

ELEMENTARY GERMAN 1001
Fall 2020 (Section 1)
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TO TEACH ~ TO SHAPE ~ TO SEND

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life

GENERAL INFORMATION

German 1001 is the first semester of the first-year elementary German program, a two-semester program at P.L.N.U. The major objective of Elementary German is to develop your "active" abilities in the four main language skills - listening, speaking, reading and writing – so that upon completion of this one-year study, you should possess sufficient ability in these four areas to converse in a fairly simple conversational manner in the German language, as well as to read simple German prose. The greatest emphasis, however, will be placed upon your ability to learn to speak the German language, to the best of your own personal ability, regardless of what experience or skills you bring to the class at the outset. The class is designed for your personal skill and development. Ultimately, my goal is that you have the language tools to communicate "in German" when you travel to German-speaking countries, and that you are able to read the German language to some competent degree, with the aid, of course, of a dictionary.

Since a language is an integral part of a country and its people, culture and history, these areas will also be integrated into your learning experience. You will acquire insights into the lands, thoughts, ideas, habits, customs and general cultures of the German-speaking peoples. Today is one of the most rewarding times in recent history to be learning the German language, not just because of the rapid changes we have observed in the political and social structures of this part of the world in recent years, and not just because Germany is one of the world's leading economic powers, but also because the world continues to become smaller, making Germany a most "immediate" neighbor. In addition, despite current issues, Germany remains one of America's key allies.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the German 1001-1002 sequence, you, the student, will, depending on your effort, be able to:

1. Speak at the mid to high novice level using basic formulaic and memorized materials within your own experience.
2. Recognize basic connected discourse that uses vocabulary and grammar within your own experience.
3. Write discrete sentences as well as simple connected paragraphs using memorized vocabulary and grammar structures.
4. Read cultural texts that employ familiar vocabulary and cognates as well as learned grammatical structures.
5. Demonstrate comprehension of basic cultural mores and patterns of living of the target culture(s) studied.

TEXTBOOKS AND ASSIGNMENTS

The textbook for this course is *Sag Mal*, by Christine Anton, Tobias Barske and Megan McKinstry, 3rd Edition. You need not purchase the text, although it is available to you in looseleaf form and is recommended, as the text is included in the WEB program, which you must acquire. To repeat, **you must have** the WEB program (the Access Code), as you will be working with this program the entire year (each semester) and the homework assignments you will have on an on-going basis are found in the WEB materials. This comes as a package through our bookstore, or it can be purchased directly from the publisher. You have been given (or will be given) information as how to proceed directly with the publisher. During the first semester we will, ideally, have completed chapters 1 - 4. The same materials will be used during this second semester, the goal being to complete chapters 5-10.

FINAL EXAM DATE

Section 1: Wednesday, December 2, 7:30 - 10:00 a.m.

GRADING

Your grade for this course is comprised of four components:

- 1) Quizzes, which constitute ca. a quarter (25%) of your grade;
- 2) Chapter examinations, which constitute ca. a quarter (25%) of your grade;
- 3) Homework assignments (on the web program), which constitute a quarter (25%) of your grade. These assignment will also include Partner Chats.
- 4) Final Examination, which constitutes 25% of your grade.
- 5) Swing!!! (Will be explained in class)

COURSE SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS

Discussions - Chats: Virtual and With Partners

Each week you will participate in online Discussion Boards, or Partner Chats, where you will practice German communicating verbally with your classmates. These discussions replace the interactive dialogue that occurs in the traditional classroom setting. Your grade for these will be computed within the grade for WEB assignments.

“Sag Mal!” Assignments

You will be completing an average of 6 hours a week of homework/practice exercises within “Sag Mal!” (Vista Higher Learning - VHL). Sag Mal!” (digital) Assignments represent 25% of the overall course grade.

Cultural Engagement Assignment

Students will be required to complete the cultural engagement assignments presented within “Sag Mal’s” cultural units. Cultural Engagement Assignment represents 5% of the overall course grade.

Quizzes

You are responsible for learning two sets of vocabulary words as are presented in each chapter. The words you learn are the most frequently used words for every day conversation and each set deals with a particular aspect of German life, again, based on every day, common experiences. Quizzes represent 25% of the overall course grade. You will also be quizzed on various aspects of German, as presented in class and as mastered by you – the quizzes being an incentive for doing so!

Exams

You will have Chapter Tests upon completion of one or two Chapters. Exams represent 25% of the overall course grade.

Final Exam

At the end of the semester you will be given a final, comprehensive examination. This final exam represents 25% of the overall course grade.

