

**Centennial High School
Department of World Languages**

German IV Honors Syllabus, 2011-12

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COURSE OBJECTIVES

In this fourth year German course, students will increase vocabulary and improve reading and writing skills in a target-language, communicative-based classroom environment. Students will develop reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills at the Intermediate level of proficiency. The Georgia Performance Standards for Modern Languages specify the standards and elements that guide the course. Please see the Georgia Department of Education's website "Georgia Standards" for a detailed description of the indicators that guide instruction for each level of the World Languages curriculum for the state of Georgia: www.Georgiastandards.org Topics include Level I, II, and III Topics. Additional topics include Career and Business; Communities; Relationships; Social Issues; Stereotypes; Environmental Issues; Education; Environmental Issues; German History and Politics; Future Goals and Expectations; Pop Culture; Travel and Transportation; Health and Fitness; and German Literature.

TEXTS

A variety of instructional materials will be used in this course. These include texts from German IV Honors textbooks, authentic written texts such as newspaper and magazine articles, and literary texts such as fairy tales, short stories, and novels. Furthermore, authentic audio materials will further develop students' listening abilities. Finally, materials from internet sites such as the "Goethe Institute", the "American Association of Teachers of German (AATG)", "Deutsche Welle" and "Der Spiegel" will be used.

EXPECTATIONS

- + Please abide by all Fulton County Schools rules as outlined in the Centennial High School Student Handbook. Electronic misuse; audible obscenity; disrespect; bullying; unapproved book bag; and not adhering to the dress code are examples of specific violations of our school system's rules. Violations of rules will lead to disciplinary action such as a private detention in my room, ISS (In School Suspension) or OSS (Out of School Suspension).
- + Please be punctual to class! The School Policy for Tardies will be strictly enforced.
- + You should only have items related to instruction in the classroom. Text-messaging, talking on the phone, and taking videos on a camera or phone are considered major violations of Centennial's rules. You will not be able to use your cell phones unless I give you permission to use them for instructional purposes (such as online dictionaries, a German language app, etc.) for a specific lesson.
- + It is essential that you come to class with your textbook and other necessary materials. You will not be allowed to leave class to get materials from your locker because it is too disruptive to the classroom environment.
- + No food, gum, or beverages other than water are allowed in the classroom.
- + Active class participation is essential to learning a foreign language. Making mistakes is obviously a normal part of learning a language. Don't be shy!
- + Remember that you should treat others as you wish to be treated. You will help create a positive classroom environment if you are respectful and kind to your peers. Please respect others with differing opinions during class discussions and do not criticize them for a particular opinion on a subject. Furthermore, please do not make slandering or discriminatory remarks about others based on gender, race, religion, or physical appearance. Making degrading remarks to a classmate or teacher is a violation of Fulton County rules. Please help create an environment in which everyone feels comfortable and happy!

STUDENT EVALUATION

Student evaluations are divided into the following four categories:

Oral Evaluations (includes speaking and listening assessments): 35%

Written Evaluations (includes written quizzes, written tests, compositions, reading comprehension): 35%

Homework/Class work* 15%

Final Exam 15%

*It is important for students and parents to understand that both homework and class work assignments will appear under the rubric homework in the online gradebook. Class work will not be entered in a separate category. Homework assignments will sometimes be given a grade based on accuracy. Other times it will be graded for completion.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Homework and classroom assignments will only be accepted late for excused absences. Otherwise, I will not accept late homework and class work. It is imperative that you do your work on time so that you can progress in this course.

MAKE-UP WORK

- + Please remember that your absence from class will prevent you from moving forward in this course. It is therefore imperative that you are present in class unless you are seriously ill.
- + All students will be allowed to make up missed work according to Fulton County/CHS policy. If you have been absent one day, you will have one day to make up the work. If you have been absent two days, you will have two days to make up the work, etc. It is your responsibility to turn in assignments and to make arrangements for the make-up work. Make-up assignments will not be accepted past the days allotted to complete them.
- + Make-up work for each day will be recorded in a binder. Any questions about make-up assignments should be addressed to Frau Davy.
- + Work that was to be handed in on the day of an absence is due upon your return to class; this work is not considered make-up work and will not be accepted.

You will be able to make up missed tests, quizzes, video and listening activities by making an appointment in advance with me.

RECOVERY POLICY

Any student with an average of 74 or below at the end of the 6 or 12 weeks grading period may be eligible for a recovery plan designed to provide an additional opportunity for mastery of the course objectives. **It is the student's responsibility to request a recovery plan from the instructor.** The components of the recovery are listed below.

1. All assigned work must be completed in order for a student to be eligible for recovery. (i.e. no zeros in the grade book)
2. Students should make an appointment to request recovery by completing and submitting a "Request for Recovery" form to each teacher within three days of learning of the 74 or below grade.
3. The nature of the recovery assignment is to be determined by the teacher and may consist of a test, research project, report, etc., designed to show the student's mastery of the course objectives.
4. Recovery work must be completed in the time period designated by the teacher.
5. No recovery assignments will be made during the last two weeks of the semester.

HELP SESSIONS

Please make an appointment to meet with me if you would like extra help. I will always make time to assist you. I have seen how effective this has been for my students.

HONOR CODE ADDENDUM

In addition to the items stated in the handbook under Honor Violations it is the policy of the Foreign Language Department that the following are also in violation of the Honor Code:

- + Copying or paraphrasing from websites without attribution or acknowledgement
- + Using online translators or grammar check for *graded* written work or oral work
- + Reading of foreign language literary works in the English translation and use of translation as personal work.

A violation of the Honor Code will be printed on your high school transcript. Do not jeopardize your goal of going to college by violating the Honor Code!

PARENT COMMUNICATION

Parents may contact me at any time:

Email: davyj@fultonschools.org

Phone: 770-870-7685

I will always make time to answer any questions or concerns you may have.

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

1. **Reference book for verbs**
I recommend buying *The Big Yellow Book of German Verbs: 555 Fully Conjugated Verbs* by Paul Listen, Robert Di Donato and Daniel Franklin, 2005 edition (ISBN-Number: 0-07-143300-7).
2. **A large three-ring spiral binder** with dividers for different subject areas covered in the course: homework, grammar, vocabulary, culture, etc.
3. **Standard composition book** for class notes
4. **Index cards** for learning vocabulary. I estimate that you will need around 2-3 packs per grading period.
5. **Black or blue pen and pencils** for written work.
6. **Yellow, green, orange, and blue highlighters** for marking reading passages.