

INTERNATIONAL
SUMMER SCHOOL
SEGGAU 2010

Organizers: The Vice Rectorate for International Relations and Interdisciplinary Cooperation of the Karl-Franzens University Graz in co-operation with the Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the European Community (COMECE) and the Diocese Graz-Seckau.

Objective: Interdisciplinary co-operation of teachers and students on the cultural, intellectual and historical dimensions of current European integration. Profiling leaders of tomorrow from the fields of politics, administration, business, science and religion.

How the International Summer School works: Two-week (14 days) campus-style summer school for 80 students on a grant basis. Six seminars running parallel to a series of lectures. Lectures featuring special guests and an excursion to Graz. Accreditation of participation (ECTS credits) for the students' study programs. Documentation of lectures and seminars on the website of the Summer School.

Tuition fee for participants: € 400 (reduced fee € 250) including Summer School program, meals and housing. Travel arrangements have to be made and paid for individually.

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Details about programme and application:

University of Graz

<http://international.uni-graz.at/seggau Summerschool>

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European Culture^s
The Challenge of Diversity and Unity

July 03rd – 17th 2010
Seggau Castle | Leibnitz | Austria



Keynote

European Culture^s – The Challenge of Diversity and Unity

One of the founders of the European community said: If he could start again he would begin with culture, not with economics. Economies may adapt to each other, political systems may be integrated. But culture is a more unruly phenomenon. It contains people's environment their views on man and society, on nation and community, on past and future; and their ideas about a decent and good life.

Manfred Prisching, University of Graz, Austria

Seminar 1 – Law & Politics

The Law and Politics of Cultural Diversity Management: A Neo-institutional Approach

In the first part of the seminar we will deal with state formation and nation-building in Europe; deconstructing the ideology of ethno-nationalism and critically assess the conundrums of liberalism. The second part of the seminar is dedicated to European integration and the question whether and which form of European identity is needed beyond a common market. Finally we will deal with problems of discrimination against and integration of so-called new minorities stemming from immigration. A focus will be given to religious minorities, in particular to the relationship between secularism and Islam in the pan-European area.

Josef Marko, University of Graz, Austria

European Diversity and Decentralization of Administration

Irena Lipowicz, Stiftung für die Deutsch-Polnische Zusammenarbeit, Poland

Migrations from/to Southeastern Europe

Anna Krasteva, New Bulgarian University, Bulgaria

Seminar 2 – Economy & Innovation

Entrepreneurship: an Economic or Cultural Phenomenon

In this course the theory of entrepreneurship and in particular the influence of culture on the re-emergence of entrepreneurship will be discussed; how does entrepreneurship contribute to renovate the economic and social structures of society. Different patterns of the business sector will be presented, in which innovative entrepreneurs are fulfilling different roles from setting up new ventures to entrepreneurial leaders of large scale companies.

Joop G. Vianen, Tilburg University, Germany

Invention, Innovation, Imitation: On the Dynamics of Modern Economies

Modern economies are characterized by permanently revolutionizing their techniques by means of which they produce an ever larger number of commodities. The process under consideration has aptly been described as a process of "creative destruction" (J.A. Schumpeter). The seminar deals with the causes, forms and effects of this process. The emphasis will be on the role of competition, conceived of as rivalry, and the generation and application of economically useful new knowledge.

Heinz Dieter Kurz, University of Graz, Austria

Seminar 3 – History & Power

The Balkans, Turkey, Islam and Europe

This seminar first looks at the impact of the Ottoman Empire in Europe with a special focus on the cross - crescent conflict from 1389 until 1878. Our focus then shifts to the retreat of the Ottoman Empire from the Balkans and its multiple legacies in the region. In the 20th and 21st century contexts, we will examine how the Ottoman Empire and subsequently Turkey are perceived in Europe in terms of how history is taught, contemporary public opinion and the prospects for the integration of not only Turkey but Islam in general into the European Union.

Robert Austin, University of Toronto, Canada

Seminar 4 – Society & Culture

Cultural Diversity: A Challenge for Europe

Cultural diversity has a double face: Sometimes it is seen as an important background for creative developments and it is mostly welcomed (e.g. in organizations and the creative industry). Sometimes, it can also be seen as a cause for difficulties in understanding and as a problem for the cohesion of society. Migration policies, especially, tend to react mainly to this second face of cultural diversity. Management of cultural diversity and its ambiguities is a necessity for the future of the European Union and the seminar should give an insight into the main problems of this undertaking. Which theoretical concepts can help us to understand cultural diversity? How can cultural diversity and its consequences be studied empirically? Can a common European culture develop?

Katherina Scherke, University of Graz, Austria

Ethnic and National Minorities in Intercultural Europe

The aim of the seminar is to discuss the influence of ethnic/national minorities on the European cultural mosaic in the past and the present. The focus will be on the critical approach to the concepts of minority, identity, diversity, inter-culturality, nation state etc., and to the typologies of the minority groups from which, in concrete societies and in specific ways, the rights of ethnic/national minorities are mainly derived.

Jadranka Čačić-Kumpes, University of Zadar, Croatia

Seminar 5 – Religion & Ethics

Religion, Ethics, Politics

In the Treaty of Lisbon, the European Union institutionalizes a permanent dialogue with religions. This implies that the dominant paradigm is not privatization, but the recognition of the public role of religion. The question, however, is: What does this concretely mean? Four aspects of this question will be discussed: (1) Beyond privatization: different models of thinking about the relationship between religion and politics. (2) Beyond liberalism: how socio-political ethics can contribute to a social-market economy. (3) Religions: cause of violence or contribution to peace-building. Lessons from the history of 20th century Europe. (4) Freedom rights versus social rights. Universal human rights or particular rights of citizens. A critique of the European Charter of the Rights of the Citizens of the European Union. Johan Verstraeten, University of Leuven, Belgium

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Seminar 6 - Media & Communication

Media, Communication and Language

The aim of the module is to discuss the transformations of the current media system in Europe and in the U.S. The complex interplay between media companies, journalists, public (relators) relations officer, public opinion will be shown through an analysis of current media practices. The course will blend a sociological and a semiotic approach, treating media practices as emerging forms of language. Professional practices, media power and effects, ethics, media narratives, new technologies will be the main keywords of the course.

Mattia Miani, University of Bologna, Italy