

# Syllabus German 100 007 Fall 2022

## Land Acknowledgment

**UBC Vancouver is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the xwməθkwəyəm (Musqueam) people. The land it is situated on has always been a place of learning for the Musqueam people, who for millennia have passed on their culture, history, and traditions from one generation to the next on this site.**

As we learn together in this class, it is important to consider our presence on this territory, and, further, how we might support efforts to protect Indigenous land rights. It's also important to acknowledge this land in all the languages we use. If you speak languages other than English, think about how you might speak about these topics in those languages. If you're not sure, reach out to someone who might!



## When & Where

This course section meets during the Winter Term 1 2022-23 on **Tuesdays & Thursdays, from 11:00–12:15 am in BUCH B211.**

## Your Instructor



My name is [Florian Faller](#), feel free to call me Florian.  
Department of Central, Eastern, and Northern European Studies (CENES, "seh-ness")

How best to contact me:

Talk to me after class, send me an email at [florian.faller@ubc.ca](mailto:florian.faller@ubc.ca) or use the canvas discussion board.

Office Hours: Tuesday, and Thursday, 3:30 - 4:30 PM in Buchanan Tower 928



## What We'll Need: Course Materials

**1) Digital access to the textbook SAG MAL** ("Zahg mahl"): An Introduction to German Language and Culture. 3rd Student Edition, by Christine Anton & Tobias Barske. Student Package with Online Access Code to Supersite Plus (SSPlus) and Web Student Activities Manual (wSAM). Sag Mal is available through the UBC Bookstore in a digital or loose-leaf format. Both formats include either a 6- or 36-month access code to Supersite, the online platform integrated with the Sag Mal materials. The German Language Program uses all of the Sag Mal text book through its first four semesters, so you'll get your money's worth!

**2) CANVAS** (where you are right now!) will be used for accessing additional course material and modules. You can direct all technical questions to the Learning Technology Hub: [lt.hub@ubc.ca](mailto:lt.hub@ubc.ca).

### How do I decide which textbook-option to pick?

Consider the following:

#### 1) Loose-leaf pages?

Please note that the **Digital packages do not include loose-leaf pages, otherwise they are the exact same as the loose-leaf packages.** All 4 packages include an electronic version of these pages. Most students like to work with the loose-leaf pages, and I personally think it's better to have them. You will probably spend enough time on screens this year, so it helps to have that option. But it's up to you!

#### 2) 1 semester / 6 months OR 36 months?

If you know you only take Germ 100, the 6-month package is sufficient.

If you plan to take Germ 110 (or Germ 110, Germ 200, Germ 210) as well, you should take the 36-month package, because the 6-month package will run out during Term 2. A **36-month code** will enable you to complete the entire course progression for First- and Second-year German. The progression consists of **four course levels** requiring four semesters of study: Germ 100, Germ 110, Germ 200 and Germ 210.

**3) We negotiated preferential prices for our students here at UBC.** If you find something that looks cheaper, it probably doesn't have all the components you need, is an older edition and/or you might be comparing different currencies.

**4) Used materials: Access codes are not transferable** and you may **not use an access code previously purchased by another student.** That also means you shouldn't pay much for used loose-leaf pages.



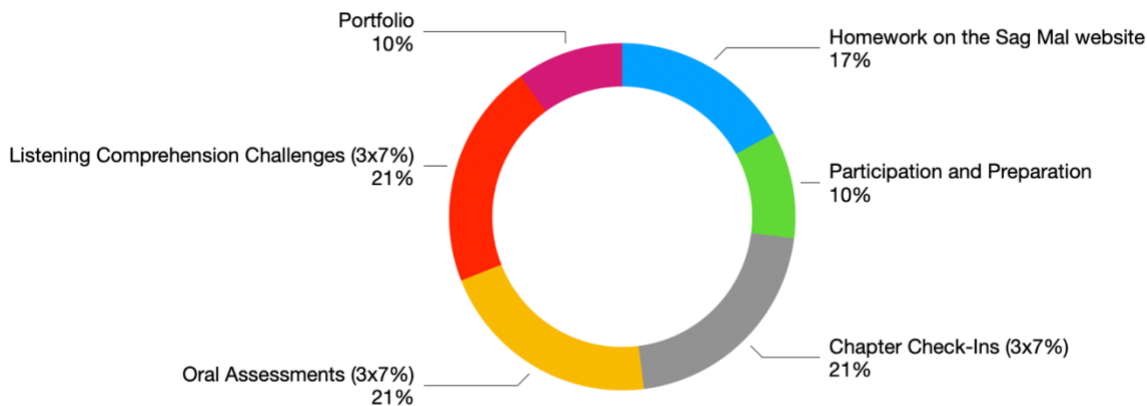
## What We'll Learn: Course Outcomes

- to speak and write in German about family, friends, studies, interests and leisure, opinions and attitudes
- to apply language skills when communicating with speakers of German, such as greetings, introductions, requests for information, descriptions of people, expression of ownership, giving instructions, asking and answering questions
- to comprehend and enjoy fundamental spoken and written German
- to apply learning strategies to German, as well as future language learning
- to get to know the rich dimensions of human diversity that characterize Germanophone cultures, including but not limited to linguistic, racial, ethnic, social, regional, gender and ability difference
- to enhance understanding of our own languages and cultural backgrounds

