

ウィーン大学学際セミナー
参加報告書

工学部物理工学科 3 回生

At this Multidisciplinary Academic Seminar, I attended lectures for five days focusing on the turbulent era of Vienna from 1880 to 1938, examining various aspects such as art, culture, and law. We also toured related museums with explanations and participated in the anniversary ceremony held at St. Stephen's Cathedral. In addition, I traveled to Europe four days before the seminar starts and visited to Prague in the Czech Republic and Dresden in Germany with three others who were also attending the seminar.

Through the program, I was able to meet with the tight connection between the movements of history and the art, architecture, music, and law of the era. I learned that people living in that period had their own thoughts and emotions influenced by the social situation, and the evidence could be seen in the structure of society and in the arts. Particularly I was amazed that Vienna's slogan as the "City of Music," which first comes to my mind, was actually a deliberate image created as a part of the policy campaign due to the economic hardship caused by the defeat of the Austro-Hungarian Empire in World War I.

Moreover, I gained many experiences outside of class hours. I spent much of my free time visiting art museums, including Museum of Applied Arts, Albertina Museum, Kunsthistorisches Museum, and Upper Belvedere Museum. I appreciated admiring works by renowned artists such as Klimt, Schiele, Kokoschka, and Bruegel. It was such a luxurious experience that I could feel the reality of the term "aesthetic fatigue" that my friend had told me about.

The visits to Prague and Dresden were also very enriching experiences. It was initially uneasy to search transportation and accommodation and walk around in the places where we had no prior knowledge and the excellent skill of languages. Overcoming this situation, however, I gained a certain level of confidence that I could go anywhere if I set my mind to it. Both Prague and Dresden have completely different atmospheres from Vienna. Prague retains a strong medieval European ambience throughout the town, and I felt that I would never forget the beautiful stained glass of St. Vitus Cathedral and the fantastical views at night. Dresden bears the scars of intense bombings during World War II, with the blackened facades of churches and palaces and the sporadic unnatural freshness in certain places, which left a profound impression.

During this trip, I felt that I was able to free myself from preconceptions about my personality and values and move my senses freely. I can confidently assert that significant changes have occurred in the soil of my own sensibility and perspectives. I appreciate to Prof. Dr. Yoshida and Prof. Dr. Mazal, who gave me the opportunity to participate in this program.

ウィーンセミナー参加報告書

Faculty of Engineering, 1st year

I participated in a one-week short trip program to Vienna. From Monday to Friday, there were in class lessons and museum visits. In the classroom, I learned about a wide range of topics, such as modern Austrian history, music history, and the development of labor law. In the museums, I could sometimes find what I had learned in the lectures. The museum that I found particularly interesting was “the Museum for Social and Economic Affairs.” This museum mainly exhibited the life of the average workers in Austria at that time. I was very impressed with the exhibits here, as I had previously visited the gorgeous palaces and the level of living was quite different from them.

The lectures were very interesting, but what I learned in this program was not just the daytime classes and museum tours. The fact that I actually stayed in Vienna, where the Holy Roman Empire once existed and where the environment is completely different from that of Japan, was a very valuable experience in itself. First of all, looking back on my stay in Vienna, I felt that it was a very comfortable city. Many of the buildings in Vienna have been preserved from the ancient times, and I could feel the majestic atmosphere wherever I walked in the city. In addition, while maintaining such an atmosphere, the public transportation system in the city is very well developed, and it was easy to go anywhere by train or bus without using a car. The people in the city are very friendly, and I was able to feel a very warm atmosphere when I chatted with the shopkeeper at the bakery, and strangers approached us on the bus.

One of the characteristics of this program I think is that it is very free. I was very surprised when I first heard that we have to get to Vienna by ourselves and meet at the local place. During the program, the participants were free to go out to eat what they wanted to eat and to pay tips when they ate at restaurants. As an Austrian cuisine, a fried meat dish called "Schnitzel" was served in many restaurants. There were also French, Italian, and Asian restaurants in the city, which made me think that a variety of cultures had gathered here. The program also emphasized the independence of the participants. I also spent my free time looking around the streets and visiting museums where I did not visit in the program, so I was able to enjoy as well as learn. What was particularly impressive was the ball. It was the first time for me to attend a ball since it is not a familiar culture in Japan, but I really enjoyed dancing the waltz.

I have gained a lot from participating in this program. I think my English listening

and reading skills have improved a little through this one-week stay, and I was able to grasp the characteristics of Japan that I had not noticed before by looking at Japan from a foreign perspective. I would like to make the most of this experience for the rest of my life.

Multidisciplinary Academic Seminar: Vienna 1880-1938 - Glory and Tragedy

Law school, 3rd year

This seminar took place on 10th -16th March 2024. Although it was only one week, I have learned and experienced a lot in Vienna.

First, I learned the history of Vienna. I had interest in the history of Europe, but I did not have so much knowledge about Austrian (internal) history after the Austro-Prussian War of 1866. I could learn history from various aspects. First, we took a lecture on the construction of a modern city in Vienna. I learned how Vienna became a modern city in the early 20th century. I also took lectures on social conflicts (related with labour law) at that time, as well as history of music. Furthermore, we visited the Museum for social and Economic Affairs, where I could see how the people in Vienna at that time were living, and also Wien Museum, where I could learn overall Austrian history. Besides, I visited the Sisi museum by myself. This museum is in the Hofburg and I was able to see inside the palace with an audio guide. I learned how the Emperor (Franz Joseph I) and the Empress (Elisabeth) were living and what personality they had. It was very interesting because I love the musical 'Elisabeth'. I was surprised that he was very stoic as well as fond of his family, and with humanity. At the same time, I felt mixed feelings with her dramatic and sad life.

Second, I have enjoyed the culture of Vienna. First of all, the city of Vienna was full of music. In the street, park, restaurant, station, and even on the train, they play music. There are many opera houses, theaters, and concert halls, and every night a lot of operas, musicals and concerts are performed. I saw a Musical 'West Side Story' at the Volksoper. Needless to say, it was great. What I thought was interesting was that the musical numbers were sung in English (though the words of a play were spoken in German). It means, they sang the original version ('West Side Story' is originally produced by Broadway)! By the way, I wanted to go to a concert of the 'Wiener Philharmoniker' and an opera in Wiener Staatsoper, but unfortunately, I was not able to get the tickets. I hope to try them next time!

In addition, I enjoyed the food culture of Vienna. There are abundant cafés, where I could see a lot of sweets, some of which I have never seen in Japan. I really like cafés and sweets in Vienna. Of course I tried the original Sachertorte of 'Café Sacher' and also of 'Demel'. In addition, I tried the cake Mozart of 'Café Mozart', Apfelstrudel, Kaiserschmarren, Krapfen, and so on! Furthermore, I tried Austrian food (not sweets), such as Gulasch, Wiener Schnitzel, and all tasted delicious to me!

Furthermore, I learned to dance and take part in the ball for the first time. The ball is certainly an important and prime culture of Vienna. I heard a large number of balls are given there and anyone can take part in. Dancing is difficult for me, and with a long dress and high-heeled shoes even more so. But I enjoyed dancing and a cheerful atmosphere at the ball. I had a delightful time!

