

Communication is the Key to Education, Understanding and Peace. James Bryce
Henry M. Jackson High School Course Syllabus
2020-2021

Course: GERMAN I **Teacher:** Frau Jennifer Hesse
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TEXT and MATERIALS:

TBA, handouts and materials as appropriate and needed

We will be watching some videos and films. German 1 will have no rated R films, regardless of the lesson objective! More information on films is available at the end of this syllabus.

Many grammar and pronunciation lessons will be done through song in this class – we sing along with appropriate modern authentic music and discuss lyrics to develop vocabulary and sentence structure understanding.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Overarching Goals: Using the multiple intelligences and following the National Standards for Foreign Language Learning of COMMUNICATION, CULTURE, CONNECTIONS, COMPARISONS, COMMUNITIES; students will begin to use German to become an active participant in the global community. After actively participating in and successfully completing the first course of secondary school German, the student will attain a “novice proficiency” level. Receptive and productive communication (listening, reading, speaking and writing) reflect this proficiency.

There will be numerous opportunities to be more involved in German through German Club activities. Stay tuned for more information on these opportunities!

EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENTS OF GERMAN

It is expected that:

1. The student is active in, and responsible for her/his own learning
2. The student treats all with respect.
3. The student conducts themselves in a manner that is conducive to a safe, positive learning environment
4. The student comes to class prepared and ready to participate and learn.

HOMEWORK

Homework is designed to reinforce the material covered in the classroom activities. Learning a language is a cumulative process. The more time spent with the language, the more proficient one becomes. **Students can enhance language proficiency skills by viewing videos in German, listening to German music, visiting German websites, and looking at German publications.**

In addition to any homework assignments, the student **must also review previous vocabulary on a regular basis.** The minimum is **10 minutes a day outside the class using or exposing yourself to German.**

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WORK MAKE-UP/LATE WORK

Students are responsible for making up any work missed. An excused absence DOES NOT excuse you from doing the work; it does however give you the opportunity to make up work missed during that absence. Generally, you will have the same number of days to make up work as you missed. Missed quizzes must be made up upon return (listening activities – we will set an appointment at that time).

The student is expected to communicate with Frau Hesse about special circumstances BEFORE the due date.

Because this class is graded on standards, you will have until the term's end to show understanding of the standards we learn. However, it is expected that you make attempts towards those standards even if you don't feel ready - you're always able to revise and redo!

ATTENDANCE POLICY

The attendance policy is in accordance with Jackson HS policy.

Learning a language is a participatory endeavor. It is almost impossible to do well on one's own. Therefore, attendance is crucial to your success. Participation in class is an integral part of learning the language. In addition to participation, much of language learning is auditory. If you are not in class you cannot hear what is being said, and therefore will be unable to practice correct pronunciation.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY PHILOSOPHY

Honesty is a value that holds each person to tell the truth and to defend the truth. Honesty supports intellectual growth and creates a fair learning environment. Integrity is firm adherence to our values with or without the presence of others. In an environment of honesty and integrity, the work we turn in as our own is our own.

Teachers and administrators understand that pressure to get good grades can sometimes create the incentive to cheat. However, we firmly believe that cheating denies the value of education, damages the ethical character of the individual student, and undermines the integrity of our school community. The **Academic Integrity Code of Conduct** affirms that we value learning for its own sake, and that we therefore demand personal integrity and intellectual honesty in all academic work.

DEFINITION

Having academic integrity means valuing and demonstrating positive regard for:
Intellectual honesty

Personal truthfulness

Learning for its own sake

The creations and opinions of others (i.e., intellectual property)

Disciplinary action will be taken commensurate with any violations based on the level of assignment an infraction occurs on. Essays, presentations, and exams are considered major assignments, and daily practice activities will fall under minor categories.

GRADING CATEGORIES

Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Listening will be weighed equally. Practice work may be recorded for data value, but the majority of the actual grade earned in the course will consist of the projects or tests toward the end of units and supplemental assessments such as skits, dialogues, conversation, presentations, etc. This will be a standards-based grade that will show what the student has learned and what is left to be learned to meet the full expectation of the level. There will be no extra credit – simply show understanding of the skill!

Additionally, there will be a culture grade which sets out to score the student on use of the German culture – in preparedness, timeliness, etc.

GRADING SCALE

Note that these scores relate to GPA points

A = 3.6-4

B+=3.5

B =3-3.4

C+=2.5-2.9

C =2-2.4

D+=1.5-1.9

D = 1-1.4

*Course grades can be viewed using ONLINE GRADES at the school website. Canvas grades and textbook site grades will also show the student and observers how the student is doing towards standards - formative grades that are not part of the semester grade will not transfer to LMS. **Grades will be updated as often as feasible.***

Remember that a score of an F is temporary – everyone learns at a different pace!

We will work together to all achieve our best here.

CAVEAT

The above course outline and procedures as described in this syllabus are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.

This page is informational only. This form will be available via Google Forms no later than the third week of school.

I understand that I/my student is asked to use and/or practice German daily, and that most days will include freedom of choice. You are encouraged to focus on skills with which you are struggling using methods and themes that interest you the most.

Movie ratings:

I understand that many German films have not been rated for the US market, but that Frau Hesse has previewed all films.

Additionally, ratings are products of their culture. This means that many German films meant for children could be rated R in the United States. All films shown in class have specific learning goals and students who opt out due to the content of a film will receive an alternative assignment in an alternative location. Your student's learning and your family's cultural values are equally important to me as your teacher!

Please circle the number for any/all statements about films to be used in your class.

1. It is okay to watch any movies in class with appropriate learning goals.
2. Non-sexual nudity in passing (not a focus of the film or scene) is not a concern for me/my student.
3. Please contact me before showing PG-13 films and equivalent.
4. Please contact me before showing R films and equivalent.
5. Rated R films and the equivalent are not okay, even edited by the teacher.
6. Other: please comment below!

Parent name: _____

Parent signature: _____

Parent preferred contact information (Include email and/or phone number):

Other comments/concerns: