German 3070
Advanced Composition and Oral Presentation
Spring 2015

Instructor: Dr. Christoph Weber
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Office phone: (940) 565-2569
Main office phone: (940) 565-2404

Class meets: 2:00pm-3:20 pm Mo/We (LB 114)
Office hours: 1:00-1:50 pm Mo/We (or by appointment)

Course description:


Required Texts:


Audio corresponding to the Student Activities Manual “Hörübungen” sections can be found in the media library section of the GERM 3070 Blackboard page.

Learning objectives:

This semester we will continue to work toward two complementary sets of objectives: improving communicative abilities in German while learning about many cultural and historical facets that contribute to modern German-speaking Europe. By the end of the
semester, provided you complete all assignments and attend class regularly, you should be able to do the following:

- Read, categorize, and understand with increasing ease text written in authentic German;
- watch and understand German-language films with increasing ease of comprehension;
- become increasingly confident in your ability to discuss texts and films, express opinions and articulate thoughts in spoken German;
- write organized compositions in various genres in German;
- speak clearly and creatively, formally and informally on topics of political, literary, cultural, and historical significance.
- exhibit consistent control of basic and increasingly complex structures of German grammar;
- demonstrate general knowledge of a number of important cultural topics related to the history and culture of German-speaking Europe.

**Course requirements:**

1. **Blackboard:** All course assignments and materials will always be posted on the GERM 3070 Blackboard site – if you are unable to attend a particular class, it is your responsibility to go to Blackboard to get that day’s assignment in the Hausaufgaben folder.

2. **Attendance and class participation:** Regular attendance is required. Repeated unexcused absences and tardiness will affect your grade significantly. Three tardies is the equivalent of one absence. Leaving class before the end of the period will be considered an absence. You are allowed a maximum of three (3) absences, whether excused or unexcused, without penalty. **After three absences, your final grade will suffer in percent (1 percent will be deducted from the final grade for each unexcused absence). After the twelfth absence, you will receive a failing grade for the entire class.** Excused absences are only: A.) illness with doctor's documentation, B.) official university sponsored activities, and C.) the observance of certain religious holidays (see University Class Attendance Regulations in the UNT Policy Manual http://policy.unt.edu/policy/15-2-5 for details).

   If your absence is excused, you may take an exam at a later time agreed to by the instructor. As to homework, if your absence is excused because of A or B, your NEXT homework grade will count double. If your absence is excused because of C, you can turn in any assignment at a later time agreed to by the instructor. If your absence is not excused, you will receive a grade of zero (0) for any homework assignment due that day and/or for any exam given that day.
Class participation is an essential foundation for learning a language. Consistent and constructive participation is expected from all students. Cellular phones must be switched off and kept out of sight. If it is visible to the instructor, you will receive a zero grade for participation on that day. The use of laptop computers in class is not allowed.

3. Homework: Daily homework assignments will comprise readings and/or audio listening from main text, exercises from the main text and/or Student Activities Manual. I expect that you come to class prepared and having completed the homework assigned for that day. This is a condition of your being able to participate actively and productively in class. I do no accept late homework unless this has been cleared with me in advance. If you don’t have it in class – for whatever reason – you will not receive credit for it. Additionally, if you haven’t completed the reading for a particular class, you can’t participate, which will negatively impact your homework and participation grade.

4. Unit tests: There will be a test for each Anders gedacht unit we cover in class – the best way to prepare for these is to attend class regularly, pay attention and participate actively in class, and to complete and review homework assignments in a timely manner. Make-up tests are allowed only with prior consent of the instructor.

5. Essays: Over the course of the semester, you will write 3 two-page essays on assigned topics with clear parameters that you will receive as each assignment approaches. The instructor will return the turned in draft with comments and corrections, after which you will rewrite the essay incorporating the corrections.

6. Presentation: One group presentation will be given once during the semester. The instructor will give you information about the topics and format (group of 3-4 students, 12 minutes, in German) at the beginning of the semester.

7. Conversation Slips: (Gesprächszettel) will be completed by each student; that is, each student will have four out-of-class conversations in German during the semester, either at the Gesprächsrunde or with one of the other instructors during their office hours. At least two of these conversations need to be done by the middle of the semester.