Third, I talked with students who study law (the same as me) at Vienna University. It was interesting to know about the difference between the Japanese and Australian legal systems and I was very inspired by them.

It was really challenging for me to manage by myself abroad because I had little experience going overseas, and thus I felt very anxious before I left Japan. But since I arrived in Vienna, I felt no more anxious. It's easier to try than to be nervous and what is important is to have self-confidence and a feeling of self-reliance.

To sum up, I love Vienna, and this was a precious and wonderful experience. I thank from the bottom of my heart to everyone who contributed to realize and improve this seminar.

What I learn in the seminar at university of Vienna

In this report, I describe my thoughts and impressions based on the multidisciplinary seminar held at the University of Vienna in March 2024. In particular, the internationalism of Vienna and Klimt's challenge to art left a strong impression on me, so I write about these in detail. These things I learned not only from lectures within the seminar, but also from activities outside of lectures during my stay in Vienna.

The most memorable aspect of the lecture "Hailed. Derailed. Failed – Austria's capital from 1880 to 1938" was Vienna's population reaching 2 million in 1910, largely due to immigration from neighboring countries. It was surprising that over half of this vast population were born outside of Vienna. This is an environment unimaginable for us who live in Japan, where the foreign population ratio stands at only 2.4% even in 2022. Vienna's historical multiculturalism was surprising, but it seems that contemporary Vienna prove it. The Viennese seemed accustomed to foreigners; for instance, they were proficient in English. I interacted with students from the University of Vienna during welcome dinners and lunches after lectures. They spoke English a lot fluently, with clear pronunciation. To my eyes, they appeared like native English speakers, conversing in English as if it were their everyday language. Additionally, when I approached locals in the city, they also spoke English skillfully. I asked not only tourist staff but also passersby about things I couldn't find through Google searches, and everyone spoke English without hesitation. I think this reflected a tolerant societal attitude even towards those who couldn't speak the official language of Austria, German. Another example I would like to share is when I got lost. Relying on Google Maps for navigation in unfamiliar public transport, there were times when I couldn't determine which station I was currently at. As I looked around for something which told me where it is, a local pointed out the name of the station while indicating the route map. Furthermore, when I couldn't find the tram station, a woman pushing a baby stroller showed me its location. They offered their help before I even had to ask! I felt it was a significant difference from Japanese norms. In Japan, it is rare for someone to proactively approach and offer help to someone who is lost, and it's even more uncommon to do so with foreigners. Moreover, it is said that some people even avoid

foreigners asking for directions. Viennese people, on the other hand, consider it normal to have individuals of different ethnicities around them. In such an environment, demonstrating that one is not an adversary is necessary for building a stable society. That's why I felt they treated me kindly. Japan's aging population issue cannot be solved by Japanese ethnicity alone. We need immigrants. While it is not feasible to rapidly increase the English skill of the entire population, we can be kind to people who have recently immigrated and may be feeling anxious. Another lasting impression for me was the challenge posed by Gustav Klimt's art. Before the seminar began, I went to see Klimt's masterpiece "The Kiss." At that time, I didn't have much knowledge about Klimt. Since I preferred realistic paintings over impressionist ones, "The Kiss" just seemed beautiful to me, and I wasn't impressed. However, during a tour at the Leopold Museum, I learned how Klimt transitioned into becoming an impressionist painter. His early works were exactly the kind of realistic paintings I liked. The paintings he created were elaborate, almost like photographs. The women in his paintings had such a radiant complexion that felt sensually beautiful. Even at that point, he was already an accomplished artist. However, he was not satisfied with his paintings. He incorporated the distinctive style of impressionist painters like Monet into his own works. Thus, he founded the Vienna Secession and developed his unique expression represented by works such as "Death and Life" and "The Kiss." When I learned that he aimed to establish further expressions despite seeming to be already accomplished, I grew to like him and his works. Additionally, my perception of impressionist paintings changed. Thanks to him, I understood that impressionist painters strive to express things that mere imitation of reality cannot capture. He became a teacher to me, teaching me about the beauty of challenges and the greatness of impressionist paintings.

What I experienced in Vienna will undoubtedly remain in my heart for a lifetime. Applying for this seminar was the most wonderful decision I made during my university life.

A Brief Report for the Vienna Interdisciplinary Seminar

Faculty of Law, 2nd year

Throughout the seminar, I could not help considering history from a comparative viewpoint.

In comparison with Japan, I perceived a sense of historical continuity; a sort of feeling that they are standing on what has been composed and that they themselves are composing a part of history. Historical and cultural relics in Vienna are accessible and familiar to local people. In the Art History Museum, I observed students, even kindergarteners, discussing Caravaggio's paintings. People were proud of their *alma mater* because of their tradition, which sometimes derives from the Medieval era. I had previously been sceptical about the over-emphasis and over-glorification of Greek and Roman thought in the humanities but realised that the reason for such an emphasis may lie in this European historical continuity and familiarity with the history spun by their ancestry. Japan also has many historical and traditional relics and ideas, but they are literally "relics" of the past and not close enough to the Japanese themselves to be positioned as their historical inheritors.

On the other hand, I also found that the dark side of history still has a lingering effect. The problem of the attitude toward Antisemitism. Vienna Museum displayed how Austrian people have dealt with the memory of their contribution to the slaughter: Some tried to forget by creating the "Austria Victim Myth," and others struggled to refute it. The display also told that antisemitism existed even before the Nazi period. Traces of the historical dispute could be found all over Vienna. There sporadically existed monuments to the victims of the Holocaust. The statue of the former antisemitic mayor of Vienna was tainted with blue paint. Above all, the trauma of antisemitism seems to have complicated perceptions of the harm-perpetration relationship in the current Palestinian war and, perhaps as a result, to have been the subject of a much livelier debate than it was in Japan.

The lessons from various perspectives made me realise that there is somehow a common underlying idea behind certain era-specific phenomena. Vienna saw a dramatic change in various fields during no more than 90 years from the inauguration of Franz Josef II to the *Anschluss*. I felt that these seemingly completely independent innovations were in fact based on a common understanding of the issues at stake. The innovations were responses from different standpoints to the social upheavals of industrialisation, urbanisation and scientific development. Artists began to express their inner personal and spiritual worlds in opposition to rationalisation resulting from scientific innovations. The spatial apparatus, such as cafés, for innovators from various fields to share ideas was probably also important, along

with Vienna's open and tolerant atmosphere. The atmosphere in fin-de-siècle Vienna, the common cradle of diverse alteration, would be exactly what the famous German word "Zeitgeist" means.

I was impressed by the message from Professor Mazal; “there always exist social conflicts, and each generation respectively has solutions. Now it is the responsibility of your generation to find solutions for current crises.” Nowadays, our society is facing global crises. The pandemic and wars expanded the social cleavages. Demonstrations and graffiti seen in Vienna showed how severe the social conflicts were. Can our generation successfully invent effective resolutions? Professor Mazal also told us that learning from history could be the key. Through this seminar, I came to believe that it would be my “responsibility” to seek solutions and envisage systems by referring to history.

