Department of German Studies at Emory
Das 43. Sommerprogramm in Wien
Gesponsert von der Max Kade Foundation
AN OPENING THOUGHT

"Mit dem neuen Leben, das einem nachdenkenden Menschen die Betrachtung eines neuen Landes gewahrt, ist nichts zu vergleichen. Ob ich gleich noch immer derselbe bin, so mein’ ich, bis aufs innerste Knochenmark verändert zu sein."

"Nothing can be compared to the new sense of life infused in a thoughtful person by the observation of a new country. Even though I am still the same to be sure, I consider myself to have been changed to the very marrow of my bones."

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

These remarks by the poet Goethe express some of our hopes for you as you spend the coming summer in Vienna. If you go to Austria as an open-minded and receptive person with the intention of observing, experiencing, and absorbing as much as possible, then the summer will be a valuable one. We hope that this handbook will be a helpful guide for getting you started in the right direction, and we further hope that you will not be bound by these suggestions but that you will conduct your own exploration of the language, people, and culture of Austria. That way you, like Goethe, may be infused with a new sense of life and may become more sensitive to our international environment.
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Last updated: September 15, 2016
## List of Students

### 2016

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<tr>
<th>Last Name</th>
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** Max Kade Scholarship recipient
CLASS SCHEDULE

2016

All courses will take place at the

Amerika Institut
Operngasse 4
Innenhof, Stiege 2, 1. Stock
1010 Wien

http://www.aaie.at

First Semester
Monday, June 6 – Tuesday, June 28

Course
German 201  Monday – Friday 9:00 – 12:15  Belona Berchtaler
German 370 A  Monday – Friday 9:00 – 12:15  Peter Höyng

Second Semester
Monday, July 4 – Tuesday, July 26

Course
German 202  Monday – Friday 9:00 – 12:15  Belona Berchtaler
German 370 B  Monday – Friday 9:00 – 12:15  Marianne Lancaster
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* Subject to changes
HEALTH, SAFETY, AND EMERGENCY PROTOCOL

Medical/Health Situations
All medical/health situations – from routine illnesses to serious emergencies – should be reported immediately to the Program Director who will then give advice based on the situation. The Program Director may relay the details to CIPA who may also contact your designated “emergency contact” if the situation warrants.

Hospital: Allgemeines Krankenhaus der Stadt Wien, Währinger Gürtel 18-20, 1090 Wien, Tel: (+ 43 1) 404 00-0
Emergency 24/7; www.akhwien.at/

Local Doctor: The US Embassy in Vienna maintains a website with up-to-date information on English-speaking physicians:
austria.usembassy.gov/med.html

Worldwide Assistance Services
Included in the study abroad insurance is access to the 24-hour Worldwide Assistance network for emergency assistance anywhere in the world. The multilingual staff will answer the call in English and immediately provide reliable, professional, and thorough assistance. To dial outside the U.S., call international collect at:
1 215-942-8226

Please refer to the CIPA website for any questions regarding the study abroad insurance policy included in the cost of the program – studyabroad.emory.edu

General Safety Measures
Be aware of the norms for local, everyday travel – e.g. know which types of taxis are safest and/or recommended, know which public transportation routes are safest and which should be avoided, etc.

If you receive a direct threat of any kind, immediately contact the Program Directors. You may contact Prof. Höying or Prof. M. Lancaster. […]

If the danger deems to be more remote, the Director and the Assistant to the Director will constitute a crisis management team to assess the degree of risk in any such situation.

You are strongly advised to keep the following information with you at all times: personal data about yourself such as your name, Vienna and home address/or contact address in the US, your phone numbers in Vienna and the US, your passport number, your blood type and social security number.

The US Embassy and US Consulate are important addresses in case of emergency:

**US Embassy**
Boltzmannagasse 16
A-1090 Vienna
Tel.: (+43 1) 313 39-0
Fax: (+43 1) 310 06 82
http://austria.usembassy.gov
E-mail: embassy@usembassy.at

**US Consulate**
Parkring 12a
A-1010 Vienna
Tel.: (+ 43 1) 313 39-0
Fax: (+43 1) 512 5835
E-mail: ConsulateVienna@state.gov

You are urged to locate the address of the US Embassy and US Consulate on a city map and to go there in person during the first few days of the program, so that you will know where it is and how to get there in case of an emergency.
Emergency Plan
Emory College Study Abroad and Emory University require all study abroad programs to have an emergency plan in case of a catastrophic situation overseas. This Emergency Protocol has been designed to protect the safety of students participating on this program and to ensure the physical and emotional wellbeing in the event that students are put at risk as a consequence of terrorist activity, natural disaster, political/social unrest, or another life-threatening event. Because emergencies are, by definition, unexpected, it is difficult to plan for all contingencies. However, this plan seeks to address a range of possible situations and to provide flexibility should the need to adapt arise in a given situation.

- In case of a terrorist attack or other catastrophic emergency, report immediately to the inner courtyard of the old AKH (Alserstrasse 2-4, 1090 Wien) and leave your cell phone on. The alternate location is Professor Höyng’s apartment for the first session or for the second session meet at Prof. Lancaster’s apartment.
- If you are traveling and/or away from the general area of the program, stay where you are and follow the guidelines of relevant and local authorities. Make contact with the program as soon as possible either by phone or by email, per the instructions below.
- Once at this “home” location, call, text, or email the Program Director (Austrian cell phone; (0676) 493-5793 phoeyng@emory.edu, or (0676) 358-7084, mlancas@emory.edu, and/or program assistant for the program Hannah Rose Blakeley: hblakel@emory.edu.
- If you cannot reach the identified location and/or the phones or email are not operational, stay where you are and follow the guidelines of relevant and local authorities. Make contact as soon as possible either by phone or by email, per the instructions above.
- The Program Director, faculty member, and/or program assistant will give you directions on what to do, depending on the available information. However, in the absence of directions or in case of breakdown in communications, the general safety measure is to STAY in the identified location until the situation is calm.
- Once the situation is calm, if communications are not yet re-established and you cannot contact any other student or Program Director, faculty member, and/or program assistant, contact Emory College Study Abroad for instructions. You can call the Emory Police collect at +1 (404) 727-6111 at any time, and they will contact Emory College Study Abroad on your behalf; be sure to identify yourself as an Emory summer study abroad student.
- The expected cost of any phone call should not be a determining factor in whether or not to call during an emergency situation.
- Emory College Study Abroad will contact the identified “emergency contact” (i.e., parent, guardian, etc.) for each student to keep them apprised of the situation and any plans being carried out.

Evacuation Plan
Emory College Study Abroad and the Program Director will follow the advice of local authorities, the U.S. Embassy or Consulate, and/or the U.S. State Department. In case of a catastrophic event in which remaining in the program’s location may pose a risk to students’ safety, students may be moved to an alternate location. The Program Director or other program leaders will contact the students and provide directions.

In case evacuation out of the country is required and implemented, students will be transported back to the U.S. by the best means available.

In either case, Emory College Study Abroad will contact the identified “emergency contact” (i.e., parent, guardian, etc.) of each student so as to keep them apprised of the situation and any plans being carried out.

Emory College Study Abroad and Emory reserve the right to change any of the emergency plan details at any time if deemed necessary.

Useful Emergency Numbers in Austria

- Emergency Police Number: 113
- Emergency Medical Unit: 144
- Fire Department: 122

Emergency number in case of sexual assault and/or violence against women
www.fraunnotrufe.at/
24-hour hotline in Vienna: (01) 71 71 9
PRE-DEPARTURE CHECKLIST

Travel plans and documents
1. Send Program Assistant Hannah Rose (hblakel@emory.edu) as soon as possible your travel itinerary that indicates when and how you will arrive in Vienna before June 5th
2. Make 2-3 photocopies of the photo page in your passport. Leave one copy with a trusted contact person back home and bring the others with you but stored somewhere separate from the actual passport
3. Plan how you intend on getting to your host family on the arrival day
4. Optional: If you are US citizen, register your trip with the State Department at https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui/
5. Optional: Purchase an International Student ID Card (ISIC) from www.statravel.com

Communication
6. Write an e-mail or letter of introduction to your host family
7. Devise a plan for cell phone use overseas (see p. 12)

Money and banking
8. Call your credit and debit card companies and let them know the dates when you will be overseas. Also, check to make sure your PIN works overseas.
9. Optional: Exchange $ 200 for Euros before departing
10. Optional: Get traveler’s checks to back up your ATM card

Purchases
11. Purchase/obtain the plug adaptors for any electronic equipment you are taking
12. Purchase a welcome gift for your host family

Packing
13. appropriately (see p. 5-6)
14. Back up the hard drive of your laptop if you intend to bring it
15. Go through your wallet/purse and take out all those cards that are not needed overseas (e.g., coffee cards, gym membership card, supermarket discount card)

Reading
16. Read the handbook and information online about Vienna
17. Read books about Vienna recommended on p. 4-5
18. Optional: Tune in to the program’s Facebook group page
19. Study for the quiz on the program handbook
I. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

The German Studies Department at Emory welcomes you to our 43rd Emory in Vienna Program! Spending a summer in Vienna may well prove to be one of the most significant experiences of your college career. An important objective of the Emory College curriculum is to gain knowledge about cultures other than your own, and our Emory in Vienna Program provides an excellent opportunity for gaining such knowledge and experience. Not only will your ability to speak German improve, but also your awareness of people and cultures will intensify. Equally as important, you will learn to view reality from a different perspective and will have a better sense of being a part of a world community.

