

## Accelerated Elementary Reading I+II German S1115 – Session A SU2022

Section	Instructor	Day/Time Location
S1115-Section 001	Simona Vaidean scv16@columbia.edu	MTWR 10-12:05 In-Person

### Session A Dates:

Session A runs: May 23 – July 1

Reading and Exam Period June 29-July 1

May 30, 2020 – The University is Closed in Observance of Memorial Day

Memorial Day Make-Up Day: **Friday, June 3**

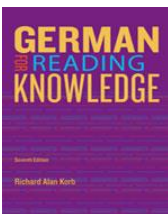
No classes on June 20; University closed. **Juneteenth Make-Up Day: June 24.**

### Accelerated Elementary Reading I+II Course Objectives

The primary goal of Elementary German Reading is to familiarize students with the basics of German grammar so as to become proficient in reading German texts not only to translate but also to make reasonable guesses based on context and reading comprehension skills. The course also prepares students for the German Reading Proficiency Exam accepted by most graduate programs at Columbia, which they take as their final exam.

In the process, we seek to expand the meaning of "reading proficiency" beyond a form of grammar-translation "accelerated reading" which has come to be associated with successful completion of a German reading course. Elementary German Reading moves students beyond word-for-word translation to acquisition of reading skills needed by all readers and researchers. These skills include:

- brainstorming (making lists and framing your thoughts regarding what you already know about a topic in your native language, and then in German),
- skimming (gleaning information from presentation, titles, pictures, graphs, and the primary vocabulary),
- scanning (locating specifics—if, in fact, there are any),
- rejecting materials unimportant to your research,
- investigating (checking out facts and references made in the article), and
- interpreting.



*German for Reading Knowledge*, 7th Edition is designed to meet these goals and produce proficient readers of German texts. [Companion Website](#)

### Recommended Text:

- A good German-English dictionary. (Available at the University Book Store or Book Culture).

Detailed suggestions for selecting the German-English dictionary that meets your needs best can be found in Appendix C of *German for Reading Knowledge*, or click here for abbreviated tips on [picking a dictionary](#).

[German for Reading Knowledge](#), 7th Edition is designed to meet all the goals of Intensive Elementary German Reading I+II and to start learners on the way to becoming proficient readers of German texts. By the end of this course, students should be able to translate a 300-word academic text into idiomatic English with the assistance of a dictionary (download [sample reading proficiency exam](#)).

### Course Modality

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This course will meet in person. You will find the syllabus as well as quizzes, instructions for the individual project, and any extra materials under the Modules tab on Canvas, which should be your first go-to place when looking for information. Grades will also be posted on Canvas. We will have a collaborative space under Discussions where we can post questions, studying tips, and any interesting words/phrasings or other German tidbits we come across. If you need to be absent a class session, please let me know in advance.

### Learning during a pandemic

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While this class is a rigorous academic course, all of us may still be dealing with anxiety, stress, uncertainty, trauma, and grief to varying extents, and there may be unforeseen disruptions in our lives. My goal is to create a culture of flexibility and care in our class community, and I believe such a culture builds upon consistent engagement, empathy, and clear communication. I will try to create channels for these and model expectations, but I will also rely on you to help build our community and provide feedback so that I can make adjustments when needed.

Email reaches me fast, and I will usually respond within a few hours Monday through Friday, 7am-7pm, more slowly outside those times.

### Course Requirements

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- **Be present:** One day roughly equals one week of classes in a regular semester course.
- **Be engaged:** Your participation is essential to our learning as a group. Feel free to risk creative guesses when you don't know. Mistakes are an essential part of the learning process, since that is where you are working to expand the edge of your knowledge.
- **Ask questions:** You will get much more out of the course. All questions are welcome.
- **Do assigned work thoroughly and consistently:** Continuity is the basis for remembering and internalizing new information. Work will consist of daily translation assignments, independent vocab study, quizzes, midterm, individual project, and a final exam.
- **Stay in touch** – since time flies in this class, the earlier you contact me about questions and concerns, the better we can find solutions.

### Grading

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25% - Preparation and engagement

10% - Quizzes (4)

15% - Midterm

25% - Individual Project

25% - Final Exam

\*You have to pass the final exam (70% or more) to pass the course. You have to pass the final exam with 80% or more to satisfy the standard for the reading proficiency qualification.

### **Learning preferences and accommodations**

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People learn in different ways, and we strive to offer different paths to learning in our classes. Feel free to let me know what works for you (visual support, better color contrasts,...). If you have, or suspect you have, a disability of any kind, please contact Disability Services so that accommodations can be put in place. The earlier we know about it the better it will work.

<https://health.columbia.edu/content/disability-services>

### **Academic, Mental, and Physical Support**

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It's still pandemic time, and even apart from that, life can be stressful. Please take care of yourself. Here are some links for food and psychological support.

**Psychological support and health:** <https://health.columbia.edu/services/ods>

**Food Pantry at Columbia:** <https://thefoodpantry.studentgroups.columbia.edu/>

### **Academic integrity**

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By participating in this class, we all commit to adhering to the Honor Code for academic integrity (Link below). This is especially important in an online format. You will not learn much if you solve problems via online translators, copying, or outside help, and I would rather teach you than police you. <https://www.college.columbia.edu/academics/academicintegrity>

<b>Accelerated German Reading I+II UN1115 SU 2022</b>	
<b>Wochenplan / Syllabus</b>	
<b>*Quizzes about the week's material are due on Canvas Sunday nights for weeks 1, 2, 3, and 5</b>	
<b>DATUM</b>	<b>AUFGABE für HEUTE</b>
<b>1. Woche</b>	
Mo 23. Mai	Introductions, German guessing and grammatical detective practice
Di 24. Mai	Chapter 1 - read grammar and translate sentences and Lesetext
Mi 25. Mai	Chapter 2 - Grammar, sentences and Lesetext
Do 26. Mai	Chapter 3 - Grammar, sentences and Lesetext
<b>2. Woche</b>	
<b>Mo 30. Mai -Memorial Day</b>	<b>NO CLASS</b>
Di 31. Mai	Chapter 4+5 - Grammar, sentences and Lesetext
Mi 1. Juni	Chapter 6
Do 2. Juni	Chapter 7
<b>Fr 3. Juni – Make up class</b>	Chapter 8
<b>3. Woche</b>	
Mo 6. Juni	Chapter 9
Di 7. Juni	Chapter 10 +11
Mi 8. Juni	Chapter 12
Do 9. Juni	Chapter 13
<b>4. Woche</b>	
Mo 13. Juni	Chapter 14+15
Di 14. Juni	Midterm
Mi 15. Juni	Chapter 16, submit proposed translation project text
Do 16. Juni	Chapter 17 + 18(sentences only)
<b>5. Woche</b>	
<b>Mo 20. Juni - Juneteenth</b>	<b>NO CLASS</b>
Di 21. Juni	Chapter 19 +20, draft of translation project due
Mi 22. Juni	Chapter 21
Do 23. Juni	Chapter 22
<b>Fr 24. Juni – Make-Up</b>	Chapter 23
<b>6. Woche</b>	
Mo 27. Mai	Chapter 24
Di 28. Juni	Chapter 25
Mi 29. Juni	Practice for final exam
Do 30. Juni	Final Exam/ Report on translation projects (final version due today)