

FNLG 1501G - Conversational German 1

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 01, CRN 42899,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Rachel Faerber-Ovaska

Email: rofaerberovaska@ysu.edu

Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Dr. Rachel Faerber-Ovaska

Instructor Professional Qualifications: Doctorate in Language, Literacy, and Culture Education, University of Pittsburgh. MAT in Teaching French, Southern Oregon University. MA in Germanic Philology, the University of Jyväskylä, Finland. BA in History and German, Oberlin College.

Instructor Office Location: Cafaro Hall

Instructor Office Phone: 330-941-1535

Course Description

1501G. Conversational German 1. An introductory course focused on developing functional conversation skills. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Optional	No readings		

All written materials for this class are instructor-created and will be available to you for free in our Blackboard course. We will also consult public German-language and German-speaking-culture-related websites at times.

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Day	Date	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
Tue	8/25	Intro, Greetings, Alphabet	Weekly practice exercises/quiz (due by end of week)
Tue	9/1	German Language Basics (Formal vs. Informal "you"; noun genders)	Weekly practice exercises/quiz
Tue	9/8	Numbers 1–100, Telling Time	Weekly practice exercises/quiz Learning Journal 1 Speaking Padlet 1
Tue	9/15	Talking About Family, Possessive Adjectives	Weekly practice exercises/quiz
Tue	9/22	Using Adjectives to Describe Things; Colors	Weekly practice exercises/quiz
Tue	9/29	Talking About Food & Drink	Weekly practice exercises/quiz Cultural Inquiry Project, Step 1 (project proposal)
Tue	10/6	Im Café! Food and Drink, Part 2	Weekly practice exercises/quiz
Tue	10/13	Expressing Likes & Dislikes (gern haben, mögen)	Weekly practice exercises/quiz
Tue	10/20	Das Wetter: Talking About the Weather	Weekly practice exercises/quiz Learning Journal 2 Speaking Padlet 2 Cultural Inquiry Project, Step 2



Tue	10/27	Cultural Festivals and Traditions	Weekly practice exercises/quiz
Tue	11/3	University Life and Education OR Catch-Up	Weekly practice exercises/quiz
Tue	11/10	Mein Tag und meine Pläne - Daily Routine/ Plans	Weekly practice exercises/quiz
Tue	11/17	Negation (kein, nicht, niemand, nie)	Weekly practice exercises/quiz
Tue	11/24	Presentations Begin	Cultural Inquiry Project due (Step 3, completed version) In-class project presentations begin
Tue	12/1	Final Presentations & Semester Wrap-Up (last class meeting)	In-class project presentations Die Fete am Ende des Semesters! (optional in-person class meeting, with German snacks)
Tue	12/8	Final Exam Week - No class. No final exam: your cultural inquiry project is the final summative activity.	Learning Journal 3 Speaking Padlet 3

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.