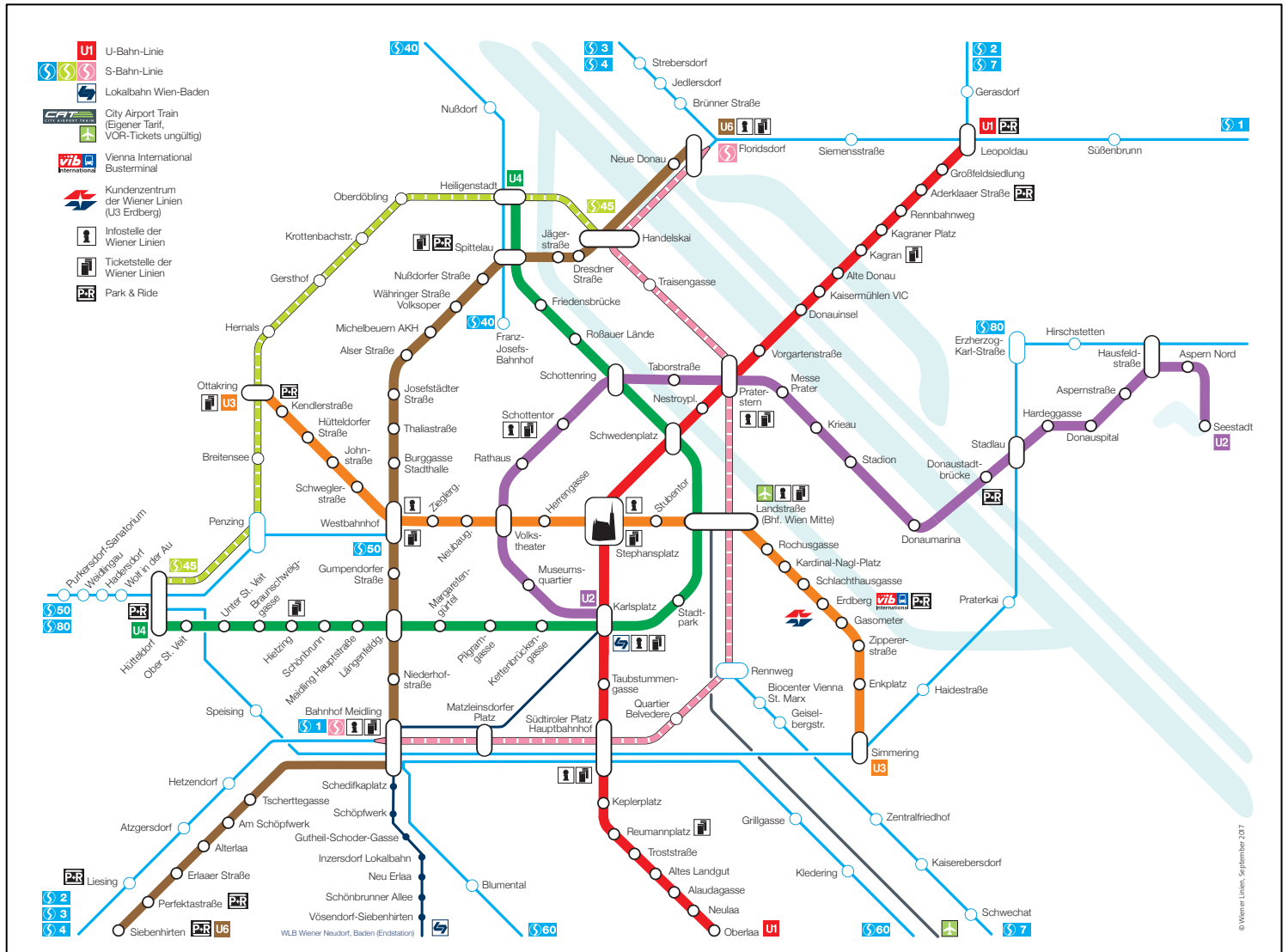


# MAYMESTER 2019

## VIENNA: MEMORY AND THE CITY, FROM IMPERIAL CAPITAL TO GLOBAL METROPOLIS



*Schnellverbindungen in Wien, ca. 2017*

Professor Steven Hoelscher  
Departments of American Studies and Geography  
The University of Texas at Austin

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

“All the bridges between our today and our yesterday and our yesteryears have been burnt.”  
Stefan Zweig, 1943

“Memories are built as a city is built.”  
Umberto Eco, 1986

“The city, however, does not tell its past, but contains it like the lines of a hand, written in the corners of the streets, the gratings of the windows, the banisters of the steps, the antennae of the lightning rods, the poles of the flags, every segment marked in turn with scratches, indentations, scrolls.”  
Italo Calvino, 1974

