

Winter 2023 300 Level German Language Classes

Towards Fluency in German | [Mary Gell](#) | MTuWTh 3–4pm | [300.001](#)

This course is designed to help you improve your command of German through speaking, reading, writing, and listening at the intermediate level and to prepare you for success in other 300- and 400-level German courses. With that in mind, we will pay special attention to refining your written expression in German by using two different approaches to writing: (1) MPG: a model-based, process-oriented, and genre-focused approach; (2) creative, spontaneous, in-class writing. We will also take on a systematic review of German grammar and word usage.

Towards Fluency in German | [Stacy Swennes](#) | TuWThF 9-10am | ULWR | [300.002](#)

This course seeks to increase the accuracy of students' grammar and vocabulary through conversation, writing, and reading. The content of the course is focused on everyday life, cultural trends, and current events in Germany. Texts to be read include journalistic prose, material from the internet, movies, and popular music. The course will also provide a systematic review of German grammar. The course is intended for students still wishing or needing a systematic review of German grammar and practice in composition after having satisfied the language requirement.

Conversation and Debate | [Vera Irwin](#) | F 1-2pm | [306.001](#)

Conversation and Debate | [Laura Okkema](#) | W 2-3pm | [306.002](#)

Conversation and Debate | ARR | Th 4-5pm | [306.003](#)

The goal of this course is to increase your confidence in speaking on any topic in German. Henceforth, we will communicate on any topic that pertains to either current cultural or everyday events. The class focuses on expanding the existing vocabulary and varying the spoken styles that are necessary to appreciate fully life in German-speaking communities.

In addition, creative and compositional exercises (concocting and completing prose and poetry, writing extemporaneous letters, making light-tongued phone conversations — all in German) will alternate with impromptu conversational situations.

German Comics and Graphic Novels | [Mary Gell](#) | MW 10-11:30am | [326.001](#)

This course seeks to exploit the communicative and interpretive potential of pictorial representations in German comics, cartoons, illustrated texts, and graphic novels. We will examine some of the most famous illustrated texts of the 19th century, numerous political cartoons and caricatures since the Wilhelmine era, popular German comic books and comic strips of the 20th century, and several German graphic novels. Because this course centers on a hybrid medium, a primary goal of this course is to promote greater competence in analyzing both visual and textual narratives.

Fashion and Trends throughout History as a Mirror of German-speaking Society | [Silvia Grzeskowiak](#) | TuTh 11:30-1pm | [326.002](#)

In this course, we will explore the dynamic and enticing trends of pop culture in German-speaking society throughout the 20th and 21st centuries, from the Roaring 1920s to Generation Z. Delving through the decades, we will navigate the movement of music, fashion, and social media in order to not only discover the ways in which society and socioeconomic situations affected these trends but additionally how these trends influenced society at large. By using a vast range of resources and select visual imagery, we will be taking a critical look at how fashion and trends have impacted our innermost identities, body positivity, and gendered stereotypes. The necessary vocabulary and grammar will be provided along the way.

Germany and the European Union | [Silvia Grzeskowiak](#) | WF 11:30-1pm | [326.003](#)

In this course, you will learn about the geography of the EU, the history of European Integration after World War II, the EU's most recent challenges post-Brexit, and its response to the Covid-19 pandemic. We will discuss specifics and advantages of the Internal Market ("Binnenmarkt"), as well as the current debate around the European economic slowdown. You will get an insight into EU institutions, the decision-making process, and current topics on the political agenda, including climate, environment, and health to external relations and security, justice, and migration. We will also look at the concept of unity, diversity, and integration and what it means for culture and languages in the European context. Time will also be spent on building a topic-oriented vocabulary and reviewing essential grammar in connection with the text work.

Soccer | [Kalli Federhofer](#) | MW 1-2:30pm | [326.006](#)

In this course, students are invited to dive into the fascination that 'Fußball' holds. Introduction to the rules, soccer-jargon, teams, and players will be part of the class time, as well as historical and cultural aspects of soccer in the German-speaking countries and an analysis of the 2022 World Cup in Qatar. We will also discuss matters of racism, homophobia, and sexism that exist in soccer. The material for discussions and student presentations is based on literary texts, internet resources, short video sequences, and a movie. The course will be conducted in German; weekly readings and motivated participation are required. Matters of German grammar, which may occur while improving the speaking, reading and writing skills, will be reviewed as needed.

Business German | [Kalli Federhofer](#) | TuTh 1-2:30pm | [350.001](#)

This course introduces students to the language of business German and gives them insight into Germany's place in the global economy. The course is organized around major business and economic topics, such as:

- The geography of business in German
- Branches of industry
- Company structure
- Office procedures
- Business Forms
- Product descriptions
- Stock Market
- Stock Forms

In addition to the basic text, students will read actual business, merchandising, and advertising material; newspapers and magazines. There will also be short videos on business and related topics. Students will also keep a mock portfolio around which the final project is built.

Antisemitism in German Literature and Culture: From Martin Luther to the Present | [Andrew Mills](#) | MW 4-5:30pm | HU | [389.001](#)

This course focuses on the Antisemitic image of the Jew in the Austro-German literary and cultural imagination, from Martin Luther's "New Testament" translation to Timur Vermes' 2012 satirical novel "Look Who's Back." Students read canonical and lesser-known works, tracing the trajectory of the (Austro-German) Jewish experience in Germany and Austria. The course is designed for students who are prepared for the 300-level of German, who wish to improve their language skills in the areas of speaking and writing, as well as in reading and listening comprehension.

If the course you want to take is full, please go on the waitlist—spaces do often become available!