

German 411  
Fall Semester 2018  
Advanced Stylistics  
TR 9:25-10:40

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Office Hours: M 10-11; T 11-12; R 3-4  
and by appointment

### Course Objectives

This course is designed to help you refine your abilities in all four language skills (speaking, writing, listening, and reading) so that you will be well prepared to pass the Goethe Zertifikat exam administered by the Goethe Institut. The exam is offered in April and in October.

According to the Goethe Institut, passing the exam demonstrates that you can ...

- understand the main points of information in conversations and texts on familiar matters relating to work, school and leisure time, etc. when clear, standard language is used;
- deal with most situations typically encountered when travelling in German-speaking countries;
- express yourself simply and coherently when talking about familiar topics and areas of personal interest;
- report on experiences and events, describe dreams, hopes and ambitions as well as make short statements and explanations.

The entire exam takes about three hours to complete and consists of four sections:

**Reading:** You will be asked to read blog entries, newspaper articles, advertisements and writing instructions and pick out key points of information and important details as well as points of view and opinions. This part of the exam lasts for 65 minutes. By way of example, it covers pages 10-15 in Chapter One of the textbook.

**Listening:** You will be asked to listen to announcements, short presentations, informal conversations, and discussions on the radio, and pick out key statements and important details. This part of the exam lasts for 40 minutes. By way of example, it covers pages 16-17 in Chapter One of the textbook.

**Writing:** You will be asked to write personal and formal emails and letters, and write an online forum post in which you express your opinion. This part of the exam lasts for 60 minutes and consists of three separate exercises (20 minutes + 25 minutes + 15 minutes). By way of example, it covers pages 18-21 in Chapter One of the textbook.

**Speaking:** You will be asked to talk to your partner about an everyday topic, such as traveling. During this conversation you will be required to respond to questions, Express your opinion, and make suggestions. You will also be asked to give a presentation about everyday topic and answer questions about it. This part of the exam lasts for roughly 25 minutes (including 15 minutes for practice) and consists of three three-minute conversations you have with a partner as well as a brief presentation. By way of example, it covers pages 22-24 in Chapter One of the textbook.

## Required Materials

So geht's besser neu A2-B1 (Klett: 978-3-12-675856-7)

Handbuch zur deutschen Grammatik (Sixth edition: Cengage; 978-1-305-07884-0)

A reliable stop watch or timer

### Grading System

*Fractional grades after x.44 are rounded up (e.g. 65.45 = 66)*

A (90-100)	B+ (86-89)	B (80-85)	C+ (76-79)	C (70-75)
	D (66-69)		F (0-65)	

Class Participation .....	20%
Homework .....	55%
Quizzes .....	25%

**No Class Sessions on Monday-Tuesday, 3-4 September;  
Thursday-Friday, 11-12 October;  
Wednesday-Friday, 21-23 November  
Withdrawal Deadline on Friday, 26 October**

*Students in need of accommodation due to a disability should contact the Access and Accommodation Office to complete the verification process to become approved for services. In order to receive accommodations, each term, students will request accommodation and faculty notification forms through the Access Office online system Accommodate. Students are strongly encouraged to schedule a meeting with each professor in a timely manner to discuss arrangements. Accommodations are not retroactive in nature. Note - **Disability accommodations or status are not reflected on academic transcripts**. Students with a history of a disability, perceived as having a disability or with a current disability who do not wish to use academic accommodations are also strongly encouraged to complete the verification process with the Access Office.*

***Students must request accommodations in a timely manner to receive accommodations in a timely manner.***

The Access Coordinator for Macon Campus is  
Katie Johnson, Director and ADA/504 Coordinator.  
Phone: (478) 301-2778; email: [johnson\\_kc@mercer.edu](mailto:johnson_kc@mercer.edu)  
Website: [www.access.mercer.edu](http://www.access.mercer.edu)

***As in all courses, you are expected to observe the provisions of the Mercer Honor Code. Unless otherwise authorized, you may not solicit help on any class assignment from native or near-native speakers of German. I will report any perceived violation of the Honor Code immediately to the Honor Council, without exception.***

**Class Participation:** This course relies heavily on your **spoken** contributions to discussion. I expect you to come to each session well prepared to contribute meaningfully in German to class activities. I will subjectively evaluate the quality of your participation at the end of each class session on an ten-point scale: 100 (exceptional); 90 (above average); 80 (average); 70 (below average); 60 (failing); 0 (absent). Should you miss more than three class sessions unexcused, I will assign for each subsequent day of absence the grade of "0" (zero) and deduct from your final course grade two points for each subsequent class session missed. The total number of

points accrued by the end of the semester will determine this component of your final course grade.

**Homework** will be assigned for every class session. Homework comprises solutions of written, audio and video texts as well as grammar and vocabulary exercises. You are required to submit electronically the answers to all assigned exercises **by noon** on Monday and Wednesday. These deadlines will help me better estimate how we can use class time as efficiently as possible.