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Among the world’s major cities, Vienna, Austria, stands out as a place where the past remains a uniquely powerful shaper of collective identity—an identity that is also shaped by equally powerful forces to forget that very past. The urban landscapes of Vienna have long been inscribed by layers of collective remembering and forgetting: the city’s famous nineteenth-century Ringstraße, with its monumental government, educational, religious, and cultural institutions was constructed with memories of older building traditions clearly in mind; while avant-garde architects and artists who followed explicitly rejected connections to the past. From Sigmund Freud’s influential theories of the psychological unconscious to Ludwig Wittgenstein’s efforts to create a distinctly ahistorical philosophical system, Viennese thinkers have been at the vanguard of debates about the power of memory. And the profound upheavals of the Second World War and the Holocaust further fractured collective remembering, leading to Vienna’s deep ambivalence to recent history. Today’s Vienna, fully immersed in a global political-economy, bears witness to the deep impress of the past in the contemporary world.

The purpose of this course is to study the ways in which cultural memory has shaped, and continues to shape, urban life in one specific place: Vienna, Austria. For individuals and groups alike, memory forms an essential component of their social identity; by definition, it involves sharing, discussion, negotiation, and conflict. Cultural memory is produced in various forms—from memorials, public art, and commodities to popular culture, rituals, and museums—and is inevitably anchored in cities. Museums and memorials, for example, have been historically built as official places of memory in prominent cities to communicate a sense of national history and citizenship. Yet, due to the distinct interests of diverse social groups, these urban pasts are open to multiple interpretations that, in many cases, lead to willful and organized forgetting.

Our study of cultural memory in Vienna will explore the city’s changing cultural landscapes during four important periods during its modern development. We will see, for example, how the different layers of Austria’s history have literally become part of the Viennese built environment. We will also visit the many museums that house the artifacts and visual culture so

important to Vienna's collective memory, and we will attend musical performances that call forth the city's unique heritage. This kind of direct exploration, and the course requirement of daily reflections on these structures and spaces, can only be done on-location, where students can explore the terrain of memory. With Vienna as our laboratory, students will examine theoretical discussions of memory and the city in a provocative geographical setting.



*Stadtpark, at the end of Johannesgasse, three blocks from IES*

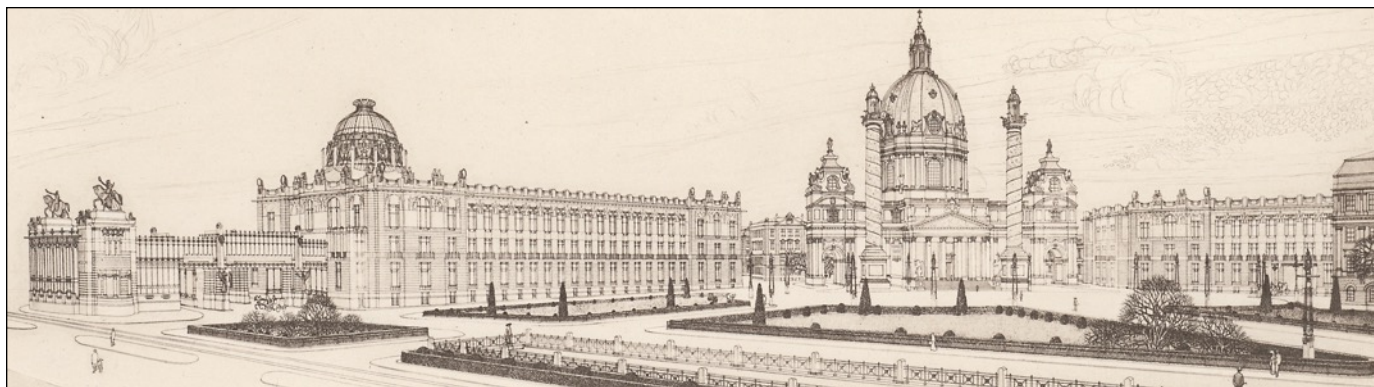
### **Our Host Institution**

This Maymester course is fortunate to enjoy, as its host institution, IES Abroad Vienna, one of the oldest and most experienced study-abroad programs in Europe. Located in an elegant eighteenth-century palace in the center of the old imperial district of Vienna, it houses the largest library of any study-abroad program in Europe, a computer laboratory with e-mail access for every student, as well as a concert hall, classrooms, offices, and lounges. IES will be the setting for daily German language classes and some of our discussions and lectures.

*Contact information:* International Education of Students, Palais Corbelli, Johannesgasse 7, A-1010 Wien, Austria.

