

# GERM 218 : German Language 2B

School of Languages and Cultures  
**Trimester 2 2008**

22 Points

## STAFF

Dr Margaret Sutherland (Course Co-ordinator)	vZ 615	463-5975
Ms Anke Szczepanski	22KP Room 209	463-7497
Ms Dorit Hahn	22KP Room 207	463-7441

All teachers are happy to discuss students' problems with them at any time, or to provide additional information about the course. Such information is regularly given in class announcements or posted on the notice board of the German Programme (Level 6 of the von Zedlitz Building) or on Blackboard.

German staff have no specially designated office hours, but students may make an appointment with the German Administrator, if the staff member they wish to see is unavailable for consultation at any time.

## CLASS TIMES AND ROOMS

### Lecture

either	Tue	10 -11	vZ 506	Dr Margaret Sutherland
or	Tue	11-12	vZ 506	"
or	Tue	12-1	vZ 506	"

### Language Tutorial I

either	Wed	10-11	vZ 509	Ms Szczepanski
or	Wed	11-12	vZ 506	"
or	Wed	12-1	vZ 506	"

### Language Tutorial 2

either	Fri	10-11	vZ 506	Ms Szczepanski
or	Fri	11-12	vZ 506	"
or	Fri	12-1	vZ 506	"

### Audio-visual Class

either	Thu	9-10	vZ 003	Ms Hahn
or	Thu	10-11	vZ 003	"
or	Thu	11-12	vZ 003	"

### FIRST MEETING

The first meeting for GERM 218 students takes place on **Tuesday, 8 July in the von Zedlitz Building at**

either	10.00 am	vZ 506
or	11.00 am	vZ 506
or	12.00 am	vZ 506.

At this meeting the course will be introduced and students divided into their groups for the lectures, two tutorial sections of the course and the audio-visual classes.

Classes will begin on **Wednesday, 9 July**.

### COURSE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

GERM 218 is a Second Trimester course of four hours per week, involving one lecture, two language tutorials and an audio-visual class. The course presupposes a pass in either GERM 112 or GERM 217. Students who have completed GERM 217 and 218 may proceed to GERM 315 or GERM 320.

GERM 218 is based on a varied approach. The four language classes are devoted to the development of different but complementary skills and aim to enable students to consolidate the language skills they have already acquired. The lecture concentrates on revision of the most significant grammar points, the two tutorials concentrate on the development of reading and aural-oral comprehension and practise strategies for language learning and language use. The audio-visual class is devoted chiefly to the fostering of aural and oral skills by means of discussion texts on a variety of themes as well as cassettes, videos and computer programmes.

Students who pass the course should

- have a good grasp of basic German grammar
- have a good knowledge of German vocabulary pertaining to a number of different word fields
- have an understanding of different styles of German.

### TEXTS

The set texts are: Leonhard Thoma, *Die Blaumacherin* (Hueber) and a reference grammar: Christine Stief and Christian Stang, *German Grammar in a Nutshell*.

Students also need to purchase *Jede Menge Spaß mit der Grammatik*. This is available from the Student Notes Shop, Student Union Building.

Students should also possess a good dictionary (e.g. *Collins German Dictionary*).

## ESTIMATED WORKLOAD

In addition to the four class hours, eleven additional hours per week. This will naturally vary according to the knowledge of German with which the student comes to the course.

## ASSESSMENT

GERM 218 is **internally assessed**.

Assessment is by:

(a) Two in-term language tests, to be held on:

**Friday – 8 August and Friday – 3 October** ..... 50%

(b) There are three written assignments, due on: **25 July, 5 September, 26 September**.

There are two further assignments, one based on the marks accrued from a short weekly reading task and the other on the marks accrued from a short weekly vocabulary acquisition exercise..... 30%

(c) End-of-Semester oral examination (10 minutes) ..... 20%

### a) The Tests

Attendance at the two tests is essential. Failure to attend a test will automatically result in failing the course. If a student is prevented from attending through exceptional circumstances such as accident, illness or bereavement, an explanation *must* be made, if possible in writing, *prior to the test*. In this case an alternative test date may be arranged. (NB: In case of illness, a medical certificate is required.)

Each test will presume acquaintance with all the material studied prior to that test, i.e. the material covered in all four weekly classes and any written assignments done.

### b) The Assignments

In addition to the two tests, there are 5 assignments based on questions regarding texts in *Die Blaumacherin*, on weekly vocabulary acquisition exercises, on texts contained in *Jede Menge Spaß mit der Grammatik* and on the grammar and other aspects of German covered in class. The types of assignments set may include translations into English or German, writing of German sentences and/or grammar exercises. To gain maximum marks students must complete all 5 assignments. Failure to hand in an assignment results in a zero mark for that assignment. It is up to students unable to attend a particular class for any reason to find out from someone else what the homework is and the date it is to be submitted by. In special circumstances such as illness or bereavement, an extension may be granted, but only after consultation with the teacher concerned. There will occasionally be assignments done in class (e.g. dictations), but students will be given prior warning about these.

