

WILLKOMMEN BEI LEARNING GERMAN 6! GERN 302



LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

UBC Vancouver is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the xwməθkwə́yəm (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. Here is how you might do so in German:

Die UBC Vancouver befindet sich auf dem **traditionellen** angestammten und nicht abgetretenen **Territorium** des xwməθkwə́yəm (Musqueam) **Volkes**. Das **Land**, auf dem der **Campus** liegt, war immer und ist bis heute ein Ort des **Lernens** für die Musqueam, die hier über **Jahrtausende** ihre **Kultur**, Geschichte und Traditionen von einer **Generation** zur nächsten weitergegeben haben.

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!

Where did you grow up? Have you traveled anywhere recently? Check out native-land.ca for an introduction to the territory of the Indigenous peoples in the regions of the world most familiar to you.



WHEN & WHERE

Meetings:

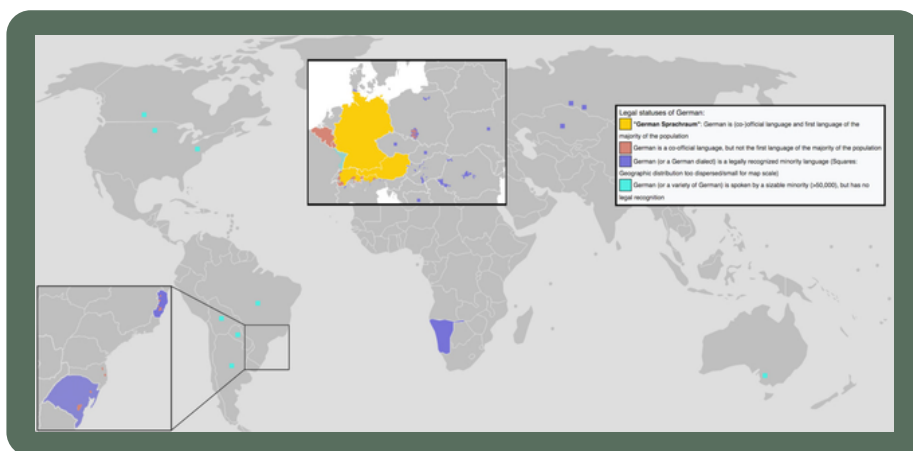
Winter Term 1 2023-24

MonWed: 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM in BUTO-997

Mon & Wed: 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM

Location: See SISC / Workday Student

GERN 301 requires GERM 210/GERN 202 as a prerequisite. If you have some knowledge of German or are unsure of your level, please send an e-mail to Biz Nijdam ubc.german@ubc.ca!



YOUR INSTRUCTOR

Dr. Elizabeth "Biz" Nijdam

Department of Central, Eastern, and Northern European Studies
(CENES, "seh-ness")

Office hours:

Wednesday 11 AM–12 PM in person (BuTo 905)
and online by appointment

How best to contact me:

biz.nijdam@ubc.ca



Hi! My name is Dr. Biz Nijdam. I've taught German language, media, and popular culture at UBC since 2019. I'm not a native speaker, but I began learning German in first-year university at UVic. I received my PhD from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor in 2017, where I wrote my PhD on feminist comics and graphic narrative.

For more info: <https://cenes.ubc.ca/profile/biz-nijdam/>

WHAT WE'LL NEED:

1) Digital access to the textbook DENK MAL!

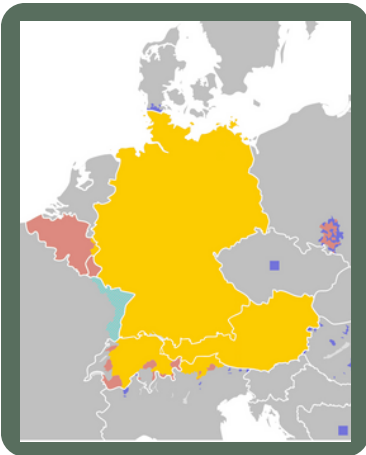
An Introduction to German Language and Culture. 4th Student Edition, by Christine Anton & Tobias Barske. Student Package with Online Access Code to **Supersite Plus** (SSPlus) and Web Student Activities Manual (wSAM)

- *Denk Mal!* is available through the UBC Bookstore in a digital or loose-leaf format. Both formats include either a 5- or 18-month access code to Supersite, the online platform integrated with the *Denk Mal* materials. The German Language Program uses all of the *Denk Mal* textbook through GERN 301 and GERN 302.



2) CANVAS will be used for accessing additional course material and initiating discussions. To log in to Canvas and learn more visit: <https://students.canvas.ubc.ca>. You can direct all technical questions to the Learning Technology Hub: lt.hub@ubc.ca.

WHAT WE'LL LEARN



This course is designed to **bring you closer to language and cultural proficiency**. You will continue gaining **familiarity with study resources and skills** and **review and expand your knowledge of grammatical structures**.

With your peers, you will **consistently practice and develop speaking and listening skills**.