*Phone:* +43.1.512.2601

On Thursday, May 24, students will make an excursion to a cell phone shop as part of the orientation to secure an Austrian cell phone or SIM card for your unlocked phones. *By both UT and IES policy, all students must keep minutes on the phone and with you at all times.*



Otto Wagner, "Projekt zum Kaiser Franz Josef-Stadtmuseum am Karlsplatz," 1908

## COURSE EVALUATION

<u>Percent</u>	<u>Task Description</u>
25%	Place Notes: A Daily Fieldwork Journal
25%	One 60-minute guided commentary for the entire class of one site, structure, museum, etc
10%	One 2-hour exam
40%	Participation in all city tours and class discussions

**Place Notes: A Daily Fieldwork Journal:** Students will be asked to keep a daily fieldwork journal that will serve as a compendium of reflections and ideas about memories and places in Vienna. Each day, students will describe a place they encounter—a subway station, a public plaza, a quiet corner of a park, a noisy table at a coffee house—and the people who occupy and make these places. Students will be encouraged to write freely, and, as the Maymester term progresses, to begin making connections between different places they visit. The journals will be read and evaluated at least once during the semester, and will be a central part of in-class discussions. Be sure to bring them with you everywhere, including to class every day.

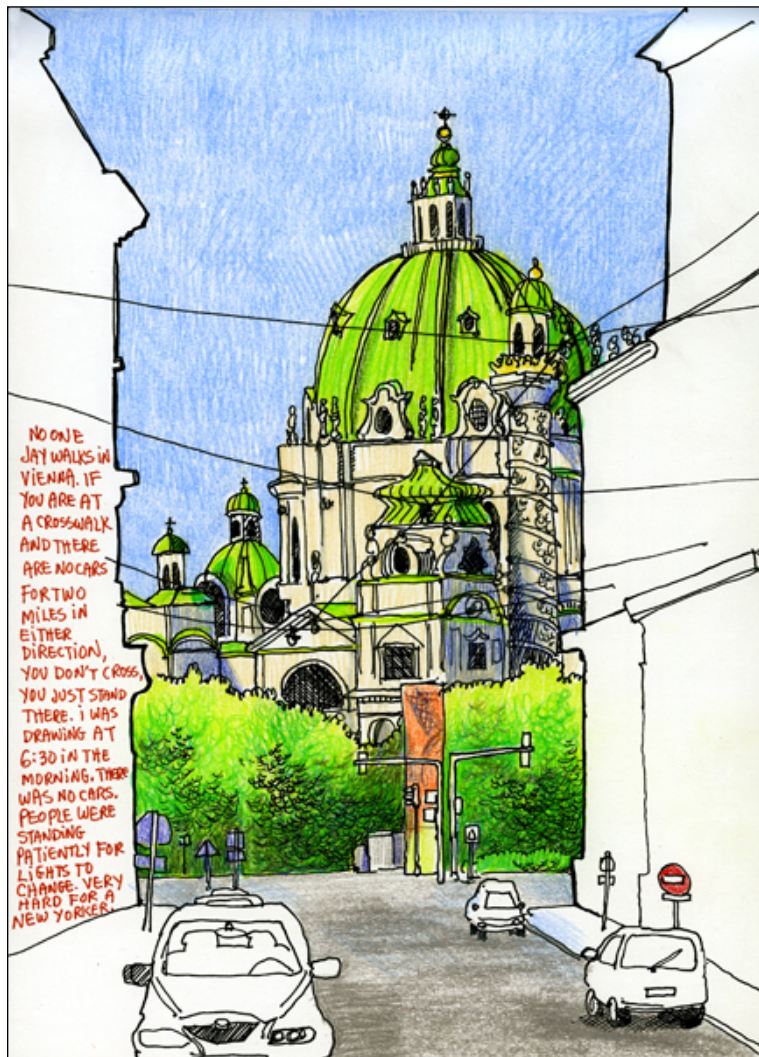
**Guided Commentary at Site of Memory:** In groups of two or three, students will offer a guided commentary of a site of memory—a building, a museum, a landscape—during our final week in Vienna. The presentations should engage several the central themes of the course as they introduce your classmates to a new landscape. Although a written paper is not part of this assignment, students will need to research the history and development of the place and to offer informed interpretations of its importance as a site of memory. The 60-minute presentation should be divided into equal components, so that each student takes responsibility for one-half or one-third of the presentation.

**Exam:** Toward the end of the semester, students will write a two-hour examination on the reading, lecture, and discussion of the course. The exam will consist of several short essay questions and one longer essay.

**Class Participation and Discussion:** Actively participating in this class is a central portion of the coursework, comprising a substantial 40% of the course grade. Daily attendance for German language classes, guest lectures, field excursions, and classroom discussions—in other words, for all our activities—is *required*. Unless identified in the syllabus as "optional," all activities are mandatory. Any unexcused absence will lower your grade by one letter. To receive



credit for each meeting, you must take part, ask questions, make observations, and express ideas—like in a conversation. Every student will be expected to have completed all readings and be able to discuss them. Finally, be on time! Punctuality is essential.



