

GERM 316: German Language 3B

2/3 - 2007

GERM 316 is a Second Trimester course of four hours per week, involving lectures and audio-visual tutorials.

COURSE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

GERM 316 presupposes a pass in GERM 218, and assumes that the student is already familiar with the fundamentals of German grammar and has a good basic vocabulary. The course is designed not as a systematic and consecutive study of grammatical rules, but rather as a means of consolidating and extending what has already been learnt. Students who pass the course can be expected to be able to read standard German texts and to converse with reasonable fluency and correctness in German on a wide range of subjects.

Students who have already taken GERM 320, GERM 321 and/or GERM 315 can still enrol in GERM 316, as different material will be studied.

TEACHERS

Dr Richard Millington (Course Co-ordinator) Room vZ 613 Tel. 463-5976

Ms Anke Szczepanski 22KP Room 209 Tel. 463-7497

Teachers are happy to discuss students' problems with them at any time, or to provide additional information about the course. Such information, including reminders of assignment deadlines, is regularly provided in class. German staff have no specially designated office hours, but students may make an appointment with the German Administrator, if the staff member they wish to see is unavailable for consultation at any time.

CLASS TIMES & ROOMS

Lectures:	Mon, Tue, Thu	4.10pm – 5pm	KK (Kirk) 202
Tutorials:			
Either	Wed	10am – 11am	vZ (von Zedlitz) 515
OR	Wed	11am – 12pm	vZ (von Zedlitz) 506
OR	Wed	4.10pm – 5pm	vZ (von Zedlitz) 107

NOTE: There will be **NO tutorials in the first week**. Tutorials will start in the second week.

SET TEXTS

Auf neuen Wegen is available from Vic Books in the Student Union Building. Students must possess this book and should bring it to all four weekly classes. Please note that the same book was used in GERM 315 in the first trimester and will be used again in GERM 320 and GERM 321 in 2008.

Students should also possess a good dictionary and a reference grammar, such as that recommended for GERM 217 & 218: Christine Stief and Christian Stang, *German Grammar in a Nutshell*.

COURSE PROGRAMME AND TEACHING METHOD

The course aims to provide students with the resources and guidance needed to improve their communicative competence in German, to enhance their knowledge of German grammar and vocabulary, and to increase their familiarity with various aspects of life in German-speaking countries. Classroom activities will be based on linguistic analysis and elaboration of a range of authentic material, taken mainly from the textbook, and will allow students to practise reading, writing, speaking and listening to German, as well as combining these skills for effective communication in realistic contexts. Students will be expected to participate actively in all classes and, especially in the tutorial groups, to contribute to class discussion. Importance will also be placed on developing independent learning habits that will allow students to continue to improve their German beyond the scope of this course.

ESTIMATED WORKLOADS

In addition to the four class hours, fourteen additional hours per week. Although the study time required to perform successfully in this course will vary according to the student's prior knowledge of German, please note that all language students benefit from maximum contact with the target language.

ASSESSMENT

GERM 316 is internally assessed. Assessment is by:

1. Two in-term language tests, to be held on:
Thursday, 9 August, and Thursday, 4 October 50%
2. Four assignments (two individual assignments, two group assignments), due on:
26 July, 17 August, 10 September, 12 October..... 30%
3. End-of-Semester oral examination 20%

1. Tests

Attendance at the two tests is essential. Failure to attend a test will automatically result in failing the course. If a student is prevented from attending through exceptional circumstances such as accident, illness or

bereavement, an explanation must be made, if possible in writing, prior to the test. In this case an alternative test date may be arranged. (NB: In case of illness, a medical certificate is required.)

Each test will presuppose acquaintance with the material studied prior to that test in the Lectures and Tutorials.

2. Compulsory Assignments

To pass the course students must also complete all four assignments. It is up to students unable to attend a particular class for any reason to find out from someone else what the assignment task is. In special circumstances such as illness or bereavement, an extension may be granted, but only after consultation with the teacher concerned.

