

Syllabus C1 Online Semi-Intensive
 German Language and Culture – online Semi-Intensive German Language Advanced C1

Student Profile

This course is designed for students who have successfully completed the intermediate level of German and who have a sound knowledge of German at the B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

Course Objectives

The course aims to deepen your competence in speaking and writing and to expand and refine your vocabulary usage, so that you are able to express and discuss ideas, opinions and information at the academic level. Special attention is given to the consistent use of self-correction. Furthermore, the course helps you to develop effective reading and listening strategies and deepen your knowledge of grammar structures.

In addition, you will analyze and interpret cultural, political, and historical topics in German-speaking countries and compare them with your own cultural background.

- ✚ By the end of the course you will have developed and regularly use new strategies for language acquisition.
- ✚ You will have improved your ability to choose the right linguistic register for different situations, topics and communication partners.
- ✚ You will be able to lead and participate in academic discussions about certain course-related topics.
- ✚ In addition, you will expand and refine your essay writing skills, i.e. you will be able to write, revise and proofread essays that meet the standards of academic writing.

Textbook

studio: Die Mittelstufe. Deutsch als Fremdsprache C1, Christina Kuhn, Britta Winzer-Kiontke, Cornelsen Verlag, 2015.

Literary texts and supplemental materials in consultation with the course instructor.

Daily Lesson

In the first week, the course takes place on Wednesday and Thursday. In week 2 and 3, lessons take place Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. In the last week, lessons take place on Monday and Tuesday. The sessions take place from approximately 8am CET to 12:30pm CET. Please take into consideration the possible time difference and make sure that you are able to be online during those times.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1			✓	✓	
Week 2	✓	✓		✓	✓
Week 3	✓	✓		✓	✓
Week 4	✓	✓			

Tasks on the Learning Management System (LMS)

You will need to work on tasks on the LMS platform that your instructor will provide throughout the term independently. You will need to hand in the tasks at specified times. It is essential for your learning progress that you complete these tasks, which is why you will need to complete at least 80% of them throughout the term.

Technical Equipment

For successful participation in this course, you will need a stable and reliable internet connection and a desktop, laptop, or tablet (we do not recommend the use of smartphones).

Software: Webex Meetings/Webex Teams, Blackboard (Learning Management System)

Attendance

Each class consists of six teaching modules (45 minutes each): three will be in a video conference format, and the other three will be individual or group work on the electronic Learning Management System (LMS). The coursework is equivalent to an in-person course with 72 contact hours.

Attendance of the video conferences is mandatory and unexcused absences will have a negative effect on the final grade.

Active Participation

We expect committed and consistent interest in the acquisition of the German language. You will prove this by participating constructively and productively in the lessons, completing homework assignments and being prepared for every class. Every student is expected to respect the ideas and comments of their peers.

Oral Presentation

You will prepare a fifteen-minute oral presentation. You are also required to prepare a handout for your peers listing unfamiliar vocabulary (max. 20) and posing questions. Furthermore, it is important that you speak freely rather than reading the oral presentations and that you keep to the time allowed. You are encouraged to visually support your presentations, e.g. by using PowerPoint.

Outline for Research Paper

In preparation for your final paper, you will compose an outline of your paper, which you will revise in the course through peer editing as well as through individual feedback by your instructor. You can obtain a maximum of 100 points for the outline. This reflective process combined with your instructor's suggestions and comments will help you to write your research paper for the final project.

Reflective Journal/Blog Entries and Comments

Throughout the term you will write various online journal or blog entries – independently or on given topics – to reflect on certain aspects of your German course and will comment on the entries of the other students. Your instructor will comment the content of your entries. However, no corrections will be made. The aim of the entries is that you learn how to express a critical and self-reflective position in a linguistically creative way.

Final project

The final project will be a three-page written research paper (font size 12, double-spaced) and a five-minute in-class presentation. The final paper has to meet the standards of academic writing. In terms of content this means that a certain topic has to be investigated systematically and the results have to be presented in a structured and logical way. In terms of form it means that you keep to one single citation style and that you include all the sources you used for your research paper in a reference-list.

You will complete your final paper by executing the following steps:

- Based on your essay you will write an outline, which will be revised through peer-editing and commented on by your instructor.
- Then you will write your final paper, which will be due by the beginning of the final week of the course.
- In class you will proofread your final paper together with your peers and check for errors in terms of content and form.
- You will have the opportunity to revise your final paper before handing it in.
- At the end of the course you will present decisive results of your research paper in a five-minute presentation. It is important that you speak freely rather than reading your presentation and that you keep to the time allowed.

Evaluation

Active participation and homework	200 points
Tasks on the online learning platform	250 points
Oral presentation	150 points
Outline for Research paper	100 points
Journal/blog entries and comments	100 points
Final project	200 points
Maximum score	1,000 points

Official FUBiS Grading scale

Freie Universität Berlin grading	Recommended US grade	Points
1,0	A	1000 – 970
1,3	A	969 – 920
1,7	A-	919 – 900
2,0	B+	899 – 880
2,3	B	879 – 830
2,7	B-	829 – 800
3,0	C+	799 – 780
3,3	C	779 – 730
3,7	C-	729 – 700
4,0	D	699 – 680
failed (> 4,0)	F	< 680