

School of Modern Languages
German 1002
Fall 2026

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Office hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 8:30-9:30 and by appointment
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Required course package: *Sag mal* 3rd edition, by Christine Anton, Tobia Barske, Megan McKinstry, Vista Higher Learning, Boston 2021.

GRMN 1002 Elementary German II

This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the Humanities area.

Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

- How do I interpret the human experience through creative, linguistic, and philosophical works?

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome:

- Students will effectively analyze and interpret the meaning, cultural significance, and ethical implications of literary/philosophical texts or of works in the visual/performing arts.

Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:

- Ethical Reasoning
- Information Literacy
- Intercultural Competence

Course Description and Goals:

The lecture portion of the course will be offered in residential mode where you attend in-person (no remote online option is offered). In addition, I will have supplemental in-person on-campus office hour which you may attend as necessary or request a Zoom meeting. VHL activities will be submitted on the VHL website. Tests, quizzes, essays, and the final exam will be submitted on paper. Other course assignments such as video clips will be submitted online via email or on Canvas. You are expected to check your email and Canvas daily. Class announcements and information will be posted to Canvas. This course is designed to develop practical German skills in speaking, interpreting, writing, and listening and to be informative, helpful, and fun!

This course is the second semester of German study at the university level. It is in your best interest, however, to study daily. Students should recognize the value of language study, be genuinely interested in learning to communicate in German, and fully understand the level of autonomy and self-motivation required to be successful in a language course. **Students should plan on spending a minimum of 6 hours per week on this course and will complete Chapters 5-8 in 'Sag mal'.** At the end of the semester students will be able to engage in simple conversation in which they provide and obtain basic information.

Students will also gain a deeper understanding of the similarities and differences between German-speaking and English-speaking cultures.

Course learning outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course student will be able to:

1. Use German to communicate with peers and instructor both orally and in writing to create a shared community experience on a beginner's level.
2. Employ strategies to comprehend texts (in written, aural, and video form) written by and for German speakers.
3. Employ strategies to express ideas orally and in writing related to familiar topics in presentational contexts.
4. Employ strategies to express ideas in interpersonal contexts in culturally appropriate ways, including identifying and signaling comprehension breakdown, asking and answering questions, and requesting information.
5. Understand and communicate the basics of German-speaking cultures, modes of life, and customs.
6. Develop intercultural awareness through the study of the similarities and differences among and the relationships between language and culture systems.
7. Be prepared to continue developing German language skills and cultural understanding in GRMN 2001.

Purchasing Course Materials:

Your student access code to **Sag mal Supersite Plus** at vhlcentral.com includes **vText** (an online, interactive, laptop/iPad compatible student edition textbook) & **WebSAM** (an online workbook/video manual and lab manual with access to Supersite Plus textbook's online resources (assignments, audio, video, reference tools, assessment, gradebook, teacher- student communication, etc.)). The package can be purchased online at <https://vistahigherlearning.com/school/georgiainstituteoftech>

Please follow these steps:

- Create an account,
- choose German,
- click on GRMN 1002 'Sag mal', 3rd edition
- There you have a choice between *Print + Digital access* or *Digital access only*. Each option with 6-, 12- or 36-months access.

If you do not want to go fully digital, you may opt for the following course package: Loose Leaf Student Edition with WebSAM & vText for **Sag mal**. This course package can be ordered online using the links above. For this package click on the "loose-leaf format" tab and add to cart. Please consider the 12- or 36-months access option if you are planning to continue your German studies. We are using the same book in GRMN 2001.

Getting Started with VHL:

To set up your account and sign up for the course please read the student instructions in the following link: [for GRMN 1002 A:](#)

Grade Breakdown

VHL activities	12%
Oral exam	10%
2 Video Clips (10% per Video)	20%
4 Quizzes (2% per Quiz)	8%
3 Chapter Tests (cumulative) (8% per Test)	30%
Final Exam (cumulative)	20%
Total	100%

The letter grade is calculated in the following manner:

100 – 90% = A

89 – 80% = B

79 – 70% = C

69 – 60% = D

59 – 00% = F

Course Expectations & Guidelines

Attendance

Class participation, quizzes and VHL activities are designed to help you practice and build new skills in German steadily and regularly. As such, daily preparation, attendance, and active participation in class are essential. The quality of your participation is measured in several ways: through homework and oral contributions during classes. Any absence will put you in a catch-up situation, which can affect your performance in class, your achievement on tests and quizzes, and your grades.

If you have to miss class, please let your instructor know as soon as possible. You must arrange with a peer to pick up handouts from class and find out what was covered in the day's lesson. Please note that it is not the instructor's responsibility to inform individual students of what had been covered in a particular class they missed, or to provide documents from missed class by email. If you need to talk about missed class periods, come to my office hours or make an appointment.

Active participation is essential to the success in this course. To ensure a high-quality learning environment in this class, you are allowed to miss 3 class periods without documentation and without repercussions. If you miss more than 3 classes, you are running the risk of receiving a lower course grade, as one percent of the final grade percentage will be deducted per extra unexcused absence. Once you have 6 unexcused absences, you will receive an F as a final grade and fail the class.

To document absences, you must bring documentation from the Dean of Students. The document must state the date and time of your appointment explicitly, as well as the duration of your absence and contact information of the issuing body.

All homework must be handed in on time for full credit.

Tests may only be taken on the dates indicated. If you have a conflict, discuss it with me **before** the test.

General Course Policies:

The VHL Supersite Activities must be completed and submitted by the designated deadline on the VHL calendar. Late submissions will be accepted up to the quiz date of the section and incur a flat 20% penalty. Activities submitted after the quiz dates receive 0 credit. Each activity will be computer graded, instructor graded, or computer-instructor graded. The grade for VHL assignments is determined by the activities completed and the percentages earned.

All *Sag mal* chapter course material is open and available online, as students work at their own pace; however, it is divided into 4 chapters, and each chapter is divided into part A and B. Each section starts with the introduction of new vocabulary and exercises to practice the vocabulary and pronunciation exercises. A video and cultural information also help to experience the vocabulary in context. The grammar sections start with examples and explanations and are followed by easy “fill in the blank” exercises before moving on to more involved conversational exercises.

The VHL calendar is designed to help students maintain a schedule. All activities due and important announcements will be posted there. It is imperative that you follow the schedule to keep up with the workload and to anchor your knowledge in your long-term memory. If you do all the assignments at once, it goes to your short-term memory which will result in you forgetting the information rather quickly. You will also incur a penalty for not completing assigned VHL activities in time. There is a general due date for all VHL activities at the end of each section of the chapter (e.g. 5A, 5B, 6A, 6B, ...). The lesson plan on the syllabus provides a more detailed *t i m e l i n e* that is there to help you pace your work. The syllabus also provides helpful links and tips for certain pages and grammar chapters.

Please always read the textbook grammar explanation or watch the interactive tutorials first before doing the activities and if you have any questions, please ask your instructor before getting started. Your attempts for the exercises are limited and you want to make sure you have a good understanding of the material before starting.

Virtual Chats: For the **virtual chats**, you will need to make sure you have Adobe Flash Player installed. When on VHL, these chats are indicated a 2 people icon/one outlines/one shaded in grey. You can record the virtual chats on your own. Should there be any difficulties with the partner chat tool, you can use another recording device like your phone and email the instructor the link. The same evaluation criteria apply for the video clips. See below.

Video Clip (Kapitel 5 & 7): In addition to the VHL Online Class Activities you will have to do two 3-5-minute video clips where you demonstrate your oral skills. The video clip is a video recording that will evaluate students’ knowledge of vocabulary, grammar and culture, and their proficiency in speaking. Students will create a video of themselves speaking in German based on a given theme and time requirement. **Do not read!** Students will record and post their video on Canvas.

Quizzes (4) There will be 1 quiz per chapter, and it will include grammar and vocabulary covered by the quiz date.