The German Studies Department at Emory is very grateful for the generous support of The Max Kade Foundation. This is the ninth year in a row that the Foundation has provided four scholarships to students in 2nd and 3rd year German courses.

Why Vienna?
We chose Vienna as the site for our program for various reasons. First of all, Vienna has a rich heritage. The city dates back to Celtic times and has synthesized a number of different cultural influences in its long history. For about 200 years, roughly between 1700 and 1918, Vienna was the capital of the powerful Habsburg monarchy comprising approximately 50 million people of various ethnic and national origins: Czechs, Hungarians, Italians, Serbs, Croats, Germans and many more. It was the center of scientific and artistic life within that monarchy and, generally speaking, one of the most important cities in Europe.

Today, Vienna plays an important international role as one of the four sites of the United Nations and headquarters of OPEC. As the capital city of a member state of the European Union, it has become the most important gateway to Central and Eastern Europe. Nevertheless, the city's pace is slower; people take time to go to concerts and theaters, to read, to take walks, and to go to cafés. This more leisurely mode of life, will be an interesting experience and a welcoming counterbalance to the rather intense program in which you will be participating. Another advantage to Vienna is that it is a safe city with a very low crime rate compared to other cities of its size; this consideration is one of the many reasons why Mercer Consulting has ranked Vienna as number one in the world for its Quality of Living Ranking in recent years (http://www.imercer.com/content/quality-of-living.aspx).

Vienna's rich cultural life is evident throughout the city. Whether you're interested in music, philosophy, politics, literature, art history, psychology, or theater, Vienna has a great deal to offer. Perhaps it is fitting that many students on the program do not have German as a major. Enjoy the challenge of improving your German while also pursuing other interests that you are sure to discover. In Vienna you have a city of many possibilities, so prepare yourself for an exciting summer!

Why this handbook?
You may be wondering why you get a program handbook. While travel guides contain a wealth of information on Vienna's history and many other matters, such as sights, restaurants, and public transportation, this handbook provides information that is specific to our Emory in Vienna Program. After all, you are first and foremost a student, not a tourist, who will spend a significant amount of time in the city. Furthermore, you will be living with a local host, learning German, and studying many aspects of its rich cultural history.

All of the information in this handbook has been culled from the experiences of former students and directors. The first sections will be useful immediately, as you prepare for your trip; the later sections will be more beneficial once you arrive. Nevertheless, read the entire handbook now so that you will have a general idea of what to expect when you get there.
Expectations
As you prepare to spend a summer in Vienna, you are probably experiencing a wide range of emotions. On one hand, there are usually feelings of anticipation, excitement, and curiosity to see whether Vienna will match your expectations. On the other hand, you might be understandably apprehensive about how to function in a new culture far from your comfortable surroundings. Much of the summer will be excitement and fun, but there will also be hard work and perseverance involved. Those who gain the most from the experience are those who take advantage of all the opportunities the city and the program offer. Although you might at times feel like retreating from the new and often puzzling cultural differences, you stand to learn much more by engaging in them. After all, you are a student, i.e., one who studies, examines, analyzes, critiques, and seeks to understand. You should not be bashful about your background, and you should not expect to be mistaken for a Viennese; rather, you should seek to interact with the cultures of Vienna and come to appreciate how these interactions help you understand yourself and others. If you can do this, you are well on your way to a meaningful, exciting and unusually rich academic summer experience.

Daily schedule
You are probably also wondering what your typical day will be like in Vienna. It will most likely begin with Frühstück (breakfast) at your host family’s residence. You will then take public transportation to the Amerika Institut at the Operngasse where you will have class from 9:00 am to 12:15 pm, with a break or two. After that, you will most likely seek out lunch somewhere nearby with classmates. Then, you can start on your homework either in town or back at home, or you could venture out in the city to a museum, a park, a swimming pool, or a café. The evening will include dinner, attending a cultural event, or more time spent on your homework, and perhaps some socializing with friends or new acquaintances.

There will be class every weekday. On five of the Wednesdays there will be a required group excursion planned. You will have weekends entirely free to explore the city on your own or with classmates. On those free days the Director and the Program Assistant will organize optional outings for the group.

Language policy
Since the main reason for our longstanding summer study abroad program is to have you immerse in a German-speaking culture and thereby increase your proficiency in German, we ask you to sign an honor pledge upon your arrival by which you vow to speak German outside of class at least three times a day for an extended period either with your classmates, your host parents and/or new acquaintances. By making these extra efforts, your German proficiency will noticeably increase and therefore significantly affect your participation grade in class.

Attendance policy
It is important to remember that this program is first and foremost an academic program. That means that your top priority for the six weeks will be your coursework and your participation in required group excursions that supplement the academic work in class. Because regular attendance, thorough preparation, and active participation are essential to your progress and success in your classes, there is an attendance policy. You will be allowed to miss one three-hour class for non-emergencies during each semester without penalty. Beginning with each subsequent absence, a penalty of -1% will be levied on the earned final grade for each hour or part thereof missed. It is best to keep your instructor, the Director, and/or the Program Assistant informed if you have to miss any classes or assignments. Extended illnesses and emergencies will be treated as exceptions, and absences for these purposes will be excused. Please keep this attendance policy in mind when planning weekend excursions. A cheaper airfare or train ticket is not a valid excuse for missing a class.
II. PREPARING TO LEAVE FOR VIENNA

Careful planning in advance of your trip will prevent a great deal of frustration. Calling home or arranging to have something sent after you have left can be complicated, tiresome and very expensive.

A. Passports and other important documents
One of the first things to do is to obtain a valid passport. If you already have one, make sure that it and any other travel documents are valid for six months after your anticipated departure. If you don't already have a passport, apply immediately—the processing currently takes 3-4 weeks. If you are a US citizen, check for detailed information on the State Department's official website: http://travel.state.gov/. Make sure that you make backup copies of your passport and store them separately from your passport. Be sure to also leave a copy of your passport at home with your parents or close relatives. The nearest postal office with passport services is at 520 W. Ponce De Leon in Decatur. The passport photos that you will need can also be made at CVS drugstore, in the Emory Village area.

Another document that some students procure before departure is the International Student Identity Card (ISIC) that qualifies you for the discounts that many museums, exhibits, and a few forms of transportation offer to students. Some students have been able to get the same discounts with just their Emory student ID card, but there have been instances where the Emory student ID card was not accepted whereas the ISIC is accepted everywhere. You can obtain the ISIC via STA Travel for $25 (www.statravel.com).

B. Purchasing an airline ticket
Consider purchasing your ticket through a student travel organization, as the fares will be reduced. International Student I.D. cards are available there as well. STA Travel is a safe bet (www.statravel.com) as is www.studentuniverse.com. Other good sites to check for cheap fares include cheapoair.com, 1800flyeurope.com, and skyscanner.net. Keep in mind that flights to Paris and London can be considerably cheaper. If you're planning on traveling before or after the program, consider flying into one of these two cities and making your way to Vienna. You also might want to consider getting traveler's insurance to cover your flight in case something arises that causes you to have to cancel or change your flight.

If you plan on traveling before or after the program, you might want to consider purchasing a EuroRail pass, but plan accordingly, because students in previous years have not found the EuroRail passes to be very useful during the program. For train travel during the program, students have found the VorteilsCard issued by Austrian Railway (ÖBB) to be a good deal. Valid for one year, the card reduces train fare on all Austrian trains by 50%. More information and train schedules are available at www.oebb.at.

C. Money and finances
The next question everyone asks concerns how much money to bring. The answer to this lies mainly in your individual lifestyle. Students from last year gave responses ranging from $1,150 to more than $2,300, but the average was around $2,000. As the dollar versus Euro changes in value, this figure changes too.