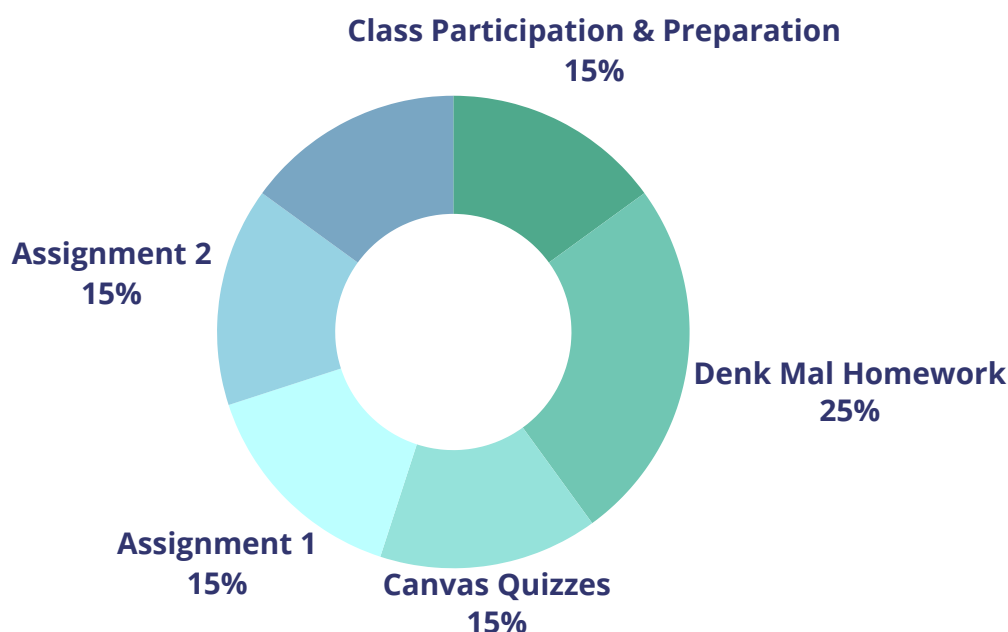
You will be supported as you **take the next steps in your language journey** and continue **becoming more comfortable with expressing yourself in spoken and written German**.

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.



Class Participation and Preparation (15%)

To be successful in this course, you must be prepared to attend class regularly and to participate actively in all assigned class activities. Class sessions typically consist of brief lectures and various student-centred class activities. Class activities include whole-class discussions, partner/small group in-class projects, and short in-class presentations of group project results. Partner/small group projects include analytical and creative tasks such as brainstorming ideas, discussions, interviews, roleplays, etc. Class preparation involves reading short texts, pre-viewing short films, and answering preparatory questions.

Grammar Review (Denk Mal Homework, 25%) and Canvas Quizzes (15%)

Grammar Review and Expansion will be conducted primarily as guided self-study online via *Denk Mal's Supersite*. There will be brief grammar lectures in class, but you will practice the structures independently by completing the exercises assigned in Supersite (15%) and by taking five timed grammar quizzes on Canvas (15%).

The **Canvas quizzes** are meant to measure your progress and check in with what needs more work. The Supersite exercises are set to allow unlimited attempts (wherever possible). The highest grades achieved by the deadline will be recorded. The Canvas quizzes will be available for a period of 3 days. Each quiz has a time limit of 20 minutes and may only be attempted once. The quizzes will be open-book, so you may make use of textbooks/dictionaries/grammar tables and other print or electronic study aids during the quiz. However, the quizzes are to be completed individually, without the assistance of another person.

CHILDREN'S BOOK 15%

In groups of 2, students will collaboratively create a piece of children's literature. Students are welcome to draw the images or find them on the internet through copyright-free sources, such as [Unsplash](#) or the free media resources listed [here](#). Groups should select a topic that is politically or socially engaged and is meaningful in the German-speaking world right now. You will collaboratively research, write and compile this children's book in German.

