Instructor: Dr. Iris Bork-Goldfield

GRST 101.01: M/W/F 8:50 a.m.-9:40 a.m., FISK 305
GRST 101.02: M/W/F 9:50 a.m.-10:40 a.m., FISK 305
Office: Fisk Hall 409
Office hours: M / W 11:00a.m. -12noon; or by appointment
Contact me via Email < ibork@wesleyan.edu> or by phone 860-685-3753

Course Materials (The Connect standalone card plus the loose-leaf book can be purchased at the bookstore. Please note that we will use these materials for two semesters!)

- R. DiDonato, et al., Deutsch: Na klar! 7th edition, Connect standalone card includes access to the online Workbook, Lab Manual, LearnSmart, and eBook
- Loose-leaf or used copy of the textbook
- Cecile Zorach, English Grammar for Students of German (optional).

You will also need:
A folder for handouts, index cards and/or notebook for vocabulary, and a thin notebook to keep a journal. Please check your email and Moodle/Connect 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 use 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. Lara Ellenberg, our teaching assistant (TA), a native speaker of German will be teaching these one-hour classes. A range 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.

**Participation**

Learning a language is a cumulative process. Therefore, attending class and actively participating in it 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 (g.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**

We will have several German events throughout the semester. You will get extra credit for each event you attend. 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 2016 (tentative)**

### September

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- **Einführung** 12.
- **Kapitel 1** 19.
- **Kapitel 1** 23.
- **Kapitel 2**


**Klausur 1** 26. Sept. (Kapitel 1)

I will be at a conference on September 30. There will be no class but you will have a special assignment for this day.

### Oktober

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**Klausur 2** 12. Oktober (Kapitel 2)

**Klausur 3** 31. Oktober (Kapitel 3) in class; **Vokabeltest** 7. und 21. Oktober

Fall Break begins October 21, 10 p.m. and ends October 26, 8 a.m.

### November

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**Klausur 4** 14. November (Kapitel 4)

**Klausur 5** 30. November (Kapitel 5)

Mandatory lecture and film event: **Germans & Jews, November 17, at 7 PM, Powell Family Cinema**

**THANKSGIVING BREAK** begins Nov. 22. and ends Nov. 28 at 8:00AM

**Vokabeltests** 9. und 21. November

### Dezember

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**Oral Exams**

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*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.*