

## The Germanic Languages Students' Union



### Introduction

The Germanic Languages Students' Union (GLSU) holds events for students who are taking GER courses. If you are interested in joining the GLSU, please contact the ASSU office - Sidney Smith Hall, Room 1068.

Editor

### GER 100Y1Y Introduction to German I

Instructor(s): M. Hepburn

Enr: 36	Resp: 32							Retake: 93%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	3	15	34	46	6.2
Explains	0	0	0	3	23	26	46	6.2
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	31	68	6.7
Teaching	0	0	0	0	3	37	59	6.6
Workload	0	0	9	61	25	3	0	4.2
Difficulty	0	0	12	61	19	6	0	4.2
Learn Exp	0	0	3	10	26	33	26	5.7

Hepburn was helpful, enthusiastic, approachable and clear. Though the course's focus was solely on language, students were also given insight on German culture and traditions. Students enjoyed Hepburn's teaching style very much.

Instructor(s): M. Hager

Enr: 22	Resp: 20							Retake: 94%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	10	21	42	26	5.8
Explains	0	0	0	10	15	36	36	6.0
Communicates	0	0	0	0	16	27	55	6.4
Teaching	0	0	0	0	10	42	47	6.4
Workload	0	0	6	50	37	6	0	4.4
Difficulty	0	0	11	52	35	0	0	4.2
Learn Exp	0	0	0	9	45	27	18	5.5

Students thought this course was excellent and felt they learned a lot about German culture. They loved Hager, describing him as extremely enthusiastic and very dedicated.

Instructor(s): M. Hepburn

Enr: 30	Resp: 27							Retake: 76%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	22	11	22	44	5.9
Explains	0	0	0	12	25	25	37	5.9
Communicates	0	0	0	12	12	0	75	6.4

Teaching	0	0	0	12	12	25	50	6.1
Workload	0	0	3	51	33	7	3	4.6
Difficulty	0	0	7	51	37	3	0	4.4
Learn Exp	4	4	14	33	23	14	4	4.3

Instructor(s): K. Roy

Enr: 26	Resp: 17							Retake: 82%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	7	14	21	28	28	0	4.6
Explains	0	7	15	30	15	30	0	4.5
Communicates	0	0	0	21	42	14	21	5.4
Teaching	0	7	0	28	14	35	14	5.1
Workload	5	0	11	58	5	11	5	4.2
Difficulty	5	0	5	70	5	11	0	4.1
Learn Exp	0	0	0	21	28	28	21	5.5

A few of the students who commented thought that Roy's classes were sometimes confusing as she had trouble communicating the material clearly.

Instructor(s): V. Poenaru

Enr: 24	Resp: 20							Retake: 70%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	11	17	35	23	11	0	0	3.1
Explains	5	11	38	16	22	5	0	3.6
Communicates	0	11	5	41	29	11	0	4.2
Teaching	5	16	11	27	22	16	0	3.9
Workload	0	0	5	84	5	0	5	4.2
Difficulty	0	10	10	63	10	5	0	3.9
Learn Exp	0	0	5	33	44	16	0	4.7

### GER 200Y1Y Introductory German II

Instructor(s): N. Ibener

Enr: 11	Resp: 10							Retake: 100%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	33	44	22	5.9
Explains	0	0	0	11	22	55	11	5.7
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	44	55	6.6
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	55	44	6.4
Workload	0	11	11	66	11	0	0	3.8
Difficulty	0	0	11	44	44	0	0	4.3
Learn Exp	0	0	0	25	25	37	12	5.4

Ibener made students feel comfortable in class and taught in a very easy to understand manner. She was very understanding, helpful and enthusiastic - a very good instructor overall.

Instructor(s): J. Knorzer

Enr: 24	Resp: 16							Retake: 87%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	18	50	18	12	5.2
Explains	0	0	0	25	12	25	37	5.8
Communicates	0	0	0	37	6	18	37	5.6
Teaching	0	0	6	0	25	50	18	5.8
Workload	0	6	6	68	6	12	0	4.1
Difficulty	0	6	0	68	12	12	0	4.2
Learn Exp	0	0	6	33	20	26	13	5.1

Many students agreed that the textbook was very poor as it did not effectively explain grammar concepts. However, others thought it had good practice exercises.

Overall, Knorzer was a good instructor who used good examples, was helpful and was enthusiastic. Some students wished there were more opportunities to practice speaking the language.

