CIEE Berlin, Germany

Course title: Survival German
Course code: NONCR GERM BRGE
Programs offering course: Global Architecture and Design, Berlin Open Campus Block
Language of instruction: German
U.S. semester credits: 0.00
Contact hours: 15.00
Term: Spring Block II 2021

Course Description
This course is designed for students who wish to learn basic skills for communicating in German during their study program in Berlin. The aim of the course is to provide the linguistic tools necessary for students to communicate effectively and to gain a better understanding of the way of life in Berlin. Students practice using German in everyday situations through role-playing, site visits, and classroom instruction that makes use of a variety of media that illuminate daily life in Germany.

Learning Objectives
By completing this course, students will:

- Employ simple sentences and expressions when dealing with various situations of daily life (for example, at the supermarket, in a restaurant, at school, at the office, or with friends and family).
- Express information about themselves and their area of studies in the target language.
- Retrieve information from others in the target language.
- State likes and dislikes.
- Demonstrate communication skills in basic dialogues in the target language.

Course Prerequisites
None

Weekly Schedule
Week 1
Class: 1.1 Greetings and Introductions

Communicative functions: Understanding international words in German; greetings and introductions; (Internationale Wörter auf Deutsch verstehen; jemanden begrüßen; sich und andere vorstellen;)

Vocabulary and grammar: Question words (where, how, etc.); prepositions using in and of/from/out of; declarative sentences. (Fragesätze mit wie, wo und wohin; Präpositionen in und aus; Aussagesätze.)

Class: 1.2 Asking Basic Questions

Communicative functions: Asking others for their name and origin; Practice asking and responding to basic questions (where do you live, , what do you study?). (Nach Namen und Herkunft fragen. Fragen und Antworten auf grundlegende Fragen [wo lebst du, was studierst du?])

Vocabulary and grammar: Interrogative sentences with whence/where from and what; verb conjugation in the present tense. (Fragesätze mit woher und was; Verben im Präsens.)

Week 2
Class: 2.1 The Alphabet

Communicative functions: Spelling in German. (Buchstabieren;)
Vocabulary and grammar: The alphabet. (Das Alphabet.)

Class:   2.2 Ordering in a restaurant and shopping

Communicative functions: Ordering and paying for things. (Etwas bestellen und bezahlen.)
Vocabulary and grammar: Conjugating the verb to be; paying. (Das Verb sein; Zahlen.)

Week 3
Class:   3.1 Asking Increasingly Complex Questions

Communicative functions: Communication in the course; asking questions and being understood. (Sich im Kurs verstündigen; Fragen stellen, um Wiederholung bitten.)
Vocabulary and grammar: Singular and plural nouns; definite and indefinite articles. (Nomen: Singular und Plural; Artikel: der, das, die / ein, eine.)

Class:   3.2 Asking for Specific Items

Communicative functions: Asking for items and knowing their names. (Gegenständen fragen und sie benennen.)
Vocabulary and grammar: Negation using none; conjugating the verb to have. (Verneinung: kein, keine; das Verb haben.)

Week 4
Class:   4.1 Review Session 1

Communicative functions: Speak about cities, neighborhoods and sights (focusing on Berlin). (Über Städte, Nachbarschaften und Sehenswürdigkeiten sprechen [Fokus: Berlin])
Vocabulary and grammar: Conjugation of the verb “to be” in the past tense; 5 W questions; declarative sentences and yes/no questions in the accusative case. (Präteritum von sein; W-Fragen; Aussagesätze und Satzfragen Artikel im Akkusativ.)

Class:   4.2 Speaking about countries and languages

Communicative functions: Reading maps and plans. (Über Länder und Sprachen sprechen; Grafiken auswerten.)
Vocabulary and grammar: Possessive articles in the nominative case; adjectives used in sentences. (Possessivartikel im Nominativ; Adjektive im Satz.)

Week 5
Class:   5.1 Discussing Living Situations

Communicative functions: Describing apartments and houses; speaking about living in other countries. (Wohnungen und Häuser beschreiben; über Wohnen in anderen Ländern sprechen.)
Vocabulary and grammar: Questions with when. (Fragesätze mit wann.)

Class:   5.2 Discussing Housing in Berlin

Communicative functions: Housing in Berlin. (Berliner Wohnung.)
Vocabulary and grammar: Prepositions. (Präpositionen am, um, von...bis.)

Week 6
Class:   6.1 Making appointments and asking directions

Communicative functions: Describing time and dates; talking about daily routines; making appointments and asking for directions to them. (Beschreiben Zeitangaben machen; über Tagesabläufe sprechen; Termine machen und sich verabreden nach dem Weg fragen.)
Vocabulary and grammar: Separable prefix verbs in the present tense; negation using not;
Class: 6.2 Final Review

Communicative functions: Discussing public transport. (Über öffentliche Transportmittel sprechen.)

Vocabulary and grammar: Conjugating the verb “to have” in the past tense. (Präteritum von haben.)

Course Materials

Readings

All handouts will be provided by CIEE.