## COURSE OUTLINE

**INSTRUCTOR’S NAME:** Dr. Conny Burian  
**OFFICE LOCATION:** CHC 108  
**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** 403-220-3557  
**E-MAIL:** cburian@ucalgary.ca

### DESCRIPTION

As an introductory German language class, this course will focus on all four language skills—reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Class activities will be embedded in a rich cultural context that allows students to acquire a basic vocabulary to express themselves on everyday topics relevant to students and travelers in the German-speaking countries and to understand written and oral texts relating to diverse cultural issues.

### OBJECTIVES

Students can expect to:

- Acquire basic vocabulary and interact with written and oral texts relating to various issues.
- Become familiar with a broad range of cultural issues.
- Learn and review basic points of German grammar so that they can carry out more complex communicative tasks, including expressing opinions.
- Develop their ability to self-correct by learning to recognize and correct grammatical and other inaccuracies.
- Develop and hone reading strategies to understand different kinds of texts of increasing complexity.
- Develop listening and speaking abilities by interacting with the instructor, tutorial leader, and fellow students, and listening to German speech in various forms (e.g. video, music, dialogue).

### OUTCOMES

Students will increasingly be able to integrate all four language skills: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Upon successful completion of the course, they will become competent language users.

### DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES

**Class and Tutorial Participation** (15% of the final grade)

In class students will be expected to:

- Be prepared (read new required material, review material from previous class)
- Contribute to group and class discussions and activities
- Complete group and individual tasks, such as short pieces of written work, grammar practice, oral or written summaries of group discussions or prepared readings, etc.
- Complete regular homework assignments
As active use of German is a main goal of this course, it is essential that students come to class and the tutorial and be prepared to participate. While I recognize that some students are quiet and more introverted than others, this general guideline is meant to give students an idea what constitutes active participation. Active participation demonstrates that students are committed to their own learning and to the learning of others. Please see more detailed information regarding participation under “course notes.”

**Writing Projects** (2 x 7.5% = 15% of the final grade):

Students will have to complete two writing projects during the course of the semester on topics related to themes covered in the textbook. The writing projects will be assessed on technical accuracy (grammar, spelling, word choice) and content/creativity (does it make sense as a whole, does it successfully communicate to the reader, has the topic been approached in a way that is thoughtful and interesting). I will provide topics and explain assessment criteria for the written assignments closer to the due dates. Note that online translators or other aids are not permitted; their use constitutes a violation of academic honesty.

**Tests** (2 x 15% = 30% of the final grade):

There will be two in-class tests covering listening, grammar, vocabulary, reading, writing, and cultural knowledge. NO books, aids, or electronic devices of any kind are allowed. Missed tests cannot be rescheduled.

**Fluency Project** (15% of the final grade):

Students will present/post a dialogue or slide show alone or with a partner/group. Assessment will be based on creativity, pronunciation, fluency, and comprehensibility. More details will be provided closer to the due dates.

**Final Exam** (25% of the final grade):

The final exam is a comprehensive 2-hour exam scheduled by the Registrar’s Office. No exceptions will be made to the examination timetable, but students can defer exams under certain circumstances ([https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams](https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams)). NO books, aids, or electronic devices are allowed.

Please contact me if you have any concerns now or at any time during the course.

**GRADING SCALE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>100-97%</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>96-91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-86%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>85-81%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80-76%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>75-71%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>70-67%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>66-62%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>61-58%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>57-54%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>53-50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>49% and below</td>
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</tbody>
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**REQUIRED TEXTS**

*Please note: The University of Calgary bookstore is organized by AUTHOR LAST NAME.*

Faculty of Arts  
School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

RECOMMENDED TEXTS

COURSE NOTES
D2L: Detailed Course Information, Syllabus, Assignment Instructions, and various resources will be posted on our course site.

Participation is crucial for success. To give you an idea how in-class participation will be graded, please see the rough guideline below:

A = prepared for class and volunteers frequently (at least 3 times per class)
B = prepared for class and volunteers infrequently (1 – 2 per class)
C = prepared for class but does not volunteer; answers when called upon
D = not prepared for class and sometimes absent
F = not prepared for class and often absent

Please know that class participation does not always involve speaking in front of the whole class. You will be doing a great deal of group and partner work, and I will monitor your participation with others. The participation grade will be based on my observations as well as on written self-assessments, which give you the opportunity to rate your engagement with the material, the language, and your classmates, as well as your progress and commitment to the course.

5% of the participation grade is for your work in the tutorial (preparation, interaction with classmates and tutorial instructor). Another 10%, as outlined above, is allotted to your participation in class, submission of the written participation self-assessments, and for homework completion; you will be expected to do regular homework to prepare for class and the tutorial and/or to practice newly learned material. Some homework will be activities in the textbook’s online course materials. Preparing and practicing at home frees up class time for activities you cannot do on your own, such as exchanging ideas, engaging in conversation and discussion, etc. Homework benefits your own learning process but also is a responsibility you have towards the other students in the class: it is a prerequisite for interaction and active use of German during class/tutorial time.

Remember that language homework is like practicing for a musician or training for an athlete – you get evaluated on your performance, but for that performance to be good, you have to practice a lot.

Regarding absences, please note that it is your responsibility to review the course schedule and textbook and to contact classmates to find out what you missed.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT
1. Plagiarism is a serious offence, the penalty for which is an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. Plagiarism exists when:
   a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one’s own in an examination or test);
   b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;
   c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
   d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

   While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted.”
Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student’s work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

2. **Cheating** at tests or examinations includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct such as speaking to other candidates or communicating with them under any circumstances whatsoever; bringing into the examination room any textbook, notebook, memorandum, other written material or mechanical or electronic device not authorized by the examiner; writing an examination or part of it, or consulting any person or materials outside the confines of the examination room without permission to do so, or leaving answer papers exposed to view, or persistent attempts to read other students’ examination papers.

3. **Other academic misconduct** includes, but is not limited to, tampering or attempts to tamper with examination scripts, class work, grades and/or class records; failure to abide by directions by an instructor regarding the individuality of work handed in; the acquisition, attempted acquisition, possession, and/or distribution of examination materials or information not authorized by the instructor; the impersonation of another student in an examination or other class assignment; the falsification or fabrication of clinical or laboratory reports; the non-authorized tape recording of lectures.

4. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of one of these offences is also guilty of academic misconduct.

**COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION**
All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT**
Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it. Please see https://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

**ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**
It is the student’s responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: https://www.ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf).

Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

**FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES**
Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students’ Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.
In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students’ Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy
- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102  
Phone: 403-220-3580  
Email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca  
Website: arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKinnie Block.

Contacts for the Students’ Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES
Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES
A link to required information that is not course-specific related to student wellness and safety resources, can be found on the Office of the Registrar’s website: https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines.