

Sex, Drugs and Rock 'n' Roll

Languages Across the Curriculum

A German-Language Course for Students in Advanced Intermediate German or Higher

GERM 388

UNC-Chapel Hill

Spring 2024

Course Description, Goals, and Prerequisites

GERM 388 is a one-credit, one-academic-hour-per-week German-language course intended for students with intermediate-high proficiency (GERM 204 or higher) interested in practicing their written and spoken German in an academic context. This Languages Across the Curriculum (LAC) course is ideal for students who:

1. wish to **maintain** their German language proficiency during a semester when they're not taking a three-credit German-language course;
2. seek to **expand** their German language skills for future academic pursuits in the humanities and/or social sciences; and/or
3. plan on **studying abroad** at a German university soon, and wish to practice using their German in an academic course setting.

Students who successfully complete this LAC course will be able to:

1. **communicate** in German about an academic subject. The academic subject of concern for GERM 388 is twentieth-century German philosophy and its reflections on the modern human condition;
2. **describe** in German how philosophy relates to German ways of explaining the human condition;
3. **explain** philosophy's relevance as a native German speaker would; and
4. **use** German to conduct original research.

GERM 388 is a Combined LAC Discussion Section taught alongside the English-language lecture course GERM 280, Twentieth-Century German Philosophy and Modern Youth Cultures. Students must not, however, enroll in GERM 280 to succeed in GERM 388. While there is thematic overlap between these two courses, GERM 388 is an entirely independent course intended to expose students to some of the biggest names and ideas in German philosophy in a digestible and stress-free context. Your success in GERM 388 will, however, not be a function of your command of the course's philosophical content, but rather your written and spoken engagement with the German language.

Readings

GERM 388 focuses on advancing students' written and spoken German-language skills. The basis for improving these skills is, however, weekly philosophical readings **roughly 3 pages in length**. While the weekly readings in GERM 388 do follow the weekly presentation of philosophers in GERM 280, the readings in GERM 388 are unique to this course and do not require any accompaniment from GERM 280. All readings are available as a single PDF file through the course Sakai site. It is highly advisable that you print out the readings and read them with a pencil in hand so you can annotate strange new vocabulary and gloss difficult ideas.

Instructor

Tako Takamura, Doctoral Candidate, Department of Germanic and Slavic Languages & Literatures

Office: 415 Dey Hall

Office Hours: Mondays 2 pm – 3 pm and Wednesdays 11 am – 12 pm

Email: dtaichi@live.unc.edu

Anyone can attend the instructor's office hours. You may always drop in unannounced.

Class Format

Weekly meetings will include:

- Mini-lectures about the philosopher, philosophical text and the philosophical concepts therein to be encountered every week;
- Oral presentations on the life of a philosopher; and
- Group and partner discussions based on problem-solving tasks that relate the assigned text to real-work problems.

Course Meeting Time

| Course Number, Day and Time | Classroom | Instructor |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| GERM 388: Fridays, 12:20 – 1:10 pm | Dey 401 | David “Tako” Takamura |

Papers, Exams, Participation

Writing Requirements

Student work required in this class includes the following:

1. No later than 9:00 am every Friday you will post via Sakai a response of roughly **150 words** to a single prompt about the week’s assigned reading. Your posting submitted via Sakai requires you to affirm **Carolina’s Honor** pledge, which stipulates that the work you submit is **your own work**. This also applies to using A.I. software to generate a German-language text.
2. **2** 5-minute oral presentations outlining the most essential facts about the philosopher, whose work is to be discussed.

Exams

GERM 388 also includes two exams:

1. **1** midterm exam, scheduled on **Friday, March 8, 2024**. Do you know our philosophers and their main concepts?
2. **1** final exam beginning at **8 am on Tuesday, May 7, 2024**. This is an accumulative exam with emphasis on the second half of the semester.

Participation & Attendance

Being properly prepared (reading in a timely fashion and posting to the Sakai forum on time) and participating actively are musts for success in GERM 388. Participation means you are actively raising your hand to ask questions or provide comments. Excellent participation means coming to class prepared to dialogue with me and your classmates. Please note below that attendance and participation requirements make up 24% of your final grade. For this reason, all absences in recitation sections can significantly affect your final grade.

You are expected to participate in class fully to the best of your abilities. Regardless of whether you raise your hand, your participation grade will be based whether you contributed to the instructional hour.