Remember that the program pays for housing, breakfast, field trips, public transportation in Vienna, and admission to cultural events such as museums, operas, and concerts. You will need to buy two meals a day. The amount of money you take should depend on whether or not you plan to eat gourmet meals, buy expensive presents for friends and relatives, and travel a great deal during or after the program.

We encourage you to participate actively in Vienna’s culture, and you will be partially reimbursed for all cultural events in which you participate: opera tickets, museum entrance fees, theater tickets, etc. Rock concerts and other events that you could attend just as easily in America are not covered. Unless you are extravagant, an average of $30 a day in Vienna and $45-50 a day when traveling should cover the rest of your expenses. Students who become familiar with grocery stores in the area often spend less, perhaps as little as $10-$15 a day.
You might consider bringing a major credit card and/or debit card such as MasterCard or Visa. Credit cards are not accepted as widely as in the United States, but there are ATMs throughout Austria on the Cirrus system. If your bank is on this system, or perhaps uses another system that is as widely accessible, using ATMs to get money could be your best bet. **Before you go overseas, you should contact your credit card provider to let them know you will be out of the country and to make sure that your PIN works overseas (some PINs that begin with “0” do not work overseas).** Realize also that there are typically service charges for transactions and ATM withdrawals completed overseas. Most students typically withdraw money from the ATM on a weekly basis, which is also a good way of monitoring your expenses, and pay cash for most purchases.

If you decide to rely on ATMs to obtain cash, you should probably also think of an emergency alternative. If you lose your ATM card, or if it gets demagnetized, having a backup way of getting cash could save a lot of headaches. One alternative is using an American Express card to get a cash advance at the American Express office. In general, the American Express card is not as widely accepted as MasterCard or Visa, but it does allow you to withdraw cash from your US checking account by going to the American Express office with proper identification and writing a personal check. One other alternative is to bring some Travelers’ Checks. You can exchange the checks for local currency at American Express offices, if you have Amex checks. Be sure to have your passport with you for identification, make copies of the numbers, and again, keep them in separate places. Get most of the checks in large denominations to avoid multiple service charges, but if you plan to travel, carry some checks in smaller denominations as well. Exchange as much money as you feel safe carrying or keeping; exchange rates usually drop during the summer. Thus, shop around for the lowest rates.

It is advisable to go to a bank and buy some Euros (about $200) before you leave for Vienna. You will really appreciate this effort when you arrive in Vienna tired from the transatlantic flight and relieved that you will not have to hunt for an ATM to get cash to pay for transportation into the city. Having said that, there are ATMs in the airport and some taxis and restaurants accept credit cards.

One other piece of advice is to empty your wallet or purse of those items not needed overseas (e.g., credit cards from local establishments, frequent coffee cards, American dollars, etc.).

**D. Researching Vienna**

As you can imagine, these days one finds a cornucopia of information and resources via the Internet. Among these, we recommend the following sites:

- The city’s official site (in German & English): [http://www.wien.gv.at/](http://www.wien.gv.at/)
- Vienna's official site for tourism: [http://www.wien.info/welcome.html](http://www.wien.info/welcome.html)
- Vienna’s mobile city map: [http://m.wien.gv.at/stadtplan/](http://m.wien.gv.at/stadtplan/)
- Weather in Austria: [http://www.wetter.at](http://www.wetter.at) (Download the App, too)

Many students forget about one important component of preparation: reading up on the history of Vienna and/or Austria. Most former participants wished they would have had at least a vague understanding of European history so they could have better understood the significance of the buildings, statues, museums, and countries surrounding them. Austrian history is deeply rooted in European history, and a sweeping review of the history of the continent would be an excellent way to prepare for the trip. You might check out a book on the Habsburg Monarchy, the royal empire whose impact on Vienna cannot be overemphasized. Since few students have the time or desire to cover so much material in so short a time, another alternative is to check into more specific works on Austrian history. The following books are highly recommended:

E. Packing

Now you are ready to start packing. The most important thing to remember is pack lightly, i.e., no more than you can comfortably carry! After all, you are the one who must carry everything; the less you take, the happier you will be, particularly if you are thinking of traveling before or after the program. One rule of thumb is to pack your suitcase and then take 1/3 of it out and leave it behind. If you pack for 1 week, you should have sufficient clothing, as long as you are willing to go to the Laundromat that often. Your host family is not obligated to do your laundry, but many families will in fact wash your clothes gladly. Realize, however, that it might not be as often as you are used to (e.g., every 10-14 days). Once you are assigned to a host family, you can contact them to see if they have laundry facilities and how they have handled laundry with previous Emory students.

You will probably be best off if you pack one large suitcase and one piece of hand luggage. The smaller piece of luggage will be good for short weekend and/or hiking trips. Depending on its size, a backpack may also double as a book or around-town bag. You may wish to bring an extra empty bag and/or suitcase to carry home presents and other items you have bought.

Think twice before you bring any valuables or family heirlooms on the trip. It is best to keep to the basics and items that are arguably disposable.

Clothes

The weather in Vienna is sometimes strange in the summer. It can be rather cold (40 degrees Fahrenheit) or very hot (90 degrees Fahrenheit), and usually there is a good bit of rain. In other words, you'll need clothing to wear in a variety of climates. Clothes that can be layered are ideal.

Most Viennese dress up to go to the opera and theater, so you will want to bring a coat and tie or a nice dress, and please be forewarned: those wearing shorts and/or flip flops will not be admitted into the opera (no exceptions!). Clothes that can be washed by hand, dry quickly, and require no ironing are best. Remember to bring comfortable, sturdy walking shoes (women should not bring high heels, lest they wish to test their ankle strength on miles of cobblestone).

We recommend the following as a minimum:

Men
1 suit, or conservative slacks and sport coat, with dress shirt and tie.

Women
1 or 2 dresses or skirts with blouses. You don't need a long dress or high heeled shoes.

Everyone
1 pair dress shoes
1 pair comfortable walking shoes and/or hiking shoes
1 pair Hausschuhe (= house shoes aka slippers)
2 pair jeans, khakis or pants
2 pair shorts
3-5 shirts - some light and short-sleeved, some warmer and long-sleeved
1-2 sweaters
1 raincoat, poncho or jacket with hood, and/or an umbrella
Underwear, socks, hosiery, etc.
Swimming gear, (including swim cap if you plan on swimming indoors)
Towel and face cloth
Plastic bag for carrying wet items
Optional: bike helmet; recyclable shopping bag (most stores charge 5-10 cents for each bag)

Austria runs on 220 volt current, which will require you to bring a current converter if the appliances you bring do not have a switch for European current (from 110 to 220). Many small hair dryers and travel irons have settings for 220 volts, however, and all computers these days switch back and forth automatically to the appropriate current. Even if you don't need a converter, you will need a plug adapter to fit Austrian electrical sockets. Austrian electrical sockets are the same shape as the rest of continental Europe. Radio Shack typically sells a pack of adapters for sockets throughout the world for under $10, or they should be readily available at Wal-Mart or Target. If you forget to buy them until you get to Austria, check Saturn in the department store Gerngross on Mariahilfer Straße.

**F. Arrival in Vienna**

It is your responsibility to get from the airport to your host family’s residence on the day of your arrival in Vienna. You have several straightforward options:

- **(1)** Take the City Airport Train (CAT) from the airport to its end-stop, the Wien Mitte/Landstrasse U-Bahn (subway) stop. The station in the airport is on the lower level; just follow neon-green signs for the CAT. The one-way fare is 11 Euros if you buy your ticket in advance online (www.cityairporttrain.com). The trip lasts 16 minutes and the train runs about every 30 minutes. From the Wien Mitte stop you can take mass transit (use www.wienerlinien.at to plan this) to your host family, or you could hail a taxi. The Program Director or Program Assistant can help you plot your route once you are paired with a family;

- **(2)** Take a different train, the S-Bahn, from the airport to the same stop, Wien Mitte. The S-Bahn station is also down on the lower level. This ride costs only 4 Euros, lasts 25 minutes, and runs about every 30 minutes. Use a red machine marked ‘Fahrkarten' to purchase your ticket from Flughafen (= airport) to Zentrum (= city center). Usually you will be taking the S7 line. The logo for S-Bahn trains is a dark blue circle with a big white lightning-bolt-shaped “S” in the middle;

- **(3)** Take a bus from the airport to the city center. There are two bus lines to choose from: one that goes to Schwedenplatz and one that goes to Westbahnhof train station by way of Hauptbahnhof train station. All of these end stops are subway stations, so you can continue on to your host family via subway;

- **(4)** Reserve an airport taxi ahead of time to take you directly to your host family. Visit www.airportdriver.at and follow the steps to have a driver waiting for you when you come out of baggage claim. The charge is 33 Euros one-way, and the taxi drivers are right out the main exit after you get your luggage, holding a sign with your last name on it;

- **(5)** Take a cab from the airport. This is a convenient but the most expensive option with one-way fares starting around 40 Euros.

