

## German 314: Intermediate Composition

<b>INSTRUCTOR:</b> Dr. Tobias Barske	<b>E-MAIL:</b> <a href="mailto:tbarske@uwsp.edu">tbarske@uwsp.edu</a>
<b>OFFICE:</b> 488c CCC	<b>PHONE:</b> (715) 346 4406
<b>TIME:</b> MW 11am – 12:15pm	<b>OFFICE HOURS:</b> M 12:30-1:30, R 9-10 and by appointment
<b>LOCATION:</b> 305 CCC	<b>D2L:</b> <a href="https://uwsp.courses.wisconsin.edu/">https://uwsp.courses.wisconsin.edu/</a> (D2L)

**GOALS AND STRUCTURE:** German 314 is a video- and text-based course for German language and culture. In this course you will communicate in German in meaningful contexts, as you learn about and develop a greater knowledge of social, cultural, and political developments in German-speaking countries. It is intended for students who have completed at least four semesters of German. This course is designed to improve your writing skills, while offering you opportunities to use German actively to communicate your idea. Learning involves the students' active and serious interaction with the materials and participation in role-plays, discussions, presentations, and writing assignments. The main focus of this class is on developing your proficiency in reading and writing. A comprehensive review of basic concepts of German grammar will comprise the initial portion of the class. Grammar review will also be part of the class as indicated by patterns of mistakes on homework assignments. The class materials stem from a variety of sources, but predominantly from online sources such as newspapers.

### Course Learning Outcomes:

- ❖ Students will be able to write summaries of various kinds of writings in an organized way to demonstrate the ability to narrate using major time frames and different aspects.
- ❖ Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of the nature of language through comparisons of the language studied and their own.

### General Education Learning Outcomes (Global Awareness):

- ❖ Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the practices, products, and perspectives of the cultures studied.
- ❖ Students will be able to understand and interpret a language other than their own in its written and spoken form on a variety of topics.

### Emergency Response:

- ❖ Active Shooter/Code React – Run/Escape, Hide, Fight. If trapped hide, lock doors, turn off lights, spread out and remain quiet. Call 9-1-1 when it is safe to do so. Follow instructions of emergency responders. See UW-Stevens Point Emergency Procedures at [www.uwsp.edu/rmgt/Pages/em/procedures](http://www.uwsp.edu/rmgt/Pages/em/procedures) for details on all emergency response at UW-Stevens Point.
- ❖ In the event of a medical emergency call 9-1-1 or use Red Emergency Phone. Offer assistance if trained and willing to do so. Guide emergency responders to victim.
- ❖ In the event of a tornado warning, proceed to the lowest level interior room without window exposure. Avoid wide-span structures (gyms, pools or large classrooms).
- ❖ In the event of a fire alarm, evacuate the building in a calm manner. Notify instructor or emergency command personnel of any missing individuals.

**COURSE MATERIALS:**

- 1. Dippmann, G. & Watzinger-Tharp, J. (2000). *A Practical Review of German Grammar* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.
- 3. Duolingo App (available on the App Store, Google Play, and Windows Store for free)
- 4. Cell phone, laptop or tablet will be required in almost every class

**LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION:** We (instructor and students) will speak German only in class. Do not use English when talking with your classmates. DO NOT BRING AN ENGLISH-GERMAN DICTIONARY TO CLASS. If you do not know a particular word or phrase while talking, you are expected to circumlocute the meaning (explain the meaning using different words!), ask a classmate, or—your most reliable resource—ask me.

**Evaluation Criteria:**

Summaries	20 %	Webposts	15 %	Duolingo	15 %
Final exam	15 %	Quizzes	15 %	Participation	10 %
Homework	10 %				

Your grades will be calculated using D2L. Note that your grade on D2L does NOT reflect deductions for missed days! You have access to your grade at all times via D2L.

Ranges for Letter Grades					
<b>A</b>	> 94 %	<b>B-</b>	80 – 83%	<b>D+</b>	68 – 69%
<b>A-</b>	90 – 94%	<b>C+</b>	77 – 79%	<b>D</b>	63 – 67%
<b>B+</b>	87 – 89%	<b>C</b>	74 – 77%	<b>D-</b>	60 – 62%
<b>B</b>	84 – 86%	<b>C-</b>	70 – 73%	<b>F</b>	< 59%

**SUMMARIES (25%):** Throughout the semester, we will work on 6 articles in greater detail. You will read each article multiple times, familiarize yourself with the vocabulary, identify critical phrases and concepts in each article, and write two versions of a summary for each article. The multiple drafts will help you work on improving the accuracy of your writing. The summary should be at least 150 words long, typed using a regular word-processing program with 1 inch margins, double-spaced, and a Times 12 font. Working on writing summaries will help you work on developing higher-level writing skills to improve your language proficiency in this area:

**ADVANCED LOW**

Writers at the Advanced Low sublevel are able to meet basic work and/or academic writing needs. They demonstrate the ability to narrate and describe in major time frames with some control of aspect. They are able to compose simple summaries on familiar topics. Advanced Low writers are able to combine and link sentences into texts of paragraph length and structure. Their writing, while adequate to satisfy the criteria of the Advanced level, may not be substantive. Writers at the Advanced Low sublevel demonstrate the ability to incorporate a limited number of cohesive devices, and may resort to some redundancy and awkward repetition. They rely on patterns of oral discourse and the writing style of their first language. These writers demonstrate minimal control of common structures and vocabulary associated with the Advanced level. Their writing is understood by natives not accustomed to the writing of non-natives, although some additional effort may be required in the reading of the text. When attempting to perform functions at the Superior level, their writing will deteriorate significantly.

