

Drexel University  
Deutsch 203

**Dozentin:**

**Tel:**

**Email:**

**Sprechstunde:**

### **Course Objectives**

This intermediate course is designed to review and practice grammatical structures and vocabulary introduced in the basic level of German. It will increase the knowledge about the culture of the German-speaking world, its past and present. The course will further focus on the development of communicative skills and the ability to use German in extended discourse and abstract discussions. At the end of the course, students will not have moved toward a higher level of proficiency in their speaking and writing skills. In combination with language learning, students in German 203 will be introduced to intermediate communication skills that relate to the German culture. The course will focus on improving upon three essential aspects of intercultural communication: openness, knowledge, and adaptability. Exposure to these types of situations and increased cultural knowledge will help students improve their ability to communicate with those from different cultures not only with their grammar and vocabulary knowledge, but from their overall intercultural communicative abilities.

### **How do we reach our intercultural communication goals?**

In order to help you reach the expected level of intercultural communication skills that have been determined for this level of language learning, you will be confronted with important cultural information and situations that you may encounter in the German culture. This information will be introduced in a variety of ways, from drawing comparisons between the German culture and your own, to exploring the historical and political contexts under which cultural conventions have formed, as well as discussing how the German language is used in certain situations as opposed to others. In addition to class discussions, you will also be expected to draw cultural references from literature provided to you in class. At the end of this course, you should have a collection of facts and knowledge about German culture, history, and contemporary issues, and should be able to decide which behaviors are appropriate in more advanced settings—for example, how you would act at a business meeting or when making acquaintances. After taking German 203, you will have built on the foundation of cultural knowledge you were introduced to in the previous levels in German, which will assist you when interacting with anyone from the German culture on a more complex level.

### **Required Texts**

*Stationen: Ein Kursbuch für die Mittelstufe.* 2<sup>Nd</sup> edition. Boston, Mass.: Thompson Higher Education, 2012.

*Handbuch zur deutschen Grammatik.* 5<sup>th</sup> edition. Boston, Mass. : Heinle, 2011.

## EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOME

<b>Listening</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Spoken Interaction</b>	<b>Spoken Production</b>	<b>Writing</b>
The student can understand the main points of standard speech on matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc. The student can understand the main points of many radio or TV programs on current affairs or topics of personal or professional interest when the delivery is relatively slow and clear.	The student can understand texts that consist mainly of everyday or job-related language. The student can understand the description of events, feelings, and wishes in personal letters.	The student can deal with most situations likely to arise whilst travelling in areas where the language is spoken. The student can enter unprepared into conversation on topics that are familiar, of personal interest, or pertinent to every life (e.g. family, hobbies, work, travel and current events).	The student can connect phrases in a simple way in order to describe experiences and events, and their hopes and ambitions. The student can give brief reasons and explanations for their opinions and plans. The student can narrate a story or relate the plot of a book or film, and can describe their reactions.	The student can write simple, connected text on topics that are familiar or of personal interest. The student can write personal letters describing experiences and impressions.

In addition to building upon your foundation of the German language, this course will provide you with tools to improve your understanding of intercultural communication with a focus on the German culture. In this course, you will improve upon your openness, knowledge, and adaptability in intercultural situations and will therefore obtain the intermediate level of intercultural communication skills that you are expected to have in German 202.

### **Level 2 - Intermediate Intercultural Communication Skills**

<b>Overview Of Competence</b>	As a result of gaining more experience, I now perceive intercultural encounters with a more knowledgeable and open point-of-view. I have a mental checklist of the sorts of situations I am likely to deal with during these encounters, and I have begun to develop my skills in order to cope with them. I am more prepared for the need to respond and adapt to unfamiliar situations and I now see patterns in the various experiences I have had, and I am able to draw conclusions from those patterns without seeking advice. I prefer to respond in a neutral way when differences arise, rather than approving or disapproving.
<b>Openness</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) I now see the uncertainties that can arise from intercultural encounters as an interesting challenge, as long as the issues at hand are not personal to me.</li><li>2) I react neutrally to cultural differences rather than categorizing them immediately as “good” or “bad”.</li></ol>