In closing, I would like to thank Professor Yoshida and the Professors and students at the University of Vienna, who offered this wonderful and fruitful opportunity.

Faced the reality of my eutopia

I participated in the seminar program in Vienna. The program itself was held from March 10th, 2023 to March 17th, 2023, but personally speaking, I came to Vienna on March 9th and stayed in Germany until March 21st after the program.

During my stay in Europe, especially in Vienna, I was faced with the reality of those places both in good ways and bad ways. Since I was in the final grade of elementary school, I have somehow longed for life and people in Western Europe. However, I have never been abroad partly because of the corona pandemic of the past few years, so joining this program means going overseas for the first time. At first, I was a little bit biased since my dream finally came true and just amazed by the majestic Viennese architecture. Everything I saw, not only the buildings but also the garden and trees, seemed to be designed well. They have completely different kinds of beauty compared to Japanese natural beauty. I saw lots of architecture, paintings and collections of rich people. The thing that astonished me the most was catholic churches. How magnificent and huge they are can only be known by the visitors. On the other hand, I gradually noticed the dark and negative sides of my eutopia. It is quite obvious that common sense in Japan is not so common in other countries at all, but I was shocked a little bit. For example, I sometimes looked for a usable toilet room around the city because the public one is too smelly and dirty to use and there is no toilet room in the supermarket. Smoking is super popular even among young women like me. It may be the most surprising thing for me because in Japan, smoking is considered extremely bad for our health and most of the young people do not smoke at all. I frequently saw those who were sitting down the edge of the street and begging for money while almost all of them were ignoring them. In addition, I recognize the importance of speaking the native language of the region. When I entered the restaurant in Vienna, I was treated as an outsider or just a tourist while the clerk talked actively with other guests in Germany. I thought that if I had the command of German, I would enjoy that time much more. I felt so in the comparison of the clerk's attitude of welcome dinner. Thanks to the flexibility of this program, which is the core of it, I could experience real life in Vienna. All of my experience and feelings during the stay are precious for me because I am thinking of studying abroad for one semester. Moreover, this experience has brought me another perspective on my own culture. I appreciate for the first time the cleanliness of the toilet room and free water at the restaurant or cafe since we had to pay for it in Europe. And when I came back to Kyoto, I felt the similar

feeling which I had when I firstly came to Kyoto was on a school trip. It is was surprising that lots of old architecture and culture still exist and are preserved today and they have much longer history than that of Europe.

I am honored that I could be admitted to join such a wonderful program and appreciate all the people who helped us, including Professor Yoshida.

Report of Participating in a Multidisciplinary Academic Seminar in Vienna

Kyoto University, Faculty of Agriculture, 1st year

26.03.2024

I participated in a Multidisciplinary Academic Seminar, held in Vienna, Austria from March 10th to March 17th, 2024. Spending one week in Vienna and another week in other countries in Europe, I have realized three big things: The difference in the viewpoint of their history, How interesting and exciting to communicate with people living in other countries in English, and The importance of spending several days in culture and environment totally different from my own.

First, I would like to write about the different viewpoints of history. Born and raised in Japan, I have learned well about my own country's history. However, I knew very little about Europe's history. In this program, I had a lot of opportunities to learn history in Vienna, which was once the capital of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The experience of visiting some museums in Vienna and precious lectures at Vienna University allowed me to learn deeply about the history of Vienna and how they think of their history. Japan and Vienna were both concerned with WW I and WW II, though they had different positions in the world. These gaps were interesting to me. This program gave me precious experience.

Second, I want to explain how interesting and exciting to communicate in English with people who do not use Japanese or English as their first language. People in Europe speak various languages such as German, French, Italian, and so on. We do not have the same first language, though we can communicate frequently in English. It was my first time communicating with people whose mother tongue is not English, so I sometimes had difficulties understanding what they said. While studying in Japanese schools, most English is spoken by native speakers such as Americans. I realized the importance of learning various types of English which have different accents and characteristics.

Lastly, I would like to refer to the importance of spending several days in a new culture and environment. Each country has a different lifestyle from Japan. For example, the way riding a bus or underground, how we enter restaurants, order, and pay, and so on. When I use a bus or underground in Japan, I must buy a ticket or use IC cards to enter the platform. In Vienna however, all you have to do is put your ticket into a machine which engraves the time on your tickets. If you have a day or week ticket, you do nothing when you use transportation. At first, I was confused because there were no ticket gates and I felt I was committing 'free riding'. In most restaurants in Japan, we call waiters when we want to order and have the bill. We can do these things whenever we want. However, in Europe, it will be

rude to call waiters by raising our hands and shouting. Waiters would come to our table on their own time. When we want to call waiters, we should try to make eye contact. This means it is difficult to leave restaurants at the time you want. These experiences of finding differences in culture could allow me to help foreign people who are visiting Japan. It will be confusing to go through ticket gates when you ride trains. Foreign people may just wait when they want to order or pay in restaurants. Knowing the differences in manners, I can understand the points that they might confuse. A large amount of people visit Kyoto, so I may have a lot of opportunities to make the most of these findings.

In this program, I could learn a lot and have various precious experiences. Thank you very much for organizing this program.

The report of the seminar”

Faculty of Economics 2nd year

Though this seminar, I thought of following two things mainly. The first thing is that there were many wonderful people around me, who I have never met before. In this seminar, I went to many places with other seminar members, during the moving, we had a lot of time to talk. Then we talked about what we usually think of, what we interested in, and what we expect in the future. It was very interesting moment because they had their own personalities. Sometimes, we had argument, (for example, about relationships between male and female) but I enjoyed listening to their opinion, which reflected their personalities. I was impressed with their opinions even if they are so different from mine. Especially, the meeting with Mr.X, who is the 2nd grade student, majoring the low, was the most impressive event of all in this seminar. He had much more knowledge and interests about many fields. He was the greater person than me, so I could not believe that we are the same grade. Of course, this seminar program was so exciting, but if I are asked “what is the most interesting event for you?”, I will say “the meeting with wonderful people is”.

The second thing is the changing of my interests. Before I participated in this

seminar, I did not have any interest in art, music, history, and so on. One of my goals of this seminar was to experience many beautiful works in Vienna, and to change my childish mind. Consequently, the many experiences such as watching the opera and going to many museums gave me a chance to change my mind, and this goal was achieved. Especially, I loved the works by Gustav Klimt. I was moved with his arts, in which the background and what he highlighted were successfully in harmony. In Vienna Museum, when I saw one of his artworks, "Emilie Floege", I could not move for a while because the impression which it gave me was extremely big. "I cannot believe there is such-beautiful art! I thought in my heart. From that day, I visited many museums which exhibit some his arts. In addition, the old architecture attracted me. To my surprise, a few minutes' walk took me some famous buildings. In the guide tour, I could learn from their fantastic history seeing them with my own eyes. Their impression was much bigger than learning them from textbooks.

In the end, I want to show my appreciation to Professor Yoshida and some students and professor at Vienna University. I think this experience was invaluable. Thank you very much.

