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Spring, 2008

German 2B

3 units; counts in GE Area C2 (new) requirement: schedule no. MWF 10:00-10:50 in FFS 313
or div 7 (old) GE requirements 35767

Prerequisites:

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German 2A, or two years of high school German plus the consent of the instructor.
Furthermore, internet and email access is necessary for success in this course.

Goals of the Course:

That you become more proficient in using German in reading, writing, speaking and listening. We will build facility with idioms and vocabulary as well as with communication strategies so that you should soon be prepared to "survive" some time in a German speaking country--or an upper division course at the university--with enjoyment. Increased fluency is a major goal of intermediate German. A significant portion of this course will be dedicated to increasing a knowledge of, and sensitivity to German culture, its roots, similarities and differences to our own. Particular attention will be paid to the enormous achievements of German culture in literature, art, music, philosophy, etc. Ultimately, then, this course cultivates intercultural sensitivity generally by introducing the students to another culture "from the inside." Therefore, the major instructional methodology applied will be intensive practice.

General Goal for GE, Area C2: Humanities is: Through the study of the humanities, to understand, appreciate, and analyze the meaning of our civilization, its cultural background, and the nature and role of language. To study the humanities from a variety of historical perspectives and cultures by analyzing individual works. (CSUF GE policy)

According to CSUF GE policy, students completing courses in Area C2 will be able to:

1. Use understanding of the humanities (Literature, Philosophy, Foreign Language) to explain, appreciate, and analyze the meaning of our civilization, its cultural background, and the nature and role of language.
2. Study the humanities (Literature, Philosophy, Foreign Language) from a variety of historical perspectives and cultures by analyzing individual works.
3. Accomplish at least one of the following:
 - _ Relate the development of contemporary civilization to the historical antecedents of the humanities (Literature, Philosophy, Foreign Language), or
 - _ Reflect critically and systematically on questions concerning beliefs, values and the nature of existence; or
 - _ Apply literary criticism to various types and styles of literature from a variety of historical perspectives and cultures
 - _ Listen, speak, read, and write a language other than English within a cultural and artistic context.
4. Students will respond subjectively as well as objectively to experience and will develop a sense of the integrity of emotional and intellectual response.
5. Students will cultivate intellect, imagination, sensibility, and sensitivity.

Textbooks:

Augustyn, Prisca u. Nikolaus Euba: Stationen: Ein Kursbuch für die Mittelstufe. Boston: Thompson Heinle, 2008. required.

Taschenwörterbuch Deutsch als Fremdsprache, ed Götz & Wellmann Berlin:Langenscheidt, 2003. (recommended).
Engle: Die Verbliste in Xerographic form. (Kennel Bookstore; required).

Additionally there will be handouts with reading material distributed by the instructor during the semester.

Grading:

Class participation:	
discussion, preparation,	
quizzes, etc.	40%
Tests:	40%
Final examination:	20%

Office Hours:

Mon., Wed Fri 10-12 in PB 452;
Mon. 13-14 in PB 452
and by appointment

Grading Scale:

A	90-100;	B	80-89;	C	70-79
D	60/69;	F	55;	no show/work	45

Final Examination:

Monday, May 12,
from 8:45-10:45
in our regular classroom

(Failure to attend class and participate in an informed fashion will lower your grade significantly. Late work will be docked. Attendance at the scheduled final examination is mandatory. Please refer to University policies on conduct, especially cheating, plagiarism, and behavior in the current Catalogue and the Schedule of Classes [e.g., "Legal Notices"] and recall the University Honor Code: "Members of the CSU Fresno academic community adhere to principles of academic integrity and mutual respect while engaged in university work and related activities.")

Course Structure

We will be treating approximately half of the chapters in Stationen in the course of the semester (or about one chapter every week or two). According to class needs, we will review major elements of German grammar and practice significant areas of communication, such as letter writing, essay writing, comporting oneself politely but effectively, cultural trouble shooting, accomplishing tasks, and getting our rhetoric together. Accompanying these chapters we will be studying an array of literary works, art, music, and philosophy and historical documents by such greats as Brecht, Goethe, Beethoven, Bach, Dürer, Kollwitz, Grass. Schedule and subject details will be arranged in consideration of student needs/facilities as well as instructor agenda.

Note: Generally late work or make-up exams will only be accepted if there is a doctor's excuse. One may (with the instructor's permission) use tape recorders to record class material for one's own, personal use (or that of one classmate). Electronic devices such as CD players, pagers, beepers, cell phones, etc. must be turned off or not brought into class.

Note: If you have special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and need course materials in alternative formats, notify me immediately. I will be pleased to make reasonable efforts to accommodate your special needs.

Finally, as Rabby Burns has said, "the best laid schemes o' mice an' men gang aft a-gley" (go oft awry), so I reserve the right to change the syllabus according to the demands and exigencies of the semester.

Assignments

A major share of your grade is class participation, and you will be graded every week on your effort, preparation and success. Homework is graded as done or not done, so do not be afraid to make mistakes: homework is a learning, not a testing device.

During the course of the semester there will be a series of written and oral quizzes testing the areas we have covered in class: linguistic, historic and cultural content, grammar, vocabulary, etc. Generally an exam will follow completion of a chapter; some may be unannounced. All will count equally, the average being one's "test grade." You can retake any particular quiz once, and I will count the better score only. No retakes will be allowed in the last two weeks of class.

In addition to homework assigned from the textbook and audio program, there will be written compositions and other work from time to time, e.g., short oral reports or group exercises. This being a GE class, there will be at least 2000 words assigned in compositions; you will have the chance to incorporate the feedback from your instructor in draft revisions. Occasionally we may make use of the Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures' Language Laboratory or the World Wide Web.