



universität
wien

SHS
Sommerhochschule

The Discovery of Modernity – Vienna around 1900

univie: winter school for Cultural Historical Studies
January 30 – February 13, 2026, Vienna, Austria



Organization

The univie: winter school for Cultural Historical Studies takes place in Vienna, the capital of the former Habsburg Monarchy (and of Austria today) where traces of the outstanding culture of the late 19th and the beginning of the 20th century are still visible.

The two-week program combines first-class academic courses with an extensive social and cultural program. Vienna's rich cultural heritage, especially the museums, will lead to a thorough understanding of the impact of the fin-de-siècle on the modernization of Europe.

This unique program consists of high-level lectures in the morning and guided excursions to the city of Vienna and to various museums (a.o. the Museum for Applied Arts, the Leopold Museum, the Sigmund Freud Museum, and the Upper Belvedere) in the afternoon.

Outside the framework of classes, Vienna offers plenty of opportunities to explore additional museums and sights such as the St. Stephan's Cathedral, the Imperial Palace, and the Treasury.

The academic course environment encourages intercultural and social exchange and favors mutual understanding within the international student population. Participants thus broaden their horizon, meet colleagues from different fields of study, make friends for life and build connections for their future professional careers.



Courses

The univie: winter school offers six courses comprising 4 ECTS credits per course (corresponding to 32 contact hours). Each contact hour consists of 45 minutes of classroom teaching.

In the course of the two-week program, students can attend two courses and obtain up to 8 ECTS credits.

The winter program courses offer a well-structured introduction to one of the most fascinating periods of Austria's intellectual history in a short time. The culture of the fin-de-siècle is one of the highlights in the history of the Habsburg Monarchy.

The preparatory seminar [Introduction to Fin-de-Siècle Vienna](#) on the first weekend provides students with the basic knowledge needed for their selected courses. The seminar is a prerequisite to attend the following courses.

Students can select one course from the courses offered in the early morning and a second from the courses offered in the late morning. The courses provide them with a deep insight into the society and culture of this fascinating period.

8:30-10:30

- [Design, Performance and Media in Modern Vienna](#)
- [Society, Politics, and Daily Life in Fin-de-Siècle Vienna](#)
- [Vienna's Literature around 1900 and its Cinematic Reception](#)

11:00-13:00

- [Art and Visual Culture at the Turn of the Century](#)
- [Music and Musical Culture in Vienna around 1900](#)
- [Society and Psychoanalysis in Sigmund Freud's Vienna](#)

Successful participants will receive a transcript of the University of Vienna.



Application & fees

The application deadline is on November 30, 2025.

Applicants have to submit the following documents:

1. Application form
2. Statement of purpose
3. Transcript of record
4. Official proof of proficiency level in English
5. Passport-size portrait photo
6. Copy of passport
7. Deposit of € 300

Please send your application documents either by email or in their original form by post:

Email address:

sommerhochschule@univie.ac.at

Postal address:

Innovationszentrum Universität Wien GmbH –
Sommerhochschule

Campus of the University of Vienna

Alser Strasse 4/Hof 1/Tuer 1.16

1090 Vienna

Austria

The program fees amount to € 1,730 and include registration, tuition, and all planned excursions.

The participants are responsible for any additional costs for board and lodging as well as travel arrangements.

External students have to pay an additional fee of € 25.20 to be admitted to the University of Vienna as non-degree program students and to enjoy insurance coverage (general accident and liability insurance).

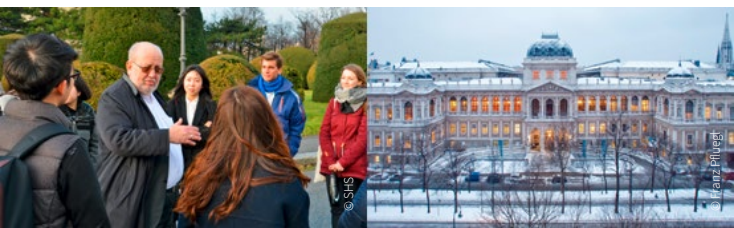
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Richard Lein

Historian, assistant at the Institute of Legal and Constitutional History at the Law Faculty of the University of Vienna. Main research topic: History of the Habsburg Empire in the 19th and 20th century.



Eveline List

Historian, economist and psychologist; retired professor of Cultural History at the Department of History, University of Vienna; psychoanalyst in private practice; training analyst of the International Psychoanalytical Association.



Johann Georg Lughofer

Assoc. Prof. of German Literature at the Department of German Studies of the University of Ljubljana; regularly teaching at the University of Vienna and at the University of Innsbruck as a visiting professor.



Jonas Pfohl

Postdoctoral Researcher and Lecturer in musicology, University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna, University of Vienna; main fields of research: sacred music of the 16th century, music of Alban Berg, music philology.



Monika Schw rzler

Doctorate in Philosophy from the University of Vienna; former head of the Dept. of Art with an Emphasis in Visual Culture at Webster Vienna Private University; research areas: art and media theory, photography, visual culture.



Elana Shapira

Cultural and design historian; lecturer in Design History and Theory at the University of Applied Arts Vienna; specialist in the study of Viennese modernism and has widely published and lectured on the subject.



Stefan Wedrac

Historian at the Museum of Military History in Vienna; research fellow at the Institute of Legal and Constitutional History at the University of Vienna and lecturer at WU Flow House Vienna; research areas include Austrian-Italian History and History of World War I.

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