*Place Notes excerpt, handwritten notes and drawing of view toward Karlskirche*

## **COURSE FORMAT**

“Vienna: Memory and the City” will be conducted as a combination of lecture (from both the course instructor and guest lecturers), field excursions, and seminar with open discussion of the assigned readings and other course materials. As a seminar depends on informed discussions, students will be expected to attend class each day, read all the materials before our meetings, and come to class prepared to participate. Some classes will be held entirely at IES, while other days will be entirely “in the field”; most will be a combination of the two. I will try to be as clear as possible about schedule changes, but *each student will be responsible for staying on top of our itinerary and for being on time for every event.*

**German Language Classes:** As a fundamental component of this course, students will receive daily instruction in the German language. These classes will be taught by native German speakers through our host institution, IES, and will be offered at both the beginning and the intermediate/advanced levels. Classes will begin promptly at 9 am and last for 90 minutes. Although performance in the language classes will not be calculated into students' final grades, attendance is required and will be part of the participation component of the course evaluation.



*Reading at the Donaukanal*


## READING MATERIALS

I have put together a course reading packet that includes a wide variety of reading materials, and which you will have purchased in Austin. Some are original, primary sources, some are scholarly texts, some are popular essays, some are study reports; some are written by Americans, some by Austrians. In every case, I've tried to keep the reading to a manageable length and I ask that you have read them closely *before* each class meeting.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

### Arrival in Vienna!

#### **Wednesday, May 23**

 Arrive at IES by noon for a 1 pm "survival in Vienna" orientation meeting. Taxies will take students to their apartments.

### Thursday, May 24: The Spell of the Vienna Woods

11:00 am. Meet in front of the Wiener Staatsoper, by the fountain (Opernbrunnen) to the right of the entrance. We will purchase SIM cards for cell phones at a nearby store.

We'll take public transportation to Kahlenberg, then walk through the Vienna Woods to Nußdorf, with a stop at Heuriger Schübel-Auer.

Read: Paul Hoffmann, "A Lyrical Landscape," and "A Streetcar Named Nostalgia," in *The Spell of the Vienna Woods* (New York: Henry Holt, 1994), 1-28.

Listen: "Poet Rita Dove Tells of Beethoven's Return," from Tell Me More, National Public Radio, 31 April 2009:

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/103022231>

### Friday, May 25

Meet your RA at your housing location at 8:00 am for registration at municipal office

9:00 am – 11 am. IES. Continuation of IES orientation

11:00 am – 12:00 pm. Walking tour of city center.

1 pm – 4 pm. Bus tour with Gretl Satorius, which will provide an overview of the larger city-region. Meet at Burgring 7, by the Naturhistorisches Museum

4:30 pm – 6: 30 pm. Welcome dinner at Fuhrgassl Huber, Neustift am Walde 68.

### Saturday, May 26

Free day

### Sunday, May 27

Free day



Some say that Vienna's best ice cream is found at the Reumannplatz, in Favoriten



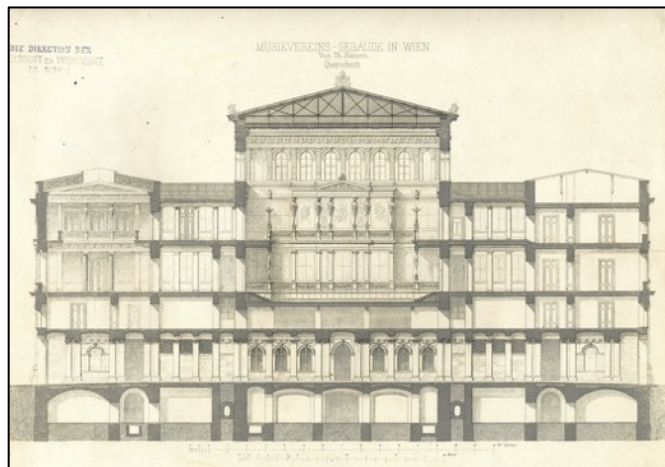
WEEK ONE  
REMEMBERING FRANZ JOSEF'S VIENNA:  
DEVELOPING AN IMPERIAL CAPITAL (1857-1900)

**Monday, May 28: The World of Yesterday**

- German language class, 9 to 10:30. IES
- 11 am – 1 pm. Meet in 2<sup>nd</sup> floor lounge of IES for class with Prof. Hoelscher.
  - ◆ Read: Stefan Zweig, “Preface” and “The World of Security” in *The World of Yesterday: An Autobiography* (New York: The Viking Press, 1943), v-xi, 1-27.
  - ◆ Read: Ali Arikan, “Worlds of Yesterday,” in Matt Zoller Seitz, ed., *The Grand Budapest Hotel* (New York: Abrams, 2014), 208-213.

