

GM101 GERMAN BEGINNER A1

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Fall Term 2022
Monday: 09:00 - 10:30
Wednesday: 09:00 - 10:30
Friday: 09:00 - 10:30

COURSE MATERIALS

Stefanie Dengler, Tanja Mayr-Sieber et al.: **Netzwerk neu A1.1. Kurs- und Arbeitsbuch**. Stuttgart: Klett Sprachen, 2019. ISBN 978-3-12-607154-3

Stefanie Dengler, Tanja Mayr-Sieber et al.: **Netzwerk neu A1.2. Kurs- und Arbeitsbuch**. Stuttgart: Klett Sprachen, 2019. ISBN 978-3-12-607155-0

Strongly Recommended:

English Grammar for Students of German. Eds. Cecile Zorach, Charlotte Melin. Olivia Hill Press, 2001. ISBN: 0-934034-31-1

Grammatik aktiv A1-B1. Friederike Jin, Ute Voss. Cornelsen, ISBN 978-3-06-023972-6

Bookstore near campus: **Buchhandlung Chaiselongue**, Dietzgenstr. 68, 13156 Berlin. Phone: 030 476 111 31, Email: info@chaiselongue-buch.de

I strongly encourage you to make use of the following resources:

- The **Bard Center for Foreign Languages and Culture** provides various language learning materials on the website at <http://flcl.bard.edu/resources/german/>
- Check out the “**Resources**” section at the **Bard College Berlin German Studies Program website**; it provides an overview of useful links and online resources on German language, literature and media at <https://berlin.bard.edu/academics/german-program/>

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GOALS

This course is designed to bring your communicative competence in German to the level of a basic user. As a basic user you will be able to understand and use very basic expressions to satisfy concrete needs, introduce yourself and ask others questions about personal details and interact simply.

To achieve these goals, you have to engage in as many communicative exchanges as possible. The course will give you ample opportunity to do so: in small groups or with a partner, in direct interaction with me, in listening to dialogues between other speakers on audiovisual media, in writing, and in understanding short texts.

- **Classroom interaction will be in German**, because input and use are the chief engines of foreign language acquisition.
- **Active and consistent classroom participation** is crucial to your success at acquiring the language. A language cannot be “crammed” in. So as to get the most out of this class, you need to constantly use and practice the language.
- **Outside the classroom**, you are expected—and will need to—spend **at least 12 hours** per week, which corresponds to **two hours each day**, doing your homework, and learning and practicing your grammar and vocabulary.
- Make sure to always bring a **hardcopy** of your written **homework** to class. Upon completing this course successfully, you will have reached the A1 language proficiency level, corresponding to the levels of the **Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)** that range from A1 for beginners to C2 for language skills at the highest level.

ATTENDANCE

Because Bard College Berlin has an intensive, student-centered and seminar-based educational model, **attendance at all sessions of courses is mandatory**.

- However, you may encounter circumstances that prevent you from attending classes for which you may be excused, meaning that the absences will not impact your grade. These circumstances include illness, religious observance, military obligation, attendance at a conference, a Bard Network event, a civic engagement initiative, a research trip or another compelling circumstance outside of your control (i.e. court appearance, visa appointment, death of a family member). Optional non-academic travel, hosting visiting family and friends, or work schedules are **not grounds** for excused absences. You will be allowed to **self-report your absences four times**, meaning that a notification informing your instructor about the reason for your absence before or within 24 hours of the class is sufficient. If you miss class more than four times, you will need to provide your instructor with appropriate documentation in order to be excused (i.e. a doctor’s note).
- All **unexcused absences** will lower your final grade by one step (i.e. if your final grade is a B, you will be downgraded to a B-). **Seven unexcused absences will result in** automatic failure

of the course.

