



FACULTY-LED
STUDY ABROAD

KIIS Munich Program, Summer 2022

GERM 330 German Composition and Conversation

Instructor: Prof. Roxane Riegler

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Instructor's office hours: on site and by appointment

Syllabus subject to change

1. Course Description:

Practice in speaking and writing based on a variety of topics and materials.

In this course, you will improve your command of German grammar and stylistics by doing exercises and by writing a series of compositions and essays. You will apply your newly acquired grammatical and stylistic know-how through extended class discussions. You will develop concrete writing skills for a variety of writing tasks, based in part on our activities outside the classroom. The writing strategies aim to teach students not just to write correct German sentences and paragraphs, but to read and think critically, and write and speak convincingly, in German. We will focus on varied classroom activities, which promote the development of language use: brainstorming, group discussion, re-writing. There will be peer-editing and ample opportunity to rewrite your essays (process writing).

Since this is a study abroad summer class, you will have the opportunity to practice your German in the city, our “outside” classroom. Intensive Practice in speaking and writing based on our excursions, your interactions with native speakers in Munich and its surroundings. Communicative activities include shopping (e.g. Viktualienmarkt), interaction with all kinds of people.

Prerequisite(s): GERM 202 or equivalent

2. Overall KIIS Program Student Learning Outcomes:

KIIS Study Abroad Mission Statement:

KIIS provides high-quality education abroad programs for students from all diverse backgrounds that promote deep international learning, are integrated into the curriculum, and encourage critical and creative thinking. Our goal is to help students understand the wider world and develop personal and professional skills for lifelong enrichment. We strive to go beyond generalizations and cultural stereotypes to help foster a nuanced appreciation of the world in which we live.

Students participating on KIIS study abroad programs aim to:

- 1) Understand contemporary issues of their host country/countries (i.e. KIIS program location).
- 2) Develop skills to interact comfortably in a global setting.
- 3) Understand other cultures.

Prior to your KIIS study abroad program, and again at the conclusion of your program, KIIS will ask each student to a) answer a few multiple-choice questions, and b) write a short reflective essay (two paragraphs in length) related to the elements detailed above. There is no right or wrong answer, and your responses will not affect your grade in any way. The purpose of the exercise is to help KIIS measure the effectiveness of its study abroad programs.

3. Course Objectives and Specific Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the course you will be able to

- A. write sustained compositions and essays (narrative, descriptive, argumentative, etc.)
- B. demonstrate sensitivity to and to imitate and create various types of German prose compositions
- C. speak with more ease (narrate, describe, express opinions, etc.)
- D. critically reflect and judge in the light of evidence and argument orally and in writing
- E. discuss as well as put into practice grammatical rules and concepts
- F. demonstrate the ability to recognize and analyze grammatical and usage errors in own and others' writing and speaking (e.g. peer editing).
- G. deploy an appropriate range of vocabulary, structures and registers in writing and speaking.

4. Major Topics covered in the Course:

Speaking: Class and partner discussions, conducting interviews with native speakers, oral reports,

Writing: narration, biography of a person living in Munich, report, description, etc.

Grammar: occasional reviews, connected to content covered in class.

5. Required Readings and Materials:

Please purchase *schreiben lernen* before leaving the US.

- 1) Dykstra-Pruin; Jennifer Redman. *schreiben lernen. A Writing Guide for Learners of German*. New Haven and London, 2012.
ISBN-13: 978-0300166033
ISBN-10: 0300166036

This text will be purchased in Munich:

- 2) Felix & Theo. *Tödlicher Schnee*. München, 2013.
ISBN-13: 978-3-12-606444-6

The students' new host culture provides the laboratory as students interact with native speakers and the local area in the target language on a daily basis. The city of Munich is another excellent resource. There are also the texts, dictionaries, and other realia.