## Knowledge

- 1) I go out of my way to find out about the cultures that I will be working with, paying attention to facts as well as values, customs, and practices that are common in those cultures.
- 2) When I encounter new values, customs, or practices, I incorporate that gained knowledge into an overall system of principles.
- 3) I have developed a mental checklist of how others may perceive, feel, and respond differently to a range of my own behaviors. This allows me to put others at ease and avoid upsetting them or causing discomfort.

## Adaptability

- 1) The way that I act is influenced by principles that I have established from my knowledge of other cultures, and I often plan for intercultural encounters including ambiguous situations.
- 2) I adapt my behavior in new situations, taking into account the lessons I have learned from previous intercultural situations. I sometimes will adopt the behaviors of others, rather than waiting for them to adopt mine.
- 3) I seek to achieve successful communication by making my intentions clear and by adapting to the communication styles of others. When there is a problem with communication, I often find ways to solve it. For example, I will reinforce my statements with hand gestures, re-explaining, or simplifying.
- 4) I know a number of useful strategies for dealing with common intercultural communication problems.

## Grading:

Participation and Preparation	300 points
Oral presentation (5 @ 40 pts.)	200 points
Essay (2 @ 75 pts.)	150 points
Midterm	100 points
Final Examination	150 points
Mediathek reflections	100 points

### A. Class Participation (20%):

Since a substantial portion of your grade depends on active class participation, regular attendance is crucial. If the student misses four classes unexcused or arrive late to class four times, your grade for the course will drop substantially (i.e. B- to C+). It is also the *quality* of participation, which is important. The answers the student provides and the interest in learning the language the student demonstrates is very important. This involves participating productively in our weekly excursions and contributing to class room discussions.

What is *active and productive* participation?

- 3) Being prepared for class/completing homework on time
- 4) Producing and volunteering with constructive comments (more isn't always better)

- 5) Being active group work
- 6) Sharing ideas
- 7) Listening to and respecting the ideas and comments of your peers

In order to participate in class and to fulfill your obligation to others during group and pair activities, attendance is mandatory and roll will be taken every day. This grade will reflect both the quantity and quality of your participation. A detailed description of each letter grade for participation follows.

### **B. Oral Activities**

As this is a hybrid course, the student must actively engage in the tasks assigned via Blackboard. The student is expected to narrate lived experiences, record them and post them on Blackboard to give the instructor and a fellow-student the opportunity to listen to the narration. The peer will summarize the story in class in the first session of the week.

### **C. Oral Presentations**

The student will prepare oral presentations of a peer's narrative (taping on smartphone). These presentations aim at making student comfortable in public speaking in the target language. For each oral presentation the student might use a written aid, but should not read his presentation. The student should also be prepared to answer questions.

### **D. Essays**

In this course the student will write two essays, which will increase in words throughout the term. The essays are initially returned by the instructor with suggestions for improvement and must be re-submitted by the date indicated. The essay is worth 50 points and they can hand in a rough draft. The student needs to submit the essays typed and by the date the instructor has assigned.

### **E. Media Journal**

The student will write weekly Mediathek journal entries. The students will need to watch a show, to summarize the plot and write a reflection of what they watched. The objective of this task is to engage the student in listening, in critical thinking and to make him or her more comfortable with writing in the target language. Please go to [www.ard.de/mediathek](http://www.ard.de/mediathek).

