

GR 301 GERMAN LANGUAGE IN CONTEXT: EMERGING INDEPENDENT ABROAD I
IES Abroad EU Program Freiburg

SEMESTER: Fall/Spring

DESCRIPTION:

Students entering this level must be able to fulfill the learning outcomes of the Novice Abroad level, as defined by the IES Abroad MAP for Language and Intercultural Communication. Specifically, they should already be able to express themselves on a variety of concrete, everyday topics and meet their basic needs in the language. Students who enter this level may be more proficient in reading and writing skills than oral communication, especially if they have never traveled or studied abroad previously. Although students may have been exposed previously to certain competencies taught at this level, they need additional practice and instruction to move toward mastery of these competencies. Students at this level may succeed in partner university courses (when offered through the local Center) as long as such courses are primarily designed for international students and/or require passive student linguistic participation (art studios, dance).

As students gain more self-awareness and self-confidence, they will attempt more in the community. Paradoxically, this means they may also experience more miscommunications and frustration. Reading and writing require effort, and many students will need to make a special effort in this regard. Students will also develop cultural awareness and skills to work through the challenges of adaptation in the local culture and learn to celebrate their successes. They will begin to appreciate the value of these language and intercultural skills.

This course builds upon skills introduced in Novice Abroad. By the end of the course, the successful student will have begun to develop some communicative and cultural self-confidence necessary to attempt moderately complex tasks in the language, as described in the learning outcomes below.

CREDITS: 4

CONTACT HOURS: 60 (including course-related trips, for detailed explanation see below)

INSTRUCTOR:

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: English/German

ADDITIONAL COST: None

PREREQUISITES:

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:

Group work, student presentations, stimulus/response games, oral and written exercises, role playing, homework, field studies, Moodle, class project.

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

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| • Course Participation and homework | 20% |
| • Quiz 1 | 10% |
| • Quiz 2 | 10% |
| • The Berlin Project | 10% |
| • Class Project | 30% |
| • Final Exam | 20% |

Course Participation and homework

The participation grade reflects students' attentiveness and involvement in all kinds of classroom activities, particularly discussions and group work. Homework assignments are also counted towards this grade.

A	Excellent participation The student's contributions reflect an active reading of the assigned bibliography. Skillfully synthesizes the main ideas of the readings and raises questions about the applications and implications of the material. Demonstrates, through questions and comments, that he or she has been capable of relating the main ideas in the readings to the other information discussed in the course, and with his or her own life experience. The student makes informed judgments about the readings and other ideas discussed in class, providing evidence and reasons. He/she respectfully states his/her reactions about other classmates' opinions and is capable of contributing to the inquiry spiral with other questions. The student gets fully involved in the completion of the class activities.
B	Very good participation The student's contributions show that the assigned materials are usually read. Most of the time the main ideas are identified, even though sometimes it seems that applications and implications of the information read were not properly reflected upon. The student is able to construct over others' contributions, but sometimes seems to interrupt the shared construction to go over tangents. He/she is respectful of others' ideas. Regularly involved in the activities but occasionally loses concentration or energy.
C	Regular participation The participant evidences a regular reading of the bibliography, but in a superficial way. He/she tries to construct over others' ideas, but commonly provides comments that indicate lack of preparation about the material. Frequently, contributions are shallow or unarticulated with the discussion in hand.
F	Insufficient participation Consistently, the participant reads in a shallow way or does not read at all. Does not participate in an informed way and shows lack of interest in constructing over others' ideas.

Quizzes

There will be two quizzes covering key aspects of the first half of the course. Possible question formats include multiple choice and structured short or long answer questions. A study guide will be provided beforehand.

The Berlin Project

The Berlin Project is an integral part of the German classes and gives the students the chance to learn more about German history and culture while they visit historic sites in Berlin. Its focus is on the cultural knowledge and thus on furthering the students' intercultural competence.

Course projects may be The Jewish Museum, the GDR Museum, the Holocaust Memorial, or the Topography of Terror outdoor Museum.

