Austrian Architectural Culture

Lecturers:

Description

Vienna has its specific history through the essential shift from the modern metropolis of the Habsburg Empire in the 19th century to the capital of a small republic in the 20th century at the edge of the so-called Western World. This limited its growth through most of the last century. Therefore, the historic cityscape was frozen until rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of the old building substance started to take place. Nowadays the strategy of refurbishing traditional buildings for future use is considered to be extremely smart and sustainable. Vienna plays an essential model role in that field within theory and practice.

The academic program of the course Austrian Architectural Culture introduces this specific approach. The first week gives an insight into social and cultural specifics of the modern Habsburg metropolis around 1900 to explain the origin and function of the historic architecture of the belle Epoque. Within the second week, the focus shifts to the crafts necessary for the planner and designer of interventions in traditional architecture like building archaeology and building preservation. During the final week, issues of life cycle costs for buildings and smart city concepts will be discussed under the focus of adaptation and revitalization of traditional architecture.

The days will start each with a morning lecture preparing for the field trip and/or excursion following under guidance of the lecturer of the day. Public lectures during the early afternoon will allow experts to bridge the specific themes and topics of the various summer courses offered by INNES Institute Vienna. The later afternoons and evenings are reserved for the social program.

The scope of the course is to increase the awareness for the options and opportunities of building within a historic context beyond classical monument preservation. This Viennese model received some international awards in the past, but seems to offer wider perspectives under the changed conditions following the current economic crises.

- Insight into hotspots of architectural culture in Vienna (past and present)
- Three weeks/three different focuses and multiple themes related to the city
- Theoretical lectures in combination with excursions
- Public afternoon presentations by cross-field experts
- Specialist-led tours to historical and current building sites
- Visits to planning offices as well as cultural and research institutions
- Social program

Schedule

Schedule of 1. Week:

Social and Cultural Specifics in Viennese Architecture 1850-1950

Objectives
The rapidly growing capital of the Danube monarchy first set up its representative public buildings along a splendid urban boulevard around the medieval city. Towards the end of the nineteenth century an effective public transportation system was installed to connect the already existing suburbs with the centre. Through the design of this Stadtbahn system, Otto Wagner (1841-1918) set standards for a new, utilitarian-based language in architecture, which Adolf Loos (1870-1933) finally put on a theoretical base. Along with these architects, well-trained federal engineers developed new dimensions in the building of hospitals, serving modern economic and hygienic demands. As the emperor failed to solve social issues like available housing for all after World War I, the now governing left-wing city council established communal housing programs that continue to characterize the current shape of Vienna as well as the Austrian tax system. Finally, turn-of-the-century Vienna, famous for its cultural leadership in music, theatre and art, developed modern technical concepts for buildings serving those particular purposes.

The course will introduce its participants to the historical, political and economic backgrounds of this architecture to prepare carefully for the field trips. On the sites, material, construction, atmosphere, and proportion will be experienced under guidance of the particular specialist.

Content
- Growth of Vienna towards a modern metropolis (Ringstrasse 1860, World Fair 1873, Stadtbahn 1898)
- Development of modern aesthetics in architecture (Otto Wagner, Adolf Loos)
- Setting of new social standards in housing and communal services (pavilion hospital, Red Vienna)
- Forming Vienna into the leading cultural city (Musikverein, Secession)

Morning lectures / lecture hall plus field excursions by the lecturer to sites in Vienna thematically connected with the morning lecture

Literature

Lecturer
Prof. Dr. Caroline JAEGER-KLEIN teaches history of architecture at the Technical University of Vienna as well as at the University of Business and Technology in Prishtina, Kosovo. After university studies in Austria and the United States (University of Michigan Ann Arbor), she specialized on the Austrian Architecture of the 19th and 20th centuries. In addition to her theoretical focus, she continued teaching design courses on building in a historical context, her master thesis topic. Last year, she finished a major research study on current Austrian school buildings. Current research projects are dealing with the modern pavilion hospital around 1900 within the Habsburg crown lands and the historical DDSG wharf area in Korneuburg. She is scientific head of an international research programme on the traditional architecture of Saudi Arabia started in 2011 and expert-in-court for the protection of monuments as well member of the International Council of Monuments and Sites of UNESCO.

Public lecture in cooperation with other summer sessions of INNES: Mariela DITTRICH, Exiled Austrian Architects in the USA Neutra, Gruen & Co.[1]
In the twenties and thirties of the 20th century, a lot of young Austrian architects left the country for the United States motivated by political and economic reasons. Their already awakened interest in the modern movements enabled them to set world standards in architecture by using opportunities in this pioneer's country. The public evening lecture will trace this international style and modern urban planning in detail, centred around the input of those young exiled Austrians, who included Richard Neutra, Rudolph Schindler, Friedrich Kiesler and Victor Gruen.
Expert
Dipl.-Ing. Maria Gabriela DITTRICH is lecturer for Northern American Architecture at Vienna University of Technology. Her intense professional interest deals with the American skyscraper and its stylistic roots within the European architectural tradition.

Schedule of 2. Week:
Rehabilitation and Adaptive Reuse

Objectives
Vienna has an extensive stock of traditional architecture, including Roman remains, various highlights of medieval sacral architecture, a large number of Baroque palaces, and numerous privately owned Biedermeier[1] and Gründerzeit[1] residential homes that form the vast majority of houses within the city borders. Clearly, monument preservation has a long and lively tradition in a place like this. Austrian theoreticians like Alois Riegl (1858-1905) helped set up universal principles in monument protection. Based on specific legislation for ensembles of traditional residential areas, rehabilitated districts are in the meantime the most desirable addresses within the city borders. In the latest years, a boom of reshaping the roofs of the city for the more fashionable residential areas swept across town and led to the UNESCO memorandum (Viennes[1] memorandum) in 2005 on contemporary architecture within a historical surrounding. As a result, big parts of the current building activities deal with this sector. For designing architects, it means a smart and vivid discussion between the demands of modern lifestyle and conservative building protection. The aim of the course is to introduce the participants to recent theoretical developments as well as the visible, built results. Thermal insulation of historical buildings at a sustainable level is for the moment the biggest challenge in the field of conservation. Nevertheless, building in historical context needs as a basis careful research from documentation. Inventory of the design concepts for the rehabilitation is also necessary. As many of the lecturers are internationally leading experts on high-tech building survey and documentation through 3D laser scanning and 3D modelling, a major focus of this bloc will be on this topic, detailing what is already possible as well as what options the future may bring.
Content
- New architecture in a historical context from the designer's perspective
- Special aspects of building preservation and architecture: Thermal insulation of historical buildings
- Recording and documentation of the architectural (world) heritage - methods and organisations
- Building survey and inventory - methods and instruments

Morning lectures / lecture hall plus field excursion subsequently with an introduction into practical use of low-tech methods and high-tech instruments of building documentation

Literature

Lecturer
- Arch. Dr. Gerold ESSER studied architecture in Berlin and Venice. He is assistant professor for building survey and building in a historical context at Vienna University of Technology as well as coordinator of the international exchange programs. His scientific interest has involved him in large-scale building research projects like the basilica of Maxentius and the catacombs of Domitilla in Rome. He wrote his dissertation on a special method of dating late Roman brickwork. He is an expert on recently developed high-tech methods in the field of building survey and documentation.
- Dr. Ulrike HERBIG studied geodesy. She specialized in architectural photogrammetry through her dissertation and developed a low-tech method for amateur photogrammetry. She is the founding member of the Institute for Comparative Research in Architecture and member of the International Council for Monuments and Sites of UNESCO. She is also passionate about the documentation of the world heritage through professional filming, which led to several international TV productions on the traditional architecture of Samoa, Fiji and Nias. Mrs. Herbig is editor and author of several publications on that specific topic.
- Arch. Dipl.-Ing. Gudrun STYHLER-AYDIN studied civil engineering and architecture in Magdeburg and Berlin. She is in charge of a big research project on the antique theatre of Ephesus, Turkey in cooperation with the Institute of Architecture and Building Research of the Vienna University of Technology and the Austrian Academy of Science. The focus of her studies is the antique monuments of Asia Minor, especially the historical construction systems of the period.
- Dipl.-Ing. Irmengard MAYER is a young research assistant at the institute involved in international projects from Rome to Saudi Arabia. Due to her initiative, the remaining niches of the destroyed Buddha statues of Bamyian, Afghanistan could be remodelled in 3D for further conservation and reconstruction activities of this world heritage at risk.

Additional afternoon excursion:
Field trip to the historic Carthusian monastery of Mauerbach in the Vienna Woods where the Austrian Federal Institute of Monument Protection experiments at the site with historical low-tech methods of building conservation:
- Arch. Dr. Johannes SIMA is head of the department of architecture and building technology at the Austrian Federal Institute of Monument Protection and lecturer at Vienna University of Technology.
- Dr. Astrid Huber is head of the conservation laboratory of the Austrian Federal Institute of Monument Protection at Mauerbach and lecturer at Vienna University of Technology.
OLD CITIES & SMART AND SUSTAINABLE

Objectives
Sustainable planning stands for more than just economically efficient design smart agglomerations will help against mobilization. The life cycle cost view is a systemic approach with future options and regional concepts under the motto think globally, act locally and has already gained traction with progressive Austrian thinkers. Rehabilitation of quarters within old cities saves infrastructural investments and the recycling of historic building materials is already a green programme in itself. Nevertheless, to develop further strategies, basic knowledge and broader understanding of main aspects of sustainability in building design is needed.

The lecturers will give insight into passive house design, pilot projects of self-sustaining buildings, and energy-efficient structures in urban context as well as in extreme alpine sites. They will bring the participants into contact with innovative researchers and architects of the green building sector, and will also investigate whether a life cost approach for historical buildings makes sense and what smart architects can learn from traditional architecture.

Contents
- Interregional planning strategies for historic cities
- Life cycle cost approaches
- Challenge and experiment: Daylight sensitive architecture
- Strategies for energy-efficient and sustainable planning
- Local and global strategies in earthquake engineering

Morning lectures / lecture hall plus thematically connected field excursion to sites and research institutions in and around Vienna

Literature
- KOVACIC, Iva, Developing Strategies for Sustainable Planning, 2008
- MACH, Iris, Traditionelles Wissen und moderne Technologien – Innovative japanische Erdbebenkonstruktionen in Stahl, Stahlbau Zentrum Schweiz

Lecturer
- Arch. Dr. Thomas HRABAL, MSc studied in Vienna and Detroit. His Viennese office for architecture and project management specialises in international business projects like the first shopping centre of Tirana, Albania in 2003 or several laboratories for international institutions in and around Vienna. Since 2005, he is the director of the international architecture and urban planning programme of the University of Business and Technology in Pristhina, Kosovo.
- Arch. Dipl.-Ing. Gregor RADINGER is course director for Daylight Architecture and head of the Center of Light-Planning at Danube University Krems, which also holds the Light Lab Krems. He has studied architecture at Vienna University of Technology and afterwards received a postgraduate degree of redevelopment and revitalisation at Danube University Krems. He has additionally lectured at the University of Fine Arts at Linz.
- Arch. Dr. Iva KOVACIC is assistant professor at the Department for Industrial Building and Interdisciplinary Planning at Vienna University of Technology. Her research and teaching activities focus on integrated planning processes in the field of energy-efficient and energy-generating buildings.
- Dr. Dipl.-Ing. Iris MACH is assistant and lecturer at Vienna University of Technology with long-term experience regarding scientific exchange with Japan, where she also prepared her doctor-thesis. She specializes both on topics of aesthetics in architecture as well as in Disaster Mitigation with a special focus on traditional and contemporary Japanese
Public lecture in cooperation with other summer sessions of INNES:
Marie REZAC, Sustainable Social Housing in Austria.
Social housing, especially the communal housing program of the so called ‘Red Vienna’ within the times of the great wars, is still vivid tradition in Austria and well-practised. Nowadays the focus has widened from mere availability and affordability of flats to sustainability. Rezac will outline the recent developments as well as an outlook into the future. As she comes from the west of Austria, she will complement Vienna with models from Tyrol and Vorarlberg, both regions known for sustainable development of the past and the present.

Expert
Arch. Dipl.-Ing. Marie REZAC is independent architect and lecturer at Vienna University of Technology as well as the University of Business and Technology in Prishtina, Kosovo. Already as student, she received admiration for her pioneer alpine shelter using the passive house standard (Schiestl Haus on Hochschwab).

Preparation and Examination
The head of the course will examine orally in cooperation with the lecturers. Additionally a short sequence of filming architectural heritage (recording and documentation) has to be handed in at the end of the course and will be evaluated by the lecture team and the colleagues (small project work).

Relevant weblinks:
- www.baugeschichte.tuwien.ac.at
- www.industriebau.tuwien.ac.at
- www.donau-uni.ac.at/de/department/baenumwelt/lichtplanung_lichtlabor_krems
- www.hrabal-architektur.at

Further Institutions:
- www.bda.at (BDA & Austrian Federal Institute of Monument Protection)
- www.iva-icra.org (Institut für Vergleichende Architekturforschung & Institute for Comparative Research in Architecture)

Details

Location
Vienna (Austria)

Tuition fee
Student EUR 1200, Professional EUR 1500

Start-End
01.07.2019 - 19.07.2019

Recommended Credits
8

Target group
students, professionals with background in engineering, art and design, business or architecture

Level
Undergraduate, Graduate, Professional

Duration
three weeks (65 lessons à 45 minutes)

Kind of exams
Oral

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