There's nothing to fear in language learning. No one's perfect, but the effort is worth it! Learning German gives your voice, intellect, identity, emotions, and culture a new dimension, but it takes a bit of time and patience. Please be gentle with yourself and others. Let me know if you're ever feeling like you need some encouragement!

## What about Grading?

**Marking and assessment in UBC German classes are designed to encourage your progress and to coach you toward your goals. Here's how we do it.**



### Homework on the Sag Mal website (17%)

Your textbook is linked to a great online learning platform, where you will practice grammar, vocabulary, and other knowledge introduced in each chapter.

### Participation and Preparation (10%)

Regular attendance at all classes and active participation in all class activities is fundamental to language learning success. Students come prepared for class by completing the work assigned by their instructor.

## **Chapter Check-Ins (21% = 3x7%)**

At the end of each chapter in Sag Mal, you will complete a short online quiz at home. These will be available on Canvas for a period of 24 hours. The actual writing time for each quiz is 30 minutes. The Chapter Check-Ins are open book assignments. No LockDown Browser is required.

## **Oral Assessments (21% = 3x7%)**

Two times in the term, you will upload a) a text (60 words minimum) you've written in response to a prompt your instructor will give you, as well as b) a video of yourself reading or performing the text you've written. For the third assessment, you will schedule a short 10 minute conversation / presentation with your instructor at the end of term.

## **Listening Comprehension Challenges (21% = 3x7%)**

There will be a total of three listening comprehension tasks in a semester. You will have to respond to a set of basic comprehension questions, so you can track your listening comprehension over time. All three Listening Comprehension Challenges will be available on Canvas for a period of 24 hours.

## **Portfolio (10%)**

The portfolio is an ongoing document for your personal exploration with German. You will hand in contributions for the portfolio three times in the semester, and grade your progress yourself. More detailed info will be on Canvas!

***There are no traditional final exams or midterms in this course.***

## Assessments: What is a Listening Challenge?

There will be a total of three listening comprehension tasks in a semester. You will have to respond to a set of basic comprehension questions, so you can track your listening comprehension over time.

1. For the first listening challenge portion of this course, you will choose one song, video, audiotext, or episode of a show in German, and you'll send the title and url to the instructor via the Canvas assignment. There are no restrictions (i.e., the video may include subtitles). You will then answer each of the following questions:

- What five words and phrases did you pick up?
- What grammatical features did you notice, i.e., conjugated verb, pronoun, gender, plural? (List five, with their examples)
- What do you think the theme is? What are the speakers trying to convey?
- What would you like to understand better when you listen to this at the end of the semester? / What do you understand now better than you did at the beginning of the semester?

2. For the second listening challenge, you will watch a video. You have 30 minutes to answer the questions on Canvas. It is available to you for a period of 24 hours.

3. The third listening challenge will be a radio segment. You have 30 minutes to answer the questions on Canvas. It is available to you for a period of 24 hours.

## Assessments: What is a Portfolio?



The portfolio is a place for you to dynamically and creatively build your personal relationship with learning German, spanning the coming semesters and years. In our course, you will **choose three from the seven following prompts**. You will be interacting with these three prompts ongoingly throughout the term.

Each portfolio entry will be marked by **two components**: (1) research (follow the prompts) and (2) vocabulary (compile German vocabulary and phrases related to these prompts).

You will upload your work on Canvas three times per term, but the final grade will only be entered at the end of term. Additionally, you will self-grade these entries!

### (a) Culture + Media

**(1) Research:** Journal about a German artist, singer, speaker, or show from Spotify / Netflix / YouTube / TikTok. What do you find interesting about them? Don't worry about understanding everything they say. Just your reactions and feelings as you watch / listen are enough!

**(2) Vocabulary:** Each time you watch, see if you can pick up a new word. How can you remember it? Does it remind you of a word in a language you speak? How might you memorize the gender of that word? Can you think of a new sentence to put it in?

### (b) Career Life

**(1) Research:** Journal about how your German language learning can play into your life after university. As part of this prompt, you might schedule a conversation with a team member from the Centre for Student Involvement and Careers and journal your ongoing thoughts.

**(2) Vocabulary:** What kinds of phrases and sentences might you say in a German work setting, or job interview? How would you introduce yourself? How might you describe your work habits to a potential employer?

