Instructor: Dr. Iris Bork-Goldfield

GRST 101.01: M/W/F 9:00 a.m.-9:50 a.m. in Fisk 305
GRST 101.02: M/W/F 10:00 a.m.-10:50 a.m. in 305
Office: Fisk Hall 409
Office hours: M / W 2:00-3p.m.; or by appointment
Contact me via Email < ibork@wesleyan.edu> or by phone 860-685-3753

Course Materials (All books can be purchased at the bookstore. Please note that we will use the books for this and next semester!)

- Cecile Zorach, English Grammar for Students of German (optional)

You will also need:
A 3-ring binder or folder for handouts, index cards and/or notebook for vocabulary, and a thin notebook to keep a journal. Please check your email and Moodle daily!

This semester you will begin to learn German and will also learn about Germany, and other German-speaking countries and their place in Europe. We will cover chapters Einführung to 6 with the following learning objectives and topics:

Einführung (introductory chapter)

- You will learn to introduce yourself, greet others and say farewells, say the alphabet and spell, say the numbers and useful classroom expressions
- Culture: Forms of address, inquiring about someone's well-being, postal codes and country abbreviations, German-speaking countries and their neighbors

Chapter 1

- You will learn to give information about yourself: characteristics, hobbies and interests, and how to inquire about others
- Grammar: nouns, gender and definite articles; personal pronouns; infinitives and present tense; verb sein; word order, asking questions; interrogatives
- Culture: University subjects, foreigners in Germany; and "meeting" the German author Nasrin Siege

Chapter 2

- You will learn about: Types of housing, furnishings, favorite activities
- Grammar: noun plurals, nominative and accusative case of definite and indefinite articles, weak masc. nouns, “der-words”, interrogative pronouns; negation “kein-nicht”, verb “haben”, stem changing verbs, demonstrative pronouns, the adverb “gern”
• Culture: Living arrangements, the euro

Chapter 3

• You will learn about family members, days of the week, months, holidays, celebrations, ordinal numbers
• Grammar: possessive adjectives, personal pronouns in the accusative case, prepositions with accusative, irregular verbs “werden” and “wissen”, usage of the verbs “wissen” and “kennen”
• Culture: German holidays and celebrations

Chapter 4

• You will learn to tell time in German, about daily plans, movies, music, and theater
• Grammar: separable-prefix verbs; modals; the verb “möchte”; the imperative
• Culture: German theater

Chapter 5

• You will learn about clothes, colors, types of foods, names of stores and shops
• Grammar: Dative case, verbs that require dative; dative prepositions
• Culture: Clothing sizes, shopping, prices, weights and measures; and "meeting" the Bavarian comedian and cabaret performer Karl Valentin

Chapter 6

• You will learn about places to eat and drink, and ordering in a restaurant
• Grammar: Two-way prepositions; describing locations; expressing time with prepositions, simples past tense of the verbs "sein" and "haben," and modal verbs
• Culture: Regional food specialties, menus, sharing tables in restaurants, paying the bill, and meeting the German cook and author Ekkehard Müller

At the end of the semester you will be able to:

• Engage in simple conversation about yourself and your family, where and how you live, the weather; holidays, eating out, shopping, and more
• Ask simple questions and suggestions
• Speak in the present tense
• Read short, non-technical texts at the beginning level
• Write short paragraphs on topics related to chapters Einführung to 6
• Understand German spoken at a moderate conversational speed on topics dealing with everyday occurrences.

In order to reach these goals, it is important that you actively participate in all classroom activities and keep up with all out-of-class assignments, which include attendance at an Oral Practice Session (OPS) once a week. Judith Papenkort, our teaching assistant (TA), a native speaker of German will be teaching these one-hour classes. A balance of activities will help the development of your listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in German.
and give you a wide variety of cultural information. Assessment of progress will occur across skills throughout the semester. After each chapter you will take a take-home exam. I will also give short vocabulary tests throughout the semester. At the end of the course you will take a final written exam in class and an oral exam.

In addition to our textbook, we will use audio and video materials to enhance and strengthen your language skills. I will provide some of these materials in class, on Moodle, and on the Language Resource Center website. The textbook website includes a variety of vocabulary and grammar self-quizzes, as well as cultural activities and the complete Laboratory Audio Program. For additional helpful sites online, please go to our course site on Moodle.

**Participation**
Learning a language is a cumulative process. Therefore, attending class and actively participating in class are vital. You can't just get the notes from another student. You will want to keep up - and keep speaking, listening, reading, and writing! You don't have to get everything correct right away, and you shouldn't expect to understand every word. But you want to get the main idea. And most of all, you want to try! If you must miss a class due to illness or emergency, please send me an email, preferably before class. Homework, projects, tests, etc., in other classes do not constitute an illness or emergency. No more than two absences are allowed. Legitimately excused absences (i.e., a doctor's note or a note from a senior administrator such as a dean) do not affect your participation percentage. You are responsible for all work missed, and assignments must be turned in on the day they are due for full credit! **Cellphones need to be switched off during class!** If you have any questions, please contact me as soon as possible.