ウィーン大学学際セミナー参加報告書

法学部一年

I learned through this seminar that Austria has long been a diverse place.

I learned a little about Austrian history in high school. I knew that Austria was part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, which, if it were today, would span more than ten countries. However, the size of the empire I saw on the map during history class and the size I felt when I was at its center were very different. It felt so much bigger, and I realized its hugeness.

In this seminar, I mainly learned about Austrian history. Learning world history in a language other than Japanese was so interesting. The historical facts are the same, but they seem slightly different from what I learned in Japan.

I understood Vienna's town well because I saw it with my own eyes. During my stay in Vienna, I visited Budapest, Hungary, and Bratislava, Slovakia. Therefore, the Austro-Hungarian Empire's historical trace seemed familiar and understandable to me, such as the comparison between the Austrian and Hungarian Parliaments.

The lecture I was most interested in was about the history of music in Vienna. I have been looking forward to taking the lecture since I saw the timetable for this seminar because I love music. What was the most surprising was the explanation of why Vienna has been said to be the capital of music and Austria the country of music. The professor said that it was because Austria had lost political and economic power since the Habsburg monarchy declined its prosperity. It was as compensation for Austria to create a national identity. Austria is familiar to only some people in Japan. I considered this declination may be one reason.

In this seminar, it felt good for me that there were not only lectures at the university but also visits to facilities such as the museum every day. I could understand the lectures more deeply by seeing related things in museums. The most exciting visit was to the Gesellschafts und Witchcrafts Museum. The exhibition was so realistic that I felt like I were in the era. It showed the contrast between wealthy class people and poverty class people. Wealthy people led a typically gorgeous life. They enjoy reading books, listening to music, and playing musical instruments. On the other hand, poor people live in dirty and narrow spaces, even without a clean water supply. Interestingly, these two different classes existed simultaneously across the wall. Franz Joseph should have made a big decision to demolish the wall and make Ring Strasse, even if he was reluctant to do so.

Through this seminar, I felt Vienna is a wonderful city with a beautiful culture. I stayed in France for ten days after this seminar finished. France was a beautiful city, too, but I felt people were warmer in Vienna than in France. Vienna's culture of waltz is also attractive to me. I

participated in a ball in Vienna for the first time. The Viennese waltz was a little tricky for me, but I enjoyed it a lot. I heard everyone in Vienna knows how to dance the waltz because they learned it at school. We don't have such a culture in Japan, and the decrease in the number of people who inherit traditions has become a problem. So, Japan may have to learn something from the culture in Vienna.

Vienna is a beautiful city with a long-lasting culture and a long, complicated history. I want to revisit Vienna someday.

ウィーン大学学際セミナー参加報告書

Graduate School of Forest Science, 2nd year

This time, although it was a program organized by the university, participants had to book their own flights and gather at the destination independently. Additionally, they had to plan and act on their own during times outside the program. Prior to the program, I planned to visit Prague and Dresden with some students. Since I had only traveled to Canada once for a junior high school program, I felt nervous about booking hotels, trains, and buses. However, by planning and booking on our own and asking locals when unsure, I gained confidence in navigating any location.

Previously, I had only studied art briefly in school. However, during the program, I visited the Leopold Museum, the Museum of Art History, and the Belvedere Palace during my free time. At the Leopold Museum, we listened to explanations and learned about the history of art and what each artist thought, enabling them to delve deeper into the subject.

During high school, as I chose Japanese history, the classes during the program offered a lot of new knowledge. By taking classes in different fields such as music, law, and history every day, I was able to learn about specific eras from different perspectives. I visited art galleries and museums, experiencing many stimuli by observing actual works and lifestyles. Especially on the final Friday, when we visited the Parliament, I felt the history of Austria and the strictness and transparency involved in legislation. The arrangement and height of the chairs also had meaning, and I gained knowledge that I might never have acquired without this program.

I was able to have many experiences in this program that they wouldn't normally have during regular travel. I express gratitude to Professor Yoshida and the professors and students at the University of Vienna for organizing the program.

Reflection of the seminar in Vienna

Faculty of Education, 1st year

This was my first time going abroad. There were some troubles, but I got a lot of experience from this seminar. One of the reasons I applied to this seminar was that I strongly wanted to go to Europe and experience the arts or culture. When I actually got to Vienna, I found that the center of the city was filled with much more beautiful architecture and art than I had imagined. There were so many museums or archives centers that I couldn't visit all of them, even though I went to those institutions every day. Every building in the city was decorated with many sculptures, and I was impressed by each of them every time I came out from a subway station. Also, museums or churches have paintings on their ceilings, and it was a precious experience to see a lot of such huge paintings that I could never see in Japan. In the lectures, I learned the history or the backgrounds of the culture, which I could feel while walking around the city, so listening to the lectures or going to museums after lectures were exciting. In the museums, I could see works not only that were covered in a lecture but also that I studied when I was a high school student, and seeing them with my eyes was interesting. Especially, churches are built in different construction styles, and I enjoyed looking around them.

Another reason I decided to participate in this seminar was to try my hands. As I wrote above, I went abroad for the first time, so to take responsibility for myself was to confirm my ability. All my actions, such as booking an airplane, planning my trip, or taking safety measures, entailed responsibility. In addition, communicating in English was also a challenge for me. I didn't have confidence in my English ability, so I was really nervous before a lecture started. After finishing this seminar, I found that I could understand much more than I had thought, but I came to long to communicate in English more fluently, so I would like to study and practice English harder.

During the seminar, I had a tour at one institution each day. One of the most impressive tours was to go to the Austrian Parliament. I have never been to the Diet Building in Japan, so I couldn't compare with them, but I was able to feel the history of Austria there, especially when I entered an old conference hall that was once used for international conferences. Also, taking part in a ball, though it was an optional activity, was like being inside the mov

ie or like a dream. It was one of the most valuable experiences.

Thus, I spent precious time in Vienna and learned so many things, not only the contents of lectures but also some other important things about cultural differences or communicating in English. Every day in Vienna was stimulating, and it raised motivation to study everything, especially world history, Japanese culture, and English. In addition, the experience of going to museums every day and touching many works was precious, and I became much more interested in the arts. I would like to take advantage of this experience, learn everything harder, and be more active and responsible for myself.

My first valuable experience in Vienna

Faculty of Literature, 1st year

I have had valuable experience since I started preparing for this seminar. There are two points that impressed me the most.

First, I had many opportunities to feel the history and experience the art and the culture in daily life in Vienna. In the city of Vienna, there are a lot of historical buildings and museums. For example, I went to the St. Stephen's Cathedral in this seminar. It is an architecture built in the Romanesque, Gothic, and Baroque style. I learned about architectural forms in the previous lecture, so I was moved by the atmosphere of different eras being blended. I could deepen my understanding by both taking lectures and seeing real things. This is the best part of this seminar. In addition, I visited the Kunsthistorisches Museum in my free time. Although the number of artworks was too large to appreciate all of them, I was satisfied with being surrounded by them all day long. The most surprising thing was that museums in Vienna was different from ones in Japan. In Vienna, I saw many guided tours taking place and heard people talking in museums. I realized cultural differences. On some other day, I went to the concert held in the Schonbrunn Palace. It was the most beautiful orchestra that I had ever listened to. Vienna has not only museums, but also concerts and operas everywhere, so I felt that the art was closely involved with life in Vienna. Vienna is exactly the capital of art. A week in Vienna exposed to the art gave me a strong impression.

