

Erasmus Academy German for Reading

August 19, 2019 – April 28, 2020

Course Description

Instructor: Ron Ditmars

Purpose

This two-semester course is designed for graduate students preparing to take the German proficiency exams for masters and PhD programs, and for any other college student, adult or motivated high school student desiring to read in the language. It provides a thorough presentation of German grammar and introduces the student to expository prose, with the emphasis on reading and translation. Developing writing and some conversation skills in German is also included. No previous knowledge of the language is required. The objective of the course, equivalent to a year of university instruction, is to bring the student to an intermediate reading level, enabling him or her to read modern scholarly articles in German. It may be that this two-semester format may be advantageous for students desiring to develop a solid foundation in the language.

Course Structure

As a distance learning course, students may take this class from any location or from the convenience of their home. They will need to have access to the Internet. The course meets in “real time” and participants are expected to attend all the scheduled sessions. Each student participates fully in each class by listening and speaking, translating and posing questions. Students meet once a week (Mondays, 6:00-8:00 pm CST) for a live, online lesson with the Instructor. Each two-hour session will cover one chapter of Jannach’s *German for Reading Knowledge*, which the students will have prepared in advance. A quiz, covering the Jannach chapter, the workbook exercises, and the vocabulary assigned for that chapter will be emailed to each student 12-24 hrs. before the lesson. This quiz will then be reviewed at the beginning of each lesson. The two-hour lesson includes grammar, strategies for analyzing German sentences, vocabulary & verb review, translating from English into German, and sight-reading. It is assumed that the students will have 5 hrs each week to prepare for the lesson. As a companion to the textbook, mp3 files are provided as part of the course.

The link for this course throughout the year is the following:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/961070792>

Required Textbook

Order from any major bookstore or used from Amazon or elsewhere: 1) Korb, Richard. *German for Reading Knowledge*, fifth edition (preferred), 2005, ISBN 1-4130-0370-2 or sixth edition, 2009. Heinle Cengage Learning.

Background of Instructor

Mr. Ditmars did graduate work at Freiburg University, Germany for six years, in classical and modern languages. He holds a Magister degree from that institution in modern German literature. He directed the UTS Summer Language Program in New York City

for ten years, during which he taught the Intensive German course each summer to graduate students from Columbia University, New York University, Jewish Theological Seminary, Fordham University, etc. He has now taught the intensive German course online for the past ten summers. He is licensed in the State of New Jersey to teach German, French and Latin.

Registration & Course Fee

The fee for the Two-Semester German for Reading course is \$950, if paying by the semester. To reserve a place in the course, a non-refundable deposit of \$75 must be paid via the Erasmus Academy website Online Store and an Enrollment Form must be submitted by August 15, 2019. The balance for the First Semester of \$400 must be paid by Aug.15, 2019. To make a payment, navigate to the “Online Store” on the EA website. Scroll down to the “**2sGerman**” icon. Opening that, you will find various payment boxes, including one to make a \$75 deposit. You can also pay your balance by selecting the appropriate payment box. Once you have made a payment, you will receive an acknowledgement letter from the Registrar’s Office of the Erasmus Academy, and an information packet for the two-semester German course.

Payment Options

1. Payment by Semester:

Fall Semester: \$475 one-time payment, or \$75 non-refundable deposit and \$400 balance by August 15, 2019.

Spring Semester: \$475 one-time payment, or \$75 non-refundable deposit and \$400 balance by December 15, 2019.

2. Early Bird Registration Option:

If full payment for the two-semester course is made by August 15, 2019 (or by Sept. 9, 2019 for students at schools with the Fall Semester beginning in September), the total payment for the year’s course is \$850.

To download the Enrollment Form, click on the “Courses” page of the Erasmus Academy website. Scroll down to “Two-Semester German for Reading.” The course description, the syllabus, and the Enrollment Form will then be accessible. Download the Enrollment Form, fill it out, scan it and return it as an email attachment to the Erasmus Academy email address indicated below. Early application is recommended due to space availability. The maximum number of students in this online course is 20.

Refund Policy

If, after the first four weeks of live instruction, a student wishes to discontinue the German course, a letter to this effect must be received by the Erasmus Academy Registrar’s Office by 4:00 pm, Sept. 29, 2019. The withdrawal deadline for the Spring Semester is January 27, 2020. Thereupon a refund of the course fee paid either for the semester or two-semester course, less \$75, will be returned to the student.

For Students at Colleges or Graduate Schools with a Fall Semester Beginning in September

For these students, the payment of the non-refundable deposit and balance must be made by September 9, 2019, five days before the first live lesson on Sept. 14, 2019. These students must also submit their Enrollment Forms by this date.

Registration Deadline: August 15, 2019

For information and enrollment form, write to:

Erasmus Academy Admissions Office:

erasmusacademyslp@gmail.com

Or call: 718-499-0077

You may register and make payments online:

www.erasmusacademy.com