



Arts & Social  
Sciences

School of Humanities and Languages

## **ARTS 1510 Introductory German A Semester 1/2014**

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## 1. Course Staff and Contact Details

Course Convenor/ Lecturer			
Name	Nassim Schorle	Room	Morven Brown 234
Phone	9385 0596	Email	n.schorle@unsw.edu.au
Consultation Time	Wed 11.00-13.00 / by appointment		
Tutor			
Name	Denise Hantel	Room	Morven Brown 222
Phone		Email	d.hantel@unsw.edu.au
Consultation Time	Wed 11.00-12.00 / by appointment		

## 2. Course Details

Units of Credit (UoC)	6		
Course Description	<p>INTRODUCTORY GERMAN A is an elementary level German language course for students with no prior knowledge of the language. Based on a communicative and task-based approach, it is designed to develop proficiency in oral and written communication skills and to provide students with knowledge and understanding of the societies and culture of German-speaking countries. Students develop their listening and speaking skills through a number of different activities, as well as their reading and writing skills. Vocabulary and grammatical structures are presented in the context of culturally and socially relevant issues. Topics include communication, travel, personal information and cultural activities. A lecture on basic grammatical and linguistic features (and occasionally on Contemporary Germany) complements exercises and discussions conducted as target-language activities in tutorials.</p>		
Course Aims	1.	The intention of this course is to enable students to develop their linguistic and communicative competencies at the introductory level.	
	2.	Through language study students will develop an informed understanding of experiences, cultures, societies and world views of German-speaking countries.	
Student Learning Outcomes	1.	to speak, write, listen to, and read in German at basic level	
	2.	to become engaged with topics important in the German-speaking countries	
	3.	to appreciate the cultural production of the German-speaking countries	
	4.	to gain a better understanding of oneself and one's environment by examining comparable socio-historical and cultural experiences in the German-speaking countries	
Graduate Attributes	1.	effective communication and presentation skills	
	2.	analytical and critical thinking	
	3.	research skills and information technology/literacy	
	4.	disciplinary knowledge in an interdisciplinary context	
	5.	respect for and appreciation of diversity/contribute to international community	

### 3. Learning and Teaching Rationale

The textbook, workbook and online materials provide students with explicit practice with vocabulary and grammar. These materials provide aural as well as written exercises on which students are provided immediate feedback as well as opportunities for self-assessment. In accordance with UNSW's Guidelines on Learning that Inform Teaching, students communicate information, ideas and arguments both orally and in writing. They gather and process information from a variety of paper, audio-visual and electronic sources. They use IT both as a means of communication and as an aid to learning as well as demonstrate some ability as independent learners.

**This course is a beginners-level language course. All students who have had some experience with the language, either as a heritage language or previous instruction, must fill in the placement questionnaire available at <https://hal.arts.unsw.edu.au/students/courses/language-placements>**

### 4. Teaching Strategies

The language of instruction is predominantly German (with the exception of some explanation of grammatical features) so that students develop their listening skills. A variety of additional materials (for reading, listening and discussion) as well as different learning approaches (group presentations, group discussions, individual assignments) are used in the tutorials to provide extensive opportunities to listen to, read, speak and write in German. The communicative approach contemporary and authentic texts (written or spoken) enable the students to learn a very authentic use of the German language combined with cultural and historical knowledge. The online materials provide students with explicit practice with vocabulary and grammar (morphology, syntax). Students gather and process information from a variety of paper, audio-visual and electronic sources. They use IT effectively both as a means of communication and as an aid to learning as well as to demonstrate some ability as an independent learner.

### 5. Course Assessment

Assessment Task	Length	Weight	Learning Outcomes Assessed	Graduate Attributes Assessed	Due Date
Quiz 1 Quiz 2	ca. 20 mins	15%	1, 2	1, 2, 3	24 Mar 05 May
Writing task 1 Writing task 2	ca. 30 mins 100-120 words	25%	1, 2, 3, 4	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	07 Apr 19 May
Mid-term test	ca.1hr	20%	1, 2	1, 2, 3, 4	14 Apr
Speaking task	ca.10 mins	15%	1, 2, 3, 4	1, 2, 4	04Jun
Final Exam	2 hrs	25%	1, 2	1, 2, 3, 4	* 13 – 30 June

*The dates may be subject to change. You will be given a minimum of one week's notice.*

**Please Note:** In addition to fulfilling the above assessment requirements, students are expected to attend at least 80% of their tutorials in order to pass the course.