### (c) Machine Translation

**(1) Research:** Keep a journal where you input text into a MT platform and observe the results. What strikes you about the upsides and downsides of machine translation in the real world?

**(2) Vocabulary:** What kinds of words do you notice having clearer translations? Try to compile lists of types of words to compare. Are there words in the languages you speak that feel "untranslatable"?

### (d) Local Treasure Hunt

**(1) Research:** Visit three German-interest sites in Vancouver and journal about them: e.g. historical places such as Robson Strasse, Mount Pleasant's German Church, Altersheim, VWGS; companies

such as BMW, Mercedes, Audi, Deutsches Haus; or talk to German researchers working at UBC, e.g. Stefan Reinsberg.

**(2) Vocabulary:** See if you can practice asking a question or saying a phrase in German to someone you meet at one of these locations!

### **(e) Travel Guide**

**(1) Research:** Choose a German-speaking town/city anywhere in the world, and keep up with what's going on there over the course of the semester in real time. What do you like about it? How might you go about traveling there someday? Keep a journal of interesting details and insights.

**(2) Vocabulary:** How might you get around this city? What might you ask someone to help you find?

### **(f) Culture Today**

**1) Research:** Choose a Culture Today module to journal about throughout the semester. What more information can you find about this aspect of culture in Germany? How does it compare to where you come from? Try writing a story in German about someone with gender neutral pronouns.

**(2) Vocabulary:** Try writing a story in German about someone with gender neutral pronouns, or seeing how else you might use language that is new to you.

### **(g) Liebe\*r Freund\*in**

**1) Research:** Write an ongoing (three-part) Letter to an imaginary German friend, in which you express your hopes, desires, frustrations, experiences, and questions about learning German.

**(2) Vocabulary:** Each time you write to your friend, tell them about a new word you've learned, and what you like about it.

# Course Timeline: Our plan for this term

## Winter Session – Term I      September – December 2022

Week	<i>Sag mal</i> <i>Culture Today</i>	
September 5 – 11 (Labour Day)	Kapitel 1: <i>Hallo! Wie geht's?</i>	
September 12 – 18	Kapitel 1: <i>Hallo! Wie geht's?</i> Land Acknowledgements Hallo Deutschland!	
September 19 – 25	Kapitel 1: <i>Hallo! Wie geht's?</i>	
Sept. 26 – October 2 (Truth and Reconciliation)	Kapitel 1: <i>Hallo! Wie geht's?</i> Inclusive Language - Pronouns	<b>Check-In 1</b> Monday, October 3
October 3 – 9	Kapitel 2: <i>Schule und Studium</i>	
October 10 – 16 (Thanksgiving Day)	Kapitel 2: <i>Schule und Studium</i>	
October 17 – 23	Kapitel 2: <i>Schule und Studium</i>	
October 24 – 30	Kapitel 2: <i>Schule und Studium</i>	<b>Check-In 2</b> Friday, October 28 <sup>th</sup>
Oct. 31 – November 6	Kapitel 3: <i>Familie und Freunde</i> Relationships and Families	
November 7 – 13 (Remembrance Day)	Kapitel 3: <i>Familie und Freunde</i> Inclusive Language - Possessive Adjectives <b>Midterm Break: November 09 – 11</b>	
November 14 – 20	Kapitel 3: <i>Familie und Freunde</i> Gender-neutral language divides Germany	
November 21 – 27	Kapitel 3: <i>Familie und Freunde</i> Diversity in Germany	
Nov. 28 – December 4	Assessments, Review German Colonies in Africa	
December 5 – 7	Final Class on December 6th	<b>Check-In 3</b> Monday, December 5
December 11 – 22	Formal Examination Period	<b>Final Portfolio Due:</b> Date set by instructor

## Sich Wohl Fühlen: Taking care of yourself in Germ 100

We know that it isn't easy to learn a language. But it can be fun and joyful, and it is definitely important. Being able to actually speak a language—rather than just reading it off a machine translation platform—opens you up to new friendships, knowledge, opportunities, and worlds.

Here are some tips for how we can make this term a good one.

- Make a friend! Introduce yourself to a student or two who sit nearby, or by posting on the Canvas discussion forum. This way, if one of you comes down with a cold and has to miss class, you can help each other by e.g. sharing notes.
- Start a WhatsApp Group, a Spotify music page, or a class instagram. Just for fun! Having a community helps the learning along!
- Contact your instructor if you're feeling ill and cannot attend class or finish a homework assignment on time. If there is an assessment that day, we will make alternate arrangements.
- Find a favourite song in German and memorize the lyrics so you can sing along! You can even join the **German singing hour** and sing with other students.