**Tuesday, May 29: Vienna, The Original Live Music Capital of the World**

- German language class, 9 to 10:30. IES
- 11 am – 1 pm: Meet at IES for lecture on Vienna’s changing musical scene with Dietmar Friesenegger
  - ◆ Watch: *Amadeus* (1984, directed by Miloš Forman):  
<https://utexas.box.com/v/Amadeus>
  - ◆ *Suggested Reading*: Simon P. Keefe, “Beyond Fact and Fiction, Scholarly and Popular: Peter Shaffer and Miloš Forman’s *Amadeus* at 25,” *The Musical Times* (Spring 2009): 45-53.
- 7:30 pm. Orchester Wiener Akademie concert at the Musikverein (Musikvereinplatz 1). Program includes symphonies by Mozart and concertos by Haydn:  
<https://www.musikverein.at/konzert/eventid/32757>



*Architectural plan for the  
Wiener Musikverein by  
Theophil Hansen, 1867*

**Wednesday, May 30: Constructing a Military Power in the Face of Decline**

- German language class, 9 to 10:30. IES



11 am – 2 pm. Meet Prof. Hoelscher in front of the Opera on Opernring. We will then travel together by the D Straßenbahn to the Heeresgeschichtliches Museum.

Read: Margaret Lindauer, "The Critical Museum Visitor," in Janet Marstine, ed., *New Museum Theory and Practice* (Oxford: Blackwell, 2006), 203-225.

#### Thursday, May 31: The Ringstraße as Visual Expression of Liberal Vienna

German language class, 9 to 10:30. IES

11:30 am – 3 pm. Meet Prof. Hoelscher in front of Roßauer Kaserne (Schlickplatz 6, just off Maria-Theresien-Straße, between the Schottentor and Schottenring U-Bahn stations of the U2 line). From there, we will walk a portion of the Ringstraße, and ride the Straßenbahn, to the Museum der Stadt Wien at Karlsplatz, and then tour the museum.

Read: Donald J. Olsen, "The Vienna of Franz Joseph," in *The City as a Work of Art: London, Paris, Vienna* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1986), 58-81.

Optional: 8:30 pm. Wiener Philharmoniker Sommernachtskonzert at Schönbrunn.  
<https://www.sommernachtskonzert.at/>

Please note that today is public holiday and most stores will be closed. Plan ahead!



People wanting "to see and be seen" would promenade from the State Opera to the Schwarzenbergplatz and back, which was known as the "Ringstrassenkorso."

Painting by Theodor Zasche, 1900

#### Friday, June 1

Free day

#### Saturday, June 2

Free day

#### Sunday, June 3

Free day

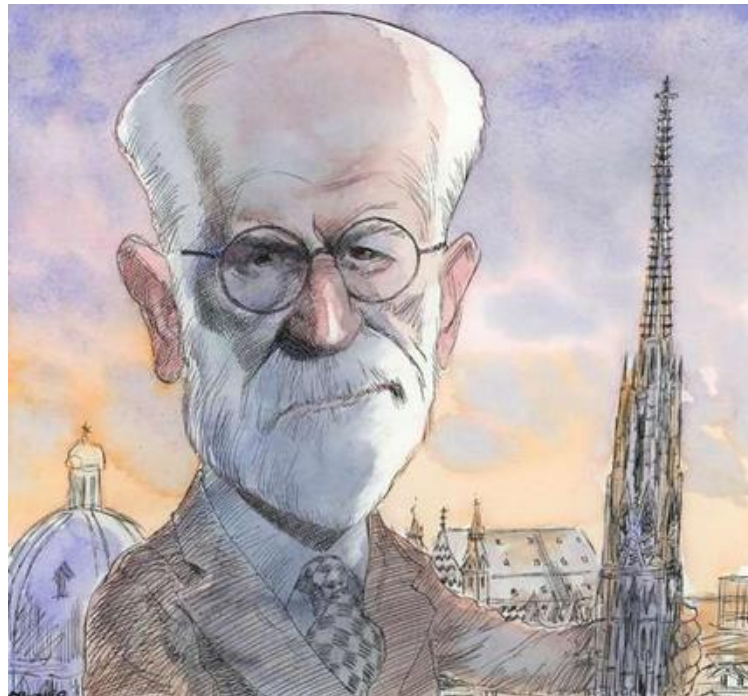
WEEK TWO  
REMEMBERING URBAN MODERNISM:  
FIN-DE-SIÉCLE VIENNA (1890-1914)

**Monday, June 4: The Rise of the Modern City**

- German language class, 9 to 10:30. IES
- 11 am – 2 pm. Meet Prof. Hoelscher in front of the Opera. We will take the 2 Straßenbahn to Josefstadt for a discussion at Piaristenplatz.
- ◆ Read: Camillo Sitte, "Author's Introduction," "The Relationship Between Buildings, Monuments, and Public Squares," and "The Enclosed Character of the Public Square" in *The Art of Building Cities: City Building According to its Artistic Fundamentals* (1889)
- ◆ Read: Otto Wagner, "The Development of the Great City (Die Grossstadt)," *Architectural Record* 31 (1912): 485-500.