<b>WOCHE</b>	<b>BUCH</b>	<b>TOPICS (pages)</b>
Woche 1 Tag 1	<b>Einführung</b>	Syllabus lesen
Woche 1 Tag 2	<b>Einheit IX</b> <b>Thema: Salzburg</b>	A. <i>Der berühmteste Salzburger aller Zeiten: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart</i> SS. 261-263 B. Aufgaben im Internet SS. 265-267 C. Kulturnotiz: Kaffeehausfrühstück SS. 270-271 D. Wiederholung von Strukturen ( <i>Relativsätze</i> )
Woche 2 Tag 3	<b>Einheit IX</b>	A. Videoblog SS. 272-273 B. Wortschatz SS. 274-276 C. Redemittel SS. 277-281
Woche 2 Tag 4	<b>Einheit IX</b>	Textarbeit und Wiederholung <i>Sehnen nach den Alpen</i> SS. 282-290
Woche 3	<b>Einheit X</b>	A. <i>Ein weltberühmter Wiener: Sigmund Freud</i> SS. 293-295

Tag 5	<b>Thema: Wien</b>	B. Aufgaben im Internet SS. SS. 295-297 C. Wiederholung von Strukturen (Infinitivkonstruktion) D. Kulturnotiz: Opernball mit tausend Polizisten SS. 299-301
Woche 3 Tag 6	<b>Einheit X</b>	A. Videoblog SS. 302-303 B. Wortschatzübungen SS. 304-306
Woche 4 Tag 7	<b>Einheit X</b>	A. Redemittel zum Diskutieren SS. 306-307 B. Wiederholung von Strukturen (Adverbien)
Woche 4 Tag 8	<b>Einheit X</b>	Textarbeit und Wiederholung <i>Wittgensteins Nefte</i> SS. 309-319
Woche 5 Tag 9	<b>Einheit XI</b> <b>Thema: Zürich</b>	A. <i>Ein berühmter Zürcher: Max Frisch</i> SS. 324-326 B. Aufgaben im Internet SS. 327-328 C. Wiederholung von Strukturen (Attributive Adjektive)
Woche 5 Tag 10	<b>Einheit XI</b>	A. Kulturnotiz: Ja zur Armee-aber ohne mich SS. 333-335 B. Videoblog SS. 340-341 C. Wortschatz SS. 342-345
Woche 6 Tag 11	<b>Einheit XI</b>	A: Redemittel zum Diskutieren SS. 345-346 B. Wiederholung von Strukturen (Komperativ und Superlativ)
Woche 6 Tag 12	<b>Einheit XI</b>	Textarbeit und Wiederholung <i>Don Quijote der Völker: Friedrich Dürrenmatt und die Schweiz</i> SS. 352-359
Woche 7 Tag 13	<b>Einheit XII</b> <b>Thema: Die Deutschen im Ausland</b>	A. Die Reisen der Deutschen SS. 362-363 B. Die Deutschen sind die beliebtesten Touristen SS. 364-366 C. <i>Ein berühmter Deutscher im Ausland: Bertholt Brecht</i> SS. 366-368
Woche 7 Tag 14	<b>Einheit XII</b>	A. Aufgaben im Internet SS. 369 B. Wiederholung von Strukturen (Präpositionen) C. Wortschatz SS. 381-384
Woche 8 Tag 15	<b>Einheit XII</b>	A. Redemittel zum Diskutieren SS. 384-387 B. Wiederholung von Strukturen (Verben mit Präpositionen)
Woche 8 Tag 16		Textarbeit und Wiederholung <i>Aqua Alta</i> SS. 388-396
Woche 9 Tag 17		Lektüre
Woche 9 Tag 18		Lektüre
Woche 10 Tag 19		Lektüre
Woche 10 Tag 20		Lektüre

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

### **1) Drop and Withdraw policy:**

**Drexel University allows students to drop a course through the end of the first week of the term.** This means that you will not be allowed to drop a course, even if you are failing, after the first week of the term. **You will have the option to Withdraw before the sixth week of term.** The number of times you have already been absent, the status of your lab hours and, above all, the result of your midterm testing and other evaluations (chapter tests, quizzes, homework) are your best guide to decide whether or not you should withdraw from the course.

