

GERM 217 German Language 2A

School of Languages & Cultures

Trimester 1 2009

22 Points

TEACHERS

Ms Anke Szczepanski (Course Co-ordinator)	KP 22, Room 209	Office hours: Tue 3-4pm, Fri 1-2pm	Tel.: 463-7497
Ms Dorit Hahn	KP 22, Room 207	Office hour: Wed 12-1pm	Tel.: 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 and posted on Blackboard or on the notice board of the German Programme (Level 6 of the von Zedlitz Building).

TRIMESTER DATES

GERM 217 runs from 2 March to 5 June 2009, with a mid-trimester break from 10 – 26 April 2009. **ALL Classes** (including Tutorials and AV Classes) will start in the first week. In the first meeting on Tuesday, 3 March at 10am, 12am or 2.10pm in vZ 506 students will sign up for Tutorials and AV Classes.

CLASS TIMES AND ROOMS

GERM 217 is a course of FOUR contact hours per week, involving one lecture, two language tutorials and an audio-visual class.

Lectures

either	Tue 10.00 – 10.50am	vZ 506	Anke Szczepanski
or	Tue 12.00 – 12.50pm	vZ 506	“
or	Tue 2.10 – 3.00pm	vZ 506	“

Language Tutorial 1

either	Thu 10.00 – 10.50am	vZ 506	Anke Szczepanski
or	Thu 1.10 – 2.00pm	vZ 506	“
or	Thu 2.10 – 3.00pm	vZ 506	“

Language Tutorial 2

either	Fri 10.00 – 10.50am	MY 301	Anke Szczepanski
or	Fri 11.00 – 11.50am	MY 301	“
or	Fri 12.00 – 12.50pm	MY 303	“

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Audio-Visual Class

either	Wed 9.00 – 9.50am	vZ 003	Dorit Hahn
or	Wed 10.00 – 10.50pm	vZ 003	“
or	Wed 11.00 – 11.50pm	vZ 003	“

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

GERM 217 presupposes some knowledge of German, usually three years of school German, a pass in UE or UB/NCEA Level 3 German, or a pass in GERM 102, or GERM 104. The course is designed to combine skill development (listening, reading, speaking, writing) with the revision of basic and intermediate-level German grammar. Students who pass the course can be expected to be able to:

- demonstrate a sound knowledge of basic to intermediate-level German grammar and be able to apply this knowledge effectively in appropriate contexts
- understand authentic and adapted texts and audio-visual material on a familiar topic
- hold a conversation/ speak on topics that are familiar, of personal interest or pertinent to everyday life
- employ appropriate vocabulary on specific topics pertaining to everyday life

COURSE CONTENT AND DELIVERY

The course 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. Classroom activities will be based on analysis and elaboration of a range of authentic and adapted material, taken mainly from the *Jede Menge Spaß mit der Grammatik* (Student Notes), and will allow students to practise reading, writing, speaking and listening to German, as well as combining these skills for effective communication in realistic contexts. A large part of the Lectures and Tutorials will also concentrate on the revision of the most significant grammar points. The material for this course will focus on the topics *Lifestyle/ Medien, Reisen* and *Ernährung*. Students will be expected to participate actively in all four classes and to contribute to class discussion.

ESTIMATED WORKLOAD

In addition to the four class hours, eleven additional hours per week. Students are expected to use this time for revision, extra practice (e.g. using the extra practice tasks provided by the teachers), skill development (e.g. in the LLC, with a language buddy or a book!), thoroughly preparing and completing the assignments, and preparing for the written tests and the oral exam. Although the study time required to perform successfully in this course will vary according to the student's prior knowledge of German, please note that all language students benefit from maximum contact with the target language.

SET 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 Students Notes Shop, Student Union Building.

