**University of North Texas**

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

**GERM 3060**

**Advanced German I**

**Oral Communication**

**Fall 2024**

Instructor: Dr. Cindy Renker

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T by appointment

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Office hours: MW 9:30 – 10:30 am

T 11 am – 12 pm

**Course Materials**

Required Text: Motyl-Mudretzkyj / Späinghaus. Anders gedacht: Text and Context in the German-Speaking World. 3rd edition. ISBN: 978-1-133-60730-4

This textbook is also required for GERM 3070. The book is available for rent and purchase from the UNT bookstore. It is available in both print and digital formats. I encourage you to choose the textbook option that fits best with your learning style and your budget. The textbook will provide a basic framework for the work in our class--the basic vocabulary and grammar for the topics to be discussed—but assignments also will draw from a variety of materials readily available on the internet. All supplemental course materials will be posted to Canvas as well.

Content Note: Some of the material that we will cover in class may be upsetting or disturbing, as it can deal with issues of racism, sexism, and violence, among others. Learning takes place when we grapple with challenging ideas, concepts and perspectives, and this process not infrequently involves exposure to distressing facts and events. I am mindful of the varied responses that this subject matter can evoke in students. Please feel free to talk to me privately if you believe you will have problems engaging with texts or films that represent any of these issues, and I can help you navigate them. If you ever feel the need to step outside during one of these discussions, you may always do so without academic penalty. (You will, however, be responsible for any material you miss. If you do leave the room for a significant time, please plan to get notes from another student or see me individually.)

ADDITIONAL REQUIRED MATERIALS: A laptop, iPad, tablet or other Wi-Fi enabled device should be brought to each class session.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES**

This course focuses on strengthening oral communication and increasing spoken language proficiency by learning about the history and culture of German-speaking Europe. By the end of the semester, provided you complete all assignments and participate actively in class, you should be able to do the following:

• read, categorize, and understand with increasing ease texts written in authentic German;

• watch and understand German-language media with increasing ease of comprehension;

• become increasingly confident in your ability to discuss texts and films, express opinions and articulate thoughts in spoken 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.

**CLASS requirement for Diversity and Global Issues:** This course fulfills the CLASS requirement for Diversity and Global Issues. At the end of this course, students should be able to do at least three of the following:

1. Identify the origins, influences, and limits of one’s own cultural heritage.

2. Demonstrate the ability to learn from and empathize with perspectives and experiences different from one’s own.

3. Show an understanding of the interrelationships of the self, local society, and global environments.

4. Describe the impacts of complex, worldwide systems.

5. Explain the reasoning for one’s ethical responsibilities within worldwide systems.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS COURSE:**

**1. (READING) MATERIAL AND HOMEWORK** Homework will be assigned almost daily, will be due the next class and will comprise readings, viewing films and video clips, vocabulary exercises, exercises from the main text and worksheets. Assignments relate to what we do in class. All assignments will be communicated at the end of class. No late work!

**2. QUIZZES** There will be one quiz for each unit (Einheit). See schedule below. Quizzes will cover content from the textbook and class, vocabulary, grammar, and class discussions. The best way to prepare for these quizzes is to attend class regularly, pay attention and participate actively in class, and complete and review homework assignments in a timely manner. Quizzes will be administered in class and are listed in the tentative schedule below.

**3. PRESENTATIONS** Students will give two oral presentations (3-4 minutes each) in German. They will be able to choose from a selection of topics. For due dates, see schedule below.

**4. Oral Midterm** At the midpoint of the semester, students will have an in-class oral exam in small groups. We still discuss the style and format of the oral midterm in class. See schedule below for date.

**5. FINAL Oral Exam** Small groups of students will prepare and discuss a topic. The style and format of the midterm will be similar to the oral midterm. The oral final exam will be held during our university scheduled final exam time.

**6. ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION** Students are expected to participate actively in class discussions and to prepare the readings and written assignments prior to each class. Class participation, effort, attentiveness, preparation, responsibility, and, in general, active and constructive involvement in all aspects of the course will be assessed. Students are responsible for all material covered in class, and the materials covered in class may also be included on quizzes. When you are absent, it is YOUR responsibility to obtain the day’s assignment (by consulting the syllabus, a classmate, and/or Canvas).