The student in recitation who:

- always comes fully prepared; makes valuable contributions in the form of comments or questions (in person, via video or chat) about the lectures, readings and films; and speaks voluntarily will earn an **A** for participation.
- regularly comes prepared; has an astute comment or question related to the assignments; but contributes (in person, via video or chat) only semi-regularly and sometimes only when called upon will earn a **B** for participation.
- comes prepared only now and then; participates (in person, via video or chat) only when called upon; and demonstrates a weak command of the course materials will receive a **C** for participation.

- regularly come unprepared; speaks only when called upon; and demonstrates little to no command of the lectures, reading assignments, and films will receive a **D** for participation.

Grading Policy

Course grades in GERM 388 will be calculated according to the following formula:

| | |
|---|-----|
| 13 Weekly Forum Posts (2% each) | 26% |
| Attendance (10%) & In-Class Participation (14%) | 24% |
| 2 Oral Presentations on Two Philosophers | 10% |
| 1 Midterm | 15% |
| 1 Final Exam | 25% |

The following grading scale will be used for all work graded in GERM 388:

| | |
|----|---------------------|
| A | 100% to 93% = 4.0 |
| A- | 92.99% to 90% = 3.7 |
| B+ | 89.99% to 87% = 3.3 |
| B | 86.99% to 83% = 3.0 |
| B- | 82.99% to 80% = 2.7 |
| C+ | 79.99% to 77% = 2.3 |
| C | 76.99% to 73% = 2.0 |
| C- | 72.99% to 70% = 1.7 |
| D+ | 69.99% to 67% = 1.3 |
| D | 66.99% to 63% = 1.0 |
| F | 62.99% to 0% = 0 |

Numerical grades are calculated to the hundredth. Final grades are not rounded.

As stipulated in the Undergraduate Bulletin, there is no D- at UNC-Chapel Hill.

Weekly written homework submitted on Sakai by 9am on Fridays will be graded according to the following grading scale:

| | |
|-----|--|
| 100 | You answered all the questions to the best of your abilities. Whether your answers are correct is immaterial. Right on, you made the effort! |
| 85 | One of your answers to the assigned questions is missing. The answers you did provide are thin and show blatant sloppiness. |
| 70 | There's a lot missing in your homework submission. |
| 0 | You did not submit your homework on time. |

Honor Code

The UNC Honor Code states: **"It shall be the responsibility of every student at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to obey and support the enforcement of the honor code, which prohibits lying, cheating, or stealing when these actions involve academic processes or University, student or academic personnel acting in an official capacity."** The Honor Code is strictly enforced in this course. You are required to sign the following pledge on all written work: **"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this assignment."** If you have opted to use generative A.I. in your written work, be sure to use this: **"On my honor, I have merely used A.I. to draft this assignment. The final product is a thoroughly revised essay entirely of my own doing."** To meet this standard in this seminar, please note the following:

- All written assignments must be your own.
- The unattributed use of other people's words and ideas found in books, articles, on the Internet, or in conversation counts as plagiarism. Plagiarism means stealing someone's words and ideas and passing them off as your own thoughts.
- When in doubt, give credit where credit is due.

Any suspected incidents of plagiarism and cheating found in this course will result in a failing grade for the assignment and a citation sent to the UNC Honor Court. In case you are unsure what plagiarism means, please speak with me and consult the Honor Code at the following link: honor.unc.edu.

Email & Gizmo Policies

I will check their email daily and will make every effort to answer you within 24 hours. On the weekends, however, response time may be slower. Please make sure that you adhere to common rules of courtesy such as addressing me by name (“Hi, Mr. Takamura”) and signing your email at the end (“Sincerely, Julie”); do not make me guess your name from your email address. You might not receive an answer.

The use of technology in class for purposes unrelated to GERM 388 is strictly prohibited. Put your phones in your pockets. Use your laptops in-class for class-related work only. Students found distracting the instructors or other students with their technology for purposes unrelated to class will be asked to leave the classroom immediately.

Additional Policies & Campus Resources

Accessibility Resource Services

UNC-Chapel Hill facilitates the implementation of reasonable accommodations for students with learning disabilities, physical disabilities, mental health struggles, chronic medical conditions, temporary disability, or pregnancy complications, all of which can impair student success. You are responsible for speaking directly with me about your registered accommodations. If you are not registered with ARS, please see the [ARS website](https://ars.unc.edu) for contact and registration information: ars.unc.edu.

