

HS German II

Curriculum Guide (including Course Objectives, Weekly Content, and Scope and Sequence)

Course Description

Students continue their introduction to German with fundamental building blocks in four key areas of foreign language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. The course consists of 180 lesson days formatted in an intuitive calendar view, which can be divided into two 90-day semesters and represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. As students begin the course, they construct their own Avatar that accumulates “Avatar bucks”—by performing well on course tasks—to use to purchase materials (clothing, gadgets, scenery, etc.) at the “Avatar store”. Each week consists of an ongoing adventure story, a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, numerous interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, cultural presentations covering major German-speaking areas in Europe. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Course length: Two semesters

Materials: *Langenscheidt's Standard German Dictionary*

Prerequisites: WLG120: German I, Middle School German 1 and 2, or equivalent

Overall Course Objectives

The High School German II course helps students:

- Engage in language learning
- Master common and some specialized vocabulary terms and phrases
- Comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns
- Instigate and continue simple conversations, and respond appropriately to increasingly nuanced conversational prompts.
- Generate language incorporating basic and some specialized vocabulary and a range of grammar patterns
- Read, write, speak, and listen for meaning in German
- Analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various German-speaking countries
- Regularly assess progress in proficiency through quizzes, tests, and speaking/writing submissions

Recurring Content

- **Vocabulary Theme**
 - Each week presents a new set of vocabulary words through various self-correcting activities. A printable vocabulary list, which includes pronunciation, is also provided.
- **Grammar Concept**
 - Each week introduces a new grammatical pattern. The concept is introduced through sentence comparisons and presented in a printable explanation of the pattern.
- **Reinforcement Activities**
 - A range of interactive games (incrementally increasing in challenge) helps students reinforce vocabulary and grammar concepts. These activities may be completed multiple times so that students can better retain and apply the new information. Students accumulate “Avatar bucks” by performing well on these and other interactive challenges.
- **Diglot Weave™ Story**
 - Each week students follow a new episode of an immersive Diglot Weave™ story. The story is told several times, each time with more German woven in. (Diglot comes from the roots "di" meaning *two* and "glot" meaning *language*. These stories weave together the students' native language and the target language.) These stories provide students a fun and linguistically-rich context for optimal comprehension.
- **“Stretch” Activities**
 - Each week students work through an inventive and challenging activity to comprehend involved passages in German, or to generate their own sentences in German. Stretch activities include zany performances, core content-based instruction, familiar folktales presented in German, simple narratives that students string together from basic building blocks, and many more. These activities help students work creatively in German to communicate and make meaning.
- **Presentation of Culture through CultureGrams™ and Culture Videos**
 - Each week students learn about various cultural aspects (e.g. practices, products, and perspectives) of a German-speaking country. CultureGrams™ are multi-media cultural presentations that cover a wide range of topics such as gestures, etiquette, history, food, and more. Culture videos present students with short video explanations about cultural aspects of various German-speaking countries from a native of that country.
- **“Gameshow” Review**
 - Each week students review material from the week’s content in a “Gameshow” that builds on the motivations and friendly competition of familiar television game shows. Students are pitted against a virtual opponent and earn “Avatar bucks” as they demonstrate their mastery of the week’s material. The burden of review for the weekly assessment is thus transformed to a fun and engaging game.
- **“Out of Seat” Activities**
 - Several times during the year, students are given opportunities to use the language “outside” the course. These are specific assignments directing students to interact in a genuine way with the German language or German-speaking cultures.

- **Realia**
 - Several times during the year, students work to decipher the key messages and significant details in Realias. In Realias, students confront authentic or semi-authentic texts in real-world, everyday situations. These encounters are neither trivial, nor far beyond a student's comprehension level, but are texts to which students can respond and that move them to a deeper understanding of the target language and culture at the same time. Sample texts include a movie theatre box office show times, a catalog product description, a grocery store receipt, etc.
- **Oral and Written Activities**
 - Each week, students complete oral and written activities. These activities give students a chance to become more familiar with the speaking and writing patterns of German by applying them in communicative situations.
- **Listening and Reading Comprehension Activities**
 - Each week contains either a focused listening or a focused reading comprehension practice. These practices help students to develop listening and reading comprehension skills. They are based on the vocabulary, grammar, or culture concepts presented that week, and follow up assessments challenge students to identify the main ideas and significant details of texts based on everyday communicative situations.
- **Assessments**
 - Diglot Weave™ comprehension quizzes verify that students are following the ongoing immersive Diglot Weave™ story and that they are picking up key ideas and vocabulary as they follow along.
 - Focused Listening or Reading quizzes verify that students comprehend the main ideas or significant details of target passages or conversations.
 - Culture comprehension quizzes verify that students have captured facts and understandings from the cultural presentations.
 - End-of-week quizzes assess students' mastery of the vocabulary words and grammar concept presented that week, and include an oral or written assessment.
 - Midterm and Semester Exams assess students' mastery of the semester's contents up to their current place on the calendar, and include oral and written assessments.

