

**Syllabus C1 Semi-Intensive**

German Language and Culture - 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 four-week 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 and Excursion**

Lessons take place Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. On two class days during the term you will go on a course-related excursion.

**Attendance**

Each class consists of six teaching modules (45 minutes each). If you miss 8 modules (unexcused), your entire course grade will drop by one grade. Coming more than 20 minutes late counts as missing a module (this also applies to excursion days). If you come late to class six times (up to 20 minutes) your entire course grade will also drop by one grade. If you miss 20 modules, you will fail the class.

**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 and excursions, completing homework assignments and being prepared for every class. Every student is expected to respect the ideas and comments of his/her peers.

**Oral Presentation**

You will prepare a ten-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.

**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**

Throughout the term you will write various journal entries – independently or on given topics – to reflect on certain aspects of your stay in Berlin, e.g. question personal impressions, compare historical or contemporary phenomena, reflect on certain topics discussed in class, etc. Your instructor will collect these creative exercises and comment the content. However, no corrections will be made. The aim of the journal is that you learn how to express a critical and self-reflective position in a linguistically creative way.

**Midterm Exam**

You will take a midterm exam consisting of the following sections: listening comprehension, vocabulary, grammar, reading comprehension and composition based on course themes.

**Final project**

The final project will be a three to four 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 commented 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 last day of class you will present your results 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	300 points
Oral presentation	100 points
Outline for Research Paper	100 points
Reflective journal	100 points
Midterm exam	150 points
Final project	250 points (200p Final paper + 50p presentation)
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