W E S T E R N U N I V E R S I T Y

Department of Languages and Cultures

**German 1030/001: German for Beginners** 2022-23

Course Instructor: Vlad Tumanov (vtumanov@uwo.ca)

**Office Hours:** Wednesdays 11:30-12:30

**Course Content and Aims**

German 1030 is an introductory course designed for students with little or no prior knowledge of German. Students will practice speaking, understanding, reading & writing while learning about the culture of the German-speaking countries. *German for Beginners* concentrates on high-frequency vocabulary and basic grammar. Students learn to use the language through active classroom participation, homework assignments, and independent work with online resources. Many aspects of German culture will be introduced through authentic materials including short films, ads, songs etc.

Successful students may progress to German 2200 (Intermediate German) next year, as well as to the German modules offered at Western. Students with Grade 12U German or equivalent language skills will normally take German 2200 right away and must consult the department before registering in German 1030. If you already have some background in German, please consult your instructor.

**Contact Hours:** 2 two-hour class meetings per week. Attendance is mandatory.

****Required textbook & online exercises: ***Treffpunkt Deutsch* 7th edition bundle with My(German)Lab access** (available at the Western Book Store)

This bundle contains the *Treffpunkt Deutsch* 7th edition loose-leaf textbook & an online access code to MyGermanLab which also includes an e-textbook. Although a hard copy is easier to use in class, some students may want to purchase only multi-semester MyGermanLab access (available online). Students need to have access to the textbook at every class. Access to MyGermanLab is required for all students to complete online assignments.

**NB:** Other resources — available on OWL>Resources (grammar PPTs, textbook answers, chapter reviews etc.)

Recommended: **English Grammar for Students of German**

\*Not everybody needs this book, but many students, especially those who are “grammatically challenged”, have found it very useful. If you tend to feel confused about grammar you should pick it up. Most students are fine with just the regular course package.

**Mark Breakdown:**

**Participation & preparedness in class 7 %**

**Online assignments on My(German)Lab 10 %**

**Two short writing assignments**  (2 x 5 %) **10 %**

**Oral Presentation** (5 min. voiceover on PPT) **5 %**

**Seven chapter tests** (7 x 6.85%) **48 %**

**Final exam 20 %**

 Writing assignments will be uploaded to OWL in Word format & to Turnitin

 The oral presentation PPT with your recorded voiceover will be uploaded to OWL

**Course Content & Schedule for section 001** (also available on OWL>Calendar)*(subject to minor changes)*

\*[See Western's sessional dates](https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm)

**Fall Semester**

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| Sept. **12** | First class. Begin Erste Kontakte & then go on to Kapitel 1.  |
| Sept. **27** | Homework on Erste Kontakte and Kapitel 1 due (online in MyGermanLab). |
| Sept. **28** | **Test** on Erste Kontakte and Kapitel 1. Begin Kapitel 2. |
| Oct. **10** | Thanksgiving holiday - no classes. |
| Oct. **18** | Homework on Kapitel 2 due (online in MyGermanLab). |
| Oct. **19** | **Test** on Kapitel 2. Begin Kapitel 3. |
| Oct. **31** | Fall Reading Week - no classes; return to class on Nov. 7. |
| Nov. **13** | Homework on Kapitel 3 due (online in MyGermanLab). |
| Nov. **14** | **Test** on Kapitel 3. Begin Kapitel 4. |
| Nov. **29** | Homework on Kapitel 4 due (online in MyGermanLab). |
| Nov. **30** | **Test** on Kapitel 4. Begin Kapitel 5. |
| Dec. **7** | Last class of the fall semester.  |
| Dec. **8**  | **Writing Assignment 1** due (200 words; upload to OWL as Word file).  |