The Berlin Project is prepared in class both in terms of procedure and in terms of content. The topic of the Berlin project will be implemented in the Intensive Phase class content. You may for example read poems by Jewish authors if your class project is on the Jewish Museum.

Students will receive a booklet containing background information about the venue of their project as well as directions of how to get there. Furthermore, they will receive a set of questions to be answered while or after the visit to the historic site.

The Berlin Project is integrated into the academic program of the Course Related Trip to Berlin. Students will be given a time slot to visit the site independently. For the most part these visits should be done in groups.

The experience of this project will be reflected upon in writing as well as in discussions during class. Returning from the Course Related Trip to Berlin, the students will have to present their answers in class and hand in the booklet with their notes. They will be graded by the teachers.

Final Exam

The final exam covers material of the whole course, with a focus on the second half of the term. A study guide will be provided beforehand.

Class Project- The Newspaper Project

The Class Project is an integral part of the German classes and gives the students the chance to learn more about Freiburg, German history and culture.

Throughout the semester each class will work individually or in groups on a topic of their interest, e.g. "Freiburg and its Münster", "My favorite places". Each group will then contribute 2-3 pages for the semester's newspaper that will be handed out to everyone by the end of the semester. The process of re-correcting the drafts and the process of writing will be assessed by each professor. The results and the experience will be reflected upon by presenting the topic to the other classes. Especially in the Novice Abroad level it will be interesting to see how much the students can express after one semester.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

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

I. Intercultural Communication

A. Increasingly, students will be able to make informed comparisons between the host culture and the students' home cultures.

B. Students will be able to distinguish between verbal and nonverbal communication that reflects politeness, formality, or informality.

C. Students will be able to recognize simple patterns of intonation and their meaning.

D. Students will be able to solve some daily unexpected situations and meet needs with limited help.

II. Listening

A. Students will be able to understand some interactions (media, speeches, music, conversations, etc.), especially if the speaker is used to interacting with non-native speakers.

B. Students will be able to understand direct requests, questions, and simple conversations on familiar and concrete topics.

III. Speaking

A. Students will be able to talk to a limited extent about persons and things in their immediate environment, as well as their plans and their experiences.

B. Students will be able to address moderately complicated situations involving familiar subjects.

IV. Reading

A. Students will be able to read passages and uncomplicated longer texts (simple narratives, detailed instructions, etc.) on familiar topics and understand the general meaning.

B. Students will be able to support their understanding of texts through the use of context, visual aids, dictionaries, or with the assistance of others in order to facilitate comprehension.

V. Writing

A. Students will be able to communicate with some effectiveness through notes, emails, and simple online discussions and chats.

B. Students will be able to write short essays on concrete topics of limited levels of complexity and accuracy, and with reliance on the communicative patterns of their native language.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

All IES 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 (with the exception of students who have an excused absence).

CONTENT:

Week	Content	Assignments	Corresponding Learning Outcomes
Week 1 Intensive Phase	1.Functional: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introducing yourself Asking for directions German for everyday use: typical phrases, restaurant, shopping 2.Grammatical: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking about things in the past 3.Vocabulary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Places and activities in the city Food and drinks 4. Culture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shopping in Freiburg Decoding Freiburg Facts about Federal Republic of Germany, states, political system, neighbors, flag, etc. Berlin: now and then 	Reading: "Der erste oder der einzige Tag" Interviewing classmates Interviewing German flatmates Introducing oneself Shopping in Freiburg Role play: in a Café Getting around Freiburg Exploring Münstermarkt Facts about Germany and its political system Berlin Project Preparation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Groups - Topic 	I.B., I.D, III.A., IV.A.
Week 2	Experiencing Europe: "Germany in Europe: Then and Now" Course Related Trip Destination: Berlin, Germany (5 days)		

