

German I - Semester I

Course Syllabus

Description

Designed to introduce students to German language and culture, German I courses emphasize basic grammar and syntax, simple vocabulary, and the spoken accent so that students can read, write, speak, and understand the language at a basic level within predictable areas of need, using customary courtesies and conventions. German culture is introduced through the art, literature, customs, and history of the German-speaking people.

German I Semester I is comprised of three Units, each containing 6 weeks of learning:

- Unit 1: Greetings and Farewells (Sessions 1.1 - 1.6)
- Unit 2: My Family (Sessions 2.1 – 2.6)
- Unit 3: What I like to do (Sessions 3.1 – 3.6)

A new session opens each week. You are expected to view all of the instructional videos and material, complete the assignments (tasks, quizzes, and/or discussion board posts), and collect 100 points in Duolingo for every session each week. You have access to the whole week's content once it opens and you can work at your own pace within that week long window. Keep in mind, however, that the best way to master a new language is to practice a little every day!

Course Expectations

You are expected to:

- Go through each session slide by slide in order and view/read all content, including instructional videos and pages.
- Complete all of the assigned tasks each week by their due date.
- Collect 100 point in Duolingo each week on the topics/content of your choice.
- Communicate with me if you have questions, need help, require clarification, or will be absent for an extended period of time.
- Go back and complete missing work if you have any. I will always give you points for work completed!
- Be engaging, respectful and courteous on the discussion boards.
- Respond to at least two of your classmates in addition to your original response on discussion boards for a minimum totals of 3 posts per discussion board in order to earn full credit.
- Practice your German as often as you can, preferably a little every day.
- Take advantage of quiz retakes – you have three attempts, the highest grade will count.

Duolingo

[Duolingo](#) is one of the world's largest free online language learning platform. Duolingo's adaptive experience has gamified elements to make language learning more fun and effective. We will be using this platform to hone our German skills and gain valuable practice. The best part is that you can move at your own pace. Each week you will be required to collect 100 points. The nature of Duolingo allows students to flexibly move at your own pace and select the skills and categories of your choice to practice.

Google Translate

Google Translate is a wonderful tool if used appropriately. Appropriate uses include looking up individual words or short phrases and checking the gender of a noun. It is never appropriate to type in whole sentences or a series of sentences and then copy and paste them into your assignment, drop box, quiz, test, or discussion board. THIS IS CHEATING! The goal of these exercises is to help you learn how to create sentences on your own, not to copy and paste them from a translator. It is usually obvious when students do this, as the sentences are highly sophisticated and contain words/structures that we have not yet learned. Google Translate is also not perfect and often contains awkward mistakes. If you are suspected of copying and pasting from a translator, you will receive a zero for the assignment. If it happens twice, you may be asked to leave the class. I consider this a form a plagiarism and it will be treated as such.

Unit Details

What students will be able to do by the end of Unit 1:

Listening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognize common greetings and expressions Understand someone talking about their age, where they are from, where they live, and phone number Understand some cognates Understand some basic classroom commands Understand basic questions about personal information Understand the days of the week
Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand basic personal information on personal files or in written dialogues Identify some cognates Recognize yes/no questions Recognize the days of the week
Person-to-Person	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greet and say good-bye to people Introduce yourself and ask for basic personal information Answer questions about your personal information
Speaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greet people Tell your age Tell where you are from Tell your phone number Introduce yourself Say what day of the week it is Count to 20 Say the German alphabet
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Write an introduction about yourself Write your age Write where you come from and where you live

What students will be able to do by the end of Unit 2:

Listening	Understand when someone describes themselves or someone else Understand simple questions about yourself or someone else Understand the numbers up to 100
Reading	Understand basic personal information found in short readings
Person-to-Person	Answer questions about physical characteristics and personality traits Ask questions to find out basic information and characteristics about someone else
Speaking	Describe yourself including personality traits and physical characteristics Describe someone else including age, personality and physical characteristics Recite a poem
Writing	Write about yourself and others including personality and physical characteristics

What students will be able to do by the end of Unit 3:

Listening	Understand when someone talks about activities they like or dislike Understand simple questions about likes and dislikes
Reading	Understand basic information about activities people like or don't like from a variety of sources
Person-to-Person	Answer questions about likes and dislikes Ask and answer questions through emails/texts/conversations about activities including when, why and with whom
Speaking	Express likes and dislikes about activities Express why you like or dislike activities Say when and with whom you like or don't like to do something
Writing	Express likes and dislikes about activities Express why you like or dislike activities Write about when you and with whom you like or don't like to do something

Seid ihr bereit? Lassen wir anfangen!