**Tuesday, June 5: Memory and Madness: Freud's Vienna**

- German language class, 9 to 10:30. IES
- 11 am – 3 pm. Meet Professor Hoelscher at IES at 11:00 am, and we have a guest lecture with Prof. Dr. Reinhold Stipsits, and then travel together to the Sigmund Freud Museum, at Berggasse 19.
- ◆ Read: Bruno Bettelheim, "Freud's Vienna" and "Berggasse 19," in *Freud's Vienna and Other Essays* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1990), 3-23.



*"Freud's Vienna," by John Spooner 2006*

- Optional: 6:30 pm. Dance lessons at IES

### Wednesday, June 6: Restoring a Natural Environment (Donau – Auen)

- Helmut Summesberger, Dr. Herbert Summesberger, Dr. Peter Sziemer (Museum of Natural History)
- 8.00 sharp! Bus departs at 8:15 at the Naturhistorisches Museum at Burgring 7.
- 9.30 Arrival at Haslau – rafting downstream – crossing the Danube
- 12.30 Lunch break (we'll provide a lunch for you)
- 1:30 pm. The uprising of nature protection in 1984 against the planned hydroelectric power plant at Hainburg.
- 3 pm. Braunsberg (next Hainburg) by bus. View of the March River and Danube.
- 4:40 pm. Entering the bus, short travel to Prellenkirchn, visiting the "Kellergasse". Early dinner.
- 6 pm. Depart for Vienna; arrival at 7 pm.
- Don't forget sun and rain protection, walking shoes, hat, water.
- Rafts are accompanied by excellent, safe guides and everybody will be equipped with life vest. Rowing has to be done by students. The excursion depends strongly on the weather: in case of storm, we won't be rafting, but an alternative program.
- ◆ Read: Elisabeth Lichtenberger, "The Danube-Area as a Planning Resource," in *Vienna: Bridge Between Cultures* (London: Belhaven Press, 1993), 122-127.
- ◆ Read: Erika Hofer, "The New Riverbank at Hainburg," *Danube Watch: The Magazine of the Danube River* 3-4, no. (2006): 16-17.



### Thursday, June 7: The Installation of Jewish Memory in Vienna

- German language class, 9 to 9:45. IES
- 10:30 am – 11:30 am. Meet Prof. Hoelscher at the Stadttempel (Seitenstettengasse 4). Our meeting will begin at 10:30, but it's essential to arrive at least 15 minutes early to go through security. You will need to bring your passport for entry.
- 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm. Tour of the Jüdisches Museum Wien (Dorotheergasse 11).
- ◆ Read: Abigail Gillman, "Cultural Awakening and Historical Forgetting: The Architecture of Memory in the Jewish Museum of Vienna and in Rachel Whiteread's 'Nameless Library,'" *New German Critique* (2004): 145-73 (excerpt)



## Friday, June 8: Painting and Building Modernity

- German language class, 9 to 10:30. IES
- 11:30 am – 1:30 pm. Meet Prof. Hoelscher at Secession Building (Friedrichstraße 12)
- 2-5 pm. Guest Lecture with Dr. Beatrice Ottersböck. Meet at the Oberes Belevedere (After the Secession, take the D Straßenbahn from Kärntner Ring/Oper in the direction of the Alfred-Adler-Straße, exit at Schloß Belevedere).
  - ◆ Read: Christoph Grunenberg, "'Sacred Spring' and the Dawn of a New Era: The Vienna Secession," in *Gustav Klimt: Complete Paintings*, edited by Tobias Natter (Cologne: Taschen, 2012), 43-56.
  - ◆ *Suggested Reading*: Alexandra Starr, "Trapped in a Golden Age," *American Scholar* (Winter 2008): 8-12
- Optional: 8:30 pm. Concordia Ball. Details to follow. <https://www.concordiaball.at/>



Guerilla Art along the Donaukanal, 2009

## Saturday, June 9

- Free day

## Sunday, June 10

- Free day

## Thursday, June 8: Austria and the United States in Transnational Perspective

- German language class, 9 to 10:30. IES
- 2 pm - 4 pm. Meet Prof. Hoelscher at the Florianipark entrance to the Rathaus station of the U2 at 1:45 pm. We will have a joint seminar session with American



Studies students from the University of Vienna, directed by Prof. Dr. Alexandra Ganser, at the AmerikaHaus (Friedrich-Schmit-Platz 2).



Read: Armin Thurnher, "The Americanization of Vienna," in *The Americanization/Westernization of Austria*, edited by Günter Bischof and Anton Pelinka (New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction Publishers, 2003), 29-37.



Read: Martha Bayles, "Introduction," in *Through a Screen Darkly: Popular Culture, Public Diplomacy, and America's Image Abroad* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2014), 1-18.



