

**Syllabus German W1521 - Fall 2017 [PRELIMINARY]  
Intermediate German Conversation II****Instructor: Alwin Franke****Office: TBA****Office Hours: TBA****Phone: TBA****Email: [ajf2193@columbia.edu](mailto:ajf2193@columbia.edu)****Recommended materials:**

Langenscheidts Großwörterbuch: Deutsch als Fremdsprache.

**Course prerequisites:**

Desire to speak lots of German! Students in Intermediate Conversation II should have completed the equivalent of one and a half years of college German. This conversation group is designed for students who are now taking Intermediate German V1201 or who wish to maintain their spoken German at least at the advanced intermediate level.

**Course goals:**

- 1) to improve your ability to speak and understand and manage German in everyday situations;
- 2) to provide opportunities to participate in conversational situations on any topics you are interested in discussing such as:
  - a. Deutschland (Österreich und die Schweiz) gestern und heute
  - b. Die Wiedervereinigung
  - c. Deutschsprachige Nachrichten, Musik, Literatur, Politik
  - d. Deutschsprachiger Film
  - e. Reviewing German Grammar
- 3) to strengthen and get skills to understand German spoken at normal conversational speed;
- 4) to expand active and passive vocabularies (through a collective vocabulary list) and speaking skills.
- 5) to maintain a certain level of written German through short written activities, such as a weekly blog.

**Course format:**

Class sessions will consist of a variety of activities throughout the term, including:

- 1) daily warm-ups concentrating on every day needs
- 2) paired or small group conversations and interviews on a variety of topics;
- 3) dialogs/role plays based on every day situations and videos
- 4) student presentations, reactions to and discussions resulting from presentations,
- 5) web / audio-visual presentations;
- 6) discussions of short readings on a variety of topics;
- 7) web-based reports by individuals and/or small groups.
- 8) work with blogs, the web, and other computer media

**Participation/Attendance:**

Class attendance is the primary component of your grade. Students are expected to attend and participate in ALL class meetings. Unexcused absences will lower your participation grade. Missing class will not only hamper your own progress, it may limit a partner's class participation, too.

**Homework:**

Homework includes PREPARATION for in-class activities; this may include written assignments as well as exercises and activities to prepare for oral presentations during class. Preparation for oral and written assignments will be necessary and influence your grade directly.

**Grading:**

Daily preparation / homework 20%  
Weekly blog entries 10%  
Collaborative Vocabulary List 10%  
Oral presentations 10%  
Final oral interview 10%  
Class attendance and participation 40%

**Final Interviews: TBA**

Intermediate German Conversation II (W1521) meets MW 4:10-5:25; students are expected to attend ALL class meetings, and are encouraged to visit Kaffeestunde (in Deutsches Haus, 420 W. 116 - dates and times to be announced) and departmental events (dates and times to be announced) to practice their German!

**Semesterplan:**

We do not have a set Semesterplan. You as students get to determine together which topics you would like to explore. Our topics and achievements will be documented throughout the semester and you will receive a retroactive Semesterplan at the end of the semester.