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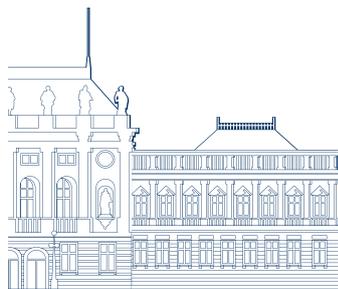
# COLLECTIVE IDENTITIES

NATIONALISM, TRANSNATIONALISM –  
EUROPE AND BEYOND

June 30<sup>th</sup> - July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013  
Seggau Castle | Leibnitz | Austria



DIÖZESE  
GRAZ-SECKAU



GRAZ  
INTERNATIONAL  
SUMMER SCHOOL  
SEGGAU  
2013

The GRAZ INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL SEGGAU is  focused on South-Eastern Europe and the Americas.

## TOPIC

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# COLLECTIVE IDENTITIES

## NATIONALISM, TRANSNATIONALISM — EUROPE AND BEYOND

Since the 19th century, nation states as a construction of collective identities have defined the political, economic and social realities in Europe and beyond. In Benedict Anderson's term of an imagined community, the nation state has determined both individual as well as collective identities in terms of inclusion and exclusion. This is especially true when it comes to the rights of citizens or ethnic majorities versus the legal status of minority groups or the situation of foreigners and migrants. Although the essentialist

nature of state definition has never been able to do justice to the social, cultural, and economic realities and challenges, it has since the 19th century determined the political and social structures of Europe, led to war and destruction, but also to reconstruction and peace-building in the 20th century, if one takes the European Union as an example of a supranational governance structure. Within a radically changed global world, where migration and transnationalism play an important role, a reconsideration of the notion of the nation state as well as an analysis of the interconnections between collective and individual identity formation is necessary. Focusing on the emphasis areas of the University of Graz – South Eastern Europe and North, Central and South America – the discursive and symbolic constructions of Europe and beyond will be investigated from an interdisciplinary vantage point thus contributing to a redefinition of European and Inter-American Studies. The Americas provide us with many

examples of an early development of the nation state in connection with processes of democratization in the late 18th and early 19th century, as well as with the question of heterogeneity versus homogeneity. South Eastern Europe can be seen as an example for a region that has been contested by European and non-European actors and therefore as a mirror image of larger dynamics in European history. This area is also a good example for discussing diversity in terms of opportunities provided and challenges faced in the past, present and future. Studying collective identities by focusing on European and American issues will thus provide a basis for meeting James Tully's demand that "21st century identities must be supported rather than imposed, reasonable rather than unreasonable, empowering rather than disabling and liberating rather than oppressed." (2003)

*Roberta Maierhofer  
for the Advisory Board*

## TARGET GROUP

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The Graz International Summer School Seggau is designed for internationally oriented, highly motivated students from all disciplines, who wish to deepen their understanding of current European and international affairs by concentrating on the regions of South Eastern Europe and the Americas and by studying and discussing global developments and challenges within the context of collective issues reflecting aspects of individual, social, political, cultural, regional, economic, cohort and national identities.



## ORGANIZERS

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The University of Graz in cooperation with the Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the European Community (COMECE) and the Diocese Graz-Seckau. The Center for Inter-American Studies acts as the coordinating unit in collaboration with the Office of International Relations of the University of Graz.



## AIMS & OBJECTIVES

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**Interdisciplinary** co-operation of teachers and students on the cultural, intellectual and historical dimensions of current European and American affairs in view of their positioning in a globalized world.

**Presentation** in research and teaching of focus areas of the University of Graz – South Eastern Europe and North, Central and South America.

**Development** and education of young leaders of tomorrow in the fields of politics, administration, business, science, culture and religion.



## *COURSE*

# HOW THE SUMMER SCHOOL WORKS ...

Students will deal with the relevance and effect on global affairs of Europe/EU (emphasis on South Eastern Europe) and the Americas by attending the offered morning and evening lectures, panel discussions, and participating in one of the following modules in the afternoon:

1. Literature & Culture
2. Cultural Identities
3. Indigenous Identities
4. Urban & Regional Identities
5. Politics & Law
6. Media, Society & Culture
7. Economics & Power
8. Ethics, Religion & Leadership
9. Transnationalism & Migration
10. Cultural Narratives of Longevity



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# 5 GOOD REASONS TO APPLY FOR IT

2-week summer university with a campus atmosphere at Seggau Castle

6 ECTS credits  
(for participation and seminar paper)

Lectures, panel discussions and  
10 parallel seminar modules

Discussions with international lecturers  
and guests

All-inclusive-package (tuition, meals,  
accommodation, extracurricular program  
and field trips)



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## APPLICATION DEADLINE

February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013

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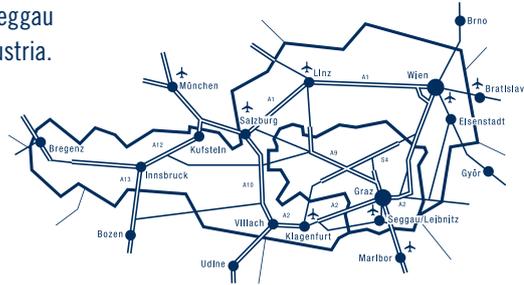
## COSTS & FUNDING

The total student participation fee is EURO 1.300,-- covering course costs, tuition and room & board for the entire two weeks. Scholarships are available and will be awarded upon nomination for the program. Travel arrangements have to be made and paid for individually.



## VENUE SEGGAU CASTLE (AT)

The venue of the summer school is 'Seggau Castle' located 45 km south of Graz, Austria.



## CONTACT + INFO

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