Week 3	1. Functional <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking about the course related trip Making arrangements 2. Grammatical: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noun gender Review of cases 3. Vocabulary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Free-time activities 4. Culture: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Berlin Project Talking about the Field Trip German media culture	Discussion Berlin Project Making plans for the weekend Reading German Newspapers Berlin Project Presentations Class project What is Newspaper project?	I.A., II.B., II.D., III.B.
Week 4	1. Functional: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking about travel experiences and plans Stating an opinion, coming to an understanding 2. Grammatical: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local prepositions (geographical) 3. Vocabulary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travel Countries and nationalities Landscape types 4. Culture: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travelling in Europe 	Listening comprehension on Moodle Interviewing International flat mates Reading: "Ich brauche Urlaub!" Class project: - Groups - Deadline QUIZ 1 See Moodle for exercises / study guide	II.A., III.A., IV.A., IV.B., V.B.
Week 5	1. Functional: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organizing a trip Talking about the weather 2. Grammatical: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sub-clauses: final, concessive, sub-clauses with "whether" and "that" Review of sub-clauses: causal, conditional 3. Vocabulary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> travel weather 4. Culture: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> different cultures – different habits 	Feedback Quiz 1 Role play: asking for information, booking a flight/trip in a travel agency Discussion: What's the best destination? Class project	I.A., I.D., II.B., III.A.
Week 6	<p style="text-align: center;">"Experiencing Europe: "European Parliament" Course-Related Trip Destination: Strasbourg, France (1 day)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Experiencing Europe: "EU Institutions" Course Related Trip Destinations: Brussels, Belgium, and Paris, France (7 days)</p>		

Week 7	<p>1.Functional:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking about the Field Trip Talking about housing situation <p>2.Grammatical:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local adverbs Two-way prepositions Position verbs <p>3.Vocabulary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Furniture House objects <p>4.Culture:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking about the Field Trip Student housing in Germany and the U.S. 	<p>Presentation “Meine WG”</p> <p>Discussion differences in Germany and the U.S.</p> <p>Class project</p>	<p>I.B., I.C., I.D., II.B., III.B., IV.A.</p>
Week 8	<p>1.Functional:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dialogue “At the doctor’s” Pronunciation practice <p>2.Grammatical:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subjunctive II: Advice <p>3.Vocabulary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The human body Health problems <p>4.Culture:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> German proverbs to health 	<p>Interviewing classmates: “What if...”</p> <p>“Guten Tag, Herr Doktor”: a play in the class room</p> <p>Role play: Giving advices to a friend in need</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class project 	<p>I.B., I.C., I.D., II.B., III.B., IV.A.</p>
Week 9	<p>1.Functional:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking about a movie <p>2.Grammatical:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subjunctive II: Conditional phrases Review for quiz <p>3.Vocabulary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review for quiz Arts and movies <p>4.Culture:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> German film: “Almanya” 	<p>Presentation:</p> <p>“Lieblingsfilm/ Lieblingsserie”</p> <p>Discussion: How would you realize a film about the Germans, the Americans ...?</p> <p>Review for quiz</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class project 	<p>I.A., I.C., II.A., III.A., V.B.</p>

Week 10	1. Functional: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taking about literature understanding daily news giving one's opinion 2. Grammatical: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinating conjunctions 3. Vocabulary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Literature, News, Media 4. German Media Culture	Quiz 2 Presentation: "Lieblingsbuch" Reading German newspapers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Museum visit in Freiburg: Stadt Geschichte Learning more about local culture	II.B., III.B, IV.A., IV.B., V.B.
Week 11	1. Functional: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enquiring about and describing studies or work How to give a presentation 2. Grammatical: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subordinating conjunctions Coordinating conjunctions Prepositions 3. Vocabulary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Job and profession College and university Job-related adjectives 4. Culture: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professions in Germany 	Interviewing classmates on work experiences etc. "Mein Traum job" (my wishes, my hopes, my dreams, my interests) Class project	I.A., II.B., III.A., IV.A., IV.B.
Week 12	1. Functional: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comparisons 2. Grammatical: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comparative, superlative 3. Vocabulary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adjectives Looks Character traits 4. Culture: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Colloquial speech / Young people slang Typically German-Typically American 	"Who am I?": Describing people Reading: "Deutschland ist so unsittlich" Class project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Museum visit in Freiburg: Museum für Neue Kunst Learning more about local culture	I.A., II.B., III.A., IV.A., IV.B.
Week 13	Experiencing Europe: "EU Member States Course Related Trip" Destinations: 2 countries (see selection in description below) (7 days)		
Week 14	1. Functional: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking about course related trips 2. Grammatical: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relative clauses Verbs with prepositions Da-/Wo-compounds 	Listening comprehension on Moodle	I.A., II.B., III.A., IV.A., IV.B.