Second, I experienced so many new things. This seminar required me to arrange almost everything by myself, such as flight tickets, extending stay, and how to spend my free time. I had never had a flight or been to foreign countries. Also, it was my first time to take lectures and listen to guided tours in English for long hours. Therefore, I was worried about whether I could really do well. Despite that concern, I arrived in Vienna as planned, and little by little, I got used to understanding what I heard in English. However, I had difficulty speaking English fluently, so I want to improve my English skill. Furthermore, taking advantage of this seminar giving me a lot of free time, I often went sightseeing. I visited quite a few places and had traditional foods. After my stay in Vienna, I traveled to Munich. Some unexpected things happened, but I enjoyed my trip to

The main reason for having applied for this seminar is that I wanted to change myself. I was always careful about acting in order not to make mistakes. However, through this seminar, I learned that I cannot know how hard and fun it is without challenging. I believe that there is learning and joy which only those who try to get. This wonderful experience certainly made me grow up. I am deeply grateful to prof. Mazal, prof. Yoshida, guides, participants, and people who supported me.

The Experience through the Seminar

Graduate School of Agriculture, Kyoto University

My stay in Vienna started with the optional German language course. Taking half of a beginner's course on the app (Busuu) in Japan and three days of a face-to-face German course in Vienna, I learned just very basic conversation and pronunciation, but I became able to try ordering in German several times at cafes during my stay. However, when I spoke to the waiter or waitress in their language and I could not understand the reply in German, I needed to ask in English what they said. This experience motivated me to study the language much more. This seminar was fruitful because it was like a practice week after the language course.

The seminar allowed participants to visit various places with guides, and to do sightseeing in their free time. In fact, we visited many museums, palaces, churches, and theaters. I think the best part of the program was that we were able to see and experience them based on the knowledge through the lectures at the University of Vienna. In the lecture on Music, I learned the differences in how the Vienna State Opera and the Volksoper were established, and in their audiences (aristocracy and higher bourgeoisie, or lower bourgeoisie). During the seminar, I went to the opera and operetta at both the State Opera and the Volksoper, thus I could feel the difference in the atmosphere of each theater. Since I had been interested in classical music, I actively visited some museums located in the former residences of the composers too. However, by attending the lectures, I also gained a deeper understanding and interest in fields like art, where I had little knowledge.

One more impressive thing for me throughout the seminar was getting a new point of view to catch my country by learning about other countries and their culture and systems, which Prof. Mazal and Prof. Yoshida mentioned as important. As my study area is agricultural economics, I got very interested in the differences from Japan in the landscape such as the vast farmland seen from the airplane, the vineyards and apricot fields of the Wachau, where I traveled in the weekend, and the vineyards of Heiligenstadt. In the supermarkets, I also found a difference between Japan and Europe. I was surprised that many chocolate products have the Fairtrade Mark on their packaging there. However, in Japan, fairtrade products are not common, and customers need to go to some special shops to buy them.

Furthermore, in Vienna, I discovered that there were many things about Japan I did not know much about and that I could not explain some things well to others in English even if I knew it. For example, when we visited the Museum for Social and Economic Affairs, we were given a lecture on Austrian life in the past and its change over about a hundred years. During the talk with the guide, we were asked about the Japanese lifestyle now and in the past. In another example, in the conversations

with students from the University of Vienna, we talked a lot about Japanese culture and customs. This experience gave me an opportunity to recognize what I did not know about Japan. Now I feel that I need to learn more about my country. And of course, I have to improve my English skills to explain such things.

March 28, 2024

The light and the shadow in Vienna

When I got to Vienna, I was impressed by the beauty of “the City of Art”. Everything I could see or hear; the buildings with brilliant decorations, horse-drawn carriages in the street, the music played by nice old men, and the sound of a church bell looked like what you see in fairy tales. Then I visited lots of museums and palaces. I also watched an opera. Everything I visited or watched was beautiful. The city was what I had imagined Vienna would be like. The city was as “bright” as I visualized. I felt as if there were no defects in Vienna not only now but also in the past. However, my thoughtless “illusion” was killed afterward.

On Wednesday, I visited the Vienna Socioeconomics Museum; in Germany Gesellschaft und Wirtschaftsmuseum in Wien. I had heard that this museum was not a tourist destination. Also, it did not appear in any sightseeing brochure I have ever read. Therefore, I was especially interested in this museum when I knew the plan for this program. When I entered the museum, a friendly man showed me around. It was in this museum that I knew the “shadow” of Vienna for the first time. It was very embarrassing but based on a “brilliant” impression of this city, I completely thought that in Vienna there were or are only rich people who like talking over a cup of coffee. However, I knew there were also poor people in Vienna. Some lived in a small room with only beds and one table, others did not have decent houses and lived in ragged huts which you cannot call a house. Almost all of these people are the working class, and it is no exaggeration to say that the prosperity of Vienna was built on their endeavors. Besides this kind of exhibition, the lifestyle of rich people like playing the piano or the violin in neat rooms and indulging in debate was also introduced. However, I could not regard this lifestyle as what Vienna really is.

After I toured the Vienna Socioeconomics Museum, I felt ashamed of myself for ignoring the presence of poor people in Vienna without thought. In addition, I realized that this situation is not characteristic of Vienna. We can see the same situation all over the world. In the city that you think of as a “great” city, there always are people who are supporting it by working behind the scenes. Furthermore, these kinds of people are often forced to live with hard conditions or little money. I believe this problem is absurd, but it seems to be difficult to solve it given that this problem exists all around the world. Even so, I think we must keep considering this problem.

After visiting this museum, “homeless” people, whom I had taken no notice of, caught my eye. Also, after coming back to Japan, I am worried about the “homeless” whom I have hardly met recently. This program was meaningful for me in that it gave me a new important point of view.

Through this seminar, I learned a lot of valuable things.

First, when I decided to join this seminar, I wanted to see, hear, and feel the real historical things of Vienna. It was because, a teacher who taught me world history in my high school told me a lot of interesting stories of Habsburg and Austria.

In this seminar, I visited various kinds of places where I could achieve the goal. For example, in Wien Museum, I could learn the changes in the appearance of the city from the Roman era to the present day. The most impressive exhibition for me was the model of medieval Vienna. I knew that medieval cities were surrounded by walls, but watching a three-dimensional model of Vienna made me realize how different it looked from today. And in the lectures in Vienna university, I also learned many things. Especially, I was surprised to hear about Civil War in Vienna. I learned about it for the first time, and the political conflicts of the times were complicated, so I couldn't understand instantly. However, after going home and reviewing what I learned, I recognized how the people of the era thought about the society and took actions to change it. I thought the period from 1880 to 1938 was so important for the people of Vienna because professors explained the events of the era from different aspects, and the trace of the period could be seen in various places around the city.

