genuinely curious. Since 1365.
Preface

The University of Vienna has a clear social mission: to educate the next generation of students and conduct research to contribute to the further development of Austria’s capacity for innovation.

At the University of Vienna we are genuinely curious: The aim of making new discoveries and questioning the existing ones unites research teams, students and lecturers. People who study, conduct research and teach here address complex questions with passion, curiosity and perseverance on a daily basis. Approximately 88,900 students and 7,500 academics work at 20 faculties and centres on new answers for a better future.

Join us as we take you on a journey through the University of Vienna on the following pages. You may well be surprised by its diversity.

Sebastian Schütze
Rector of the University of Vienna
Anton Zeilinger · Elise Richter · Johann Radon · Pascale Ehrenfreund · Olga Taussky-Todd
Elisabeth Bleyleben-Koren · Marie von Ebner-Eschenbach · Bruno Kreisky · Anton Bruckner
Hertha Firnberg · Martin Nowak · Johanna Rachinger · Rudolf Kirschschläger · Lise Meitner
Karl Landsteiner · Elfriede Jelinek · Erwin Schrödinger · Gabriele Possanner · Moritz Schlick
Stefan Ruzowitzky · Stefan Zweig · Carl Auer von Welsbach · Erika Weinzierl · Hans Kelsen
Ludwig Boltzmann · Berta Karlik · Grete Mostny-Glaser · Marie Jahoda · Ingeborg Bachmann
Kurt Friedrich Gödel · Danielle Spera · Oskar Morgenstern · Heinz Fischer · Marietta Blau
Charlotte Bühler · Hugo von Hofmannsthal · Hugo Portisch · Hilde Spiel · Sigmund Freud
Eduard Suess · Helga Nowotny · Friedrich August von Hayek · Ernst Fehr · Brigitte Ederer
The driving force of a global city

The Habsburg Empire has been and gone, but the oldest university in the German-speaking world is still standing. The University’s Main Building is located in the heart of one of the world’s most liveable cities. It was opened in 1884 as one of the ensemble of buildings along the Ringstrasse boulevard. The Burgtheater (national theatre), the Vienna City Hall and the Parliament are immediate neighbours on the grand boulevard.

The diversity that has evolved at Austria’s largest research and educational institution continues to provide strength and give impetus to the social and economic changes taking place in a global city.

The University is committed to openness and the guiding principle of curiosity in which its interdisciplinary approach is one of its major strengths. With innovative research, research-led teaching, approximately 10,000 graduates, about 1,000 events and 350 (inter)national conferences and meetings every year, the University’s influence extends around the world.
# The University of Vienna in numbers

**Graduates**
Approximately 10,000 students graduate from the University of Vienna each year, enriching the labour market with their expertise. Graduates of the University of Vienna work in a wide range of sectors or pursue careers in academia.

10,000

**Faculties and centres**
Both research and teaching benefit from the immense diversity that is under one roof. The University of Vienna is home to the Faculties of Catholic and Protestant Theology; Psychology; Philosophy and Education; Law; Business, Economics and Statistics; Computer Science; Philological and Cultural Studies; Historical and Cultural Studies; Mathematics; Chemistry; Physics; Social Sciences; Life Sciences and Earth Sciences; Geography and Astronomy, as well as the Centres for Translation Studies; Sport Science; Molecular Biology; Microbiology and Environmental Systems Science, as well as Teacher Education.

20

**Academics**
The University of Vienna and its 7,500 academics are committed to basic research open to application. Approximately one third of the academic staff at Austria’s largest research and educational institution come from abroad.

7,500

**ERC grants**
The European Research Council (ERC) supports research projects that have high innovation potential. Since 2007, more than 114 ERC grants have been awarded to academics at the University of Vienna: Advanced Grants, Consolidator Grants, Starting Grants, Synergy Grants and Proofs of Concept.

