



INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL SEGGAU 2008

US EUROPE

Towards a Multicultural Continent

June 28th – July 12th 2008

Seggau Castle/Leibnitz/Austria

US Europe – Towards a Multicultural Continent

US Europe – this title alludes to three associations.

** First, it is about European identity: we Europeans; we in Europe. This identity cannot only be defined with the cultural achievements of the past in mind, but it also requires dealing with heterogeneity and cosmopolitanism. Europe and what makes it unique have spread across the world, but elements of the world have also expanded into the towns and villages of Europe.*

** Second, it is about the future shape of Europe, about the United States of Europe: What types are imaginable, and how can a future Europe be thought in its state form? It is not only a question of a European constitution, but also of the repertoire of possible ways of structuring it and of limiting the European configuration.*

** Third, it is about Europe's position as part of a world system, which is shaped by the USA, and thus the relations between the United States of America and Europe, too. The USA taps the same cultural sources as Europe, but it has developed these in a completely different way. The Muslim world and "Chinindia" (China and India) have taken on new geopolitical importance. In this perspective, the question also has to be raised as to the special characteristics and future chances of Europe.*

Therefore, the question of Europe's positioning in a globalized world is also posed. This not only requires consideration of its own unique characteristics and location, but also reflection on the organizational structures and the definition of its role in the international system of powers. The usual topics, from migration to the ageing population, from identity to hybridity, from European statehood up to global empire, from the new phase of oppression to a world society, are incorporated into these questions. **Roberta Maierhofer & Manfred Prisching, Academic Advisory Board**

Seminar Module 1 – Law & Politics

Minority protection

This module discusses different legal bases for minority protection in the EU and the US. It starts by providing an overview of protection systems and measures for "old" minorities and "new" minorities/migrants in the EU. The module then deals with protection mechanisms and affirmative action measures regarding minorities in the US. Examples and case law focus on matters of equality and positive discrimination, such as evident in political rights or legal measures designed to increase the participation of minorities in public life.

Michaela Salamun, Karl-Franzens University Graz

European Constitution – Constitutions in Europe

On October 19th 2007, the informal European Council in Lisbon adopted the final text of the new Treaty of the European Union. After the ratification process in all 27 member states it is hoped that the new "Lisbon Treaty" will come into effect in 2009. What are the key elements of the Reform Treaty? Does it represent a European Constitution

although this expression was avoided after the vivid constitutional debate in the previous years? What are the typical elements of the constitution of a state? How can we imagine a European statehood in the globalised 21st century? – In this seminar fundamental aspects of constitutions in general and the future European Constitution in particular will be discussed in a comparative perspective.

Hedwig Kopetz, Karl-Franzens University Graz

Europe as an actor on the global stage

The European Union currently faces the challenge of developing its ability to successfully promote European interests and values worldwide. In the past, the European Union frequently lacked a clear voice in foreign policy and security matters. In this seminar, it will be observed what legal and political reasons caused these past problems and whether the Reform Treaty of Lisbon will enhance the Union's capacity to play a more effective part in global affairs.

Elisabeth Handl, University Salzburg

Seminar Module 2 – Economy & Innovation

This module focusing on economics discusses Europe's controversial identity and its future design. It also broaches the issue of the relations between Europe and the United States as well as the embedding of Europe in the global landscape of the 21st century.

Manfred Prisching, Karl-Franzens University Graz
Robert Gutounig, Wissensmanagement Forum Graz

Entrepreneurs: the change agents towards a more innovative economy

In this course the theory of entrepreneurship will be discussed and in particular the influence of culture on this development will be discussed and does this new entrepreneurship contribute to renovate the social and economic structures and does it strengthen the business potentials. Different development patterns of the business sector will be presented, in which innovative entrepreneurs are fulfilling different roles from starting up new ventures to leaders of real large scale enterprises.

Joop G. Vianen, Tilburg University

Seminar Module 3 – History & Power

Multiethnicity and Multiculturalism in Southeastern Europe: From Habsburgs and Ottomans to the European Union

This workshop looks at the legacy of multi-cultural cooperation in historic (Ottoman and Habsburg Empires) and contemporary contexts. It seeks to test and assess the origins of ethnic and religious intolerance in Southeastern Europe along with the impact of the European Union and other international actors in promoting tolerance and re-building multi-ethnicity.

Robert Austin, University of Toronto
Guido Hausmann, Trinity College Dublin

Seminar Module 4 – Society & Culture

Hybrid Identities

This module discusses tensions between individual and collective identities in the processes of European integration. It is argued that notions such as ethnicity and multiculturalism are not sufficient to describe the complex hybridization of identities that is currently taking place. Modernization, globalization and postcolonial theories are used as a background against which to understand discussed identity changes. Special attention is devoted to the tensions arising in the regions of so-called „New Europe“.

Inga Tomić-Koludrović, University of Zadar
Valerija Barada, University of Zadar

Seminar Module 5 – Interculturality

BoxWhatBox: Performing Interculturality

BoxWhatBox is a workshop focused on the notion of play and how, in working within and between cultures, it is necessary to un-learn habits and re-learn openness.

Michael Devine, Acadia University/Nova Scotia Canada

Intercultural Communication

This seminar offers an overview of current theories of intercultural communication and provides the tools and skills needed for the analysis of actual intercultural interactions (mainly in a lingua franca) in multicultural contexts. Intercultural communication in this seminar is analysed by methods of linguistic research, in particular discourse analysis and pragmatics. The focus of the analyses will lie on communication strategies which people use to overcome potential or actual communication problems in intercultural interactions.

Hermine Penz, Karl-Franzens University Graz

Seminar Module 6 – Media & Communication

The aim of the module is to discuss the transformations of the current media systems. The complex interplay between media companies, journalists, public relations, public opinion will be shown through an analysis of current media practices. To attain this goal, a review of the advances in the understanding of media effects will be offered. Professional practices, media power and effects, ethics, new technologies will be the main keywords of the course.

Mattia Miani, University of Bologna
Norbert Mayer, DIE PRESSE
Otmar Lahodinsky, Wochenzeitung Profil

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Organizers: The Vice Rectorate for International Relations and Interdisciplinary Co-operation 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: € 360 (reduced fee € 180) 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:

Karl Franzens University Graz

<http://international.uni-graz.at/seggausummerschool>

Application Deadline: March 21st 2008

Organized by:

