Introduction: This course is designed for theology students with no or very little background in German language study, who are primarily interested in acquiring the ability to read as well as translate German biblical or theological texts during the course of their research studies. Emphasis will be placed initially on comprehension of the basic grammatical and syntactical aspects of the German language, as well as command of sufficient vocabulary to be useful in the translation of theological texts. The course will progress to a level of competency to include reading short biblical passages and excerpts from works by renown German theologians.

Objectives: Although one summer session is clearly not enough time to become truly proficient in the German language, by the end of four weeks of intense study, students will be able to accurately translate short, relatively simple excerpts from scholarly theological texts. This course also serves as an excellent foundation for further study in an important research language.

Course Requirements:
1. Students are expected and required to attend class sessions. Please talk with the instructor ahead of time about any absences or circumstances which would prevent attendance in class. In case of illness or emergency, please contact the instructor as soon as possible. Unexcused absences will affect the attendance grade.
2. Students are required to complete homework assignments for the day they are assigned and be ready to participate orally in class. All daily work should be legibly written or typed out to hand in. The homework grade is based on the concept of “competency”, which means that written assignments are checked for reasonable accuracy and completion to receive credit.
3. Students are required to take (4) four vocabulary and (4) four grammar quizzes. There will be no makeups. Please contact the instructor if you will not be able to attend on a day scheduled for a quiz.
4. Students are required to take (1) one final exam.

Grading:
1. Attendance and participation 10%
2. Homework assignments 10%
3. (4) Four Vocabulary and (4) four Grammar quizzes 40%
4. One final exam 40%

The grading follows the ten-point scale:
60–63 (D–); 64–67 (D); 68–70 (D+); 71–73 (C–); 74–77 (C); 78–80 (C+); 81–83 (B–); 84–87 (B); 88–90 (B+); 91–93 (A–); 94–100 (A).
**Required Textbooks:**


Ziefle, Helmut, M. *Modern Theological German: A Reader and Dictionary*.

**Additional Resources:**

**Dictionaries:** Please read Appendix I, pg. 313 in *German Quickly* for a detailed description of a number of different dictionaries available in print, including the *Harper Collins*, *Oxford Duden*, *Collins*, and *Langenschiedts*. I will also be able to bring in some examples for you to look at first hand.

Some online translation resources:*
www.dict.cc www.leo.org www.canoonet – these sometimes include audio options.
There are also innumerable sites for flashcards.*

*Please note that I do not use these types of resources frequently and this is not a recommendation for any program in particular, although some people find them very helpful. In my opinion, it is usually advisable to have some background in a language before attempting to navigate the many options available through electronic resources.

**Die Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft** – (The German Bible society) www.dbg.de
This organization offers publications, downloads and information for Bibles and related information. These are some of the more popular or newer German Bible translations of the 147 editions in print advertised on the site.

*Die Lutherbibel* – 1522 Neues Testament, 1534 Altes Testament; Most recent revision in 1984
*Neue Genfer Übersetzung* - 2009 herausgegeben; Das Neue Testament mit Psalmen.
Natürliche, zeitgemäße Sprache.

**News sites for current events:**
www.spiegel.de
www.dw.de (deutsche welle)
Proposed Daily Schedule: (Subject to Change)
Chapter references for *German Quickly* text by April Wilson; We will supplement with *Modern Theological German* by Ziefle as necessary

**Mon. May 19th**
- Introductions – Instructor, Students and Course Material
- German in Context – Brief Historical Overview
- Chapter 1 – Alphabet; Cognates; Genders; Compounds; Plurals
- Chapter 2 – The Present Tense of Verbs and the Personal Pronouns

**Wed. May 21**
- Chapter 3 – (Part I & II) The Case Endings
- Chapter 4 – Adjectives and Adverbs

**Fri. May 23**
- Vocabulary Quiz 1 / Grammar Quiz 1 (estimate ½ hr.)
- Chapter 5 - (Part I & II) Prepositions
- Chapter 6 – (Part I) Basic Verb Placement

**Mon. May 26**
- Memorial Day – no class

**Wed. May 28**
- Chapter 7 - The Pronouns
- Chapter 8 – Weak Nouns and Adjectives used as Nouns
- Chapter 9 – The Various Uses of “Es”
- Chapter 10 – The Future Tense

**Fri. May 30**
- Vocabulary Quiz 2 / Grammar Quiz 2 (estimate ½ hr.)
- Chapter 11 – Comparison and Superlative of Adjectives and Adverbs
- Chapter 12 – Da- and Wo-Compounds
- Chapter 13 – Verb Prefixes

**Mon. June 2**
- Chapter 14 – Verb Tenses (Part I)
- Chapter 15 – Verb Tenses (Part II)
- Chapter 16 – The plurals
- Chapter 17 – How to use a German dictionary
- Chapter 18 – Common suffixes

**Wed. June 4**
- Vocabulary Quiz 3 / Grammar Quiz 3 (estimate ½ hr.)
- Chapter 19 – The modal auxiliaries
- Chapter 20 – The “Zu” construction
- Chapter 21 – Co-ordinating Conjunctions

**Fri. June 6**
- Chapter 22 – Basic Verb Placement (Part II)
- Chapter 23 – Dependent Clauses (Part I)
- Chapter 24 – Dependent Clauses (Part II)
- Chapter 25 – Dependent Clauses (Part III) – Relative Clauses

**Mon. June 9**
- Vocabulary Quiz 4 / Grammar Quiz 4 (estimate ½ hr.)
Chapter 26 – The Reflexive
Chapter 27 – The Overload Adjective Construction

**Wed. June 11th**
Chapter 28 – The Passive
Chapter 29 – The Fake Passive
Chapter 30 – Subjunctive I
Chapter 31 – Subjunctive II
Chapter 32 – Other Subjunctive Forms

**Fri. June 13th**
**Final Exam – Chapters 1-32** (estimate 2 hrs.)
Chapters 33 – 36 – Mention briefly
Course Feedback and Evaluation