



GR 451 GERMAN LANGUAGE IN CONTEXT: COMPETENT ABROAD

IES Abroad Freiburg

DESCRIPTION:

Students who enter this course will already be capable of achieving the outcomes of the Emerging Competent Abroad level as defined by the IES Abroad MAP for Language and Intercultural Communication. Students who take this level should already be familiar with most of the complex structures and linguistic functions that will be covered. They should not be surprised, however, to find that they will need to review these aspects of the language to develop greater fluency and more sensitivity to subtle and underlying linguistic and cultural meanings.

Students entering this level can succeed in a wide range of university courses designed for native speakers, provided they have met any prerequisites. Before registering, they should consult with the appropriate IES Abroad academic advisor on course selection.

By the end of this course, students will be fully able to meet the demands of living and working in the host culture. They will be able to communicate accurately, vividly, and expressively with their hosts on most topics. Students who succeed in this course will be able to function in a professional setting and to undertake further personal or professional projects in the host culture. Students will be able to understand local cultural attitudes, values, beliefs, and behavior patterns well enough to make informed choices about which cultural features they would like to adopt or need to adopt in order to live harmoniously in the local culture.

CREDITS: 4 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 60 hours

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: German

PREREQUISITES: Proficiency at a level equivalent to IES Abroad's Emerging Competent Abroad, as determined by placement test.

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:

- Lectures
- Discussions
- Group work
- Private study
- Field studies
- Oral presentations

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

Intensive Course

- Participation - 20%
- Short Presentation - 20%
- Journal/Homework/Written Assignments - 30%
- Final Exam - 30%

Semester Course

- Midterm Exam & Short Vocabulary Tests - 30%
- Presentation - 10%
- Participation - 10%
- Homework - 10%
- Written Assignments - 10%
- Newspaper project (including presentation) - 30%

The intensive phase will count 40%, the regular semester grade 60% towards your overall grade.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

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Students who are placed in this level should have achieved the outcomes in the Emerging Competent Abroad level as defined by the IES Abroad MAP for Language and Intercultural Communication.

By the end of the course, students will be able to achieve the outcomes for the Competent Abroad level as defined by the MAP for Language and Intercultural Communication. The key learning outcomes from the MAP are summarized below:

1. Intercultural Communication

1. Students will be able to express their own ideas, perspectives, and arguments thoroughly and yet tactfully, using language proficiency, sociolinguistic skills, and cultural knowledge.
2. Students will be able to perform any activity (social, academic, professional) a local student of their age, skills, and background would do with a considerable degree of success.

2. Listening

1. Students will be able to recognize and appreciate the beauty and richness of language when they hear it.
2. Students will be able to understand nearly all speakers on a wide range of complex topics, including their digressions, side comments, and humor.

3. Speaking

1. Students will be able to talk about abstract ideas and concepts, engage in agreement or disagreement, and defend their opinions with supporting evidence.
2. Students will be able to use the language for a wide range of presentational and creative purposes.
3. Students will be able to use an extensive variety of colloquial expressions and humor effectively.
4. Students will be capable of varying their language to make subtle and complex distinctions (e.g. formality and informality) with a wide array of native speakers.

4. Reading

1. Students will be able to read and understand a broad range of academic resources and popular texts from the local community (print or online).
2. Students will be able to understand the main ideas and supporting details when reading many works of literature and nonfiction with some assistance at times.
3. Students will be able to recognize and appreciate the beauty and richness of the written word.

5. Writing

1. Students will be able to write academic texts that describe, relate, report, compare and contrast, analyze, and summarize with a high degree of precision and accuracy on a wide range of topics.
2. Students will be able to distinguish between the written style and the spoken style, and will be able to use the written style effectively with little assistance.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

All IES Abroad (Freiburg) courses require attendance and participation. Attendance is mandatory per IES Abroad policy. Any unexcused absence will incur a penalty on your final course grade (1 absence - 1%, 2nd absence -2%, 3rd absence – 3%). Any student who has more than three (3) unexcused absences will receive an “F” as the final grade in the course. Any student who misses more than 25% of a course, whether the absences are excused or are unexcused, will receive an “F” as the final grade in the course. Absences due to sickness, religious observances, and family emergencies may be excusable at the discretion of the Center Director. In the case of an excused absence, it is the student’s responsibility to inform the Academic Dean of the absence with an Official Excused Absence Form, as well as any other relevant documentation (e.g. a doctor’s note), and to keep a record thereof. The absence form must be turned in as soon as possible before the class, in the case of a planned absence, or immediately upon return to the Center, in the case of an unplanned absence, in order for the absence to be considered excused. It is also the student’s responsibility to inform the professor of the missed class. Students can collect and submit the Official Excused Absence Form from the office of the Academic Dean.