114+

**Muse**
Castalia is the muse of inspiration in Greek mythology. She is immortalised as a fountain statue in the middle of the Main Building’s Arcaded Courtyard. An art installation casting a long shadow of the muse across the Arcaded Courtyard draws attention to the fact that women were excluded from higher education for centuries. Today, Castalia is flanked by monuments to seven influential female academics. The muse also lends her name to the first eight of the University of Vienna’s rowing club.

1

**Students**
Every year, more than 16,000 students start their studies at the University of Vienna, while more than 10,000 complete their degree programmes. 63 per cent of the students are women and the percentage of women in doctoral programmes amounts to approximately 50 per cent.

88,900

**Nations**
In total, 130 different nations are represented among the students of the University of Vienna. More than a quarter of all students admitted to the University of Vienna are from other EU member states.

130

**Sport courses**
The University of Vienna gets people moving. Every year approximately 28,000 sport enthusiasts sign up for the courses provided by the University Sport Institute – ranging from ball sports and martial arts to dance, gymnastics and water sports. Most winter sport courses in downhill skiing, cross-country skiing or snowboarding take place at the sports centre in Dienten am Hochkönig (Salzburg, Austria).

~1.800

**Degree programmes**
The extensive range of degree programmes includes 56 bachelor’s programmes. 143 extension curricula enable students to focus on topics of their choice, equipping them with the specialist competences needed to pursue master’s programmes. Furthermore: 106 master’s programmes, 2 diploma programmes and 26 school subjects and a specialisation for students enrolled on teacher education programmes as well as 8 doctoral programmes with more than 80 fields of doctoral research.

~180
Research on a solid foundation

The University is part of a strong regional and international network. In addition to the University of Vienna and other universities, Vienna is home to a range of non-university research hotspots (including research institutes of the Austrian Academy of Sciences or the Research Institute of Molecular Pathology) and other tertiary educational institutions. The University of Vienna has an international outlook and has established an extensive network.

Basic research open to application thrives where ideas can be exchanged which transcend national borders, subject areas and generations. The University of Vienna combines the support of research and promotion of early stage researchers with the sharing of infrastructure, interdisciplinary networks and research projects. Research-led teaching ensures the transfer of knowledge and paves the way for fresh impetus when academics and students seek new insights together. Research at the University of Vienna inspires quality-oriented teaching, enables technological and social innovation and requires constant scrutiny.

Subject-specific rankings reflect the University’s international visibility: It ranks among the world’s top 100 universities in several research areas and even among the top 50 in some areas.
Cutting-edge research

The University of Vienna aims at strengthening its position in interdisciplinary and internationally visible fields of research that are not only eligible for funding but also relevant to the society in which it is rooted through the achievements of excellent academics.

Molecular Biology and Cognitive Neuroscience

How does life work? Research groups at the Centre for Molecular Biology as well as the Faculties of Chemistry, Life Sciences and Psychology are trying to find answers to this question. At the interface between biology and medicine, researchers focus on chromosome dynamics, RNA biology or cellular signal transduction. Fundamentals of neuroscience and cognitive science form the basis for research on the function and structure of the brain – in relation to human consciousness, social behaviour in society, language and knowledge.

Data Science and Digital Humanities

Climate research, Industry 4.0 and social media – the behaviour of dynamic systems is based on complex algorithms and mathematical modelling. The Faculties of Mathematics; Computer Science; Business, Economics and Statistics; Physics; Chemistry; Earth Sciences, Geography and Astronomy; as well as the Centre for Molecular Biology develop and analyse algorithms and approaches that aim to computationally control, simulate, filter and make predictions – for state-of-the-art medicine, bioinformatics and financial mathematics or other future areas of application that are as yet unknown. A new focus is on digital humanities, which combines the humanities and social sciences using digital resources and methods.

Health and Microbiome

The Faculty of Life Sciences, the Faculty of Chemistry and the Centre for Molecular Biology conduct research on the requirements for a healthy life. The academics involved identify symptoms of diseases and develop new treatment approaches. They investigate natural substances and active agents, conduct food safety tests and explore the effect of food and substances on the human body because the multifaceted relationships between living beings and the environment have been thrown out of balance. What do we have to know about living in symbiosis with nature? To answer this question, research foci range from all ecosystems to the smallest microorganisms.