I enjoyed culture of Vienna, too. I visited museums and palaces, ate delicious traditional dishes, watched an opera, and danced at a ball. I'm glad to have countless first experiences. I didn't know much about painters of Vienna such as Klimt and Schiele, but I fell in love with their pictures after watching many of them and knowing the messages they have. In the music field, I was originally interested in Mahler's music because I have sung it before, so I was glad to hear his logical explanation in the lecture. I thought his music was classical, so I was shocked to learn that his music and style were new at that time. I could also sense history from traditional cuisines of Vienna. There were several dishes and sweets associated with the royal family. It was interesting to hear the stories of the relationship from local students, and needless to say, they were so delicious. The experience of watching opera at national opera house was also special for me. I couldn't understand the story very well, but I was able to experience the culture that has been loved by the people of Vienna for a long time. It was a place where people of various ages and backgrounds gather.

Finally, I felt the importance of being able to communicate in English through this trip. Before this seminar, I visited Paris and Prague. Although their native language was not English, they all spoke English very well. It was frustrating that I was trying so hard to listen and couldn't communicate proactively. I wanted to be able to use English better so that I

could understand what they were trying to convey.

This seminar gave me a lot of insight. It was really great to be able to experience not only the history of Vienna, but also its culture, lifestyle, and language first-hand. I became more interested in Vienna and wanted to know more about other country, too. There is a language barrier when trying to ask local people about their country, but I realized that I could overcome it with my own efforts. I want to be able to use English more and learn about interesting things that exist around the world.

Thoughts on the program in Vienna

2nd year of the master's degree in Faculty of Science, Kyoto University

I learned a lot from the teachers and students in the program. The philosophies that the organizers had and showed to us, the contents of formal lecture, and informal interaction with other students all taught and stimulated me.

When we went to Vienna, we gathered directly in Vienna instead of gathering in Kyoto and going together. This was astonishing to me, as in Japan schools tend to be quite cautious about their students' safety, and thus restrictive. However, considering that the contents of university programs should be courses, it is natural to gather at the place of the courses. Most importantly, it gives the students much more freedom to plan on their own, making the whole experience more meaningful. For example, I visited friends of mine in Germany, and learned a lot staying there and having conversations with them. Furthermore, this new way of gathering taught me that it is actually possible to change the rule to make it more reasonable and productive. Even though the change may look small, it was a big difference, and gave students a lot of opportunities to learn.

I also enjoyed the courses. I found discussions off the track especially interesting because I was able to go deeper into the topics. I also saw the professors' depth of knowledge, which was stimulating. For instance, in the lecture of Professor Mazal, I asked him about why the empire started compulsory education. His answer clarified his idea that policies reflect both the government's interest and the people's interest. This idea was one of the main themes of his lecture, and I was happy to be able to understand it better with an additional example. I'm not sure how to balance giving originally prepared content and deeper discussions, however, as his lecture ended up longer than planned. The whole program may have been a bit short of time. Still, those discussions were exciting, and I'm happy to have joined the courses.

The society of Japanese students in the seminar was also very interesting to me. In short, they were very independent. Even though there were many cases where they transported to the same place together, once they arrived, they moved separately. Part of the reason this happened must be that people were new to each other and would leave each other soon, so people did not feel the need to make friends. Another reason might be t

hat too many people gathered when somebody tried to gather people, because while four people can move around together, 24 people cannot move around together. Thus, people gathered first, then found there were too many to be together, then gave up coordinating altogether. Anyways, this type of relationship was new to me, and made me think about how my relationship to other people should be in general. It is necessary to invest time to foster relationships, but people sometimes try to be together too much even when one wants to, just because they are afraid of leaving the relationship. Therefore, I have to find out when and how long I should be together with others, and this program provided an interesting example of relationships.

I would like to thank everyone in the program once again for all the learning I've got from them. I hope programs like this continue to be in Kyoto University, so that future students also benefit from those programs.

Vienna 1880-1938 Glory and Tragedy

Faculty of medicine, 2nd year

This was my first trip to Europe, and everything was new for me. I will never forget the moment when I saw Stephen's Cathedral from the escalator in the nearby station. The medieval townscape in Vienna is well-preserved and the historic district is registered as a World Heritage Site, so I enjoyed seeing them by simply strolling around the town. I think that it was the most exciting and fulfilling week I have ever had.

I learned a lot through the seminar "Vienna 1880-1938 Glory and Tragedy." It focused on various academic fields such as the law system, art, and music, but every lecture was deeply connected based on Austrian history. At first, I was not used to receiving lectures in English for a long time and may have missed some words in class. However, by taking a walk in the town and visiting museums, I saw for myself what I had learned about in the lectures, and that was the most helpful and attractive aspect of this program. Especially I enjoyed the lecture on art because of my interest in it. When I visited the museums after the class, I admired many works of art including Klimt's paintings. As mentioned in the lecture, his paintings are brightly colored for symbolic themes such as human life, death, love, and happiness. I appreciated the works with my own eyes and deepened my understanding of them thanks to not only the lecture but also the explanation of the guided tour.

The entire city was once a fortress and that situation remained until the 19th century, when the Ringstrasse was built. Now the ring road is lined with lots of beautiful buildings. However, the construction of this street under Franz Josef led to an unprecedented wave of immigration, and a great number of people suffered from hard labor and living conditions. When we think of Vienna, we often have images of the Royal Palace and State Opera. However, through this program, I learned what the original state of Vienna was and how working-class people lived at that time. By learning about the past that led to the present, I felt the long history of Vienna.

Besides, I met different cultures in Vienna during my stay. What impressed me the most was how deeply rooted art and music are there. Unlike in Japan, some museum in Vienna allows those under 18 years old to enter for free, and the State Opera offers a standing room where people can watch operas at a relatively low price. I felt that there was a perfect environment where even young people easily enjoy art and music regardless of the wealth disparity.

Finally, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Prof. Yoshida, Prof. Mazal, and everyone who has been involved in this wonderful program. Encountering and being inspired by different cultures helped me to look at myself again and gave me the key to making the most of my future university life. I believe that this experience will be a treasure in my life.

ウィーン大学学際セミナー参加報告書

Faculty of Agriculture, 2nd year

I participated in this program to experience cultural differences between countries. I have been to Hanoi in Vietnam and New York in the United States, and this was my first time in Europe. When I traveled there, I found that the atmosphere in Vienna was completely different from the two countries I had been to so far. I got the impression that buildings in Vienna were very well-shaped and sophisticated. There are many brightly colored buildings with a sense of space in Hanoi. New York is full of modern skyscrapers. Although Vienna is a city, I didn't think it was too urban probably because there were some parks where I could feel nature. Just looking at the cityscape was interesting for me. In addition, sightseeing spots in Vienna are located close to each other, so it was easy to travel by subway. The station names are shown on the train and inside the station, so I think it was relatively easy to use. It was safe and comfortable. The only thing that bothered me was that many people were smoking on the streets. Littering cigarettes is bad for the environment. It seemed like Vienna was more concerned about environmental issues than Japan. That was surprising and a little disappointing.

