

RCTH785 Theological German

Fall 2006

REGENT UNIVERSITY
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY PROGRAM
SCHOOL OF DIVINITY

The School of Divinity is committed to providing biblical and theological education and training from a renewal perspective for the spiritual equipping of men and women who will contribute to the renewal of the Church and the evangelization of the world.

YOUR PROFESSOR FOR THIS COURSE:

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PERSONAL GREETING FROM THE PROFESSOR

Fervent prayer and the guidance of the Holy Spirit are prerequisites for any theology course. You will need a double-dose of both in this course.... (Just kidding.) German is fun! Really! And as a friend of mine used to say, “They probably speak German in heaven.” So you better learn it now!

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF COURSE

This course presents the fundamental structures of the German language and essential German vocabulary to graduate students majoring in theology. The course is designed to prepare the student for the proficient reading of academic journals, books, and monographs written in German. The course is designed to attain a general proficiency in reading German texts in the arts and sciences. The second part of the semester offers greater focus on theological texts and vocabulary. A proficiency exam in theological German is offered at the end of the semester. This course is the prerequisite for TCDH 586 “Advanced Theological German.” Students who pass the proficiency exam fulfill the language requirements of the School of Divinity in theological German.

Course Schedule

Class	Date	Title	Texts
1	08/29	<i>German Nouns and the Definite Article</i>	Jannach/Korb, ch. 1, App. c, d
2	09/05	<i>Case: Nominative, Genitive, Dative and Accusative & Indefinite Articles</i>	Jannach/Korb, ch. 2, 3 & 4
3	09/12	<i>Simple Verb Tenses & Prepositions</i>	Jannach/Korb, ch. 5 & 6
4	09/19	<i>Adjectives and Adverbs</i>	Jannach/Korb, ch. 7 & 8
5	09/26	<i>Perfect Tenses and Present Participle</i>	Jannach/Korb, ch. 9 & 10
6	10/03	<i>Comparison of Adjectives and Adverbs Future Tense</i>	Jannach/Korb, ch. 11 & 12
7	10/10	<i>Passive Voice. Perfect Tenses of the Passive Voice</i>	Jannach/Korb, ch. 13 & 14
8	10/17	<i>Reflexive Pronouns Modal Auxiliaries Express Modalities</i>	Jannach/Korb, ch. 15 & 16
9	10/24	<i>Perfect Tenses of Modals, Coordinating Conjunctions</i> Mid-term Exam	Jannach/Korb, ch. 17 & 18
10	10/31	Modular Week	<i>No class</i>
11	11/07	<i>Relative Pronouns Demonstrative Pronouns</i>	Jannach/Korb, ch. 19 & 20 Ziefle, ch. 16
12	11/14	<i>Interrogative and Demonstrative Pronouns Infinitive Constructs</i>	Jannach/Korb, ch. 21 & 22 Ziefle, ch. 19
13	11/21	<i>No class</i>	No class
14	11/28	<i>Extended-Adjective Constructions</i>	Jannach/Korb, ch. 23, 24 & 25 Ziefle, ch. 20
15	11/29	<i>Subjunctive II</i>	Jannach/Korb, ch. 27 & 28 Ziefle, ch. 21
16	12/05	<i>Subjunctive I</i>	Jannach/Korb, ch. 29 & 30 Ziefle, ch. 22
17	12/12	Proficiency Exam	

Class Layout

Class 1

Introduction to German language, texts, dictionaries and reading techniques. German Nouns and the Definite Article. Gender of Nouns. Present and Past Tense of the Verb sein (to be). Interrogatives. Cognates and Loan Words.

Class 2

Cases: Nominative, Genitive, Dative and Accusative. Infinitive. Present Tense of Regular Verbs. Present Tense of the Verb haben (to have). The Metric System. Cardinal Numbers. Plural of Nouns. N-Nouns. Past Tense of Weak Verbs and of haben. Meanings of the Past Tense. Indefinite Articles. Compound Nouns. Ordinal Numbers. Der Words.

Class 3

Simple Past Tense of Strong Verbs. Irregular Weak Verbs. Present and Simple Past Tense of werden (to become). Word Order. Prepositions. Idiomatic and Special Meanings. Contraction of Prepositions. Prepositions Following Nouns or Pronouns. Indefinite Pronouns.

Class 4

Adjectives. Information from Adjective Endings. Adjectives Used as Nouns. Adverbs. Verbs with Inseparable and Separable Prefixes. Recognizing Singulars and Plurals of Nouns.

Class 5

Perfect Tenses and Present Participle. Meanings of the Perfect Tenses. Seit + Present Tense = have been + ing. Past Participles. Word Order. Participles Used as Adjectives and Adverbs. Meanings of Present and Past Participles. Past Participle Used with SEIN to Express State of Being. Participles Used as Nouns. Infinitives Used as Nouns.

Class 6

Comparison of Adjectives and Adverbs. Exceptional Comparisons. Recognition of Comparatives and Superlatives. Special Uses of the Comparative and Superlative. Comparatives and Superlatives Used as Nouns. Future Tense. Future Perfect Tense. Future Tenses Used to Express Probability.

Class 7

Passive Voice. Present and Past Tenses of the Passive Voice. Three Uses of werden. Personal Pronouns. Agreement of Pronoun and Antecedent.

Perfect Tenses of the Passive Voice. Infinitive of the Passive Voice. Future Tense of the Passive Voice. Future Perfect of the Passive Voice. Suffix -er. Suffix -in.

Class 8

Reflexive Pronouns. Reflexive Verbs. Position of the Reflexive Pronoun in Main Clauses. Suffixes -bar and -lich.

Modal Auxiliaries Express Modalities. Conjugation of the Modals. Modals and the Dependent Infinitive.

Class 9

Perfect Tenses of Modals. Double Infinitive with Other Verbs. Objective vs. Subjective Meanings of Modal Auxiliaries.

Coordinating Conjunctions. Subordinating Conjunctions. Learn to Differentiate. Wenn auch, auch wenn (even if, even though, even when). "False Friends".

Class 10

No class

Class 11

Relative Pronouns. Recognizing Relative Clauses. Welch- as Relative Pronoun, Indefinite Article, and Interrogative Pronoun. Case of Relative Pronoun Indicates Function. Was as a Relative Pronoun. Demonstrative Pronouns. Other Demonstratives. Suffixes –los, -fach, and -mal (time, times).

Martin Luther. *Der Glaube allein*.

Class 12

Interrogative and Demonstrative Pronouns. Wer and was used as Interrogative and Relative Pronouns. Verb-First Constructions. Feminine Noun Suffixes. Infinitives with zu. Idiomatic Prepositional Phrases.

Karl Barth, *Die Liebe*.

Class 13

No class

Class 14

Extended-Adjective Constructions. Recognizing Extended-Adjective Constructions. Translating Extended-Adjective Constructions. Other Types of Extended-Adjective Constructions. Extended-Adjectives plus Unextended Adjectives in front of a Noun. Several Extended-Adjectives Modifying a Noun. Additional Extended-Adjective Constructions. Participial Phrases.

Karl Barth. *Jesus (Röm. 3, 22)*.

Class 15

Subjunctive II. Suppositions of Conditions Contrary to Fact. WENN-Clauses or Result Clauses Standing Alone.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Unser Sinn ist in Jesus*.

Helmut Thielicke, *Der verlorene Sohn*.

Class 16

Subjunctive I. Special Subjunctive in Indirect Discourse. Indirect Questions. Other Uses of the Special Subjunctive. Special Uses of Subjunctive I. Lassen.

Peter Stuhlmacher & Helmut Claß, *Das Alte Testament und der Kanon*.

Class 17

Exam

COURSE GOALS

The course provides an intensive study of basic German grammar, syntax, and translation practices. The goal of the course is to give the student a reading/translating knowledge of German for academic purposes. At the end of the semester, the student should be able to take a German language proficiency exam with confidence. Explicit goals of the course include the following:

1. To **introduce** the student to the fundamental German vocabulary necessary for the comprehensive reading of German theological texts.
2. To **provide** systematic and concise access to essential German grammar and syntax.
3. To **guide** the student in a clear understanding of German sentence structure and its equivalent in the English language.
4. To **suggest** techniques for reading comprehension and translation of German theological texts.
5. To **encourage** students in the further development of language skills.
6. To **prepare** the student for the follow-up advanced course in theological German.
7. To **guide** the student in working with German key theological texts that may become more prominent at the doctoral level.

COURSE COMPETENCIES AND LEARNING OBJECTIVES

In view of the specific weekly topics outlined above after completion of this course the student should be able to:

1. **Approach** a German text with confidence.
2. **Correctly identify** German sentence structure and grammar.
3. **Possess** a foundational German vocabulary with attention given to theological terms and phrases without reference to a dictionary.
4. **Explain** the basic sense of a German text without the help of a dictionary.
5. **Translate** a theological text correctly with the help of dictionaries and other study aid.
6. **Demonstrate** *original research* and writing that advance theological understanding for the sake of the academy, the church and society.
7. **Engage** a broad spectrum of the theological traditions in the German-speaking world.
8. **Show** a greater awareness of newly emerging possibilities for framing inquiries and organizing and examining data in the German language.

PROGRAM COMPETENCIES

This course contributes to the fulfillment of the following Program Competencies:

1. **Express** a sound theological reasoning on contemporary social issues by cultivating knowledge of historical, critical, biblical and theological themes.
2. **Articulate** major doctrines, historical perspectives and theological issues, including those related to spiritual renewal as these bear on Christian life and mission.
3. **Articulate** contemporary intellectual issues and how the Church at home and abroad can penetrate societies with a Christian worldview.
4. **Interpret** and **articulate** doctrines, history and traditions of the Church and ethical issues in a compelling way, including those relative to the spiritual renewal as these bear on the Christian life and mission.
5. **Demonstrate** a commitment to unity within the body of Christ by modeling respectful appreciation of cultural, ethnic, denominational and traditional distinctives.

PREREQUISITES

Prior knowledge of German is helpful but not required for the course.

RESOURCES

Students are expected to have all required materials by the first day of the semester.

The Regent University Bookstore website is <http://www.regentbookstore.net>. Additional materials (e.g., articles, etc.) may be found in the Course Material section of Blackboard.

Required Textbooks

- *German for Reading Knowledge*, 5th ed., (Boston: Thompson & Heinle, 2005), Hubert Jannach and Richard Alan Korb (ISBN 1-4130-0370-2).
- *Modern Theological German. A Reader and Dictionary* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1997), Helmut Ziefle (ISBN 0-8010-2144-8).
- *The Big Yellow Book of German Verbs. 555 Fully Conjugated Verbs* (New York: McGraw-Hill, 2005), Paul Listen, Ro. Di Donato, D. Franklin (ISBN 0-07-143300-7).
- *The Oxford-Duden German Dictionary*, Second Reprinted & Enlarged Edition (Cambridge: Oxford University Press, 1999), edited by M. Clark et al. (ISBN: 0198609744).

University Library

Students are expected to make use of the wide variety of services and resources provided by the Regent University Library as they conduct research for written assignments and other projects assigned in this course.

Students can search the Library Catalog for texts at <http://library.regent.edu>. Note that the library cannot loan out books that are currently on reserve for courses. The *Religion Resources* page at <http://www.regent.edu/lib/theo/theo.html> is also an excellent resource as is the document *Recommended Resources for Old and New Testament Studies* available on the Divinity website (<http://www.regent.edu/divinity>) under Current Students > Academic Forms.

For assistance, students may contact Bob Sivigny, Divinity Librarian, at robosiv@regent.edu (phone: 226-4184) or the Reference Desk at refer@regent.edu.

E-MAIL

All official Regent correspondence is issued ONLY via the student's Regent e-mail address. Non-Regent e-mail addresses are not utilized by the University. There are procedures available on the Regent e-mail system for forwarding individual e-mail received on the Regent account to another non-Regent e-mail address. However, this forwarding procedure can be unreliable. Thus it is recommended that the student regularly (i.e. daily) check the Regent e-mail account.

REGENT COMPUTER STANDARDS

Since the School of Divinity makes use of computer software and the Internet to communicate with students and enhance its courses, all students are required to be "computer literate" — proficient in the use of required computer hardware and software. For hardware, software, internet media software, and ISP requirements, check the following link:

<http://www.regent.edu/acad/schdiv/students/compstandards.cfm>.

SUBMISSION OF ASSIGNMENTS & E-MAILING THE PROFESSOR

The subject line of **all e-mail messages** related to this course should include the course number (e.g., TCDH 500), the location of the course (e.g., DE, VB, DC, Modular) and the name of the student (For example, SUBJECT: TCDH 500 DC, John Smith). Further, **each attached document/assignment** should also contain the student's name and course information.

Following these directions enables the professor to quickly identify the student and course and to keep track of assignments, facilitating a timely response. **Students should always include their first and last name at the end of all e-mail messages.** Thank you.

COURSE PROCEDURES

There are several key elements you will need to fully understand prior to enrolling in this course.

1. All courses require **completion of assignments according to a weekly schedule**. Thus, keeping up with the schedule is essential to your success. Your personal schedule must allow you to keep up with the due dates for the readings and other assignments as found in the Course Schedule.
2. Be sure you can complete this course in the scheduled semester. Incompletes will only be granted for true emergency situations, not for poor planning.
3. You must have continuous access to a working and dependable Internet provider as well as reliable e-mail that can send and receive attachments. You must also have access to Microsoft Word 97 or later for writing assignments.
4. Reading and translation assignments are given in class. Translations are generally done from the textbook by Jannach and Korb. Theological texts from Ziefle's *Modern Theological German* are integrated in the second part of the semester.

STUDY SUGGESTIONS

1. Begin with prayer that the Holy Spirit will guide your study.
2. Familiarize yourself with your textbooks (e.g., table of contents, footnotes, and index).
3. Look what type of forest you are approaching before counting the trees. See the big picture before analyzing individual aspects of a sentence. Get a first impression!
4. Read for structure first, and then read for meaning.
5. Take care in understanding the sentence structure before approaching the meaning of a sentence.
6. Build a good vocabulary from the very beginning.
7. Keep up with the Course Schedule!

BLACKBOARD INFORMATION

Blackboard (Bb) has two primary purposes in our courses: (1) to provide a means for students to receive timely information about the course in general, assignments, grades, and announcements from the instructor and (2) to promote thoughtful interaction between the professor and students and among students themselves as they work through course materials.

For instructions on how to access and use Blackboard, please work through the [Blackboard Tutorial](#), which is in the [New Students](#) section of the Divinity website (<http://www.regent.edu/divinity>). Students

are expected to be proficient at using the various areas of Bb, including the Discussion Board, Virtual Classroom, and downloading and viewing documents in Adobe (.pdf), PowerPoint (.ppt), and Real Audio. Students complete their weekly assignments as posted in the *Course Schedule* on Bb. They should also post to the *Discussion Board* on weeks when it is assigned, and check the *Announcements* section **each week** beginning the **first week** of the semester. Students are expected to keep their e-mail address current in Blackboard and to check their e-mail daily to ensure timely receipt of messages from the professor.

After working through the [Blackboard Tutorial](#), if you have problems and/or are not able to login, send an e-mail to bbdiv@regent.edu, describe the problem in detail and include your full name, your Blackboard User Name, Password, Regent e-mail address, and telephone number(s).

