

# GERMAN 142

## ELEMENTARY GERMAN

**Instructor:** Dr. James Frankki  
**Office:** Smith-Kirkley 210  
**Office Hours:** MWF 11:30-12:45 and by appointment  
**Phone:** O : (936)-294-1406; C: (405)-742-7336

**Required Texts / Supplies:** *Deutsch Na Klar* (5th ed.) with ancillary materials. (A workbook is packaged with the textbook). Writing implements, notebook and a pocket dictionary for in class use.

### **Prerequisites.**

This course is a continuation of German 141. Students who have not receive a C or higher grade in GER 141 are not allowed to enroll in this course. Those who have not completed German 141 (or an equivalent course) should consult with me individually as soon as possible to determine if they have been placed in the proper class. Students who have completed two or more years of high school German should consider enrolling for a more advanced course. \*There is also a lab session required for this course, for which you must register separately.

### **Description of the Course.**

During the semester all aspects of the German language will be taught, to include: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Emphasis will be on practical aspects of language learning and there will be daily oral practice in the classroom. The course also includes discussions of cultural traditions practiced in the German-speaking countries of Europe. (Germany, Austria and Switzerland, et al.).

There are two delivery methods for this course: an on-line BLACKBOARD account for information outside class meetings and an in-class student-centered format. All students will be expected to log in to the blackboard website on a regular basis to obtain class assignments and other information pertinent to the class. Classes will be activity and participation oriented with a minimum of lecture time. Lectures and discussion will be conducted as much as possible in German. Since language is a social skill and activity, participation is expected in every class period. Mistakes are natural and will occur frequently in the beginning. Do not be concerned about saying everything perfectly the first time. Be flexible-- if you get "stuck" and can't remember a word, think of another way to communicate the same idea. Remember: you will be evaluated based on the **effort** you put into the classroom exercises and your attitude, not on whether you get the answers right the first time.

## **COURSE GOALS and OBJECTIVES**

1. To increase **AWARENESS** of and **APPRECIATION** for German language and culture.
2. To acquire and expand your **VOCABULARY** in German, focusing on vocabulary used in commonly encountered social situations in German speaking countries.
3. **GRAMMAR**. To learn the two-way prepositions, the past tense (present perfect and simple past), reflexives, subordinating conjunctions and the comparative and superlative forms of adjectives and adverbs.
4. To exhibit competent use of the **SURVIVAL LANGUAGE SKILLS** needed when visiting or living in a German-speaking country, e.g., give and take directions, arrange and execute transportation, accommodations, meals, shopping, freetime activities, etc.
5. To **LISTEN** to and comprehend standard German spoken at average speed by native speakers by concentrating on known vocabulary and making educated guesses at the rest.
2. To **SPEAK** without notes (or read aloud) standard German with a minimum of pronunciation errors and still be understood by a native speaker.
3. To **READ** and comprehend standard German by concentrating on known vocabulary and cognates. With the assistance of a dictionary, to be able to comprehend a high percentage of standard German.
4. To **WRITE** at a survival level in standard German with a minimum of grammatical errors and to still be understood by a native speaker.

## **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

Please refer to Academic Policy Statement 810213.

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. A student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The university and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of f resource materials.

## **CLASSROOM RULES OF CONDUCT**

Please refer to <https://www.shsu.edu/students/guide/dean/codeofconduct.html>

## **CELL PHONES & PAGERS**

Please refer to Section 5.2.22 of the Code of Conduct.

## **GENERAL STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

**YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL CLASS MATERIAL**, whether presented in the syllabus, textbook, class, lab sessions, or on the Blackboard website -whether you are in class or not. If you should miss a class period for any reason, please contact your classmates or myself to ensure that you are prepared for the next class period and refer to the class schedule posted on the Blackboard website for additional information.

YOU ARE PERSONALLY & SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR ACTIVITIES (ASKING QUESTIONS OR DOING HOMEWORK) IN ORDER TO MEET YOUR PERSONAL EXPECTATIONS AND DESIRE FOR SUCCESS/GRADE. Probable daily time needed for homework outside class will be a minimum of one to two hours per hour spent in class (3-6 hours per week).

### **GENERAL FACULTY RESPONSIBILITIES**

I INTEND TO BE AVAILABLE TO DISCUSS, ADVISE, ETC., DURING AND OUTSIDE OF CLASS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. Please note my office hours and feel free to drop in during this time with any questions you may have. I am also available at other times on an appointment basis, which may be set up in advance by e-mail or phone, or simply asking me at the end of class. When making an appointment it is recommended that you send me an E-mail with the time you would like to meet in my office.

I INTEND TO RETURN ASSIGNMENTS WITH COMMENTARY AND/OR GRADES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, usually within several days to a week.

### **INSTRUCTOR EVALUATIONS**

Students will be asked to complete a confidential course/instructor evaluation form towards the end of the semester.

### **VISITORS IN THE CLASSROOM**

Unannounced visitors to class must present a current official SHSU identification card to be permitted into the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom.

### **GRADES (Based on percentage)**

100-90=A, 89-80=B, 79-70=C, 69-60=D.

Your performance in this class will be based on the following criteria:

Participation / Attendance:	10%
Homework and Lab work	15%
Quizzes:	15%
Oral Exams / Oral work in class	20%
Chapter Tests (5)	40%

Your **participation/attendance** grade will be determined by your physical presence in each class, how well you are prepared for class, and the effort you put into classroom activities. Please notify me in advance (by E-mail, or call) if you are unable to attend class. More than one unexcused absence will result in a reduction of your participation / attendance grade by 10% (one full letter grade) per infraction. **Homework** will be graded on a system of +, ++, +++. You will receive a "plus" for turning in your assignment, two "pluses" for turning it in completed and on time, and three "pluses" for turning it in on time, completed and substantially correct. Unless otherwise instructed

you will be expected to complete all the workbook and lab exercises. **Quizzes** will generally be announced 1-2 days in advance, but not always. **Chapter exams** will be based on all material in the textbook, which was discussed in class and may include a short listening component or dictation. **Oral exams** will be conducted in person in my office. **\*There is no extra credit for this course.**

**SCHEDULE.** During the fall semester we will cover the introductory chapter (*Einführung*) through *Kapitel 5* according to the following schedule. This schedule is tentative and at times may vary by a day or two. Detailed and specific information pertaining to each class period will be posted on a regular basis on the blackboard web site for this class. Deviations from the posted schedule will be announced in class.

Week 1-3	<i>Kapitel 5</i>	(pp. 144-173)
Week 4-6	<i>Kapitel 6</i>	(pp. 174-205)
Week 7-9	<i>Kapitel 7</i>	(pp. 206-233)
Week 10-12	<i>Kapitel 8</i>	(pp. 234-259)
Week 13-15	<i>Kapitel 9</i>	(pp. 260-291)

### **RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS**

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. “Religious holy day” means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20, Tax Code.

### **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT**

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the University. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. The students should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If a student has a disability that may affect adversely his/her work in this class, then the student is encouraged to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with the instructor about how best to deal with the situation. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. **NOTE: No accommodation can be made until the student registers with the counseling Center**