Attendance: Students are expected to attend class meetings regularly. If you do not attend, you cannot participate actively in the class discussions and conversations, which will affect your overall participation grade. It is important that you communicate with the professor prior to being absent, so you and the professor can discuss and mitigate the impact of the absence on your attainment of course learning goals. 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 two unexcused absences without penalty. After two absences, your attendance grade will suffer. 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.

**7. GRADING POLICY**:

Attendance/Participation 25%

Homework assignments 20%

Quizzes 10%

Oral midterm 10%

Presentations 20%

Oral Final 15%

**Grade Distribution**

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

**UNT CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT:**

“Policy Statement. The University of North Texas is deeply committed to advancing educational excellence and preparing students to become thoughtful, engaged citizens of a diverse, global community. The University has established the Code of Student Conduct to promote the well- being, honor and dignity of all who live, learn, and work in our educational community.

Application of Policy. The Code of Student Conduct (“the Code”) applies to all students and to conduct that occurs on–campus, at University activities and off-campus when the conduct could adversely affect the University community, the pursuit of the University’s educational mission, or could create a hostile environment for a student on campus. The Dean of Students (DOS) will decide whether the Code will apply to student off-campus conduct on a case-by-case basis.

Students are responsible for their conduct from the time of application for admission to the University through the award of a degree. The Code continues to apply even if a student withdraws from the University during the conduct process or is not otherwise enrolled. Applicants also are responsible for their conduct prior to admission or re-enrollment. Sanctions for violation of the UNT Code of Student Conduct include, but are not limited to a warning, suspension, and expulsion from the university.”

**SEXUAL ASSAULT AND DISCRIMINATION POLICIES:**

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](mailto: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>

**POLICY ON CHEATING AND PLAGERISM:**

Cheating and plagiarism are serious matters. The usual penalties for these offenses include failure for the assignment, failure in the course, and a written report to the Dean of Students.

**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 <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access>. 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.

**TENTATIVE OUTLINE GUIDEGERMAN 3060**

**Fall 2024**

*PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO RIGID ADHERENCE TO THIS SCHEDULE, SHOULD THE CLASS NEED MORE TIME FOR SOME LESSONS AND LESS TIME FOR OTHER LESSONS.*

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| **Wochen** | **Einheiten** | **Assessments** |
| Woche 1  19.8. bis 23.8. | Einheit 1: Das Fernweh, das Wandern und der Mythos Wald |  |
| Woche 2  26.8. bis 30.8. | Einheit 1: Das Fernweh, das Wandern und der Mythos Wald |  |
| Woche 3  2.9. bis 6.9.  No Class Monday!  (Labor Day) | Einheit 1: Das Fernweh, das Wandern und der Mythos Wald |  |
| Woche 4  9.9. bis 13.9. | Einheit 1: Das Fernweh, das Wandern und der Mythos Wald | Presentations (Friday) |
| Woche 5  16.9. bis 20.9. | Einheit 3: Multikulturelles  Leben | Quiz: Einheit 1 (Monday) |
| Woche 6  23.9. bis 27.9. | Einheit 3: Multikulturelles  Leben |  |
| Woche 7  30.9. bis 4.10. | Einheit 3: Multikulturelles  Leben | Oral Midterm (Friday) |
| Woche 8  7.10. bis 11.10. | Einheit 7: Bewegungen und  Gegenbewegungen | Quiz: Einheit 3 (Monday) |
| Woche 9  14.10. bis 18.10. | Einheit 7: Bewegungen und  Gegenbewegungen |  |
| Woche 10  21.10. bis 25.10. | Einheit 7: Bewegungen und  Gegenbewegungen | Presentations (Friday) |
| Woche 11  28.10. bis 1.11. | Einheit 10: Das Leben im  anderen Deutschland | Quiz: Einheit 7 (Monday) |
| Woche 12  4.11. bis 8.11. | Einheit 10: Das Leben im  anderen Deutschland |  |
| Woche 13  11.11. bis 15.11. | Einheit 10: Das Leben im  anderen Deutschland |  |
| Woche 14  18.11. bis 22.11. |  |  |
| Woche 15  25.11. bis 29.11.  No class all week! (Thanksgiving Break) | Einheit 10: Das Leben im  anderen Deutschland |  |
| Woche 15  2.12. bis 6.12.  No class on Friday!  (Reading Day) | Einheit 10: Das Leben im  anderen Deutschland | Quiz: Einheit 10 (Monday) |
| Finals Week  7.12. bis 13.12. |  | Oral Final Exam  (See university finals schedule) |