Tests (3) Tests will have to be taken on the assigned days. They are cumulative in nature. If you miss a test without documentation and notice given either in advance or, in case of accidents or other unforeseeable circumstances, within reasonable time limits (a couple of hours later), **you will receive a zero and lose the entire test percentage of your final grade.** If you must miss a test, notify me in advance and we will arrange a make-up opportunity.

Oral Exam For the oral exam, you will prepare a dialogue with a classmate and speak freely for 5-10 min (free speech – no reading allowed).

Translator and Dictionary Usage: It is in your best interest to refrain from using translators as much as possible. By allowing yourself to learn the words you’re working with through context within the videos or interactive activities on VHL, you are allowing yourself to develop a deeper connection with the word

and will be more likely to be able to recall the word at a later time. If you must use a dictionary or translator, please use <https://en.pons.com/translate> or <https://www.leo.org/german-english/>. These particular resources will allow you to see the word you're searching for in a variety of contexts and usages so that you may choose the correct one. If you choose to continue learning German, PONS or LEO are a great resources to continue using as it also shows you the case and gender among other grammar heavy terms that will help you in future conjugation and sentence structures.

Academic Integrity

Georgia Tech aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity, and honor. Students are expected to act according to the highest ethical standards. For information on Georgia Tech's Academic Honor Code, please visit <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/policies/honor-code/> or <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/18/>.

Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarizing on an assignment, project or exam will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, who will investigate the incident and identify the appropriate penalty for violations.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, contact the Office of Disability Services at (404)894-2563 or <http://disabilityservices.gatech.edu/>, as soon as possible, to make an appointment to discuss your special needs and to obtain an accommodations letter. Please also e-mail me as soon as possible in order to set up a time to discuss your learning needs.

Collaboration and Group Work

Language learning occurs in a community of people. This semester, you will participate in multiple small group activities both oral and written. However, the following forms of assistance are not allowed for doing any of the work in this course: copying (from someone else's assignments or from another source [a reading in a textbook, the Internet, etc.]) without clear attribution of the source; having another student, a tutor, or a friend suggest changes or correct the work you are to turn in; completing assignments in consultation with other students ("working together") unless specified by your instructor; translating directly from another source; and especially **using electronic translation programs**. These restrictions apply to any work turned in for this course, even daily homework assignments. The issue of digital plagiarism has raised concerns about ethics, student writing experiences, and academic integrity. GT subscribes to a digital plagiarism detection program called Turnitin, which may be used to check assignments submitted in this course.

Extensions, Late Assignments, & Re-Scheduled/Missed Exams

No late assignments or extensions will be granted. Please plan accordingly. Contact your instructor in case of extenuating circumstances.

Student-Faculty Expectations Agreement

At Georgia Tech we believe that it is important to strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect, acknowledgement, and responsibility between faculty members and the student body. See <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/22/> for an articulation of some basic expectation that you can have of me and that I have of you. In the end, simple respect for knowledge, hard work, and cordial interactions will help build the environment we seek. Therefore, I encourage you to remain committed to the ideals of Georgia Tech while in this class.

Campus Resources for Students

The Center for Academic Success (success.gatech.edu/) offers a variety of academic support services to help students succeed academically at Georgia Tech (e.g. tutoring, peer-led study groups, study skills, etc.).

The Office of Disability Services (disabilityservices.gatech.edu/) ensures that students with disabilities have equal access to all programs and activities offered at Georgia Tech. They provide documentation and officially sanctioned requests for accommodation for students, and serve as a resource for instructors as they build learning environments to meet the needs of all students.

OMED: Educational Services (omed.gatech.edu/) is the unit charged by Georgia Tech with the retention, development, and performance of the complete student learner who is traditionally underrepresented: African American, Hispanic, and Native American. OMED's programming and academic support services are aimed at equipping all students with strategies to navigate the Georgia Tech environment.

