2016 Travel Seminar to Vienna

"Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts. Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one corner of the earth all one's lifetime." Mark Twain, *The Innocents Abroad* (1869) Chapter LXII





CREATIVE THOUGHT TRAVELS



For details about costs and travel logistics:
Lisa Hobbs
Off-Campus Study and Exchanges
Starbuck Center, room 202
518-580-5355

For details about course content and academic requirements:

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Professor Karin Hamm-Eshani Foreign Languages and Literatures Palamountain Hall, room 429B 518-580-5233 khammehs@skidmore.edu

Professor Mary-Beth O'Brien Foreign Languages and Literatures Palamountain Hall, room 406 518-580-5216 mobrien@skidmore.edu

For details about available financial aid:
Financial Aid Office
Starbuck Center, room 101
518-580-5750
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Skidmore College

WALTZ, COFFEEHOUSES, DREAMS: CULTURE AND HISTORY IN VIENNA



TX 200C: FACULTY-LED TRAVEL SEMINAR TO VIENNA, AUSTRIA

JANUARY 5-16, 2016

FACULTY

PROFESSOR KARIN HAMM-EHSANI

PROFESSOR MARY-BETH O'BRIEN

Travel Seminar to Vienna

WALTZ. COFFEEHOUSES. DREAMS: CULTURE AND HISTORY IN VIENNA, AUSTRIA is a twocourse (4 credits total) learning experience combining class work and readings on campus during the fall 2015 semester and the travel seminar field experience with class work and lectures in Vienna during January break 2016. Students wishing to enroll in the January "Waltz, Coffeehouses, and Dreams: Culture and History in Vienna, Austria" travel seminar (TX 200C) must also enroll in the fall 2015 on-campus course (FL 263). Both TX 200C and FL 263 can count toward the German major and minor if one-third of the coursework is done in German. Both courses can also count toward the IA minor and major (under Cluster III: The Cultural World).

Why Vienna?

Situated on the Danube River plain near the Vienna Woods and the Carpathian foothills. Vienna is Austria's capital and the home to 1.6 million inhabitants. Originally a Celtic settlement and then a Roman military and commercial center, Vienna became the capital of the Habsburg Empire and a European center of power for centuries. Although Austria has been an independent republic since 1955, it still celebrates its imperial grandeur in historic buildings, the Sissi-cult surrounding Princess Elisabeth, the world famous Vienna boys' choir, and the dancing white Lipizzaner horses. Vienna enjoys an unparalleled musical heritage: classical composers Schubert, Strauss, Schönberg, and Berg were native sons; while Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms, and Mahler chose to live and work here. The city is not only the birthplace of the waltz, coffeehouses, Mozartkugeln, and Sachertorte but also modern psychoanalysis and fin de siècle art and architecture with proponents such as O. Wagner, Klimt, Kokoschka, and Schiele. Vienna boasts world-class art museums and a fascinating history, but it is also a vibrant, forward-looking city that enjoys a creative art scene and hosts many important international institutions including the offices of the United Nations, OPEC, and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Course Schedule

"Waltz, Coffeehouses, and Dreams: Culture and History in Vienna, Austria" (FL 263), a 3-credit lecture and discussion course, will be taught at Skidmore in fall 2015, when Professors Hamm-Eshani and O'Brien, with OCSE, will schedule meetings to discuss the academic expectations, logistics, and code of conduct for the travel seminar (TX 200C).

Preliminary Travel Schedule

Subject to change

January 5: Flight NYC to Vienna, Austria

January 6: Arrive in Vienna. Transfer to hotel.

January 7: Morning tour of downtown Vienna including the St. Stephen's Cathedral, Kärntner Street, Charles Church, and the Sezession House Art Museum (Beethoven Frieze). Afternoon in Leopold Museum (Modernist masterpieces).

January 8: Imperial Vienna: Hofburg, city hall, parliament, roman ruins, and a visit to a traditional Viennese coffee house

January 9: Following the steps of Mozart. Lunch at Griechenbeisl, Vienna's oldest inn. Afternoon walking tour in the steps of Mozart. Evening classical music performance.

January 10: Morning Practice of the Vienna Boys' Choir, afternoon at Castle Belvedere and the Austria art collection (Klimt, Kokoschka, Schiele)

January 11: Excursion to Castle Schönbrunn

January 12: Excursion to the monastery of Melk and the concentration camp memorial at Mauthausen

January 13: Art History Museum and the Spanish Riding School. Dinner and traditional entertainment at a Heuriger vineyard in the town of Grinzing.

January 14: United Nations Offices, Freud Museum, Hundertwasser House

January 15: Free day in the city to explore. Attend the opera in the evening.

January 16: Return from Vienna, Austria to NYC

Skidmore Faculty

KARIN HAMM-EHSANI is a visiting assistant professor of German. She is a German native who studied at the Universität Trier-Kaiserslautern and the Universität Köln, and received her Ph.D. in Germanic languages from UCLA. Her teaching includes German language, literature from the 18th to 20th century, and film. Her research and published scholarship focus on the German history of ideas of enlightenment and romanticism, contemporary European multicultural and migration politics and migrant film and literature in German-speaking Europe. Her current work in progress is a study of Kurdish-German filmmaker Yüksel Yavuz and the notion of *Heimat*.

MARY-BETH O'BRIEN is a professor of German. She studied at the Karl-Winter-Universität Heidelberg, Freie Universität Berlin, Wilhelm-Pieck-Universität Rostock, and received her Ph.D. in Germanic Languages from UCLA. She teaches courses in German language, literature, cinema, and International Affairs. Her primary research interest is the intersection between art and politics. Her book, Nazi Cinema as Enchantment: The Politics of Entertainment in the Third Reich (2004), explores how cinema participated in the larger framework of everyday fascism. Her newest book, Post-Wall German Cinema and National History (2012), examines utopianism and political dissent in depictions of German history.

Anticipated Costs

The anticipated fee for the travel seminar is \$2,900 (subject to fluctuation). This includes Skidmore tuition, round-trip airfare from a NYC-area airport to Vienna, ground transportation for program excursions, on-site accommodations (generally double occupancy), two meals per day, international medical insurance, entrance fees, local guides, cultural excursions, Skidmore faculty on site, and the support of OCSE. The fee does not include transportation to and from New York City, passport and visa costs, or personal expenses. Financial aid is available for eligible students.

Application

Please apply by Monday, April 6, 2015. Application forms are at skidmore.edu/ocse. At the time of application, all applicants must submit a \$250 deposit (100% refundable for applicants not accepted to the program), which will be applied to the program fee.