6. Graded Assignments:

Class preparation and participation: Your participation and readiness to discuss the day's topic depends on your preparation. This is a function of close reading and preparatory exercises of the chapter, and attentive engagement with class activities. **35%**

Written homework: Incorporates sentence-level and discourse-level tasks. **15 %**

Compositions: You will hand in one elaborate composition per chapter. **40 %**

Oral: Discussion with your instructor on one of the topics covered in class. **10%**

[Extra credit opportunities: maximum of 2%]

There will be no written final in this class.

- A – 90-100%
- B – 80-89.9%
- C – 70-79.9%
- D – 60-69.9%
- E – 0-59.9%

7. Attendance Policy:

KIIS program participants are expected to be punctual to and in attendance at all classes, presentations, meetings and required excursions, and to remain with the program for the full academic period. Unexcused absences from classes and/or mandatory meetings will result in a lowering of the student's final grade, as will excessive tardiness. Multiple unexcused absences could result in expulsion from the program. Any absence from an academic class session must be excused for medical reasons.

8. Disability Accommodation:

KIIS will make every reasonable effort to provide accommodations for program participants with special needs or disabilities, but we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Be

aware that many foreign countries do not have comprehensive legislation comparable to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As a result, businesses and other establishments operating in foreign countries may not be able to provide accommodations.

If you have a disability accommodation need, we recommend you contact your KIIS Campus Representative, <https://www.kiis.org/about-kiis/contact-us/campus-representatives/> early in your program selection process so that s/he has time to discuss any specific needs, including which KIIS programs may be best suited. You also are welcome to contact KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, maria.canning@wku.edu, to discuss your disability accommodation needs (e.g. housing, transportation, excursions, class schedule, etc.).

Immediately after acceptance, notify KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, or KIIS Admissions and Enrollment Specialist, Haley McTaggart, haley.mctaggart@wku.edu, if you have a special need or disability that might require any form of accommodation abroad. Failure to notify KIIS may prevent you from participating on your KIIS program.

If you require any accommodations abroad, you must provide KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, or KIIS Admissions and Enrollment Specialist, Haley McTaggart, an accommodation letter from your home campus' disability accommodation office that lists the accommodations you are eligible to receive. Please do not request accommodations directly from your KIIS Program Director or other KIIS Faculty; the KIIS Office will notify your KIIS Program Director and/or Faculty after we have received your above accommodation letter.

In some cases, you may need to make arrangements for a caregiver to join you on your KIIS program, should your physician, campus disability accommodation office, or KIIS make such a recommendation or require it.

9. Title IX / Discrimination & Harassment:

Recent attention to gender discrimination and sexual harassment at colleges and universities reminds us of the importance of adhering to standards of ethical and professional behavior. KIIS Study Abroad is committed to supporting and encouraging safe and equitable educational environments for our students, faculty, and program directors. Students, faculty, and program directors are required to be civil and treat each other with dignity and respect. As such, harassment and/or discrimination of any kind will not be permitted or tolerated.

Sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, sexual assault, and sexual/dating/domestic violence) and sex discrimination are violations of KIIS policies. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to a) KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning (+1-859-200-1000) or KIIS Executive Director, John Dizgun (+1-270-227-2288), b) WKU's Title IX Coordinator, Deborah Wilkins (270-745-5396 / deborah.wilkins@wku.edu) or WKU's Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe (270-745-5429 / michael.crowe@wku.edu) or Joshua Hayes (270-745-5121 / joshua.hayes@wku.edu). Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a KIIS program director and/or faculty member, KIIS program directors and faculty are considered "Responsible Employees" of Western Kentucky University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator.

If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center, <https://www.wku.edu/heretohelp/> at

270-745-3159.

For more information on KIIS Title IX, see <https://www.kiis.org/students/health-safety/title-ix-clery/>; additional Title IX resources can be found here <https://www.wku.edu/eeo/titleixbrochure2020.pdf>.

Everyone should be able to participate on a KIIS program, attend a KIIS event, or work in a KIIS environment (e.g. KIIS office) without fear of sexual harassment or discrimination of any kind. Be respectful of each other.