Attendance Policy

No right or privilege exists that permits a student to be absent from any class meetings, except for these University Approved Absences:

- Disability/religious observance/pregnancy, as required by law and approved by Accessibility Resources and Service and/or the Equal Opportunity and Compliance Office (EOC)
- Significant health condition and/or personal/family emergency as approved by the Office of the Dean of Students, Gender Violence Service Coordinators, and/or the Equal Opportunity and Compliance Office (EOC).

For more information about your rights and obligations, please see [the attendance policy in the Course Catalogue](#).

Attendance will be in every course meeting. It is in your very best interest to attend every class meeting. Excused absences are only permitted under the following circumstances: illnesses requiring that you see a doctor, university sponsored activities/travel, religious observances, or family/personal emergencies. To get your absence excused, you must write your recitation section instructor in a timely fashion an email describing the nature of your absence as soon as you are aware that you will not make it to class. You should also be prepared to provide documentation about the reason for your absence.

Tardiness is distracting to everybody in the class. Please do your best to make it to your virtual recitation section on time. Being late, especially repeatedly, can result in a reduction of your class participation grade.

Counseling and Psychological Services

CAPS is strongly committed to addressing the mental health needs of a diverse student body through timely access to consultation and connection to clinically appropriate services, whether for short or long-term needs. Go to their website: caps.unc.edu or visit their facilities on the third floor of the Campus Health Services building for a walk-in evaluation to learn more.

Diversity

I value the perspectives of individuals from all backgrounds reflecting the rich diversity on our campus. UNC broadly defines diversity to include race, gender identity, national origin, ethnicity, religion, social class, age, sexual orientation, political background, and physical and learning ability. I will strive to make the GERM 388 classroom an inclusive space for all students.

Pronoun Policy in Recitation Sections

Learning requires an interactive classroom environment. Therefore, it is important that we strive to make the classroom a respectful and inclusive place for everyone. If you feel comfortable doing so, you are encouraged to let your recitation instructor know what name you prefer to be called and if you prefer the use of masculine, feminine, or gender-neutral pronouns. These preferences can be applied just to your interactions with me and/or to your in-class interactions with peers as well.

Title IX Resources

Any student who is impacted by discrimination, harassment, interpersonal (relationship) violence, sexual violence, sexual exploitation, or stalking is encouraged to seek resources on campus or in the community. Please contact the [Report and Response Team](#) of Title IX Compliance; Counseling and Psychological Services (see URL above, confidential); or the [Gender Violence Services Coordinators](#) (confidential) to discuss your specific needs. Additional resources are available at safe.unc.edu.

Other Resources

If you are experiencing a dire personal situation or life crisis that is negatively affecting your performance in class, you are encouraged to take advantage of the appropriate campus resources, some of which are listed above and below:

[Student Affairs](#)

[Carolina Cupboard Community Food Pantry](#)

[Diversity and Inclusion Resources](#)

[Student Housing](#)

Syllabus

1. Lerneinheit: Was ist Philosophie überhaupt? (2 Wochen)

1.1 Kursüberblick (1. Woche)

| Datum | Thema | Hausaufgabe |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Freitag, der 12. Januar | Wozu ist Philosophie überhaupt gut? | Keine Hausaufgaben |

2.2 Jaspers über das Wesen der Philosophie (2. Woche)

| Datum | Thema | Hausaufgabe |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| Freitag, der 19. Januar | Karl Jaspers: "Was ist Philosophie"? (1950) | Jaspers lesen! Reaktion auf Sakai posten! |

Leseaufgabe:

1. Karl Jaspers. "Was ist Philosophie." Auszug aus: *Einführung in die Philosophie: Zwölf Radiovorträge*. 1950. 9-10.

2. Lerneinheit: Sex und Liebe (4 Wochen)

1.1 Flirten heißt Philosophieren! (3. Woche)

| Datum | Thema | Hausaufgabe |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Freitag, der 26. Januar | Georg Simmel über Koketterie (1910) | Simmel lesen! Reaktion auf Sakai posten! |

Leseaufgabe:

2. Georg Simmel. Auszug aus: *Soziologie der Geselligkeit*. 1910. 9-10.

2.2 Die Befreiung der Lüste (4. Woche)

| Datum | Thema | Hausaufgabe |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| Freitag, der 2. Februar | Herbert Marcuse über das Realitätsprinzip (1957) | Marcuse lesen! Reaktion auf Sakai posten! |

Leseaufgabe:

