

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 DISCUSSION TOPICS

- Leichte Sprache: a mandate making the German language more accessible to all
- Space exploration and tourism
- Withdrawal of German troops from Mali
- Fanny Hensel – a stifled musical genius?
- What really happens to donated clothing – tracking sneakers to Africa
- War in the Ukraine
- Don't call me a "cave dweller" – why I still wear a mask