Regent University Computer Services (RUCS) will enroll you in the Blackboard portion of the course a few business days after you register for the course. Note that in order to be enrolled in the Blackboard course you *must first register* for the course through [GENISYS](#). This is required for all courses. If you are having problems registering through GENISYS please contact the University Registrar (757) 226-4047 for registration questions and Computer Services (757) 226-4076 for technical questions.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. Each week translation exercises are given as homework. This work outside of the classroom time is essential for the successful acquiring of language skills. Each translation should be printed and in accordance with the general guidelines for papers as outlined in the manual of style by K. Turabian or the Chicago Manual Style. The translations are due at the beginning of each class period and are **not** graded on accuracy of translation. The submission of all translation exercises regardless of correctness generally warrants an A grade. Missing assignments may result in a reduction of the grade.
2. Translation quizzes are added to the schedule at the discretion of the instructor. These quizzes are for the students' self-reflection only. No grade is attached to these quizzes.
3. A mid-term exam will be offered that serves as an example of what the proficiency exam could look like. Completion of the mid-term translation text is requested but not expected. Only that proportion of the text adequate for the point of the semester will be graded. The midterm should provide students with an adequate measurement of what to expect in the proficiency exam. The mid-term translation is worth 20 % of the overall grade.
4. Class contribution in a language course is essential for acquiring reading skills and critical linguistic vocabulary. In addition, contribution to the discussion by all students creates a good learning environment. A B grade constitutes regular contributions. An A grade shows at least one contribution each class (questions, remarks, paraphrasing) that allows the group to understand a subject.

METHOD OF EVALUATION

Final grades for this course are the result of the following considerations:

- 1) Observation of attendance policy (see below).
- 2) A Combination of the individual grades from class exercises as laid out in the following:

Class Contribution	20%
Translation Exercises	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam (Proficiency Exam)	40%

The proficiency exam is passed with a grade of A, B or C. Grade D and F constitute inadequate proficiency in the language. The exam can be taken repeatedly if the student has attended the course. The student who fails the exam without having taken TCDH 585 is required to take the course before attempting to pass the exam again.

ATTENDANCE

In order to receive credit for the course, students must attend a minimum of 70% of courses which have a residency or on-campus requirement. Whether the course is standard, modular or hybrid in type, residency is an essential component of the requirements for these courses. Merely completing the assigned work is not sufficient to receive a grade for courses that have a residency requirement. This applies to masters and doctoral courses in the School of Divinity.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Students are on their honor to complete assignments with integrity. This means that all written assignments are to reflect the student's own work and to be submitted for credit only in this course. Where other secondary sources are used, appropriate dependence with the proper use of footnotes must be adhered to. Relative to the entire course of study, it must be assumed that cheating and plagiarism are sins contrary to God's laws and the mission of Regent University.

Plagiarism is using the intellectual property of others without proper citation, giving the impression that it is the student's own work. Note that any time you download text from the Internet or any electronic document you risk committing plagiarism. Follow the following guidelines to avoid the possibility of plagiarism:

- Do not simply cut and paste blocks of downloaded text into your paper; summarize or paraphrase this material first (although either way requires citation).
- If you do record the exact words of your source, enclose them in quotation marks.
- Always cite both the text that is quoted verbatim, as well as the thoughts and ideas of others which you paraphrase.
- Whether your information is from e-mails, online discussion groups, listservs, or World Wide Web sites, give proper credit by providing appropriate documentation.

Failure to follow at least these simple guidelines, results in plagiarism. If materials are used, especially verbatim, without being attributed to their source, it is plagiarism. Plagiarism is a spiritual matter of

character and integrity. Be aware that if assignments are discovered to contain plagiarized materials the assignment will be failed and ordinarily the course as well. This can affect your academic status which may result in dismissal from the School of Divinity. Do not to let the pressures of completing assigned work to jeopardize your academic career and the preparations for the ministry to which God has called you. Instructions concerning "take-home" and "closed-book" exams are to be honored.