If for whatever reason you are confused or need help, don’t hesitate to contact the Director or the Assistant. Despite the jet lag and the foreign language, you will probably find the Vienna airport very manageable, particularly compared with large US airports.
III. CULTURE SHOCK: LIVING IN A FOREIGN CITY

The first couple of weeks in Vienna will probably be exciting and stimulating. All you see will be new, strange, and rich with tradition. Take advantage of these times to really get to know Vienna. One of the first things to do is to use your map and orient yourself to the city; then close the map and just start exploring by foot or streetcar. After a few hours, find your way home with the aid of your map and the Viennese you pass. Do not hesitate to try new foods, visit museums, and go to concerts because these too will help you adjust more quickly to your new environment. Most importantly, do not be afraid to speak German. Learning a second language is partly overcoming a psychological barrier, and Austrians will appreciate that you are making the effort.

A. Dealing with the shock
In spite of how hard you try to become a part of the Viennese way of life, at some time you very well may experience culture shock. Culture shock is a normal reaction that most people go through in one form or another. One common cause of culture shock can be that your expectations do not match the reality you have discovered. A few people actually expect Vienna to be straight out of a fairytale with a Blue Danube, Strauss waltzes filling the air, and jovial people with nothing better to do than help American tourists. The first time you see the dirty Danube, hear American disco music coming from a department store, or encounter a clerk who does not speak English, or worse yet, doesn't like Americans, you may begin to feel a little bit of this culture shock. Your professors and staff are here to help you adjust. Talk about your adjustments with your classmates, as well. Your fellow students may also have some creative solutions for dealing with homesickness, culture shock, or the Viennese.

As you begin to question your expectations, you may also feel a sense of disorientation, frustration or defensiveness resulting from the prevailing atmosphere of strangeness. People seem familiar and friendly one minute and the next the dynamic shifts a bit. The cues are wrong. Gestures, table manners, clothing, the tone and rhythm of voices, the way they touch or stand close, the time and texture of the meals, the daily schedule all are slightly out of joint. Though your language seems to be understood, you are not so sure. Although this is a disquieting experience it is also a sign that you are getting beyond the tourist stage.

A tourist comes only to gawk, taste, and move on. S/he is insulated from the shock because s/he speaks English, lives in hotels, and leaves the city in a few days. You on the other hand want to rid yourself of the insulation, in order to experience the culture in the fullest sense of the word. You can avoid the strangeness and live like an American in Austria, or you can engage it, embrace it, and learn from it.

B. Help from former students
In past years, we asked students to explain their culture shock or homesickness, and we want to share some of their feelings with you:

"Culture shock basically involved encountering and adjusting to the way of life that we will all sooner or later have to adopt in this country [conservation of energy, transportation, land space, and food]."

"Culture shock may range from loneliness to depression which can lead to dislike of roommate, Hausfrau, and Vienna. The best remedy is to realize it happens to everyone, and since it might be the only time you're in Vienna, go out and do something you really enjoy and splurge! Grab a friend (or make a new one) and buy a pastry, get some ice cream, a beer, or a souvenir!"

"I couldn't tell the difference between culture shock and being homesick!"

"If you remember that the trip is only for two months, and that most people would give their eyes or teeth for such an opportunity that takes the edge off the strangeness and the feeling that you aren't being understood."
"Another thing to do is sit in a park (i.e. Sigmund Freud Park), because Viennese are very friendly in parks, and usually interested in talking with someone."

Some of these comments may seem surprising, but the important thing is that each of these students fully recuperated and went on to have an exciting and successful summer! Even though you may not be able to avoid culture shock or homesickness entirely, do not just sit and endure it – fight back! The following paragraphs offer a few suggestions:

Try to pick up the city's silent language. You can do this best by sitting alone in a park or enjoying a cup of coffee in a cafe. Just be quiet and observe how the people interact. Comparing your observations with those of others in the group is a good idea.

An important aspect of adjusting well is not limiting yourself to your American friends. Most Viennese who see several Americans together will stay away. If you want to make friendships, you will have to take the initiative. Do not be afraid to start a conversation with the person next to you in the streetcar or across the table at the Mensa or student cafeteria. You may strike out a few times, but most Viennese are happy to engage in conversation. One other option is to frequent a particular establishment on a regular basis and get to know the proprietor and the guests. Remember to use German at every opportunity and to resist anyone's attempt to practice English on you. There will always be later opportunities to associate with Americans, but you may never again be in Vienna. It's a good idea for roommates to agree to only speak German with one another. Use your time in a German-speaking country to speak German. Often a conversation at a concert may lead to a good friendship, and you should take advantage of any reasonable invitation you receive. Do not be shy about your own cultural background, but also don't flaunt it. Immerse yourself in and take advantage of the new culture, and you will be amazed how your horizons are expanded.

One last suggestion is to keep a journal to record the situations and emotions you deal with. As your individual souvenir, your journal will by the end of the summer impress and please you. For those students who are more experienced with the German language, try keeping a journal in German. At the end of the summer, you'll have just one more reminder of how much you've improved!

The final, crucial element involves your attitude. Approach your new summer home with an open heart and mind, a sense of adventure, and a thirst for knowledge, and you will be rewarded with a truly memorable experience.
**IV. THE LIVING SITUATION**

As you are aware, you will be living in a Viennese home. This will give you an unparalleled opportunity to have a firsthand look at everyday Viennese life. It usually also contributes to fluency in German! Each family has its own way of making you feel welcome, and if you display a genuine interest, then it usually will be returned.

Many of the host families will have some knowledge of English, but use your time at home to practice your rapidly improving German abilities. These families are often a great wealth of information and stories, and you can learn a lot if you take the time to listen.

Special note: Upon your arrival please have a conversation with your host family about any extra charges which may be incurred, such as phone, internet or laundry.

**A. Greeting your host/hostess**

Bring a small gift for your host/hostess when you first meet. Ideas: Try something typically American or from your hometown or Atlanta. During the course of your stay, you might consider bringing home a small box of candy or a few flowers to show your appreciation. You might also consider a Georgia T-shirt or sweater, or perhaps something from the Emory Bookstore.

**B. Living considerations**

Remember that you are a guest, so be considerate. You are not living in a hotel room or your dorm room or at home and, therefore, you must abide by all house rules. A good piece of advice is to always think and practice energy conservation. Be aware that Europeans are very energy conscious. Electricity and gas are more expensive. Consequently, leaving a light on or using too much hot water will be frowned upon.

The second piece of advice is to be noise-conscious. Europeans, as they tend to live in closer quarters, are very sensitive to noise. Tread softly, and keep your voice and music low. Americans generally have a bad reputation for being loud, so prove those stereotypes wrong! You should also check with your host family before you invite visitors.

Neatness and cleanliness are important: keep your bed made up and clothes hung up and avoid strewing the room with shoes, books, papers and ticket stubs. Be sure that you leave any other part of the apartment you have contact with neat. Make a habit of wiping your shoes, taking them off, and wearing slippers inside the home.

: Be very careful with your keys. Losing a key in Vienna is a big deal, and getting it replaced is difficult, expensive and embarrassing.

One place to be especially mindful is in the kitchen. All students are given a space in the refrigerator and in a cupboard in which to keep small amounts of food. Europeans are accustomed to shopping at smaller shops and going nearly every day, so your host probably will not understand (and may well be upset) if you come in with a week's worth of groceries and expect to find a place to put everything. Most hosts will allow you to boil water for tea or coffee, but some may not want you to cook, so plan to eat hot meals out and stick to sandwiches at home. Most importantly, communicate about these issues early on with your host. If you have a question about what you are allowed to use in the kitchen, ask your host – they will see you as a welcome guest, but they may have some house rules they want you to follow.

The bathroom is another tricky place – no puddles of splashed water or towels on the floor, please! Be sure you take no more than one shower a day and try to conserve the hot water. If you are used to a fresh towel every day, you will have an adjustment to make. Receiving a clean towel (and sheets) two or three times during the stay is normal. If this bothers you, plan to take your own towel and wash it yourself. Another helpful piece of information is that the toilet, known as the W.C., is rarely in the same room as the bathtub.
C. Telephone
The least expensive way to call overseas is to download Skype and use your computer as a phone. However, if you are not near Internet access, buy a calling card and follow instructions on the back of the calling card. Please see Section V (Communication and Transportation) for details on using the host family’s Internet.

D. Laundry
Your host family is not obligated to do your laundry, but some families happily offer to do so, although perhaps not as often as you are used to. If you need to have something washed and it is not yet laundry day at your host family’s residence, consider washing out a few items in the sink with a liquid cold water detergent (Feinwaschmittel), but be sure to check with your host family to make sure that is all right.

Make sure to ask where to hang the clothes while they dry. Do not hang damp items on closet doors, as it can cause the wood to warp, and don’t hang clothes in front of the window—you may offend your neighbors. Due to the fact that it is not very common in Austria to have a dryer, keep that in mind while planning to do your laundry. For some things, however, you still may need to go to a laundromat, because not all Viennese own a washer and even fewer own a dryer. Laundromats are available throughout the city. One caution: most Europeans don’t believe that clothes are clean unless they have been “boiled” at 90 degrees Celsius. Some fabrics commonly used in American clothes cannot endure such high temperatures, so be careful to set the temperatures of washers and dryers low, or you may find your clothes ruined. Sometimes there will be an operator on duty at the Laundromat who can show you how to work the machines. It’s possible that you give the operator the money and s/he then turns on the machines by key. A small tip of one Euro would be appropriate for such a service.
E. Host Family Communication

Below are some questions/phrases that may be useful in communicating with your hosts.

1. Arrival:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>German</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>It’s nice to meet you!</td>
<td>Es freut mich, Sie kennenzulernen!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thank you for hosting me/us.</td>
<td>Danke, dass Sie mich/uns aufgenommen haben.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sorry I’m late; my plane was delayed</td>
<td>Es tut mir Leid, dass ich spät bin; mein Flug war verspätet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How do I get to St. Stephan’s Cathedral?</td>
<td>Wie komme ich zum Stephansdom?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Meals:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>German</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>At what time will we eat breakfast?</td>
<td>Wann werden wir frühstücken?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am a vegetarian, vegan</td>
<td>Ich bin Vegetarier(in), Veganer(in)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I don’t eat (tomatoes), am allergic to (nuts), am</td>
<td>Ich esse keine (Tomaten), bin allergisch gegen (Nüsse), bin glutenfrei, usw.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gluten-free, etc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bon appetit!</td>
<td>Mahlzeit!/Guten Appetit!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheers!</td>
<td>Prost! Zum Wohl!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Bathroom:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>German</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What about the bathroom?</td>
<td>Was ist mit dem Badezimmer?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is there anything I should know about the _______?</td>
<td>Soll ich irgendwas über _____ wissen? (die Dusche/die Toilette/das Badezimmer)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Shower/toilet/bathroom)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May I shower in the mornings/evenings?</td>
<td>Darf ich mich morgens/abends duschen?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do you have an extra towel/face towel that I could</td>
<td>Haben Sie vielleicht ein zusätzliches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>borrow?</td>
<td>Badetuch/Handtuch, das ich verwenden könnte?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I forgot my toothbrush/toothpaste! Do you by any</td>
<td>Ich habe meine Zahnbürste/Zahnpaste vergessen!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chance have one/some I could use?</td>
<td>Haben Sie vielleicht eine, die ich verwenden könnte?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May I use your hair dryer?</td>
<td>Darf ich bitte Ihren Föhn verwenden?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May I use my straightener here?</td>
<td>Darf ich hier mein Glätteisen verwenden?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. House Rules/General Questions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>German</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May I ___? / (watch TV, use the wifi, use the</td>
<td>Darf ich___? (fernsehen, das WLAN verwenden,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>computer, use the phone, etc.)</td>
<td>den Computer verwenden, telefonieren, usw.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where can I buy _____?</td>
<td>Wo kann ich ______ kaufen?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Would it be possible to do my laundry here?</td>
<td>Wäre es möglich, die Wäsche hier zu machen?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can you recommend a good laundromat in the area?</td>
<td>Können Sie eine gute Wäscherei in der Nähe empfehlen?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
V. COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPORTATION

This section presents information which students have found particularly useful. You might also want to read an article on the usage of cellular phones abroad in the New York Times, dated March 19, 2014: nyti.ms/1j3ovbM

A. Cellular Phones

Most students in recent years have had a cell phone in Vienna, and almost all consider it essential having one. Cell phones are the easiest way to ensure that your parents can reach you anytime at no cost to you, as well as to keep in touch with others on the program and new Viennese friends. If you are interested in using a cell phone while in Vienna, you have several options, depending on how you plan on using the phone:

1. If you anticipate using your phone only for emergencies, you might just want to use your current cell phone in Vienna. To do so, though, make sure it is at least a 3-chip phone that can be used overseas. Also, check with your cell phone company to see what the rates are for making calls while overseas. The rates are usually very high although some carriers offer plans that reduce the rate somewhat (e.g., paying $5/month to reduce the per-minute charge from $1.29/min to $0.99/min). If you have a T-Mobile cell phone, you could call the company to see about switching to an overseas rate. Because it is a German company, this might work easier than with other companies.

2. If you anticipate that most of your calls will be within Austria, then you can pay to have your current cell phone “unlocked.” Sometimes your cell phone company will do this, or you can purchase a phone that is already unlocked from an independent cell phone dealer. The rates vary but they tend to start around $35. Unlocking your phone would then allow you to purchase a SIM card in Vienna from a cell phone store, install it in your phone, and have an Austrian phone number. You then pay to load minutes onto your phone. When you return to the US, you then put your SIM card from the U.S. back in your phone. Common cell phone providers in Austria include T-Mobile, Telering, 3, Orange, and A1. With any of these companies, you can purchase a SIM card, preloaded with 5 euros of talk/texts, for around 10 Euros total. You can then top it up at cell phone stores, grocery stores, some ATMs, or online.

3. If you are unable to unlock your phone, you can purchase a pre-paid phone in Austria that comes with a certain number of minutes already on it. In 2012, for example, a perfectly functional phone with 5 Euros worth of minutes already loaded on the phone was purchased for 35 Euros from a T-Mobile store. This would give you good control over how much money you spend for your calls. Once your minutes run out, you can purchase more at grocery stores, kiosks, cell phone stores, or even some vending machines. There is a large T-Mobile store in the first district on the main shopping street, Kärntnerstrasse, where there is a large selection of cell phones and personnel who speak English. As in the US, calling people who have the same cell phone provider is typically cheaper, so the group might want to consider all using the same provider to save on calls within the group.

4. Emory has an arrangement with PicCell Wireless that allows you to get a local number in advance that works either with your existing phone or with a free phone from the provider. People calling from the US call a US number that is routed to your Austria number. People calling from Austria dial the Austria number. The rates appear to be good and calls are free from one PicCell user to another. More information at www.piccellwireless.com/emory.

5. You can ask your host family whether they have an old mobile phone that they no longer use and will let you use. After you obtain a phone you will need to buy a SIM card.

6. Even though your host families are not required to, they will most likely allow you to use their landlines every once in a while. However, we cannot guarantee this. Realize also that there is a per-minute charge for making even local calls on a landline, so even making a call within Vienna or to a cell phone costs your host family something. Most phones have a counter, though, that allows you to keep track of how many “units” you use for a call so that you can reimburse your host family.
B. Internet
Free Wi-Fi is available in many parts of the city, most notably in the courtyard of the MuseumsQuartier, and in many cafes. Some cafes with free Wi-Fi that students frequented in past years include das Möbel on Burggasse near Museumsquartier (7th district, U2 line of the subway), and Café Stein, near Sigmund Freud park and the main building of the University on the Ringstrasse (9th district, U2 line to Universität stop). Note that all McDonalds/McCafes and Starbucks offer free Wi-Fi. You can also have free Wi-Fi access in the Austrian National Library (Österreichische Nationalbibliothek) on the Heldenplatz once you obtain a user-card.

The city of Vienna offers a location-based information system that indicate where free Wi-Fi can be found in the city: https://www.wien.gv.at/ikt/egov/wlan/

Many of the host families have internet access, but students who wish to (or are given permission to) use the Internet connection should clarify the terms under which the Internet may be used.

If your host family does not have internet but you want to use your laptop at home, another option is to buy a mobile internet stick. These modem devices are about the size and shape of a typical USB stick and allow you to preload gigabytes of internet that can then be used anywhere in Austria – even on trains! Students in the past have had success with yesss [https://www.yesss.at/index.php, click on “diskont-surfen”] and T-mobile [http://www.t-mobile.at/internettarife/klax_internet1.php], but most cell phone companies will have similar offers. Note that streaming video is not recommended, but these services work well for standard text-based sites like email, Facebook, etc.

One other option is to purchase a plan through Boingo (www.boingo.com) that gives you access to WiFi hotspots throughout the city that would otherwise be password-protected. Plans start at $9.95/month.

Be sure that you have backed up your computer before you leave home. You might also want to consider using Dropbox or storing your work on the cloud to ensure some security.

C. Mail
Tabak Trafiks are the places to buy post cards and/or stamps, however not all Trafiken are selling stamps anymore. Post offices are located throughout the city. Usually letters or postcards require 5-7 days to arrive at their destination. In general, postage rates in Austria are much higher than in the US – for example, it costs €1.70 to mail a postcard to America. Keep this in mind if you are thinking about shipping something large or heavy home.

You can locate post offices in Vienna using the ‘Filialfinder’ at this website: http://www.post.at/index.php.

In Austria, most post boxes are yellow and have a picture of a trumpet-like horn on them.

D. Transportation
Vienna is a very well-planned city, and it is easy to learn your way around. The first district is the inner city (Innere Stadt), contains most of the oldest churches, museums, palaces, and government buildings, and it is surrounded by the Ringstrasse. Districts 2 through 9 form a circle around the first district and border the first district at the Ringstrasse. Their outermost border is another circular road called the Gürtel (For you Atlantans, think of it as the perimeter highway). Districts 10 through 23 circle Vienna outside of the Gürtel. You can also tell in which district something is located from the zip code. If it is located in Vienna, the first digit will be “1” and then the next two digits will indicate the district and the final digit will be “0”. For example, an establishment with the zip code 1010 will be in the 1st district, 1020 in the 2nd district, 1230 in the 23rd district, etc.

If you do not mind a thirty-minute walk, you will be able to walk to most of the places where you want to go. Be aware of bike paths (indicated on the ground with a picture of a bike) and know that a bike bell is a kind reminder to use the pedestrian path. But those of you who live in some of the outer districts or do not
like to walk will be relying on mass transit. The subway (*U-Bahn*), buses (*Bus*), and streetcars (*Straßenbahn*) go everywhere in Vienna and are efficient. Visit www.wienerlinien.at or download the Qando App to plan a route or access schedules. As mentioned earlier, the monthly tickets for using all of these means of transportation will be provided. In other words, you can go anywhere, anytime for free. Most bus, subway, and streetcar lines stop running shortly after midnight during the week, but then the night bus lines start up and the subway is open 24 hours on the weekend, so you really can ride mass transit any time of day.

Vienna is also very bicycle-friendly. Whether you are interested in commuting or just taking a tour along the Danube, you will usually find a route and a bike-only path to suit your needs. There are bike rentals at various locations throughout the city (www.pedalpower.at is one rental outlet). The city also offers the CitybikeWien, a bike-share service that allows you to use bikes for a nominal fee as long as you return them to one of the 100 locations throughout the city. There is a one-time 1 Euro registration fee (www.citybikewien.at), and then you can use the one- or three-speed bikes as often as you like, with the first hour free each time you use one. You just need to find a location near you, swipe your credit card at the kiosk at the location, borrow the bike released to you, and then return it to either the same location or any of the other 100 locations. Download the CityBikeWien App to find the nearest bike station and to check on the availability of bikes (sometimes the stations in busy areas of town will be out of bikes temporarily). If you are keen on riding bikes while in Vienna, seriously consider bringing your bike helmet from home.
VI. FOOD & SHOPPING

A. Food

Viennese cuisine is excellent and you will spend many enjoyable hours in restaurants. This summer is definitely not the time to go on a diet! Be adventurous and indulge yourself!

Your host family will provide breakfast. Most of our students have found it convenient to keep food in their rooms for evening meals and snacks. Our contract with the host families provides for this, and also stipulates that you can use the refrigerator; but don't try cooking unless you are invited to do so.

Because Viennese usually eat their main meal at midday, many restaurants offer a tasty, warm two-course meal during the lunch hour, called Tagesseller, for under $10. You can also just grab a sandwich or slice of pizza from a street vendor or kiosk, or you can build your own lunch at one of the grocery stores nearby the Karlsplatz, or a picnic in the Rathauspark, Votivpark, or on Heldenplatz with your classmate(s). This is a great (and inexpensive!) way to enjoy the weather and hang out together. Kulinarische Wochen, where you can find food from all over the world, and Sommerkino am Rathausplatz take place in July and August.

For the real foodies in the group, it is worth a trip to the amazing Naschmarkt, located along the Rechte and Linke Wienzeilen, between Karlsplatz (Secession exit) (U1, U2, U4 lines) and Kettenbrückengasse (U4 line). Here you will find row after row of vendors selling just about every type of food imaginable, some to eat on the go and some for dining in. On Saturdays there is also a wonderful flea market at the far end of the market. Be sure to also seek out the local farmer’s markets throughout the city (Biobauermark = organic farmer’s market). There is one in the first district at Freyung each Friday and Saturday and one in the 2nd district each Saturday at the Karmelitermarkt. There are several restaurants offering Viennese food (in addition to other cuisines) frequented by students and located near the main Universität Wien Hauptgebäude and Altes AKH university campus: Einstein, Zwillingsgwölb, Weltcafé, Stiegl Ambulanz, Café Stein. Also recommended by students from last year are the Silberwirt, and Zum Schwarzen Adler (both are in 5. Bezirk). Be sure to also download the “Wien isst” App for a guide to restaurants in Vienna. Don’t forget to visit one of the ubiquitous Würstelstand, a traditional Austrian street food retail outlet selling hot dogs, sausages, and side dishes such as fries.

In a Restaurant

Waiters do not automatically bring a glass of ice water to your table. If you desire water, you must make a special request; be sure that you specify tap water (Leitungswasser), which is usually free if ordering something from the menu, or you will get mineral water, which can sometimes be more expensive than beer! Unlike many cities in the world, Vienna is blessed with excellent tap water fresh from the Alps. Bring a water bottle from home and plan on filling it each morning before you leave for class. There are also fountains available throughout the city with fresh Trinkwasser to refill your bottle. The other advice is not to eat any bread on the table that you do not want to pay for. Waiters count the pieces of bread or pretzels at your table and charge you for each piece you consume. Every individual has to buy something from a menu last year are the expensive than

Cheap: € 5-7

You will often find that waiters will not return with the check until you ask for it: “Können wir bitte zahlen?”

The following recommendations are from students:

Cheap: € 5-7

For a quick and cheap meal on the go, stop by one of the many bakeries and purchase a belegtes Brot (aka sandwich). There are also the many pizza, sausage, and gyro kiosks throughout the city for something quick and cheap, although the quality can vary. For those near the Amerika Institut the
Karlsplatz U-Bahn station also has several eateries, both above and below-ground, for something quick and inexpensive. Perhaps the cheapest option for a sit-down meal is one of the cafeterias (Mensa) either at the university or at other public institutions in the city. Visit www.mensen.at and click on the drop-down menu to locate the different university Mensa in Vienna along with their weekly menu. Another cafeteria recommended is the Kantine on the top floor of the Justizpalast with its outdoor terrace and excellent views of the city (Schmerlingplatz 10). A full-course meal at most cafeterias will cost between 5-9 Euros. The food is institutional, but there is something to be said for sitting down for a warm meal after a long morning of classes.

**Moderate: € 7-15**

- **Centimeter: Lenaugasse**, behind the Rathaus (8th district, other locations throughout the city)
- **Goulaschmuseum: Schulerstr. 20.**
- **Pizza Bizi: on Rotenturmstrasse or on Mariahilferstrasse** (pizza by the slice and buffet style Italian food)

Perhaps most convenient are the several restaurants, as well as the supermarket chains such as **Billa**, or **Spar**, also located near the Karlsplatz.

**Remarks from a Vegetarian**

Traditional Viennese cuisine does not, unfortunately, cater to vegetarians, but more and more restaurants are beginning to offer vegetarian options. Don’t worry. You won’t starve! Fresh vegetables and fruits are always available at numerous stands located around the city and at the Naschmarkt. Some other frequent vegetarian options include **Pizza Margarita** (cheese pizza), Spaghetti, **Tomatensuppe** (tomato soup), **Käsespätzle** (similar to macaroni and cheese), **Käse-Toast** (similar to grilled cheese), and **Zwiebelsuppe** (onion soup). The Tirolerhof Café behind the Staatsoper reportedly has the best Tomatensuppe and Käse-Toast in town, although it is relatively expensive. Other vegetarian options, such as hummus, can be purchased at local grocery stores and at the Naschmarkt. Also, traditional Turkish food often has some vegetarian options and is very common in Vienna. The sandwich shop, **Der Mann**, often has vegetarian sandwiches, as does the deli counter at the supermarket chain Billa. Most kebab stands also offer vegetarian falafel options, even in the middle of the night.

