GRADE AND CREDIT CONVERSION – MSU Office of Study Abroad

PROGRAM: **Multidisciplinary Studies at Friedrich Schiller University in Jena, Germany**

SPONSOR: **College of Arts and Letters –**
Department of Linguistics and Germanic, Slavic, Asian and African Languages

FSU Scale	MSU Grade Equivalent*	FSU Units	MSU Equivalent Credits
1-1.9 Sehr Gut (Very Good)	4.0	2	1
2.0-2.5 Gut (Good)	3.5	3	2
2.6-3.0 Befriedigend (Quite good)	3.0	4	2
3.1 – 3.6 Ausreichend (Satisfactory)	2.5	5	3
3.7-4.2	2.0	6	3
4.3 – 4.8	1.5	7	4
4.9-5.4	1.0	8	4
5.5-6.0 Unbefriedigend	0.0	10	5
		12	6

* Adapted from http://www.wes.org/gradeconversionguide/germany.htm and MSU Department of Linguistics and Germanic, Slavic, Asian and African Languages

Explanations:

- MSU credit conversion is based on ECTS credits. ECTS stands for European Credit Transfer System and provides a way of measuring and comparing learning achievements, and transferring them from one institution to another. ECTS credits are a relative value. ECTS credits x 1/2 = MSU credits. In ECTS, 60 credit points represent the workload of a year of study, 30 credit points are allocated to a semester and 20 credit points to a term.
- If a course yields credit resulting in partial MSU credit (e.g., 1.5 MSU credits), it is rounded up to the next full credit (e.g., 2 MSU credits)p

Other academic information:

In the German educational system, the equivalent of the U.S. system's first and second year of college is covered in the upper levels of high school. Upon admittance to a public university, students immediately begin taking major-specific courses and are enrolled in degree programs equivalent to the U.S. Master's level. These degree programs are about 4 years (8 semesters) in length. After 2 years, students take intermediate exams which are technically comparable to a Bachelor's degree but do not lead to a terminal degree. Course levels are not labeled numerically, but rather are designated by the actual course title:

- "Grundkurs", "Grundlagen" and "Einführung" indicate introduction or foundation courses.
- Grundkurs I, II, and III would be suitable for the sophomore, junior and senior years, respectively.
- "Seminar" courses are for seniors and more advanced students.
- "Hauptstudium" indicates graduate level courses.

Friedrich Schiller University in Jena, Germany is an accredited four-year institution.

Winter semester	Mid-October through late March
Summer semester	Early April to mid August

FSU offers coursework in a full range of academic disciplines. Since all courses are taught in German, most MSU students concentrate on German language, culture, literature, history, and current events. Students with more advanced German language ability are free to choose courses in other fields. All students are required to participate in a four-week orientation program for international students on site prior to the start of the semester. The program includes an intensive language course at the appropriate level, an introduction to German culture and student life, and advising and orientation.

Useful Web Sites:
http://www.uni-jena.de/content_sessmode_cookie_lang_en_page_270.html (general information)
http://www.uni-jena.de/content_lang_en_page_296.html (course and credits)
http://www.bus.wisc.edu/international/studyabroad/conversiontables/freiburg.asp and
http://www.wes.org/gradeconversionguide/germany.htm (grade conversion)

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MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY