



The University of British Columbia
Department of Central, Eastern and Northern European Studies
GERN 304 (3) (former GERM 433) GERMAN FOR READING KNOWLEDGE
SYLLABUS WS 2023-2024 (minor adjustments possible)

Land Acknowledgement

UBC's Point Grey Campus 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.

All GERN 304 (3) (former GERM 433) sections are taught synchronously online in ZOOM. For GERN 304 (3) section details, i. e. days & times, please go to the UBC CENES website <https://vancouver.calendar.ubc.ca/course-descriptions/subject/germ>



Title: GERN 304 (3) (former GERM 433) German for Reading Knowledge – Pathways to Reading German

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Efforts will be made to reply to emails within 36 hrs. except for weekends.

PREREQUISITES

PREREQUISITES: No prerequisite, no textbook, NO FORMAL FINAL EXAM! Only a hard copy dictionary is needed.

Please note: GERN 304 (3) (former GERM 433) is restricted to beginners or to students with no more than one term of beginner's German (GERN 101, former GERM 100 or equivalent). If you have already taken German courses beyond GERN 101, (former GERM 100), please talk to your instructor.

GERN 304 (former GERM 433) is not available for credit toward a Major or Honors program in German and does not satisfy the language requirement of the Faculty of Arts.

ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING *(minor adjustments may be possible)*

Grade Breakdown

<i>i-Clicker Activities</i>	5%
Online <i>Übungen</i> (exercises) in 20 EXPLRATIONS (chapters)	25%
2 Practice Tests, (3 Attempts highest count)	15%
Test 1	10%
Test 2	15%
Reflections	10%
Final Reading Assignment	20%

For details, please see page 5.

COURSE OVERVIEW

GERN 304 (former GERM 433), *Pathways to Reading German* is an interactive online guided self-study German for Reading Knowledge course. The course contains a wide range of authentic reading material that is of interest to students in the Humanities, Arts, Social Sciences and Sciences. The **GERN 304 (former GERM 433)** classes will take place synchronously online on ZOOM and will be complemented with asynchronous online learning activities. Students are expected to regularly log on to the scheduled synchronous class sessions.

The teaching and learning contexts are diverse and the program is cost-effective since the course material ***Pathways to Reading German*** and any additional resources are integrated in **GERN 304 (former GERM 433)**, on the UBC CANVAS Learning Management Platform.

The reading program focuses on developing the necessary skills to read a variety of authentic German texts such as excerpts from scholarly texts, essays, reports, interviews, newspaper/newsmagazine articles, table of contents, maps, charts etc. The selection of material includes also a wide range of links to secondary sources to further promote and expand on intercultural learning and the development of an international awareness that go beyond the course material.

The course differs from usual in-class language instruction in that the format is characterized by traditional lectures in combination with the review of the assigned reading material, selected online *Übungen* (exercises) and i-Clicker activities on UBC CANVAS. These activities are followed by a question and answer sessions online.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students will:

- develop a variety of strategies and acquire reading skills in German to apply in their own discipline or research field, or individual area of interest
- develop and understand necessary grammatical and syntactical concepts for reading and comprehending German texts
- develop and expand on reading vocabulary according to the theme of a given text
- write summaries in English of selected German text excerpts
- enhance their understanding of intercultural and international awareness in the context of reading German texts and researching of secondary sources.

COURSE ORGANIZATION & LEARNING ACTIVITIES

GERN 304 (former GERM 433), *Pathways to Reading German* is organized in **20 Explorations** which are located in the Module area on the UBC CANVAS platform. Each **Exploration** is organized in a number of **Sections** which introduce a new topic with texts, concepts and exercises (i. e. *Übungen*). The suggested self-study approach is to work through 1-2 Explorations on average per week.

The *Übungen* are located in the EXPLORATIONS in the Module area on UBC CANVAS. They include online activities such as Multiple Choice, True False, Fill in the Blanks, Fill in Multiple Blanks, Multiple Answers, Multiple Dropdowns, Matching, Essay Questions. These *Übungen* ensure that students engage and stay engaged in a meaningful way by completing the tasks and activities when working through the online program. The online *Übungen* can be repeated and reviewed multiple times throughout the course.

At the end of each Exploration there is a *Reflection* and an *Application* section.

In the *Reflection* section students review the structures, strategies and grammar that has been introduced. In the *Application* section students apply and practice in a new context what has been introduced in that Exploration.

Most Exploration also include a vocabulary list referring to the topic of the Exploration. Students are free to add any words they consider important. There are also some Explorations where students are asked to develop their own vocabulary list with words they consider important or useful.

Further details in regard to the online Explorations on CANVAS are demonstrated in three videos. They are located on the GERN 304-102 homepage in **Videos: How to navigate the GERN 304** (former GERM 433) **Explorations on CANVAS**.

The online program will give students more flexibility with respect to the organization of their study time since the course material including all *Übungen* and answer keys are accessible at any time.

LEARNING MATERIALS

The **GERN 304** (former GERM 433) online German reading program *Pathways to Reading German* embedded on UBC CANVAS.

A reliable dictionary such as 9780061998621 COLLINS GERMAN CONCISE DICTIONARY 5TH ED \$24.99; **or**

9780008241377 COLLINS GERMAN DICTIONARY AND GRAMMAR \$24.99; **or**

9780199663125 COMPACT OXFORD GERMAN DICTIONARY 5/E, \$14.95 available on amazon.com German dictionaries or in the UBC Bookstore.

A hardcopy dictionary is needed for online assessments that require Lock Down Browser see <https://isit.arts.ubc.ca/respondus-lockdown-browser/>. It also contains a helpful grammar section.

Except for assessments, students are allowed to resort to other suitable electronic devices and resources in their learning activities, e. g. online dictionaries such as: <https://www.dict.cc/>; LEO: <https://dict.leo.org/german-english/>; PONS: <https://de.pons.com/>

Optional

English Grammar for Students of German: The Study Guide for Those Learning German: Zorach, Cecile, Melin, Charlotte: 9780934034388: Books - Amazon.ca.

Online Grammar Sites:

1. A Review of German Grammar by Bruce Duncan

<http://www.dartmouth.edu/~deutsch/Grammatik/Grammatik.html>

2 . The Internet Handbook of German Grammar:

<http://www.travlang.com/languages/german/ihgg/>

3. German grammar on the Web:

<http://www.arts.uwaterloo.ca/~skidmore/grammarpage.htm>

REQUIRED TECHNICAL MATERIALS

The following technical equipment is required for all students in GERN 304 (former GERM 433).

1. **A reliable computer with camera**
2. **Reliable access to the internet**
3. **A browser that supports the viewing of videos and listening to audio file**

All questions and problems regarding technical equipment should be directed to the Learning Technology Hub: lt.hub@ubc.ca, <https://web.it.ubc.ca/forms/isf/> If you encounter technical issues while using *Canvas*, please contact the UBC Information Technology Service Centre for assistance, using their [online form](#). For more general information see:

<https://keeplearning.ubc.ca/>

ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING (*minor adjustments may be possible*)

PRACTICE TESTS

Students will prepare for test 1, test 2 by way of a practice test (7%/8%; **15% total**). The practice tests can be considered as a “blueprint” for the actual unit tests in terms of topic, length of text and type of tasks, (approx. 190-200 words). The practice tests are available on UBC CANVAS and have to be written in **Lockdown Browser**. Students will have **three attempts** of **60 minutes** each. The highest attempt will count.

TEST 1 (10%):

Test 1 will cover materials from **Exploration 1** up to **Exploration 7**. **Students will write TEST 1 on ZOOM with camera on. Students are only to use a hardcopy dictionary and also no additional electronic devices or notes.** Students will have **one** attempt and 60 minutes to complete the test.

TEST 2 (15%):

Test 2 will cover materials from **Exploration 8** up to **Exploration 16**. **Students will write TEST 2 on ZOOM with camera on. Students are only to use a hardcopy dictionary and also no additional electronic devices or notes.** Students will have **one** attempt and 60 minutes to complete the test.

REFLECTIONS (10%):

The reflections will take a “snapshot” of the Explorations and activities, (i.e. Übungen & i-clicker activities) covered up to Exploration 18. They are a preparation for the Final Reading Assignment in terms of type of tasks, content and grammar questions.

Students will write the **REFLECTIONS on ZOOM with camera on**. Students are only to use a hardcopy dictionary and also no additional electronic devices or notes. Students will have **one** attempt and 30 minutes to complete the REFLECTIONS.

FINAL READING ASSIGNMENT (20%):

At the end of the course student will complete a **Final Reading Assignment** online in **LOCKDOWN BROWSER** that will cover the material from all the EXPLORATIONS in the online program *Pathways to Reading German* and **will replace the formal final exam**. It has the same format and type of tasks as the previous Practice Tests, Unit tests and the *Übungen* in the EXPLORATIONS.

The Final Reading Assignment will be available for 24 hours after the end of the course. During that time students can log on at their convenience and will have one attempt and 120 minutes (2 hours) to complete the final reading assignment online in Lockdown Browser.

The grading criteria are consistent with the criteria established by the Faculty of Arts.

Please see: <http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,42,96,0>

PLEASE NOTE: Students who qualify for an extension on the length of the writing time will be accommodated.

