

# **German AP, 2012-13**

## **Procedures and Expectations**

### **(Syllabus)**

Freedom High School, 1<sup>st</sup> Period, room L212

Instructor: Dr. Dave Shepherd ([dave.shepherd@lcps.org](mailto:dave.shepherd@lcps.org))

Instructional resources: *Stationen*

*Handbook zur deutschen Grammatik*, with workbook

Other in-class text materials, online resources, and readers

The German AP language and culture course is the final course of a six-year sequence of German courses. It is open only to seniors. Students are expected to have completed level 4 or 5 of German, or the equivalent, before taking AP German.

The Loudoun County curriculum for AP German follows the LCPS upper-level German curriculum for levels 4, 5, and AP. During the year material will be presented from six of the AP thematic areas, three topics per semester. This year's sequence of topics is attached to this syllabus.

While exploring the six course themes, students will work toward mastery of the six **Primary Learning Objectives** defined by the AP German committee of the College Board:

1. Spoken Interpersonal Communication
2. Written Interpersonal Communication
3. Audio, Visual, and Audiovisual Interpretive Communication
4. Written and Print Interpretive Communication
5. Spoken Presentational Communication
6. Written Presentational Communication

All course activities will be geared toward developing proficiency in those six communicative areas. These are the areas that are tested on the AP German Language and Culture Exam.

In addition, AP students will receive specific preparation for taking the AP German Language and Culture Exam, and their work will be assessed at a higher level than students in levels 4 and 5.

**The course is conducted entirely in German. Not only will all classroom material, procedures, and logistical instructions be presented in German; but students are also expected to speak only German in class during each class period—with the teacher and with their fellow students as well.**

The course will use authentic German-language materials. These may be reprinted in our textbooks, or they may come from current sources, such as the Internet. Students will be taught to strive for a fluent and culturally authentic interaction with these sources. Strong emphasis will be placed on the exploration of German history, culture, habits, and customs.

Active vocabulary will be directly related to the current thematic area. Grammar will be taught and reviewed in support of developing proficiency in the six Primary Learning Objectives, and not as an end in itself.

## **Grading and assessment**

Assessment is, generally, a determination of a student's progress. Assessment may or may not result in a grade, and not all assessments will be calculated in determining a student's course grade. There are generally two types of assessments: formative and summative.

### **Formative assessments**

Formative assessments are "checks for understanding" that allow the student and teacher insight into the student's level of understanding and mastery. These can take many forms: short informal quizzes, in-class practice, games, contests, and so on. These may or may not be announced in advance. The results of these assessments will not be calculated into the course grade, but will be reported to students in class and to parents via CLARITY.

To give a student an idea of her/his progress, the following general scoring scale will be used (may be modified to fit different objectives):

- 4—**Exceeds objective.** This shows an exceptional proficiency in the objective.
- 3—**Meets objective.** This shows adequate proficiency in the objective.
- 2—**Progressing in objective.** This shows that you are developing proficiency, but have not yet achieved it.
- 1—**Inadequate progress.** This shows that you have made very little progress in the objective.

### **Summative assessments**

Summative assessments are graded activities that will demonstrate your level of achievement of mastery of or proficiency in a topic or set of topics. These assessments will be graded on a point scale (the kind of 0-100, A-F scale with which you are familiar) and will count toward your quarter, semester, and final grades. These assessments will be given after we have studied and explored a topic for some time. These will always be announced in advance. Summative assessments may appear in any of the following formats:

- Quizzes
- Tests
- Take-home assignments
- In-class assignments
- Projects
- Presentations
- Writing

According to the policy of the Freedom High School Department of World Languages and Cultures, students will be offered the opportunity to correct smaller assessments, such as quizzes, which focus on a few concepts. Corrections must be done during an appointment made with the teacher outside of regular school hours. Corrections are not offered for larger cumulative assessments.

### **Plagiarism and cheating**

As in all academic settings, cheating and plagiarism (the copying of work from any source) will not be tolerated. Cheating may include, but is not limited to, the following: sharing answers during tests, copying projects or research from books or the Internet, using a phone or other item during a test, and use of online translators or translations. According to FHS policy, a student who cheats will receive a grade of "0" on the assignment and will be referred to the office; a parent/guardian will also be notified.

**AP German 2012-2013 (Year B)  
Thematic Areas and Specific Topics**

Theme: **Personal and Public Identities**

Topic B: **Autobiography/Biography**

Theme: **Science and Technology**

Topic B: **Medicine and Health**

Theme: **Contemporary Life**

Topic B: **Career and Education**

SEMESTER BREAK

Theme: **Global Challenges**

Topic B: **Politics**

Theme: **Families and Communities**

Topic B: **Social Values and Customs**

Theme: **Beauty and Aesthetics**

Topic B: **Literature**

END OF YEAR



**Dr. Shepherd's pep talk:**

This year is the culmination of our work together in German. The course you are taking is designed as a university-level course, and you are expected to do university-level work. This is intended to be a "German immersion" course, so you are expected to speak and write in German in everything you do in the course. Do not be afraid of making mistakes. You probably make mistakes when you speak and write English as well, but you probably don't worry about it. It should be the same with German in our classroom.

I have read this syllabus  
and agree to its terms and conditions.

I have read both sides of this sheet and  
understand what is expected of my son or  
daughter in AP German.

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Student's signature

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Parent's or guardian's signature

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Parent's email address

Please turn this sheet in to Dr. Shepherd.  
Please keep the syllabus for your own reference and review.

