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Course Description

It is *wunderbar* (=wonderful) that you have chosen to continue learning German this year! In your second year, you will continue to practice listening to and participating in conversations, strengthen your understanding of a range of authentic written material, and further develop your writing skills in a variety of genres and contexts. You will also learn about the history and culture of German-speaking regions, and develop your intercultural understanding, allowing you to interact in a socially-appropriate way with people of different cultural backgrounds. These skills are building blocks for further study, work, or travel in German-speaking areas.

Course Content and Structure

This course covers content in your *Portfolio* textbook along with supplemental texts/videos/songs from other sources. Topics covered include: body/health, furniture/housing, vacation, school, friends, free-time, transportation, sports, family celebrations, housing, cities, nature, and fitness. You will keep track of your learning progress by keeping a portfolio of work you produce (quizzes, tests, creative writing pieces, notes comparing cultures, etc.), and you will use the collected work to reflect on your learning at regular intervals through the semester.

Note: We will spend the first semester working with the *Portfolio A1* textbook, and move to *Portfolio A2* in the second semester.

Pacing

This is a general outline of the pacing for the year. More specific information about pacing, including any adjustments made during the year, will be announced in class and through our class site on the learning platform Schoology (once available).

Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
Weeks	Content	Weeks	Content
1-2	Review of German 1	1-2	<i>Portfolio A2</i> Chapter 1
3-4	<i>Portfolio A1</i> Chapter 7	3-4	<i>Portfolio A2</i> Chapter 2
5-6	<i>Portfolio A1</i> Chapter 8	5-6	<i>Portfolio A2</i> Chapter 3
7-8	<i>Portfolio A1</i> Chapter 9	7-9	<i>Portfolio A2</i> Chapter 4 + review of chapters 1-4
9-11	<i>Portfolio A1</i> Chapter 10 + Review of Chapters 7-9	10-11	<i>Portfolio</i> Chapter 5
12-13	<i>Portfolio A1</i> Chapter 11	12-13	<i>Portfolio</i> Chapter 6
14-15	<i>Portfolio A1</i> Chapter 12	14-15	<i>Portfolio</i> Chapter 7
16-17	<i>Portfolio A1</i> Chapter 13	16-17	<i>Portfolio</i> Chapter 8
18	Semester Review, Exam Prep	18	Semester Review, Exam Prep
19	Final Assessment	19	Final Assessment

Course Expectations and Policies

Preparation

Come to class every day with your German notes/handouts, textbook, extra paper, and writing utensils. Use restrooms before class. During class, remember to keep your cell phones turned off in your backpack or pocket (see cell phone policy), and to listen attentively when others are speaking.

Attendance and Late Work

Please turn in your late work following an excused absence as soon as possible following the absence, but no later than one week past the original due date. (In the case of longer absences where this will not be possible, talk with or email me to arrange an appropriate extension for the work.) If you are absent on a quiz or test day, you may make it up before school during tutorial or after school (by appointment) within two weeks of the date it was given in class. You will not be given an opportunity to complete missed work for credit in the case of an unexcused absence.

Homework/Classwork Packets

For each book chapter, you will have a packet of practice exercises that will be assigned regularly for in-class or at-home practice. It is critical for your mastery of German that you complete the at-home exercises the same night they are assigned so you are prepared to go over them with us as a class the following day. The final due date for work in the packet will be the same day as our chapter test.

Academic Integrity

You will receive a zero during tests/quizzes for talking, looking about, or displaying text materials or notes on your desk during the assessment. Copying someone else's homework or sharing your homework for others to copy will earn a score of zero for both/all students involved. Finally, remember that the work you submit must be 100% your own; using a translation website or a German-speaking friend to do all *or even a small part of* your work will earn you no credit, and you will have no chance to make up the assignment.

Cell Phones

Cell phones will be allowed on rare occasions for use on projects or quiz games. It is your responsibility to leave your phone in your backpack or pocket during class unless explicitly instructed by the teacher to use it for an academic purpose. If you use your phone for any other reason, you will first be asked to put it away. If you continue to use your phone for non-academic purposes, I will call home and assign a lunch detention for each occasion.

Grading

Your final semester grade is divided into three weighted categories:

- 50% Assessments (quizzes, tests, projects)
- 30% Coursework (homework, in-class work, participation)
- 20% Final Assessment

At least one assignment will be entered into the Parent Portal each week. It is always a good idea to keep your graded work until you are certain the grades have been entered correctly in the Parent Portal. If you notice an error in the online gradebook, please bring the original work to me as soon as possible so I can fix my mistake.

Extra credit opportunities for enrichment activities beyond the scope of the regular curriculum will be announced in class from time to time. No extra credit opportunities will be given in the final two weeks of the semester.

Getting Extra Help

Every student can be successful in German. If you haven't understood something in class, please ask for help as soon as possible. Each unit includes work that builds on mastery of previous skills, so I encourage you to come in the moment you have questions. I'm happy to help you during the tutorial period from 8:25 – 8:55 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, or after school by appointment from 4:00-4:30. You are welcome to e-mail me with quick questions or to arrange a meeting time for extra support as often as needed.

Course Materials

Required

- *Portfolio* textbook
- pen or pencil
- a folder, binder, or section of binder devoted only to German
- lined notebook (or loose notebook paper in binder) for notes

Recommended

- blank index cards (½ size okay)
- colored pencils, markers or similar (some assignments required color-coding with 3-4 colors)