



German 1
Syllabus - 2025 - 2026

Kap Elliott

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Availability: Yellow, Pink, Orange, After School

Course Description:

In German I, students learn basic vocabulary, essential phrases and grammatical structures as the first step towards communication in German. Cultural topics include: free time activities, sports, shopping, holidays and school life in Germany. Classroom work includes oral practice, student dialogs and interviews, songs, and other types of active participation. Homework is assigned on a daily basis and special projects are assigned periodically. Level I - The teacher will speak the target language for 75% of the class period or more. Students are expected to speak the target language for the entirety of their speaking activities in class.

Course Outline:

<u>Quarter 1</u> Alles über mich (All about me)	<u>Quarter 2</u> Meine Familie (My family)	<u>Quarter 3</u> Mein Schulleben (My school life)	<u>Quarter 4</u> Freizeit & Sport (Freetime & sports)
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Primary Resources:

- Google Classroom
- German-only Binder - we do NOT have a textbook for this class
- Online Resources such as: dict.cc, Quizlet, & Gimkit

Grade Breakdown:

Semester Grade	Practice	Formative	Summative
90%	10%	20%	70%
10%	Semester Exam		

Grading Scale:

Grade	Percent	Grade	Percent	Grade	Percent
A+	97-100	B	83-86	C-	70-72
A	93-96	B-	80-82	D+	67-69
A-	90-92	C+	77-79	D	63-66
B+	87-89	C	73-76	D-	60-62
F Below 60					

Late Work/Missing Work Policy:

Mukwonago Area Schools believes that feedback is an integral component to student success in teaching and learning. Mukwonago High School expects that all students will turn in work by the intended due date to receive full credit and necessary feedback. Students will have the opportunity to turn in practice and formative assessments up to 2 school days late to receive partial credit.

- **Full Credit:** Students *might* receive full credit if the practice or formative assessment is turned in on the due date.
- **Partial Credit:** Students will receive partial credit if the practice or formative assessment is turned in up to two school days after the due date.
- **Zero Credit:** practice or formative assessment can be turned in past the two days to remain eligible for reassessment; however, no credit will be given.
- There will be **no extra credit** opportunities provided.

Assessment Policy:

Assessments are used to measure student learning of essential learning standards within a unit of instruction.

Cumulative Assessments (Ex. Projects, Essays, Presentations, Semester Exams): These end of unit assessments are final products of learning in which students have had several opportunities to make adjustments based on feedback. Retakes are not provided for these types of end of unit assessments. ***Not eligible for retake**

Summative Assessments (Ex. Test): This end of unit assessment uses various types of questions that students have studied but not previously seen. ***Eligible for retake**

Students are eligible to reassess if the following criteria are met:

1. Practice and formative assignments for the unit have been completed and turned in prior to the summative assessment
2. Student meets with their teacher to schedule a reassessment, go through corrections from original assessment and provide proof of extra practice (3 activities) to prepare for retest
3. Student demonstrates relearning within 2 weeks of receiving the original assessment
4. The reassessment grade will replace the original summative grade, regardless if the new grade is lower than the original assessment.

Materials/Supplies needed:

- ☐ Charged device
- ☐ Pencil / Pen / Highlighter
- ☐ Notebook or Looseleaf Lined Paper
- ☐ 3-Ring Binder (1" or 1.5") - German ONLY
- ☐ (Optional) Kleenex to donate to the classroom



Expectations & Classroom Conduct:

Be Respectful

Be supportive of other students' attempts at learning a new language.

Be aware of others' perspectives, experiences, and beliefs and appreciate cultural differences.

Practice good listening skills and be attentive to the speaker.

Be Engaged

Cell phones are out of sight, earbuds are stored away.

Have German-only class materials (vocab + notes) out on desk to start every class.

Strive to speak in German throughout the entire class period.

Be Responsible

Come to class with organized binder and homework completed individually.

Check Google Classroom and the in-class absent folder when absent (before checking with the teacher).

Reflect upon your own responsibility and role in learning a new language.

Be Safe

Check your desk and surrounding area underneath for garbage before leaving the classroom.

Remain inside the classroom and away from the door until the tone dismisses you.

Stay on appropriate websites that are pertinent to class activities.

If you are absent:

- Check Google Classroom before you arrive to your next German class
- Check the color-coded folder by the SMARTBoard for any missed handouts.
- If still confused or unsure, please wait to ask questions until after I have started class.

Tardiness will be tracked in Infinite Campus (IC), and the following steps will be taken for each occurrence:

- 1st Tardy: Verbal warning
- 2nd Tardy: 10-minute detention with the teacher (must be served within 2 days) and parent contact; administration will be notified through Educlimber.
- 3rd Tardy: Teacher will submit an IC office referral. Administration will meet with the student, assign an after-school detention, and contact the parent.
- 4th +: The teacher will submit an office referral in Infinite Campus (IC), and administration will determine appropriate consequences at their discretion.

Academic Honesty:

The Mukwonago Area School District emphasizes the importance of academic honesty and integrity as essential to education. Students are expected to complete and represent their work truthfully and are held accountable for academic misconduct, including cheating, plagiarism, and misuse of artificial intelligence. Teachers review the academic honesty policy at the start of each course. Consequences for dishonesty vary by offense: the **first offense** results in a zero on the assessment, parent contact, administrative review, and permanent ineligibility for National Honor Society; the **second offense** leads to another zero, a parent meeting with administration, and ineligibility for valedictorian or salutatorian honors; a **third offense** results in withdrawal from the course with a failing grade or audit status, and loss of honors pass privileges.

Department Translator Usage Policy

Students are provided with extensive vocabulary lists, notes, and resources in class that can be used to complete their assignments, therefore, online translators are unnecessary and actually hinder language acquisition. Students are encouraged to utilize their class resources and only rely on an online dictionary (such as dict.cc) to look up a word occasionally. As a world language department, we have decided on the following policy to ensure that our students are using the correct resources.

First offense: 1. Student will be asked to redo the translated portion of the assignment. 2. Student will not receive higher than a C on that assignment. 3. Student's parent/guardian will receive notification.	Second offense: 1. Student will receive an office referral. 2. Student will receive a zero for that assignment. 3. Student's parent/guardian and administrator will receive notification.
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Use of German in class

Goal: Speaking ONLY German **during speaking activities** and **as much as possible** during other class interactions. This means every interaction with your classmates, teacher, friends, etc. **from bell to bell**.

Grade: You will be assessed on your use of German in class on a bi-weekly basis.

Getting there: Here is what Kap does to help him stay in German, and what he recommends you do too!

- Keep current vocabulary lists and grammar notes out at all times for easy reference
- Full sentences are not always necessary, use enough words to get your point across
- Use hand gestures, facial expressions, actions
- Use cognates (words in German that look/sound similar to the English equivalent)
- Turn your brain into a "German only" mode when stepping through the classroom doorway
- Be patient and accept that you will make mistakes - everybody does!
- Use your resources - there are tons of phrases, words, and cues posted all around the classroom!



FINAL NOTE:

Cell Phones have been banned by the Mukwonago Area School District School Board and are not allowed in my classroom. In addition, smart watches, such as Apple watches, are not allowed in my German classroom. Airpods/earbuds will only be allowed on rare occasions and must be used with Chromebooks.

Students are expected to keep cell phones in their backpacks the entire hour.
Students are required to bring chromebooks and chargers daily!

All Mukwonago policies & procedures will be followed and enforced in this class as outlined in more detail in the [Mukwonago High School Student and Parent Handbook](#).