



GR 353 GERMAN LANGUAGE IN CONTEXT: INDEPENDENT ABROAD III

IES Abroad Freiburg

DESCRIPTION:

Students who enter this level are able to accomplish everyday needs required to live in a new culture. In this course, students will develop independence and autonomy so that, when communication does break down, they have enough tools at their disposal to resolve these challenges on their own. Students should welcome correction and guidance from their instructors, hosts, and others in the community as they progress. They will also begin to recognize their own and their peers' errors.

By the end of this course, students will begin to converse at a rate of speed approaching normal conversation. They will be creative, more spontaneous and self-reliant as they solve problems, interpret texts, negotiate, and express their opinions, likes, and dislikes in the culture. Although students will still make errors and experience communication breakdowns, they are much more likely to resolve these on their own. Students will understand a variety of colloquial expressions and slang, and will be able to understand a wider variety of native speakers from different backgrounds. By the end of this level, students will be capable of achieving the learning outcomes outlined below.

CREDITS: 4 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 60 hours

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: German

PREREQUISITES: Proficiency at a level equivalent to IES Abroad's Emerging Independent 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 and Homework - 20%
- Vocabulary tests - 15%
- Presentation - 15%
- Written Assignments - 20%
- Final Exam - 30%

Semester Course:

- Midterm Exam - 10%
- Quizzes (grammar and vocabulary, announced in advance) - 20%
- Presentation - 10%
- Participation - 10%
- Homework - 10%
- Written Assignments - 20%
- Final Exam - 20%

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



LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students who are placed in this level should have achieved the outcomes in the Emerging Independent 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 Independent 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 identify and describe at a basic level key host cultures, subcultures, habits, norms, and behaviors in a variety of settings, and they will be aware of the risk that generalizations can lead to stereotypes.
2. Students will be able to discuss the validity of their own cultural beliefs, behaviors, and values by contrasting and comparing them with those of the host cultures.
3. Students will be able to interpret gestures and body language, and they will integrate some of those nonverbal actions into their interactions with native speakers.
4. Students will know how to meet socio-cultural norms in a variety of transactional events.

2. Listening

1. Students will be able to understand most spoken communications of moderate complexity (media, speeches, music, conversations, etc.) on a wide range of concrete everyday topics as well as abstract topics covered in classes.
2. Students will be able to understand most native speakers from a variety of backgrounds and limited experience with non-native speakers, and they will comprehend common colloquial expressions and slang.

3. Speaking

1. Students will be able to speak on and discuss a wide range of concrete everyday and personal topics, abstract topics covered in classes, as well as other topics of particular interest to them.
2. Students will be able to participate, initiate, and respond actively in a wide variety of interactions (field studies, interviews, community interaction, CORE).
3. Students will be able to narrate sequences of events with a notable degree of accuracy.
4. Students will be able to give presentations on topics related to the host culture.

4. Reading

1. Students will be able to read and understand a wide variety of articles, stories, and online texts using background knowledge to aid their comprehension.
2. Students will be able to read and understand the key ideas of academic texts on familiar topics with assistance.

5. Writing

1. Students will be able to meet most everyday writing needs (notes, text messages, formal and informal letters, emails, chats, online forums).
2. Students will be able to write essays for class that narrate, describe, report, compare, contrast, and summarize on a wide range of topics with an increasing degree of grammatical and lexical accuracy.
3. Students will be able to edit their own and their peers' writing for common errors.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

IES Abroad courses are designed to take advantage of the unique contribution of the instructor, and the lecture/discussion format is regarded as the primary mode of instruction. Regular class attendance is mandatory. For every unexcused absence to class session a student's final grade in the course will be reduced by 15% on the German grade scale. Tests/presentations missed during unexcused absences cannot be made up. If a student misses a class it is their responsibility to catch up on everything that was covered in class. If a student cannot attend class due to illness then they should arrange to see a doctor who can issue a doctor's note. Without a doctor's note, an absence will count as an unexcused absence.

If a student misses more than 25% of class time, whether excused or unexcused, the student will receive an F in the course.

Absences due to religious observances and family emergencies may be excusable at the discretion of the Center Director.