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Student grades will be posted in the Canvas grade book. It is important to read the comments posted in the grade book as these comments are intended to help students improve their work. Final grades will be based on the following:

Standard Grade Scale Based on Percentages

A	93-100
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
F	Below 59

INCOMPLETE AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the beginning of the class session when they are due – including assignments posted in Canvas. Late work will be accepted, albeit with a reduction of credit.

A NOTE ON HOMEWORK

You are first of all responsible to learn each of the two sets of vocabulary lists contained in each chapter of the text and to retain those words throughout the semester. In addition, as a rule, each day in class a new grammatical concept will be presented and practiced, whereupon it is expected that you will complete corresponding web portions of the homework assignments within two days of the material being introduced. You will find the assignments on the VHL (web program) calendar and in Canvas under “Announcements.”

THE “SWING” COMPONENT

An important "Swing" component of your grade will be the level of your participation in daily class work. This means that class preparation and participation will positively affect your ultimate grade, especially where your grade is a border-line grade, so I encourage you to participate and have fun while acquiring this foreign language skill.

SPIRITUAL CARE

Please be aware PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as whole persons. To this end, we provide resources for our students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith. If students have questions, a desire to meet with the chaplain or have prayer requests you can contact the Office of Spiritual Development Links to an external site.

USE OF TECHNOLOGY

In order to be successful in the online environment, you'll need to meet the minimum technology and system requirements; please refer to the Technology and System Requirements information. Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work.

COURSE CREDIT HOUR INFORMATION

This class meets the Carnegie Unit minimum requirement of 750 minutes of instructional time + 1500 minutes of out-of-class work per 1 unit of credit. Specific details about how the class meets these requirements are included here in the course syllabus.

FERPA (FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT)

In compliance with federal law, neither PLNU student ID nor social security number should be used in publically posted grades or returned sets of assignments without student written permission. This class will meet the federal requirements by my distributing all grades and papers individually, with every effort made to conceal identities concealed. Also in compliance with FERPA, you will be the only person given information about your progress in this class unless you have designated others to receive it in the AInformation Release@ section of the student portal. See Policy Statements in the undergrad student catalog.

PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

PLNU ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Academic Honesty/ Policy on Plagiarism: Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. As explained in the university catalog, academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. Violations of university academic honesty include cheating, plagiarism, falsification, aiding the academic dishonesty of others, or malicious misuse of university resources. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for a) that particular assignment or examination, and/or b) the course following the procedure in the university catalog. Students may appeal also using the procedure in the university catalog. See Academic Policies for further information.

PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

While all students are expected to meet the minimum standards for completion of this course as established by the instructor, students with disabilities may require academic adjustments, modifications or auxiliary aids/services. At Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU), these students are requested to register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC), located in the Bond Academic Center. (DRC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2486). The DRC's policies and procedures for assisting such students in the development of an appropriate academic adjustment plan (AP) allows PLNU to comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Section 504 (a) prohibits discrimination against students with special needs and guarantees all qualified students equal access to and benefits of PLNU programs and activities. After the student files the required documentation, the DRC, in conjunction with the student, will develop an AP to meet that student's specific learning needs. The DRC will thereafter email the student's AP to all faculty who teach courses in which the student is enrolled each semester. The AP must be implemented in all such courses.

If students do not wish to avail themselves of some or all of the elements of their AP in a particular course, it is the responsibility of those students to notify their professor in that course. PLNU highly recommends that DRC students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester about the applicability of their AP in that particular course and/or if they do not desire to take advantage of some or all of the elements of their AP in that course.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY

Regular and punctual attendance at all classes is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent from more than 10 percent of class meetings before the withdrawal deadline, the faculty member will file a written report which will result in de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, or twelve unexcused absences, AT ANY TIME DURING THE SEMESTER, the student will receive an automatic F for the course regardless of his or her test scores, etc. See Academic Policies in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog.

FOOTNOTE

Ultimately, language-learning should be fun and should produce immediate and practical rewards; i.e., every day you should see your ability to speak the German language improve. What you learn in this class is not "Baby German," for what you are learning is how Germans speak on an everyday basis (discounting, of course, regional dialects). If you do your work on a daily basis, in small, consistent steps, the acquisition of German language skills should be relatively easy, by all means enjoyable, and, most of all, should produce very tangible results. Finally, you should know that German is not more difficult than Spanish or French, despite the prevailing myths as to the varying levels of difficulty of these respective languages. When you have completed this course in May, you should leave with a skill that will prove useful to you throughout your entire life.