# University of North Texas

**Department of World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures**

**GERM 3070.001**

**Advanced German II (Written Communication)**

**Spring 2025**

Instructor: Dr. Cindy Renker

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Office hours: MWF 2 pm and T by appointment

Office: LANG 401-D

**CLASS Requirement for Communication and Digital Skills:**

This course fulfills the CLASS requirement for Communication and Digital Skills. At the end of this course, students should be able to demonstrate effective communication using a digital technological platform and do at least two of the following: 1. Demonstrate the ability to communicate a central idea effectively using appropriate organization/structure. 2. Demonstrate the ability to develop content at an advanced level using a combination of effective supporting materials. 3. Demonstrate the ability to engage in verbal and nonverbal communication behaviors that are appropriate for the audience and adhere to the conventions of the medium selected (written, oral, or visual).

**Course Description:**

**Herzlich willkommen in Deutsch 3070 mit dem Thema *Was ist deutsch*?** Hier werden Sie nicht nur Gelegenheit haben, dieser Frage nachzugehen, sondern auch Ihre Deutsch-Kompetenzen beim Sprechen und Schreiben weiter zu verbessern und Ihr Vokabular auf einem höheren Sprachniveau zu erweitern. Besonderer Wert wird auf die Verbesserung der kommunikativen Fähigkeiten gelegt. Wir werden gemeinsam die Kultur, Politik, Landeskunde und Geschichte der deutschsprachigen Länder Europas erforschen. Die Diskussionen im Unterricht basieren auf Texten und Filmen und ermöglichen Ihnen den Austausch von Informationen, Ideen und Meinung auf einem höheren Sprachniveau.

**Required Texts:**

* Motyl-Mudretzkyj / Späinghaus. *Anders gedacht: Text and Context in the German-Speaking World, 3rd Edition*
* Instructor generated handouts uploaded to Canvas

**Minimum Technology Requirements:**

**Computer Skills & Digital Literacy:** Learners must have the following skills to succeed in the course:

* Using Canvas
* Using email with attachments
* Using presentation programs

**Technical Assistance:** Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a Student Help Desk that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

**UIT Help Desk**: [UIT Student Help Desk site](http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm) (http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm)

**Email**: [helpdesk@unt.edu](mailto:helpdesk@unt.edu)

**Phone**: 940-565-2324

**In Person**: Sage Hall, Room 130

**Walk-In Availability**: 8:00 am-9:00 pm

**Telephone Availability:**

* Sunday: noon-midnight
* Monday-Thursday: 8:00 am-midnight
* Friday: 8:00 am-8:00 pm
* Saturday: 9:00 am-5:00 pm
* Laptop Checkout: 8:00 am-7:00 pm

For additional support, visit [Canvas Technical Help](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328) (<https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328>)

**Learning Objectives:**

This semester we will continue to work toward two complementary sets of objectives: improving writing 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. Canvas:** All course assignments and materials will always be posted on the GERM 3070 Canvas site, so please check it daily.

**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 the eight 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, B, or C, you can turn in any assignment at a later time agreed to by the instructor.

**Class participation** is an essential foundation for learning a language. Consistent and constructive participation is expected from all students.

**3. Homework:** You will have homework assignments due by the beginning of class on an almost daily basis. **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 don’t accept late homework unless this has been cleared with me in advance. 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 quizzes:** There will be a quiz for each of the *Anders gedacht* units 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 quizzes are allowed only with prior consent of the instructor and with excused absences.**

**5. Essays:** Over the course of the semester, you will write **3 Schreibprojekte** 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 suggested corrections.

**6. Presentation:** You will give one group presentation at the end of the semester. The instructor will give you information about the topics and format (group of 3 students, 12 minutes, in German) at a later point in the semester.

**7. Final Exam:** The final exam will consist of written sections. The exam will take place during the final exam time slot assigned to the course. More information on the final exam will be provided by the instructor toward the end of the semester.

**Course Evaluation:**

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| Attendance and *Active* participation 10%  Daily Homework 20%  Quizzes (5) 15%  Essays (3) 30%  Presentation (1) 10%  Final Exam 15% | **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 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.