I enjoyed Viennese food very much. I ate two famous Sachertortes: Demel and Sacher. It wasn't as sweet as I had heard, but I did get the impression that one of them was boring towards the end. I think the Viennese soup I ate before the cake was more delicious. The sausage and melenge were also delicious. However, eating out in Vienna costs a lot of money. I was so surprised because it cost about 2,000 yen at McDonald's and 1,000 yen at even the University of Vienna cafeteria.

Although I didn't know German, I enjoyed learning in the German class. I got the impression that German has more words similar to English than Spanish has, which I took as a second foreign language. I thought that pronunciation wasn't so difficult once I memorized the rules. I learned how to say numbers in German, and when I listened to the announcements on the subway, I

was glad to understand that numbers were included in them. I'd like to study more German when I have enough free time.

My biggest regret was that my English skills were poor. I couldn't understand the classes well although there were other reasons that I lacked knowledge in fields such as history and politics because my major is agriculture, and I lost my concentration due to the long classes. I also went to see an opera, but I had some trouble understanding the subtitles in English. I felt out of place because others around me could speak English fluently, and I had little opportunity to express my opinions in English for fear of failure. I realized I needed to improve my English speaking skills and gain confidence.

I learned a lot from this program. This precious two-week experience will be a great memory in my life. I'm very grateful for having got permission to attend this seminar.

ウィーン大学学際セミナー報告書

Faculty of Letters, 3rd year

I study German and German literature on a daily basis, but my German isn't good yet, so this program was a great opportunity for me to balance what I can do and what I want to do, because I spent time in a German-speaking country while mainly using English.

Before I participated in this program, my German studies consisted mainly of reading old literature and I didn't have many opportunities to expose myself to real German, though there were some classes that required listening and speaking. It's pretty obvious, but German is mainly spoken in Vienna. The airplane announcements upon arrival, train ticket machines, names of places and stations, restaurant menus, street signboards, people's conversations and greetings and so on, most of these were in German. First of all, I was really delighted to find a place where I can fully make use of what I always study in Japan as a matter of course.

Secondly, during the five-day seminar from 11th to 15th March, we received lectures on Vienna's history from various aspects, such as architecture, art, law, and music, and in addition, visited many kinds of museums and parliament building with explanations. Though I often felt that my English skills were not enough, it was a very luxurious and meaningful environment, which enabled us to experience what we heard and learned immediately by seeing actual buildings and paintings. In Vienna, there are so many sightseeing spots that I couldn't visit all of them during my two-week stay. I especially enjoyed appreciating the paintings in the various museums. I became interested in the city of Vienna because of its important position in literature at the end of 19th century, so it was interesting to see the culture of this period from the perspective of the painting art, which a bit differs from literature. I have always wanted to study aesthetics and art history, but never been able to do so, so I'm glad to get motivated to do.

It was also a valuable experience for me to interact with local people. We spent the same time and talked about many things with the students from the University of Vienna, from the welcome dinner that was held before the seminar started until the last day of the seminar, and the professors who gave lectures took our questions seriously every time. In addition to that, I was impressed by the friendliness of the people in the city. They smiled at me when our eyes met in the city, told us when we were on the wrong train, and greeted me when I entered a store or made a payment. Japanese people are also kind, but I felt that the feeling of distance

between people when meeting for the first time was quite different from that in Japan. Since in this program we met and dismissed at Vienna and it was up to the individual how we spend the time before and after that, I visited several German cities that were associated with my favorite authors after the program. They were not big cities, and English was often not spoken on buses or in cafes. I'll never forget the bus driver who was not tired of my poor German and spoke to me in simple German with gestures, and the café clerk who explained the cakes to me in English, which he probably doesn't use often in his daily life.

This was my first experience abroad. In general, it was a good memory and a meaningful learning experience, and above all, it inspired me to learn to handle English and German better than now and to visit there again in the future.

Vienna 1880-1938 - Glory and Tragedy

Faculty of Economics, 2nd year

During this seminar, I was always surprised by cultural and historical differences between Vienna and Kyoto. Although Vienna and Kyoto are both known as most historical cities in the world, there are some differences such as architecture, art and food. Since I could find both differences and commonalities in this seminar, I write them in this report.

First of all, I was most impressed by Vienna's architecture. They were very interesting because I had never seen European style architectures before though I knew the names and characteristics of European architectural styles. Unlike Japanese buildings that are made of wood, the structures in Europe are made of stone. I thought that this difference is one of the reasons why old architectures in Vienna are remained almost perfectly through many wars and disasters. At St. Stephen's Cathedral which is the most symbolic architecture in Vienna, Professor Yoshida told us the interesting story. She taught us that the cathedral incorporates some architectural styles. The exterior of it is made in Gothic style, on the other hand, the interior of it is made in Baroque style, and the gate at the front entrance utilizes the Romanesque style from the 13th century. I was amazed at this combination and I wondered whether there are any Japanese old architectures that uses some architectural styles. Also, through this seminar, I could study modern Austrian architects. Embarrassingly, I did not know about Art nouveau and Wiener secession. Of course, I did not know Otto Wagner who are one of the important modern architects in Vienna. At Leopold Museum, I could look around a lot of wiener secession structures and arts and get some deep knowledge thanks to the detailed explanation. I think Japanese modern architects do not seem to be well emphasized though there were many.

I could also enjoy looking at art works of Vienna. Because this seminar allowed us to have a lot of free time, I could go to many museums such as Belvedere and Kunsthistorisches Museum. I went to Belvedere in my free time where the most famous work of Klimt, The Kiss, is exhibited. Before going to Belvedere, I learned that Klimt was influenced by Japanese expression technique, Rin-pa. Using gold powder and locating subject on top part of canvas are techniques of Rin-pa, and I could find these characteristics in The Kiss. Thus, I knew tangibly the strong influence. At Leopold Museum, I found that his way of expression is gradually changed because his early works are not as unique as his late works. When Dr. Martina Pippal gave us the lecture and said that Klimt wanted to create new society, I did not understand the meaning of new society. However, after listening to the guide and looking at his works closely, I could understand that his unique

technique and impulsion are the result of sadness and conflict.

In the last lecture, Dr. Markus Grassl said that Austria produced cultural image after WW I . This produced image can be sometimes interpreted ironically, however, I think protecting nation culture is very important and effective for people to learn differences and commonalities with other countries. In this seminar, I could have a lot of experiences and study Vienna's history and culture. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the professors who organized this seminar.