Materials and the Quantum Level

The smallest particles, light and its potential benefits form the basis of this cross-faculty research specialisation. Quantum optics, quantum nanophysics and quantum information are internationally acclaimed research specialisations of the Faculty of Physics. Academics at the Faculties of Physics, Chemistry and Environmental Geosciences still have plenty to discover at the atomic level, such as nanomaterials to develop functional and sustainable materials.

Society and Communication

Research in this area focuses on current challenges of major importance to society, such as migration and integration, as well as the effects of globalisation and internationalisation on the European Union, other institutions and markets. This research specialisation is an essential element of many cross-faculty research projects, extending far beyond the social sciences and law.
Targeted career development of early stage researchers

Supporting early stage researchers determines the University of Vienna’s future. At the University, brilliant minds find an active research environment and have the opportunity to network internationally.

The career development of young academics provides the basis for a dynamic academic environment. The University of Vienna strives to foster talent and supervise the next generation’s development to help them become independent and internationally competitive researchers.

The University of Vienna’s doctoral schools follow international quality standards and enable their doctoral candidates to apply academic methods and techniques. These schools also offer interaction and intense discussion of their research. Candidates can write their doctoral thesis in 80 fields of research, ranging from law, humanities, cultural studies, social sciences, business and economics to natural sciences, life sciences, theology, sport science and psychology. The doctoral schools are well resourced, offer clear structures and accompanying workshops that enable their candidates to achieve research output of the highest quality.

International early stage researchers who come to the University of Vienna for research purposes are supervised within the framework of the University’s Visiting PhD programme. Doctoral candidates who study a degree programme jointly offered by the University of Vienna and another educational institution have the opportunity to complete a double degree.

Data protection and privacy

Data protection and privacy are not only extremely topical issues but are also an area of heated legal and political debate. Therefore, it is a very positive development that the University of Vienna’s Faculty of Law gives me the opportunity to do interdisciplinary research on these topics.

Robert Rothmann, doctoral candidate at the Faculty of Law, is investigating the question of whether privacy is a fundamental right that has an expiration date in his doctoral thesis.

Mathematics and medicine

We are constantly dealing with large volumes of data in our everyday lives, e.g. through medical imaging. To use this volume of data efficiently, mathematics are necessary.

Anna Breger, a doctoral graduate of the Vienna School of Mathematics, is conducting research on dimensionality reduction, thus bridging the gap between mathematics and its application in medicine.

With its doctoral schools, the University of Vienna offers early stage researchers clearly structured programmes, careful supervision and the opportunity to participate in up-to-date research. Moreover, it provides its early stage researchers with advice on, and support in their career and competence development, acquisition of external funds, conclusion of agreements and filing patents.
The University of Vienna in the city
– a selection of some of the University’s 60 locations

1. Main Building of the University of Vienna
   Universitätsring 1, 1010 Vienna

2. Neues Institutsgebäude (NIG)
   Universitätsstraße 7, 1090 Vienna

3. Juridicum (Faculty of Law)
   Schottenhauptstraße 10–16, 1010 Vienna

4. Centre for Molecular Biology
   Dr.-Bohr-Gasse 9, 1030 Vienna

5. University of Vienna Biology Building
   Djerassiplatz 1, 1030 Vienna

6. Botanical Garden
   Mechelgasse 2, 1030 Vienna

7. Campus of the University of Vienna
   Spitalgasse 2, 1090 Vienna

8. Faculty of Business, Economics and Statistics
   & Faculty of Mathematics
   Oskar-Morgenstern-Platz 1, 1090 Vienna

9. Faculty of Chemistry & Faculty of Physics
   Währinger Straße 42/Boltzmangasse 5, 1090 Vienna

10. Universitätszentrum (university centre)
    Althanstrasse (UZA)
    Althanstrasse 14, 1090 Vienna

11. Faculty of Computer Science
    & Department of Communication
    Währinger Straße 29, 1090 Vienna

12. University Sport Institute (USI)
    Auf der Schmelz 8, 1150 Vienna

13. University of Vienna Observatory
    Türkenschanzstrasse 17, 1180 Vienna

Schoenenbrunn
Hauptbahnhof
Austrian Parliament
Prater
MuseumsQuartier
Volksgarten
Stephansdom
Stadtpark
Prater
Schloss Schönbrunn
Donau
500 m 1,000 m
The University of Vienna’s knowledge hub

