

O German Seminar

This intermediate-advanced conversation course is conducted entirely in German. Each week's topic is introduced using authentic materials from a variety of sources.

Reading 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 Fall 2023:

Walking again with the aid of A.I. – Swiss researchers make a breakthrough that could help paraplegics regain their independence

Who are Ossis and Wessis? What barriers persist between these groups since the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989?

The enduring legacy of Friedensreich Hundertwasser, Austrian artist, architect, and activist who had a new vision of how we could live

The Blinde Kuh restaurants in Switzerland – providing a novel dining experience in the dark