### **2) Attendance policy:**

Since learning a foreign language is a participatory endeavor, attendance is mandatory at all class meetings. Students are allowed to miss **no more than two classes** during the term. Students who exceed the maximum number of allowable absences will find that their final grade will be adversely affected.

### **3) Final exam:**

**Please note:** The scheduling of final exams is done by SRC on a University-wide basis. The final exam date **cannot** be changed and may not correlate to the class meeting time/days. **Final exam week runs Monday through Saturday. If you miss your final exam, your instructor is under no obligation to provide you an alternate time to make-up the exam.**

## **OTHER RESOURCES:**

### **Coaching and The Conversation Network:**

All Drexel German language students are eligible for one free hour of coaching per week. You may sign up for coaching through DCLI in Main 201 or on their website <http://dcli.physics.drexel.edu/>. Coaching is an excellent opportunity for ALL students, both those doing well and those in need of assistance, to improve their language skills.

Through the English Language Center, located on the first floor of the Language and Communication Center, German language students may sign up for a conversation partner. The Conversation Network is designed to give Drexel students an opportunity to meet and converse with a foreign student who has come to Drexel to learn English. This program is not designed to replace daily preparation for class, but rather can provide a forum for informal student interaction.

Students may sign up for the Conversation Network by stopping by the English Language Center, or sending an e-mail to: [Conversation.Network@drexel.edu](mailto:Conversation.Network@drexel.edu), or by phoning them at (215) 895-2022.

**Drexel University encourages all students to study and/or work abroad as part of their academic program.** Available options include:

### **1. Intensive Language Study Abroad:**

Various programs are available, during the academic year and in the summer. Prior completion of Level 103 is required for recommendation by the Modern Language Programs. Information is

available at the Modern Language Program office (210 LCC), in the IAS Office (MacAlister 2024), and in the Office of International Programs (Randell 230).

## **2. Co-op and Internships Abroad:**

Drexel Abroad programs in languages and the liberal arts are administered by the director of International Area Studies and include study-internship programs in Europe and intensive language programs in China, Japan and Russia. They require junior status, with a 3.0 average (3.5 for pre-juniors), completion of level 203 of the target language (except in London), and at least two upper-division courses in history, politics and sociology. Internships in Belgium are with the European Parliament, and in other countries with multinational corporations or with organizations and agencies in a variety of disciplines.

## **3. International Programs:**

The Office of International Programs offers a number of discipline-specific programs abroad (most of which do not require substantive language skills), including the opportunity for Drexel students in a variety of majors to study/co-op in London. More information is available by emailing the Study Abroad office at: [studyabroad@drexel.edu](mailto:studyabroad@drexel.edu), or by contacting Daniela Ascarelli, Study Abroad Director at (215) 895-1704.

## **Academic Policies**

Please review the following applicable policies and statements regarding classes at Drexel University.

- ⤴ [Office of the Provost: Policies on Academic Misconduct](#)
- ⤴ [Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards: Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- ⤴ [Office of Disability Services: Students with Disability Statement](#)
- ⤴ [Office of the Provost: Course Drop Policy](#)

## **Course Change Policy**

This syllabus is designed to provide students with ample understanding of course expectations, so that meeting these expectations is a clear and attainable goal. Changes may be implemented at any time, before or during the course, at the instructor's discretion. In the event of any changes to the syllabus, students will be provided with an updated copy via email.

## **Grade Scale**

This course uses the plus/minus system for determining grades. Details follow.

98-100%	=	A+
93-97%	=	A
90-92%	=	A-

87-89%	=	B+
83-86%	=	B
80-82%	=	B-
77-79%	=	C+
73-76%	=	C
70-72%	=	C-
67-69%	=	D+
63-66%	=	D
60-62%	=	D-
<60%	=	F

**Please note: The following is a “working schedule.” The schedule is subject to change depending on pace of the course, student interest, and other potential unforeseen events. You are responsible for keeping abreast of any changes.**