



German 1 Online

GER 1 #15085, Fall 2016

ONLINE COURSE

Saddleback College, Mission Viejo, California



Instructor: **Nancy Thuleen**

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Course Materials:



Required: **Connect Access Card for Online Connect Exercises and Exams with Deutsch, Na Klar 7th edition**, ISBN: [9781259290862](https://www.mheducation.com/highered/product/9781259290862).

Optional: **Paper Textbook Deutsch Na Klar, Seventh Edition**, by DiDonato & Clyde (McGraw-Hill, 2016). ISBN: [9781259604850](https://www.mheducation.com/highered/product/9781259604850).

Important Course Links:

Saddleback College Blackboard:

<https://saddleback.blackboard.com/>

McGraw-Hill Connect:

<http://connect.mheducation.com/>

Quizlet Flashcard Sets:

<https://quizlet.com/class/2280586/>

Textbook Access:

You must purchase at least the 'Online Access Card' to the textbook in order to complete the work assigned in this course. It is **optional to have a paper copy of the textbook**, since your online access card includes access to the eBook textbook online. It is **recommended to purchase the Online Access Card from the Saddleback bookstore**. If you choose to purchase from another source or a used textbook, you must ensure that you receive the online access code, as **the online ('Connect') access card is absolutely required to pass the class**. If all else fails, you may purchase online access directly from the publisher: our Blackboard page has registration and contact information for activating or purchasing your online access card. **There is a limited free trial mode available for the first 2 weeks**, after which you will need to purchase the Access Code to continue in the class.

Course Description:

German 1 is the first semester of German. This elementary level course is **designed for students with no prior knowledge of German**. Students will develop the fundamentals of communicative competence in colloquial German. The emphasis is on listening, comprehension, and conversational skills. Early reading and writing skills are introduced as well as fundamental aspects of culture. **Equivalent to two years high school German**.

Course Content:

This course will cover the first six chapters of the textbook (the introductory *Einführung* plus *Kapitel 1* through 6). **This is NOT a self-paced course**: you will have regularly assigned due dates and exams that must be completed on time, so **plan to be available to work online for the entire semester**.

Student Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate comprehension of native daily spoken German in selected social situations.
2. Demonstrate ability to communicate with minimal adequacy in selected social situations.
3. Manipulate basic grammatical structures.
4. Demonstrate reading comprehension of selected written passages in German.
5. Compose original sentences that incorporate the material acquired through reading and speaking activities.
6. List and identify a minimum of 800 vocabulary words and relate them to selected social situations.
7. Identify, select, and give examples of appropriate social levels of speech.
8. Compare and contrast general aspects of culture and daily life of German speaking population with students.
9. Develop appreciation for historic, political, and artistic individuals.

Student Responsibilities:

This 5-credit class **requires between 10 and 15 hours of studying and preparation per week**. Consider that if this class were held face-to-face, you would be sitting in a classroom for 5 hours per week, plus completing at least 5 hours of homework each week – therefore **the online class requires a minimum of 10 hours per week**. **Because you will complete all coursework online, regular participation and self-directed study is vital to your success**. There will be explicit deadlines for assignments and exams, and you must keep up with the scheduled workload. This means you will need to **log in to the course website a minimum of two or three times per week**, and spend significant time reading, understanding, practicing, and completing assignments online. Languages cannot be “crammed” – they are a cumulative learning process, and it is **best if you devote an hour or two every day to homework**, online activities, or simply reviewing prior material and exploring the optional links for further study. **If you do encounter any difficulties, e-mail me immediately and keep me informed**.

In general, you will be assigned to read sections of the textbook each week, to practice the vocabulary and grammar you are learning, and to **complete assigned exercises** to solidify your mastery of the new material. **Assigned work for the week will be due every week at the close of day on Sundays**. You may always turn in assignments early, but try to keep to the general pace of the class and not work too far ahead, for your own benefit. **There will be a chapter quiz every two weeks, plus short weekly writing assignments**. Oral proficiency will be assessed by **recordings or conferences** with your instructor. In the middle of the semester, you will take **one midterm exam**, and at the end of the semester **the final exam**.

Please note that **you are also enrolled in a .25 unit LAB section (German 901) as a corequisite lab component** of this class. **For the LAB section, you will be completing online exercises and activities at the same course webpage** as our normal class: the lab assignments are in a category designated LAB. **You must ensure that you spend at least one hour per week completing the assignments listed under “LAB” in the online class – a total of 16.6 hours over the course of the semester**. It is your responsibility to budget your time and keep track of your progress in the LAB section, but you can easily track your time via the website gradebook online. **If you do not complete these 16.6 hours of logged-in lab work, you will not receive credit for the LAB section, which is graded pass-fail**.

