



KATHOLISCHE
KIRCHE STEIERMARK



Graz International Summer School Seggau 2019

GUSEGG

Radical (Dis)Engagement: State – Society – Religion

June 30 - July 13, 2019

Seggau Castle, Leibnitz, Austria, Europe



GRAZ
INTERNATIONAL
SUMMER SCHOOL
SEGGAU
2019



Radical (Dis)Engagement: State – Society – Religion

Constant political uncertainties. Climate change. Demographic transformation. Continual re-thinking of societal coherence in times of diversity. New technologies that will redefine the notion of work. All these challenges are often met with reactions ranging from resignation to proactive ignorance, both on the individual and wider social, cultural, and national levels. The lack of knowledge and tolerance increasingly erupt in aggression and violence against others, taking the place of critical reflection and civic engagement. Trust in institutional structures, political procedures and information (re)sources has been replaced by mistrust and disengagement. The belief in an open and tolerant society and our individual agency has been undermined.

In order to develop strategies and methods to meet the immense challenges of our time, this summer school suggests engaging in academic contemplation and interdisciplinary exchange. Analyzing both engagement as well as disengagement in terms of the relationship of the individual to social, political, and economic structures offers us the opportunity of developing disruptive intellectual approaches and ideas, as we can gain insights into political, social, economic, and cultural forces that make us believe that the challenges we face are essential, natural, and inevitable. Such analysis offers us not only an understanding of our own alliances

on an individual, a regional, national, and global level, but also the possibility of moving from a passive position to active involvement in transformation processes in order to become agents of change by an authentic reformulation of our identities.

An analysis of present and past (dis)engagement with state, society, and religion, will offer insights into the dynamics and structures that govern us as individuals. The summer school will provide more questions than answers, and will allow us to investigate the different approaches to the definitions of state, society, and religion, and their interconnectedness. Focusing on the emphasis areas of the University of Graz – South Eastern Europe and North, Central, and South America – this program will offer a basis for discussing global and continental challenges as well as opportunities that change entails.

Roberta Maierhofer
for the Academic Advisory Board

Target Group

The Graz International Summer School Seggau is designed for internationally oriented, highly motivated **students from all disciplines and all levels** who wish to deepen their understanding of current European and international affairs by studying and discussing global developments and challenges in terms of radical definitions, reflecting aspects of individual and collective identities.

Organizers

GUSEGG is organized by the University of Graz in cooperation with the Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the European Community (COMECE) and the Diocese Graz-Seckau. The Office of International Relations of the University of Graz acts as the coordinating unit. Prof. Dr. Roberta Maierhofer (Center for Inter-American Studies, of the University of Graz) is the academic director.

Aims and Objectives

- **Interdisciplinary cooperation of teachers and students.**
- **Focus areas of the University of Graz – Southeastern Europe and North, Central, and South America.**
- **Unique educational opportunity** for future leaders.



HOW THE SUMMER SCHOOL WORKS



Students will deal with the relevance and effect of Europe and the EU (emphasis on Southeastern Europe) and the Americas on global affairs by attending the offered morning and evening lectures, panel discussions, and participating in one of the following seminars in the afternoon:

Seminar Modules

- 1 History and Politics of State, Nation, and Identity
- 2 Media and Crises of Democracy
- 3 Economics and Inequalities
- 4 Sustainability and Intergenerational Ethics
- 5 Jewish Culture and Modernity
- 6 Ageing, Communication, and Technologies
- 7 Narrative-Based Research/Research-Based Life Writing

Additional Workshops

- a) Academic Writing b) Creative Writing c) Public Speaking

Participate in the Poster Presentation and the Science Slam!

7 GOOD REASONS TO APPLY

- 1 2-week summer university with a unique **castle campus** atmosphere at Seggau Castle
- 2 **6 ECTS credits**
- 3 Lectures, panel discussions, workshops, and **7 parallel seminar modules** (small groups)
- 4 **Improving skills** in public speaking, academic writing, creative writing, and critical thinking
- 5 Discussions and **networking** opportunities with international lecturers and guests
- 6 **Publishing** opportunity: *Off Campus: Seggau School of Thought* publication series
- 7 **All-inclusive package** (tuition, meals, accommodation, extra-curricular program, and excursion to Graz)

APPLICATION DEADLINE

March 18, 2019

How to Apply

Please see our website
international.uni-graz.at/gusegg
for more information.

Costs and Funding

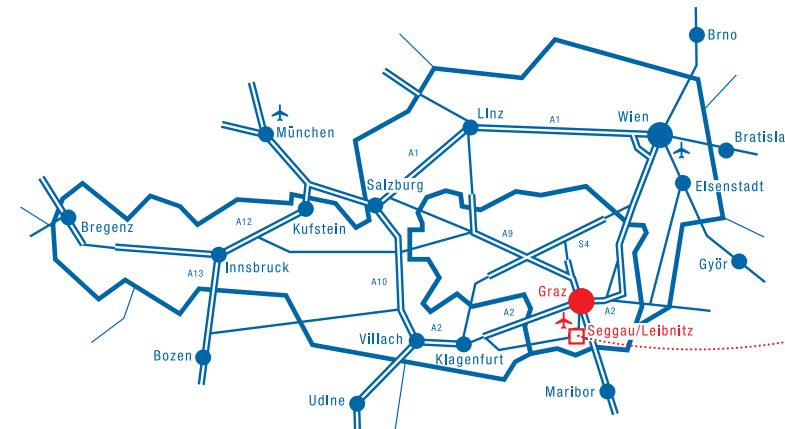
The total student participation fee of 1500 Euro covers the course costs, tuition, and room & board for the entire two weeks.

Scholarship Opportunities

Scholarships are available (please see our website for detailed information), and will be awarded upon application. Travel arrangements have to be made and paid for individually.

THE VENUE & SOCIAL PROGRAM

The venue of the summer school is Seggau Castle, located 45 km south of Graz, Austria. The castle is located on top of a hill overlooking the city of Leibnitz, amidst the vineyards of southern Styria.



Schloss Seggau
Seggauerg 1, 8430 Leibnitz, Austria
www.seggau.com



- Visit of Historic Wine Cellar
- Karaoke
- Gaming Night
- Sports Tournaments
- Movie Nights



- Excursion to Graz
- Excursion to Maribor, Slovenia (optional)
- Writing and Photo Contests
- Castle Tour



CONTACT & INFO

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