Intermediate German I  S2101D  MTWR: 4:00-6:00
Instructor: Cosima Mattner  E-mail: cm3783@columbia.edu
Office hours: TBD

Session A Dates:
Session A runs: May 3 – June 18 - Reading and Exam Period June 15-18
May 31, 2021 – The University is Closed in Observance of Memorial Day.

Required Texts
[Books (including online options) will be available at the Columbia Bookstore; Book Culture is currently not accepting any book orders.]

Recommended
Alternative Online version: https://de.thefreedictionary.com

Course Format:
As all Columbia Summer 2021 courses this course is taught fully online and students will receive letter grades. Online communication during course times will be synchronous using Zoom with active and collaborative teacher and student interaction. In addition, there will be a number of asynchronous resources and assignments allowing for self-paced learning. Online Assessment will occur both synchronously and asynchronously. Canvas will be our primary portal for all interactions and course materials. Portions of the meetings may be recorded with your permission. If you have any problems concerning the technology, or the course in general, please let us know as soon as possible.

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

Technical Components:
The following will be necessary for your active participation in this course:
- A laptop or tablet with a keyboard.
- Adequate bandwidth for audio and visual participation via zoom.
• Access to Canvas.
• Headphones with microphone is highly recommended.
If you encounter any problems, please let us know.

**Online Etiquette:**
Professional behavior norms benefit both students and instructors. Find an appropriate and quiet spot to join class that will allow you to actively participate in the synchronous portions of the class. We understand that you might be faced with challenges in this respect and we ask that you communicate with your instructor to find solutions. Also, please dress appropriately as you would for a face-to-face class.

Let’s be aware that the online nature of interactions can have an impact on how we perceive each other and sometimes send the wrong impression, for example: how far or close we are sitting from the screen, the lack of real eye contact, the use of gestures which might not always be seen, facial gestures that might seem ambiguous, technological problems (e.g. audio), and problems with lag and synchronization. All of these factors can affect communication and our awareness of them can lead to overall more successful communication.

**Attendance:**
We expect that you attend class and to complete assignments consistently. Since the course is conducted in German and progresses at a rapid pace it is important that you attend class regularly and are prepared to participate actively in German every day. If you miss class, you will fall behind and repeated absences will lower your grade or jeopardize your success in class.

If you cannot join us on a given day, it is important to let your instructor know ahead of time, so that alternative steps to make up the missed work can be discussed. Handing in work late will affect your grade.

**Time Commitment:**
Students are advised that this course is a full-time commitment. Students should expect to study 2 hours every day for every hour spent in the classroom and additional time on weekends. Homework, individual and partner activities, quizzes, and daily writing assignments are part of the course from day one.

**Course Goals:** German 2101 is conducted entirely in German and emphasizes the four basic language skills plus cultural awareness. We have a very ambitious agenda, which targets 6 main areas: speaking, reading, listening, writing, cultural awareness, and metacognitive skills. By the end of the course, if you have attended all classes, completed all written and listening assignments successfully, and received at least a B-grade on all exams, you should show mastery at the Intermediate Mid to High level.
Course requirements:
1. Regular attendance and class participation
2. Grammar Quizzes
3. Three essays (150 –200 words)
4. One oral interview and one oral presentation
5. Presentation of a group project
6. PORTFOLIO

Grading:
Class participation 20%
Preparation, Homework and Quizzes 20%
Two Essays 10%
Final Project 10%
Oral Interview 10%
PORTFOLIO: 10%

Essays, creative writing samples, vocabulary outline of oral presentations, reflexions and self-evaluation, and portfolio related homework (compiled in the Portfolio)

General Information on the course components:
Many of the course components focus on your individual learning process. As a result, this course is more student-centered and this is reflected in the nature of the assignments, for example, you will be writing 3 essays and vocabulary lists for each unit; you will create a group project and have an oral interview with your instructor. Your work will documented in an online Portfolio (for more information, please see the full version of the syllabus). In addition, for all components, more information on the format will be provided by your instructor throughout the course.

German Grammatical Gender:
Nouns in German have a gender (masculine, feminine, or neuter) that often does not obey any apparent logic. The German language also assigns humans a gender, and German is not special for having a rigid binary gender system. Pervasive gender normativity is reflected in our use of language, and language instruction is one of the spaces in which such traditional structures are reinforced. At Columbia and Barnard, we strive to be respectful and inclusive. Whereas we still need to learn language in its normative form, I encourage you to be aware of the implications of such norms and to be attentive to your classmates’ and instructors’ desires. Please contact your instructor right away should you have any preferred name and/or preferred pronoun by which you would like to be addressed. Although there are limitations to what the language allows grammatically, the German Department faculty and staff are committed to finding solutions that work for everyone.
Academic Integrity:
Columbia and Barnard policy on academic integrity forbids students to hand in work (homework, vocabulary lists, essays, etc.) that has been edited by a tutor or in any way authored or rewritten by someone other than the student. All work must be completed by the student him/herself and reflect the student’s personal language level. No credit will be awarded for work that you did not complete yourself! Extensive use (= translation of a sentence and/or more) of a translation tool such as Google translate violates academic integrity. If you feel you need tutoring, speak to your instructor or contact Jutta Schmiers-Heller (js2331) at Columbia or Irene Motyl-Mudretzkyj (imudretz@barnard.edu) for Barnard for permissible tutoring guidelines.

Learning preferences and accommodations:
We acknowledge in our courses that people learn in different ways. For example, having visuals to support text may work better for some students, whereas others learn better by listening to the instructor. Please talk to your instructor about your learning preferences, so we can make the course work as well as possible for everyone. If you have, or suspect, a disability of any kind, please be sure to contact the office of disabilities (see link below) so that accommodations can be put in place. The earlier we know about it the better it will work.

Academic, Mental, and Physical Support:
Student life can get very intense, especially during the current pandemic. If you feel that you need help in any way, please don’t wait but act immediately. Let your instructor know that you are struggling. Most importantly, contact your Dean/Advisor so they can help you. In addition, visit Columbia’s/Barnard’s websites to know what services are available to you: https://health.columbia.edu/services/ods and https://www.barnard.edu/health

Other Resources at Columbia:
https://thefoodpantry.studentgroups.columbia.edu
https://cc-seas.financialaid.columbia.edu/deans-fund

German Studies
Direct questions about language courses German at Columbia to Jutta Schmiers-Heller, 402 Hamilton Hall, x44824 (js2331@columbia.edu); Barnard students contact Irene Motyl, 320c Millbank Hall, x44287 (imotyl@barnard.edu). To major or concentrate in German, contact Prof. Dorothea von Mücke, 410 Hamilton Hall, x41891 (dev1@columbia.edu). For further information on the department, go to: https://germanic.columbia.edu
SEMESTERPLAN (subject to change based on needs):

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Film: Das Leben der Anderen, Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck  
Einheit 3: Multikulturelles Leben  
Migration | [Indirekte Rede]  
Wechselpräpositionen  
Infinitiv mit *zu bekomen* versus *werden* | 4. Juni  
Reflexion – Aufsatz 2  
Vokabelliste – E3  
3. Juni  
Gruppenprojekte festlegen. |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
*Deutschsein und Fremdsein  
*Einwanderung und Einbürgerung  
*Film | 11. Juni  
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11. Juni  
Präsentation der Gruppenprojekte  
Termin für das Portfolios | |
| 6. Woche | Reading and Final Period  