General Information:

Instructor: Dorian Roehrs
Email: roehrs@unt.edu
Main office: (940) 565-2404
Office hours: TR 11:30 – 12:20 or by appointment (LANG 401-J)
Class meets: TR 12:30 – 1:50 (LANG 217)

Important Dates:

Final project: Thursday, May 7, 10:30 – 12:30

Course Description and Objectives:

After a general introduction, we will be exploring the structural areas of German linguistics ([phonetics/phonology,] morphology, syntax, semantics) as well as topics with regard to historical and contemporary variation of the language. Besides developing analytical linguistic skills and a deeper understanding of language, our general goal is to improve proficiency in the language. We will build upon a wide range of language skills in GERM 4330:

Reading: Throughout the course, we will be reading our textbook and some other texts. For the class to be a success, it is important to take notes in German at home.

Speaking and listening: Spoken German also constitutes an integral component of the course. You are encouraged to participate actively in class discussions and group work. The notes taken at home will help you with this considerably.

Grammar: You are expected to have a good grasp of intermediate concepts of German grammar. During the course, we will revisit and elaborate on some of these grammar points with the intention to understand them better.

Writing: Another focus will be on writing in German - to express ideas and to argue a point. We will have regular homework assignments to be turned in as well as a summary and poster based on the final project.

Required Texts:

General Course Policies:

1. Attendance: 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 (2) absences without penalty. After two absences, your attendance grade will suffer in percent. After the eighth absence, you will receive a failing grade for the entire class. Under certain circumstances, special accommodations can be made at the instructor’s discretion.

2. Participation: Besides becoming more fluent in important topics in German grammar and linguistics, we will be working steadily on developing our language skills. Careful preparation for class and regular, active participation are the foundation of this course! Cell 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.

3. Homework: Unless otherwise specified by the instructor, all homework is to be turned in before class starts. These assignments will consist of taking notes, problem sets, and short essays. Since some of the reading will be in English, these assignments are to be prepared in German. They are meant to further activate your linguistic skills in German and help you in the preparation for the Midterm exam and the final project.

4. Midterm Exam on Structure: After half the semester, we will be taking an exam in German. It will consist of short questions and identifications based on the readings and discussions of the first part of the class. In preparation of this exam, you will be turning in homework regularly. N.B.: taking notes at home and during class will help you immensely!

5. Final Project on Variation: In the second part of the class, students will, in consultation with the instructor, choose a topic and elaborate on it. Focusing on issues related to German-based minority languages such as Texas German and Yiddish, students will give a presentation of the results of this work as a group effort and turn it in as an individually written-up one-page summary and a collectively created poster on May 7.

COLLECTIVE WORK. Students are allowed (in fact, encouraged) to work together on the homework assignments. However, every student will turn in their own write-up (and not a copy of somebody else’s). The final project requires group work (of max. three students).

All class communication will be sent to your official UNT email address.

Evaluation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendance and active participation</th>
<th>Homework (taking notes on readings)</th>
<th>Homework (problem sets, short essays)</th>
<th>Midterm Exam</th>
<th>Presentation</th>
<th>Final Project (summary 10%, poster 15%)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>10%</td>
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Grade Distribution:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Distribution:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A = 100 – 90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B = 89.9 – 80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C = 79.9 – 70%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D = 69.9 – 60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>F = 59.9 – 0%</td>
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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.

American with Disabilities 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.

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

Sexual Discrimination, Harassment, & 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
Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT):

The student evaluation of teaching effectiveness is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. A 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 SPOT to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Nützliche Internet-Adressen
www.dw-world.de (German news, radio, and TV online)
www.tagesschau.de (German news with TV clips)

Tentative Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Contents</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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| WEEK 1  
Jan. 13 – 17 | Introduction to the course; Twain: The Awful German Language; Introduction | |
| WEEK 2  
Jan. 20 MLK Day  
Jan. 21 – 24 | **Chapter 2:** Morphology  
Parts of words | hw |
| WEEK 3  
Jan. 27 – Jan. 31 | Different kinds of word formation: Affixation, Derivation, Compounding | hw |
| WEEK 4  
Feb. 3 – 7 | **Chapter 3:** Syntax  
Words, phrases, sentences, Word order | hw |
| WEEK 5  
Feb. 10 – 14 | Different positions of the verb  
Case | hw |
| WEEK 6  
Feb. 17 – 21 | **Chapter 4:** Semantics  
Idioms | hw |
| WEEK 7  
Feb. 24 – Feb. 28 | Registers  
Relations between words | Midterm Exam |
| WEEK 8  
March 2 – 6 | **Chapter 5:** History of the Language  
Indo-European, Germanic | hw |
| WEEK 9 | **Spring Break** | |
| WEEK 10  
March 16 – 20 | Early Varieties of German  
Later and Modern German | hw |
| WEEK 11  
March 23 – 27 | **Chapter 6:** Regional Variation  
Dialects | hw |
| WEEK 12  
Mar. 30 – April 3 | Pennsylvania German  
Texas German | hw - find topic for Final Project |
| WEEK 13  
April 6 – 10 | **Chapter 7:** Sociolinguistic Issues  
Stylistic levels | hw |
| WEEK 14  
April 13 – 17 | Language and Gender  
Colloquial German | hw |
| WEEK 15  
April 20 – 24 | Preparation of Final Project  
Preparation of Final Project | |
| WEEK 16  
April 27 – 30  
May 1 Reading Day | PowerPoint Presentation  
PowerPoint Presentation | Presentation |
| Finals | **May 7, 2018; 10:30-12:30** | Summary and poster of Final Project  
(German-speaking minorities) |