

German I, Pre-AP II, Pre-AP III, and AP IV
Course Syllabus
Dripping Springs High School
2017-2018

Instructor: Jillian Besemer

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Room: D112 **Conference:** TBD

Course Description: A year study of the German language through speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Students will explore: Communication, Cultures, Communities, Connections, and Comparisons of the German language and German-speaking countries to meet both state and national standards. German language will be used by both the teacher and students as much as possible.

Requirements and Expectations: In addition to following the rules and expectations of DSHS, you are expected to:

1. Be respectful of your classmates, your instructor, and your environment.
2. Be willing to participate in ALL activities, songs, projects, and lessons.
3. Be willing and ready to learn. This includes bringing your materials to class every day and having an open mind and positive attitude!
4. Be willing to make mistakes and be ready to learn from them!

Required Materials:

- writing utensil
- 3-ring binder and paper with sections for vocabulary, in-class writing, and homework
- Dry Erase Expo Markers, Box of Kleenex, hand sanitizer, markers, pens, pencils, highlighters, OR loose-leaf lined paper to be donated to the class.
 - *Due to our unique classroom structure, I typically provide pens/highlighters/paper for students to use during class time. However, that means lots of my supplies end up disappearing during the year. I truly appreciate your help keeping the classroom stocked! **Thank you!***

Helpful Additional Material:

- German-English Dictionary

How to Succeed in German Class:

★ **6 GOALS**

(This is what you *can* do!)

- Don't be afraid of the German language
- Take risks and make mistakes
- Figure out what you're hearing and what you're trying to say
- Use German 100% of the time
- Participate every day and be an integral member of your class
- Decide WHY you want to learn German

★ 3 CLASS EXPECTATIONS

(This is what you **have to** do!)

- Respect (yourself, your teacher, your fellow students)
- Speak German
- Participate every day

★ 3 SKILLS

(This is **how** you do it!)

- Act it out
- Draw it out
- Use what you know

Three Strikes Rule: If a student is not participating or being disruptive, their behavior will be redirected. If a student is redirected more than 3 times in one class period, the student will complete worksheets during the rest of the class period and 5% will be taken off of their current participation grade.

BYOD: Students are allowed to use electronic devices in class only **at Frau Besemer's discretion**. This means that cell phones, tablets, iPods, and computers are not allowed out unless they are being used for a specific class activity. Electronic devices must be put away in either a backpack or the cell-phone caddy by the time the tardy bell rings. Any electronic devices that are being used, are on desks, or in laps, or visible *without permission* will be taken away during the duration of the class period. Students will get their cell phones returned to them **AFTER** class has ended. If cell phone usage in class is a consistent issue, then additional punitive measures will be taken. In addition, electronic devices are not allowed during the following times:

- Headphones use during large class discussion, small group discussion, assessments, or in hallways.
- Pictures taken of any assessment. This will result in a zero on the assessment and will have disciplinary consequences.
- Device used during any assessment. This will result in a zero on the assessment and will have disciplinary consequences.
- Pictures taken or images recorded of other students or teachers without their consent.
- Refusal to give your device to any DSHS employee if asked.

Grading: Each grading term, your grade will be calculated using the following categories:

- 30% formative assessments (homework, skills practice, independent reading, work done in and out of class)
- 70% summative assessments (speaking and writing assessments, vocabulary quizzes, tests, projects, daily participation, presentations)

Late Work: Completed daily homework that is turned in late will receive a grade of 50%

For each day that a summative project is late, 5% will be taken off of the final grade.

MAKE UP WORK FOR EXCUSED ABSENCES

It is the student's responsibility to make up any work missed. Work or projects assigned prior to the first day of absence are due the day the student returns to class. Any quizzes or tests missed during your absence must be made up during tutorials after your return to school unless other arrangements are made with me. Failure to follow through with make-up test or quiz arrangements will result in a zero. Homework is posted on Google Classroom. Students are expected to check my webpage for missed assignments when absent.

Assigned work and/or assessments missed due to a school-sponsored extracurricular absence shall be due upon the student's return to class unless arrangements are made with the teacher in advance of the absence.

Correcting Assignments / Retesting Policy: Students may retake vocabulary quizzes for a maximum grade of ninety (90). Students will have the opportunity to re-take or correct summative assessments but arrangements must be made with Frau Besemer. However, final exams may not be retaken.

Tardy Policy: Students are allowed three unexcused tardies each semester. At four unexcused tardies, the teacher will notify the administration and a consequence will be assigned.

Staying in touch: Please keep informed about your class on Google Classroom. The classroom codes are as follows:

German 1: TBD

German 2 Pre-AP: TBD

German 3 Pre-AP: TBD

AP German IV: TBD

Stay connected! Curious about what's going on in German class? Follow along throughout the school year by following **@BesemerGerman** on Instagram and Twitter. Look for the hashtags #German1DSHS, #German2DSHS, and #German3DSHS to find your student's level!

General Comments: I look forward to working with you this year as we create a new German community at DSHS. Please see me for additional help and/or to share ideas or suggestions about the class with me. I value student feedback, and appreciate honesty. This class will be fun and interactive! Willkommen!!!

Please complete and return this page to Frau Besemer by your next German class. Danke.

My teenager and I have read and understand the expectations for German during the 2016-17 school year.

Student Printed Name

Student Signature

Class Period

Guardian Printed Name

Guardian Signature

Date

Additional Comments, Concerns, or Advice for your teenager!