



CIEE Global Institute – Berlin

Course name:	German Language – Beginning I
Course number:	GERM 1001 BRGE
Programs offering course:	Berlin Global Architecture and Design, Global Internship, Global Sustainability and Environment, Open Campus (Language, Literature and Culture Track)
Language of instruction:	German
U.S. semester credits:	3
Contact hours:	60
Term:	Fall 2018

Course Description

This is an introductory German course for students with no prior knowledge of the language. Based on a communicative and task-based approach, it is designed to develop proficiency in oral and written communication skills while providing students with knowledge and understanding of the societies and cultures of German-speaking countries. Students develop their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills through a variety of stimulating activities. Vocabulary is presented in the context of culturally significant issues.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, students will be able to employ simple sentences and expressions when dealing with various situations of daily life (at the supermarket, in a restaurant, at school, at the office, with friends and family, etc.). They will be able to talk about themselves and their area of studies and ask others about their personal information.



Course Prerequisites

None.

Methods of Instruction

This course is based on an overall communicative teaching philosophy, as taught for instance in the “natural approach” (by Tracy Terrell & Stephen Krashen). Our approach to teaching and language acquisition is a functional one, in which students apply German to learn German. We are committed to communicative language teaching, focusing methodologically on communication and meaning, while still paying attention to grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation.

In our language instruction, we use a variety of instructional means, ranging from short grammar drills to dialogue-building, group work and role-playing. In each session, all four skills (listening, speaking, reading, writing) will be practiced, always with the goal to enhance students’ communicative competence. The variety of methods and forms of engagement are targeted towards meeting the needs of different learning styles in a given classroom. Classroom activities will include individual, partner and group work and will be complemented by homework exercises.

Book for the Course

The textbook used for this course is ***Netzwerk. Deutsch als Fremdsprache A1 Kursbuch & Arbeitsbuch***, Chapters 1-6 (Klett/Langenscheidt 2012). The package includes textbook, workbook, audio/video files and access to online exercises. The textbook will be provided by CIEE. Your instructor will create additional and increasingly authentic materials.



Assessment and Final Grade

Active Participation, Pop Quizzes, Homework Assignments:	20%
4 Compositions (include re-writes)	20%
6 Chapter Quizzes (1 per week):	30%
1 Final Oral Comprehension/Speaking Test	20%
Creative Group Project	10%

Course Requirements

Class Participation

Participation is absolutely crucial to students' success and to the success of the entire class. Learning a language is an interactive process that has to be practiced in a communicative manner. Active participation in class is the key for success when acquiring a new language.

Homework

Homework assignments will be assigned on a daily basis and will be checked frequently. In order for the assignments to be effective, answer keys will be provided for structured exercises: you will be asked to complete exercises and self-correct with the help of the answer keys. Written assignments will be returned by the instructor with symbols designed to enable you to self-correct as well.

Chapter Quizzes

The Chapter Quizzes will assess three of the four major skills (listening, reading, writing) and address the material dealt with in each chapter/week. **Note:** Chapter quizzes take place on Fridays, with the exception of official travel days and the final week of class, when the Quiz will be given a day earlier.

Creative Group Project



Creative group projects are designed to give students in small groups (of 3-5 students) the opportunity to present various aspects of their experiences of being in Berlin to their fellow students and thereby practicing German writing and speaking/presentation skills. The form of the group project varies and can be anything from a short film to a PowerPoint presentation, acted dialogues, etc. Your instructor will let you know in advance what kind of project is expected from you.

Participation

As part of your work in this course, students should demonstrate learning beyond the submission of written assignments or presentations. As such, all students receive grades based upon participation.

Participation is valued as meaningful contribution in the digital and tangible classroom, utilizing the resources and materials presented to students as part of the course. Students receive grades based upon their contributions both in the classroom and in the Canvas course.

Meaningful contribution requires students to be prepared, as directed by the Instructor, in advance of each class session. Students must clearly demonstrate they have engaged with the materials where directed.

This includes valued or informed engagement in, for example, small group discussions, online discussion boards, peer-to-peer feedback (after presentations), interaction with guest speakers, and attentiveness on co-curricular and outside-of-classroom activities.

Attendance Policy

Regular class attendance is required throughout the program, and all unexcused absences will result in a lower participation grade for any affected CIEE course. Due to the intensive schedules for Open Campus and Short Term programs, unexcused absences that constitute more than 10% of the total course sessions will also result in a lower final grade.

Students who transfer from one CIEE class to another during the add/drop period will not be considered absent from the first session(s) of their new class, provided they were marked present for the first session(s) of their original class. Otherwise, the absence(s) from the original class carry over to the new class and count against the grade in that



class.

For CIEE classes, excessively tardy (over 15 minutes late) students must be marked absent. Attendance policies also apply to any required co-curricular class excursion or event, as well as to Internship, Service Learning, or required field placement. Students who miss class for personal travel will be marked as absent and unexcused. No make-up or re-sit opportunity will be provided.

An absence in a CIEE course will only be considered excused if:

- a doctor's note is provided
- a CIEE staff member verifies that the student was too ill to attend class
- satisfactory evidence is provided of a family emergency

Attendance policies also apply to any required class excursion, with the exception that some class excursions cannot accommodate any tardiness, and students risk being marked as absent if they fail to be present at the appointed time.

Unexcused absences will lead to the following penalties:

<i>Percentage of Total Course Hours Missed</i>	<i>Equivalent Number of Open Campus Semester classes</i>	<i>Minimum Penalty</i>
Up to 10%	1	No academic penalty
10 – 20%	2	Reduction of final grade
More than 20%	3 content classes, or 4 language classes	Automatic course failure, and possible expulsion

Weekly Schedule

Council on International
Educational Exchange
300 Fore Street
Portland, ME 04101
207-553-4000

ciecee.org



NOTE: this schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor to take advantage of current experiential learning opportunities.

Week 1 / chapter 1: Saying hello and goodbye, introducing oneself and others, talking about oneself and others, numbers 1-20, spelling words and names, talking about countries and languages, the alphabet, first verbs in present tense, how to ask questions, useful terms and expressions.

Week 2 / chapter 2: Talking about hobbies, days of the week, numbers from 20 on up, months and seasons in the year, talking about work and job, definite article, personal pronouns, the verbs to have (*haben*) and to be (*sein*), plurals of nouns.

Week 3 / chapter 3: Getting around a town and asking for the way, giving directions, indefinite articles, negation with *kein*, imperative forms.

Week 4 / chapter 4: Talking about food, planning a trip to the grocery store, food and meals and talking about it, verbs that require the accusative.

Week 5 / chapter 5: Telling and understanding time, talking about one's family, possessive articles (*mein, dein*) and modal auxiliaries (*müssen, können, wollen*).

Week 6 / chapter 6: Writing an invitation, planning an event, going into a restaurant and ordering food, talking about something one went to, separable prefix verbs, preposition *für* + accusative, personal pronouns in accusative (*mich, dich*), simple past of to have (*haben*), to be (*sein*).