Department of Humanities
Official Course Syllabus

Spring 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Name: GERM-1312</th>
<th>Course Section: 002</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meeting Days/Times: MW 7:00-8:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Building/Classroom: IH-268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professor: T. Falwell</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:Tanja.Falwell@tamucc.edu">Tanja.Falwell@tamucc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Location/Phone Number: TBA</td>
<td>Office Hours: by Appointment</td>
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**Textbook**
Klett: Aussichten A1.2 Deutsch als Fremdsprache für Erwachsene (Course- and Textbook as well as „Duolingo“ online practice required).

**Course Description**
This course is targeted towards students with basic knowledge of German. It is aimed at developing listening, speaking, writing and reading skills – from basic vocabulary, expressions and grammar to more elaborate ones – always within an authentic German cultural framework. The student will be able to develop an ability to function within natural contexts, relate and understand messages, as well as carry on a simple conversation in the German language.

**Educational Objectives for Beginning German Language Learners**
At the end of this course, students will demonstrate basic level ability (A1) to:

- Communicate in a range of authentic situations.
- Understand and use a variety of vocabulary and expressions in day-to-day situations.
- Understand and respond to oral, visual and written material.
- Demonstrate intercultural understanding and their role in social and institutional communication.

**Attendance**
Regular attendance and active class participation are essential for learning any foreign language. To better understand linguistic concepts and practice authentic phonetics in a motivating environment, you must be in class. You are expected to attend all classes, unless you have a properly documented excuse. Absences, tardies or leaving class early will affect your academic performance as well as your final grade.

After the third unexcused absence, and for every unexcused absence thereafter, you will lose 3 points (equals 3%) from your final average grade. Three late arrivals or leaving class early will equal ONE unexcused absence.
Please remember: Absences do not exempt you from material covered, assigned or due in class during your absence. Furthermore, it is your responsibility to provide written documentation no later than **one (1) week after your absence(s)** to be excused and permitted to make up any missing assignments. Please make sure to keep track of your absences and tardiness.

**Participation**

Participation is vital for your foreign language learning experience. To maximize your oral proficiency, practice and prepare before class. Complete the “Duolingo” exercises, review the assignment for the day, study vocabulary (Aussichten vocabulary app available for Android and I Phone) and volunteer to participate in class. We will work in pairs often to maximize opportunities to actively speak in the target language (games, role play, phonetic exercises, intensive course units, etc.). In addition or as a substitution to your weekly “Duolingo”, you may be asked to complete exercises in the workbook part of our course book. Your positive attitude and willingness to participate are key to success. Participation in class will be evaluated by your level of engagement in class, the general knowledge of material discussed, and the accuracy of your linguistic performance.

**Remember:** Practice makes perfect. Take action and participate – making mistakes is intrinsic to the learning process of a foreign language.

1. **Weekly “Duolingo” assignments (See Addendum 1).**

You will complete your weekly assignments via “Duolingo”. “Duolingo” is a web-based assignment and assessment platform that helps you connect and intensify the coursework assigned by your instructor. It will consist of exercises related to units discussed in class, such as writing and listening exercises. You may complete these assignments at your own pace; as long as you finish them by Sunday at 9:00 pm. For more information about “Duolingo”, please ask your professor or check Blackboard announcements.

2. **Composition/Oral Presentation (See Addendum 2).**

You will be asked to pair up with classmates to write and act out a dialogue in German during the semester (number of words TBA by your instructor). For your oral presentation, you and your partner will perform your German dialogue during class time.

**No late work will be accepted without prior consultation with your instructor.**

3. **Objective.**

Both written and oral components of assignments are designed to practice in depth concepts taught, reviewed in class during the semester. You are expected to use only the concepts covered in class up to the time of this assignment. If you feel like you are falling behind on class content taught or you are struggling with certain areas of instruction, please to not wait or hesitate to seek help as soon as possible.

**Exams:** Exams are a vital part of your learning progress. These end of chapter and vocabulary exams give you a chance to assess your understanding of language concepts and to determine areas of difficulty. You will have two major exams during the semester (see “Kursprogramm” attached for exam dates). **No make-up exams will be allowed under any circumstance, unless previously discussed with the professor.**
4. Other expectations.

For the sake of a focused and positive learning environment, please keep distractions to a minimum. Eating is not allowed during instructional time, cell phones must be set on silent and put away (absolutely no checking your phones in class).

Visitors are not allowed in class, unless specifically permitted by the professor during office hours. Students are expected to follow the Student Code of Conduct as described by the University Student Handbook at all time. Students must demonstrate a considerate as well as kind demeanor towards their instructor and all fellow students.