With 7.6 million books, about 1,329,000 licenced e-books, 120,000 licenced e-journals, over 6,000 print journals with current subscriptions and more than 600 licenced databases, the Vienna University Library is the largest university library in Austria. Library users can use the Main Library at the University’s Main Building as well as 37 special libraries at different locations.

From the oldest book to the online journal

The oldest book in the library collection is an encyclopaedic issue of the “Historia naturalis” by Pliny the Elder dating from 1469. As part of its open access strategy, the University Library is increasing its digital archive of research data and publications, thereby enabling free and unrestricted access to academic data on the internet.
A colourful history

During the University of Vienna’s 650-year history, there have been both upheavals and achievements. However, some periods have been characterised by marginalisation and expulsion. The University of Vienna is coming to terms with its past and provides space for the discussion of repressed memories. It promotes diversity and contributes to shaping an open and forward-looking society.

1365
The Alma Mater Rudolphina is founded by Duke Rudolf IV, “the Founder.”

1384/85
The University is reformed and expanded by Albert III, Duke of Austria and becomes the largest university in the Holy Roman Empire in the 15th century.

1440
The Wiener mathematisch-astronomische Schule (Vienna school of mathematics and astronomy) becomes a centre of Renaissance humanism north of the Alps.

1550
The Jesuit order is called to Vienna; the University is increasingly exploited in the interests of church and state.

1730
First fundamental university reform by Empress Maria Theresa and Gerard van Swieten; medical education is reformed and the “First Vienna School of Medicine” is established.

1769
The first female students are admitted to study at the Faculty of Philosophy.

1938
National Socialists quickly take over leadership positions; more than 2,700 members (predominantly Jewish) of the University of Vienna are excluded.

1945
The University of Vienna is reopened.

2002
Universities Act; universities become autonomous and fully responsible legal entities.

2004
The Faculty of Medicine is newly established as the Medical University of Vienna.

2015
The University of Vienna celebrates its 650th anniversary.

2018
20 years of the Campus of the University of Vienna.
Science meets city

The University of Vienna is opening its doors. The University developed the concept of the “semester question” several years ago. The University focuses on a question about a topic that affects many people and is particularly relevant to today’s society. Throughout the semester, researchers from different academic disciplines present their solutions. Furthermore, academics at the University of Vienna have been giving lectures and discussing relevant issues in the course of the “Wiener Vorlesungen” (Viennese lectures) for 30 years. These lectures are held in the Vienna City Hall and other locations throughout the city and are open to the public.

Being bombarded with questions is a familiar feeling for lecturers at the Vienna Children’s University. The University of Vienna was the first university to open its gates to children in 2003. Today, numerous higher education institutions in Vienna are offering an exciting programme for very young future scholars as part of the Vienna Children’s University. During the holidays, about 4,000 children aged seven to twelve are given a playful glimpse into research and teaching at a university.
Studying in a diverse environment

There are 1.9 million people living in Vienna, more than ten per cent of whom are students from 130 different nations. The varied range of programmes offered by the University of Vienna shapes the city and provides great impetus.

With approximately 200,000 students, Vienna is the largest university town in the German-speaking area – ahead of Berlin with around 190,000 and Munich with around 110,000 students. There are around 89,900 students at the University of Vienna, 63 per cent of whom are women. Prospective students can choose from around 180 degree programmes, including 56 bachelor’s programmes, 106 master’s programmes, 2 diploma programmes as well as 29 subjects and a specialisation in the teacher education programme. Every year, more than 16,000 people start their studies at the University of Vienna. Approximately 10,000 people graduate from the University of Vienna every year.

