



Special Topics in Language and Culture

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Remind 81010: Special Topics In Lang & Cul 06@8e6hd93bcb

Conference Period: 2nd Period

Tutoring Opportunities:

In Person Instruction: Monday 4:30-5:00 PM; Thursday 8:30-9:00 AM

Lunch: by appointment only

Remote Learning: Thursday 10:00-10:45 AM

Tutorial times are subject to change

Class Materials:

- 3-ring binder or folder with brads
- Loose leaf paper or spiral for note taking
- Pen/pencil
- Canvas, Flipgrid, Remind
- Technology device with audio and recording capability

Access to Canvas and Office365 tools is available to students through our [Single Sign-on Portal \(SSO\)](#). Students receive their SSO login during enrollment.

Course Description:

Students will demonstrate novice level communication skills required in a LOTE level 1 course. They will also develop a greater understanding of other cultures, make connections to other disciplines, draw comparisons between languages and cultures, and effectively engage in global communities.

Course Goals:

Students who complete this course successfully will be able to express meaning in highly predictable contexts through the use of memorized and recalled words and phrases. They will be able to understand aural cognates, borrowed words, and high-frequency words and phrases with repetition. They will have a greater understanding of the nuances of cross-cultural communication and how communication varies from culture to culture. They will also have a greater appreciation of the similarities and interconnectedness of cultures.

Student Evaluation:

The grading system for this course is as follows:

- Grade averaged 60% Major 40% Minor (Advanced courses 70% Major 30% Minor)
- Major grades – tests (including District Common Assessments, six weeks assessments, projects, final essays, research papers, presentations); minimum three per six weeks
- Minor grades – quizzes, daily assignments, journals; minimum four per six weeks
- Semester exams will count 1/7 of the semester grade

- A letter system (S, N, U) is used to report a student’s conduct based on proper/responsive conduct and citizenship
- Per Board Policy EIA (LOCAL), “The District shall permit a student who meets the criteria detailed in the grading guidelines a reasonable opportunity to redo an assignment or retake a test for which the student received a **failing** grade. This policy applies only to initial identified major grades and does not apply to daily assignments, quizzes, six-week test, and semester final examinations. Upon reteach and retest, the new test, project, etc. recorded will be a high score of 70%.
- Official grades will be in Skyward only and can be accessed by student and parent through Family Access.

Assignments, exams, expectations outside of the classroom:

Minor Grades: Students should complete assigned homework from teacher created activities and via Canvas. Students should expect to complete research on various projects.

Major Grades: Students should practice vocabulary and basic grammar, collaborate on projects, and research information to present for evaluation.

Attendance/Tardy Policy/Make-Up Work:

- Student has time equal to days absent plus one.
- Students are responsible for obtaining, completing and submitting work.
- Tests should be administered before or after school or at teacher’s discretion during the school day.
- Work, including tests, assigned before an absence is due on the first day back.

Classroom Expectations:

- Follow all classroom and school rules and procedures.
- Respect your teacher and others as well as school property
- Be on time, begin to clean your designated desk before the bell rings, then be seated and begin bell work.
- Participate actively in class. Students are expected to use German to communicate.
- No food, drink (except water) in the classroom. Exceptions will be made for 1st period.
- Students are expected to participate using electronic devices for educational activities and assessments in the classroom and at home. However, within the classroom, personal use of the electronics is prohibited unless given permission by the teacher. District and campus guidelines will be followed concerning electronic device usage.

Preliminary Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Assignments

Communication: The student communicates an understanding of the elements of languages. The student is expected to introduce self and others using basic, culturally appropriate greetings, ask simple questions and provide simple responses related to personal preferences, and exchange essential information about self, family, and familiar topics

Cultures: The student identifies the practices, products, and perspectives of selected cultures.

Connections: The student describes connections between world languages and other disciplines. The student is expected to use authentic materials such as maps, graphs, graphic organizers, and other print and visual materials or literature to reinforce comprehension and expression of basic vocabulary in the target language.

Comparisons: The student develops insight into the nature of the target language and culture by comparing the student's own language and culture to another.

Communities: The student gains an understanding of cultures represented by LOTE to enhance global perspective, personal growth, and enrichment.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity values the work of individuals regardless if it is another student's work, a researcher, or author. The pursuit of learning requires each student to be responsible for his or her academic work. Academic dishonesty is not tolerated in our schools. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty shall be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or other supervising professional employee and considers written materials, observation, or information from students. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to disciplinary and/or academic penalties. The teacher and campus administrator shall jointly determine such action.