**Winter Semester**

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| Jan. **9** | Class resumes. Continue Kapitel 5.  |
| Jan. **15** | Homework on Kapitel 5 due (online in MyGermanLab). |
| Jan. **16** | **Test** on Kapitel 5. Begin Kapitel 6. |
| Jan. **31** | Homework on Kapitel 6 due (online in MyGermanLab). |
| Feb. **6** | **Test** on Kapitel 6. Begin Kapitel 7. |
| Feb. **20** | Spring Reading Week - no classes; return to class on Feb. 27. |
| March **5** | Homework on Kapitel 7 due (online in MyGermanLab). |
| March **6** | **Test** on Kapitel 7. Begin Kapitel 8 (*there will be no test on Kapitel 8*). |
| March **21** | Homework on Kapitel 8 due (online in MyGermanLab). |
| March **22** | Begin Kapitel 9 (*there will be no test on Kapitel 9*). |
| April **5**  | **Writing Assignment 2** due (200 words; upload to OWL as Word file). |
| April **10** | **Oral Presentation** due (PPT with voiceover uploaded to OWL) |
| April **12** | Homework on Kapitel 9 due (online in MyGermanLab). |

 **There are no make-up tests**, but if a test is missed **for legitimate reasons**, the value of the missed test will not be counted toward the final grade

If students need assistance, they can seek support on the [OWL Help page](https://owlhelp.uwo.ca/students/index.html). Alternatively, they can contact the [Western Technology Services Helpdesk](https://wts.uwo.ca/helpdesk/). They can be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

[Google Chrome](https://www.google.ca/chrome/?brand=CHBD&gclid=CjwKCAjwxLH3BRApEiwAqX9arfg8JaH6fWGASk9bHTkfW_dyBir93A1-TliP-7u1Kguf-WZsoGAPhBoC9NYQAvD_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds) or [Mozilla Firefox](https://www.mozilla.org/en-CA/) are the preferred browsers to optimally use OWL; update your browsers frequently. Students interested in evaluating their internet speed, please click [here.](https://www.google.com/search?q=internet+speed+test+google&rlz=1C5CHFA_enCA702CA702&oq=internet+speed+test+google&aqs=chrome..69i57j0l7.3608j0j4&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8)

**Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

**•**pronounce German correctly

**•**understand German when spoken slowly and clearly, using familiar words and phrases

**•**understand short, relatively simple texts and find predictable information in everyday material

**•**greet people, ask basic questions, express wishes, describe surroundings, and relate past events

**•**participate in short social exchanges and simple dialogues on familiar topics

**•**use basic German vocabulary and idioms to talk and write about topics such as the weather, hobbies, family, living conditions, food, shopping, family, education, travel, transportation etc.

**•**write simple connected text on topics which are familiar or of personal interest, for example a diary, personal letter/postcard, a short composition about themselves etc.

**•**understand and apply many aspects of German grammar

**•**appreciate differences and similarities between the English and German languages

**•**understand some differences and similarities between the German-speaking countries and North America and begin to develop a sense of what intercultural communication is.



**How to Be Successful in this Class**

 Invest in a planner or application to keep track of your courses. Populate all your deadlines at the start of the term and schedule time at the start of each week to get organized and manage your time.

 Make it a daily habit to log onto OWL to ensure you have seen everything posted to help you succeed in this class.

 Create and follow weekly checklists to help you stay on track.

 Take notes as you go through the lesson material. Treat this course as you would a face-to-face course. Keeping handwritten notes or even notes on a regular Word document will help you learn more effectively than just reading or watching the videos.

 Connect with others. Try forming an online study group and try meeting on a weekly basis for study and peer support.

 Do not be afraid to ask questions. If you are struggling with a topic, contact your instructor.

**Western Academic Policies and Statements**

**Accommodation**

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation_disabilities.pdf).

**Absence from Course Commitments**

Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use and on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student’s final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

* for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
* absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
* assessments worth more than 30% of the student’s final grade,
* if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are *not* met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical, or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. **All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.**

For Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see [Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs](Policy%20on%20Academic%20Consideration%20for%20Student%20Absences%20-%20Undergraduate%20Students%20in%20First%20Entry%20Programs)

and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see: <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.>

**Accommodation for Religious Holidays**

Students should consult the University’s list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](https://www.multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-univwo).

