

Stadtbibliothek St. Gallen Intercultural Library LibraForum

Eine Runde Deutsch – A round of German

What is *A Round of German*?

A Round of German is a German conversation event where students of German have the opportunity to speak and practice the language. *A Round of German* takes place weekly in the *Bibliothek Hauptpost*, it is free and can be visited without registration. The German level has been set to at least A2, so that conversations are possible.

Target group and process

A Round of German is not only aimed at students of German, but also German speakers. Moderators help to keep the conversation going, suggest topics and respond to the wishes of the participants. Depending on the level of the participants, everyday topics, culture and current topics are discussed, and language games are also used to lighten the chosen topic. It is important that the participants speak as much as possible and enjoy the German language. The atmosphere is casual and informal. Other German-speaking people who are interested in making new contacts occasionally take part in addition to the moderators. This creates valuable encounters in the library and intercultural exchange.

Organization

All the moderators are volunteers. In addition to the fixed moderators, there are also “Jumpers” who can be contacted if someone drops out. In this way, the City Library can ensure that *A Round of German* takes place every Tuesday night. On average, 10-30 people participate and smaller groups, usually divided by skill level, are formed so that as many people as possible can have their say. *A Round of German* takes place partly in the café of the library, partly in separate group rooms and each event lasts 90 minutes. The library provides drinks, informs the participants about the library offers and takes care of the organization. The moderators are free to design the conversations. Usually there is a short introductory round at the beginning to welcome new participants. Depending on the interests and level of the participants, different topics are addressed: many suggestions come from the students themselves. In the future, the offer could be extended, for example, by organizing excursions or building a reading circle for advanced learners. The personal contacts that emerge through *A Round of German* and the positive experience in the library are valuable and profitable for everyone involved.

A Round of German was initiated in 2016 and because of the great interest in the events additional moderators were engaged. The project was nominated for the St Gallen Integration Prize *Der goldene Enzian* (The Golden Gentian) in 2016.

Information about place and dates:

<http://www.bibliosg.ch/> > Veranstaltung > Eine Runde Deutsch



LIBRAFORUM – INTERKULTURELLE BIBLIOTHEK

EINE RUNDE DEUTSCH



JEDEN DIENSTAG-
ABEND

18.00 –
19.30 UHR

BIBLIOTHEK HAUPTPOST