

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS
DEPARTMENT OF WORLD LANGUAGES, LITERATURES AND CULTURES

German Phonetics – GERM 3020
Fall Semester 2016

General Information:

Instructor: Dorian Roehrs
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 Tel# (main off.): (940) 565-2404

Office hours: **MW 9:00 – 9:50 or by appointment (LANG 401-J)**
 Class meets: **MWF 10:00 – 10:50 (LANG 214)**

Important Dates:

Final exam: **Saturday, December 10, 08:00 – 10:00**

Course Prerequisite:

The prerequisite for this course is the successful completion of German 2050 or its equivalent.

Course Description and Objectives:

This course is designed to improve basic and intermediate pronunciation skills and to acquire a deeper understanding of German phonetics including the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA). The topics expand on those covered in the previous semesters of German and complete the groundwork for upper level German classes. The discussions will be in German. Besides speaking and listening, we will also integrate some other linguistic skills. Acquiring a foreign language requires much practice and repetition. Students are urged to attend class regularly, to be on time, and to be prepared.

Required Texts:

Hall, Christopher. Modern German pronunciation. An introduction for speakers of English. (2nd ed.) Palgrave.

Audio files for Hall's textbook:

<http://www.manchesteruniversitypress.co.uk/cgi-bin/indexer?product=9780719066894>

General Course Policies:

- No academic dishonesty (plagiarism, machine translation, inappropriate help by tutors, etc.)
- No late homework accepted
- *Active* participation
- Attendance will be taken

1 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 attendance grade will suffer in percent. After the **twelfth (12th)** 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 for details). If your absence is excused, you may take an exam at a later time agreed to by the instructor. As to homework and quizzes, if your absence is excused because of A or B, your NEXT homework/quiz grade will count double. If your absence is excused because of C, you can turn in any assignment/take a quiz 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 quiz/exam given that day.

2 CLASS PARTICIPATION is an essential foundation for learning a language. Consistent and constructive participation is expected from all students. Attendance is critical in such a course, as progress suffers when assignments and daily contributions to class work falter. **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 ASSIGNMENTS will be assigned regularly. The homework may be a written and/or an oral preparation. Written assignments will be due at the beginning of class on the assigned due day. Your written homework must be neat and legible. Your answers should be written in complete sentences, unless the instructor specifies otherwise. Please use double space so that comments or corrections can be more easily inserted. Underline or highlight any key or featured words. Please do not use red pen or pencil. Homework will not be accepted after the beginning of the class for which it has been assigned and must be submitted in person by the student. **If it is specified by the instructor that the homework is to be turned in *after class*, take notes during class in a *different color*.**

4 Written QUIZZES will be given on a regular basis. It is therefore imperative that you keep up with your studies on a daily basis. The quizzes will cover the material currently being studied and will be announced. Note: There will be NO make-up quizzes.

5 Three oral Texts will be given, the last one being a longer test. They consist of oral group assignments. There will be NO make-up tests unless cleared with the instructor with written medical documentation (for other reasons, you MUST inform your instructor within the first two weeks of the semester).

6 Two written Exams will cover the material studied through the last class before test day. Tests will reflect everything covered in class or assigned as homework. Any additional material which your instructor may supply from sources outside your textbook, may be tested on quizzes or exams. All tests will be announced. Note that you may not leave the classroom during the test. There will be NO make-up exams unless cleared with the instructor with written medical documentation (for other reasons, you MUST inform your instructor within the first two weeks of the semester).

7 The FINAL EXAM will be comprehensive. Taking the Final Exam is mandatory to receive a passing grade in this course.

Evaluation:

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|---|--|-----|
| 1 | Attendance & <i>active</i> class participation | 10% |
| 2 | Daily homework..... | 15% |
| 3 | Quizzes..... | 15% |
| 4 | Oral tests (2x5, 1x10) | 20% |
| 5 | Exams (2) | 20% |
| 6 | Final exam | 20% |

Grade Distribution:

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

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

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:**DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT**

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 Accommodation (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 see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at [940.565.4323](tel:940.565.4323).

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.

Link for German Linguistics and Pronunciation

German Phonetic Resource Page: <http://www.lawrenceglatz.com/germ3150/phonetics.htm>

TENTATIVE OUTLINE GUIDE

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

| Woche | Inhalte | Aufgaben/Examen |
|---|--|--------------------------------|
| WEEK 1 Aug. 29 – Sept. 2 | Introduction to the course and phonetics | |
| WEEK 2 Sept. 5 Labor Day Sept. 6 – Sept. 9 | Production and description of sounds, consonants | |
| WEEK 3 Sept. 12 – 16 | Plosives | |
| WEEK 4 Sept. 19 – 23 | Fricatives | Oral Test I |
| WEEK 5 Sept. 26 – 30 | Nasals and liquids | |
| WEEK 6 Oct. 3 – 7 | Affricates and glottal stop | Written Exam I |
| WEEK 7 Oct. 10 – 14 | Vowels (unrounded front) | |
| WEEK 8 Oct. 17 – 21 | Vowels (back) | |
| WEEK 9 Oct. 24 – 28 | Vowels (rounded front) | Oral Test II |
| WEEK 10 Oct. 31 – Nov. 4 | Vowels (central), diphthongs | |
| WEEK 11 Nov. 7 – Nov. 11 | <i>Bühnenaussprache</i> | |
| WEEK 12 Nov. 14 – 18 | Consonants and vowels in colloquial speech | Written Exam II |
| WEEK 13 Nov. 21 – 23 Nov. 24 - 25 Thanksgiving | Stress | |
| WEEK 14 Nov. 28 – Dec. 2 | | Oral Test III Oral Test III |
| WEEK 15 (Pre-final week) Dec. 5 – 8 Dec. 9 Reading Day | Intonation(?), review for final | |