If you fail to meet **the noon deadline** you will receive only half credit for work submitted by the time we meet for class; homework submitted after class meets will receive no credit.

I will evaluate each component of grammar, reading and listening assignments on the following scale: completed (5) —partially completed (2) —not completed (0). The compositions required in each module of the textbook will be assigned points according to the rubric reproduced on the next page.

You will need to set aside about three hours every week to complete the assignments in the textbook. This will require some discipline on your part. Each skill set should be completed in its entirety so that you can experience the actual testing situation as faithfully as possible. In other words, you need to complete all Reading exercises (at one 65-minute session), all Listening exercises (one 40-minute session), and all Writing exercises (one 60-minute session), **without interruption**. Aside from closing yourself off from the outside world for extended periods of time, you should use a stopwatch to document how much time it requires you to complete each section.

The number of points accrued for all homework assignments by the end of the semester will determine your final grade for homework.

You will be taking **Quizzes** on vocabulary and/or grammatical items just about every other week throughout the semester. At the end of the semester one quiz grade can be dropped. The final exam (which is schedule for **Tuesday, 11 December, between 2 and 5**) will carry twice the weight of a single quiz, and for this reason cannot be dropped.

1. Berücksichtigung der Leitpunkte	
Bewertet werden die Berücksichtigung der <b>Leitpunkte</b> und der <b>Umfang</b> . Zur Bewertung werden die Punkte wie folgt vergeben:	
<b>5 Punkte</b>	Alle vier Leitpunkte werden inhaltlich und im Umfang angemessen bearbeitet.
<b>4 Punkte</b>	Alle vier Leitpunkte werden inhaltlich angemessen, aber im Umfang nur knapp bearbeitet. <b>Oder:</b> Drei Leitpunkte werden inhaltlich und im Umfang angemessen bearbeitet.
<b>3 Punkte</b>	Drei Leitpunkte werden inhaltlich angemessen, aber im Umfang nur knapp bearbeitet.
<b>2 Punkte</b>	Zwei Leitpunkte werden inhaltlich und im Umfang angemessen bearbeitet.
<b>1 Punkt</b>	Nur ein Leitpunkt wird inhaltlich und im Umfang angemessen bearbeitet. <b>Oder:</b> Zwei Leitpunkte werden inhaltlich angemessen, aber im Umfang nur knapp bearbeitet.
<b>0 Punkte</b>	Keiner der Leitpunkte wird inhaltlich und/oder im Umfang angemessen bearbeitet. <b>Oder:</b> Das Thema wird überhaupt verfehlt.
In diesem Fall wird der gesamte Testteil „Schriftlicher Ausdruck“ mit 0 Punkten bewertet.	

2. Kommunikative Gestaltung	
Bewertet werden – die <b>sinnvolle Anordnung und Verknüpfung der Leitpunkte</b> – die <b>Verknüpfung der Sätze/Äußerungseinheiten</b> – die <b>inhalts- und adressatenbezogene Ausdrucksweise</b> – der <b>Adressatenbezug (Datum, Anrede, Gruß-/Abschiedsformel)</b> .	
Zur Bewertung werden die Punkte wie folgt vergeben:	
<b>5 Punkte</b>	Die kommunikative Gestaltung ist sehr gut.
<b>4 Punkte</b>	Die kommunikative Gestaltung ist gut.
<b>3 Punkte</b>	Die kommunikative Gestaltung ist angemessen.
<b>2 Punkte</b>	Die kommunikative Gestaltung ist zum Teil noch angemessen.
<b>1 Punkt</b>	Die kommunikative Gestaltung ist ansatzweise noch akzeptabel.
<b>0 Punkte</b>	Die kommunikative Gestaltung ist durchgehend nicht ausreichend.

3. Formale Richtigkeit	
Bewertet werden <b>Syntax, Morphologie</b> (und <b>Orthografie/Interpunktion</b> ). Zur Bewertung werden die Punkte wie folgt vergeben:	
<b>5 Punkte</b>	Keine bzw. nur vereinzelte Fehler in Syntax, Morphologie (und Orthografie/Interpunktion).
<b>4 Punkte</b>	Einige Fehler in Syntax, Morphologie (und Orthografie/Interpunktion), die jedoch das Verständnis nicht stören.
<b>3 Punkte</b>	Einige Fehler in Syntax, Morphologie (und Orthografie/Interpunktion), die das Verständnis nur wenig beeinträchtigen.
<b>2 Punkte</b>	An mehreren Stellen beeinträchtigen die Fehler in Syntax, Morphologie (und Orthografie/Interpunktion) das Verständnis erheblich.
<b>1 Punkt</b>	An vielen Stellen beeinträchtigen die Fehler in Syntax, Morphologie (und Orthografie/Interpunktion) das Verständnis erheblich.
<b>0 Punkte</b>	So viele Fehler in Syntax, Morphologie (und Orthografie/Interpunktion), dass der Brief kaum noch verständlich ist.
In diesem Fall wird der gesamte Testteil „Schriftlicher Ausdruck“ mit 0 Punkten bewertet.	