



## German Language Course A1 (beginner)

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Fall Term 2024: 2 September – 13 December 2024  
(break: 21-25 October 2024)

### CATEGORY

German language

### COURSE STRUCTURE

3 contact hours à 45 min per week (14 weeks + gap week)

### WEEKLY SCHEDULE

#### Time

Monday, 12:30-3:00pm (group I) or 4:00-6:30pm (group II)

#### Place

Schönhauser Allee 10, 10119 Berlin  
Room 1.23

### COURSE LANGUAGE

German/English

#### Language requirements

The course is held in German. Grammar may be explained in English where necessary. We will work with a lot with pictures, audios, a German book and useful exercises. Everyday situations will be practiced.

### TARGET GROUP

Humboldt Perspectives Study Abroad courses are designed for undergraduate students. Master students may participate if their home university agrees. Prior knowledge in German is not required. This course is designed for students interested in learning basic German, in communicating in everyday situations, and in preparing for the Goethe-Institut Certificate *Start Deutsch A1*. The certificate is not part of the course, but you can take this exam on your own initiative at the Goethe-Institut Berlin.

### CREDITS

6 ECTS. All courses are accredited according to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

In this course, the basics of grammar and German vocabulary are conveyed and practiced to enable students to communicate in everyday situations in the German language successfully. The basics of the conjugation of verbs and the usage of articles in the German language are the subject of this course at A1 level. You will learn to introduce yourself and to form simple sentence constructions. A focus is placed on oral language skills, which are developed through interactive working methods. Topics related to German regional studies are also integrated into the course.

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES**

The students are capable of understanding and using familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type. Furthermore, the students are able to introduce themselves and others and are able to ask and answer questions about personal details such as where they live, people they know and things they have. They are able to interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly and is prepared to help (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages A1).

## **ASSIGNMENT INFO**

### **Workload and assignments**

In order to be granted 6 ECTS, participants will be asked to

- actively participate in class (20% of final grade)
- prepare and revise the classroom/online sessions
- complete four tests (first one: writing, second one: audio, third one: oral, fourth one: reading) (80% of final grade)

A minimum of 80% class attendance is required.

### **Assessment Components**

The final grade will be composed of the above-mentioned assignments.

## **YOUR INSTRUCTOR**

Laura Sophie Holzer is a German teacher with six years of teaching experience. A focus in her classes is placed on oral language skills, which are developed through interactive working methods. Topics related to German regional studies are integrated and many pictures, audios, a German book and useful exercises for everyday situations are used.

From 2016 to 2020 Laura Holzer taught German for the Goethe-Institut Santiago de Chile and received her official education certification *Grünes Diplom* from the Goethe-Institut. Since 2019 she has been working as an examiner for the Goethe Certificates from level A1 to C2. Since 2022 she has given classes for the Humboldt Perspectives Study Abroad Program and the Summer University at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. Furthermore, she holds a BA in cultural science, education, and organizational and social psychology from Leuphana University, and an MA in cultural sciences from Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

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# COURSE SCHEDULE

14 weeks + gap week

**Week 1: Introduction to the course and starting with basic German:** to exchange greetings, to use basic phrases about personal details, to present others and to ask for their well-being

**Week 2: Numeracy and languages:** to ask for telephone numbers/prices, nationalities and languages

**Week 3: Café and market:** to order, to pay, to ask for food and drinks

**Week 4: Daily routine and profession:** to talk about daily routine, hobbies, and your profession

**Week 5: Family and celebrations:** to talk about your family, origin, and tradition, to present a party, to write an invitation and to talk about your birthday

**Week 6: Apartment and living:** to describe your apartment, to organize a party in your apartment, and to write an email

**Week 7: Weather and outfits:** to talk about seasons, weather, seasonal activities, seasonal outfit

**BREAK: 21 – 25 October 2024**

**Week 8: Dates:** to arrange dates and to talk about past activities

**Week 9: Travelling:** to present a city, to buy a ticket, to understand announcements and to describe directions

**Week 10: Holiday:** to talk about your holiday, about your favorite place, and your favorite holiday

**Week 11: Sickness and healthiness:** to organize an appointment, to talk about your feelings and sickness, to know the parts of the body, to express orders

**Week 12: Pleasure and displeasure:** to express what you like or dislike

**Week 13: Repetition:** to stabilize and to repeat basic German tasks

**Week 14: Preparation:** to prepare for the Goethe-Institut Certificate *Start Deutsch A1*

## TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

- Registration on Moodle (HU's e-learning platform)

### in case of online sessions

- Fully functional device (laptop, tablet, PC)
- Stable internet connection
- Software: Zoom (video/audio)
- *Recommended* hardware: external headset for better sound quality

## EXPECTATIONS & POLICIES

**Preparation for lively discussions:** be on time, have at least the required readings completed, and points in mind for discussion or clarification.

**Assignments:** complete all assignments according to the specified requirements on the schedule including handing them over to the lecturer.

**Commitment:** pay particular attention to the lecturer and respect differences of opinions in this international classroom.

**Academic guidelines:** Comply with academic integrity policies, especially the academic honor code and the student code of conduct. Plagiarism in even a small assignment will result in failing the entire course.

**Attendance policy:** Students must contact their class teachers to catch up on missed work – to excuse absence please contact the lecturer.

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The course and its syllabus are subject to change.