Technical Requirements

As this is an online course, you must have **consistent access to the internet** in order to complete your work. In addition, you should make sure **your computer meets the following basic requirements**. Don't worry too much: nearly all modern computers are capable of these tasks, but look through the list and see if you think you will have any difficulties.

- You need to be able to use a **web browser** (*Chrome, Firefox, Safari, or Internet Explorer are recommended*).
- You need to be able to **view and type into Microsoft Word documents using any standard word processing software** (*Microsoft Office, the freeware OpenOffice or LibreOffice, or Apple Pages are the most common*).
- You need to be able to **view PDF files** (*most browsers have an Adobe PDF plugin or the free Adobe Reader app*).
- You need to be able to **record your voice on your computer using the textbook website**. *Most laptops have a microphone (and camera) already built-in. If you are using a desktop computer, you may need to buy or borrow a USB microphone*. If you have special reasons why you cannot record your voice, please contact your instructor and we may be able to find reasonable alternatives.
- You will need to either **telephone or use Skype for a voice conference** with your instructor for oral interviews. If you have a webcam, a video conference is preferred, but is not required. *Skype is free and if you do not already have an account, you can register for free at <http://www.skype.com>*. If there are reasons why you cannot use Skype, you can complete the voice conferences by calling your instructor on a normal telephone or cell phone. **Please contact your instructor if you need special consideration**.

Academic Honesty

In addition to the Saddleback College Academic Honesty policies outlined at <http://www.saddleback.edu/la/acts-academic-dishonesty>, the following guidelines also apply to this course:

1. Students may not use automated translators to write compositions or complete assignments.
2. Students may not ask friends, relatives or native speakers to complete any of the assigned work.
3. Students may not recycle their own or other people's work.
4. Students must explicitly cite any material that has been taken from the Internet or other sources.

Evaluation and Grading:

Online Exercises ('Aufgaben')	15%
Weekly Worksheets Online	5%
Weekly Writing Assignments	10%
Discussion Board Postings	5%
Spoken Exercises and Interviews ...	10%
Chapter Tests	25%
Midterm and Final Exams.....	25%
Lab Assignments	5%

Grading Scale:

Unless otherwise indicated, all assignments will be graded on standard percentages:

A	90.0–100%	D	60.0–69.5%
B	80.0–89.5%	F	59.5% or less
C	70.0–79.5%	Pass	70% or more

If modifications or curves are necessary for particular assignments, you will be told in advance in class.

Online Exercises ('Aufgaben') (15% of course grade): The majority of your time will be spent in **reading the online textbook material, and completing the corresponding practice activities and exercises on the textbook Connect website**. Most exercises are computer-graded (multiple choice or fill in the blank), but some will be graded personally by your instructor. **A few exercises also ask you to record your voice, for spoken practice. You should plan to spend around four or five hours per week on this homework, as it is equivalent to in-class practice in a face-to-face class.** It is best to spread out your learning over multiple days throughout the week, for maximum retention. **Homework assignments will be due at the latest on Sunday nights each week, however, it is recommended that you complete them a few days early to give yourself time to finish any other remaining work for the week.** Connect homework assignments can be re-done as many times as you wish, to ensure you have correctly mastered the material. Your best score on each assignment, no matter how many times you complete it, will remain in the gradebook and will count towards the course grade.

Weekly Worksheets Online (5% of course grade): At the end of each week, your instructor will provide a summary worksheet for you to complete, to ensure that you understand the week's learning. These worksheets will be in Word document format: **you will type the answers and save the document, then upload it to your instructor**. An answer key will be provided for you to check your own work. **Worksheets will count as either complete or incomplete:** they will not be graded on a percentage score.

Weekly Writing Assignments (10% of course grade): Every week, you will create a **short written composition in German** using the material learned so far. These assignments will be **posted on the Blackboard Discussion Board** each week by Sunday night at the latest. Full instructions and guidance will be provided for you; the compositions will start off quite short, but get a bit longer and more complex as the semester continues. Your instructor will grade and correct your work and enter your grade online.

Discussion Board Postings (5% of course grade): Every two weeks, you will **post in English on the Blackboard Discussion Board on a cultural topic** related to the textbook material. These postings will contribute to your understanding of **various aspects of German culture**, and will be graded based on a rubric provided on Blackboard.

Spoken Exercises and Interviews (10% of course grade): **Every week you will record your voice** in a practice exercise online, to ensure you are learning proper pronunciation and accent. In addition, at several points in the semester, you will have either **an interview with your instructor** by Skype or telephone, or an **assigned 'partner interview'** with a randomly chosen classmate. Topics and sample questions will be provided in advance.

