

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

2020-2021 Germ 303 A1: Advanced German I
(Fall Term: Remote Delivery)

Please note, this syllabus has been modified from the original for privacy reasons.
Students should log into their eClass account for the official version.

Instructor: Ute-Brigitte Blunck

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We meet on **Zoom Mondays** unless otherwise specified.
Monday Class link, **12 noon**:

Class time: MWF 12-12:50

Office Hours: Wed 12-1, F 1-2 *or by appointment*
Office Zoom link: check e-class

Bachelor of Arts / Major in Modern Languages and Cultural Studies:

<https://www.ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies/undergraduate-program-information/prospective-undergraduate-students>

Course Prerequisite: This course is open to students with German 212 or its equivalents. Students with an academic background extending beyond German 30 (Saturday school, summer school, or solid performance IB) and/or a strong native or immersion background that involves some work in learning writing skills and grammatical structures **must** schedule an interview with the instructor. Not open to students who have successfully completed Sprachdiplom I. Students considered **overqualified** will be **re-assigned** to an alternate class.

It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you have the appropriate prerequisites for the course.

Technology requirements (minimum):

It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you have the appropriate technology for the course. Check this link for more information: <https://www.ualberta.ca/covid-19/students/computing-recommendations.html>

Experiential Learning Component

this course has a significant experiential learning component (15% or more of the course grade)

Course-based Ethics Approval in place regarding all research projects that involve human testing, questionnaires, etc.?

Yes No, not needed

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

Course Description, Objectives and Expected Learning Outcomes:

German 303 is a 3rd year language course that focuses on improving skills to communicate in correct, academic-level German, with emphasis on all four skills plus cultural awareness. Instruction centers on developing oral and written vocabulary within the context of historical, literary and cultural issues in the German-speaking countries. Selected grammatical structures will be reviewed with the purpose of fine-tuning grammatical, stylistic and idiomatic usage of German. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to summarize texts, analyze short stories, prepare oral presentations, participate in debates, defend and justify their opinions and draft and revise their own writing.

Course Format: The objectives of this course will be learned from a combination of formal lectures, assigned readings, discussions, and audiovisual materials.

Texts:

There is no required textbook for this class. All readings, links, and materials will be made available on E-class. A good dictionary and access to grammar guidelines is recommended. More info in class.

Additional Course Fees

- Yes No

Important Dates: [See Academic Schedule in current Calendar](#)

First Day of Class: September 1, 2020

Add/Delete Date: September 15, 2020

50% Withdrawal Date: October 2, 2020

Fall Term Reading Week: November 9-13, 2020

Withdrawal Date: November 30, 2020

Last Day of Class: December 7, 2020

Components of Course Grade (see “Explanatory Notes”):

Participation/Attendance:	10%
Oral exams (<i>1 mid-term/1 end of term</i>)	15%
Writing Prompt Assignments (<i>ongoing throughout term</i>)	25%
Quizzes (<i>Sept 25, Oct 16, Dec 4</i>)	15%
Homework (ongoing throughout term)	20%
Video of discussion/dialog partners (<i>Nov 30</i>)	15%

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

Participation/Attendance

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in a foreign-language course. This is true whether we meet in a physical room or remotely, as is the case for this Fall term. For German 303, we will have a mixture of synchronous meetings (via ***Zoom video conferencing***, where you are encouraged to use your video camera and microphone) and ***asynchronous classes***, where you work on assignments independently. Students are expected to participate fully in all aspects of class work and assignments. That means coming to class prepared, and reading all texts carefully in advance, doing written or oral homework diligently, and participating in group-work, which is important in this class.

If you must miss a class, contact another student (or the instructor) to find out what you missed. It is your responsibility to make up work and learn the material for classes you miss. For more detail, please consult the section *Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components* below.

Oral Exams

You will sign up for and complete **2 Oral Conversation meetings** with a partner (and your instructor). These will take place via Zoom and consist of an exchange of ideas and opinions. The topics will be up to you—choose something you are interested in, that will make for interesting discussion, and be sure to carry the conversation with questions and opinions. These may not be read off a script, they must be a fluent, natural conversation. More information in class.

Writing Prompt Assignments are ongoing throughout the term. They are related to topics covered in the lectures and usually consist of approx. 200-250 words.

Quizzes are varied in length and format. Material covered includes grammar structures, vocabulary and topics covered in the unit and films.

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*.

Required Notes:

Policy about course outlines can be found in the [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#) of the University Calendar.

Student Responsibilities:

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](#) 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.

All students should consult [the Academic Integrity website](#). If you have any questions, ask your instructor.

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](#).

Language and Translation Courses:

Students involved in language courses and translation courses should be aware that the use of on-line translation to complete assignments constitutes a form of cheating as the student's own understanding and work is therefore not reflected. Also, students in language 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 Behaviour.

Learning and Working Environment:

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring all students, faculty and staff are able to work and study 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](#).

Sexual Violence Policy:

It is the policy of the University of Alberta that sexual violence committed by any member of the University community is prohibited and constitutes misconduct. Resources and more information can be found at <https://www.ualberta.ca/campus-life/sexual-violence>

Territorial Statement:

“The University of Alberta acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, and respects the histories, languages, and cultures of the First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.” (*from the beginning of the Calendar*).

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.

Deferral of term work is a privilege and not a right; there is no guarantee that a deferral will be granted. Misrepresentation of facts to gain a deferral is a serious breach of the Code of Student Behaviour.

In this course, GERMAN 303, you are expected to attend the weekly Zoom meetings, be prepared to interact in German in a variety of situations, keep up with the material, complete and hand in assigned homework, and take quizzes. ***There are no make-up assignments.*** When a student misses any term work (e.g., meetings, 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*.

Disclaimer:

Any typographical errors in this syllabus are subject to change and will be announced in class and posted on eClass. The date of the final examination is set by the Registrar and takes precedence over the final examination date reported in this syllabus.

Student Resources:

The best all-purpose website for student services is: <https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students>.

Accessibility Resources: (1 – 80 SUB)

The University of Alberta is committed to creating work and learning communities that inspire and enable all people to reach their full potential. Accessibility Resources promotes an accessible, inclusive, and universally designed environment. For general information to register for services visit the [Accessibility Resources](#) webpage.

The Academic Success Centre: (1-80 SUB)

[The Academic Success Centre](#) offers a variety of workshops on effective study and exam strategies. There are in-person and online sessions available for a modest fee.

The Centre for Writers: (1-42 Assiniboia Hall)

The [Centre for Writers](#) offers free one-on-one writing support to students, faculty, and staff. Students can request consultation for a writing project at any stage of development. Instructors can request class visits and presentations.

Health and Wellness Support: There are many health and community services available to current students. For more information visit the [Health and Wellness Support](#) webpage.

Office of the Student Ombuds:

The [Office of the Student Ombuds](#) offers confidential interviews, advice and support to students facing academic, discipline, interpersonal and financial difficulties.

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

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