CONTENT:

Week	Content	Assignments	Corresponding Learning Outcome(s)
	Intensive Course		
Week 1	<p>Functional:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introducing yourself and others 2. Getting to know the City-Center 3. Conducting interviews 4. Describing places and directions <p>Grammatical:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Local prepositions and adverbs 2. Indirect questions 3. <i>wissen vs. kennen vs. können</i> 4. <i>legen/liegen; stehen/stellen;...</i> 5. Review and practice: Past tense-forms, oral and written usage, Past participles <p>Vocabulary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Getting to know each other 2. Important dates of Freiburg's history 3. Freiburg for students/ free time activities 4. German geography and neighbors 5. Nations and Countries 6. First impressions 	<p>Writing: Written summary of first impressions in Freiburg/ Germany</p> <p>Oral:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interviewing class mates in order to get to know each other • Asking about directions and finding places; getting information • Describing personal experience of former stays in Germany, Austria or Switzerland <p>Quiz game: How much do you know about the "Bundesländer"?</p> <p>Course-related trips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploring the Freiburg City-Centre • Museum of Freiburg History 	I.A., I.B., II.A., III.B., IV.A., V.A.

	<p>Culture:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shopping in Freiburg 2. „Decoding Freiburg” 3. Museum of Freiburg’s History 4. Monuments 		
Week 2	<p>Functional:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describing people and objects 2. Describing activities in past tenses <p>Grammatical:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review: Adjective forms and declensions – Comparison 2. Relative clauses (all cases, with preposition, relating pronouns: <i>wo, woher, wohin</i>) <p>Vocabulary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Forms of communication 2. landscapes, nature, places in town and region 3. Character traits <p>Culture:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City as Text 2. Freiburg’s economy –visit of an enterprise 3. “Typically Freiburg/ Germany” 4. Studying in Freiburg 	<p>Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schwarzwald, Bodensee, Dreiländereck • Info text: German people and other Europeans <p>Writing: Formal and informal letter</p> <p>Oral: Presentation of an American university, town or enterprise</p> <p>Field studies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City as text • Freiburg Münster • Freiburg’s economy –visit of an enterprise <p>Core-goal-setting-unit</p> <p>Final exam OIL</p>	I.A., I.B., II.A., III.B., III.D., IV.A., IV.B., V.A.
	Semester Course		
Week 3	<p>Functional:</p>	<p>Reading: <i>Tausend Spiegel</i></p>	I.B., I.C., II.A., III.B., IV.A., V.A., V.C.

	<p>1. Talking about emotions and the experience of living in a foreign country</p> <p>Grammatical:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Review of Past tenses Correction of text production <p>Vocabulary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Adjectives for describing people and feelings Relationships As needed <p>Culture:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Freiburg – a new and unknown environment 	<p>Listening: <i>Tausend Spiegel</i></p> <p>Writing: Optimists vs. pessimists</p> <p>Oral: How do I feel/ behave in new or unknown situations?</p>	
<p>Week 4</p>	<p>Functional:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Talking about real/ unreal conditions Polite forms of asking, expression of wishes <p>Grammatical:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Konjunktiv II <p>Vocabulary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Relationships Sayings As needed <p>Culture:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Comparison politeness in Germany vs the US 	<p>Reading: <i>Ich habe einen Traum</i></p> <p>Writing: <i>Ich habe einen Traum</i></p> <p>Oral: Discussion: What if...</p> <p>Listening: <i>Wenn alle das täten (Georg Kreisler)</i></p>	<p>I.A., I.B., II.A., III.A., IV.A., IV.B.</p>

<p>Week 5</p>	<p>Functional:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stating an opinion, how to agree and disagree 2. how to give advice in German <p>Grammatical:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Konjunktiv II 2. Prepositions 3. Genitive <p>Vocabulary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Relationship 2. Adjectives 3. As needed <p>Culture:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dating and relationships in Germany 	<p>Reading: <i>Wer ist wie ich?</i></p> <p>Writing: A love story</p> <p>Oral: Giving advice</p> <p>What characteristics do I expect my (future) partner to have?</p>	<p>I.A., I.B., II.A., III.B., IV.B., V.A.</p>
<p>Week 6</p>	<p>Functional:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How to argue and deal with conflicts in a private context 2. How to give a presentation <p>Grammatical:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Correction of text production 2. Verbs with prepositions <p>Vocabulary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adjectives 2. As needed <p>Culture:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Idioms/common phrases 	<p>Reading: <i>Wir reden gerade so nett.</i></p> <p>Writing: Dialogues</p> <p>Oral: Discussion about relationships</p>	<p>I.A., I.B., II.A., III.A., III.C., IV.B., V.A., V.C.</p>