TESTS, QUIZZES, OR PRESENTATIONS MISSED DURING UNEXCUSED ABSENCES CANNOT BE MADE UP!

ASSIGNMENTS NOT HANDED IN ON THE DUE DATE WILL BE SUBJECT TO A 3% PENALTY PER DAY POST-DUE DATE (except of students who have an excused absence).

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**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY CODE:**

Regardless of the quality of work, plagiarism is punishable with a failing grade in the class. Plagiarism may be broadly defined as “copying of materials from sources, without acknowledging having done so, claiming other’s ideas as one’s own without proper reference to them, and buying materials such as essays/exams.

Updated information on your course and readings, including additional readings from journalistic articles, can be found on the Moodle platform at <https://moodle.iesabroad.org/login/index.php>

CONSENT TO RECORDING

Class discussions, both in the classroom and online, may be recorded to provide an educational resource for students in the class.

Your instructor will inform you before recording starts. Reasonable requests from students to deactivate their cameras during recording will be considered by instructors. Class recordings will be kept on the Moodle class site and will only be available to students in the class. The recordings will no longer be available to students when the semester ends.

Students are prohibited from recording classes or from distributing class recordings. Any recordings made will be used only for educational purposes within the class, unless explicit, written permission has been granted by the student.



Content:

	INTENSIVE COURSE		
Week 1	<p>Functional:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Getting to know each other Becoming familiar with a new environment <p>Grammatical:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Brush up on the main Grammar topics as result of the Placement test, with emphasis on the structural difference between English and German Grammar Brush up on irregular verbs and the use of tempus forms in German Objective and subjective use of Modal verbs, sentence structure in main and subordinate clauses Intonation with special emphasis on the Umlaut Passive Voice <p>Vocabulary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> As needed Verbs, Irregular verbs, Modal verbs <p>Culture:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Diachronic cultural competence: Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque, 19th and 20th Century in Freiburg. Getting to know the various stages in which the host culture historically emerged with special emphasis on Freiburg 	<p>Readings have to be in general appropriate in terms of course-topic and language level and to be selected by the teacher. Suitable suggestions and examples in the syllabus are given in the following sections</p> <p>Reading: Kurzer Gang durch die Stadtgeschichte</p> <p>Field studies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wenzingerhaus Museum für Stadtgeschichte <p>Quiz on the Museum as preparation for Passive voice</p> <p>Related homework to the various grammar topics</p> <p>Related homework to the Historical City and Münster Tours</p>	<p>I.A., II.A., III.A., III.B., IV.A., IV.B.</p>

	<p>2. Discussion of cultural differences between the U.S. and Germany on an everyday level</p>		
Week 2	<p>Functional:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understanding different text types 2. Style analyses of a literary text 3. Difference between spoken and written language 4. Presentations 5. Importance of independent and self-motivated work <p>Preparation for the University Courses: Independent Acquisition of Information, taking notes under pressure (Transcription)</p> <p>Grammatical:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Passive voice 2. Intonation with special emphasis on the Umlaut 3. Sentence structure in main and subordinate clauses (Umstellung) 4. Forms and Use of Konjunktiv II <p>Vocabulary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As needed 2. Variation of German Language, Dialect phrases <p>Culture:</p>	<p>Reading: In der Falle der Behaglichkeit</p> <p>Related homework to the Alter Friedhof Tour</p> <p>Related homework to the readings</p> <p>Field study: Socio-cultural City Tour as preparation for City as text</p> <p>City as text</p> <p>Visit at Breisgaumilch</p> <p>Related homework to City as text and the visit at Breisgaumilch</p> <p>Related homework to the various grammar topics</p>	<p>I.A., II.A., III.A., III.B., IV.A., IV.B., V.A.</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Socio cultural emersion of modern German Society 2. Freiburg as a green city 		
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	2. Freiburg as a green city		
	SEMESTER COURSE		
Week 3	<p>Functional:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Getting to know each other <p>Grammatical:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Noun-based constructions – verb-based constructions <p>Vocabulary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> As needed Nouns deriving from verbs <p>Culture:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Sprachwandel – language change 	<p>Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Weltsprache Deutsch</i> <i>Wege zur Sprache</i> <p>Writing: Export von deutschen Wörtern</p> <p>Oral: Group discussion - <i>Sprachwandel</i></p> <p>Related homework to the various grammar topics</p>	I.B., II.A., II.B., III.A., III.B., IV.A., V.B.
Week 4	<p>Functional:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Stating an opinion <p>Grammatical:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Reported speech: prepositions, wie-clauses, Subjunctive I Correction of text production <p>Vocabulary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Alternatives of sagen As needed <p>Culture:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> German dialects 	<p>Writing: Abstract of Interview (Moodle)</p> <p>Oral:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group discussion-dialects Interview with a dialect speaker <p>Related homework to the various grammar topics</p>	I.A., II.B., III.A., III.B., III.D., V.B.