## Career Readiness

Learning German doesn't mean you need to pursue a job in a German-speaking place. Lots of jobs and careers will prompt you to draw on what you learn in language and culture classes—often in unpredictable ways! It is never too early (or too late) to start imagining the different ways your language learning and your career might intersect to cultivate your long-term intellectual and personal satisfaction.

If you'd like a thought partner to help you envision these possibilities, you can continue this conversation with an advisor at the Centre for Student Involvement and Careers (advising appointments and workshop registration are available through [CareersOnline](#)).





## UBC Policies and Resources

The following policies and procedures are considered part of the class syllabus and policy.

UBC [Attendance](#) Policy  
Applying for [Academic Concession](#)  
[UBC's Academic Code of Honour](#)  
UBC's current [COVID-19](#) Policy  
[Resources to support Student Success](#)  
[Accommodations for Religious Holidays and Days of Significance](#)  
[Using Online Netiquette](#)  
[Use of Electronic Devices at UBC](#)  
[Center for Accessibility](#): Support for Disabled Students

UBC Calendar Entry for this course: "Introduction to the language. Ability to communicate accurately in a variety of everyday situations."

## Interested in Majoring, Minorng, or taking another class in the German department?

There is so much to explore after German 100! Courses range from culture and film studies, to literature and historiography, philosophy and language, sexuality and gender, media, activism, and society.

Our professors are experts in fields ranging from Comics and Games studies and Queer Studies and Critical Race Theory. Our Honours students participate in community and capstone projects, including our annual undergraduate research conference and journal.

### **Courses offered in Term 2 include:**

GERM 411: Exploring German Colonialism: Ending the Silence (Dr. Uma Kumar)

GERM 121: German Fairytales and Popular Culture (Dr. Biz Nijdam)

GERM 304: Sexuality and Weimar Cinema (Dr. Ervin Malakaj)

GERM 412: Waste Media (Dr. Ilinca Iuraşcu)

These courses require no prerequisites. And don't worry! Many courses in UBC German are taught in English. Your new German knowledge will be a bonus!

Questions? Reach out to the instructors or to the director of undergraduate studies, Dr. Ervin Malakaj, [ervin.malakaj@ubc.ca](mailto:ervin.malakaj@ubc.ca)! He is a joy to be around and would love to chat with you.

You can also check out more information about courses offered this term and next on our Instagram [@ubcgermanstudies](https://www.instagram.com/ubcgermanstudies).

## German Program Learning Outcomes

### The German Program helps you to...

- Experience and contribute to our multilingual world
- Recognize how multilingual meanings impact people and processes—in complex, subtle, and profound ways
- Describe how monolingualism and linguistic nativism intersect with racism, nationalism, classism, ableism, and other forms of oppression

### Undo the effects of monolingualism, Anglocentrism, and linguistic nativism

- describe the means by which knowledge is made in diverse Germanophone contexts—including collaborative, historical, methodological, linguistic, social, aesthetic, creative, technological, material, and political processes
- interpret texts and narratives using various literary, linguistic, and multimodal frameworks
- help undo colonial processes of knowledge production—both those arising from Germanophone colonial modernity and in Canada's colonial past and present

### Know—from a multilingual, Germanophone standpoint

- Speak, read, and write in German creatively and confidently, taking pride in the accents and heritage language proficiencies you came to the program with (English, German, Mandarin, Persian, Cree, etc.)
- Work across languages—through translation, interpretation, code-mixing, assistive technology, etc.
- Understand that language is constantly changing amid social and historical fluid

### Enjoy using German—with confidence

- Express what it means for you to be alive and human today
- Express what responsibilities you have to other people, communities, land, and ecologies
- Identify the complexities of historical, sociopolitical, and cultural processes that particularly affect German-speaking people and places

### Live in a volatile age

- Identify and describe how power works in the settings that matter to you and your communities
- Describe Germanophone societies' specific responsibility to redress genocide, eugenics, Nazism, colonialism, settler colonialism, and the ongoing effects of empire
- Use resources from cultural history and experiences of crisis from the 20th century and before to pursue justice and responsibility in the 21st century
- critique propaganda, linguistic deceit, obfuscation, linguistic racism, elitism, authoritarianism, hate, exclusionary purism, and various forms of fascism in linguistic, visual, and symbolic form

## **Aim for planetary justice & public responsibility**

- Strive to comprehend beyond your own personal experience and standpoint, through processes of listening, reflecting, conceptualization, analysis, and translation
- View knowledge and language as a commons, rather than a possession
- Identify the difference between the use of language and knowledge to manipulate or gain power over others, and the use of language to uplift and nourish others
- Identify how your experiences shape you differently than do those of a person of another gender, sexuality, race, religion, background, immigration status, ethnicity, language, accent, embodiment, age, language, and worldview

## **Model intellectual humility**