

German in Michigan

Michigan's economy is very connected to world trade. 20% of Michigan firms are exporters.

There are over 1,100 German companies in the U.S. and over 100 in Michigan. German companies employ thousands of people in Michigan! German companies have invested billions of dollars in Michigan over the last seven years!

German Companies in Michigan

Audi of America
BASF Corp.
Bayer Corp.
Behr America, Inc.
Bosch Automation Corp.
EMAG L.L.C.
GetragGears North America
Hella North America
Lufthansa Cargo
Nestle Corp.
Siemens
The Budd Company
Thyssen
Volkswagen of America

About Mr. Frank

- Graduated from Eastern Michigan University in 1997 with degrees in German and French.
- Diploma in advanced German fluency from the Goethe Institut, Munich, Germany in 1997.
- Diplom Wirtschaftsdeutsch (Business German) from the Goethe Institut in 2005
- Österreichische Sprachdiplom from the Austrian Government in 2003
- Worked at Wacker Chemie, GmbH in Munich, Germany in 1995.
- Studied in Vienna, Austria in 1992 and in Graz, Austria in 2003 and 2005.
- Taught and translated German at the corporate level.
- Led 10 student groups to Europe since 2000.
- Masters (MA) in German from EMU 2010.
- Taught German for over 25 years at WK.



Courses taught at WK

German I and II

These courses provide a solid foundation of vocabulary, grammar, and cultural information. Here students learn to talk about themselves, their families, interests, and travel topics. This is done through lectures, songs, oral presentations, games, and other communicative activities.

German III

As in the previous levels German daily life is closely examined. At this level students begin to take a more intensive look at grammar and syntax. Also at this level students are introduced to popular characters from German folk literature.

German IV/AP

Upon completion of German IV/AP students will have read advanced German texts and sharpened their writing and speaking skills. Most students who successfully complete this level will place in 200-300 level at local universities.

Many local universities require 2-3 years of language instruction before admittance; otherwise, students are often required to take language courses at the university.

High School Opportunities

In 2000, we took our first 10-day trip to Germany and Austria. We visited Vienna, Salzburg, Munich, Mainz, and Cologne. The trips have been highly successful and eye opening! Truly opportunities of a lifetime! Besides having an interest in German culture students must have good academic and behavior records to travel with us.



Year Abroad

During the Junior year students may apply for a Rotary Club or Congress Bundestag scholarship which allow the recipient to spend one year in a foreign country. Tom P. and Jason C. were WK's first winners ever! Both are now fluent in German have used their skills professionally. Ruby V. was WK's first Congress-Bundestag winner and spent a year at a German high school!

Why German?

- Germany is the powerhouse of Europe.
- No other industrial country concentrates as much on high-tech products as Germany. More than 12% of all products are high-tech.
- Germany is the 5th largest trading partner of the U.S.
- Germany is the most important trading partner for almost all European and non-European partners.
- Germany traditionally has the world's 4th largest economy.
- There are over 1,100 U.S. companies in Germany.
- There are over 500 German companies in the U.S.
- German is spoken by over 200 million people worldwide.
- 38% of all Europeans speak German.
- Germans are the biggest spenders of tourist dollars in the world.