Week 5	<p>Functional:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> How to talk like a native speaker 	<p>Writing: A conversation at the mensa (Moodle)</p> <p>Related homework to the various grammar topics</p>	<p>I.B., II.A., II.B., III.C., III.D., IV.A.,V.B.</p>
	<p>Grammatical:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Modal particles Correction of text production <p>Vocabulary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Umgangssprache – slang As needed <p>Culture:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Umgangssprache - slang 		
Week 6	<p>Functional:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Explaining and discussing cultural experiences and differences <p>Grammatical:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Correction of text production <p>Vocabulary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> As needed 	<p>CORE II</p> <p>Questions to help students reflect their experience abroad (doesn't figure into the overall grade)</p>	<p>I.A., I.B., III.A., III.B.</p>
Week 7	<p>Functional:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> How to give a presentation <p>Grammatical:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Prepositions, adverbs, Conjunctions: causal, concessive-, modal-, conditional phrases 	<p>Oral: Presentations on German media</p> <p>Writing: Abstract of presentation on German media</p> <p>Related homework to the various grammar topics</p>	<p>I.A., II.A., III.B., IV.A., IV.C.</p>

	<p>Vocabulary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Media As needed 		
	<p>Culture:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Media in Germany 		
Week 8	<p>Functional:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Review of functional content for midterm exam <p>Grammatical:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Prepositions, adverbs, Conjunctions: temporal phrases <p>Vocabulary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> As needed <p>Culture:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Theater 	<p>Related homework to the various grammar topics</p> <p>Field Study: Theater</p> <p>Midterm Exam</p>	<p>II.A., II.B., IV.B., IV.C., V.A., V.B.</p>
Week 9	<p>Functional:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Describing people, places and situations by using new complex grammatical structures <p>Grammatical:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Relative clauses Participle constructions <p>Vocabulary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> As needed <p>Culture:</p>	<p>Writing: Outline and purpose of article (Moodle)</p> <p>Oral: Presentations of newspaper abstract</p>	<p>I.A., II.B., III.A., III.B., IV.C., V.A.</p>

	1. Newspaper project		
Week 10	Functional:	Writing: Abstract of Interviews (Moodle)	I.A., II.A., II.B., III.A., III.B., IV.A., V.A.
	1. How to conduct an interview Grammatical: 1. Correction of text production Vocabulary: 1. As needed Culture: 1. Newspaper project	Course-related trip: Interviews with locals and experts	
Week 11	Functional: 1. Design of a newspaper article I Grammatical: 1. Subjective modal verbs 2. Modal verb alternatives 3. Correction of text production Vocabulary: 1. As needed Culture: 1. Newspaper project	Writing: First draft of article Peer review of first draft (Moodle) Homework related to grammar topics	I.A., II.A., II.B., III.A., III.B., V.A., V.B.
Week 12	Functional: 1. Design of a newspaper article II	Writing: Full article with photos (Moodle) Final draft	IV.C., V.A., V.B.



	Grammatical: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As needed 2. Correction of text production 	class portraits, layout, title page, final editing	
	Vocabulary: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As needed Culture: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Newspaper project 		
Week 13	Culture: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Newspaper project 2. German Breakfast / Course wrap-up, talk about your experience 	Presentation of Newspaper at farewell event	I.A., I.B., II.A., II.B., III.A., III.B., III.C.

REQUIRED READINGS:

- Newspaper and magazine articles, periodicals, selections of short literary and scientific texts; Handouts for GR 451

RECOMMENDED READINGS:

- Exercises on Moodle Page