**German 2 Syllabus**

**Prescott High School**

**Herr Ernst**

2017 – 2018

Herzlich Willkommen im Deutschkurs Zwei!

**Contact Information:**

Room 401 Phone: 928-445-2322 x 401

Email: robert.ernst@prescottschools.com

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**Course Website:** Students will be given a Google Classroom code the first week of school. Most announcements, assignments, handouts, audio files, and video links will be posted on Google Classroom, so all students should make a routine of checking Google Classroom. If something is not posted, please email me and I will put it up as quickly as I can.

**Course Description:** This is an academic elective that requires **consistent studying** and completion of written assignments. Advanced grammar concepts are presented and practiced. (1 credit). Pre-requisite: German I with a grade of C or better. To continue to second semester, a grade of D or higher is required.

**Materials:** One-inch 3-ring binder, paper, pen or pencil. Most materials will be copied and students will be expected to keep all notes taken in class in an organized manner. I recommend that students get a flash drive. All students will be offered .pdf copies of course materials. Part of the coursework will be done through the internet and relies heavily on internet resources. Audio .mp3 files will also be used frequently.

**How will we learn in this class:** We will continue your acquisition of the German language by using multiple methods and resources. Contextualized comprehensible input will be primary and will give you enough experience with listening to and reading German that the language will begin to sound right. We will read individually as well as in small groups and as a class. We will listen to and do activities related to songs. Research on how we learn has proven that we remember better and longer what we have actually experienced physically. Gesturing and acting out commands will help you acquire the language more quickly. Another very powerful way to acquire language (also supported by research) is through stories or narrative. We will also spend time with grammar exercises to reinforce concepts. Our textbook is *Komm mit! Level 2*. We will also frequently be using internet resources (*Deutsch Welle, You Tube videos, Duolingo*) as well as referencing German Audio programs (*Pimsleur and Berlitz*).

**Why isn’t German like some of my other classes?** German, like any language, is a skill. This is not a class where you can learn material for a test and then forget it. Acquiring a language is a lot like learning how to ride a bike or to swim. It’s a skill you build gradually, use, and remember for a long time. Because in order to communicate successfully, you will need to continually learn and remember and build upon vocabulary, you may be tested at any time over any vocabulary acquired at any time during this year as well as last year. We’ll review and build upon concepts learned in the past throughout the year as we add new concepts.
**What are the behavioral expectations?** Respect is a two-way street. I generally give others the benefit of the doubt in terms of offering respect; I expect the same in return, not only for myself but for your classmates. By the time you reach high school you should be well aware of appropriate behavior for the classroom. Please, no food or drink or gum in class. You will be speaking a lot in class, and it is impolite as well as inappropriate to have something in your mouth while you are speaking.

**How is my grade determined for this class?** Semester grade = Quarter 1 (40%) + Quarter 2 (40%) + final exam (20%). Your grade will be based on the following:

- Participation
- Homework
- Tests and Quizzes / Final Exam
- Bellwork
- In-class activities (written & spoken)

Please note that extra credit projects designed to salvage a grade or to “bump” a grade up are no longer considered. Extra credit opportunities will sometimes exist on quizzes and homework. Please do not ask for extra credit projects or for me to “bump” your grade.

**Participation:** To have a great participation grade, work on the items in the positive column. If you do any of the things in the negative column, your participation grade will be lowered.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Positive:</th>
<th>Negative:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>· Use the German language to communicate whenever possible</td>
<td>· Not pay attention / follow directions (electronic distractions)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>· Have, organize, and use notebook effectively</td>
<td>· Read or work on assignments for another class (electronic distractions)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>· Pay attention and follow directions</td>
<td>· Pass notes in languages other than German</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>· Listen when others talk</td>
<td>· Forget materials for class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>· Do all the gestures</td>
<td>· Do not try</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>· Ask and answer questions</td>
<td>· Use English to communicate when inappropriate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>· Help other students learn</td>
<td>· Show disrespect for others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>· Contribute ideas for mnemonic (memory) devices</td>
<td>· Make negative comments and put-downs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>· Encourage and/or praise others</td>
<td>· Interrupt when someone else is talking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>· Demonstrate good sportsmanship</td>
<td>· Be off-task</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>· Put forth extra effort</td>
<td>· Distract others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>· Allow yourself to have fun and enjoy yourself in class</td>
<td>· Not practice with partner when time is given</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>· Be too serious... no fun</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Homework:** Homework is given frequently, but not every day. All students will be expected to take advantage of internet resources daily and the assignments are designed to help you immerse yourself (as much as you can) in the world of German language, to help you practice what we’ve be doing in class, and to learn ever more about German culture.

- Late homework is ONLY accepted by the Friday of the same week it is due – no exceptions – late work will earn 50% of the score you would have received if on time. Homework will often be turned in electronically, via Google Classroom. It is YOUR responsibility to be certain assignments posted through the internet are received.

Label each assignment as follows. Please use a separate sheet for each assignment. Unlabeled and mislabeled assignments will receive a zero.

- Name (first and last)
- Period # ______
- Date
- Title of Assignment

Please keep all work appropriate for school (G-rated). If you are unsure whether your work fulfills the requirement, please ask me before the due date. Inappropriate work receives no credit.

- Please take pride in doing your own work and have the integrity to work independently on your assignments. Plagiarized work, work done by an online translator, or work done by others receives no credit.

- In addition to the homework assignments, you will also be doing various projects including show and tell, skits, and journals.

**Please note the due dates for homework assignments listed on Google Classroom as well as on the German II Calendar in the classroom.**

**Tests and Quizzes:** We will have a weekly quiz in class, usually every Friday. Quizzes may cover any and all vocabulary we have practiced in class. You are expected to do everything you can to master the vocabulary. If you participate fully in all class activities and spend a little bit of time outside of class working with whatever mnemonic device works for you, you should easily rule these tests and quizzes! Tests will be administered at the end of each chapter. Tests will assess reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills in addition to vocabulary. We will probably have two tests per quarter. **Once a chapter test has been administered, make-up work is no longer accepted for that chapter.**

At the end of the semester, we will have a cumulative final exam that will enable you to demonstrate your skills in German.

Written and speaking sections of tests will be graded using guidelines and prep sheets which you will receive prior to the test.

**Bellwork:** Bellwork will be given daily. If you are tardy, you will miss the warm-up. No make-up is offered on bellwork, but an exemption is given for excused absences. It is your duty to get a small assignment which will substitute for the bellwork, if the activity is not available. Many days, the bellwork activity will created extempore by me to reinforce and review previous given concepts.
What if I make a mistake in class? Mistakes when acquiring a new language are normal, natural, and... EXPECTED! I will not always correct everything, but am glad that you are trying more and more to speak the language. Even students with a high degree of proficiency in the language will make errors when speaking or writing. I will also make mistakes (der, die, or das?) - I am learning the language still. Remember that while laughing at yourself or with others is encouraged, making fun of others will not be tolerated. Relax and have fun participating in class, and your German will improve quickly.

What if I’m absent? Check Google Classroom. Get the numbers and emails of your classmates - they are friendly people. Speak to me and/or your classmates about what you missed or will miss. You WILL be responsible for the new vocabulary the next time class meets. If you will be absent for an extended period, please let me know in advance (if possible) so that your transition back will be smooth. You must make up bellwork for each day you miss.

What about German culture? Do we get to try German foods? We will try to have at least one day per quarter dedicated to some cultural event. This may include trying German food, watching a German film or an TV show, or learning about some interesting aspect of German culture (How to listen to Mozart, Bach, and Mahler). Most likely we will watch a German movie in second and fourth quarter. Movies to be decided!

My Philosophy: I believe that ALL students can acquire an additional language. I have a passion for languages and I will do all that I can to help you acquire German. By making a commitment: showing up for every class (mentally and physically) and participating in a positive way, you will make significant progress this year and earn a grade that reflects that progress. You are here to learn the language. Not to say that grades don’t matter, but what I really expect is that you are here to LEARN – if you invest yourself fully in the learning – the high grade you get will be the side effect of your passion, your interest, and your engagement.

________________________________________________________

Student’s Name ____________________________

Student Acknowledgement of Classroom Expectations
I have read Mr. Ernst’s classroom expectations and I will be held accountable for functioning under his guidelines and expectations.

Student Signature

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