Support for Students in Distress

Counseling Center counseling.gatech.edu/ 404-894-2575

Dean of Students (Student Life) studentlife.gatech.edu/ 404-385-8772

GT Police police.gatech.edu/ 404-894-2500

Stamps Health Services health.gatech.edu/ 404-894-1420

Modified Operations and Digital Learning Days:

In the event of a weather-related event on campus or other an emergency situation that requires modified operations, I will contact all students via Canvas about cancelling class or our plans for a digital learning day.

Considering a major or minor?

Adding a language to your degree or course of study is a great way to keep in touch with matters of international business and even simply the globalizing world. Business, Technology and Engineering are all sectors in which Germany prides itself and partners with other countries on the global scale. Georgia Tech offers a minor in German, as well as three different options for majors: **B.S. in Applied Languages and Intercultural Studies (ALIS)**, **B.S. in Global Economics and Modern Languages (GEML)**, and **a B.S. in International Affairs and Modern Languages (IAML)**. For more information on the programs go to: <https://modlangs.gatech.edu/languages/german>

Study Abroad

Whether it be in the form of an internship, faculty-led study abroad or a full semester of study, spending time abroad is a fantastic way to hone your language skills and develop intercultural competence while gaining valuable experience and boosting your resume. Georgia Tech has multiple opportunities for study abroad in Germany, which include partnerships with the **Technical Universities of Munich and Berlin**, with **RWTH Aachen**, the **Ludwig-Maximilian University** in Munich and the **University of Stuttgart**. For more information, please go to: <https://oie.gatech.edu/>

There is also a 9 credit summer study abroad program, **the German Language for Business and Technology program**, that takes students on a 8-week journey through Austria & Germany. Students wishing to participate in this program must have completed GRMN 2002. For more information, please go to <https://modlangs.gatech.edu/lbat/germany>

Helpful links:

- www.modlangs.gatech.edu (Registration questions, Student Resources, **International Plan, Study abroad, LBAT, German Internships** –please note: this is the exciting part, but you need to plan ahead)
- www.leo.org or <http://en.pons.eu/> (online dictionary)
- www.dw.de
- www.nthuleen.com

Week-by-Week Schedule

Weeks 1-4 - Unit 1 (Chapter 5, Celebrations and Holidays)

- Grammar lessons on direct and indirect object nouns and pronouns, two-way prepositions, present perfect tense, accusative case, dative personal pronouns
- Vocabulary: celebrations, traditional costumes, clothes,
- Cultural Lesson on regional and national celebrations with an emphasis on the Oktoberfest in Munich, on German fashion, traditional clothes, on famous fashion designers.

Week 5-7 – Unit 2 (Chapter 6, At Home, Appliances in the House)

- Grammar: simple past, coordinating conjunctions, separable prefix verbs in perfect tense.
- Vocabulary: chores at home, celebrations, life events.
- Cultural Lesson on home and Fribourg, a French city near the German border, on the Swiss hotel owner Cesar Ritz, various appliances for domestic work, and the author Johanna Spyri who wrote the book “Heidi”.

Week 8-11 – Unit 3 (Chapter 7, Vacation and Seasons)

- Grammar: separable and inseparable prefix verbs, infinitive expressions and clauses, time expressions, indefinite pronouns.
- Vocabulary: weather and seasons, months of the year.
- Cultural Lesson on renewable energy, traveling to Frankfurt airport, fast-speed trains.

Week 12-14 – Unit 4 (Chapter 8, Public Transportation and Technology)

- Grammar: Past perfect, comparatives and superlatives, demonstrative pronouns, genitive case.
- Vocabulary: public transportation, buses, cars, and trains in Germany, Autobahn, technology
- Cultural Lesson on engineering, technology, scientific developments, riding bikes in Europe, Max-Planck Society, German media.

Week 15-16 – oral exams and preparation for the final exam

Endorsement Statement for the UN SDGs (United Nations Sustainable Development Goals)

The German Program in the School of Modern Languages at Georgia Tech wholeheartedly endorses the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (2015-2030) and understands them to be at the center of our pedagogy and research mission.