**B. Shopping**

Necessities (food, clothes, laundry, telephone, etc.) are available in all Viennese neighborhoods. Items you would normally buy in a drugstore (except for medication, even over-the-counter) in the U.S. can be found in a **Drogerie** in Vienna, although if you prefer certain brands, particularly regarding over-the-counter medications, you might want to bring extra from home. You can get medication including over-the-counter products in **Apotheken**. One of the better drugstores (very similar to CVS) is “dm” – one is located almost across from the streetcar stop. Other toiletry items can be purchased at the local grocery store – **Billa, Merkur, Spar. BIPA** is another big drugstore chain throughout the city. It is hard to miss because of its name and bright pink lettering. For specialties (e.g. jewelry, Loden clothes, books, travel etc.) you will want to go to special shops. Ask the Viennese about specialty shops, including organic grocery stores, flea markets, and English-language bookstores.

Although **Kärntnerstrasse** and **Graben** have many stores, they are also among the most expensive streets in Austria and cater almost entirely to tourists. **Mariahilferstrasse** also attracts tourists, but here you will find more affordable items at larger national or international chain stores. Ask your hosts for good shopping tips in Vienna. For some purchases (clothes, shoes, souvenirs) the best place to go is to a department store. The biggest is **Gerngross** on **Mariahilferstrasse**. Soap, cosmetics, etc. can be obtained at department stores or a **Drogerie** (more expensive, but definitely interesting!).

If you need any school supplies, try the small store for students, which is located on your right as you enter the main building of the University on the Ring. This store also has University of Vienna sweatshirts and T-shirts in case you are interested. Thalia.at on **Mariahilferstrasse**, **LIBRO**, and **PAGRO** are two less expensive options with a more diverse selection.

Take note of the more limited hours of operation of many stores. All but a few stores, such as those at the train stations, are closed on Sunday, and many close in the early afternoon on Saturday. Typical weekday hours are from 9am to 7pm.
VII. FREE TIME

Vienna has an overwhelming number of places to see and things to do. It is very easy to tell yourself you will do things later. The seven weeks pass quickly, so you should immediately familiarize yourself with what Vienna has to offer so that your leisure time will be meaningful as well as enjoyable. At the end of June the Staatsoper, Volksoper, or the Burgtheater close, the Spanish Riding School leaves to tour the world, and the Wiener Sängerknaben do the same. If you put off cultural events until later, you’ll regret it. The best way to familiarize yourself with the many offerings, and in obtaining brochures, guides, and sightseeing suggestions visit the “Tourist Information Office,” next to the “Memorial against War and Fascism,” at the Albertinaplatz, and very close to the Amerika-Institut where our classes take place.

A. Sightseeing

Ask your host, the director, program assistant and/or fellow students. In addition, be aware that tours in and around the city will be offered. It might also be a good idea to bring along a guidebook to the city either as a hard copy or e-book. In past years students have used the Rick Steves guidebook, the TimeOut guidebook, Lonely Planet, Fodor’s, or Frommer’s.

As you walk around Vienna you will quickly notice that many of the buildings have plaques on them. These plaques, about 200 of them in all, give basic information about important buildings. The “Tourist Information Office” publishes a small book called “Vienna from A to Z: A Guide to Sightseeing On Your Own” which indexes all these sights and provides a map which locates them all. In addition, the office publishes a free comprehensive calendar of events. Also, this monthly calendar lists free tours on various themes in Vienna that are offered each week. Other places to check for events include www.falter.at, www.events.at, www.oeticket.com (to buy tickets for events all over Austria) and www.wien.info.

B. Music

Vienna is internationally famous for its music, and you will find numerous musical opportunities this summer. The Bundestheaterkassen (federal ticket windows), located across from the Staatsoper, and next to the Amerika-Institut, are the place to buy tickets for the operas and the major theaters in Vienna. Tickets sell quickly, so plan to go seven days in advance to buy them. If you do not get tickets, however, try going early for a performance and getting standing room, a Stehplatz ticket. Actually, everyone should try a Stehplatz at the Staatsoper just for the experience! For most operas, to be assured of a ticket, you will need to go up to two hours before the performance to wait in line, but never consider this wasted time. Take a letter to write, a book, a deck of cards, or best of all, plan to spend the time meeting new people. If you are among the first in line, you may be lucky enough to get a Parterre place; otherwise, the gallery is still good. The object is to get in as quickly as possible, find a space along the rails, and reserve your space with a scarf, handkerchief, newspaper, or anything else that can be tied to the rail. Then go sit down and rest (no one will take your place!) until the time for the performance. Whenever you go to any of the opera houses or theaters, you are required to check coats, umbrellas, and large parcels or bags, and you should leave a small tip when you claim your things. They (and especially the restroom attendants!) will expect at least 30 Euro cents. As mentioned above, the operas and most of the theaters close at the end of June so it is imperative that you take advantage of these when you first arrive in Vienna.

Even after the operas and theaters close, concerts are still abundant. What is called Vienna's Musical Summer starts in July and there is a concert somewhere every day. For example, the Jazz Festival take place in the Staatsoper in July. Tickets for these concerts can be purchased at several locations. Early in the summer (i.e. before July) you may be lucky enough to hear the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra or the Vienna Symphonic Orchestra. Later in the summer you will hear guest symphonies, some of which are quite good. Everyone should plan to go to a concert at the Musikvereinssaal, which has arguably the best acoustics in the world and the Konzerthaus just for the experience. Some students prefer performances in the Volksoper, as the setting is more relaxed and the performances are almost always in German. Others prefer the higher quality productions of the Staatsoper, even if that means operas in Russian or Italian (subtitles in German and English are provided).
When the weather turns warmer in July, the plaza before the Rathaus turns into an open-air event venue with a big screen showing operas and concerts. There you will also find an international food court. (Take a sweater – sometimes it gets chilly.) For those more interested in chamber music, smaller concerts are held in the houses of many famous composers and in some of the Viennese palaces. This is an excellent opportunity to see these places as well as hear good music. The Palais Schwarzenberg and Schönbrunn are especially nice to go to for concerts. The churches in Vienna also offer programs of beautiful organ music and some of the well-known choral works and masses. An organ concert is held free of charge each Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. at the Stephansdom, and is always enjoyable; but the best organ music can probably be found in the Augustinerkirche. Many of the Catholic churches have beautiful masses sung during the Sunday services. Watch for notices in the entrances to see what will be sung. For those interested in music of a lighter nature such as Strauss waltzes, concerts are regularly held in various parks.

Many students are eager for an opportunity to hear the Wiener Sängerknaben. They sing in the Burgkapelle of the Hofburg each Sunday through the end of June. Tickets can be reserved in the Hofburgkapelle on Fridays from 5:00 p.m. onwards, but you should plan to be in line an hour early if you want to be sure of getting a ticket.

In addition to Vienna's impressive classical music offerings, there is also a lively alternative music scene. There are many live music venues (e.g., WuK, Arena, Gasometer), and Vienna has long been a center of remixed lounge and downtempo music, beginning with Kruder & Dorfmeister's work from the 1990s and continuing with the many off-shoots that have evolved since then.

Another musical option that has a longer history is Viennese folk music, often called Schrammelmusik. Typically consisting of a violin/fiddle, accordion, clarinet, and a double-necked contraguitar, this type of music can be heard at different venues around town but is best heard while sitting outside at a Heuriger, enjoying a local wine with a view of the countryside.

Last but not least, there is Vienna's own Vegetable Orchester (www.vegetableorchester.org) who perform around the world, using instruments made from vegetables. At the end of each performance, the instruments are often cooked up into a soup!

C. Swimming
http://www.wien.gv.at/freizeit/baeder/uebersicht/ (All pools in Vienna)
Vienna has many swimming pools open to the public, some indoors, some outdoors. A good indoor pool is the Dianabad, in the 2nd district, across the canal from first district. Two of the many outstanding outdoor pools are the Krapfenwaldl, in Grinzing (take the 38 streetcar to the end of the line, then either walk or get on the Kahlenberg bus to go up to a set of pools with stunning views of the entire city) and the pool at Neuwaldegg (take the U4 to Heiligenstadt and connect to Bus 38A toward Kahlenberg, or take the 43 Streetcar to the end of the line and then take the short walk up the hill to a pool that feels like a Hollywood set from the 1920s). There are also several swimming options in the Alte Donau (“Old Danube” – part of the Danube that is not open to commercial boating and does not have much of a current): The Strandbad Alte Donau is very family-friendly (U1 to “Alte Donau” and then walk north) or the Gänsehäufel, an island in the “Old Danube” (U1 to “Kaisermühlen-VIC” and a bus from there). The “Donauinsel” (U1 to "Donauinsel") is an island in the middle of the Danube and has the advantage of being free. There are no changing booths, but most people just use a towel to create an impromptu dressing room. Probably the hippest swimming experience is at the Badeschiff – an outdoor pool in a boat anchored in the Danube Canal between Schwedenplatz and Urania.