Read: Richard Wike, "A U.S. Dream, or Nightmare, for Europeans," *EUobserver*, 20 January 2017.

### WEEK THREE

#### REMEMBERING RED AND HITLER'S VIENNA:

#### THE COLLAPSE OF MONARCHY AND THE RISE OF COMPETING POLITICAL MOVEMENTS (1918-1945)

##### **Monday, June 12: The Ringstraße of the Working Class: Red Vienna**



German language class, 9 to 10:30. IES



11:30 am – 2:30 pm. Visit of the Karl Marx Hof. Meet Prof. Hoelscher at the exit of the Heiligenstadt Station, end of the U4 line.



Read: Eve Blau, "Introduction," in *The Architecture of Red Vienna, 1919-1934* (Cambridge, MA: M.I.T. Press, 1999), 2-8.



Read: "Karl Marx Hof," in *Architecture in Austria in the 20th and 21st Centuries* (Basel, Switzerland: Birkhäuser Publishers for Architecture, 2006), 76-77, 301.





Optional: Full Moon U4 Wienerwald hike, from Hütteldorf to Heiligenstadt.




Poster for the exhibition Red Vienna (Museum Postsparkasse Vienna), 2010

## **Tuesday, June 13: Cultural Landscape as World Heritage Site: Excursion to the Wachau**

 8:00 am sharp! Bus departs at 8:15 am opposite the Naturhistorisches Museum at Burgring 7. We will tour Melk, Dürnstein, and Krems for a pleasant day of visiting medieval monasteries and castles in a World Heritage landscape. Picnic lunch will be provided and visit to the Huber Wine Celler in Langenlois to conclude the day.


 Read: United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), "Wachau (Austria): Advisory Body Evaluation," *World Heritage Center Report* Number 970, (2000).

## **Wednesday, June 14: The Installation of Jewish Memory in Vienna**


 German language class, 9 to 10:30. IES


 11:30 am – 12:30 pm. Meet Prof. Hoelscher at Museum Judenplatz (Judenplatz 8)


 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm. Tour of the Jüdisches Museum Wien (Dorotheergasse 11).


 Read: first part of Abigail Gillman, "Cultural Awakening and Historical Forgetting: The Architecture of Memory in the Jewish Museum of Vienna and in Rachel Whiteread's 'Nameless Library,'" *New German Critique* (2004): 145-161.

## **Thursday, June 15: Written in Stone: Remembering the Holocaust**

 German language class, 9 to 10:30. IES

 11 am – 2 pm. Meet Prof. Hoelscher at Morzinplatz (between Salztorbrücke and Marienbrücke, just off Franz-Josefs-Kai). Holocaust monuments on Morzinplatz, Albertinaplatz, and Judenplatz.

 Read: second part of Abigail Gillman, "Cultural Awakening and Historical Forgetting: The Architecture of Memory in the Jewish Museum of Vienna and in Rachel Whiteread's 'Nameless Library,'" *New German Critique* (2004): 161-173.

 Read: James E. Young, "Introduction" and "Austria's Ambivalent Memory," in *The Texture of Memory: Holocaust Memorials and Meanings*, ed. (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1993), 1-15, 91-112.



Weg der Erinnerung (path of memory) in Leopoldstadt (2. Bezirk), 2011

### Friday, June 16: Salzburg Excursion: An Introduction to the City of Mozart

Departure details to follow. Once we've arrived in Salzburg, we will go to our hotel where we will have lunch after checking in. In the afternoon, we will have a guided, walking tour in Salzburg, and then dinner and concert at St. Peter Stiftskeller.

Read: Edward Rothstein, "Mozart: In Search of Genius," *Smithsonian*, February 2006, 84-95.

### Saturday, June 17: Salzburg Excursion: Spaces of Fantasy

Morning and early afternoon consists of a guided tour of Hellbrunn, just outside Salzburg. Lunch at Stieglkeller, afternoon free time, and dinner at Sternbräu.

### Sunday, June 18: Salzburg Excursion: Spaces of Death, Mauthausen and return to Vienna

After checking out of hotel, we will travel to Mauthausen, just outside Linz. There we will have a guided tour and will study what is arguably Austria's most infamous site of memory. We return to Vienna by early evening.

## WEEK FOUR

### PRESENTING YOUR VIENNA, PAST AND PRESENT

### Monday, June 19

Free day

### Tuesday, June 20: Final Exam and Concluding Reflections on Austrian and American National Identity. Presentation of Semester Research Projects

10 am – 11:30 am. Discussion with Dr. Lonnie Johnson, director of the Austrian Fulbright Commission. Meet at 9:45 at the MuseumsQuarter station on the U2 line (at the intersection of Mariahilfer Straße and Museumsplatz).

Read: Lonnie R. Johnson, "Austria," in G. R. Herb and D. H. Kaplan, eds., *Nations and Nationalism: A Global Historical Overview* (Santa Barbara, 2009), 539-554.

