

**Teacher:** Mrs. M. Norton  
*I prefer to be called Frau or Frau Norton.*

**Contact Information:**

E-mail (preferred) [nortonm@masonk12.net](mailto:nortonm@masonk12.net)  
Phone 517.676.9055 ext. 208

**How to Get Help:**

Help Labs                      Tuesdays              2:40 – 3:30      Middle School Room 24  
   Thursdays              2:50 - 3:30      High School Room 8  
   \*Other arrangements can also be made.

Class Websites              [fraunorton.weebly.com](http://fraunorton.weebly.com)  
   [edmodo.com](http://edmodo.com)              and              [remind.com](http://remind.com)

**Course Materials:**

You will be issued:

- Textbook - *Komm mit! 1*
- 8 tab dividers
- Paper book cover for textbook. Book must be covered.

You will need to provide:

- White, clear view, 3 ring Binder - will be left in the classroom for your portfolio
- Spiral notebook – 70 page, just for German
- Folder or Binder - whatever method works for you to keep your class work in
- Pens, pencils and notebook paper as needed
- \*Optional - Fabric book sock, I will have paper covers available

Replacement cost of the textbook *Komm mit! 1* is about \$60.00. Please take care of it and do not lose your copy.

**Course Description:**

This class will introduce you to various aspects of German speaking peoples. You will be able to listen, speak, read, and write German at a beginning level. You will also be presented with Germanic Culture and lifestyle, as well as history, and current events. Topics we will study are basic introductions, means of transportation, free time activities, weather, family, and animals. We will also study geography, music, and the impact German speaking countries have on the world. Language learning is both an academic and a physical skill. Therefore, you will be expected to practice every day. Your individual efforts will reflect directly on your success in learning German.

**Course Objectives:**

During this course you will develop your language skills in the 5 C's; Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities. These are the state benchmarks. It is expected that you will be able to do the following at a beginning level.

- I can engage in conversations, provide and obtain information, express feelings and emotions, and exchange opinions.
- I can understand and interpret written and spoken language on a variety of topics.
- I can present information, concepts, and ideas to an audience of listeners or readers on a variety of topics
- I can demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the practices and perspectives of Germanic culture.
- I can demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the products and perspectives of Germanic culture.
- I can reinforce and further my knowledge of other disciplines through learning German.
- I can acquire information and recognize the distinctive viewpoints that are only available through the German language and its culture.
- I can demonstrate understanding of the nature of language through comparisons of German and English.
- I can demonstrate understanding of the concept of culture through comparisons of the German and American cultures.
- I can use German both within and beyond the school setting.
- I can show evidence of becoming a life-long learner by using German for personal enjoyment and enrichment.

**Grading Policies:**Grading Breakdown:

<b>Reading</b>	<b>15%</b>	examples are: _____, _____, _____
<b>Writing</b>	<b>20%</b>	examples are: _____, _____, _____
<b>Listening</b>	<b>15%</b>	examples are: _____, _____, _____
<b>Speaking</b>	<b>20%</b>	examples are: _____, _____, _____
<b>Culture</b>	<b>10%</b>	examples are: _____, _____, _____
Daily Homework	10%	examples are: _____, _____, _____
Work Habits	10%	examples are: _____, _____, _____

Late Assignment Policy:

Daily Homework will be assigned every day, Monday through Thursday. It is due at the beginning of the next class period. It will be scored only at that time. Full credit is given at the beginning of the marking period and deducted as necessary. Two exemptions are given before points are lost. Some activities are considered assignments or assessments and may be accepted late. Late work will lose work habit points. You will also be required to attend help labs until it is turned in. Not completing them is not an option! When absent, you have as many days as you are gone, until the work missed is due.

**Missing Work Policy:**

This course will require you build upon what you have learned in new and different ways as we progress further into the material. Therefore the practice activities assigned are very important for your success. I will review your grade for missing work every two weeks. Should you be missing any assignment(s), it is expected that you will attend the next after school help lab and complete them then. If you are not in attendance and an alternate date has not been established with Frau Norton, you will be issued a school detention in which to complete the assignment(s). The following timeline is established:

***Review of missing work:***

September 15, 2016  
October 1, 2016  
October 15, 2016  
November 1, 2016  
November 15, 2016  
December 1, 2016  
January 1, 2017

***Help lab required attendance:***

Tuesday, September 22, 2016  
Tuesday, October 6, 2016  
Tuesday, October 20, 2016  
Tuesday, November 3, 2016  
Tuesday, November 17, 2016  
Tuesday, December 6, 2016  
Tuesday, January 10, 2017

**\*No work will be accepted after Friday, January 13, 2017**

**Retake Policy:**

Two tests or quizzes may be retaken per semester. It is essential to learn the material, or you will continue to struggle. However, the opportunity to do so must be done outside of class time within two weeks of the original test date.

**No Name Paper Policy:**

Papers turned in without a name will be placed on the front board to be claimed and resubmitted for grading.

**Grading Scale:**

A Standards Based Grading system will be used in this course. That means that your skills will be assessed with a number. Below you will find a helpful definition or translation of what that means. This is a common scale used by Standards Based classrooms here at Mason High School. Additional definitions and rubrics are available to students in the classroom.