**The use of machine translators (aka computer translation) is strictly prohibited. Any assignment that is determined to have been translated from English by a computer will receive an F.**

**The "unauthorized" use of any person or technology that assists in a student's assignment, project, or paper is considered cheating under the UNT Student Academic Integrity Policy (UNT Policy 6.003). Unless a professor or instructor gives explicit "authorization," AI cannot be used to complete assignments, projects, or papers. Doing so will result in a "cheating" violation.**

**ACCEPTABLE STUDENT BEHAVIOR:** 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 Dean of Students 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 <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/07-012>

**CLASS RECORDINGS & STUDENT LIKENESSES:** Synchronous (live) sessions in this course will be recorded for students enrolled in this class section to refer to throughout the semester. Class recordings are the intellectual property of the university or instructor and are reserved for use only by students in this class and only for educational purposes. Students may not post or otherwise share the recordings outside the class, or outside the Canvas Learning Management System, in any form. Failing to follow this restriction is a violation of the UNT Code of Student Conduct and could lead to disciplinary action.

**SEXUAL DISCRIMINATION, HARRASSMENT, & ASSAULT:** UNT is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. If you (or someone you know) has experienced or experiences any of these acts of aggression, please know that you are not alone. The federal Title IX law makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses. UNT has staff members trained to support you in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, helping with legal protective orders, and more.

UNT’s Dean of Students’ website offers a range of on-campus and off-campus resources to help support survivors, depending on their unique needs: <http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources>.

The UNT Survivor Advocates can be reached by emailing SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or calling 940-565-2648. The UNT Survivor Advocates connect students who have been impacted by violence to resources (counseling, health, safety, academics, legal, etc.), and act as their advocate. They can assist a student by filing protective orders, completing crime victim’s compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a room change (if needed), and connecting students to the many other resources that are available, both on and off campus. They are here to help! For more information see <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/sexual-misconduct/reporting-sexual-misconduct>

**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.

**EMRGENCY NOTIFICATIONS AND 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. Some helpful emergency preparedness actions include: 1) ensuring you 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.

**AMERICAN WITH DISABILITY ACT COMPLIANCE:** The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of reasonable 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 reasonable 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 reasonable 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, refer to the Office of Disability Access website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.

**STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES:**

**Mental Health:** UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

* [Student Health and Wellness Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center)
* [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
* [UNT Care Team](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care)
* [UNT Psychiatric Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry)
* [Individual Counseling](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling)

**STUDENT PERCEPTION OF TEACHING:** The Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT) 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 SPOT to be an important part of your participation in this class.

If you have questions or concerns at any point during the semester, please 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 join our local chapter of the German honor society Delta Phi Alpha and attend the virtual *Gesprächsrunde*. Additional German activities will be sponsored by UNT’s German club.

**Semesterplan Frühling 2025**

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| **Wochen** | **Module** | **Hausaufgaben/Assessments** |
| Woche 1  13.1. bis 17.1. | Einheit 2 | See Canvas |
| Woche 2  20.1. bis 24.1.  No class Monday!  (MLK DAY) | Einheit 2 | See Canvas  Schreibprojekt #1 |
| Woche 3  27.1. bis 31.1. | Einheit 4 | See Canvas  Quiz #1 |
| Woche 4  3.2. bis 7.2. | Einheit 4 | See Canvas |
| Woche 5  10.2. bis 14.2. | Einheit 4 | See Canvas  Schreibprojekt #2 |
| Woche 6  17.2. bis 21.2. | Einheit 6 | See Canvas  Quiz #2 |
| Woche 7  24.2. bis 28.2. | Einheit 6 | See Canvas |
| Woche 8  3.3. bis 7.3. | Einheit 6 | See Canvas |
| Spring Break  10.3. bis 14.3 |  |  |
| Woche 9  17.3. bis 21.3. | Einheit 8 | See Canvas  Quiz #3 |
| Woche 10  24.3. bis 28.3. | Einheit 8 | See Canvas |
| Woche 11  31.3. bis 4.4. | Einheit 8 | See Canvas |
| Woche 12  7.4. bis 11.4. | Einheit 9 | See Canvas  Quiz #4 |
| Woche 13  14.4. bis 18.4. | Einheit 9 | See Canvas |
| Woche 14  21.4. bis 25.4. | Einheit 9 | See Canvas  Schreibprojekt #3 |
| Woche 15  28.4. bis 2.5.  No class on Friday!  (Reading Day) | Group Presentations/  Course-wrap up | Quiz #5  Presentations |
| Finals Week  3.5. bis 8.5. | Final Exam | See Canvas |