

Students continue their language-learning adventure by progressing to this next level of middle school German. Throughout the course, students focus on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various German-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Length: Two semesters

Overall Course Objectives

The MS German II course helps students:

- Master common vocabulary terms and phrases, including topics such as staying healthy, doing activities outdoors, and giving directions
- Comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, including how to show likes and preferences, use of interrogatives, imperatives, and subordinating and coordinating conjunctions
- Analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of Germany, such as The Brothers Grimm, Richard Wagner, and German Christmas markets
- Participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts
- Generate language incorporating basic vocabulary and grammar patterns
- Read, write, speak, and listen for meaning in basic German
- Regularly assess progress in proficiency through quizzes, tests, and speaking/writing submissions

Recurring Content

Vocabulary Theme

- Each unit presents a new set of vocabulary words pertaining to a particular theme. Each topic is first presented in context and then, the vocabulary is further practiced through a variety of interactive activities and practices. A printable vocabulary list is also provided.

Grammar Concept

- Each unit introduces a new grammar pattern. The concept is first introduced in a contextualized situation and then presented in a multimedia grammar animation. The concept is then further practiced in several interactive activities throughout the unit. A printable explanation of the pattern is also provided.

Presentation of Culture through Culture Videos

- In each unit, students learn about various cultural aspects (e.g. practices, products, and perspectives) of a German-speaking country through short video presentations.

“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.

Speaking and Writing Activities

- Students complete speaking and writing activities in each unit. 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 unit contains both listening and reading comprehension practices. They are based on the vocabulary, grammar, or culture concepts presented in that unit and challenge students to identify the main ideas and significant details of the listening/reading excerpts.

Assessments

- Listening and reading comprehension quizzes verify that students comprehend the main ideas and/or significant details of target language passages or conversations.
- Culture comprehension quizzes verify that students have understood important concepts presented in the culture presentations.
- Unit tests assess students’ mastery of the vocabulary words and grammar concepts presented in that unit. Each unit test also includes reading and listening comprehension questions and an oral or written assessment.
- Midterm and Semester Exams are comprehensive in nature. Not only do they assess students’ knowledge of the language, but they also assess students’ ability to produce the language in a communicative way. Midterms and Semester Exams include both oral and written assessments.

“Life-long Learner” Assignments

- Each semester, students are required to create a plan for incorporating German into their daily lives. They accomplish this by outlining the long-term benefits of learning German, by making goals for what they want to accomplish with their mastery of the language, and by creating a plan for accomplishing their goals.

“Explore” Activities

- These activities help students develop a more profound understanding of German-speaking countries and cultures.

“Webquest” Activities

- These special activities provide students the opportunity to link out to authentic sources of language on the Internet. Students are given practical tasks where they must use their language to accomplish the assignment.

Journal

- Journal assignments allow students to make cultural comparisons, reinforce new vocabulary and grammar patterns, and practice communicating in the language.

Pronunciation

- Pronunciation lessons are presented in short animation videos. These videos focus on the unique sounds of the language. Follow-up activities throughout the unit provide additional practices for students to improve their pronunciation skills.

Course Scope and Sequence

Semester 1				
	Vocabulary	Grammar	Culture	Pronunciation
Unit 19	Professions	Adjectives with Articles	Heidelberg Working in Germany	
Unit 20	Clothing	Dative Case	The German School System	The Letter S
Unit 21	At Home	Dative Prepositions	Lebkuchen Abendbrot	
Unit 22	The Body	Dative Pronouns	Idioms	Hard ch vs. Soft ch
Midterm Review and Test				
Unit 23	Reflexive Verb List	Reflexive Pronouns	Martin Luther	
Unit 24	Cognates Numbers 1-1000	Modal Verbs	Traditional German Dress Carnival	The Letter V
Unit 25	On Vacation	Comparatives and Superlatives	Max und Moritz German Birthday traditions	
Unit 26	Telephone	Understanding zu and nach	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart	The Letter R
Unit 27 Final Review and Test				
Semester 2				
Unit 28	Directions	Separable Verbs	Frankfurt am Main Driving in Germany	The Letter Z
Unit 29	Transportation	Separable Verbs with Modals	Deutschmark/Euro Der Ice Zug	
Unit 30	Medical Words	Conversational Past Tense (Present Perfect)	Marzipan Universal Health Care	The Letter J
Unit 31	Sports	Strong and Weak Verbs	Idioms	
Midterm Review and Test				
Unit 32	Outdoor Activities	Narrative Past Tense (Simple Past)	German Tribes	S with Other Consonants
Unit 33	Travel	Verb Placement Review	Cathedrals and Churches	
Unit 34	Computers (part 1)	Future Tense	Faust/Goethe	Pronouncing Borrowed Words
Unit 35	Computers (part 2)	Past Tense Exceptions	Johannes Gutenberg	
Unit 36 Final Review and Test				