	3. Vocabulary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relationships; Character Family and friends 4. Culture: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christmas in Germany 	Class Project: Newspaper Presentations Visit to Freiburg Christmas Market	
Week 15	1. Functional <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review for final exam 2. Grammatical <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review for final exam 3. Vocabulary / word fields <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review for final exam 4. Culture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review for final exam 	Practice and review for Final Examination Final Exam	

COURSE-RELATED TRIPS:

• Franco-German History Trip: Alsace, France– 1 day

During the first course related trip you will visit two significant historical and cultural landmarks in Franco-German history. You will have guided tours and learn about how age-old controversies and catastrophes in the heartland of Europe are represented, the role of memorials in constructing a European identity, and the challenges of overcoming centuries of conflict and rivalry.

• Germany in Europe: Then and Now Trip: Berlin, Germany – 5 days

During the course-related trip to Berlin, you will continue to learn about the past and present of German culture, economy and politics of Germany. Historically this capital is a crucial place if one wants to understand the importance German politics has for the dynamics of European integration. In Berlin you will learn about the fall of the Berlin Wall, the reunification of Europe after the end of the Cold War, the challenges that emerged during the process of post-communist transition and about Germany's hegemonic position within the EU.

• EU Parliament Trip: Strasbourg, France – 1 day

During this one-day trip, which is thematically linked to the EU Institutions trip you will visit the European Parliament in session in Strasbourg, France. There you will attend the parliamentary session and meet a Member of European Parliament who will discuss current events and elaborate on the workings of the European Parliament.

• EU Institutions Trip: Brussels, Belgium and Paris, France – 7 days

This course related trip will take you first to Brussels, the EU's institutional power center. In Brussels you will have the opportunity to meet with not only EU officials but also representatives of national delegations to the EU, think tanks and NGOs, as well as academic experts. The EU institutions you will visit include the European Commission, the Council of the EU and the European Council and you will have a chance to discuss with those actors who draft, shape and finally take decisions in the European Union. You will continue to have first-hand experience of the EU by visiting various agencies, institutions, and museums in Paris, you will meet French officials and academic experts to discuss French culture, economy, politics, and society.

• EU Funds in the Region Trip: South Baden, Germany– 1 day

This day trip will start with a meeting where an expert from the region will introduce you to EU's agricultural and structural funds and their implementation with examples from the region. Following the meeting you will visit a family farm that is typical for South Baden.

• EU Member States Trip - 7 days

Students choose 1 out of the three following course related trip options, e.g.:

- 1) Stockholm, Sweden; Warsaw, Poland/Prague, Czechia
- 2) Rome, Italy; Budapest, Hungary
- 3) Athens, Greece; Sofia, Bulgaria/Bucharest, Romania

The destinations may vary according to the topicality and nature of challenges of the EU and its integration process. The member states of the EU are still characterized by different state structures, economic ideologies, and cultural identities. This last course-related trip gives you the opportunity to choose between three different trip options. On these trips, you will learn about the current challenges of European integration. Experiencing the particularities and cultural diversity of these societies is essential in order to understand the variation in terms of domestic debates and national preferences when it comes to such important issues like, for instance, immigration, macroeconomic integration as well as European security.



This syllabus is subject to changes depending on level and progress of class.

REQUIRED READINGS: Course and Workbook, Handouts, also see Moodle

NOTES:

This syllabus contains a representative course calendar, course related trips and field studies. Cultural topics, course related trips and field studies may vary by semester and by season.

COURSE MATERIAL: Moodle: <https://moodle.iesabroad.org>

INSTRUCTOR BIOGRAPHY: