

**ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**  
THE 644 Theological German

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Fall 2006

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

An overview of the German language with special reference to the translation of biblical and theological texts.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Upon the completion of this course, the student will have demonstrated in classroom discussions, examinations, and papers

1. a basic familiarity with the German language, including
  - a. pronunciation,
  - b. elementary conversations,
  - c. grammar,
  - d. vocabulary, and
  - e. principle parts of most commonly used (regular and irregular) verbs
2. an understanding of German biblical and theological terms and phrases; and
3. the ability to use dictionaries and other tools in order to translate
  - a. the German Bible and
  - b. German theological writings.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS**

Elke Gschossmann-Hendershot, *Schaum's Outline of German Grammar (Schaum's Outline Series)*, 3rd edition. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1997.

Helmut W. Ziefle, editor. *Modern Theological German: A Reader and Dictionary Revised Edition*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1997.

*Berlitz German CD Pack with Phrase Book*. Princeton: Berlitz, 1998.

## **RECOMMENDED RESOURCES**

*Blank Flash Cards* (box of 1000). Vis-Ed, n.d.

Dagmar Fortsch, *German Dictionary Plus Grammar, 2nd edition*. New York: Harper, 1999.

*Harper Collins German Dictionary: German-English English-German*. New York: Harper, 2000.

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

1. Working through the three required resources, starting with pronunciation, elementary conversation, and grammar, while also
2. Working through the German reader to develop increasing independence from help.

See DETAILED COURSE SCHEDULE.

## **METHODOLOGY**

1. Having fun as a small group on the odyssey of language learning, both for academic purposes and personal enrichment.
2. Experiential exposure to pronunciation and elementary conversational German through the Berlitz CD, role playing and interpreting student-generated dialogues, and going out together as a class to a German restaurant.
3. Deductive introduction to grammar and vocabulary through the Gschossmann-Hendershot text, exercises, and quizzes.
4. Memorization of and quizzes on theological vocabulary.
5. Inductive exposure to the German Bible and theological texts through the Ziefel reader.
6. Initiation into using reading skills in the present by translating a German text for an AGTS (or ministry) assignment during the semester.
7. Practice testing German reading proficiency with actual Ph.D. program sample tests.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

1. Regular attendance and active participation in all class sessions (including *der läßt Abendeßen*), having completed written and oral exercises in advance of respective class sessions.
2. Successful performance on quizzes and exams at their scheduled time.
3. Submitting a paper (or ministry assignment) and sharing the experience with the class, using theological German for research or ministry during the semester.

**GRADING CRITERIA****A. WRITTEN EXERCISES from each ch. in Gschossman-Hendershot Text  
(10 @ 1%, i.e., 10 points each, = 10% of semester's grade)**

- |                       |                         |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Chapter 1 _____/10 | 6. Chapter 6 _____/10   |
| 2. Chapter 2 _____/10 | 7. Chapter 7 _____/10   |
| 3. Chapter 3 _____/10 | 7. Chapter 8 _____/10   |
| 4. Chapter 4 _____/10 | 9. Chapter 9 _____/10   |
| 5. Chapter 5 _____/10 | 10. Chapter 10 _____/10 |

SUBTOTAL \_\_\_\_\_/100 points 10%

**B. ORAL EXERCISES based on Berlitz Resource  
Creation and Performance of, & Oral Interpretation of Dialogues  
(14 @ 1%, i.e., 10 points each, = 14% of semester's grade)**

- |                               |                           |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Basic Expressions _____/10 | 1. BE D Interp _____/10   |
| 2. Accommodations _____/10    | 2. Acc D Interp _____/10  |
| 3. Eating Out _____/10        | 3. EO D Interp _____/10   |
| 4. Travel _____/10            | 4. Trav D Interp _____/10 |
| 5. Sight Seeing _____/10      | 5. SS D Interp _____/10   |
| 6. Stores, Svcs, Ref _____/10 | 6. SSR D Interp _____/10  |
| 7. Health _____/10            | 7. Hlth D Interp _____/10 |