Standard Score	Percentage	Proficiency	Letter Grade
4.0	100	Advanced	A
3.75	97	Advanced	A
3.5	95	Advanced	A
3.25	93	Proficient	A
3.0	90	Proficient	A-
2.75	85	Partially Proficient	B
2.5	80	Partially Proficient	B-
2.25	75	Partially Proficient	C
2.0	72	Partially Proficient	C-
1.75	68	Not Proficient	D+
1.5	65	Not Proficient	D
1.25	62	Not Proficient	D-
1.0	60	Not Proficient	D-
Below 1.0	50	Not Proficient	E
Not Enough Evidence to report grade	0	Not Enough Evidence	NC

**Course Schedule and Major Assessments:**

Culture Assessment #1	September 23, 2016
Tombstone Project	October 1, 2016
Culture Assessment #2	October 21, 2016
Culture Assessment #3	November 18, 2016
Culture Assessment #4	December 16, 2016
Choice Board	January 20, 2017

Weeks 1-6**Unit One      Sections (Stufe) 1-3**

Listening Assessment  
Writing Assessment  
Reading Assessment  
Speaking Assessment

***Introductions***

October 6, 2016  
October 6, 2016  
October 6, 2016  
October 7, 2016

Weeks 7-11**Unit Two      Sections (Stufe) 1-3**

Listening Assessment  
Writing Assessment  
Reading Assessment  
Speaking Assessment

***Freetime activities***

November 17, 2016  
November 17, 2016  
November 17, 2016  
November 18, 2016

Weeks 12-18**Unit Three      Sections (Stufe) 1-3**

Listening Assessment  
Writing Assessment  
Reading Assessment  
Speaking Assessment

***Your home and family***

January 12, 2017  
January 12, 2017  
January 12, 2017  
January 13, 2017

***++ I reserve the right to amend the schedule as needed.***

**Final Exam:**

A final exam is a requirement of this course. It will be composed of several forms of assessments. It will be worth 20% of the final grade for the class.

The exam date is \_\_\_\_\_.

**Portfolio:**

You will be required to keep a portfolio for this course. For the most part they will be kept in the classroom. They will help keep you organized, keep important material for future courses, be a terrific tool to study from for exams, and document your progression and accomplishments in learning German. They will also be graded. An example is available for you to review by asking Frau Norton to see her sample portfolio. A check list will also be provided at several intervals and by request, so you can assure your portfolio has all its required contents.

**Hallway Passes:**

Two passes will be issued per trimester for emergencies. You should take care of your needs between classes. If there is a circumstance that requires the use of more than two, please have your parent or guardian contact me, your counselor, or administration. On occasion, you might have the opportunity to earn extra passes. If you find yourself without a pass, I may choose to loan you a pass, but it must be repaid by spending fifteen minutes at a help lab to recover the time missed from instruction.

**Behavior Expectations for Frau Norton's Class**

All policies in the Handbook are followed. Additionally the classroom rules are listed below.

**Rules:**

- Be quiet while others are talking or working

What this is:

What this is NOT:

- Keep your body under control

What this is:

What this is NOT:

- Use appropriate and kind language and actions

What this is:

What this is NOT:

- Use the class time as allocated

What this is:

What this is NOT:

- Keep the room clean

What this is:

What this is NOT:

**Consequences:**

- Warning

– This means:

- Action Plan

– This means:

- Parent Contact

– This means:

- Detention
- Administrative Involvement

**Rewards:**

- |                 |                             |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| • Praise        | * Hallway pass              |
| • Prize         | * A note or phone call home |
| • Ticket        | * Activity time             |
| • Homework pass |                             |

**Policy on Electronic Devices:**

Today there are many great advances in technology that let us use our electronic devices as TOOLS. Unfortunately, they also serve as TOYS and provide us great entertainment. Tools are allowed, toys are not! Striking the right balance and using them for an appropriate purpose demonstrates good judgment and responsible behavior. Therefore under handbook policy, here is how to correctly use your device in this class:

**First**, you must ask and gain permission from me each time you wish to use your device. I will ask what educational purpose you have in mind. This is also assuming it is done at an appropriate time. For example; while I am giving instruction is not an appropriate time, however while you are working independently is. If you do not gain permission - the standard policy of devices not being allowed is in effect.

Examples of appropriate uses of technology are:

- online dictionaries such as leo.org
- flashcard apps such as quizlet
- calendars and other organizational tools
- note taking
- reading (only after a test)
- research from the internet for a specific task I have given you

Examples of inappropriate uses of technology are:

- texting
- photos
- playing games
- social purposes (including but not limited to email, facebook, twitter, etc.)
- listening to music
- searching the internet because you are bored

Not adhering to these will result in the consequences listed on page 18 of the student/parent handbook:

**First offense:** Student can pick up the phone at the end of the school day from the office.

**Second offense:** Student's parents will need to pick up the phone at the end of the day from the office.

**Third offense:** Student's right to possess the cell phone or PED at school will be **revoked**.

Please review this entire syllabus and sign below. By signing you acknowledge that you have read, filled in, and understand this syllabus. If you should have any questions or concerns, please contact Frau Norton immediately. It also acknowledges that you will abide by these guidelines. Please keep it handy and refer to the items in it often.

**Note:** There is also a German Class Handbook. It introduces you to the German program here at MPS. Please take a moment to review it as well. It contains valuable information about the program across all levels. Let me know if you need another copy of this.

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print your name

sign your name

date

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parent printed name

parent signature

date