**Grading and Academic Honesty**
Upon matriculating, you were required to pledge to uphold the Honor Code. You are expected to use only your own brain on tests, quizzes and exams. All tests but the final exam will be taken outside class. No books or notes are allowed. You will sign the honor code’s pledge, “No aid, no violation,” at the beginning of each test. If you do not follow the honor code you will receive an F for the test.

The final grade will be determined by:
- Attendance and participation 15%
- Homework (incl. journal and vocab. tests) 20%
- Chapter tests (take-home exams) 25%
- OPS attendance 5%
- Final Written Exam 25%
- Final Oral Exam 10%

**Students with Disabilities**
It is the policy of Wesleyan University to provide reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. Please register with Disabilities Services. If you need special accommodations in class, please let me know by September 6, so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**
This year Germany will celebrate its 25th year of reunification. We will have three major events to remember this day in September and October. You will get extra credit for each event you attend. **The last event on October 31 is mandatory!** Please see p. 5 for more details. I also encourage you to participate in the events organized by the German House. Please look for announcements on Moodle or at our German News Blog!

*Items on this syllabus may change due to extenuating circumstances.*

**VISIT MOODLE FOR YOUR HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS, NEWS AND UPDATES!**

I am very much looking forward to working with you!
# Semesterplan Fall 2015 (tentative)

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Practice test*: 14. Sept (Einführung)
Klausur 1: 22. Sept. (Kapitel 1); Vokabeltests 23. und 30. September

“Gorbachev, Bush, and the Unification of Germany”: 22. September 12-13 Uhr (Come a bit earlier and grab lunch.)

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Klausur 3: 21. Oktober (Kapitel 3) in class; Vokabeltest 14. Oktober

“Germany 1990: (Re)unification or Annexation?” Vortrag+Diskussion, 8. Oktober 16:30-18:00 Uhr

FALL BREAK 24.-27. Oct
Film Event (mandatory!) 31. Oktober 11-16:30 incl. Lunch

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Klausur 4: 9. November (Kapitel 4)
Klausur 5: 23. November (Kapitel 5) I will be at a conference on Friday, Nov. 20. There will be no class

THANKSGIVING BREAK 25. – 29 Nov
Vokabeltests 2. und 18. November

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Oral Exams 2. – 11. Dezember
Finals GRST 101.01 16. Dezember 9:00a.m.-12noon
GRST 101.02 16. Dezember 2:00-5:00p.m.

*All chapter tests (=Klausuren) are take-home exams unless indicated otherwise and are due at the beginning of the following class. We will have a vocabulary quiz every other week. These count as homework assignments. A missed vocabulary quiz will count as a missed homework assignment. You have three freebies.
Tuesday, September 22, 2015
11:50AM - 1:00 PM in Fisk 210
Profs. Peter Rutland and Douglas Foyle: “Gorbachev, Bush, and the Unification of Germany”
Kicking off our series of events to commemorate 25 Years of German Unity are the two lectures by Profs. Peter Rutland and Douglas Foyle. They will speak on the important role that Russia, Michael Gorbachev, and America played in the German unification process. Refreshments will be served and a Q&A will follow the talk.

Thursday, October 8, 2015
4:30PM to 6:00PM in Fisk 210
Profs. Sarah Wiliarty, Erik Grimmer-Solem, and David Patton (Connecticut College):
“Germany 1990: (Re)unification or Annexation?”
Our second event to commemorate 25 Years of German Unity features the Round Table discussions by Profs. Erik Grimmer-Solem, Sarah Wiliarty, and guest speaker Prof. David Patton (Connecticut College). They will talk about the events that took place before, during, and shortly after the two German states were united, with attention to the hopes and disillusionments by West and East Germans during this process of “unification.”

Saturday, October 31, 2015
11:00AM to 4:30 PM film screening, incl. lunch
Powell Family Cinema
“Code Name Luna: Escape, Love, and Blackmail“
German film director Ute Wieland introduces her 4-hour historical thriller and its making
We conclude our series of events that commemorate 25 Years of German Unity with the film screening of Code Name Luna. This four-hour-long TVproduction will be introduced by German film director Ute Wieland. It is the story of the ambitious Rostock shipyard worker Lotte (Anna Maria Mühe) who, in the early 1960s, tries to be included in the East German cosmonaut program. The seed of her passion is planted by her grandfather, Prof. Arthur Noswitz (Götz George), an accomplished rocket engineer, who is working in Augsburg, West Germany. Then the wall is built, and Lotte has to bury her dream of becoming a cosmonaut. She joins a resistance group that is betrayed by her boyfriend Holger (Christian Näthe). Shortly after, and under mysterious circumstances, he is killed, and Lotte is the main suspect. She hurriedly escapes to the West, where she visits her grandfather. Stasi officer Moll (Heino Ferch) tracks her down and urges Lotte to come home. He promises her that she will be able to get her brother out of prison, provided that she agrees to spy on her grandfather. Lotte is torn.
11am to 1:30pm - Introduction to the film and screening of Part I:
Lunch
2:15 pm - Part II, followed by Q&A