Chapter Tests (25% of course grade): At the end of each chapter (usually every two weeks), you will take an **online test or quiz, covering the chapter material**. These tests will be very similar to your homework assignments and will be completed on the textbook Connect website. **You may only take each test ONE TIME, so prepare well in advance and be ready to do your best.** Your instructor will provide substantial guidance and practice exams so you will not be surprised by the content of the tests.

Midterm and Final Exam (25% of course grade): In the ninth week of class, you will take **a midterm exam covering the material in chapters 1, 2 and 3**. At the end of the semester, **on or before December 14th**, you will take **a final exam covering the material throughout the semester** (chapters 1 through 6 of the textbook). These exams will be very similar to the homework and summary worksheets. You will **complete these exams as a Word document and upload them to your instructor**, who will grade them manually.

Lab Assignments (5% of course grade): As discussed above, there are **assignments on the textbook Connect website, in a category called "Lab Assignments", which count towards your lab component**. You must spend approximately one hour per week logged in and working actively on these assignments: the Connect website tracks your time for you. For the quarter-credit LAB class, **you must have 16.6 hours of Lab time at the end of the semester**. In addition, your overall completion rate of the lab work will count as 5% of your course grade in the regular 5-credit class.

Basic Course Calendar

August 22 to August 28	Week 1	Introduction to Course, Chapter 0: Greetings, Farewells
August 29 to September 4	Week 2	Chapter 0: Numbers, Alphabet, Greetings; Chapter 0 Test
September 5 to September 11	Week 3	Chapter 1: Nouns, Gender, Verbs, Sentence Structure
September 12 to September 18	Week 4	Chapter 1: Word Order, Questions; Chapter 1 Test
September 19 to September 25	Week 5	Chapter 2: Furniture/House, Accusative Case, Negation
September 26 to October 2	Week 6	Chapter 2: Stem-Changing Verbs, Plurals; Chapter 2 Test
October 3 to October 9	Week 7	Chapter 3: Family, Possessives, Accusative Pronouns
October 10 to October 16	Week 8	Chapter 3: Days, Werden-Kennen-Wissen; Chapter 3 Test
October 17 to October 23	Week 9	Review for Midterm; Midterm Exam and Oral Interview
October 24 to October 30	Week 10	Chapter 4: Telling Time, Separable Prefixes, Modal Verbs
October 31 to November 6	Week 11	Chapter 4: Imperatives, Entertainment; Chapter 4 Test
November 7 to November 13	Week 12	Chapter 5: Clothing, Dative Case, Dative Prepositions
November 14 to November 20	Week 13	Chapter 5: Food and Groceries, Shopping; Chapter 5 Test
November 21 to November 27	Week 14	Chapter 6: Restaurants, Menus, German Cuisine
November 28 to December 4	Week 15	Chapter 6: Two-Way Prepositions, Past Tense; Chapter 6 Test
December 5 to December 14	Week 16	Review for Final; Final Oral Interview and Project
December 14.....	FINAL.....	Final Exam completed on or before December 14 <i>for detailed assignment information and all course information, see course Blackboard page!</i>

Important Dates:

Class Begins: August 22
Last day to drop and get refund: September 4
Last day to drop without grade on record: September 5
Change to Pass/No Pass Grading: September 23
Last day to drop with "W": November 3
Final oral exam: on or before December 11
Final written exam: on or before December 14

Instructor Contact:

I am **always happy to communicate with students via email and via Skype**. If you don't see me online in Skype, please send me an email (german@nthuleen.com) or a text message (1-760-975-1076) to schedule a time to conference. Please don't hesitate to ask anything you like: since I don't get to see you in person, **I truly do want to hear from you** and know how you're coping with the class work!

Participation and Attendance:

Since this is an online course, **'attendance' refers to logging in to either Blackboard or the Connect textbook website**. You must **log in and spend significant time on coursework every week!** If you cannot access the course due to unforeseen issues, notify your instructor immediately. **If you do not log in for more than 7 days in a row, your instructor has the right to drop you from the class for non-attendance.** Attendance – meaning your course login time and activity – is tracked thoroughly, and both California State and Saddleback College require that instructors drop students who stop attending an online course.

Students with Disabilities:

If you have a disability, you may be entitled to appropriate academic accommodations. For further information, please contact your instructor by email, and/or work with the staff at the Disabled Student Programs and Services Office at <http://www.saddleback.edu/dsps>.

Viel Spaß und viel Glück für das kommende Semester!