Dictionaries and grammars may be used in completing the individual assignments, but since these count towards the final grade (30%), students must otherwise complete them unaided. Any sign that this is not so will be investigated. Please take careful note of the University's statement on "Academic Integrity and Plagiarism".

Students are invited to submit draft copies of written assignments. Drafts will be accepted up to one week before the due date of the relevant assignment. These will not be marked or graded, but will be returned to students with feedback on how they may improve their work before final submission.

All final copies of written assignments must be submitted in two forms: firstly, electronically by email to the German Programme Administrator at lisa.kenny@vuw.ac.nz; and secondly by print-out to be handed in to the German assignment box located to the left of the SAELC Reception area on Level 6 of von Zedlitz. The print-out must include a cover sheet available from SAELC Reception or Blackboard. Assignments will not be considered complete until submitted in both forms.

3. Oral Examination

This is 15 minutes in length, and students will either be given a topic by the teachers or asked to choose a topic of their own on which to speak. They will then be asked questions in German. The exam is designed to test the student's fluency, grammatical correctness and use of vocabulary in oral German.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The minimum course requirements which must be satisfied in order to pass the course are: regular attendance at classes (a minimum of 80% of each of the four classes) and completion of the tests, assignments and oral examination. Unless notified to the contrary, students may assume they have been awarded Terms, i.e. have met the mandatory course requirements.

MARKING SYSTEM

The University marking system by letter grade is as follows:

A+	85 -100%
A	80 - 84%
A-	75 - 79%
B+	70 - 74%
B	65 - 69%
B-	60 - 64%
C+	55 - 59%
C	50 - 54%
D	40 - 49% (fail)
E	0 - 39% (fail)

GENERAL ADVICE

We are interested in students' opinions. Please let us know any suggestions for improving the course. Students will find all the staff approachable and should feel able to discuss with them any problems they may have.

We want to do our best to make your study of German both profitable and enjoyable. However we can only to a limited extent *teach* you German; more important is your ability and willingness to *learn*. Do take advantage of whatever opportunities occur outside class hours to practise your German: eg *Kaffeestunde*, the student play production, conversation with Germans, reading, German films, talks at the Goethe Society or the Goethe Institute, and so on. Students are also strongly encouraged to use the self-access materials provided by the Language Learning Centre, including several computer programmes which deal with all aspects of German grammar.

Remember too that the teachers are here to *help* you. Do not feel shy about asking questions in class if you have not understood something. Similarly, if you have difficulties in any area, or feel dissatisfied with your performance, please do not hesitate to discuss this with one of the teachers.

GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND STATUTES

**A COPY OF THE GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND STATUTES CAN BE FOUND ON
BLACKBOARD FOR THIS COURSE.**

The name of your School's Disability Liaison Person is:

Andrew Barke (vZ 705)

Phone: 463-6467

E-mail: andrew.barke@vuw.ac.nz

The School's contact Person for Maori and Pacific Students is:

Dr Keren Smith (vZ 514)

Phone: 463-5789

E-mail: keren.smith@vuw.ac.nz

Important Dates for GERM 316

Week 1	9 – 15 July First meeting, Monday, 9 July, 4pm NO tutorials in first week
Week 2	16 – 22 July Deadline for drafts for assignment 1 (Thursday, 19 July)
Week 3	23 – 29 July ASSIGNMENT 1 DUE (Thursday, 26 July, 5pm)
Week 4	30 July – 5 August
Week 5	6 – 12 August TEST 1 (Thursday, 9 August) Deadline for drafts for assignment 2 (Friday, 10 August)
Week 6	13 – 19 August ASSIGNMENT 2 DUE (Friday, 17 August, 5pm)
MID TRIMESTER BREAK (20 August – 2 September 2007)	
Week 7	3 – 9 September
Week 8	10 – 16 September ASSIGNMENT 3 DUE (Monday, 10 September, 5pm)
Week 9	17 – 23 September
Week 10	24 – 30 September
Week 11	1 – 7 October TEST 2 (Thursday, 4 October)
Week 12	8 – 14 October ORAL EXAMINATIONS (dates and times to be announced) ASSIGNMENT 4 DUE (Friday, 12 October, 5pm)