How do Austrian dialects contrast from Standard German? In addition to discussing the phenomenon of dialect versus standard language, David Bolter will compare two Austrian data sets collected by himself and a colleague in Ramsau and Graz, and show how significant differences are found in virtually all areas of the grammar.

Saturday, September 30, 10 am, Room 1118
The Viennese Kaffeehaus and its Culture around 1900

How and when did coffee and coffee houses appear in Vienna, and what significance did these public places of discourse have in regard to political and cultural developments? Renate Kasak will introduce some of Vienna’s most famous Kaffeehausliteraten (coffee house literati) and their texts, as well as discuss other circles of intellectuals that frequented coffee houses in Vienna.

Saturday, September 30, 2 pm, Room 1128
Austrian Dialects - An Introduction

How do Austrian dialects contrast from Standard German? In addition to discussing the phenomenon of dialect versus standard language, David Bolter will compare two Austrian data sets collected by himself and a colleague in Ramsau and Graz, and show how significant differences are found in virtually all areas of the grammar.

Friday, September 29, 5 pm, Room 1106
With Kafka to the Spas - Jews in the Austro-Hungarian Empire

What did Franz Kafka, Sigmund Freud, Theodor Herzl, Stefan Zweig, Friedrich Torberg and the Rebbe of Belz have in common? They all were Austro-Hungarian Jews? Yes, that too. But more importantly: they spent their summers in the idyllic landscapes of the monarchy’s most famous get-aways: the spa towns of Carlsbad, Marienbad and Franzensbad.

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Sunday, October 1, 3 pm, Room 1118
Grüß Gott, Buona Sera“- South Tyrol as a Region of Italy

How did “South Tyrol” emerge as a distinct region under Austrian rule in the late 1800s to its current autonomous status within the Italian Republic? Roberta Pergher will discuss the region’s annexation to Italy in the aftermath of the First World War, the Italianization campaign under Fascism, and the 1939 Option agreement between Mussolini and Hitler which sought to resettle South Tyroleans inside the Third Reich. The postwar years were marked by violent protests for “self-determination,” continuing political negotiations, and the implementation of a regional autonomy. The talk will end with a reflection on current relations between German- and Italian-speakers and more recent arrivals in the region.

Sunday, October 1, 4 pm, Room 1118
What You Always Wanted to Know about Austria - But Were Afraid to Ask

Black humor, honorifics, bureaucracy? Schnitzl and strudl? Join us for a lively discussion of Austrian culture and mentality, followed by a look at the differences between Austrian German and High German.