The policy on Accommodation for Religious Holidays can be viewed [here.](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_religious.pdf)

**Special Examinations**

A Special Examination is any examination other than the regular examination, and it may be offered only with the permission of the Dean of the Faculty in which the student is registered, in consultation with the instructor and Department Chair. Permission to write a Special Examination may be given on the basis of compassionate or medical grounds with appropriate supporting documents. To provide an opportunity for students to recover from the circumstances resulting in a Special Examination, the University has implemented Special Examinations dates. These dates as well as other important information about examinations and academic standing can be found [here.](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/definitions.pdf)

**Academic Offenses**

“Scholastic offences are taken seriously, and students are directed [here](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf) to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence.

**Accessibility Statement**

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Accessible Education (AE) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation or review [The policy on Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation_disabilities.pdf).

**Correspondence Statement**

The centrally administered **e-mail account** provided to students will be considered the individual’s official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at his/her official university address is attended to in a timely manner. You can read about the privacy and security of the UWO email accounts [here](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/privacy/faq.html#ShouldIUse).

**Turnitin and other similarity review software**

All assignments will be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. Students will be able to view their results before the final submission. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between Western University and [Turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com/).

**Copyright and Audio/Video Recording Statement**

Course material produced by faculty is copyrighted and to reproduce this material for any purposes other than your own educational use contravenes Canadian Copyright Laws. You must always ask permission to record another individual and you should never share or distribute recordings.

**Online Etiquette** (in case the course switches to online format)

To ensure the best experience for both you and your classmates, please honour the following rules of etiquette:

* please “arrive” to class on time
* please use your computer and/or laptop if possible (as opposed to a cell phone or tablet)
* ensure that you are in a private location to protect the confidentiality of discussions in the event that a class discussion deals with sensitive or personal material
* to minimize background noise, kindly mute your microphone for the entire class until you are invited to speak, unless directed otherwise
* please be prepared to turn your video camera off at the instructor’s request if the internet connection becomes unstable
* unless invited by your instructor, do **not** share your screen in the meeting

The course instructor will act as moderator for the class and will deal with any questions from participants. To participate please consider the following:

* if you wish to speak, use the “raise hand” function and wait for the instructor to acknowledge you before beginning your comment or question
* remember to unmute your microphone and turn on your video camera before speaking
* self-identify when speaking.
* remember to mute your mic after speaking (unless directed otherwise)

General considerations of “netiquette”:

* Keep in mind the different cultural and linguistic backgrounds of the students in the course.
* Be courteous toward the instructor, your colleagues, and authors whose work you are discussing.
* Be respectful of the diversity of viewpoints that you will encounter in the class and in your readings. The exchange of diverse ideas and opinions is part of the scholarly environment. “Flaming” is never appropriate.
* Be professional and scholarly in all online postings. Cite the ideas of others appropriately.

Note that disruptive behaviour of any type during online classes, including inappropriate use of the chat function, is unacceptable. Students found guilty of Zoom-bombing a class or of other serious online offenses may be subject to disciplinary measures under the Code of Student Conduct.

**Professionalism & Privacy:**

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|  | Western students are expected to follow the [Student Code of Conduct](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/board/code.pdf). Additionally, the following expectations and professional conduct apply to this course: Students are expected to follow online etiquette expectations provided on OWL All course materials created by the instructor(s) are copyrighted and cannot be sold/shared Recordings are not permitted (audio or video) without explicit permission  Permitted recordings are not to be distributed Students will be expected to take an academic integrity pledge before some assessments All recorded sessions will remain within the course site or unlisted if streamed  |

**Support Services**

Students who are in emotional distress should refer to [MentalHealth@Western](https://www.uwo.ca/health/psych/index.html) for a complete list of options

about how to obtain help.

The following links provide information about support services at Western University:

[Registrarial Services](http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/)

[Academic Counselling (Arts and Humanities)](https://www.uwo.ca/arts/counselling/)

[Student Development Services](http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/)

[Student Health Services](http://www.shs.uwo.ca/)

[Services Provided by USC](http://westernusc.ca/your-services/)

[Appeal Procedures](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf)