

International Student Seminar

SE057.007 | 3.0ECTS

Preserved historic urban spaces and quality of life in the city

Lecture series and workshop comparing the situations in Japan and Austria

Within this workshop we propose to explore and to compare preservation practices (participation processes, memory processes, decisional processes, material processes.....) in relation to old townscapes in Austria and Japan.

The course consists of a series of pre-recorded lectures in English language which enables the participants to watch the videos more often and take their time to understand all the contents. Due to the time difference between Japan and Austria we will use specific timeslots (10:00am CET / 17:00pm JST) for live Q&A sessions, consultations and presentations.

After the first week (6.9.2021 – 10.9.2021) with lectures and live Q&A sessions via Zoom, the students will be assigned to a group which has to work on a specific task. The second week (13.9. – 17.9.) will be dedicated to work out the task and to prepare a presentation.

Target group and application:

Local students from TU Wien and students from our Saga University and Ochanomizu University who study in a field related to architecture and urban planning.

The participating universities may nominate up to 10 students to join the online seminar. The participants should have sufficient English language skills to join discussions and follow the course contents. The students will receive a participation certificate which includes a grade according to Austrian grading system and the amount of credits (3 ECTS = 1,5 Japanese credits).

The participation is free of charge.

Contact:

This workshop is hosted by the Japan Austria Science Exchange Center at TU Wien.

Please contact Thomas for further information or application: thomas.rief@tuwien.ac.at

Lecture topics (preliminary draft):

VIENNA, A LIVEABLE METROPOLIS BETWEEN HISTORY AND MODERNITY

Barbara Rief-Vernay

In recent years, the Austrian capital has repeatedly been ranked first in terms of quality of life the international consulting company Mercer. Even if the Mercer city ranking is mainly based on infrastructural and environmental aspects, the built environment of a city has to be considered as a key element regarding quality of life. This video gives a short overview of the historical development of Vienna and shows the important role of historic districts in the present-day city.

HISTORIC DISTRICTS AS CONTEMPORARY URBAN LIVING SPACES: AUSTRIAN AND JAPANESE APPROACHES

Barbara Rief-Vernay

Vienna is characterized by its large and homogeneous 19th century inner city area. Although not to the same extent, many Japanese cities have historic built-up areas, that date back to the Edo or the Meiji era. In the 1970ies, with the end of modernism, both Austria and Japan developed a consciousness for the importance of these hitherto neglected urban areas and set up architectural guidelines and legal frameworks for their protection and revitalization. The video shows the similarities and differences concerning the approach to the historic urban areas of the two countries.

THE CURRENT USE OF REVITALIZED HISTORIC SPACES IN AUSTRIA AND JAPAN: SOME EXAMPLES

Barbara Rief-Vernay

This video gives concrete examples of historic urban areas in Austria and Japan: Museumsquartier, Spittelberg quarter (Vienna), Kawagoe (Tokyo area), Bashamichi (Yokohama). It highlights positive and possible negative aspects of their current use as public, living, working, recreation, consumer spaces or tourist areas.

JOY IN THE CITY

Fabian Dembski

In urban planning and design, topics such as sustainability, efficiency, smartness and measurability are becoming increasingly important. But what does it take to design liveable cities? Which role do joy and life on the streets play and how can design and a "dramaturgy" of cities contribute to this? Especially in the time of the pandemic, joyful places and open spaces in urban areas are becoming ever more important and popular. The lecture and workshop will explore the question of whether joyful cities can be planned and what role coincidence can play therein.

URBAN GREEN

Meinhard Breiling

Urban green in Vienna is considered as favourable contributing to an extraordinary high quality of life. For almost half a century, the iron curtain protected also the surrounding green from Vienna. While European mega cities such as London or Paris experienced a high pressure as a capital due to population inflow, Vienna even lost population during the last century. Therefore, positive structures of urban green could develop. However, during the last three decades, major development challenges appeared in the reconnected CENTROP region, one of the fastest growing regions in Europe. The urban green structure has to be further protected.

REGENERATIVE CONSERVATION DESIGN OF TRADITIONAL TOWN WITH CULTURAL HERITAGE

Nobuo Mishima

Recently, regenerative conservation design is becoming very crucial for local areas. Especially in case of Japan, we are also facing to awful depopulation rather than the other countries, so the regeneration using their potentialities such as natural and historical properties is one of the revitalization measures for their sustainability. The cases in Japan teach important points not only for the other Japanese towns but also for foreign countries which may face to depopulation of local areas and suburbs in the future.

Considering the above-mentioned things, in this lecture, I introduce some examples where the local towns have been challenging excellent measures to protect their cultural heritage and to encourage their sustainability.

1. Replan and abolition of city planning to preserve the traditional area, Yame-Fukushima, Fukuoka prefecture.
2. Abolition of fire protection area and relaxation of building low to preserve thatched-roof buildings, Hizenhama-shuku, Saga prefecture.
3. Building height protection to promote guest house use in the preservation area, Ine-town, Kyoto prefecture.

Schedule:

- Mon, Sept. 6 at 10:00am CET/17:00pm JST: Live introduction via Zoom
- Tue, Sept. 7 – Thur, Sept. 9: Pre-recorded online lectures
- Fri, Sept. 10 at 10:00am CET/17:00pm JST: Live Q&A and discussion of lecture contents
- Mon, Sept. 13 –Tue, Sept. 14: Group work – preparation of the task
- Wed, Sept. 15 at 10:00am CET/17:00pm JST: Live Consultation
- Thu, Sept. 15: Group work – preparation of the task
- Fri, Sept. 16 at 10:00am CET/17:00pm JST: Live presentation of group task

Lecturers:

Dr. Barbara Rief-Vernay (TU Wien)

Barbara is a researcher in architecture and urban geography, she has been teaching at JASEC/Vienna University of Technology since 2016. Barbara has published numerous scientific papers on the topics of urban history, urban politics and post-fordist culture-led urban planning (European and Asian metropolises). Her latest research focuses on sustainable heritage policies and heritage practices in Europe and Japan, regarding not only inner-city areas but also suburban 20th century housing estates (comparative perspective).

Dr. Fabian Dembski (TU Wien, University of Stuttgart, Tallinn University of Technology)

Fabian is a research professor at Tallinn University of Technology (TalTech), Academy of Architecture and Urban Studies, researcher at the High-Performance Computing Center Stuttgart (HLRS, University of Stuttgart) and has been teaching at JASEC for years. His background is in architecture and planning and his teaching focus is on digital methods and tools in urban and regional planning, participation and collaboration, sustainable urban development and design.

Dr. Meinhard Breiling (TU Wien)

Teaching at TU Wien Landscape during 2000 and 2019. TU Wien academic advisor for Japan-Austria Science Exchange Center JASEC since 2018. Course outlines in landscape planning, landscape architecture, architecture, regional planning, land resource planning, tourism planning, rural planning and rural innovation for undergraduate and graduate students mainly at TU Wien with employment periods at 11 universities worldwide (thereof Japan: University of Tokyo, Kyoto University, KEIO, Hyogo University).

Dr. Nobuo Mishima (Saga University)

Nobuo is a professor at Saga University (SU), Japan, teaching urban design and regenerative conservation design in the course of architectural environment design. He graduated from the University of Tokyo and studied at TU Wien as an exchange doctoral student. Since 2015, he has collaborated with JASEC to carry out international workshops both in Vienna and Saga.