PRACTICAL SKITS FOR GERMAN LIVING 15%

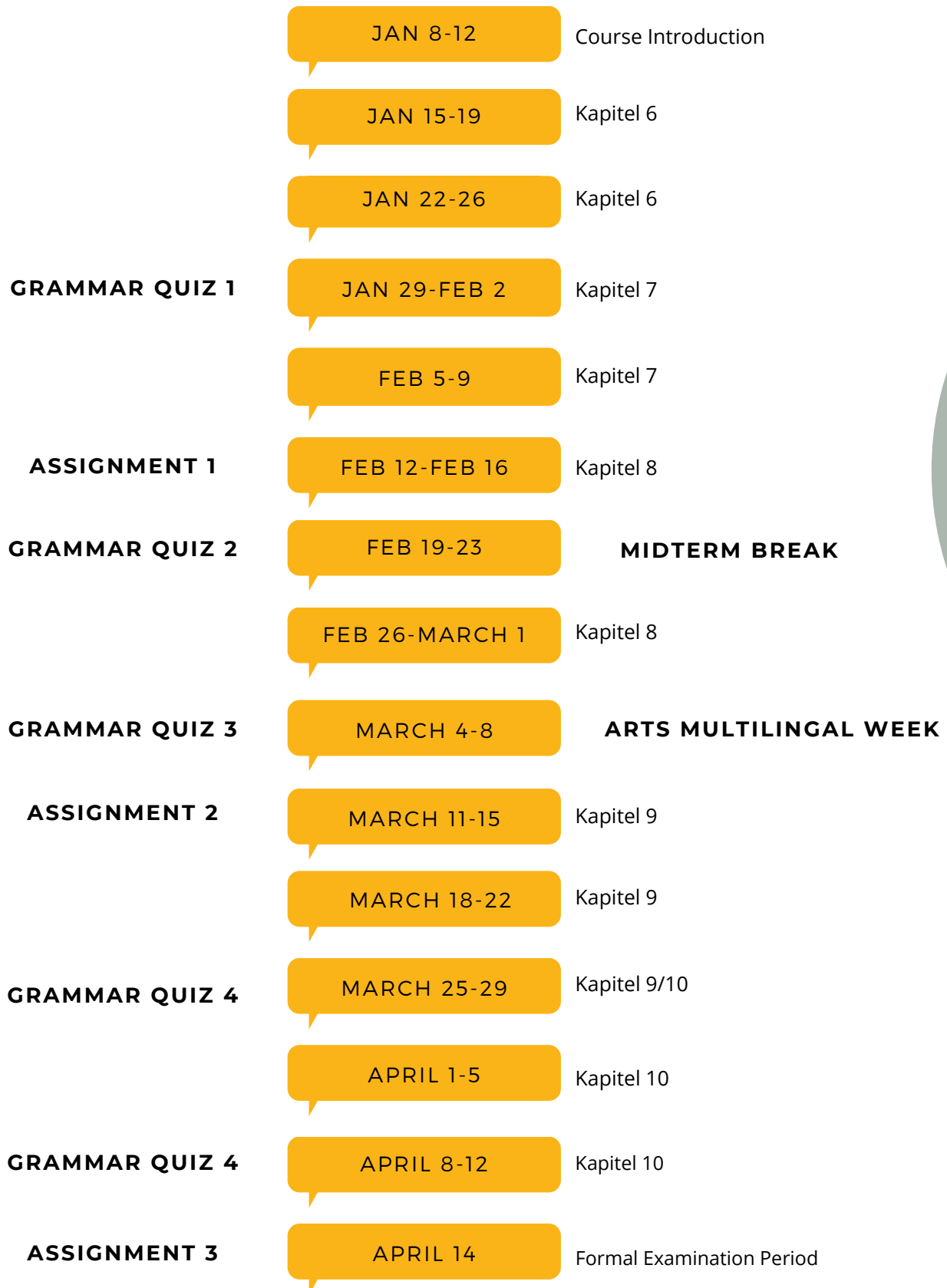
In Groups of 3, students will research, write and perform a skit of a practical everyday situation in Germany or another German-speaking place. Skits will be 5-7 minutes each and will be researched, written, and performed in German. Possible themes include: Dating in German, *Anmeldung* and Visiting the *Bürgeramt*, Transportation/Getting Caught on the UBahn without a Ticket, Visiting the Doctor/Trying to Get a Prescription Filled, etc.

PRODUCE A 12-MINUTE COOKING SHOW 15%

In Groups of 3, students will research, write and perform one episode of the GERN 302 cooking show. In addition to creating a dish or baked good and instructing viewers on the process in German, students will talk about the history and culture of the dish, educating viewers on some element of German, Austrian, or Swiss food culture. You will collaboratively research, write and produce this episode in German.

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

OUR PLAN FOR THE TERM



SICH WOHL FÜHLEN: TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF IN GERM200

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 beginning 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 favorite 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.

UBC POLICIES AND HELPFUL RESOURCES:

The following policies and procedures are considered part of the class syllabus and policy. Feel free to talk them over with your instructor!

[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:

"Competence and fluency in everyday situations; ability to report and narrate past events fluently and to express opinions; familiarity with contemporary issues in the German-speaking societies."

HMM... WHAT ABOUT A MAJOR OR MINOR IN GERMAN?

There is so much to explore after German 200! 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.

2023/24 GMST Courses



GMST 427: **Decolonization in the German-Speaking World** (T2) (Dr. Uma Kumar & Dr. David Gramling)



GMST 345: **Germanic Horror Film** (T2) (Dr. Jason Lieblang)



GMST 274: **The Frankfurt School** (T1) (Dr. Ilinca Iurașcu)

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

Questions? Reach out to your instructor or to the director of undergraduate studies, Dr. Ervin Malakaj, 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.

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
- 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

Undoing 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

Knowing—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

Enjoying using German—with confidence

Living and being alive 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

Aiming 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

Modelling intellectual humility

