

MACOPIN SCHOOL

Grade 8

I. COURSE TITLE:

Foreign Language Survey - German

II. RESOURCES:

Exploring German. Sheeran and McCarthy. EMC Publishing, St. Paul, Minnesota, 1989.

Videos, maps, slides, pictures, newspapers, magazine articles, and teacher-made materials.

III. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This quarter-year course is designed to provide a broad range of information about German-speaking countries; geography, history, customs, culture, and current events will be studied. Students will also be introduced to the German language; conversation, vocabulary, and basic grammar skills will be taught. The goal of this course is to develop in the students an interest in foreign languages, along with an understanding of and an appreciation for foreign cultures.

IV. COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- A. Identify German-speaking nations and their neighbors.
- B. Discuss briefly the history of German-speaking nations, including current changes.
- C. Demonstrate an understanding of the Germanic people and their culture, customs, and traditions.
- D. Recite the alphabet and use proper German pronunciation.
- E. Count and complete basic math computations.
- F. Conduct conversations using basic German vocabulary.
- G. Write using basic sentence structure and grammar skills.

V. COURSE CONTENT OUTLINE:

Variable, depending on ability of students and time of the year.

- A. Vocabulary and Grammar Units
 - 1. German alphabet and spelling
 - 2. German numbers 1 - 100 - basic computations using plus, minus, von, and ist
 - 3. Greetings
 - a. Students take German names and also use Herr and Fraulein
 - b. Phrases for attendance - Wo ist Alfred? Ich bin hier.
 - c. Conversational phrases - Guten Tag, Wie geht es dir? (How are you?), and several appropriate responses including "please" and "thank you"
 - d. Various hellos and goodbyes
 - 4. Question words
 - 5. Personal pronouns

6. Conjugation of verbs - haben=to have, sein=to be
7. Regular verb conjugation - drill verb endings with pronouns
8. Gender system
 - a. As used with people
 - b. Arbitrary system with nouns, indicated by definite articles
 - c. Plural form
9. Classroom vocabulary
 - a. Colors, including descriptive adjectives
 - b. Items in the room - gender, definite article, plural form, and pronoun for each noun
 - c. Regular verbs used in classroom conversation - fragen, antworten, lernen, studieren...
10. Family members
 - a. Draw a family tree and drill relations
 - b. Introduce possessive adjectives
 - c. Ending changes on possessives according to gender of noun
11. Months and days
 - a. Phrases for parts of the day
 - b. Today, tomorrow, and yesterday
12. Seasons
 - a. Names for each
 - b. Vocabulary appropriate to each season - adjectives, verbs, and nouns
13. Body parts
14. Comparison of German and English
 - a. Identify words that are the same in both German and English
 - b. Anglo-Saxon tribes and the Norman conquest form English
 - c. Absorption of English vocabulary into German
- B. Geography Units
 1. Locate German-speaking nations
 2. Identify neighboring countries and influence on the language spoken
 3. Locate major cities - patterns of development and effect of the wars
 4. Rivers and mountain ranges - economic importance to nations
 5. Size difference of Germany, Switzerland, and Austria to USA
 - a. Effect on usage of land
 - b. Quickly changing terrain
 6. Weather
- C. Culture
 1. Break down stereotypes assigned to Germanic people
 2. How Germanic people differ from and are similar to Americans - covering everything from meals to housing, women's rights to work ethics
 3. Comparison of Germans north to south, also with Austrians and Swiss
 - a. Language variations
 - b. Personality and attitudes
 - c. Varied customs
 4. Explanation of educational system
 5. Holiday, celebrations, and traditions
- D. History
 1. Earliest Germanic settlements
 2. Martin Luther and the Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation

3. System of government after Luther
4. The Crusades
5. The Reformation and the Thirty Years War
6. The rise of Prussia
7. Bismarck and the First Reich
8. World War I to the Second Reich (The Weimar Republic)
9. Hitler and the Third Reich
10. World War II
11. Division of Germany and Berlin by the Allies
12. The wall comes down

VI. STUDENT ACTIVITIES:

A. Oral

1. Drills - (repetition, question-and-answer, substitution)
2. Dialogues
3. Full conversation
4. Games: Spelling bees and bingo
5. Translation
6. Making German food
7. Poems and songs

B. Written

1. Students will keep a notebook.
2. Assorted puzzles/word games
3. Sentence construction
4. Written drills at blackboard
5. Project construction
6. Map construction
7. Translation
8. Question-and-answer formation

VII. EVALUATION OF STUDENT LEARNING:

A. Evaluation Activities

1. Oral participation in drills, discussions, and class exercises
2. Oral quizzes
3. Written test and quizzes
4. Homework
5. Projects - maps, posters, skits, cooking of German food, etc.
6. Notebooks

B. Grade Development

1. Written test, oral tests, quizzes, projects - 75%
2. Homework and class work - 25%