatives Schreiben: Kurzgeschichte	Quiz 2

## Week 7:

Date	Day	Grammar Presentations	Text Genre	Quizzes/ Assignments Due
10/3	M	Spezial Stunde zum Tag der deutschen Einheit ☺		WA #2: 2 Inhaltsangabe Draft 1
10/5	W	Satzbau	kreatives Schreiben: Kurzgeschichte	
10/7	F		kreatives Schreiben: Kurzgeschichte	

## Week 8:

Date	Day	Grammar Presentations	Text Genre	Quizzes/ Assignments Due
10/10	M	Adjektivendungen	kreatives Schreiben: Kurzgeschichte	WA #2: 2 Inhaltsangabe Draft 2
10/12	W		Gedichtsanalyse	WA #3: Kurzgeschichte Draft 1
10/14	F		Gedichtsanalyse	Quiz 3

## Week 9:

Date	Day	Grammar Presentations	Text Genre	Quizzes/ Assignments Due
10/17	M		Gedichtsanalyse	
10/19	W	Konjunktiv I	Gedichtsanalyse	
10/21	F		Gedichtsanalyse	WA #3: Kurzgeschichte Draft 2

### Week 10:

Date	Day	Grammar Presentations	Text Genre	Quizzes/ Assignments Due
10/24	M		freie Erörterung	WA #4: Gedichtsanalyse Draft 1
10/26	W	Konjunktiv II	freie Erörterung	
10/28	F		freie Erörterung	

### Week 11:

Date	Day	Grammar Presentations	Text Genre	Quizzes/ Assignments Due
10/31	M		freie Erörterung	WA #4: Gedichtsanalyse Draft 2
11/2	W		textgebundene Erörterung	WA #5: freie Erörterung Draft 1 Quiz 4
11/4	F		textgebundene Erörterung	

### Week 12:

Date	Day	Grammar Presentations	Text Genre	Quizzes/ Assignments Due
11/7	M	Präpositionen: Akk, Dat, & Genitiv	textgebundene Erörterung	
11/9	W		textgebundene Erörterung	WA #5: freie Erörterung Draft 2
11/11	F	Wechselpräpositionen	kreatives Schreiben: Erzählung	WA #6: textgebundene Erört. Draft 1

### Week 13:

Date	Day	Grammar Presentations	Text Genre	Quizzes/ Assignments Due
11/14	M		kreatives Schreiben: Erzählung	
11/16	W		kreatives Schreiben: Erzählung	Quiz 5
11/18	F		kreatives Schreiben: Erzählung	WA #6, textgebund. Erört., Draft 2; AND WA #7: Erzählung Draft 1

### Week 14:

Date	Day	Grammar Presentations	Text Genre	Quizzes/ Assignments Due
11/21-11/25		NO CLASS	THANKSGIVING	EAT LOTS OF DELICIOUS FOOD!

### Week 15:

Date	Day	Grammar Presentations	Text Genre	Quizzes/ Assignments Due
11/28	M		catch-up day	
11/30	W		Filmkritik	
12/2	F	FILM: OFFROAD	Filmkritik	WA #7: Erzählung Draft 2

### Week 16 (last week of classes):

Date	Day	Grammar Presentations	Text Genre	Quizzes/ Assignments Due
12/5	M	FILM: OFFROAD	Filmkritik	
12/7	W		Filmkritik	
12/9	F		Filmkritik	WA #8: Filmkritik Draft 1

WA #8 Filmkritik Draft 2 is due Wednesday 12/14 during Finals Week.