SUBTOTAL \_\_\_\_\_/140 points 14%

**C. QUIZZES on Alphabet, Bible Books, Vocab, Principle Parts, & Readings  
(19 @ 2%, i.e., 10 points each, = 20% of semester's grade)**

- |                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Alphabet _____/20 | 11. TQ5 _____/20  |
| 2. NT Books _____/20 | 12. VQ5 _____/20  |
| 3. OT Books _____/20 | 13. TQ6 _____/20  |
| 4. VQ1 _____/20      | 14. PP's _____/20 |
| 5. TQ1 _____/20      | 15. TQ6 _____/20  |
| 6. VQ2 _____/20      | 16. VQ6 _____/20  |
| 7. TQ2 _____/20      | 17. TQ7 _____/20  |
| 8. VQ3 _____/20      | 18. VQ7 _____/20  |
| 9. TQ3 _____/20      | 19. TQ8 _____/20  |
| 10. VQ4 _____/20     |                   |

SUBTOTAL \_\_\_\_\_/380 points 38%

**D. APPLICATION ASSIGNMENT Demonstrating Use of German  
in an AGTS (or ministry) assignment this semester  
(1 @ 6%, i.e., 60 points each, i.e., 20% of semester's grade)**

SUBTOTAL \_\_\_\_\_/60 points 6%

**E. EXAMINATIONS**

**(2 @ 15%, i.e., 150 point each = 300% of semester's grade)**

1. Mid-Term \_\_\_\_\_/150

2. Final \_\_\_\_\_/150

SUBTOTAL \_\_\_\_\_/300 points 30%

**F. ATTENDANCE BONUS for perfect attendance**

**(1 @ 20%, i.e., 20 points at mid-term)**

SUBTOTAL \_\_\_\_\_/20 points 2%

**TOTAL SCORE \_\_\_\_\_/1000 points**

**PERCENTAGE SCORE: \_\_\_\_\_ FINAL GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_**

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

### Dictionaries

*Langenscheidt New College German Dictionary: German-English – English German* New York: Langenscheidt, 1995.

Peter Terrell, ed. *Collins German-English English-German Dictionary/Pons Collins Grosswoerterbuch fuer Experten und Universitaet, Deutsch-Englisch Englisch-Deutsch*: 4<sup>th</sup> ed., unabridged. New York: HarperCollins, 1999.

Scholze-Stubenrecht, Werner, ed. *The Oxford-Duden German Dictionary: German-English/English-German, 2nd edition*. London: Oxford University Press, 1999.

### General

*German for Reading Knowledge, 4th edition*  
By Hubert Jannach, Richard Alan Korb  
Paperback (Heinle & Heinle Pub, 1997)  
ISBN: 0838478352

*501 German Verbs: Fully Conjugated in All the Tenses in a New Easy-To-Learn Format, Alphabetically Arranged*  
By Henry Strutz  
3rd edition (April 1998)  
Barrons Educational Series; ISBN: 0764102842

*1001 Pitfalls in German (1001 Pitfalls Series)*  
By Henry Strutz  
3rd edition (January 1997)  
Barrons Educational Series; ISBN: 0812096525

*Hammer's German Grammar and Usage*  
By Martin Durrell  
3rd edition (March 1997)  
NTC Publ Group; ISBN: 0844222089

*Easy Ways to Enlarge Your German Vocabulary*  
By Karl A. Schmidt  
(December 1974)  
Dover Pubns; ISBN: 0486230449

*German Verbs and Essentials of Grammar*

By Charles J. James

(December 1984)

NTC Publ Group; ISBN: 0844225002

*German Idioms*

By Henry Strutz

(January 1996)

Barrons Educational Series; ISBN: 0812090101

*Using German: A Guide to Contemporary Usage*

By Martin Durrell

(July 1992)

Cambridge Univ Pr (Trd); ISBN: 0521315565

*Guide to German Idioms*

By Peter Lupson

(December 1988)

NTC Publ Group; ISBN: 0844225010

**SPECIFIC DATA**

Syllabus prepared by Deborah M. Gill, August, 2006

With appreciation to David A. Alexander, Ph.D., for texts and bibliography.