



**Department of Foreign Languages  
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev**

## **German Reading for Beginners**

**WS 2022/SS 2023**

### **Course A**

Sunday, 12.15-13.45 and Tuesday, 10.15-11.45

### **Course B**

Sunday, 14.15-15.45 Tuesday and 12.15-13.45

**Lecturer:** Mag. Ramona Pohn

**Office hour:** Sunday 16.00-17.00 or by appointment (Building 74, Room 327)

### **Contact:**

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### **Course Description**

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Covering an entire year, the German courses offered at BGU provide students with a methodical grounding in the skills necessary to read and comprehend academic text. The main goal is an acquisition of reading competency by working on a corpus of different textual forms, including academic texts from an early stage. Speaking, writing, and listening will also be included in the practice. To provide a framework for understanding the rules and peculiarities of the German language there is a focus on grammatical phenomena, which creates the base for a clear and structured progress of studying a new language according to an academic standard.

A grade and academic credit (4 points/semester) can only be given to students who complete the entire year.

## **Course Objectives**

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By the end of the course students should be able to do the following:

- **Writing:** The student can write short and simple texts based on known contexts.
- **Speaking:** The student can use simple phrases and sentences to introduce oneself and answer simple questions.
- **Listening:** The student can understand familiar words and basic phrases.
- **Reading:** The main goal of the course is the development of reading skills which should lead to the understanding of scientific texts.

## **Course Structure**

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**Lecture:** 30 %  
**Individual exercise:** 30 %  
**Partner exercise:** 15 %  
**Plenum:** 25 %

## **Teaching Method**

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The course will focus on a framework of grammatical phenomena which allow a structured language acquisition to read German academic texts. Methodologically this shall be achieved by a combination of formal lectures, small reading groups, individual work assignments and class. The lectures are based on weekly reading assignments and internal exams, in addition to these readings, authentic texts are studied and discussed in classroom. Adequate texts which demonstrate the grammatical subjects taught in lessons will consolidate the students acquired knowledge. The content of the texts deal with various aspects of German and Austrian culture, and research fields in social sciences and humanities.

## **Structure of Final Course Grad**

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<b>1. Final Exam</b> at the End of the year	40%
<b>2. Internal Exams</b> two in the first semester, one throughout the second	20%
<b>3. Active Participation</b> class discussion and oral exercise	20%
<b>4. Homework</b> is used for the follow-up and intensification of the course content or the preparation for subsequent course contents, usually in written form, which are brought to the lessons	20%

## **Syllabus**

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### Semester I:

Introduction Phrases, basic patterns, starting personal pronouns and verbs

Personal pronouns, verbs in present tense

Verb variations, irregular verbs

Irregular verbs: haben + sein

Reading: Global/Analytic understanding of the text

Genus: Nouns and Gender, (in)definite article

Reading: Global/Analytic understanding of the text

Modal verbs

(in)separable + reflexive verbs

Reading: Global/Analytic understanding of the text

Questions

Reading: Global/Analytic understanding of the text

### **Internal Exam I**

Questions and Reflexion of/about the exam

Numerus: Plural of nouns

Reading: Global/Analytic understanding of the text

Kasus: The four cases, negative/zero/possessive articles

Reading: Global/Analytic understanding of the text

Adjectives

Adverbs

Comparison of adjectives and adverbs

Reading: Global/Analytic understanding of the text

Verb: The present perfect tense / Partizip II

Reading: Global/Analytic understanding of the text

### **Internal Exam II**

Questions and Reflexion of/about the exam

## Semester II:

Conjunctions

Reading: Global/Analytic understanding of the text

Kasus: nominative + accusative

Kasus: dative

Possessive pronouns

Reading: Global/Analytic understanding of the text

Kasus: genitive

Reading: Global/Analytic understanding of the text

Verb: the simple past tense

Reading: Global/Analytic understanding of the text

Verb: The future tense

Reading: Global/Analytic understanding of the text

Verb: Imperatives

Reading: Global/Analytic understanding of the text

### **Internal Exam III**

Questions and Reflexion of/about the exam

Pronomina, Numbers and Dates

Reading: Global/Analytic understanding of the text

Word order / subordinated sentences

Verb: Passive

Reading: Global/Analytic understanding of the text

Subjunctive I

Reading: Global/Analytic understanding of the text

Deepen the understanding of German sentence structure

Repetition of the course content, answering open questions for the exam

### **Final Exam**

## **Note**

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Students are allowed to miss classes three times in semester without an excuse. Not attending students are required to inform themselves about the content they have missed and the homework they have to do by asking their colleagues or contacting the lecturer. The final exam needs to be passed with at least 56 points to finish the course positively.

## Course Textbook

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**Schenke, Heiner/Seago, Karen (2004): *Basic German. A Grammar and Workbook*. London/New York: Routledge.**

Open Access:

<https://mercaba.org/SANLUIS/IDIOMAS/Alem%c3%a1n/Basic%20german.pdf>

**Schmohl, Sabrina/Schenk, Britta/Bleiner, Sandra/Wirtz, Michaela/Glaser, Jana (2020): *Akademie Deutsch A1+*. München: Hueber.**

Durrell, Martin/Kohl, Katrin/Loftus, Gudrun (2002): *Essential German Grammar*. London/New York: Routledge.

## Additional recommended Bibliography

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Motive A1 and A2. Kompaktkurs Deutsch als Fremdsprache (2014). Hueber Verlag.

Kunkel, Melanie / Durst, Uwe: *Lern- und Übungsgrammatik: Deutsch als Fremdsprache. Verstehen, üben, testen mit den Duden-Trainern*, 2017.

*Deutsche Grammatik kompakt. Die Grundregeln auf einen Blick verständlich dargestellt*. Dudenverlag Ratgeber.

*Erste Hilfe. Grammatik*. Dudenverlag Berlin.

Thomas, Timea / Stevens, John: *Alltagstauglich. Deutsch. Phrases for Everyday Communication* (2016). Hueber Verlag.

## newspapers and magazines

derStandard, DIE ZEIT, Frankfurter Allgemeine, profil, Vice Magazine, DER SPIEGEL, Literatur und Kritik.