



Frau Jennifer Tsai
www.FrauTsaiGerman.com



Willkommen in der Deutschklasse!

About the German MYP class

Learning a new language should be fun, engaging and anxiety-free. Our focus is on communication and comprehension, which includes listening, speaking, reading, writing, and culture, using the communicative approach. Communication will be mostly in German. German 1A is for students without prior knowledge and will cover the first part of the level 1 MYP curriculum, German 1B is for students, who have completed German 1A. If students successfully complete both parts and pass the placement exam at the end of German 1B, they will be placed into German 2 in their 9th grade year at CHS.

Successful completion of German 4 *Advanced Placement* or *International Baccalaureate* will result in German language fluency and earning a bi-literacy seal for their transcript and graduation sash from the State of California at Claremont High School.

Students will interact in German with each other actively, either with a partner or in small groups, to form dialogues and skits, participate in games, competitions and other activities. Students will sing, dance, create and act in German. Classroom activities are designed for acquisition of active communication skills.

Students will learn to communicate in German about themselves, their friends and family, studying, leisure-time activities, their immediate surroundings and ultimately global topics and literature. In the process, students will learn about German, Austrian, and Swiss culture.

About Frau Tsai

Guten Abend! Welcome to *Back-To-School-Night!* I was born and raised in Flensburg, North-Germany and am a native speaker of German. At the age of 13, I immigrated to the United States and learned English as a second language, just like your child is learning German as their second language. In my free time, I enjoy singing, dancing, playing Pokémon Go and my joy are my dogs. I earned my Bachelor of Arts in German Studies and Masters of Arts in German Literature after 1800's from UCLA. I obtained my teaching credential from Cal State Fullerton. My passion is teaching German and I have taught at UCLA, Mt.SAC, VCC, LVC & GASA. I was president of the American Association of Teachers of German Southern California Chapter and am the co-department chair at Claremont High School.

About the German Club

The German Club is a cultural club, which promotes and participates in German cultural and community events. German Club puts on German Fest for the entire student body, goes caroling in the winter at Senior Homes in the community, teaches Elementary School students German words and German culture at various International Days at our local Elementary schools and participates in German cultural events, such as exhibits at the Claremont Colleges or concerts and plays. German Club is open to all students. Students of German are highly encouraged to attend and will earn extra credit for participation. German Club meets once to twice monthly between 7:50 AM and 8:05 AM in room 402 on Wednesdays. Join our remind class by texting @erdeutsch to 81010

About the German Exchange

The German Exchange is a student exchange which promotes intercultural communication and exchange. Students from German 2, 3 and 4 AP/IB at Claremont High School are paired with a German partner, and ideally, will foster a life-long friendship. Their partner will first visit them in April for two weeks. Then, the Americans will spend two weeks in Germany during the summer: going to school, on field trips and living with a German host family. Students will visit museums, exhibits, other German cities and learn about the German culture through this exchange. Students will experience Germany from an insider's perspective, rather than a tourist's perspective. The German students will experience the American culture, attend CHS and visit our museums and other sights. Students are encouraged to participate. Most students prefer to participate during their junior year at Claremont High School. We have 2 different exchanges, one to Munich and one to Gelsenkirchen/Cologne/Berlin, so every year we alternate our partner school.

Please contact me any time:
JTtsai@cusd.claremont.edu

Frequently asked questions

What can my child do with German?

Students who study German can pursue a variety of careers in: international business, engineering, medicine, the sciences, art, music and study abroad. They also stand out! www.stepintogerman.org --> German matters

How can my child improve their German?

Students can improve their German by daily practice, (at least 20 minutes daily), reviewing, listening to songs, studying with classmates, use of Quizlet, Duolingo and other electronic apps, seeking help before falling behind, and setting their electronics to German.

How can my child seek extra help or make-up work?

I am available in room 402 before class between 7-7:15 AM

Where can I find the homework/assignments and check grades?

All the homework assignments are in the calendar section on Canvas. Additional materials are also available on Canvas. Grades are updated and available on Parent/Student Connect every two weeks.

Are there any other opportunities for my child to study German?

Due to our relationship with Pomona and Scripps College, students, who have completed German 4 at CHS, may enroll in literature courses free of charge.

Highlights of the Week

In order to engage and encourage students to study and practice German outside of the classroom, the following activities will slowly be incorporated into the week:

Musik-Montag/Music-Monday

Students acquire vocabulary, language and culture using songs

Märchen-Mittwoch/Fairy Tale-Wednesday

Students acquire reading comprehension and writing skills by reading, analyzing and discussing short stories, novels and/or reading material of their choice. (comics, magazines, newspaper)

Film-Freitag/Film-Friday

Students acquire comprehension skills by working with authentic multi-media and film.

Scholarships/Certificates

Students in German 2 and beyond are eligible to earn merit-based scholarships or need based grants to study abroad in Germany during the summer, participate in various Goethe Institute projects and workshops through German Club, host an exchange student or participate in the German student exchange.

Students will also take the National German Exam, the international Goethe Exams and the AP or IB SL or HL German exam.

Students are given a variety of opportunities to apply their German knowledge and network with other students of German from all over the world.

Upcoming German Events

Chapparral Multicultural Day, October 12th
cultural day at Chapparral Elementary School

Oktoberfest- October 26 at lunch at CHS
cultural day and fund-raiser, field trip for El Roble German club students

Nikolaustag -December 6th
cultural day with German Club in room 402

Caroling at Pilgrim's Place-December
German Club carols at elderly homes

German Fest at El Roble – Feb 21st @ lunch
cultural day and fund-raiser, donations and adult volunteers needed

Sycamore and Sumner Multicultural Day
cultural day@Sycamore/Sumner Elementary School

Claremont's Club and Culture Fest – April 19th from 5 to 8 PM at 800 Quad
Showcase of CHS clubs, fun for all ages

Volunteers/donations needed

In order to run a successful German program, German Club & exchange and provide engaging, relevant & fun activities, I humbly ask for your support in the following:

Parent/Guardian Volunteers: please email me, if you could volunteer on any of the dates mentioned above.

Donations needed: water, iced tea, Gatorade, baked goods, paper plates & cups, highlighters, arts & crafts material (glitter, heavy construction paper, ribbons, etc), tissues, German material (books, magazines, CDs, Films, etc)

Monetary donations: any monetary donation will help, no matter how small (\$5-20) or big. Donations are greatly appreciated. Thank you! Danke! Please make checks out to **CHS-ASB** or via Revtrack