	<p>2. Comparison relationships in Germany vs. the US (age to marry, divorce rate etc.)</p>		
Week 7	<p>Functional:</p> <p>1. Talking about cultural differences</p> <p>Grammatical:</p> <p>1. Correction of text production 2. Verbs with prepositions 3. Review of causal clauses</p> <p>Vocabulary:</p> <p>1. Adjectives 2. As needed</p> <p>Culture:</p> <p>1. Student life in Germany vs. the US 2. Presentations (topics related to Germany in comparison to the US)</p>	Core II	I.A., I.B., III.A., III.B
Week 8	<p>Functional:</p> <p>1. Talking about historical events</p> <p>Grammatical:</p> <p>1. Concessive clauses 2. Conditional clauses</p> <p>Vocabulary:</p> <p>1. Adjectives 2. As needed</p> <p>Culture:</p>	<p>Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Erich Fried – eine kurze Biographie</i> • <i>Es ist, was es ist</i> (Poem) <p>Oral: How to deal with history?</p> <p>Presentations</p> <p>Listening: <i>Was es ist</i> (Mia)</p>	I.A., I.B., II.A., III.B., IV.A., V.A.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The impact of German history 2. Presentations (topics related to Germany in comparison to the US) 		
Week 9	<p>Functional:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Talking about clichés and prejudices 2. Talking about patriotism <p>Grammatical:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Connectors <p>Vocabulary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adjectives 2. As needed <p>Culture:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understanding reasons for cultural differences 2. Presentations (topics related to Germany in comparison to the US) 	<p>Reading: <i>Distanz zum Land</i></p> <p>Writing: Patriotism in the US</p> <p>Oral: Group discussion: Typical German – typical American</p> <p>Interviews with German students</p> <p>Midterm Exam</p>	V.A., V.B.
Week 10	<p>Functional:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Talking about <i>Heimat</i> <p>Grammatical:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Final clauses 2. Infinitive with <i>zu</i> <p>Vocabulary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adjectives 2. Sayings 3. As needed <p>Culture:</p>	<p>Reading: <i>(Zweite) Heimat Deutschland?</i></p> <p>Writing: What is <i>Heimat</i> to me?"</p> <p>Oral: What is <i>Heimat</i>? Presentations</p> <p>Listening: Two Germans in the US</p>	I.A., I.B., II.A., II.B., III.C., III.D., IV.B., V.A., V.B.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Body language 2. Presentations (topics related to Germany in comparison to the US) 		
Week 11	<p>Functional:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describing processes <p>Grammatical:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Past participles 2. Passive voice (present tense) <p>Vocabulary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adjectives 2. As needed <p>Culture:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Presentations (topics related to Germany in comparison to the US) 	<p>Writing: Describing processes</p> <p>Oral: Presentations</p>	I.B., I.C., I.D., II.A., II.B., III.C., III.D., V.B.
Week 12	<p>Functional:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Interpreting quotes, expressing opinion about abstract and philosophical questions <p>Grammatical:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Passive voice (past tense) 2. Passive with <i>sein</i> and <i>werden</i> 3. Correction of text production <p>Vocabulary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As needed 	<p>Writing: My favorite quote</p> <p>Oral Presentations: Group discussion – Quotes</p>	I.B., I.C., I.D., II.A., II.B., III.C., III.D., IV.B., V.B., V.C.

	<p>Culture:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Presentations (topics related to Germany in comparison) 		
Week 13	<p>Functional:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Expressing plans and hopes for the future (private and professional) <p>Grammatical:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Revision 2. Review of the Future tense <p>Vocabulary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Revision <p>Culture:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. German Breakfast / Course wrap-up, talk about your experience 	Final Exam	IV.B., V.A.

REQUIRED READINGS:

- Selection of short texts; Handouts for GR 353

RECOMMENDED READINGS:

- Exercises on Moodle Page