

German V/AP German Language and Culture Syllabus

Brief Course Description

German 5 is designed to enhance students' knowledge of German culture and language and to prepare students for the AP German Language and Culture exam. The course aims to integrate all three communicative modes (interpersonal, interpretative, presentational) through the use of authentic materials. The course is taught exclusively in German and students are encouraged to speak German throughout the class.

Course Materials

Although there is not one primary textbook, excerpts from the following will be used:

- AP Classroom (online)
- Neue Blickwinkel (2nd Edition)
- Albert IO (online)
- Kaleidoskop: Kultur, Literatur und Grammatik, 6/e
- Aspekte Deutscher Gegenwart: Texte und Übungen (Band 1)
- Deutsch im Einsatz Student's Book

Additional materials include a variety of different media. E.g. journalistic and literary works, podcasts, interviews, movies, charts, and graphs.

Course Skills:

1. **Comprehend Text** – Comprehend written, audio, audiovisual, and visual text (text, pictures, and numbers).
2. **Make Connections** – Make interdisciplinary and cultural connections.
3. **Interpret Text** – Interpret the content of written or audio text (words).
4. **Make Meanings** – Make meanings from words and expressions.
5. **Speak to Others** – Communicate interpersonally by speaking with others.
6. **Write to Others** – Communicate interpersonally by writing to others.
7. **Present Orally** – Communicate through spoken presentations.
8. **Present in Writing** – Communicate through written presentations.

Course Themes

The AP German Language and Culture course is structured around six themes:

- Families and Communities (Familie und Gemeinschaft)
- Personal and Public Identities (Persönliche und Öffentliche Identität)
- Beauty and Aesthetics (Schönheit und Ästhetik)
- Science and Technology (Naturwissenschaft und Technologie)
- Contemporary Life (Alltag)
- Global Challenges (Globalisierung)

Themes facilitate the integration of language, content, and culture and promote the use of the language in a variety of contexts. Rather than being structured as individual units, students will explore the interconnectedness of the various themes. Each unit will involve several Essential Questions that students will work towards answering. All activities within the unit will target the three modes of communication: Interpersonal, Interpretive, and Presentational.

Required Materials:

- Charged Chromebook
- Composition Notebook
- Pencils or Pens
- Access to Computer with Webcam (see Herr Sellner if this is an issue)

Grading:

- 1) Homework:** Homework is given daily (2-15 points depending on the number of questions). It will generally be graded based on completion, but there will be times later on that it will be graded on accuracy as this demonstrated mastery of a skill.
- 2) Tests:** Assessments include integration of the modes of communication. Unit assessments are announced several days in advance; these scores may never be dropped from the overall grade. Students should visit with their teacher prior to an exam if they need extra help. It is imperative that students read and reflect on the feedback provided by the teacher, as it is there to help improve language proficiency and avoid the same errors on future assignments.
- 3) Quizzes:** These will be frequent and announced.
- 4) Oral Assessments:** These can be done individually, with a partner, or in groups.
- 5) Essays:** Throughout the course, students write a variety of essays (synthesis, persuasive, expository) using authentic listening and reading sources, such as documentaries, news reports, interviews, and newspaper and magazine articles. These essays will be given in the second semester and graded according to the AP guidelines.
- 6) Final Exam:** German 5 (1st Semester) will have a regular teacher made exam with all components of the language: reading, writing, speaking, listening, and culture. The AP final exam is in addition to the exam given in May and may be in any form previously experienced during the course.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to produce their own original work. An on-line translation agency (or similar service) may be used for translating a single word, not for translating or writing sentences and/or extensive phrases. Work is to be done at an appropriate German 5/AP level. If student work is not original, it will be automatically graded as a 0.

Tutoring

Tutoring is available twice a week (days announced in class) and after school by appointment.

I am looking forward to a great year ahead. Please do not hesitate to contact me via email as needed.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen,

Herr Sellner

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