They must contact the Center for Accessibility <https://students.ubc.ca/about-student-services/centre-for-accessibility> and inform their instructor and submit the documentation in a timely fashion

GERN 304 Course Schedule (*minor adjustments possible*)

WEEK	EXPLORATION and TOPIC	TESTS (<i>details t. b. a.</i>)
Week 1:	EXPLORATION 1 Introduction: Easy Access to Texts EXPLORATION 2 Foundation and First Orientation	
Week 2:	EXPLORATION 3 Deutschland im Überblick EXPLORATION 4 Berlin: Past and Present	
Week 3:	EXPLORATION 5 Umwelt, Klima und Energie EXPLORATION 6 Einwanderer und Neuankömmlinge in Deutschland	
Week 4:	EXPLORATION 7 Bildung und Studium EXPLORATION 8 Menschenrechte	PRACTICE Test 1
Week 5:	EXPLORATION 9 Europa und die Europäische Union INTRO.: EXPLORATION 10 Weltsprache Musik	TEST 1
Week 6:	CONT.: EXPLORATION 10 Weltsprache Musik EXPLORATION 11 Einstein und die Verantwortung der Wissenschaft	
Week 7:	EXPLORATION 12 Gebrüder Grimm – Rotkäppchen EXPLORATION 13 Entwicklung der Massenmedien	
Week 8:	EXPLORATION 14 Martin Luther und die deutsche Sprache EXPLORATION 15 Ein originales Rezept	
Week 9:	EXPLORATION 16 Friedrich Schiller- Wilhelm Tell INTRO.: EXPLORATION 17 Immanuel Kant: Sesshafter Weltbürger und Aufklärer	PRACTICE Test 2
Week 10:	CONT.: EXPLORATION 17 Immanuel Kant: Sesshafter Weltbürger und Aufklärer	TEST 2
Week 11:	EXPLORATION 18 Digitales Lesen	
Week 12:	EXPLORATION 19 Emotionen: Auf der Suche nach dem Gefühl	REFLECTIONS
Week 13:	EXPLORATION 20 Deutsche Hochschulen - Das Studieren	
Week 14:	Last Class --- REVIEW---	
	The Final Reading Assignment	The Final Reading Assignment

GERM 433 COURSE POLICIES

Tests, Exams, and Make-Up Exams

Tests, quizzes and exams are to be taken on the day set by either your instructor, the program coordinator or by General Faculties Council. In accordance with UBC policy, students who wish to observe a religious holiday must notify their instructor two weeks in advance of the religious holiday they wish to observe. **For further details, see CENES Course policies** <https://cenes.ubc.ca/undergraduate/advising/cenes-course-policies/> and **UBC Campus-wide Policies and Regulations** <https://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,289,0,0>

Use of Electronic Devices

When writing online tests or exams in the German Reading Program students are permitted to consult only a conventional hardcopy German-English dictionary but no other additional electronic aids and devices or notes. However, computers, cell phones and other electronic devices can be used as needed or required for learning and instruction-related activities.

UNIVERSITY COURSE POLICIES & STUDENT RESOURCES

Attendance

In accordance with UBC Policies and Regulations, students are expected to attend class regularly and to be on time, please see <https://vancouver.calendar.ubc.ca/campus-wide-policies-and-regulations/attendance>.

If you miss a class because of illness:

- Make a connection early in the term to another student or a group of students in the class. You can help each other by sharing notes. If you don't yet know anyone in the class, post on the discussion forum to connect with other students.
- Consult the class resources on *Canvas*.
- Use the discussion forum for help.
- Attend office hours. They will be held on ZOOM and also by appointment.
- If you are concerned that you will miss a key activity due to illness or an emergency, contact your instructor as soon as possible.

Concessions for Absence: Those students who are absent from scheduled classes should report the reason for their absence to their instructor immediately by way of email and the Student-Self-Declaration-Form-1.6-Arts.pdf.

<https://www.arts.ubc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/24/2019/10/Student-Self-Declaration-Form-1.6-Arts.pdf>

Students may be granted concession for their absence either by their instructor or, in the case of an extended absence, by the Academic Advising Services of the Faculty of Arts:

<https://students.air.arts.ubc.ca/academic-concession-form/>

Learning Commons

<http://learningcommons.ubc.ca/resource-guides/avoiding-plagiarism/>

Student Resources

On the homepage of GERN 304 (former GERM 433) you will find useful links under **Student Resources**.

UBC Learning Commons Tech Support <https://learningcommons.ubc.ca/tech-support/>.

Student IT Help desk site <https://students.ok.ubc.ca/academic-success/learning-hub/tech-support-for-online-learning/>.

A UBC Student's Guide to Canvas <https://lthub.ubc.ca/guides/canvas-student-guide/>

UBC's Keep Learning Site <https://keeplearning.ubc.ca/>.

[UBC Get Support Site https://students.ubc.ca/support.](https://students.ubc.ca/support)

Academic Honesty and Standards

Academic honesty is essential to the continued functioning of the University of British Columbia as an institution of higher learning and research. All UBC students are expected to behave as honest and responsible members of an academic community. Breach of those expectations or failure to follow the appropriate policies, principles, rules, and guidelines of the University with respect to academic honesty may result in disciplinary action.

(see: <http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/Vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,286,0,0>)

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