

**GERMANY AND THE EUROPEAN UNION
DEUTSCHLAND IN DER EUROPÄISCHEN UNION**

TREFFS:

Di, Do 14:30 – 16:00 Uhr
2008 MLB

KONTAKT und BÜROSTUNDEN:

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Bürozeiten: Di 10:00 - 12:30 Uhr, Do 12:00 - 14:30 Uhr oder nach Vereinbarung

KURSMATERIAL:

- Textsammlung/ Coursepack: zu kaufen bei Accucopy, 518 E. William, 769-8338
- CTools Kursseite mit Wochenplänen, Hausaufgaben, Arbeitsblättern, Vokabellisten, Online-Material, Aufsatzthemen, Testthemen, etc.
- Wörterbuch (nach Wahl): Bitte bringen Sie zu jedem Treff ein Wörterbuch mit!
- Grammatikbuch (nach Wahl): zum Selbststudium und Wiederholen zu Hause

Empfohlene Lektüre:

Jeremy Rifkin: The European Dream: How Europe's Vision of the Future Is Quietly Eclipsing the American Dream. Penguin Group, New York, 2004.

KURSANFORDERUNGEN:

4 Tests	35%
3 Aufsätze	20%
Regelmäßige Anwesenheit und aktive Mitarbeit im Kurs	20%
Hausaufgaben	15%
1 Gruppenpräsentation	10%

DEUTSCH 326.002: GERMANY AND THE EUROPEAN UNION - WINTER 2008

Course Structure: In this course, you will learn about the geography of the EU, the history of European Integration after World War II, and the EU's recent enlargements in 2004 and 2007. We will discuss specifics and advantages of the Internal Market, economic data and challenges after the introduction of the Euro. You will get an insight into EU institutions, the decision-making process, and current topics on the political agenda. We will also look at the concept of unity and diversity and what it means for culture and languages in the European context. In addition to tests and essays, you will work independently in groups to present select EU member states. Time will also be spent on building a topic-oriented vocabulary and reviewing essential grammar in connection with the text work.

Course Materials: The texts in the Coursepack (CP), a variety of online material, and short videos were selected to give you as large a selection of input on our topic as possible. Worksheets ("Arbeitsblätter") with questions and exercises, vocabulary lists and grammar exercises will be handed out in class and/or posted on CTools. The CP is a collection of loose papers that I suggest you put in a binder and add the worksheets, grammar exercises, and vocabulary lists. You should answer questions on the worksheets in German in complete sentences - this will help you with your writing skills. The CP has been printed on one-side only to give you room to make notes and write vocabulary near the text we are working with in class and in homework assignments. You should make a habit of writing down any and all vocabulary, grammar and other information that is written on the board in class. You are responsible for this information in daily assignments and for tests as well.

Reading: Your mantra for the semester should be: Read, Read, Read, Reread, and Read Again! You should read everything you can get your hands on! It's an amazing but true fact that the best way to improve all your language skills is to read as much as possible. We will not discuss every text in the CP in class; some are offerings for you to read on your own to get a broader picture of our topic, or for extra credit. The online texts and most texts in the CP are authentic texts from German newspapers and magazines. Don't get frustrated if you don't understand every single word when first approaching a text. The "Reading Strategies" at: <http://www.lsa.umich.edu/german/hmr/lesen/index.html> can help you to deal with such texts and prepare you for work and discussions in class. If after class you still have trouble with a text, let me know.

Homework: There will be homework assignments for each class meeting. They will be listed in the "Wochenplan" that appears every Friday on the course website for the following week. The homework assignment is primarily meant to help you prepare to participate in class - therefore; there is little sense in turning homework in late. It will be a source of your basic information on our topic and will also give you an opportunity to practice and perfect the knowledge you will gain in class as well as vocabulary, grammar and oral and written expression. The better you work at home, the better you will be able to follow and participate in classroom activities. Not all homework will be collected and graded; however, I will check and note if the homework has been done. Homework that I collect will generally be graded with a "check plus" (excellent), "check" (good), "check minus" (incomplete, poorly done), or "zero" (not done, completely unacceptable). I will accept late homework only with a very good reason, and only if arrangements are made in advance. If you miss class for any reason, you are responsible for all the work done during your absence and for all homework assignments. Please refer to the "Wochenplan" and/or exchange telephone numbers/email addresses with others in the class so you can check for changes, additions or helpful hints given in class. Or you may call or e-mail me.

