

**Syllabus for the Intensive German Language Course and  
German Language Semester Course  
for Dresden Engineering Program Participants CAS LG 113 E DR**

Intensive Course:	5 weeks , 4 lessons a day, February 27 to March 29, 2017
Semester Course:	4 lessons a week April 3 to July 13, 2017
Times for Intensive Course : Language:	Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays 9.20 a.m. – 12.40 p.m.
Place:	SE2/102 Wednesday, March 15: SE1/101
Time for Semester Course:	Mondays, 2.50 p.m. – 4.20 p.m. Thursdays: 2.50 p.m. – 4.20 p.m.
Place:	HSZ 405

Instructors/Language:  
Elisa Moczygemba

## **1. Course Description**

This course an introductory course for students who have no prior familiarity with German. It aims at developing basic communication skills in the German language and to introduce them to the German culture enabling our students to cope with elementary communicative situations according to German cultural standards. Students will be trained in all four language skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) with grammatical issues being part of a topic related communicative approach to language teaching and learning and serving to develop these four language skills in German. Students will be exposed to German audio-visual material, situational survival phrases via role-playing, and a variety of texts to practice learned material and acquire basic vocabulary.

## **2. Course Materials**

Language:

Anne Buscha und Szilvia Szita: „Begegnungen A1+“, Schubert-Verlag, Leipzig, 2013, ISBN: 978-3-929526-86-8

## **3. Language Course Objectives**

This class meets three days per week (M,T,W) for four lessons at 45 minutes per day during the Intensive Period and twice a week for 90 minutes during the regular course period. Your progress in German will depend on your **commitment** to this course. With **regular attendance** and **consistent preparation** at the end of one semester you should be able to understand and write short, basic texts, and understand and respond to simple questions and statements on everyday topics.

The objective of this course is to help students

- ♦ Develop basic communication and “survival” skills
- ♦ Master the basic sound system, acquire correct pronunciation and intonation
- ♦ Gain concrete knowledge of customs and manners, geography, some major cities, shopping conventions and major holidays
- ♦ Describe, talk, and write about:
  - basic personal information, such as oneself, family, friends, leisure activities, personal interests and preferences, weather, seasons, food, studies, their living space and transportation
  - some immediate needs, such as ordering food and making simple purchases
- ♦ Discuss meals, personal and future plans
- ♦ Express likes and dislikes, regrets
- ♦ Give directives and basic commands (imperatives), respond to and make basic requests
- ♦ Know how to tell time and how to ask basic questions
- ♦ Learn when to use formal and informal registers of the language (“du” vs. “Sie”)
- ♦ Read and understand basic texts
- ♦ Use idiomatic expressions such as “wie geht’s”, “es gibt”, “gern”, “doch” “wohin/woher”
- ♦ Be able to use basic grammatical constructions (e.g. word order, present tense, past tense of sein/haben, modal auxiliaries, cases, pronouns...)

### **Language Course Outcomes:**

If students come to class regularly, complete all of the in-class assignments, homework, and average a B+ on their tests, they will be able to reach the **Novice Mid proficiency level** on the language proficiency scale developed by the American Council on the Teaching of Teaching Foreign Languages (ACTFL).

- For **speaking**, this means that students are able to communicate using a number of isolated words and memorized phrases in particular learned contexts (i.e. food, shopping, leisure activities, family). Students can respond to direct questions in two-to-three word sentences.
- In terms of **writing**, students can reproduce from memory a modest number of words or phrases in context and supply limited information such as basic biographical information (names, numbers, nationality...). When writing on familiar, well-practiced topics, they can be quite accurate, but writing on less familiar topics brings with it a marked decrease in accuracy.
- In terms of **listening**, students can recognize and begin to understand a number of high-frequency words and phrases. They typically understand a little more than they can say or ask for, and repetition may be required.
- When **reading**, students are able to identify a number of words and phrases, including cognates, but rarely understand material that exceeds a single phrase. Re-reading is often required.

### **4. Assessment and Grading Scale in the Language Course**

Apart from class work, homework, quizzes and tests play an essential role to achieve this course objective.

Homework could consist of smaller, short term tasks, such as exercises in the workbook as well as of more complex, long term assignments as for example the preparation of small oral presentations, essay writing and or extended research on a special topic.

Generally all homework will be checked, in order to give course participants the opportunity of self-evaluation and sometimes it will be graded by the instructor.

All participants have to assure to prepare their homework in time and in good quality.

Quizzes are short tests that might not be previously announced. Quiz grades will be part of the final grade as well as graded homework.

All grades are calculated on the basis of the Boston University grading system.

Quizzes (4 )	30%	100-93%	A
Midterm Exam:	15%	92-90%	A-
Final Exam (2 hours):	20%	89-87%	B+
Participation, Preparation and Attendance*	15%	86-83%	B
Homework	10%	82-80%	B-
Oral Skills	10%	79-77%	C+
		76-73%	C
		72-70%	C-
*Students are expected to attend class regularly, have studied the vocabulary and prepared all assignments before class, and participate actively in class discussions. Active participation means that students do not only speak when called upon but volunteer their own comments and questions. If they refrain from doing so, they cannot expect to receive a grade higher than C for participation.		69-67%	D+
		66-60%	D
		59-0%	F

The “correction” mode for homework, quizzes and tests is represented in a clear and comprehensible way so that each course participant can recognize and correct their mistakes or errors.

#### 4.1. correction mode:

+	grammar mistake
-	punctuation mistake
I	spelling mistake
S	word order mistake
W	missing or wrong word
R	repeated mistake

#### 4.2. dates for major tests and quizzes:

##### **Intensive Period:**

Midterm Test: March 13, 2017

Final Test: March 29, 2017

##### **Regular Semester Period:**

Midterm: TBA

Final Test: July 13

The Final Grade will be comprised of the Intensive Course grade (60%) and the Semester Course grade (40%).

## **5. Terms & Conditions**

I. Regular attendance is obligatory! Students are expected to attend all classes and bring a doctor's notification in case of an absence of more than one day due to illness. Unexcused absences will have a negative impact on the final grade.

II. Disturbance of class discipline, cheating and plagiarism are strictly forbidden in this course. Please read and adhere to the Boston University regulation *Academic Conduct Code* which is available in the Program Office.  
Any student appearing in class with symptoms of alcohol or drug abuse will be facing disciplinary measures.

III. Preparation: a minimum of 1 1/2 hours for each class meeting.  
In addition, it is recommended to make frequent use of the facilities at the Multimediales Sprachlernzentrum, Seminargebäude 1, Zellescher Weg 22, 01069 Dresden  
opening hours/ Mediathek: M - TH 12:00 p.m. - 04:00 p.m.

IV. Homework: written assignments must be legible, neat, and submitted on time. Only in cases of illness or unforeseen circumstances will late work be accepted.

VI. The classroom language is German. This approach will allow for a better immersion in the language and will facilitate learning German.

V. Email will be the only means of communication between students and faculty outside the classroom

VI. With commitment, regular attendance and good preparation, you can make significant strides in the skills of speaking, understanding, reading and writing German. We welcome you to the study of German, the maternal spring of English, a most vibrant and colorful language which, besides being the doorway to one of the world's great literatures and cultures, will serve you well in academic endeavors in any country or context where German is spoken.