



German for Beginners - 1030

(Former German 030 and 002)¹

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Course Content and Aims

German 1030 is an introductory course for students with no prior knowledge of German. Students with grade 12U German or equivalent must consult the department before registering. The use of multimedia resources and reliance on the communicative approach constitute an integral part of German 1030. The course aims to achieve the following:

- develop the ability to read, write and understand German at a basic level
- provide a starting point and linguistic foundation for progression to German 2200 (second-year German), as well as the German modules offered by Western.
- encourage positive attitudes to language learning as an aspect of personal development
- cultivate a deeper understanding of other societies in a globalized setting
- further intellectual growth by promoting the student's general communicative capacity
- identify connections between German and English in relation to general linguistic concepts
- offer insights into the culture, history and daily life of German-speaking countries

Learning Outcomes

It is expected that, upon completion of this course, the students will have the ability to accomplish the following:

- pronounce German accurately and grasp nuances in oral German discourse
- internalize the basics of German sentence structure and word formation
- grasp the foundations of the German verb system, adjective endings, cases and word order
- master the use of German pronouns and prepositions within a syntactic framework
- communicate and comprehend notions related to motion and location in space
- acquire a basic German vocabulary and idioms required for communication on such topics, as the weather, hobbies, sports, food, furniture, shopping, job interviews, medical visits, family, travel, education, clothing, house chores etc.
- greet people, ask questions, express wishes, describe surroundings and relate past events
- participate in simple dialogues stemming from various social situations
- read and understand short passages dealing with contemporary social and historical issues
- appreciate a number of differences and similarities between German-speaking countries and North America

Contact Hours

German 1030 requires **2 two-hour** class meetings per week.

¹ Former numbers are antirequisites for all courses.

Learning Materials (to be purchased at The Book Store at Western [in UCC])

Required: [Deutsch Heute: 9th Edition Package](#)

N.B. You will need to **bring the textbook to every class**. The *Student Activity Manual* contains assignments which review the contents of each chapter and which are to be handed in to your instructor on the prescribed dates (see below). Furthermore, *The Student Activity Manual* contains a set of self tests with answer keys which you are encouraged to use as a means of assessing your own progress.

Recommended: [English Grammar for Students of German](#)

You are strongly encouraged to use this book. Experience has shown that students who consult it tend to achieve higher grades than students who do not. Any time a grammar topic comes up in the *Deutsch Heute* textbook, have a quick look at the corresponding explanation in *English Grammar for Students of German*.

Aural / Oral Practice

Students are marked on the completion of listening exercises and passages available on-line through WebCT OWL. These materials are keyed to every textbook lesson and to parts of each homework assignment (more information below).

Mark Breakdown

1. **Midterm I** (2 hours in class) **11%**
2. **Midterm II** (2 hours in class) **15%**
3. **Classroom quizzes** **24%**

There will be 6 chapter quizzes, worth 4% each (written during regular class hours).

4. **Written assignments** **10%**

The written assignment for each chapter will consist of both the Workbook Activities and Laboratory Activities sections of the Student Activity Manual. There will be 10 assignments (Einführung – Kapitel 9).

Late submissions will not be accepted because our markers cannot be made to keep track of 120+ students.

5. **Attendance and oral/aural work** **10%**

This mark will be assessed by the course instructor, based on the student's attendance (sign-up sheets), in-class preparedness & work with WebCT OWL materials.

6. **Final examination** (3 hours) **25%**

The final examination is cumulative, i.e., it covers the entire year. It is timetabled by the Office of the Registrar, without any input from the Department. Since it may be scheduled for any date during the April examination period, and since students must write at a scheduled time, you should not make any plans which might run into conflict with the examination timetable.

7. **Assignments at instructor's discretion** **5%**

Course Calendar (assignments must be handed in **on the day** of each test)

We will *try* to follow this schedule. Students will be notified of any changes.

- Sept. 10/14** 1st class: meet instructor; overview of textbook & German phonetics
begin Einführung chapter in textbook (duration: 3-4 classes)²
- Sept. 23/24:** hand in Einführung assignment; start Kapitel 1 (duration: 4 classes)
- Oct. 7/8:** hand in Kapitel 1 assignment; **Quiz** on Einführung and Kapitel 1;
start Kapitel 2 (duration: 4 classes)
- Oct. 22/26:** hand in Kapitel 2 assignment; **Quiz** on Kapitel 2; start Kapitel 3
(duration: 4 classes)
- Nov. 5/9:** hand in Kapitel 3 assignment; **Quiz** on Kapitel 3; start Kapitel 4
(duration: 5 classes)
- Nov. 24/25** hand in Kapitel 4 assignment; **Midterm** on Einführung to Kapitel 4
(**N.B.** No separate quiz on Kapitel 4)
- Nov. 26/30** start Kapitel 5 (duration: 5 classes)
- Jan. 6/7** hand in Kapitel 5 assignment; **Quiz** on Kapitel 5; start Kapitel 6
(duration: 5 classes)³
- Jan. 25/26** hand in Kapitel 6 assignment; **Quiz** on Kapitel 6; start Kapitel 7
(duration: 5 classes)
- Feb. 10/11** hand in Kapitel 7 assignment; **Quiz** on Kapitel 7; start Kapitel 8
(duration: 5 classes)
- Feb. 15-19** Conference Week (Reading Week; Slack Week; Catch-up Time)
- Mar. 8/9** hand in Kapitel 8 assignment; **Midterm** on Kapitel 5-8
(**N.B.** No separate quiz on Kapitel 8)
- March 10/11** start Kapitel 9 (duration: 5 classes)
- March 29/30** hand in Kapitel 9 assignment; (**no quiz** on Kapitel 9)
start Kapitel 10 (duration: flexible & **no quiz**)


