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| COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY  DEPARTMENT OF GERMANIC LANGUAGES | BARNARD COLLEGE  DEPARTMENT OF GERMAN |

# German Online Placement Exam

# Guidelines 2020

## General Information

## If you have had any prior instruction in German prior to coming to Columbia/Barnard, you are required to take our placement exam. The placement exam will help us in placing you at the level of German that best reflects your ability. To provide a safe testing environment and more flexibility in taking the exam, we have moved our exam online onto a designated Canvas site.

For more information on the foreign language requirements, please visit:

**Columbia**: <https://www.college.columbia.edu/core/classes/fl.php>

**Barnard**: <http://catalog.barnard.edu/barnard-college/curriculum/requirements-liberal-arts-degree/foundations/>

Next scheduled Online Placement Exam dates in 2020:

## We will offer two windows during which you can take the online placement exam:

## Orientation week: Monday, August 31 (starting at 9 am EST) - Friday, September 4 (ending at 12 am EST)

1. **First two weeks of classes:** Wednesday, September 9 (starting at 9 am EST) – Thursday, September 17 (ending at 12 am EST).

**Registration Information:**

1. You register for the exam via email. Please indicate that you would like to take the exam in your e-mail to:

**BARNARD Students**: Motyl-Mudretzkyj ([imotyl@barnard.edu](mailto:imotyl@barnard.edu))

**COLUMBIA** Students: Jutta Schmiers-Heller ([js2331@columbia.edu](mailto:js2331@columbia.edu))

1. You will then be added to the Canvas site and receive an invitation to the site that will allow you to take the test.
2. Please accept the invitation **at least 24 hours** before you plan on taking the test. Contact us immediately if you cannot access the site.

## Information on the Online German Placement Exam

1. The test will be available as a Quiz on the Canvas site at the times and dates indicated above. The information on the homepage of the site will guide you to the exam.
2. Please make sure to sign your name to the honor pledge. The exam setup will prompt you to do so.
3. While you have a window of a few days during which you can take the exam, once you start the exam, you will have **90 minutes** to complete it. So please keep that in time as you complete the different parts. (see below: General Test Information)
4. Once you have completed the online portion and it has been evaluated, you will be contacted to schedule **a final online Zoom interview** to complete the exam.

## General Test Information

## Overall the test has 5 sections, divided into two parts: 1. Listening Comprehension

## 2. Vocabulary (everyday words and verb forms)

## 3. Reading Comprehension

## 4. Free writing

## 5. Speaking

**Part I: Online Exam:**

Sections 1-4 will be completed in an online exam on our Canvas site and. Items 1-3 consist of 62 multiple-choice items. For the writing portion you can choose one of three prompts.

**Part II: Personal Interview**

Section 5 will be completed through a personal interview with one of our instructors. The interview will take about 15 minutes and will occur after the completion of part I. For the moment, all personal interviews will occur via Zoom. Once you have completed part I and it has been evaluated, you will be contacted by departmental representatives to set up the personal Zoom interview.

**Contact Information:**

Columbia: Jutta Schmiers-Heller ([js2331@columbia.edu](mailto:js2331@columbia.edu))

Barnard: Irene Motyl-Mudretzkyj ([imotyl@barnard.edu](mailto:imotyl@barnard.edu))