3. Herbert Marcuse. Auszug aus: "Jenseits des Realitätsprinzips." Circa 1957. 149-150, 156-158.

2.3 Über wahre Liebe (5. Woche)

| Datum | Thema | Hausaufgabe |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| Freitag, der 9. Februar | Hannah Arendt über Nächstenliebe (1958) | Arendt lesen! Reaktion auf Sakai posten! |

Leseaufgabe:

4. Hannah Arendt. Auszug aus: *Vita activa, oder Vom tätigen Leben*. 1958. 52-53.

2.4 Zur Philosophie des erotischen Körpers (6. Woche)

| Datum | Thema | Hausaufgabe |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| Freitag, der 16. Februar | Sloterdijk über Brüste und Ärsche (1983) | Sloterdijk lesen! Reaktion auf Sakai posten! |

Leseaufgabe:

5. Peter Sloterdijk. Auszug aus: *Kritik zur zynischen Vernunft*. 1983. 280-283, 285-286.

3. Lerneinheit: Drogen (4 Wochen)

3.1 Suffphilosophie (7. Woche)

| Datum | Thema | Hausaufgabe |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| Freitag, der 23. Februar | Friedrich Nietzsche über das Dionysische (1872) | Nietzsche lesen! Reaktion auf Sakai posten! |

Leseaufgabe:

6. Friedrich Nietzsche. Auszug aus: *Die Geburt der Tragödie*. 1872. 25-30.

3.2 Kiffphilosophie (8. Woche)

| Datum | Thema | Hausaufgabe |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Freitag, der 1. März | Walter Benjamin über Haschisch (1927) | Benjamin lesen! Reaktion auf Sakai posten! |

Leseaufgabe:

7. Walter Benjamin. "Hauptzüge der ersten Haschisch-Impression." 1927. 558-560.

Zwischenprüfung (9. Woche)

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Freitag, der 8. März | Zwischenprüfung |
|----------------------|-----------------|

3.3 Rausch versus Besoffenheit (10. Woche)

| Datum | Thema | Hausaufgabe |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| Freitag, der 22. März | Martin Heidegger über Rausch vs. Besoffenheit (1961) | Heidegger lesen! Reaktion auf Sakai posten! |

Leseaufgabe:

8. Martin Heidegger. Auszug aus: *Nietzsche*. Band 1. 1961. 98-100.

3.4 Bierholen als kommunikative Vernunft (11. Woche)

| Datum | Thema | Hausaufgabe |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| Freitag, der 29. März | Jürgen Habermas über die Lebenswelt (1981) | Habermas lesen! Reaktion auf Sakai posten! |

Reading:

9. Jürgen Habermas. Auszug aus: *Theorie des kommunikativen Handelns*. Band 2. 1981. 182-185.

4. Lerneinheit: Rock 'n' Roll (4 Weeks)

4.1 Rock und Kapitalismus (12. Woche)

| Datum | Thema | Hausaufgabe |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| Freitag, der 5. April | Theodor W. Adorno über Musikfetischismus und regressives Hören (1938) | Adorno lesen! Reaktion auf Sakai posten! |

Leseaufgabe:

10. Theodor W. Adorno. Auszüge aus: "Über den Fetischcharakter in der Musik und die Regression des Hörens." 1938. 321-322, 330, 339.

4.2 Rock und Utopie (13. Woche)

| Datum | Thema | Hausaufgabe |
|------------------------|---|--|
| Freitag, der 12. April | Ernst Bloch über die Musik der Zukunft (1918) | Bloch lesen! Reaktion auf Sakai posten! |

Leseaufgabe:

11. Ernst Bloch. Auszug aus: *Geist der Utopie*. 1918. 92-95.

4.3 Rock und Hermeneutik (14. Woche)

| Datum | Thema | Hausaufgabe |
|------------------------|--|--|
| Freitag, der 19. April | Hans-Georg Gadamer über Sprache (1966) | Gadamer lesen! Reaktion auf Sakai posten! |

Leseaufgabe:

12. Hans-Georg Gadamer. Auszug aus: "Mensch und Sprache." 1966. 146, 150-153.

4.4 Rock und Öffentlichkeit (15. Woche)

| Datum | Thema | Hausaufgabe |
|------------------------|---|--|
| Freitag, der 26. April | Alexander Kluge über die neue Öffentlichkeit (2015) | Kluge lesen! Reaktion auf Sakai posten! |

Leseaufgabe:

13. Alexander Kluge. "Zu *Öffentlichkeit und Erfahrung*." 2015. 121-123.

Freitag, der 10. Mai von 12.00 – 15.00

Abschlussprüfung