NOTE to prospective students: This syllabus is intended to provide students who are considering taking this course an idea of what they will be learning. A more detailed syllabus will be available on the course site for enrolled students and may be more current than this sample syllabus.

GER 421: Tandem Conversation (1 Credit)

Instructor: Ludmila Schuster Provaznikova  
Office: Kidder Hall 240;  
Phone: (541) 737 3732;  
Email: ludmila.schuster@oregonstate.edu

Office hours: by appointment in person or skype;  
Skype: Ludmila.Schuster (add to contacts)  
My Tandem conversant/time/place:  

Course setup
This elective course is a German advanced conversation course. It is designed for students who have successfully completed GER 313 or equivalent and would like to continue developing basic listening and speaking skills in German through independent work with a native speaker (NS).

After you register, the coordinator will help you find a tandem conversant. It will be your responsibility to contact each other and specify area of your conversation, and time and place of your weekly meetings. These specifications will be sent to your coordinator as a one-page proposal (see details below) after your first meeting with your tandem partner – during week 1 (till Sunday midnight). During the term, you will meet once a week with a native speaker to continue developing advanced listening and speaking skills in German. You will be asked to create and keep a weekly blog (see details below) informing the coordinator about your progress during the term – the link to your blog will be submitted to the instructor in your proposal. At the end of the term, you will also submit a final video report evaluating your participation, blog and accomplishments in this course (ppt with audio, cultura canvas media or youtube). Weekly independent preparation and participation are absolutely necessary in this course.

This course combines approximately 30 hours of instruction, online activities, and assignments for 1 credit. (~30 hours per credit).

Note: To pass this course, you need to complete all three assignments by the due date.

Learning outcomes
Upon completion of this course, students should be able to

- speak and understand German at the level B1/2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages ("Communication")
- explain some peculiarities of life in German-speaking cultures by writing and speaking in German ("Cultures")
- explain some of the history and culture of German-speaking cultures by writing and speaking in German ("Connections")
- compare and contrast the German and English language and culture ("Comparisons")
- show interest in activities related to German on and off campus and describe how these events contribute to their learning experience ("Communities")
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Evaluation

- Proposal (by Sunday midnight week 1)..........................................................5%
- Weekly participation and blog (by Sunday midnight each week). ....80%
  - Organized overview of weekly activities
  - Weekly Journal about your progress (in German, 200 words/week)
  - Self-selected activities, new vocabulary list, selfies, etc.
- Final video report (due Finals Week Wednesday).............. ..................15%
- TOTAL...........................................................................................................100%

Grading breakdown
100-80 = P          Below 80 = N
Note: To pass this course, you need to submit all three assignments by the due date.

Learning Text and tools:
Internet, canvas, email, skype or webex, etc. for communication purposes.

Course Details

Canvas
This course will be delivered via Canvas where you will interact with your classmates and with your instructor. Within the course Canvas site, you will access the learning materials, such as the syllabus, class discussions, assignments, projects, and quizzes. To preview how an online course works, visit the Ecampus Course Demo. For technical assistance, please visit Ecampus Technical Help.

The following assignments will determine your grade in this class:

Proposal (5%)
After you register, the coordinator will help you find a tandem conversant. It will be your responsibility to contact each other and specify an area of your conversation, and time and place of your weekly meetings. These specifications will be sent to your coordinator as a one-page proposal after your first meeting (due on Sunday Week 1 or when specified by coordinator, in German). Please include this information: names (of yourself and your tandem partner), time & place of meetings agreed, email contact of both, project description and timeline, proposed look of your blog and the link to your blog, list of resources for your project.

Weekly participation and blog (80%)
Each week (week 1-10), you will meet with a native German speaker to practice your German speaking skills and develop your vocabulary. You are expected to meet with the native speaker for at least 1 hour/week, learn and write down about 20 new vocabulary items/week, and submit a weekly blog pos (about 200 words in German). The coordinator will not attend your meetings, but will learn about your progress via weekly blog pages that you submit in Canvas. The weekly blog will include: organized overview of weekly activities, weekly journal about your progress (in German), new vocabulary list, and any other information you would like the coordinator to know. If you are using a real blog, just submit each week the link to your updated blog via canvas by Sunday midnight (PST).

Note: If you get ill or have an emergency, it is your responsibility to provide your instructor and tandem partner with a written excuse (email, text, etc.). Unexcused absences will automatically result in a failing grade.
Final report video (15%)  
Your blog is a showcase of your work throughout the term - you will present all you have learned each week. At the end of the term, you will be asked to review your work one more time and evaluate your accomplishments. Using screenshots, your own text or images, you will tell us about your term and reevaluate your learning progress by creating a 2-min. video report in German and submitting the link to Canvas by Wednesday finals week (midnight, PST).  
In case of questions, the coordinator will contact you via email to set up an additional interview.

Evaluation of your tandem partner:  
Although not graded, I would like to ask you to complete a short survey via Canvas at the end of the term (due finals week Wednesday) evaluating your tandem partner’s help. However, in any case of concerns, please don’t hesitate to contact the coordinator during the term.

Course Content

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You should save all of the work you do for the class. You will need this information at the end of the class for your portfolio.
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Note: Please always check Canvas (announcements) for any details and weekly updates. Please contact your instructor/coordinator if you have any further questions.

Statement Regarding Students with Disabilities
Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty, and Disability Access Services (DAS). Students with accommodations approved through DAS are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through DAS should contact DAS immediately at 541-737-4098.

Accessibility of Course Materials
All materials used in this course are accessible [with the exception of two videos]. If you require accommodations please contact Disability Access Services (DAS). [If all items are accessible in your course, please delete the orange text in this section.]

Additionally, Canvas, the learning management system through which this course is offered, provides a vendor statement certifying how the platform is accessible to students with disabilities.

Expectations for Student Conduct
Student conduct is governed by the university’s policies, as explained in the Student Conduct Code.

Academic Integrity
Students are expected to comply with all regulations pertaining to academic honesty. For further information, visit Student Conduct and Community Standards, or contact the office of Student Conduct and Mediation at 541-737-3656.

OAR 576-015-0020 (2) Academic or Scholarly Dishonesty:

a) Academic or Scholarly Dishonesty is defined as an act of deception in which a Student seeks to claim credit for the work or effort of another person, or uses unauthorized materials or fabricated information in any academic work or research, either through the Student's own efforts or the efforts of another.

b) It includes:
   i) CHEATING - use or attempted use of unauthorized materials, information or study aids, or an act of deceit by which a Student attempts to misrepresent mastery of academic effort or information. This includes but is not limited to unauthorized copying or collaboration on a test or assignment, using prohibited materials and texts, any misuse of an electronic device, or using any deceptive means to gain academic credit.
   ii) FABRICATION - falsification or invention of any information including but not limited to falsifying research, inventing or exaggerating data, or listing incorrect or fictitious references.
   iii) ASSISTING - helping another commit an act of academic dishonesty. This includes but is not limited to paying or bribing someone to acquire a test or assignment, changing someone's grades or academic records, taking a test/doing an assignment for someone else by any means, including misuse of an
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Electronic device. It is a violation of Oregon state law to create and offer to sell part or all of an educational assignment to another person (ORS 165.114).

iv) TAMPERING - altering or interfering with evaluation instruments or documents.

v) PLAGIARISM - representing the words or ideas of another person or presenting someone else's words, ideas, artistry or data as one's own, or using one's own previously submitted work. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to copying another person's work (including unpublished material) without appropriate referencing, presenting someone else's opinions and theories as one's own, or working jointly on a project and then submitting it as one's own.

c) Academic Dishonesty cases are handled initially by the academic units, following the process outlined in the University's Academic Dishonesty Report Form, and will also be referred to SCCS for action under these rules.

Conduct in this Online Classroom
Students are expected to conduct themselves in the course (e.g., on discussion boards, email postings) in compliance with the university's regulations regarding civility.

Tutoring
NetTutor is a leading provider of online tutoring and learner support services fully staffed by experienced, trained and monitored tutors. Students connect to live tutors from any computer that has Internet access. NetTutor provides a virtual whiteboard that allows tutors and students to work on problems in a real time environment. They also have an online writing lab where tutors critique and return essays within 24 to 48 hours. Access NetTutor from within your Canvas class by clicking on the NetTutor button in your course menu.

OSU Student Evaluation of Teaching
Course evaluation results are extremely important and are used to help me improve this course and the learning experience of future students. Results from the 19 multiple choice questions are tabulated anonymously and go directly to instructors and department heads. Student comments on the open-ended questions are compiled and confidentially forwarded to each instructor, per OSU procedures. The online Student Evaluation of Teaching form will be available toward the end of each term, and you will be sent instructions via ONID by the Office of Academic Programs, Assessment, and Accreditation. You will log in to “Student Online Services/MyOSU” to respond to the online questionnaire. The results on the form are anonymous and are not tabulated until after grades are posted.