8. Final Exam Project: The final project will consist of a 10-minute group discussion with the instructor on an assigned topic covered during class. The exam will take place during the final exam time slot assigned to the course. More information on the final project will be provided by the instructor at the end of the semester.
### Course Evaluation:

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and Active participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daily Homework</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Workbook assignments</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit Tests (5)</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essays (3)</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation (1)</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conversations (4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Project</td>
<td>10%</td>
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### Grade Distribution:

- **A** = 100 – 90%
- **B** = 89.9 – 80%
- **C** = 79.9 – 70%
- **D** = 69.9 – 60%
- **F** = 59.9 – 0%

### General course and university guidelines:

**Academic Integrity:** All work submitted in your name must be your own work. Submitting someone else’s (or a translator’s website’s) translation of your work is plagiarism. I encourage you to consult with the German tutor available in the Language Building or with me; however do not request proofreading help from your friends or relatives, as they will likely supply you with constructions that you cannot yet produce on your own and without explanations as to the how’s/why’s of these structures, thus preventing you form learning at your own pace.

**Student Behavior in the Classroom:** Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students’ opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at www.unt.edu/csrr

**Specifically for TAMS students:** If you are absent for any reason, you are required to file an absence report with Dr. Donna Fleming of the TAMS Academic Office. You must complete the “Absence Form” on the TAMS Academic Website. In addition, as your professor, I will send periodic attendance reports to the TAMS Academic Office. TAMS students are not allowed the use of computers in the classroom.
**Succeed at UNT Resource:** UNT has launched a campaign—*Succeed at UNT*—to provide students with consistent student success messages, and user-friendly, accessible links to student support services. The following six focused messages:

1) Show up.
2) Find support.
3) Take control.
4) Be prepared.
5) Get involved.
6) Be persistent.

To better familiarize yourself with this service, go to [https://success.unt.edu/](https://success.unt.edu/).

**Religious Holidays:** In accordance with Section 51.911 of the Texas Education Code, UNT will allow a student who is absent from class for observance of a religious holy day to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time. Students are required to file a written request with each professor within the first 15 days of the semester to qualify for an excused absence. A copy of the state rules and procedures regarding holy days and the form for notification of absence from each class under this provision are available from the Registrar’s Office.

**Emergency Notification & Procedures:** UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify you with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). The system sends voice messages (and text messages upon permission) to the phones of all active faculty staff, and students. Please make certain to update your phone numbers at [www.my.unt.edu](http://www.my.unt.edu). Some helpful emergency preparedness actions include: 1) ensuring you in know the evacuation routes and severe weather shelter areas, determining how you will contact family and friends if phones are temporarily unavailable, and identifying where you will go if you need to evacuate the Denton area suddenly. In the event of a university closure, please refer to Blackboard for contingency plans for covering course materials.

**Disability Accommodation Statement:** The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Office of Disability
Accommodation website at http://www.unt.edu/oda. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

**Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness:** The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider the SETE to be an important part of your participation in this class. Besides SETE, there is also a student evaluation carried out by the department.

If you have questions or concerns at any point during the semester, feel free to contact your instructor. Plan on attending office hours at least once during the semester, even if it is just for an informal visit.

Furthermore, I encourage you to use *Gesprächsrunde* and any other activities or films for additional speaking practice.

For more information about the German program at UNT, please click on the following link: http://foreignlanguages.unt.edu/undergraduate-programs/german
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<th>Woche</th>
<th>Montag, 09.02</th>
<th>Mittwoch, 11.02</th>
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<td>Montag, 30.03</td>
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<td>Woche 10</td>
<td>Montag, 06.04</td>
<td>Mittwoch, 08.04</td>
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</tbody>
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**Themen:**
- Willkommen & sich kennen lernen
- Einstieg: Das Reisen
- Einheit 3: Multikulturelles Leben
- Gruppenpräsentation
- Einheit 4: Die Comedian Harmonists
- Gruppenpräsentation
- Einheit 9: Kunst und Künstler
- Gruppenpräsentation

**Termine:**
- Prüfung - Einstieg
- 1. Schreibprojekt fällig
- Gruppenpräsentation
- Prüfung – Einheit 3
- Gruppenpräsentation
- 2. Schreibprojekt fällig
- Prüfung - Einheit 4
- Gruppenpräsentation
- Gruppenpräsentation

**Notizen:**
- Film: Die Comedian Harmonists
- Film: Die Comedian Harmonists
- Gesprächszettel abgeben!
| Woche 13 | Montag, 13.04 | Mittwoch, 15.04 | Prüfung- Einheit 7
Einheit 10: Das Leben im anderen Deutschland |
| Woche 14 | Montag, 20.04 | Mittwoch, 22.04 | Gruppenpräsentation |
| Woche 15 | Montag, 27.04 | Mittwoch, 29.04 | 3. Schreibprojekt fällig |
| Woche 16 | Montag, 04.04 | Mittwoch, 06.05 | Prüfung- Einheit 8
Gruppenpräsentation
Film: Das Leben der Andern (Teil 1)
Gesprächszettel abgeben! |
| Woche 17 | Schlussexamen | | Film: Das Leben der Andern (Teil 2)
Film: Das Leben der Andern (Teil 3) |