## Formal Examination

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This course has a formal examination which will be scheduled in the formal examination period\* from 13 – 30 June 2014. Students are expected to give their studies priority and this includes making themselves available for the entire examination period.

**Travel commitments made prior to the publication of the final examination timetable are not a valid reason for alternate assessment.**

## Grades

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All results are reviewed at the end of each semester and may be adjusted to ensure equitable marking across the School.

The proportion of marks lying in each grading range is determined not by any formula or quota system, but by the way that students respond to assessment tasks and how well they meet the objectives of the course. Nevertheless, since higher grades imply performance that is well above average, the number of distinctions and high distinctions awarded in a typical course is relatively small. At the other extreme, on average 6.1% of students do not meet minimum standards and a little more (8.6%) in first year courses. For more information on the grading categories see

<https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/academiclife/assessment/GuideToUNSWGrades.html>

## Submission of Assessment Tasks

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Assignments which are submitted to the School Assignment Box must have a properly completed School Assessment Coversheet, with the declaration signed and dated by hand. The Coversheet can be downloaded from

<https://hal.arts.unsw.edu.au/students/courses/course-outlines/>. It is your responsibility to make a backup copy of the assignment prior to submission and retain it.

Assignments must be submitted before 4:00pm on the due date. Assignments received after this time will be marked as having been received late.

## Late Submission of Assignments

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Late assignments will attract a penalty. Of the total mark, 3% will be deducted each day for the first week, with Saturday and Sunday counting as two days, and 10% each week thereafter.

The penalty may not apply where students are able to provide documentary evidence of illness or serious misadventure. Time pressure resulting from undertaking assignments for other courses does not constitute an acceptable excuse for lateness.

## 6. Attendance/Class Clash

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### Attendance

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Students are expected to be regular and punctual in attendance at all classes in the courses in which they are enrolled. Explanations of absences from classes or requests for permission to be absent from classes should be discussed with the teacher and where applicable accompanied by a medical certificate. If students attend less than 80% of their possible classes they may be refused final assessment.

**Students who falsify their attendance or falsify attendance on behalf of another student will be dealt with under the student misconduct policy.**

### **Class Clash**

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A student who is approved a permissible clash must fulfil the following requirements:

- a. The student must provide the Course Convenor with copies of lecture notes from those lectures missed on a regular basis as agreed by the Course Convenor and the student.
- b. If a student does attend a lecture for which they had secured a permitted clash they will still submit lecture notes as evidence of attendance.
- c. **Failure to meet these requirements is regarded as unsatisfactory performance in the course and a failure to meet the Faculty's course attendance requirement. Accordingly, Course Convenors will fail students who do not meet this performance/attendance requirement.**
- d. Students must attend the clashed lecture on a specific date if that lecture contains an assessment task for the course such as a quiz or test. Inability to meet this requirement would be grounds for a Course Convenor refusing the application. If the student misses the said lecture there is no obligation on the Course Convenor to schedule a make-up quiz or test and the student can receive zero for the assessment task. It should be noted that in many courses a failure to complete an assessment task can be grounds for course failure.

## **7. Academic Honesty and Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is presenting someone else's thoughts or work as your own. It can take many forms, from not having appropriate academic referencing to deliberate cheating.

In many cases plagiarism is the result of inexperience about academic conventions. The University has resources and information to assist you to avoid plagiarism.

The Learning Centre assists students with understanding academic integrity and how to not plagiarise. Information is available on their website: <http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism/>. They also hold workshops and can help students one-on-one.

If plagiarism is found in your work when you are in first year, your lecturer will offer you assistance to improve your academic skills. They may ask you to look at some online resources, attend the Learning Centre, or sometimes resubmit your work with the problem fixed. However, more serious instances in first year, such as stealing another student's work or paying someone to do your work, may be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures.