Statement of Civility

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state. Our goal is to provide you with a high quality educational experience that is free from repression. You are responsible for following the rules of the University, city, state and federal government. We expect that you will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

Course Evaluation System: Grade Distribution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90–100</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>89–80</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>79–70</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>69–60</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59 &amp; below</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Course Evaluation System: Grade Distribution**

- Participation .......................... 20 pts.
- Weekly Assignments/Duolingo ...... 20 pts.
- Composition/Oral Presentation ...... 20 pts.
- Exams (2 per semester) .................. 40 pts.
- Total ........................................ 100 pts.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION – Spring 2019**

- January 14, Tuesday: Classes begin
- January 21, Monday: Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
- January 22, Tuesday: Last day to late register/add a class
- March 11-15: Spring Break
- April 5, Friday: Last day to drop a class
- April 30, Monday: Last Day to Withdraw from University
- May 02: Reading day
- May 03-09: Final Examinations
Disabilities Accommodations

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

Academic Advising

The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-825-3466.

Dropping a Class

I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with your academic advisor, the Financial Aid Office, and me, before you decide to drop this course. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class.

Grade Appeals

As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.03, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.03, Student Grade Appeals. These documents are accessible online at: http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/assets/13.02.99.C0.03_student_grade_appeals.pdf. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s office in the college in which the course is taught. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal in CLA, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html.
Assignments
Description: Duolingo assignments are to be completed every week, to the best of your ability. The assignments are a vital part of your coursework, not only because they represent 20% of your overall grade, but more importantly because they help you study, give you the necessary practice and focus to understand material taught in class and therefore strengthen your proficiency in the German language.

1. **Tutoring services:** Please ask your instructor for current information.
2. **Computer proficiency skills:** The mastery of “Duolingo” assignments requires that the student has a minimum of computer proficiency skills. If you do not know how to operate a computer or connect to the internet, please consult the Student Computer Help Desk for one-on-one tutorials.
3. **Completion dates:** You can find completion dates for each assignment in your syllabus. You have a complete week to finish the assignment. All weekly lab assignments MUST be completed no later than Sunday at 9:00 pm and the assignment completion results record on Monday. You may complete a late assignment for credit only under extraordinary circumstances after consulting your professor. Your professor must evaluate and approve your situation, then consult with a First Year Coordinator.
4. **Material covered by assignments:** Weekly “Duolingo” assignments as well as class assignments will practice vocabulary, grammar and phonics (written and oral) in an authentic cultural setting. If at any point you feel like you have problems understanding the material, do not keep it to yourself. Please discuss any issues with your instructor immediately. Your professor may refer you to a tutor, instruct tutoring during office hours or help with additional tips, exercises and material.
5. **Helpful Websites:** The following web pages have been provided to guide your journey to learn German, to research or draw additional information and practice.

- **Grammar**
  - [http://www.deutsch-als-fremdsprache.de/daf-uebungen/#Detail-Suche](http://www.deutsch-als-fremdsprache.de/daf-uebungen/#Detail-Suche)
  - [http://www.interdeutsch.de/studien/studien1.html](http://www.interdeutsch.de/studien/studien1.html)
  - [http://www.zum.de/Faecher/D/BW/gym/Grammatik/index.htm](http://www.zum.de/Faecher/D/BW/gym/Grammatik/index.htm) (Grammar in pictures)

- **Vocabulary**
  - [http://www.phase-6.de](http://www.phase-6.de) (Aussichten vocabulary app for Android and iOS)
  - [http://www.leo.org](http://www.leo.org) (Online dictionary in 8 languages; also available as an app)
  - [http://www.goethe-verlag.com/tests](http://www.goethe-verlag.com/tests)
  - [http://www.goethe.de/ins/pl/de/spr/ueb.html](http://www.goethe.de/ins/pl/de/spr/ueb.html)

This course program has been designed to help you learn German in a natural, fun and motivating class environment. It requires your best effort and positive attitude. Above all, my class is meant to be a great asset when it comes to intercultural understanding and useful skills while learning the German language and its diverse culture.
ADDENDUM 2

COMPOSITION/ORAL PRESENTATION GUIDELINES

Description:
You will be asked to pair up with a classmate to write a German dialogue during the semester (the number of words and topics are TBD by your professor). For your oral presentation, you and your partner will perform the dialogue in an authentic situation during class time.

Notice: Absolutely no late work will be accepted without previously obtaining an agreement from your instructor.

