

COURSE OUTLINE

GERM-101

Elementary German I

4 Semester Hours

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Description

In this introductory course, students learn to listen, speak, write and read on a basic level. They also learn about the diverse cultures of the German-speaking world. Instruction focuses on oral communication, and is supported by a computerized classroom and conversation specialists. (4 hours weekly in class and lab).

Statement on General Education and Liberal Learning

A liberal education prepares students to lead ethical, productive, and creative lives and to understand how the pursuit of lifelong learning and critical thinking fosters good citizenship. General education courses form the core of a liberal education within the higher education curriculum and provide a coherent intellectual experience for all students by introducing the fundamental concepts and methods of inquiry in the areas of mathematics, the physical and natural sciences, the social sciences, the arts and the humanities, and composition. This course is part of the general education core experience at Howard Community College.

Overall Course Objectives

Understand and respond with correct German to basic questions about oneself and real-life situations.

1. Read and discuss selections from the text on the following: personal information, the weather, shopping, food, German university system.
2. Utilize properly the following grammar points in both spoken and written German:
 - a. Pronouns and nouns as subjects (nominative case)
 - b. Gender of nouns
 - c. Regular verbs
 - d. Irregular verbs sein and haben
 - e. Specific and general questions
 - f. Indefinite article ein, kein, and possessive adjectives
 - g. Verbs with stem-vowel change e > i
 - h. Word order in statements
 - i. Imperative
 - j. Accusative case
 - k. Irregular verbs werden, kennen, and wissen
 - l. Verbs with stem vowel change e > ie
3. Understand some of the behavior patterns and culture of the German speaking people as discussed in class and particularly in regards to the topics listed in #2 above.

Major Topics

1. Vocabulary for asking and giving personal information

2. Vocabulary for colors, numbers, the alphabet, days of the week, objects in a student's room.
3. Gender of nouns, pronouns, noun-pronoun relationship
4. Culture pertaining to the telephone system in the Federal Republic, registering and studying at a German university, writing German addresses
5. Vocabulary for salutations, basic questions, telling time, describing people, sports
6. Pronouns and nouns as subjects, regular verbs, the verb sein, nicht, specific and general questions
7. Culture pertaining to sports, du and Sie, regional greetings and farewells
8. Vocabulary for the weather,, birthdays, countries, months and seasons
9. Nominative case, the verbs haben and sein, plural of nouns, ein, kein, and possessive adjectives
10. Culture pertaining to geography and climate, birthday customs, development of standard German language
11. Vocabulary for shopping, meals , personal habits, giving directions
12. Accusative case, imperatives, word order, verbs with stem change e > i
13. Culture pertaining to shopping, meals, currency in German speaking-countries
14. Vocabulary for student life, describing family, nationality and interests
15. Verbs with stem change e > ie, verbs werden, kennen, and wissen,
16. Culture pertaining to German university system, playwright Bertolt Brecht

Course Requirements

Grading/Exams

Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include: Exams (2); Oral exit interview; Quizzes; Cultural report; Workbook; Class Participation.

Students will write (in English) a three page report on some aspect of German culture. This report will be presented to the class.

Other Course Information

This course is an Arts and Science elective, a Humanities elective, and a Humanities core.

This course is a core requirement for languages.

This course fulfills the cultural diversity requirement.