**WEBPOSTS (15%):** Writing in a foreign language represents a very important skill and requires a lot of practice. Throughout the semester you will have plenty of opportunities to practice and to improve your writing skills in the form of webposts. Every week, you will submit a webpost on D2L. Each webpost is based on watching the Thursday episode of the German newscast *logo* (<http://www.tivi.de/fernsehen/logo/start/index.html>). After you watch the newscast, pick one of the topics and write your webpost. You should list 10 vocabulary items crucial to your post and write a paragraph-long summary of the segment. In addition, you should add a second paragraph where you draw comparisons between Germany/the topic of the segment and the US. An example of these webposts is available on D2L.

You should type your posts using a regular word-processing program using 1 inch margins, double-spaced, and a Times 12 font. Each post should be about 1 page long. You will submit your webposts on D2L. D2L will be set up so that you cannot submit any late work. Writing aids for German characters are posted on D2L. Please read the note about Academic Dishonesty very carefully! Working on writing summaries will help you work on developing higher level writing skills to improve your language proficiency in this area:

**ADVANCED LOW**

Writers at the Advanced Low sublevel are able to meet basic work and/or academic writing needs. They demonstrate the ability to narrate and describe in major time frames with some control of aspect. They are able to compose simple summaries on familiar topics. Advanced Low writers are able to combine and link sentences into texts of paragraph length and structure. Their writing, while adequate to satisfy the criteria of the Advanced level, may not be substantive. Writers at the Advanced Low sublevel demonstrate the ability to incorporate a limited number of cohesive devices, and may resort to some redundancy and awkward repetition. They rely on patterns of oral discourse and the writing style of their first language. These writers demonstrate minimal control of common structures and vocabulary associated with the Advanced level. Their writing is understood by natives not accustomed to the writing of non-natives, although some additional effort may be required in the reading of the text. When attempting to perform functions at the Superior level, their writing will deteriorate significantly.

**DUOLINGO (15%):** Duolingo is a language-learning app available on multiple app stores. It is a free app. Make sure to bring a device such as cell phone, laptop or table to every class, since we will spend time working on this app in almost every class.

<b>A (4 pts.)</b>	0 deadlines missed
<b>B (3 pts.)</b>	1 deadline missed
<b>C (2 pts.)</b>	2 deadlines missed
<b>D (1 pt.)</b>	3 deadlines missed
<b>F (0 pts.)</b>	4 deadlines missed

Working with Duolingo will help you strengthen your language skills appropriate for this course level described below:

*ACTFL Proficiency Levels: Intermediate Mid*

Speakers at the Intermediate Mid sublevel are able to handle successfully a variety of uncomplicated communicative tasks in straightforward social situations. Conversation is generally limited to those predictable and concrete exchanges necessary for survival in the target culture. These include personal information related to self, family, home, daily activities, interests and

personal preferences, as well as physical and social needs, such as food, shopping, travel, and lodging.

Intermediate Mid speakers tend to function reactively, for example, by responding to direct questions or requests for information. However, they are capable of asking a variety of questions when necessary to obtain simple information to satisfy basic needs, such as directions, prices, and services. When called on to perform functions or handle topics at the Advanced level, they provide some information but have difficulty linking ideas, manipulating time and aspect, and using communicative strategies, such as circumlocution.

Intermediate Mid speakers are able to express personal meaning by creating with the language, in part by combining and recombining known elements and conversational input to produce responses typically consisting of sentences and strings of sentences. \_\_\_\_

Overall, Intermediate Mid speakers are at ease when performing Intermediate-level tasks and do so with significant quantity and quality of Intermediate-level language.

**FINAL EXAM (15%):** The final exam will be based on the vocabulary covered as a class in terms of discussing the six summary articles and on the grammar covered in the grammar quizzes.

**QUIZZES (15%):** Throughout the semester, we will cover various grammar topics to review basic German grammar (cases—Nominative, Accusative, Dative Genitive; conjugations—present, future, simple past, present perfect, past perfect; sentence structures—main clauses, commands, questions, relative clauses, subsidiary clauses; more sophisticated structures—relative clauses, subjunctive).

