

DORMAN HIGH SCHOOL
GERMAN I SYLLABUS
Allison S. Suits

Dear Parents:

It is my pleasure to be your son's / daughter's German Teacher this year. My name is Allison S. Suits. I have a degree in German from Clemson University. This is my 3rd year teaching German after 20 years. I am excited about getting back into the classroom. My husband works at BMW which gave my family the opportunity to live in Germany for 3 years. And now I have many German acquaintances both here and in Germany, who have taught me a lot. I am excited that your child has chosen German. Of course I see this language as an advantage to many possibilities in the work force, right here in the Upstate of South Carolina. Mr. Moore (the other German Teacher) and I will work closely together to make sure our students are learning at a similar pace and level.

The grading scale in this class is the school wide grading scale as listed in the Dorman handbook. The grades in this class will be calculated as follows:

10% Participation and improvement grade
(see attached rubric for details)

40% Listening tests, Conversation grade, in class essays

40% Test and Quiz grades

10% Homework/Classwork grades

The conversation grade is very important in German class. Students will be given a point any time they are called on to speak German. He/She will earn a point as long as they answer in German. At the end of 4-5 weeks I will add up the points and give grades based on 20% of the highest point total. For example if the most conversation points after a 4 week period is 50, any students with between 40 and 50 points would get an A, 30-39 would get a B and so on. This is not a hard grade to earn if you speak German in class. I would love for everyone to earn an A.

Make-up work can be made up before school any day. I will be here by 7:50. Since I teach 1st and 2nd period I will not be here in the afternoon but if special arrangements need to be made I will be glad to make them. Students must make-up work within 1 week of the date the student comes back to school. The student is responsible for asking for the work he/she has missed.

How can I as a parent help my child be successful in class?

It is very important for you parents to support your child in this class. I encourage you to E-mail me about your child's grades. I try to print a grade report for your child 3 times during a 9 weeks. I require the student to get the mid-term signed. You should look for the other 2 grade reports about 2 weeks before and 3 weeks after the mid-term. Encourage your child to spend 10 minutes everyday practicing German out loud. It makes a big difference. Parents can also make sure that your son/daughter does his/her homework.

Thank you,

Allison S. Suits

DORMAN HIGH SCHOOL
Important Information for Students Taking German
Allison S. Suits

Herzliche Willkommen zur Deutsch! I am excited to be your German teacher this year. Being successful in learning a foreign language will take much effort on your part as well as mine. Outlined below are some important expectations and procedures to follow.

Class Rules:

1. Respect yourself, your teacher, and your fellow peers with your words and actions.
2. Come to class on time, prepared and willing to work each day.
3. Do not work on other assignments, while in German class. Pay attention.
4. Electronic devices are not to be used in the classroom. If visible, they will be confiscated.
5. Listen quietly during announcements.
6. Please ask questions for better understanding of material.
7. Please have fun while learning German.

Consequences:

First Offense: Verbal warning

Second Offense: 15 minute detention (before school)

Third Offense: 30 minute detention; parental (and coach) contact

Additional Offenses: Referral to appropriate administrator

Consequences of inappropriate classroom behavior are subject to teacher's discretion and/or Paul M. Dorman High School handbook.

General Policies:

1. Upon entering the classroom, please sharpen your pencil, have a seat, get out materials and begin work promptly.
2. Respect the time, space, and property of the teacher and your peers.
3. Students will be given 3 bathroom passes each 9 weeks, any unused passes will result in extra credit.
4. Purses and backpacks are not allowed to rest on student desks or laps.
5. Students are expected to demonstrate academic integrity with all assignments and assessments. For this reason, students should make a conscious effort to face forward, clear materials from desks, and keep eyes on their own work. Any form of cheating will result in a zero, and the student will not be allowed to retake the assessment.

Required Materials:

Writing utensil, 3-Ring 1 ½ binder, paper, dividers, index cards.

Tardies:

See handbook.

Grades:

Standard grading scale for Dorman. In German your final grade will be calculated as follows:

- 10% Participation and improvement grade
- 40% Listening Tests, conversation grade, in class essays
- 40% Test and quiz grades
- 10% Homework/Classwork grades

A final grade of C or better is recommended to advance to the next level.

Make-Up work/Extra Assistance:

I will be at school by 7:50 everyday for make-up work. I am teaching 1st and 2nd period only so I will not be here in the afternoon. I will be glad to make other arrangements if needed. It is your responsibility to make the work up with-in one week of returning to school.

I am looking forward to working with each one of you this year.

Sincerely,

Frau Suits

I have read the German I Syllabus for the 2011-2012 school year.

(parent's signature)

I have read and understand the Important Information for Students Taking German for the 2011-2012 school year. I will do my best to be successful in German this year.

(student's signature)