

**SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES AND CULTURES**

**GERMAN PROGRAMME**  
**GERM 217 German Language 2A**

**TRIMESTER 1 2012**  
5 March to 4 July 2012

**Trimester dates**

Teaching dates: 5 March to 8 June 2012  
Mid-trimester break: 6–22 April 2012  
Study week: 11–15 June 2012  
Examination/Assessment Period: 15 June to 4 July 2012

Please note students should be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the formal examination period.

**Withdrawal dates**

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at  
<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

**Names and contact details**

**Course Coordinator  
and Lecturer:** Dr Margaret Sutherland (MS)  
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**Senior Tutor:** Ms Anke Szczepanski (AS)  
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Reception Hours: 9.00am – 5.00pm Monday to Friday

**Contact Person for Maori  
& Pasifika Students:** Dr Ross Woods  
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**Contact Person for Students with Disabilities:** Dr Carolina Miranda  
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Staff are available for student consultation at times indicated on their office doors. Alternative times can be arranged by phone or email.

### Class times and locations

#### Lecture

Wed 9.00 - 9.50am in MY (Murphy) LT101 Margaret Sutherland

#### Language Tutorial 1

either	Wed 11.00am - 11.50am	vZ710	Margaret Sutherland
or	Thurs 3.10pm - 4.00pm	vZ710	Margaret Sutherland
or	Thurs 4.10pm - 5.00pm	vZ710	Margaret Sutherland

#### Language Tutorial 2

either	Fri 11.00am - 11.50am	vZ509	Anke Szczepanski
or	Fri 12noon - 12.50pm	vZ506	Anke Szczepanski
or	Fri 2.10pm - 3.00pm	vZ515	Anke Szczepanski

#### Audio-Visual Class

either	Tues 12noon - 12.50pm	vZ011	Anke Szczepanski
or	Tues 2.10pm - 3.00pm	vZ011	Anke Szczepanski
or	Tues 3.10pm - 4.00pm	vZ011	Anke Szczepanski

Tutorials will begin in the first week and A/V classes will begin in the second week of the first trimester. Students must choose oral and audiovisual class groups by signing up using the S-cubed system. <https://signups.victoria.ac.nz>. You remain in your allotted group for the whole course, unless a change is authorised by the Course Coordinator.

### Course delivery

GERM 217 is a course of FOUR contact hours per week, involving one lecture, two language tutorials and an audio-visual class. Students are expected to attend all classes.

### Communication of additional information

Additional information will be provided in class and/or posted on Blackboard.

### Course prescription

Revision of basic German grammar. Practice of reading and listening to authentic German at an advanced level, building of German vocabulary knowledge pertaining to a number of different world fields.

## Course content

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 *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.

## Learning objectives

GERM 217 presupposes some knowledge of German, usually three years of school German, a pass in 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

## Expected workload

The University Assessment Handbook has laid down guidelines as to the number of hours per week which students are expected to devote to a course in order to maintain satisfactory progress. Students enrolling in a one trimester 20-point course should work on average 13 hours per week including contact hours.

In addition to the four class hours per week students are expected to use the nine additional hours per week 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 test. 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.

## Readings

### Essential texts:

Leonhard Thoma, *Die Blaumacherin* (Hueber)

Christine Stief and Christian Stang, *German Grammar in a Nutshell*, Langenscheidt

GERM 217 Handbook: *Jede Menge Spaß mit der Grammatik*

All undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer from 13 February to 16 March 2012, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of vicbooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. After week two of the trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from vicbooks on Level 4 of the Student Union Building.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at [www.vicbooks.co.nz](http://www.vicbooks.co.nz) or can email an order or enquiry to [enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz](mailto:enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz). Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from nominated collection points at each campus. Customers will be contacted when they are available.

Opening hours are 8.00am – 6.00pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

## Assessment requirements

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

1. Two in-term language tests (50 minutes each), held on
  - **Friday 27 April (in normal tutorial time) and Wednesday 6 June** 50%
2. Five assignments: 30%
  - Assignments 1,2 & 3 are due on **Friday 23 March, Tuesday 8 May Friday 1 June, 12noon** respectively.
3. One oral test (10 minutes) in week 12, times (to be advised) 20%

### 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 topics and material covered in class. The set tasks may include grammar exercises, reading or listening comprehension, or short written compositions. Assignments 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 lecturers/tutors.

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 lecturer/tutor 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 short speech on a topic supplied by the lecturers/tutors. 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.

#### Penalties

The due dates for the assignments given in the Course Programme must be adhered to. Although work may be accepted late in special circumstances, the Course Coordinator should always be contacted on or before the due dates if there is a problem. The penalty for work presented late without prior approval is a 5% deduction per day.

Please note that no work for assessment will be accepted after 15 June 2012.

#### 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 test, as stipulated on p. 4. Unless notified to the contrary, students may assume they have met the mandatory course requirements.

#### Class representative

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students. Class reps will attend a meeting with the Head of School to discuss how your courses are going and to raise any concerns or suggestions that they may have.

#### Language Learning Centre (LLC)

The Language Learning Centre (LLC) is Victoria's technology-rich, multimedia centre supporting language learning and teaching.

At the LLC you can practise and extend your language learning. You can:

- select the materials or activities that you find interesting
- study with resources that match your language level and learning style
- find a welcoming environment with services and events, and onsite assistance and support for languages

Access a variety of multimedia language resources at the LLC: everything from print, audio materials, foreign language TV and DVDs to language-learning software.

The LLC provides access to your digital course material on a server, and instructions are given during LLC orientations. The Blackboard site for most language courses has an LLC content-page for your reference, with web links, LLC Guides, resource lists, etc.

Drop by the centre to find out more, or visit the website. LLC, Level 0 von Zedlitz Building,  
[www.victoria.ac.nz/llc/](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/llc/)

### **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>

### **Where to find more detailed information**

Find key dates as well as explanations of grades and other useful information at  
[www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study).

Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at  
[www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress).

Most statutes and policies are available at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy), except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx) (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic), at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about\\_victoria/avcademic](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcademic).

### **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.

## Course programme

Date		Important Dates
1	5 - 9 Mar	First meeting on Wednesday 7 March All classes begin
2	12 - 16 Mar	<i>nichts wichtiges ☺</i>
3	19 - 23 Mar	<b>Assignment 1 due on Friday 23 March</b> Reading Task 1 due Vocab Test #1
4	26 - 30 Mar	Reading Task 2 due Vocab Test #2
5	2 - 5 Apr	Reading Task 3 due Vocab Test #3
Mid-trimester break 6–22 April <b>Reading Task 4 due in break</b>		
6	23 - 27 Apr	Reading Task 5 due Vocab Test #4 <b>TEST 1 on Friday 27 April</b>
7	30 Apr - 4 May	Reading Task 6 due Vocab Test #5
8	7 - 11 May	<b>Assignment 2 due on Tuesday 8 May</b> Reading Task 7 due Vocab Test #6
	14 - 18 May	Reading Task 8 due Vocab Test #7
10	21 - 25 May	Vocab Test #8
11	28 May - 1 June	<b>Assignment 3 due on Friday 1 June</b> Vocab Test #9
12	5 - 8 June	<b>TEST 2 on Wednesday 6 June</b> Oral Tests