

**YIDDISH FOR GERMAN
SPEAKERS**
German Studies 380
Dr. Nick Block
Spring 2015, Tu 10 – 10:50
219 Modern Languages

Büro: 324 Modern Languages
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Sprechstunden: nach Vereinbarung mit
<https://block.youcanbook.me/>
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The word “girl” in various German dialects including the Yiddish “Mädl”

Course Description

Jiddisch or *Jüdisch*? This 1-credit course exposes students to the variety of Germanic languages. Students with three semesters of German (201 equivalency) will attempt to answer why Swiss German is a dialect, but Dutch and Yiddish are languages. Why was Yiddish called “corrupted German” and “jargon” before WWI, but is now today its own language? What is the border between dialect and another language? For an hour a week, students will discuss linguistic evolution and politics alongside learning to speak the German dialect / Germanic language known as Yiddish. The language of instruction will be a mix of Yiddish, German, and English, thereby bringing out affinities and connections between German and Yiddish that, once highlighted, are easily recognized and learned.

Prerequisite Courses

German 201-equivalency

Learning Objectives

In this course students will:

1. analyze the similarities between Germanic languages
2. read original works in Yiddish

Required books to purchase

1. Uriel Weinreich. Modern English-Yiddish / Yiddish-English Dictionary. ISBN-13: 978-0805205756
2. Uriel Weinreich. College Yiddish. ISBN-13: 978-0914512264

Recommended book to purchase

1. Werner König. dtv-Atlas: Deutsche Sprache, 17th edition (2007). ISBN: 9783423030250

Grades

Participation	20%
Homework	50%
Tests	30%

Homework

Assignments are found at the course website (listed above). Please do not print out the website, as assignments might change throughout the semester as needed. Check the website after each class.

Honor Code

The Honor Code of Emory College is in effect throughout the semester. By taking this course, you affirm that it is a violation of the code to cheat on quizzes and exams, to plagiarize, to deviate from the instructor's instructions about collaboration on work that is submitted for grades, to give false information to a faculty member, and to undertake any other form of academic misconduct. You agree that the instructor is entitled to move you to another seat during examinations, without explanation. You also affirm that if you witness others violating the code you have a duty to report them to the honor council.

The central issue is that any work submitted to an instructor for evaluation should be one's own. Within the German Studies Department, assistance is possible and even encouraged in two limited situations: online or in person. Online resources can be used for grammatical explanations (e.g., verb conjugations) or the translation of words, expressions, and phrases. **However, use of online resources to translate entire sentences or paragraphs is not permitted.** Seeking assistance in person should be limited to receiving suggestions, reviewing certain topics, and addressing revisions, but the ultimate production of the work to be turned in will rest with you.

The Honor Code, a list of offenses and the Honor Council process may be found:

http://college.emory.edu/home/academic/policy/honor_code.html

Office for Undergraduate Education (OUE)

If you have any academic concerns or questions about [Emory College of Arts and Sciences policies](#), you should first meet with an OUE academic adviser. If an academic adviser is unavailable to meet with you, you may meet with an OUE dean during open hours.

- OUE Academic Adviser appointments: Visit White Hall 300 or call 404.727.6069
- Deans' Open Hours:

<http://college.emory.edu/home/administration/office/undergraduate/hours.html>

There are a range of resources available to Emory undergraduates designed to enrich each student's educational experience. Visit <http://college.emory.edu/advising> for a list of support programs and appointment directions.