Instructor(s): M. Stock

Enr: 24	Resp: 19							Retake: 78%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	5	16	33	22	22	5.4
Explains	0	5	0	21	21	26	26	5.4
Communicates	0	0	0	5	5	31	57	6.4
Teaching	0	0	0	10	5	63	21	5.9
Workload	5	10	10	36	21	10	5	4.1
Difficulty	0	10	15	42	15	10	5	4.2
Learn Exp	0	0	18	31	0	37	12	4.9

Stock was friendly and approachable, and communicated enthusiasm for the material.

Instructor(s): M. Kumanatasan

Enr: 26	Resp: 22							Retake: 95%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	4	0	13	36	45	6.2
Explains	0	0	4	0	9	22	63	6.4
Communicates	0	0	0	0	4	13	81	6.8
Teaching	0	0	0	0	4	22	72	6.7
Workload	0	0	9	77	13	0	0	4.0
Difficulty	0	0	13	63	18	0	4	4.2
Learn Exp	0	0	0	12	31	37	18	5.6

Most loved having Kumanatasan as their instructor, calling her "excellent", "fabulous", "great" and "amazing". She was described as a funny and energetic instructor who's enthusiasm really added to their learning experience. She was always well-prepared, and made sure her students were also prepared for tests. Students had only praise for Kumanatasan!

#### GER 205H1S German Literature I

Instructor(s): A. Botcharova Christova

Enr: 22	Resp: 20							Retake: 100%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	31	47	21	5.9
Explains	0	0	0	0	15	57	26	6.1
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	26	73	6.7
Teaching	0	0	0	0	15	36	47	6.3
Workload	0	11	23	58	0	0	5	3.7
Difficulty	0	5	21	63	5	0	5	3.9
Learn Exp	0	0	5	16	22	44	11	5.4

Students appreciated the fact that Botcharova Christova's enthusiasm was always apparent, and that she was always well-prepared for classes. She always made sure that everyone understood the material and was encouraging.

#### GER 260Y1Y Elementary Yiddish

Instructor(s): A. Shternshis

Enr: 10	Resp: 8							Retake: 100%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	25	12	62	6.4
Explains	0	0	0	0	14	14	71	6.6
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	25	75	6.8
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	37	62	6.6
Workload	0	0	0	57	14	0	28	5.0
Difficulty	0	0	0	57	0	28	14	5.0
Learn Exp	0	0	0	0	40	40	20	5.8

#### GER 360Y1Y Intermediate German

Instructor(s): J. Knorzer

Enr: 28	Resp: 23							Retake: 77%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	4	4	9	27	31	18	4	4.5
Explains	4	4	9	18	36	13	13	4.7

Communicates	4	9	4	18	36	22	4	4.6
Teaching	4	0	9	19	28	23	14	5.0
Workload	0	9	13	59	18	0	0	3.9
Difficulty	0	4	18	50	18	9	0	4.1
Learn Exp	5	0	17	29	29	11	5	4.4

Students were disappointed that there was little opportunity for conversations in German. Also disappointing was the textbook which students said was "sub-standard" and "extremely difficult to comprehend".

Knorzer received mixed reviews. Most thought she was a good instructor while others felt she could be a bit "dismissive".

Instructor(s): N. Pissowotzki

Enr: 25	Resp: 24							Retake: 43%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	13	4	22	31	13	9	4	3.7
Explains	18	0	22	40	0	18	0	3.6
Communicates	4	0	0	21	47	21	4	4.9
Teaching	8	8	21	30	17	8	4	3.8
Workload	0	0	4	26	34	26	8	5.1
Difficulty	0	0	4	43	21	26	4	4.8
Learn Exp	5	16	11	33	22	5	5	3.9

The majority of students who wrote comments did not have positive things to say. They felt that Pissowotzki did not explain grammar concepts clearly and that the course itself was poorly organized. Tests were deemed "very hard" and marked harshly, and assignments needed clearer expectations.

A few students however, thought that although she was a challenging instructor, she was a good instructor.

#### GER 305H1F German Literature II

Instructor(s): M. Kumanatasan

Enr: 20	Resp: 17							Retake: 87%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	5	23	41	29	5.9
Explains	0	0	0	5	5	41	47	6.3
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	23	76	6.8
Teaching	0	0	0	0	17	23	58	6.4
Workload	0	0	0	82	5	5	5	4.4
Difficulty	0	0	5	64	17	11	0	4.4
Learn Exp	0	0	0	28	21	28	21	5.4

Students found Kumanatasan approachable, effective and very clear with her instructions. They enjoyed the class discussions, but wished that their work was returned promptly.