11:30 am – 1:30 pm. Final Exam.

1:30 pm – 5 pm. Student-led excursions to researched sites of memory.

### **Wednesday, June 21: Presentation of Semester Research Projects**

11 am – 5 pm. Student-led excursions to researched sites of memory.

### **Thursday, June 22: Presentation of Semester Research Projects**

11 am – 5 pm. Student-led excursions to researched sites of memory.

### **Friday, June 23: Presentation of Semester Research Projects**

11 am – 2 pm. Student-led excursions to researched sites of memory.

3 pm. Farewell dinner. Meet at IES then, together, we'll take U3 to Ottakring and dinner at Villa Aurora in Wilhelminenberg in the Vienna Woods



Vienna street art in the 3<sup>rd</sup> district

### **Saturday, June 24: Auf Wiedersehen Wien!**



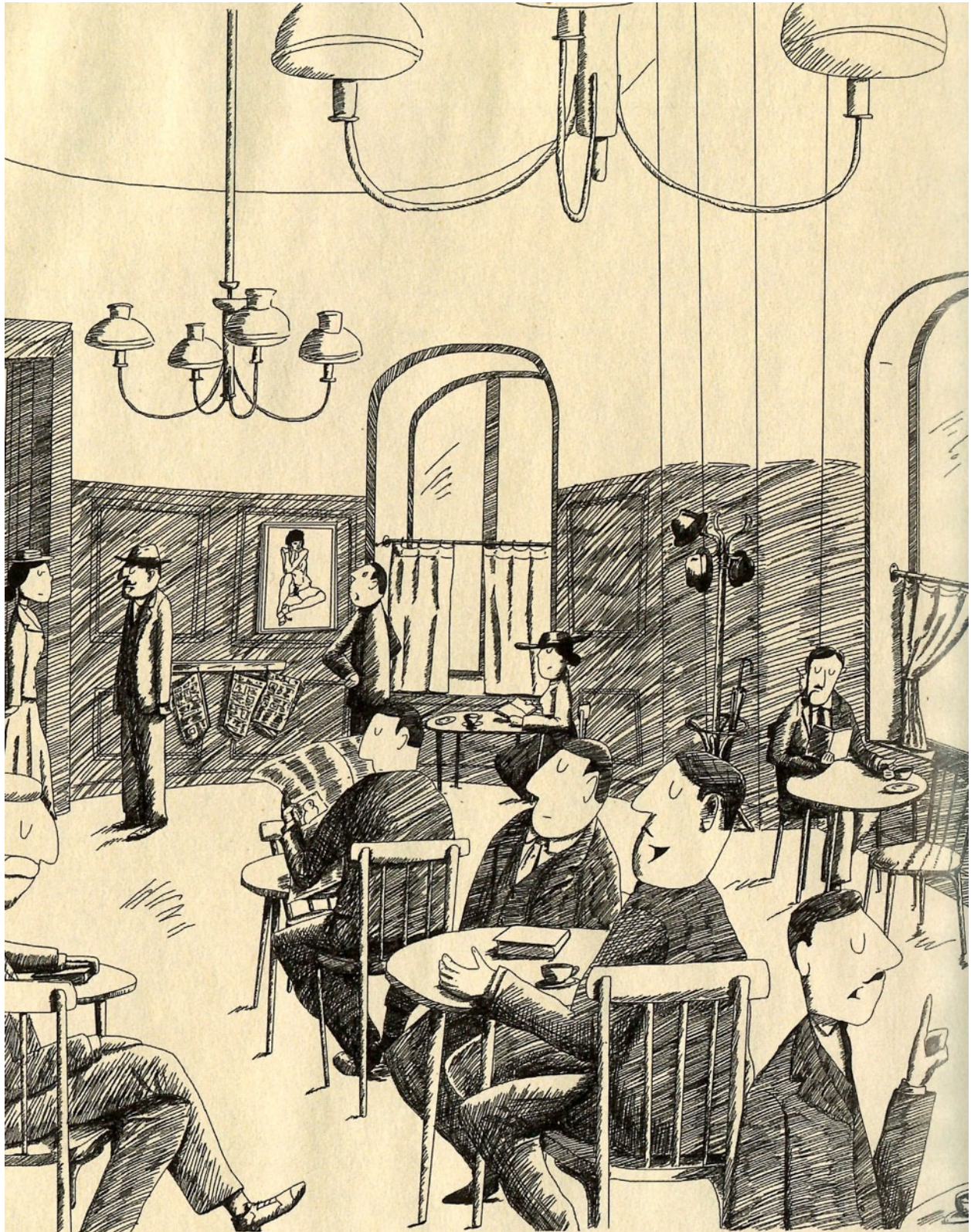


Illustration by Max Dalton, from "Worlds of Yesterday," in *The Grand Budapest Hotel* (Abrams, 2014), p. 210