Objective:
Both the written and the oral parts of your assignment are designed to reinforce and show off concepts taught, reviewed and practiced during the semester. You are expected to only use the concepts discussed in class up to the time of the assignment. To avoid any misunderstandings, please stick to the following guidelines:

▪ Write your entire dialogue in German.
▪ No heading.
▪ Dialogue must be typed, double spaced, with 1 inch margins on all sides. Please use Times New Roman font, size 12.
▪ Use sentence structures, tenses and vocabulary learned in class only.
▪ Avoid using online translators and/or friends – instead trust in what you have learned.

Guidelines:

1. **Written component:** Your work should be evidence of your performance in class. **Please write it by yourselves, and in your own words at your own level.** No more will be expected of you. Should your work not match your overall performance in class, your instructor will assume you relied on help from others or online translators and you **will be asked to rewrite your dialogue.** To follow the natural flow of language, **please do not write your dialogue in English first and then translate into German.** There are many sentence structures, expressions and sayings that do not translate literally between the two languages. Use grammar and vocabulary discussed in class and use short, basic sentence structure. **It is most important for you to keep it simple, at your own level and that you write your dialogue yourselves.**
   Always keep in mind that you will have to perform your dialogue in front of class.

2. **Oral Presentation component:** Practice your dialogues thoroughly with your classmate! Although 20 points seem much for this part of the assignments, keep calm and do not stress out about it. Avoid complicated sentences that are too long, since those will be more difficult to memorize and repeat. Again, keep it simple! If you do forget a vocabulary word during your presentation, please do not stop your dialogue. Just keep going and remember to demonstrate how well you are already able to communicate in the target language. At this level, only basic German is expected from you.

**Dialogue Topic:** The same topic as your composition topic. There will be at least two topics to choose from.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Woche</th>
<th>Im Unterricht</th>
<th>Seitenzahlen</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Woche 1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>14./16. Januar</td>
<td>Einführungsstunde-Kursvokabular</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woche 2</td>
<td>Kapitel 6 Das ist die Lösung!</td>
<td>Kursbuch S. 8-17</td>
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<td>23. Januar</td>
<td></td>
<td>Arbeitsbuch S. 98-105</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woche 3</td>
<td>Kapitel 6 Das ist die Lösung!</td>
<td>Kursbuch S. 18-23</td>
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<tr>
<td>28. /30 Jan.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Arbeitsbuch S.106-113</td>
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<td>Woche 4</td>
<td>Kapitel 7 Was ist denn los?</td>
<td>Kursbuch S. 24-33</td>
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<td>4. Feb/6. Feb</td>
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<td>Arbeitsbuch S. 114-120</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woche 5</td>
<td>Kapitel 7 Was ist denn los?</td>
<td>Kursbuch S. 34-39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woche 6</td>
<td>Kapitel 8 Von Termin zu Termin</td>
<td>Kursbuch S. 40-49</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woche 7</td>
<td>Kapitel 8 Von Termin zu Termin</td>
<td>Kursbuch S. 50-55</td>
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<td>25. Feb/ 27. Feb.</td>
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<td>Arbeitsbuch S. 140-147</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woche 8</td>
<td>Wiederholung/Zwischenprüfung/Midterm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woche 9</td>
<td>Spring Break -</td>
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<td>11. März/13 März</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woche 10</td>
<td>Kapitel 9 Wunschlos glücklich?</td>
<td>Kursbuch S. 56-63</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woche 11</td>
<td>Kapitel 9 Wunschlos glücklich?</td>
<td>Kursbuch S. 64-71</td>
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<tr>
<td>25. März/27. März</td>
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<td>Arbeitsbuch S. 154-165</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woche 12</td>
<td>Kapitel 10 Viele Grüße!</td>
<td>Kursbuch S. 72-81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. April/3. April</td>
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<td>Arbeitsbuch S. 166-171</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woche 13</td>
<td>Kapitel 10 Viele Grüße!</td>
<td>Kursbuch S. 82-97</td>
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<td>8. April/10. April</td>
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<td>Arbeitsbuch S. 172-199</td>
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**Woche 14**  
Dialoge schreiben – writing dialogues for oral presentations

15. April/17. April

**Woche 15**  
Mündliche Präsentationen – oral presentations/dialogues

22. April/24. April

**Woche 16**  
Wiederholungsstunden – repetition/questions

29. Apr./1. Mai

3./ 6-9. Mai  
Abschlußprüfungen - finals

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**Attention: Course program is an estimated timetable that is subject to change.**

Habt ein wunderschönes Semester – Have a great Semester!