- If you are facing the unusual situation of long-term, serious medical or personal emergencies (generally lasting more than two weeks), you can request a Leave of Absence, to be approved by the Deans, the Head of Student Life or the Director of Academic Services.
- In order to pass the course, you will have to **pass the final exam**. Final exams always take place during completion week and cannot be rescheduled. Please note the date of the final exam and schedule your travels accordingly.
- If you have any **general medical issues** or other concerns that could impact your compliance with these regulations, you need to inform your instructor during the first week of the semester. For information on disability accommodation, you should consult with the Head of Student Life. The process for applying for disability accommodation is explained in the Student Handbook with links to the forms here:
<http://www.berlin.bard.edu/for-students/student-handbook/policies-and-regulations/#c4206>

LEARNING AND TESTING

About every two weeks, you will take a **test of the “Kapitel” you have studied** (the exact test date will be announced by me at least two classes in advance).

The tests must be taken on the announced test days. Tests that are missed will not be rescheduled, and will receive a score of “0%”

In preparation for all tests and quizzes, you are expected to

- make frequent use of your textbook and listening exercises
- study the “Wortschatz” for each “Kapitel”
- go to the Schubert-Verlag textbook homepage for free online exercises at:
<https://www.schubert-verlag.de/aufgaben/>

GRADING

Your Grade will be based on class attendance, quality of participation, written homework assignments, and tests:

Class Participation & Homework	20%
Oral Proficiency	10%
Quizzes	20%
Chapter Tests	25%
Final Exam	25%

PRONOUNS

In German, persons as well as nouns are assigned a gender (often randomly): male, female, neuter. These gender assignments are part of the normative usage and of the authentic language material, cultural sources and literary texts used in our classes. We are asking everyone to be aware of implications resulting from these rigid grammatical rules and conventions, and to respect the wishes of their fellow students and instructors. Please inform your instructor if you wish to be addressed with a preferred pronoun. Unfortunately, German has presently only limited options for doing so. We will try to find solutions that everyone is comfortable with.

Please be punctual and considerate. Switch off your cell phones before each class (including the vibration setting). If you are texting, emailing, surfing the web – you are considered absent! Also please keep bathroom breaks to a minimum. Interruptions are bad for everybody’s concentration and impolite.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

- According to the Student Code of Conduct (located in the Student Handbook), Bard College Berlin adheres to a strict set of guidelines in regards to Academic Integrity.
- If a student is suspected of Plagiarism, Collusion, Resubmission of their own work or Cheating, protocol requires the instructor to inform Kerry Bystrom (Associate Dean) or Catherine Toal (Dean) with the specifics of the situation. They will communicate with the student about the alleged violation and follow up with a disciplinary process, which is run through the Academic Integrity Board.
- Specifics of the policy itself can be found in the student handbook. It is part of your responsibility as a student to familiarize yourself with this aspect of College life and Code of Conduct.
- Please be aware that using tools such as Google Translate may pose a violation of academic integrity even when carried out with the best intention, e.g. when its intended purpose was to correct or improve the linguistic quality of your writing rather than deceive.

SYLLABUS

This syllabus is subject to change. You are responsible throughout the semester for knowing what you have to do for each class.

Week 1: Aug 29 – Sept 2	Kapitel 1
Week 2: Sept 5 – Sept 9	Kapitel 1 & 2
Week 3: Sept 12 – Sept 16	Kapitel 2 & 3
Week 4: Sept 19 – Sept 23	Kapitel 3 & 4

Week 5: Sept 26 – Sept 30	Kapitel 4 & 5
Week 6: Oct 3 (Federal Holiday) – Oct 7	Kapitel 5 & 6
Week 7: Oct 10 – Oct 14	Kapitel 6 & 7
Week 8: Oct 17 – Oct 21	Kapitel 7 & 8
FALL BREAK (October 24 – 28)	
Week 9: Oct 31 – Nov 4	Kapitel 8 & 9
Week 10: Nov 7 – Nov 11	Kapitel 9 & 10
Week 11: Nov 14 – Nov 18	Kapitel 10 & 11
Week 12: Nov 21 – Nov 25	Kapitel 11 & 12
Week 13: Nov 28 – Dec 2	Wiederholung
Week 14: Dec 5 – Dec 9	Wiederholung
Week 15: Dec 12 – Dec 16	<i>Completion Week</i>
Tuesday, Dec 13	09:00 – 11:00 Final Written Exam (All groups) 13:00 – 16:00 Final Oral Exam