This intermediate-advanced conversation course is conducted entirely in German. Each week’s topic is introduced using authentic materials from a variety of sources. Selections provided to the class in advance of each session are chosen to challenge participants, to keep the class up-to-date with the latest trends in the German language and cultures, and to engage the entire group in lively discussions about current events and “hot topics”. Brief explanations of idiomatic expressions, specialized vocabulary, pronunciation and grammar are incorporated into class discussions.

Broad areas explored during the semester include the following:

Science and technology
The arts
Society and modern life
Current and historical events
Health and well-being
Literature

EXAMPLES OF PAST DISCUSSION TOPICS: Replika, the new chatbot that could be your best friend or psychotherapist; German reunification: history and ramifications; providing emergency aid – should it be the law in the U.S. as it is in many parts of Europe; the return of cultural artifacts to their countries of origin; dumpster diving – the latest trend in saving the environment