STUDENT COURSE EVALUATION

Students have the opportunity to provide feedback throughout the course through e-mail, telephone, and on-campus appointments. Near the end of the semester, students will complete an anonymous online course evaluation form. Since the results contribute to improving course design and presentation, it is important that students be honest and constructive in their evaluations. Students will receive an e-mail reminder from the University when it is time to complete these evaluations. Please take time to provide this input. Students can access the online evaluation system at: <http://eval.regent.edu/regent/survey/students.cfm>.

If you have questions about the online evaluation please contact evaluation@regent.edu.

INCOMPLETE GRADES

Incomplete Grade Policy: An incomplete grade ("I") will only be given in a regular course for legitimate deficiencies due to serious illness, emergencies or other extraordinary reasons acceptable to the instructor, including university equipment problems or shortages, and not because of neglect on the student's part. To request an Incomplete, the student must submit an [Academic Petition](#) form to the instructor prior to the end of the semester. If approved, the instructor will give a regular grade if all requirements for the course are submitted by the end of the following semester. If all work is not submitted by the end of the following semester, a grade of "Fx" will be posted automatically unless the instructor and the Dean officially approve an extension. The student must request an extension by submitting a [Request for Extension of Incomplete](#) form to the Dean's Office.

GRADING: PHILOSOPHY, CRITERIA and SYSTEM

The following evaluation rubric is based on Regent University's Catalog and is in keeping with grading policies at most U.S. graduate schools.

A A-

Work of superior quality in all areas. Work displays an outstanding mastering of the facts, a creative and critical use of the data, and an analysis or evaluation of facts, research, and trends, that shows real scholarship and talent for graduate work at the highest level. Practical or formational implications of work are included, as appropriate.

B+ B B-

Good grasp of facts, creativity and analysis, showing good comprehension of the subject. Practical or formational implications of work are included, as appropriate. The grade for such work will vary from B+ to B- according to the quality and quantity of the work.

C+ C C-

The student has shown a minimal grasp of the facts of the course, and does not demonstrate the desired level of creativity, analytical performance, or comprehension. Practical or formational implications of work are included, as appropriate. The grade will vary from C+-C- (**As the minimum GPA for the Academic M.A. is 3.0, students in these degrees who receive a grade below a C (i.e. C-) in any course must repeat that course in order to graduate. As the minimum GPA for M.Div., M.A. in Practical Theology, and M.A. in Missiology is 2.0, students who receive a grade of C- in these degrees need not repeat the course in order to graduate).**)

D+ D D-

Below minimal understanding and ability to handle the subject material of the course, but not requiring the course to be repeated. Practical or formational implications of work are included, as appropriate. The grade will vary from D+ to D- (**As the minimum GPA for the Academic M.A. is 3.0, students in these degrees who receive a grade of D+ D D- in any course must repeat that course in order to graduate. As the minimum GPA for M.Div., M.A. in Practical Theology, and M.A. in Missiology is 2.0, students who receive a grade of D+ D D- in these degrees need not repeat the course in order to graduate).**)

F

Not acceptable for graduate level study. The student's work indicated major deficiencies both in routine learning and in use of data. This grade denotes either unacceptable performance in spite of some effort, or failure to complete the assigned work.

MASTERS GRADING SYSTEM

GRADE	PERCENTAGE	QUALITY POINTS	MEANING OF GRADE
A	94-100	4.00	Superior
A-	90-93	3.67	
B+	87-89	3.33	Very Good
B	83-86	3.00	Good
B-	80-82	2.67	
C+	77-79	2.33	
C	73-76	2.00	Minimal
C-	70-72	1.67	Unsatisfactory M.A. [Academic] must repeat course
D+	67-69	1.33	
D	63-66	1.00	
D-	60-62	.67	
F	0-59	0.00	Failing

ADDITIONAL COURSE DOCUMENTS

Additional course documents, including Course Schedule and Bibliography, are available on Bb. Students are responsible for reading the information found in these documents.

This syllabus is provided to students and participants for their general guidance only. It does not constitute a contract, either express or implied, and is subject to change without notice.

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