**PARTICIPATION (10%):** Daily attendance in class is necessary and expected. Even though you are allowed 2 absences, you will receive 0 points for any missed class. Beginning with the 3<sup>rd</sup> absence, your course average will drop dramatically (1% off of your final grade per missed day.)

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Criteria for evaluating performance in class:</i>
<b>2 points</b>	Student always uses German, is well-prepared, and uses circumlocution to compensate for unknown vocabulary. In addition, student volunteers to answer questions, pays attention, negotiates meaning with other students, and elaborates answers spontaneously.
<b>1 point</b>	Student only attends class but does not participate; waits to be called on; responses mostly incorrect; resorts to English.
<b>0 points</b>	Student does not attend class.

**HOMEWORK (10%):** You will be responsible for all the assignments listed on the syllabus for any given day, mainly the collection of vocabulary from the articles and comprehension quizzes on the articles. Homework assignments must be completed for the date listed on the syllabus. No late homework will be accepted!






















**EXTRA CREDIT:** A great way to practice your German (and get extra credit!) is to participate in events by the department-sponsored *German Club*. Swing by the *Stammtisch* for a very informal chance to chat with native and non-native speakers of German at all levels of language ability. Dates, places, and times for all extra-curricular events offered through the German club will be




























announced in class. Participation in each event counts as 2 points toward your Webposts scores. You can receive up to 6 points through extra credit.

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:** All work for this class should reflect YOUR work. The only “outside help” permissible is from me, dictionaries, spell checkers, and grammar books. Help from tutors, other instructors, or other speakers of German for graded assignments will be treated as cheating. Using online translation packages (such as Babelfish or Lycos) are also NOT admissible. Please read Chapter 14 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code “Student Academic Standards and Disciplinary Procedures” that applies to ALL students to see penalties for any infraction of academic integrity ([www.uwsp.edu/admin/stuaffairs/rights/rightsChap14.pdf](http://www.uwsp.edu/admin/stuaffairs/rights/rightsChap14.pdf)).

**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:** If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make arrangements to meet with your instructor soon. Please provide an “Accommodations Request” letter from the Office of Disability Services to validate the need for the accommodation.

### Weekly Lesson Plan

DATE			ASSIGNMENTS	
Week 1	Mi	<i>Einführung</i>	 Duolingo: Placement Test	
Week 2	Mo	<i>Wiederholung</i>	 Text: Wer bin ich?  Grammar quiz: Present tense	
	Mi		 Webpost #1 + Google Quiz  Grammar quiz: Sentence Structure of Main Clauses	
Week 3	Mo		<i>Artikel #1</i>	 Webpost #2 + Google Quiz  Vocabulary (D2L)
	Mi	 Draft: Summary #1  Grammar quiz: Simple Past		
Week 4	Mo	 Webpost #3 + Google Quiz  Grammar quiz: Future		
	Mi	 Summary #1  Duolingo (First 20 Skills up to ‚Stuff‘)		
Week 5	Mo	<i>Artikel #2</i>		 Webpost #4 + Google Quiz  Vocabulary (D2L)
	Mi			 Draft: Summary #2  Grammar quiz: Commands
Week 6	Mo		 Webpost #5 + Google Quiz  Grammar quiz: Questions	
	Mi		 Summary #2  Duolingo (Next 20 Skills up to ‚Numbers 2‘)	

Week 7	Mo	<i>Artikel #3</i>	 Webpost #6 + Google Quiz  Vocabulary (D2L)
	Mi		 Draft: Summary #3
Week 8	Mo		 Webpost #7 + Google Quiz  Grammar quiz: Present Perfect
	Mi		 Summary #3  Duolingo (Next 20 Skills up to ‚Feelings‘)
Week 9	Mo	<i>Artikel #4</i>	 Webpost #8 + Google Quiz  Vocabulary (D2L)
	Mi		 Draft: Summary #4
Week 10	Mo		 Webpost #9 + Google Quiz  Grammar quiz: Past Perfect
	Mi		 Summary #4  Duolingo (Next 20 Skills up to ‚Internet‘)
Week 11	Mo	<i>Artikel #5 – Teil 1</i>	 Webpost #10 + Google Quiz  Vocabulary (D2L)
	Mi		 Draft: Summary #5
Week 12	Mo	<i>Film</i>	 Webpost #11 + Google Quiz
	Mi		 Duolingo (Next 20 Skills up to ‚Cond. Per.‘)  Grammar quiz: Relative Clauses
Week 13	Mo	<i>Artikel #5 – Teil 2</i>	 Webpost #12 + Google Quiz
	Mi		 Summary #5
Week 14	Mo	<i>Artikel #6</i>	 Webpost #13 + Google Quiz  Vocabulary (D2L)
	Mi		 Draft: Summary #6  Duolingo (Last 20 Skills)
Week 15	Mo		 Summary #6
	Mi		<i>Course Evaluation; Review for Final</i>

**Final Exam: Thursday, 12/21/2017: 2:45-4:45pm in 305 CCC**