The University of Vienna responds to the internationality of its students by offering many curricula in English, as well as the opportunity to study numerous foreign languages. A range of master’s programmes can be completed in English, and partly in joint programmes with other universities: Chemistry and Materials Technology, Cultural Differences and Transnational Processes (CREOLE), Evolutionary Systems, Physics of the Earth, Erasmus Mundus: Global Studies (EMGS) and many more.

In addition, the University offers 80 fields of doctoral research structured into eight PhD and doctoral curricula. 30 per cent of the students in the doctoral programmes are not from Austria, and women make up almost 50 per cent. Through its Postgraduate Center, the University of Vienna is also a leading institution for continuing education and training, offering a total of about 75 master’s programmes, university continuing education and training programmes and certificate courses.

The Arcaded Courtyard in the Main Building is the perfect place for students to rest and relax – a nice, shady spot that invites students to linger. The Campus of the University of Vienna, which is centrally located in the 9th district, is a green oasis as well.

More personal portraits under blog.univie.ac.at/humans
The University of Vienna in the world

Cooperation makes us strong. From the centre of Europe, the University of Vienna cooperates with universities on all continents in teaching and research and fosters interdisciplinary partnerships and exchange.

Vienna is one of the five most popular congress cities in the world. It is a venue for diplomatic negotiations and the seat of numerous international organisations, such as the United Nations (UN) or the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). The University of Vienna has evolved into a popular congress and conference venue: The historical and modern venues in different locations welcome participants from all over the world.

In the world of academia, the University of Vienna has always had sustainable relations in the European research area and with research institutions around the world. These networks build on geographical and historical connections as well as on the personal relationships between researchers that have grown over time. They are underpinned by a strong commitment to quality and international exchange.

Currently, the University of Vienna maintains about 80 university-wide partnerships, linking research in Vienna to that in Central Europe, North America, Australia and South Korea, as well as Brazil. Furthermore, it cooperates with about 370 universities in Europe in the Erasmus+ programme. Strategic partnerships further promote the Alma Mater’s academic cooperation – in addition to the University of Chicago and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, it now also includes Peking University, Fudan University in Shanghai and Kyoto University.

Among others, the University is a member of the European University Association (EUA), the Network of Universities from the Capitals of Europe (UNICA), the Guild of European Research-Intensive Universities and the Circle U. European University Alliance. More than 40 per cent of the academic staff at the University of Vienna are not from Austria. Among the staff paid from project funds, this share rises to more than half. More than 70 per cent of the University of Vienna’s new professors have been appointed from an international environment in previous years.

The University of Vienna’s academics are also well-connected internationally with regard to their publication activities. The University’s scholars carry out research and publish their results together with colleagues from abroad across national and international borders.

The University of Vienna has been a member of the European mobility programme ERASMUS since the foundation of the programme more than 30 years ago. The programme’s namesake Erasmus of Rotterdam went to school in Gouda and Deventer, and received musical lessons in Utrecht. He studied in Paris, went to England, travelled to Italy and did his doctorate in Turin. He visited Venice, taught in Cambridge and worked at the court of Burgundy. From 1514 onwards, he lived in Basel and Freiburg im Breisgau.

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International publication collaborations 2019–2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Publications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>1,728</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South America</td>
<td>449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe*</td>
<td>6,131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>1,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia, New Zealand</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*excluding Austria

Publications published by the University of Vienna in cooperation with universities and higher education institutions abroad.

All publications from researchers of the University of Vienna collaborating with other universities (excluding posters) are taken into account. Every publication is counted only once, regardless of further partner organisations involved.
The University at a glance

The following section provides information about how you can get in touch with us, as well as further information about education, research, degree programmes and conferences. We look forward to your visit.

Social media channels

- facebook.com/univienna
- twitter.com/univienna
- instagram.com/univienna
- youtube.com/univienna
- blog.univie.ac.at

Further links

Research at the University of Vienna
univie.ac.at/en/research/research-overview/
research-at-the-university-of-vienna

Studying at the University of Vienna
studying.univie.ac.at

International Office
international.univie.ac.at/en

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conference-services

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