ASSESSMENT

GERM 217 is **internally assessed**. Assessment is by:

1. Two in-term language tests (50 minutes each), held on
Thursday 9 April and Tuesday 2 June50%
2. Five assignments:30%
 - Assignments 1, 2 & 3 are due on **Friday 20 March, Tuesday 28 April and Friday 15 May, 12noon** respectively.
 - Assignment 4 & 5 are based on weekly reading tasks and weekly vocabulary tests in **weeks 3-11**.
3. One oral test (10 minutes) in week 12, times tba20%

1. Tests

The two tests are designed to assess the student's familiarity with the material studied prior to the test, in all four classes, ie Lectures, Tutorials and AV Classes. They may contain grammar and vocabulary exercises, reading comprehension and basic writing tasks.

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.)

2. Assignments

In addition to the two tests, students have to complete and submit five assignments. Assignments 1-3 will be based on themes and material covered in class. The set tasks may include grammar exercises, reading or listening comprehension, or short written compositions. Assignment 4 and 5 are short weekly tasks and designed to help students to evenly spread their study throughout the course. One of these assignments is based on reading short stories from the set text of this course *Die Blaumacherin* and answering comprehension questions on Blackboard. The other assignment consists of weekly vocabulary tests based on vocabulary lists provided by the teachers.

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.

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. Please take careful note of the University's statement on "Academic Integrity and Plagiarism".

3. Oral Test

This is 10 minutes in length. Students will prepare a little speech on a topic supplied by the teachers. They will then be asked questions in German. The test is designed to test the student's fluency, grammatical correctness and use of vocabulary in oral German.

MARKING SYSTEM

The 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: regular attendance at classes (a minimum of 80% of all four sections of the course, ie lectures, tutorials and AV classes) and completion of the tests and oral examination, as stipulated on p. 3-4. Unless notified to the contrary, students may assume they have met the mandatory course requirements.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff

- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

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

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

GENERAL ADVICE

We are interested in students' opinions. Please let us know any suggestions for improving the course. Students will find all the staff approachable and should feel able to discuss with them any problems they may have.

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: eg *Kaffeestunde*, the student play production, conversation with Germans, reading, German films, talks at the Goethe Society or the Goethe Institute, and so on. Students are also strongly encouraged to use the self-access materials provided by the Language Learning Centre.

Remember too that the teachers are here to *help* you. Do not feel shy about asking questions in class if you have not understood something. Similarly, if you have difficulties in any area, or feel dissatisfied with your performance, please do not hesitate to discuss this with one of the teachers.

GENERAL UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS, POLICIES AND STATUTES

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the Victoria University Calendar or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

This website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates.

The name of the School's Disability Liaison Person is:

Richard Millington vZ 613 Tel.: 463-5976 Email: richard.millington@vuw.ac.nz

The name of the School's Maori and Pacific Students Liaison Person is:

Richard Millington vZ 613 Tel.: 463-5976 Email: richard.millington@vuw.ac.nz

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Wk	Date	Important Dates
1	2-6 Mar	First meeting on Tuesday 3 March ALL classes begin
2	9-13 Mar	<i>nichts wichtiges ☺</i>
3	16-20 Mar	Assignment 1 due on Friday 20 March Reading Task 1 due Vocab Test #1
4	23-27 Mar	Reading Task 2 due Vocab Test #2
5	30 Mar-3 Apr	Reading Task 3 due Vocab Test #3
6	6-10 Apr	TEST 1 on Thursday 9 April Reading Task 4 due Vocab Test #4 <i>10 April - Good Friday – Uni closed</i>
<i>Holidays 11-26 April</i>		Reading Task 5 due
7	27 Apr-1 May	Assignment 2 due on Tuesday 28 April Reading Task 6 due Vocab Test #5
8	4-8 May	Reading Task 7 due Vocab Test #6
9	11-15 May	Assignment 3 due on Friday 15 May Reading Task 8 due Vocab Test #7
10	18-22 May	Vocab Test #8
11	25-29 May	Vocab Test #9
12	1-5 June	<i>1 June – Queen’s Birthday – Uni closed</i> TEST 2 on Tuesday 2 June Oral Tests