Repeated plagiarism (even in first year), plagiarism after first year, or serious instances, may also be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures. The penalties under the procedures can include a reduction in marks, failing a course or for the most serious matters (like plagiarism in an Honours thesis) or even suspension from the university. The Student Misconduct Procedures are available here:

<http://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/documents/studentmisconductprocedures.pdf>

## 8. Course Schedule

To view course timetable, please visit: <http://www.timetable.unsw.edu.au/>

Week commencing	Topic	Lecture Content	Tutorial/ Content
1	03 Mar	Introduction	Introduction
2	10 Mar	Greeting, numbers, colours	no tutorial
3	17 Mar	Origin, family, body & face	Strukturen A
4	24 Mar	Weather, leisure, daily routines	Strukturen B
5	31 Mar	Belongings, gifts,	Strukturen B/1
6	07 Apr	Pleasure, clothing & appearance	Strukturen 1/ 2
7	14 Apr	Abilities, plans	Strukturen 2
<b>Mid-semester break: 18-27 April</b>			
8	28 Apr	Responsibilities, feelings	Strukturen 3
9	05 May	The everyday life, memories	Strukturen 4
10	12 May	Holidays, birthdays, events	Strukturen 4/ 5
11	19 May	Jobs, work, money	Strukturen 5
12	26 May	Vocab & grammar review	Review
13	02 Jun	-----	no lecture
			Speaking task

**Please Note:** highlighted dates are assessment weeks

## 9. Course Resources

### Textbook Details

Erwin Tschirner, Brigitte Nikolai and Tracy D. Terrel, Kontakte: A Communicative Approach, seventh edition (NY: McGraw Hill, 2013), student edition

ISBN: 978-0-07-338634-8

**Make sure you have the 7<sup>th</sup> edition**

### Additional Readings

You are strongly encouraged to purchase the workbook that accompanies the textbook:

Erwin Tschirner, Brigitte Nikolai, Tracy D. Terrel, Ursula Hirschfeld and Katharina Kley, Kontakte: A Communication Approach – Arbeitsbuch, seventh edition (NY: McGraw Hill, 2013)

ISBN: 978-0-07-741052-0

### Websites

Kontakte: [http://highered.mcgraw-hill.com/sites/0073386340/student\\_view0/index.html](http://highered.mcgraw-hill.com/sites/0073386340/student_view0/index.html)

UNSW Library: <http://library.unsw.edu.au/index.html>

## 10. Course Evaluation and Development

Courses are periodically reviewed and students' feedback is used to improve them. Feedback is gathered using various means including UNSW's Course and Teaching Evaluation and Improvement (CATEI) process.

## 11. Student Support

The Learning Centre is available for individual consultation and workshops on academic skills. Find out more by visiting the Centre's website at:

<http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au>

## 12. Grievances

All students should be treated fairly in the course of their studies at UNSW. Students who feel they have not been dealt with fairly should, in the first instance, attempt to resolve any issues with their tutor or the course convenors.

If such an approach fails to resolve the matter, the School of Humanities and Languages has an academic member of staff who acts as a Grievance Officer for the School. This staff member is identified on the notice board in the School of Humanities and languages. Further information about UNSW grievance procedures is available at:

<https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/atoz/Complaints.html>

## 13. Other Information

### myUNSW

myUNSW is the online access point for UNSW services and information, integrating online services for applicants, commencing and current students and UNSW staff. To visit myUNSW please visit either of the below links:

<https://my.unsw.edu.au>

<https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/atoz/ABC.html>

### OHS

UNSW's Occupational Health and Safety Policy requires each person to work safely and responsibly, in order to avoid personal injury and to protect the safety of others. For all matters relating to Occupational Health, Safety and environment, see

<http://www.ohs.unsw.edu.au/>

### Special Consideration

In cases where illness or other circumstances produce repeated or sustained absence, students should apply for Special Consideration as soon as possible.

The application must be made via Online Services in myUNSW. Log into myUNSW and go to My Student Profile tab > My Student Services channel > Online Services > Special Consideration.

Applications on the grounds of illness must be filled in by a medical practitioner. Further information is available at:

<https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/atoz/SpecialConsideration.html>

### Student Equity and Disabilities Unit

Students who have a disability that requires some adjustment in their learning and teaching environment are encouraged to discuss their study needs with the course convener prior to or at the commencement of the course, or with the Student Equity Officers (Disability) in the Student Equity and Disabilities Unit (9385 4734). Information for students with disabilities is available at: <http://www.studentequity.unsw.edu.au>

Issues that can be discussed may include access to materials, signers or note-takers, the provision of services and additional examination and assessment arrangements. Early notification is essential to enable any necessary adjustments to be made.