#### GER 310H1S Topics in Contemporary German Culture

Instructor(s): J. Zilcosky

Enr: 13	Resp: 13							Retake: 91%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	33	41	25	5.9
Explains	0	0	0	0	16	50	33	6.2
Communicates	0	0	0	0	16	25	58	6.4
Teaching	0	0	0	0	16	33	50	6.3
Workload	0	0	0	84	7	7	0	4.2
Difficulty	0	0	0	69	23	7	0	4.4
Learn Exp	0	0	0	25	41	16	16	5.2

Students thoroughly enjoyed this course - describing it as fun and interesting. As well, they thought Zilcosky was an "outstanding" instructor - as one student said, "in addition to being extremely dashing, [Zilcosky] is an exceptional, enthusiastic and intelligent university professor."

Students appreciated all aspects of the course - the readings, class discussions and pre-class assignments.

## 102 GERMAN

### GER 327H1S Madness and Literature

Instructor(s): J. Noyes

	Resp: 8							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	0	0	37	37	25	5.9
Explains	0	0	0	0	37	37	25	5.9
Communicates	0	0	0	0	37	37	25	5.9
Teaching	0	0	0	12	12	37	37	6.0
Workload	0	0	0	71	28	0	0	4.3
Difficulty	0	0	0	42	42	14	0	4.7
Learn Exp	0	0	0	40	40	0	20	5.0

### GER 334H1F Weimar Culture

Instructor(s): H.W. Seliger

	Resp: 7							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	0	0	28	57	14	5.9
Explains	0	0	0	0	14	57	28	6.1
Communicates	0	0	0	0	14	57	28	6.1
Teaching	0	0	0	0	14	57	28	6.1
Workload	0	0	14	85	0	0	0	3.9
Difficulty	0	0	14	57	28	0	0	4.1
Learn Exp	0	0	0	14	57	0	28	5.4

Seliger was very approachable, bright and insightful. Students benefitted much from taking this course as the selection of readings, class discussions and Seliger's ability to answer questions were very good.

### GER 361H1S Yiddish Literature and Culture in Translation

Instructor(s): A. Shternshis

	Resp: 8							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	12	0	25	37	25	5.6
Explains	0	0	0	12	12	25	50	6.1
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	37	62	6.6
Teaching	0	0	0	0	25	50	25	6.0
Workload	0	0	0	75	12	12	0	4.4
Difficulty	0	0	0	50	50	0	0	4.5
Learn Exp	0	0	0	0	42	42	14	5.7

### GER 364H1S Introduction to the History of Yiddish Cinema

Instructor(s): A. Shternshis

	Resp: 5							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	0	20	60	0	20	5.2
Explains	0	0	0	20	20	40	20	5.6
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	40	60	6.6
Teaching	0	0	0	20	0	60	20	5.8
Workload	0	0	0	60	40	0	0	4.4
Difficulty	0	0	0	80	20	0	0	4.2
Learn Exp	0	0	0	25	25	50	0	5.2

A common comment was that students wanted more time to complete assignments.

### GER 370H1F Business German I

Instructor(s): M. Hager

	Resp: 25							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	4	12	12	33	37	5.9
Explains	0	0	0	8	16	20	54	6.2
Communicates	0	0	0	4	12	29	54	6.3
Teaching	0	0	0	0	27	31	40	6.1
Workload	9	9	9	61	4	4	0	3.6
Difficulty	8	13	17	39	17	4	0	3.6
Learn Exp	0	0	6	13	33	13	33	5.5

Hager was enthusiastic, helpful and effective. Students had fun in the course.

### GER 400Y1Y Advanced German

Instructor(s): J. Knorz

	Resp: 8							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	0	0	12	37	50	6.4
Explains	0	0	0	0	37	37	25	5.9
Communicates	0	0	0	12	0	37	50	6.2
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	37	62	6.6
Workload	0	12	0	12	50	0	25	5.0
Difficulty	0	0	0	25	37	37	0	5.1
Learn Exp	0	0	0	16	16	16	50	6.0

One student summed it up, "this course was quite challenging, with a demanding workload, but extremely rewarding and I feel that I have benefitted immensely from taking it." Students were disappointed that the Department was cancelling this amazing course.

Knorz received only praise from her students. She was very good at explaining concepts, helpful and a great instructor overall.

### GER 470H1S Business German II

Instructor(s): M. Hager

	Resp: 22							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	0	14	42	23	19	5.5
Explains	0	0	0	9	22	36	31	5.9
Communicates	0	0	0	0	9	36	54	6.5
Teaching	0	0	4	0	27	36	31	5.9
Workload	0	0	20	55	25	0	0	4.1
Difficulty	0	0	15	60	20	0	5	4.2
Learn Exp	0	0	11	22	33	0	33	5.2

Hager was a very good instructor who was enthusiastic and entertaining, and made the course a great learning experience.