Attendance: I cannot urge you strongly enough to avoid missing class! If you miss class you are missing your opportunity to participate, to practice your German, to contribute to the class. Absences will be reflected in your participation grade which makes up 20% of your final grade. You are only allowed TWO unexcused absences before your grade will go down dramatically (one-half letter grade for each absence thereafter). Excused absences include medical or psychological issues, family events such as weddings or funerals, job interviews, and trips for musical performances or athletic events in which you are participating (please show written proof!). Unexcused absences include oversleeping, hangovers, studying or

completing work for another class, fraternity or sorority events, or trips to attend concerts or athletic events. You can make up for absences by attending lectures offered by the European Union Center (see below) and preparing a short oral or written report (in German) about it.

Speaking and Oral Participation: Please participate as much as possible in the discussions and oral activities in class, auf Deutsch, of course! You cannot learn to speak German without speaking German! Don't worry if you make mistakes and don't be offended if pronunciation, vocabulary or grammar is corrected. We are all in this together! You can make mistakes - use the opportunity to repeat the word or sentence and go on. You can ask as many questions as you want. Just talk German! Chat with each other before and after class in German. Always try to use German with me (even outside of class). Part of your attendance and participation grade will be an informal visit to my office at least once during the semester for a chat (in German, but not necessarily all the time).

Tests: We will write 4 hourly tests during the semester. Dates are indicated in the "Semesterplan". There will be no final exam! Every test will cover the material (including grammar and vocabulary) since the last test. The content of the tests will be announced, however, there will be no specific review sheets or any trial or sample tests. You should take notes on vocabulary, grammar and information covered in class as we go. I will offer special office hours and/or chat sessions before each test.

Essays: You will write 3 essays (Aufsätze) during the semester. The due date in the "Semesterplan" is for the first draft of each essay. This should be done as carefully and accurately as possible using the "Aufsatz checklist" in the CP until the procedure is second nature to you. You will receive a grade for the first draft. The first draft will be returned to you with errors marked and indicated with correction symbols. You have the option of correcting the essay and turning it in one week after it is returned to you for a second grade, which will be averaged with the grade for the first draft (50% and 50%). This is your opportunity to practice your writing skills! If you choose not to turn in a corrected draft, the grade for the first draft will count 100%. You will be given more detailed information about length and topic of each essay before each due date. Please do not go to the German lab or to some other source like a German friend for assistance or proofreading. If you use some source (article, book, person) other than your own self in writing your essay, you must credit your source just as you would in a paper for any other course. Of course, you should never use language translation software or websites.

Group Presentation: In addition to the tests and essays, you will work independently on an oral group presentation on one of the current EU Member States. More information on dates, length, structure, content, etc. will be provided in class.

European Union Center – Guest Speakers: We will invite 1 or 2 guest speakers to class during the semester and will visit together the European Union Center on campus (date and time will be announced). The European Union Center offers a series of guest lectures which I strongly encourage you to attend.

Internships: Students in this class can apply for EU-related internships in Germany through our Summer Internship Program from June to August 2008. Internship organizations include, but are not limited to *the Institut für Europäische Politik (IEP)* in Berlin and the *Europäische Akademie* in Berlin and München. Funding for internships is available through the European Union Center, the German Department, CDS International, and other sources.

Troubleshooting:

If and when you notice that you are having any sort of problem with the work for this class, please come to me immediately for timely troubleshooting. You may come to my office, call me, or contact me through e-mail. You are going to receive a grade for the course, so don't wait to deal with problems.