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Office Hours: MWF 11:00 – 12:00
and by appointment**German 102**

Welcome to the second semester of Beginning German I. The materials we will use for this course are called *Auf geht's!* (Let's go!) *Auf geht's!* is a beginning German curriculum where culture is the content. *Auf geht's* guides you to employ critical thinking, analyses, and comparisons to develop intercultural skills. The curriculum focuses on factual culture knowledge and cultural awareness as the groundwork for effective communication in German. You will learn both to recognize a German perspective unique from your own and to observe and interact with the German culture in a more informed way.

We continue developing by learning about:

- The geographic, political and cultural face of Germany
- Cities and city life
- The German educational system
- Germany's relationship with its European neighbors

By the end of this semester, you should be able to:

- Make culturally-appropriate small talk with sympathetic (i.e., those who have experience communicating with non-native speakers) speakers of German
- Speak culturally-appropriate basic German with comprehensible pronunciation and intonation
- Talk and write about yourself, your family, and your interests in a way that is culturally understandable to German-speakers
- Talk and write about yourself and your own country as well as about Germans' geographical, political, and personal histories
- Comment in an informed way on aspects of the German culture listed above
- Read and understand level-appropriate authentic texts
- Understand German spoken about these topics by sympathetic speakers

The *Auf geht's* components

There are three components to the *Auf geht's!* materials and all are designed to work together. You will usually begin your preparation for class by working with the interactive materials on the CD, the first component. THIS IS NOT OPTIONAL. You will be assigned a certain section to complete BEFORE class. This work should take between 30 minutes and an hour. It is very important that you always complete your interactive work on the same computer and that you do not allow anyone else to use your computer to complete the interactive work as well. It is important that the printouts of your work reflect your work alone. If you do not have a computer of your own contact your professor.

You will use what you've learned from the interactive to work on the assigned pages in the *Lernbuch*, the second component. It's important that you work with the interactive first, as the *Lernbuch* won't make much sense otherwise. The work with the *Lernbuch* should take between 30 minutes and an hour, depending on the activities. The third component is participation in class. You should bring your completed *Lernbuch* assignments and *Lernbuch* to every class. We will almost always use the *Lernbuch* in class, especially those things you prepare.

Course Requirements

Expanding Credit Hours

Simpson College is moving to four credit hours for classes. It is envisioned that the expanded credit hours will reflect increased content, commitment and scope of each course. For this class, each student is expected to schedule and meet with the professor or TA for half an hour each week to discuss and correct homework in preparation for class participation. The College is proposing that a four credit hour class comprise 143 hours of in-class and directed learning.

In class time	3*50/wk x 14 + 2 hr final/60	37
Discussion sessions	75 /wk x 14/60	17.5
Conversations with German Students	1 hr x 4	4
<i>Auf geht's</i> materials preparation	5 hr/wk x 14	70
Discussion and Conversation prep	14 + 4	18
		146.5

Participation

You must attend class regularly, be prepared, and participate. Learning a language is a cumulative process. You can't just get the notes from another student. You will want to keep up - and keep speaking, listening, reading, writing! You don't have to get everything right when you speak, you shouldn't expect to understand every word - you want to understand the main ideas and make yourself understood. You want to try!

Because the classroom setting provides only the minimum of exposure to German, regular attendance, extensive preparation, and active participation are absolutely required to learn well. Any absences, whether planned or unplanned will reduce the opportunity for you to learn and to prove that you have learned. Absences always result in lower scores on your proofs of learning because you cannot prepare adequately on your own outside of class.

If you must miss a test or a class due to illness or emergency, please send me email so that I know you are all right.

Attendance of, preparation for and participation in the class sessions will be added to your proofs of learning to help determine your grade.

Discussion Sessions

Discussion sessions will cover supplementary material. Often they will be a discussion of a product German culture and the practices surrounding that product and the perspectives generated by those practices. Other times they will be an expansion of the linguistic issues met in the *Auf geht's!* materials. Still other times they will be activities to reinforce what you already know.

You must attend these sessions to add to your proofs of learning.

Homework

You must verify completed homework and other assignments at the beginning of class on the day indicated on the syllabus. You are responsible for keeping up with the homework as it is listed in the syllabus.

Conscientiously completed homework will be added to your proofs of learning to help determine your grade.

Written Tests, Speaking Opportunities and Quizzes

You will take 3 written tests on the days indicated on the syllabus, plus a fourth test on the date of the final exam. You will schedule and participate in speaking opportunities with the teaching assistant outside of regularly scheduled class time. In addition, there may be quizzes as indicated in the syllabus and other unannounced quizzes. If you attend class regularly and participate, you should have no problem with any of the evaluation procedures.

Grading

Your final grade is based on your performance of the following activities:

Prepared attendance, interactive printouts, other written work, and tests & quizzes

Academic Integrity

To copy assignments, to allow assignments to be copied, or to cheat on tests are activities that will result in the assignments or tests not being used in fulfillment of this course.

Students may have questions as to what constitutes too much "help" on essays or homework. Of course, one may ask a friend (who may have studied German longer than you) if a certain phrase or sentence is correct. One may consult a dictionary, an online dictionary or translator for a word or phrase. However, the line between legitimate help and cheating is this: If one is able to reproduce the same information on a test or on his own then the help has been help to learn and is not cheating. If one cannot replicate the information in the same way it is used in the assignment or test, then it should not be represented as one's own work.

In an academic setting, one identifies those parts of the assignment that are not one's own work, or it runs counter to the College's policy on academic integrity and the work cannot be used in fulfillment of this course.

Course Continuity Plan

Should the normal instructional activity on the campus be shortened or interrupted by a campus-wide closing, students will receive information from the instructor or other representative of the college about when and if the course might be continued or completed via Internet, telephone, or United States mail.

Simpson's Program in Schorndorf, Germany

International experience is the key to your future. All Simpson students should make an international study tour a priority of their college plans. The German Program at Simpson offers just such an opportunity by maintaining an overseas semester course in Schorndorf, Germany. Schorndorf is a lovely and historic town in southern Germany, about 30 kilometers from Stuttgart, which can trace its beginnings as a peasant village back to the year 400 A.D., and which became an important trading center in the 1200s. All Simpson students with at least 3 semesters of German experience are eligible to apply for admission to the program. The program runs during the Spring and May Terms every other year; the next overseas semester will take place January-May of 2013 and then again January-May 2015. The program includes instruction by Professor Calkins and other teachers at Schorndorf's adult education center, home stays with German families and extensive travel during the semester and May Term. On this program Simpson students can easily complete many of the requirements for a major or minor in German. This program is unique to Simpson College, tailored to our students and responsive to individual needs. Please see me or Frau Calkins for more information.