Course Scope and Sequence

Semester 1

	Vocabulary Topic	Grammar Pattern	"Stretch" Activity*	Culture
Week 1	Verb Review	Review of Nouns: gender, number, case, negation	<i>Questions of a Small Child 4</i>	Germany
Week 2	Verb Review	Review of Verbs: conjugation, placement, negation	<i>The Lazy Son</i>	Germany
Week 3	Days, Months, Seasons Review	Modal auxiliaries and future with <i>werden</i>	<i>Discovery of Grammar 12</i>	Germany

Week 4	Food	Present perfect	<i>The Three Little Pigs</i>	Germany
Week 5	Health	Indirect objects and dative case	<i>A Little Boy and a Flower</i>	Germany
Week 6	Family	Dative prepositions	<i>A Small Child Answers the Phone</i>	Germany
Week 7	Professions	Dative verbs	<i>From Word to Discourse 2</i>	Germany
Week 8	Descriptions	Simple past regular verbs and irregular verbs	<i>Scatter Chart 5</i>	Germany
Week 9	Midterm Review and Test - no topics			
Week 10	Pastimes	Two-way prepositions	<i>The Farmer and the Turnip</i>	Germany
Week 11	Body	<i>Da</i> and <i>Wo</i> compounds	<i>The Three Billy Goats</i>	Germany
Week 12	Holidays/Special Celebrations	Simple past of modals	<i>N/A</i>	Germany
Week 13	At Home	Simple past review	<i>Questions of a Small Child 5</i>	Germany
Week 14	At School	Use of <i>als</i> , <i>wenn</i>	<i>The Three Thieves</i>	Germany
Week 15	Car	Review of coordinating conjunctions, intro to subordinating conjunctions	<i>The Hunter and the Thief</i>	Germany
Week 16	In the City	Review of prepositions	<i>Scatter Chart 5</i>	Germany
Week 17	Idioms	Reflexive verbs	<i>Conversation Snatches 9</i>	Germany
Week 18	Final Review and Test- no topics			

Semester 2

	Vocabulary Topic	Grammar Pattern	"Stretch" Activities*	Culture
Week 1	Verb Review	Reflexive pronouns	<i>The Crocodile</i>	Austria
Week 2	False Cognates	Review of conjugation regular/irregular	<i>The Man Who Will Be Our King</i>	Austria
Week 3	Nature	Present perfect review	<i>Scatter Chart 6</i>	Austria
Week 4	Vacation	Simple past review	<i>Scatter Chart 6</i>	Austria
Week 5	Music	Future review	<i>Chatter at a Royal Ball</i>	Austria
Week 6	Technology	Modal review	<i>The Silent Fisherman</i>	Austria
Week 7	Measurements	Review of dative case, accusative case	<i>Questions of a Small Child 6</i>	Austria
Week 8	Clothing	Adjective endings	<i>The Key of the Kingdom 3</i>	Austria
Week 9	Midterm Review and Test - no topics			
Week 10	Work	Word order review	<i>Discovery of Grammar 13</i>	Switzerland
Week 11	Shopping Money	Dative, accusative, nominative review	<i>Unity is Strength</i>	Switzerland
Week 12	Useful Words	Simple past, present perfect review	<i>Conversation Snatches 10</i>	Switzerland
Week 13	Love and Dating 1	Modal auxiliaries, future with <i>werden</i> review	<i>The Wind and the Sun</i>	Switzerland
Week 14	Love and Dating 2	Interrogative pronoun, imperatives	<i>Two Stubborn Goats</i>	Switzerland
Week 15	Societal Issues 1	Introduction to Genitive case	<i>Discovery of Grammar 14</i>	Switzerland
Week 16	Societal Issues 2	Introduction to Subjunctive case	<i>Questions of a Small Child 7</i>	Switzerland

Week 17	Slang	Idioms	<i>The Arab and His Camel</i>	Switzerland
Week 18	Final Review and Test- no topics			

*For a general description of “Stretch” Activities, see head