

Intensive German I (German100/RCLang191) and German II (German230/RCLang291)
Open to ALL UM students! Become proficient in German in just one year!

German 100/ RC Lang 191 (RC Intensive German I) is the first course in the RC Intensive German for Proficiency sequence, **open to any U-M student**. The goal of the first-year intensive German course is to provide students with a solid knowledge of German grammatical structures, a basic vocabulary, and practice speaking and understanding spoken and written German. By the end of Intensive German I, students can understand simplified written texts and short, spoken passages without the aid of a dictionary and they can express themselves spontaneously in everyday conversation. The final exam measures grammatical accuracy and aptitude in the skill areas (reading, writing, listening comprehension, and speaking). German 100/RC Lang 191 prepares students for German 231 or **Intensive Second-Year German (German 230/RCLang 291)**, the course which leads students to proficiency. Each course meets twice daily, four days a week for eight credits. Students may enter the program at either level of instruction (first or second year) and they are not required to do both semesters in the program, i.e., they can move between the regular-paced German courses through LSA and the Intensive courses..

In this program, students have access to the daily RC German lunch table and weekly coffee hour where they reinforce their classroom learning in an informal setting. They are also invited to participate in or attend RC *Deutsches Theater* workshops and performances (since 1985) and to participate in annual RC faculty-led short-term immersion trips to Germany (since 1998). (See photos on this page.) For all non-RC students, the intensive German courses are graded courses like any other LSA course. RC students receive a Pass/Fail with an RC evaluation. It is not possible to post an evaluation to non-RC students' transcripts, though all students in the program receive the same amount of feedback on their daily work.

The Intensive German courses at UM strike a balance between mastery of grammatical features and development of reading writing, listening, and speaking skills. All efforts are made to allow students to learn in a meaningful context. Class is sometimes held at a local area museum or an alternate site to expose students to different materials and to encourage spontaneous interactions in German. Progress in Intensive German is measured by participation in class activities, performance on homework, quizzes, tests, written and oral assignments, and participation at co-curricular activities (lunch table and coffee hours). Assignments aim to develop critical thinking skills and creative expression. The program uses a mastery program for testing (students repeat tests until they have demonstrated mastery of material) and registered students have access to sample exercises and pre-tests to practice and test their German online. From Day 1, the



Intensive German program works with students on their accent, intonation, fluency, and confidence using German. Teachers and advanced level peer tutors are available every day to help students.

More about the program, RC *Deutsches Theater*, and Trips to Germany The UM RC German Program is one of the oldest proficiency-based programs in the country, with proficiency standards dating back to 1967. It was cited in the Newsweek Kaplan College Resource Guide 2007 as "...one of the reasons the Residential College truly stands out." An all-German, semi-immersion approach makes the program particularly successful. Students have the advantage of being in small classes of 10-15 students and the courses are team-taught, which exposes students to different teaching styles. The class size allows instructors to tailor assignments to individual needs and interests, to do ongoing assessment and give students feedback on their work, and to prepare students for life in a global community. Students taking courses in the intensive German Program have a unique opportunity to take advantage of the RC's small living-learning community, while also deriving benefit of attending a large university, which hosts conferences and guest lectures and provides numerous resources and support for students to study or work abroad.



The RC German Program offers and supports travel opportunities to learn about history, the arts, and theater in Germany. Many Intensive German students and RC *Deutsches Theater* students have received funding through the RC for short-term RC faculty-led study programs in Germany related to their RC German course work, thanks to various UM grants and the RC's own Brown fund. Course descriptions and blogs from recent RC German courses have focused on German identity issues (Germany's past; East and West Germany, Muslims and Jews in Germany today), the Blue Rider artists, and Theater in Germany today, etc.) To see recent study trip blogs, go to. <http://umrc15.blogspot.com/> and <http://umrcdt16.blogspot.de/>

What students say: "The intensive Grm. instructors want you to succeed, and they'll go the extra mile to make it happen. And that's not just if you fall behind. If you want to do more work, they'll work with you, too." "The experience was more than learning a new language and a new culture. I learned to be flexible, creative, and spontaneous. I learned not to be afraid to make mistakes. I learned to move beyond the fear of trying new things, and that I really can accomplish anything." "These teachers could inspire a stone to speak German."