

**Erasmus Academy German for Reading**  
**August 19, 2019 – April 27, 2020**  
**Syllabus**  
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. This course includes 30 hours of live instruction online in real time for the Fall Semester, and 36 hrs. of live instruction online for the Spring Semester.

The letter grade of a “B” or higher attained by a student in an Erasmus Academy language course indicates that the student has reached a level of reading and translating sufficient for passing a proficiency exam in the respective language at graduate institutions in North America.

**Grading Rubric**

The following are the components upon which the performance evaluation is based, expressed in percentage. The “Student Performance Evaluation” is the Erasmus Academy’s transcript for the course. This document will be filed in the Erasmus Academy records and may be forwarded to any academic institution upon the request of the student.

Attendance:	10%	Mid-Term Oral Exam	10%
Active Participation	30%	Final Oral Exam	20%
Compositions	30%	Total:	100%

**Course Assignments** (Please see the detailed class assignment for each lesson\*)

Lessons 1-30 cover the textbook; Lessons 31-33 focus on reading model proficiency exams.

Each weekly lesson will cover one chapter in Jannach’s *German for Reading Knowledge* (5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> edition). Prior to the live instruction, the students will have completed their preparation of the materials assigned for that Jannach chapter, including listening to mp3 audio recordings, workbook sentences, vocabulary from “100 Stems” and *Easy Key to German Vocabulary*, and composition exercises. It is expected that this preparation will take 5 hrs/week on the part of the student.

*\*Note: The detailed class assignment for each lesson will be included in the information packet which will be emailed to each student a few days after he or she has registered for the course.*

**Working Independently Through the First Four Jannach Chapters**

Since the instructor, Mr. Ditmars, had a prior commitment of traveling in Europe until Sept. 10, 2019, the first online, live instruction, as noted in this syllabus, will take place on Saturday, Sept. 14, 2019, 11:00am-1:00pm CST (covering Jann. Ch. 1). The second live session with the professor will be on Monday, Sept. 16, 6-8pm CST (covering Jann. Chs. 2 & 3). The third live lesson will be on Tuesday, Sept. 17, 6-8 pm CST (covering Jann. Ch. 4). The weekly live instruction, from that point on, will always be held on Mondays, 6-8 pm CST.

Because of this arrangement, each student needs to work independently through the first four chapters in the Jannach textbook, *ideally taking one week to complete the material assigned for*

each Jannach chapter, as indicated on the Syllabus. Upon registering and making a payment for this course, the student will receive an information packet containing the following:

- 1) A detailed assignment sheet for each chapter
- 2) An mp3 audio/video recording, which introduces the grammar of each chapter and gives examples of how to complete each of the exercises (called “Quintessence Recordings”)
- 3) Easy Key to German Vocabulary (the instructor’s annotated version)
- 4) 100 Stems (a vocabulary builder)
- 5) mp3 files to accompany the 1980 edition (explained in information packet)

The above resources are provided by the Instructor at no cost to the student.

### Live Instruction Online

During each Monday evening’s 2-hour class (6:00-8:00 pm CST) the Instructor will cover all the materials assigned for the Jannach chapter under consideration, during which students will actively participate in analyzing and translating sentences.

### Fall Semester Schedule 2019

**Note 1:** The date listed for each Jannach Chapter below indicates the date by which the assignments for that particular chapter will have been completed by the student.

**Note 2:** Students at colleges or graduate institutions with a later Fall Semester beginning date may begin working through Jannach Chs.1-4 on their own schedule in preparation for the first live lesson on Sept. 14, 2019 (11:00am-1:00pm CST).

August 23, 2019	Jannach Ch. 1	Independent work
Aug. 30	Jannach Ch. 2	Independent work
Sept. 9	Jannach Ch. 3	Independent work
Sept. 16	Jannach Ch. 4	Independent work
Sept 14 (Saturday)	11:00 am–1:00 pm CST	First live lesson: Jann. Ch. 1
Sept. 16 (Monday)	6:00-8:00 pm CST	Second live lesson: Jann. Chs. 2 & 3
Sept. 17 (Tuesday)	6:00-8:00 pm CST	Third live lesson Jann. Ch. 4
Sept. 23	6:00-8:00 pm CST	Jannach Ch. 5
Sept. 30	6:00-8:00 pm CST	Jannach Ch. 6
Oct. 1- 4	Fall Break. No assignments and no class.	
Oct. 7	6:00-8:00 pm CST	Jannach Ch. 7
Oct. 14	6:00-8:00 pm CST	Jann. Ch. 8
Oct. 21	6:00-8:00 pm CST	Jann. Ch. 9
Oct. 28	6:00- 8:00 pm CST	Jann. Ch. 10
Nov. 4	6:00-8:00 pm CST	Jann. Ch. 11
Nov. 11	6:00-8:00 pm CST	Jann. Ch. 12
Nov. 18	6:00-8:00 pm CST	Jann. Ch. 13
Nov. 25-29	Thanksgiving Break.	
Dec. 2	6:00-8:00 pm CST	Jann. Ch. 14
Dec. 10	6:00-8:00 pm CST	Jann. Ch. 15

### **Spring Semester Schedule 2020**

Note: To fit in the remaining 15 chapters of the textbook and to include three 2-hr sessions for translating model proficiency exams, three of the weeks in the Spring Semester will entail a live 2-hr. lesson on Monday and a live 2-hr lesson on Tuesday of the same week. As is normal, each 2-hr lesson will cover one Jannach chapter.

**Note:** As is the case with the Fall Semester lessons, the Spring Semester live lessons are all held on Mondays at 6:00-8:00 pm CST, unless otherwise indicated.

Jan. 6, 2020	Jann. Ch. 16
Jan. 13	Jann. Ch. 17
Jan. 20	Jann. Ch. 18
Jan. 27	Jann. Ch. 19
Feb. 3	Jann. Ch. 20
Feb. 10	Jann Ch. 21
Feb. 11 (Tuesday)	Jann. Ch. 22
Feb.17	Jann. Ch. 23
Feb. 24	Jann. Ch. 24

March 2	Jann. Ch. 25
March 3 (Tuesday)	Jann. Ch. 26
March 9	Jann. Ch. 27
March 11-17	Spring Break. No classes.
March 23	Jann. Ch. 28
March 30	Jann. Ch.. 29
March 31 (Tuesday)	Jann. Ch. 30

April 6	Model Proficiency Exams Part I
April 13	Model Proficiency Exams Part II
April 20	Model Proficiency Exams Part III

**Note:** A 45-minute final oral exam will be scheduled for each student separately outside of class time during this final week of the course, between April 13 and 20, 2020.

For information and Enrollment Form, write to:  
Erasmus Academy Admissions Office:  
[erasmusacademyslp@gmail.com](mailto:erasmusacademyslp@gmail.com)

You may register and make payments online:  
[www.erasmusacademy.com](http://www.erasmusacademy.com)