² The Mon-Wed section will have 3 classes while the Tues-Thurs section will have 4. The difference is non-essential since at this point the material is very easy.

³ Last day of first term classes: Dec. 9, 2009. Classes resume on Jan. 4 and end on April 9, 2010.

Text Audio Exercises on WebCT OWL

Log into [WebCT OWL online](#)⁴ & click *German 1030*. Then click *Text Audio Files*. Open your textbook at Appendix R-15 (ignore the page numbers in the recording itself): **Pronunciation and Writing Guide**. Practice pronunciation by repeating what you hear (use pause button). More pronunciation material is found [here](#)⁵ (Konsonanten = consonants; Vocale = vowels).

Each textbook chapter begins with a recording of **Bausteine für Gespräche** (dialogues) from your textbook. Listen to the corresponding Text Audio recording once as you read the dialogue. Go through it again, stopping the recording after each segment and **repeating out loud** what you hear. Make sure you understand everything. The English translation of the dialogues is found at the back of your textbook: Appendix A: R-2.

Complete the Text Audio **exercises** (marked with  in the textbook): **say your answers out loud** as required. Some exercises will be done in class as well. These sound files must be played **within** WebCT (you need Quicktime as the default player in your internet options).

In every textbook chapter (except for the Einführung) there is a reading passage in a section entitled **Zum Lesen**. Read each passage as you listen to the corresponding recording. Make sure you understand the content: look up words in Vokabeln 2 (after the reading passage) and in R30-50 at the back of the textbook. Then listen to the reading passage again, stopping after every segment and **repeating out loud** what you hear.



N.B. Your instructor will monitor each student's text Text Audio work online through WebCT OWL. This will be reflected in **your final mark**. However, the truly "noble" reason for doing all the Text Audio work is to improve your pronunciation and listening comprehension. The text audio materials will also reinforce topics learned in class, which can make a big difference on tests.



Please visit the [student companion site](#)⁶ for your textbook: practice tests, videos & more! This is **not to be confused** with the German 1030 site on [WebCT OWL](#).

⁴ <http://webct.uwo.ca/>

⁵ <http://www.uiowa.edu/%7Eacadtech/phonetics/#>

⁶ http://college.cengage.com/languages/german/moeller/deutsch_heute/9e/site_index.html

Workbook and Lab Hand-in Assignments

On the day of the **quiz** on each chapter, you will need to **hand in exercises** from your *Student Activity Manual*. There are **2** sets of exercises for every textbook chapter.

- a) In the table of contents of the *Student Activity Manual* you will find the WORKBOOK exercises for each textbook chapter. These are to be done **without audio** material.
- b) You will also find the LAB exercises for every textbook chapter in the *Student Activity Manual*. These are to be done **with WebCT OWL**.

LAB Exercises

Log into [WebCT OWL online](#) and click German 1030. Click *SAM (Student Activity Manual) Audio Program*. As of Kapitel 1, the LAB exercises will start with a recording of the reading passage from each chapter (Zum Lesen)⁷, followed by the other listening exercises, as indicated in your manual. Write your answers on the sheets in the LAB section of the *Student Activity Manual*, tear them out and hand them in along with the WORKBOOK exercises. Don't forget to sign your name.

[Supplementary Online Exercises](#)⁸



⁷ Please note that this passage is also recorded in the Text Audio section of WebCT OWL where you are expected to listen and repeat.

⁸ <http://instruct.uwo.ca/mod-lang/ger030-004/index.html>

Other Academic Matters: [UWO Academic Calendar \(Academic Policies/Regulations\)](#).⁹

Definition of Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is a major academic offense (see Scholastic Offense Policy in the Western Academic Calendar). Plagiarism is the inclusion of someone else's **verbatim** or **paraphrased** text in one's own written work without immediate reference. Verbatim text must be surrounded by quotation marks or indented if it is longer than four lines. A reference must follow right after borrowed material (usually the author's name and page number). Without immediate reference to borrowed material, a list of sources at the end of a written assignment does not protect a writer against the possible charge of plagiarism. The University of Western Ontario uses a plagiarism-checking site called Turnitin.com.

Absenteeism:

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.

- [Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness](#)¹⁰
- [Downloadable Student Medical Certificate \(SMC\)](#)¹¹



The Reichstag in Berlin is the site of the German parliament.

⁹ <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2009/pg93.html>

¹⁰ https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_accommodations_link_for_OOR.pdf

¹¹ <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medicalform.pdf>