**Dictionaries and grammars may be used in completing the assignments, but since these count towards the final grade (30%) students must otherwise complete them unaided. Any sign that this is not so will be investigated.**

All assignments must include a cover sheet available from SLC Reception or Blackboard. Assignments are to be handed in to the German assignment box located to the left of the SLC Reception area on Level 6 of von Zedlitz.

**c) Final Oral Exam**

This is 10 minutes in length, and students will either be designated a topic by the lecturers or be asked to choose a topic of their own on which to speak and/or may read a passage of their choice. They will then be asked questions in German. The exam is designed to test the student's fluency, grammatical correctness and use of vocabulary in oral German.

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM**

Academic integrity is about honesty – put simply it means *no cheating*. All members of the University community are responsible for upholding academic integrity, which means staff and students are expected to behave honestly, fairly and with respect for others at all times.

Plagiarism is a form of cheating which undermines academic integrity. The University defines plagiarism as follows:

*The presentation of the work of another person or other persons as if it were one's own, whether intended or not. This includes published or unpublished work, material on the Internet and the work of other students or staff.*

It is still plagiarism even if you re-structure the material or present it in your own style or words.

*Note: It is however, perfectly acceptable to include the work of others as long as that is acknowledged by appropriate referencing.*

Plagiarism is prohibited at Victoria and is not worth the risk. Any enrolled student found guilty of plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct and may be penalized severely. Consequences of being found guilty of plagiarism can include:

- an oral or written warning
- cancellation of your mark for an assessment or a fail grade for the course
- suspension from the course or the University.

Find out more about plagiarism, and how to avoid it, on the University's website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

## MARKING SYSTEM

The Faculty marking system by letter grade is as follows:

A+	85 - 100%
A	80 - 84%
A-	75 - 79%
B+	70 - 74%
B	65 - 69%
B-	60 - 64%
C+	55 - 59%
C	50 - 54%
D	40 - 49% (fail)
E	0 - 39% (fail)

## MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The minimum course requirements which must be satisfied in order to pass the course are: attendance at a **minimum of 80 %** of classes in **each** of the **four sections** of the course, and satisfactory completion of the tests, written assignments, and oral examination, as stipulated on p. 3 and 4. Unless notified to the contrary, students may assume they have been awarded Terms, i.e. have met the mandatory course requirements.

## GENERAL ADVICE

We want to do our best to make your study of German both profitable and enjoyable. However we can only to a limited extent *teach* you German; more important is your ability and willingness to *learn*. Do take advantage of whatever opportunities occur outside class hours to practise your German: e.g. reading, German films, lectures at the Goethe Society or Goethe Institut, *Kaffeestunde*, the German choir, the student play production, conversations with Germans, and so on. Students are also strongly encouraged to use self-access materials provided by the Language Learning Centre (situated on Level 0 of the von Zedlitz Building), including several computer programmes, which deal with all aspects of German grammar.

The teachers in GERM 218 are very approachable and are here to *help* you. Do not feel shy about asking questions in or outside class if you have not understood something. Feel free to tell us what you find most (or least) interesting or useful in the course.

## STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES AND STUDENT EVALUATIONS

In the second week of lectures, staff will facilitate the election of a class representative. Student reps are a valuable means of communication between teaching staff and students. Each trimester student reps of SAELC courses will meet together with the Head of School. At the end of the course students may be asked to fill out questionnaires prepared by the University's Teaching and Development Centre in order to evaluate individual lecturers' performance and/or the course as a whole.

## CONTACT PERSON

The School's Disability Liaison Person is:

Richard Millington

vZ 613

Tel. 463-5976

E-mail: richard.millington@vuw.ac.nz

The School's Contact Person for Maori and Pacific Students is:

Richard Millington

vZ 613

Tel. 463-5976

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## GENERAL UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS, POLICIES AND STATUTES

Information on the General University Policies and Statutes is available on Blackboard for GERM 218.

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR GERM 218

<b>Week 1</b>	07 – 11 July
<b>Week 2</b>	14 – 18 July
<b>Week 3</b>	21 – 25 July
	ASSIGNMENT 1 DUE – 25 July, 4pm
<b>Week 4</b>	28 July – 1 August
<b>Week 5</b>	4 – 8 August
	TEST 1 – 8 August (during tutorial times)
<b>Week 6</b>	11 – 15 August
	<b>Mid-Term Break</b>
<b>Week 7</b>	1 – 5 September
	ASSIGNMENT 2 DUE – 5 September, 4pm
<b>Week 8</b>	8 – 12 September
<b>Week 9</b>	15 – 19 September
<b>Week 10</b>	22 – 26 September
	ASSIGNMENT 3 DUE – 26 September, 4pm
<b>Week 11</b>	29 September– 3 October
	TEST 2 – 3 October (during tutorial times)
<b>Week 12</b>	6 –10 October
	ORAL EXAM (Dates and times to be confirmed)