D. Parks
Another idea is merely to sit in one of the beautiful parks and read, watch or meet people; however, be careful about playing Frisbee or soccer in the grass because in some places you will be reprimanded! Many of you have heard of Vienna's amusement park, the Prater. While the Prater is in part a junky tourist trap, it is nevertheless a good place to bike or jog. Some people say you have not been to Vienna
until you have ridden the *Riesenrad* (a giant Ferris wheel). The best thing about the *Riesenrad* is that it provides a great view of Vienna. It goes slowly enough to take pictures if you wish.

**E. Books**

Vienna has an excellent public library system ([http://www.buechereien.wien.at/en](http://www.buechereien.wien.at/en)), with branches located throughout the city. You can buy a year card (€3.70 for university students with valid student ID) for unlimited access to German and English-language books and DVDs, or buy a pass just for the day. The *Hauptbücherei* at Burggasse-Stadthalle on the U6 is impressively large and worth a visit; in addition to floors of books, it has free Wi-Fi and a delightful café on top ([www.oben.at](http://www.oben.at)). Vienna also offers a good English language bookshop, Shakespeare & Co.: [http://www.shakespeare.co.at/](http://www.shakespeare.co.at/). Once you've chosen a book, take it to a café; if you buy one drink or snack, you are welcome to sit and read as long as you like. Many cafés also have daily newspapers available to all patrons.

**F. Movies**

Movies are often a pleasant way to spend a few hours. Some theaters show English-speaking movies, such as the Haydn Kino on the *Mariahilferstrasse*, but most are dubbed. (Seeing *The Third Man*, which shows several times a week at Burg Kino [http://www.burgkino.at/index.phtml](http://www.burgkino.at/index.phtml), or *Gone With the Wind* in German is great!) The format of the movie theaters is different in that you are charged for where you want to sit; the cheapest seats are typically in the first three rows. It is good training to go to a German movie and really make yourself concentrate on what is being said. Or check out an IMAX movie in German. IMAX movies are produced for wide audiences, thus the German is clear and relatively easy to understand. IMAX theaters are located at the Technology Museum, on *Mariahilferstrasse*, and the Apollo Kino, on *Gumpendorferstrasse*. There are also several open-air cinemas during the summer that show contemporary and classic movies. The biggest "cinema chain" is Cineplexx ([http://www.cineplexx.at/](http://www.cineplexx.at/)).

**G. Nightlife in Vienna**

Vienna is not a twenty-four hour city. Most cafés and restaurants close well before midnight. Even bars or wine cellars close before you might expect them to. Nevertheless there are many late night options. The *Bermuda Dreieck* is a section in the first district northwest of *Stephansplatz* (bordered by *Rotenturmstr.* and *Wipplingerstr.*) where numerous bars and clubs are located. Former students have frequented this general area as well as several specific clubs: *P1* on *Rotgasse*, three blocks north of the *Stephansdom*; the *Titanic*, in the sixth district outside the *Ring* on *Theobaldgasse*; and *U4*, twelfth district outside the Ring on *Scheinhunrunnerstrasse*. The *Museumsquartier* has also been popular in years past with students. There are also many popular bars along the *Gürtel*, following the U6 subway line.

If you are out late at night, the U-Bahn and some street cars run 24 hours on the weekends and night buses are available every day of the week. All night buses depart from *Schwedenplaz* and from outside (and across the street from) the Staatsoper every 30 minutes. Make sure you know which bus you need (they are numbered N1, N2, etc.) and set a cell phone alarm so you don't fall asleep and miss your stop!!

Even though Vienna is refreshingly safe compared with American cities, students are nevertheless encouraged to exercise caution, abide by the buddy system, and don their “urban armor” when out in the city at night (i.e., exude confidence in the way you carry yourself and interact with your surroundings; don't reveal openly the fact that you might be lost if you suspect someone is watching you; walk assertively and regroup with your “buddy” and your map once out of eyesight of others).

**H. Outside Vienna**

If you want a break from the city life, be sure to take advantage of the many walking, biking, hiking, and eating options just a short bus or tram ride away. You'll be amazed at the natural beauty that surrounds the city and is so accessible. Perhaps the most common way to spend a lovely summer weekend day is to take a walk up through the vineyards and stop off for something to eat or drink at a *Heuriger*—establishments that serve locally produced wine and an assortment of hot and cold foods. There are also bike trails along the Danube and walking trails through the *Wienerwald*. Be sure to ask if you would like any more information of any of these options.
VIII. EXCURSIONS

Surrounding Vienna are many beautiful places to visit for a day or a weekend. Everyone reaches a point at which s/he needs to get away for a while, and Austria provides great opportunities to do just that. The group as a whole will be taking some day trips, such as excursions to the baroque abbey of Melk, a bike trip at nearby Neusiedler See, or a hike to Schneeberg, and the concentration camp in Mauthausen.

Weekend Trips

Each year, some if not all students take extracurricular weekend trips. A couple of years ago some students took the train to nearby Lackenhof and spent a delightful weekend. If you take along some extra food and stay in the great youth hostel, the entire trip will cost only about $45.00. Lackenhof is a small town in the mountains and is a wonderful place for hiking and climbing. Take along a bathing suit, good shoes, and a jacket. About five hours away is the easternmost perennial glacier, the Dachstein. This trip is highly recommended, especially if you like snowball fights in July and glacier lakes. There is a (comparatively) luxurious mountain lodge atop the Dachstein where both rooms and mattresses are offered. The scenery is spectacular and literally breathtaking if the weather is good. This trip should not be undertaken, however, without sturdy hiking boots, warm clothing, a full canteen and a hiking buddy. The whole trip is about $55.00 if you bring your own food and sleep on mattresses. Another interesting mountain trip is to the Prabichl-Eisenerz (Iron Mountain) area. The climbs in the area also offer rewarding views and are off the typical tourist’s beat. This train leaves from the Südbahnhof and a transfer will be necessary. It takes about three hours and should cost about $45.00. NOTE: In prime hiking season lodges can fill up. Before you begin your trek up the mountain, check at the bottom to see if a) the lodge is open, and b) if it is expected to be full.

Of course, many large cities are only a few hours from Vienna and make interesting weekend trips. Salzburg and Innsbruck are especially popular. Each summer a few people take a night train to Venice, but some wish they had waited until the end of the program. One beautiful trip to take is through Austria’s Lake District; the Wolfgangsee and Hallstatt are particularly gorgeous. The students who went there several years ago suggested visiting the salt mines and climbing the Schafberg. Check the web for special fares of the Austrian Railway from Hauptbahnhof: [http://www.oebb.at/](http://www.oebb.at/) and/or consider purchasing a VorteilsCard for roughly 20 Euros that will give you a 50% discount on all train fares with Austrian Railway. Students recommend you also get an assigned seat when buying a train ticket. ÖBB is not only offering trains but also busses to a lot of places. It is called POSTBUS and goes to a lot of places the train does not: [http://www.postbus.at/de/](http://www.postbus.at/de/)

There are, of course, many other sights to visit on a weekend, but be realistic about which destinations are worth visiting for the relatively short time you will have between your departure on Friday afternoon and your return Sunday evening. With various discount airlines and the apparent proximity of so many famous and amazing places, it is indeed tempting to want to travel farther afield for a weekend, but realize that you will end up having very little time in those places and it probably makes more sense to save those trips for before or after the program when you have more time. Also, keep in mind the attendance policy explained in section I. Finding a cheaper airfare that means you would have to miss class to catch that flight is not a valid excuse for missing class.

Important Reminder

If you plan to leave Vienna at any time, you must fill out the travel slip and give it either to the Director or to the Program Assistant (PA). The travel slip can be obtained on the Program Facebook site. Also, please refer to the excursion calendar before planning any travel.

In the interest of providing the most valuable information about next year’s stay in Vienna, we solicit your detailed feedback on any issue covered in this handbook. Please contact either the Program Director or Program Assistant. On behalf of future students, Danke schön!