



Faculty of Arts
School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

GERM 500

Topics in Advanced Communication and Projects in German: German Explorations

Winter 2023

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 11:00am – 11:50am CHE 118

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Sebastian Rauball

OFFICE LOCATION: CHE 118

OFFICE HOURS: by appointment

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 403-220-7316

E-MAIL: Sebastian.rauball@ucalgary.ca

DESCRIPTION This advanced German language course focuses on the improvement of all four language skills (reading, writing, speaking, and listening) through the creative engagement with various German sources. Also, Students are encouraged to develop their research projects.

OBJECTIVES

- Students will improve their German oral and written comprehension skills as well as their ability to speak and write in German.
- Students will strengthen their abilities to improve their work in collaboration with peers.
- Students will improve their ability to reflect on the principles guiding their work and to make them transparent to their audience.
- Students will familiarize themselves with the life and work of one of the most important German playwrights, Bertolt Brecht.

OUTCOMES

- Students will be able to extract important information from complex German texts and films of different genres.
- Students will be able to summarize a text (or film), to describe its formal and stylistic features, and to comment on it in German (orally and in written form).
- When writing an essay, students will be able to tie their arguments to written sources in a transparent and convincing manner.
- When translating a text, students will know how to formulate principles guiding their work.
- Students will be able to develop effective oral presentations based on their written work.
- Students will know how to communicate productive feedback on written work presented by their peers.
- Seeing a theater production or watching a film, students will be able to identify elements of Brechtian aesthetics and their effects.

DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES

- Participation: 40 %
- Presentations 2: 20 %
- Homework 2: 20 %
- Oral Exam: 20 %



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GRADING SCALE

A+ (97-100 %), A (92-96%), A- (86-91)
B+ (81-85%), B (76-80%), B- (71-75)
C+ (67-70%), C (62-66%), C- (58-61%)
D+ (54-57%), D (50-53%), F (0-49 %)

Course Materials

All materials will be made available on D2L

RECOMMENDED TEXTS

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COURSE NOTES

Participation (40%): Students are asked to participate in class discussions by sharing results of their homework and/or providing additional comments and questions. To receive a perfect grade, students must make substantive contributions in German every session over the course of the semester.

Presentations (20% = 2 x 10% of final grade): Students present on two occasions. Students' performances will be graded based on completion of the task (5% each), vocabulary (appropriate register, variety, and correct usage), grammatical structures (variety and correctness) and interaction with students and instructor (5% each).

Homework (20 % = 2 x 10% of final grade): Homework has to be uploaded until the indicated time and presented in class on the day for which it was assigned. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Oral exam (20 % of final grade):

There will be 1 oral exam (max. 15 minutes). The exam will be graded based on the level of German (10%), and an understanding of the topic (10%). The exam will take place in the last week of classes, during class time.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

1. **Plagiarism** is a serious offence, the penalty for which is an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. Plagiarism exists when:

- the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);
- parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;
- the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
- a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted."

Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

2. **Cheating** at tests or examinations includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct such as speaking to other candidates or communicating with them under any circumstances whatsoever; bringing into the examination room any textbook, notebook, memorandum, other written material or mechanical or electronic device not authorized by the examiner; writing an examination or part of it, or consulting any person or materials outside the confines of the examination room without permission



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to do so, or leaving answer papers exposed to view, or persistent attempts to read other students' examination papers.

3. **Other academic misconduct** includes, but is not limited to, tampering or attempts to tamper with examination scripts, class work, grades and/or class records; failure to abide by directions by an instructor regarding the individuality of work handed in; the acquisition, attempted acquisition, possession, and/or distribution of examination materials or information not authorized by the instructor; the impersonation of another student in an examination or other class assignment; the falsification or fabrication of clinical or laboratory reports; the non-authorized tape recording of lectures.

4. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of one of these offences is also guilty of academic misconduct.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION ASSEMBLY POINTS

Craigie Hall: Professional Faculties food court (alternate: Education Block food court)

Education Block and Tower: Scurfield Hall atrium (alternate: Professional Faculties food court)

Kinesiology: north courtyard, MacEwan Student Centre (alternate: University Theatres lobby)

For the complete list of assembly points please consult <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES

Have a question, but not sure where to start?

The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy
- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca

Website: arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Block.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for



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confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it.

Please see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

SAFEWALK

To request a Safewalk escort anywhere on campus, 24 hours a day and seven days a week, please call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help Phones.

Web: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

STUDENT UNION INFORMATION

Representatives and contact details: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/home/contact.html>

Student Ombudsman: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>

WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

Writing skills should cross all disciplines. Students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their courses and, where appropriate, instructors can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Centre in the Effective Writing Office (<http://www.efwr.ucalgary.ca/>) can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.