The report of Interdisciplinary seminar in Vienna

Faculty of Education 1st grade

Throughout the week of the seminar, I learned the history of Austria with several aspects such as arts, politics, the history of University Vienna, and music. Especially around the age of two big war was taken a couple of times in the classes. I had only known about Japan in that age, so it was a good opportunity to know the really of Europe in those days from professors. What left the most impression on me was the influence of Nazi party. Austria, which were the same group as German at WW I and fought as “a member of” German at WWII, got naturally influenced by German and Nazi party had already eroded into Austria. However, I seldom heard about Austria when studying about negative memories related to Nazi around the big wars in Japan. That seemed because behavior of Austria after the war, but Viennese people had strongly accepted the disaster in those days. I saw several couple hugging and grieving in front of the exhibition of Nazi memory. Austria has negative aspects like these, but at the same time, it has a lot of brilliant history related to the Habsburg. The buildings of those days were all gorgeous and beautiful. I could see how tremendous the Habsburg’s power was. Politics in their ages was not only in good hands but they themselves are now also popular and be widely loved. In addition to that, every time I go outside and take a walk in the town, I was always surprised how extroverted and kind the Viennese people were. They smiled at each other and had greetings even with strangers. They were also kind to animals. I saw dogs taken by in the shops or trains many times and nobody disliked that situation. In Japan, there are many ‘rules’ we follow implicitly. It is rather rude to stare at the others and, at some cases, it is also afraid to speak to people. You definitely cannot take your dog into the station. These habits might be made by the nature of Japanese and their own manners in a long history, but, we should take those casual but considerate behavior before saying about globalization or internationalization. I learned a lot about not only academic things but also about behavior as an individual. I had a personally target for taking this seminar; that is ‘Making out what is responsibility’. I got an answer in the seminar. This is a professor of law said in the class. ‘Responsibility is to able to give answers for all questions being raised’. Responsibility is a chance for us. This is not a duty we reluctant to do or a kind of rules made without our recognition. We Can fulfill our responsibility, which is related to our things. Touching a different culture and knowing it is something fresh and interesting, but making use of it is hard and not so easy. However, when I can get over it, I’m sure I could be ready to mature, ready to face my responsibility. Maybe even now is too early for that, thinking about it and trying to do in actual is more important than anything. I’m going to make this whole experience my own practical wisdom and I’d like to keep growing so that I can fulfill my responsibility someday. (554 words)

ウィーン学際セミナー参加報告書

Faculty of Education, 3rd Year

The Vienna 1880~1930 seminar was a short but fruitful event that enormously broadened my horizons. The seminar focused on the history and politics of Vienna from the late 19th century to the early 20th century. Since this historical period was influential to the formation of today's Vienna, I was allowed to deeply understand Vienna as I walked around the city with the knowledge from the seminar. Lectures and museum visits of the seminar told the stories of the glory and tragedy of Vienna. From here I was surprised to realize that the splendid city of art and music had its ugly sides, derailment, and sadness as well. Additionally, learning the local language with the optional German language course helped me take a deeper look at local culture. These are what would never be experienced by a mere travel to Vienna.

The seminar provided me with not only knowledge about Vienna, but a comparative perspective on the countries I have lived in. As an international student in Japan, I was allowed to view my home country from an objective perspective. However, since my home country bears various similarities with Japan, there remains a blind spot for me to compare the two countries. Therefore, the seminar and the stay in Vienna allowed me to see the pros and cons of both European cities and Asian cities. For example, East Asian countries have been promoting the utilization of bike lanes and shared bikes in recent years, but the road design is often not friendly enough to cyclists. By contrast, in Vienna and some other European cities, bike lanes are well-designed and independent from the sidewalk and the lane. After moving to Kyoto, I have always appreciated the comfortability of walking on the streets. In Vienna, however, I was even surprised by how well vehicles, bikes, passengers, and public transportation coexist. On the other hand, while discovering the strengths of Vienna, I became more grateful for the convenience in Asia. In Europe, shops and supermarkets are closed early. Besides, few convenience stores could be found, which could be the biggest difference from East Asian cities. After experiencing a different lifestyle in Europe, I became more able to appreciate the strengths of European cities and Asian cities respectively.

I also found that Vienna is a city for all interests. There are different styles and forms of art being exhibited and music being played. Listening to a concert at the renowned Gloden Hall was an unforgettable memory of mine. Besides, there were museums of an abundance of topics. Therefore, although being promoted as a city of music and art, Vienna can be enjoyed in various ways. Vienna is also the cradle of psychoanalysis due to Sigmund Freud, a controversial but indispensable figure in the field of psychology. His apartment was preserved and turned into a museum. With

psychology as my major, I gained a deeper and new understanding of Freud and my major subjects by visiting the Freud Museum during my free time.

Through this seminar, I gained not only a profound understanding of Vienna but also a new perspective on Japan and my motherland. In addition to enjoying the city based on my interests, it was fantastic to discover the charm of Vienna with other participants of the seminar. The experience in the Vienna 1880~1930 seminar was refreshing and meaningful for me.

ウィーン学際セミナー 参加報告書

文学部 2 回

In this report, I would like to share the two most impressive experiences I had in Vienna.

I'll never forget the feeling of happiness I had while watching people dance the waltz at Café Central. On the final day of the program, I attended a dance party at a café. I hadn't heard of Café Central before visiting Vienna, but now I do realize how valuable it was to be able to participate in a ball there. Both the interior and exterior of the building were truly magnificent, and I've heard that it has been loved by many famous Viennese artists, philosophers, or scientists. I think there were two main reasons why I was so fascinated by this event. Firstly, simply, it was my first time attending such a ball, as the ones I've seen in novels or movies. I have never learned the waltz (and any other dance style) at all, and I don't know if there are any places in Japan where people dance the waltz surrounded by chandeliers or sculptures. I felt I saw a completely different form of entertainment from that of Japan. Secondly, this experience

seemed to give me hints about my interests and major. I'm going to major in philosophy in the faculty of literature, and to study the concepts such as "free will" and "determinism" or their integration. Logically, "determination" and "freedom" are opposite concepts, and it can be said that if one gets strengthened the other weakened. However, watching the waltz, where the dancers follow 'determined' moves, yet people seemed genuinely happy for me. The scene was really impressive. There, you aren't completely free to dance (you aren't be able to do whatever you want to) Traditionally, dancers choose 'determined' moves quickly based on the rhythm of the music. At that moment, I felt like I saw people enjoying constraints. I wanted to keep watching.

I had intended to go to Vienna to study philosophy, art, and music. And indeed, these goals were accomplished. I was truly fascinated by Kelsen's doctoral degree (though it was a copy), Klimt's paintings, and the quartet at Schönbrunn Palace and Mozart House. Surprisingly, however, the program has also given me an interest in the history of political thought. I got impressed not only by the classes given by the professors at the University of Vienna, but also by the people who also participated in the program. I enjoyed seeing my classmates talking with other students about politics of Taiwan in the hotel

cafeteria, asking questions about Viennese politics to a University of Vienna student, or sitting in the chair of the Austrian Parliament and having a one-on-one discussion with a professor, and I found myself taking pictures of the scene naturally. I thought I had tried to expand my interests on most topics in the so-called liberal arts, but I had no interest in politics before participating this program . This program seemed to fill in the big pieces remained .

These were the scenes that particularly impressed me in Vienna, and I think they taught me, that people are fascinated by people who are facilitated by something.

Participation Report of Seminar in Wien University

As a student from Kyoto University, the experience of the seminar organized by the University of Vienna, not only academic but also cultural, left an indelible mark on my perception of Vienna, a city where the leisurely city walks offered more than just a breath of fresh air.

Strolling through Vienna felt like traversing through time, with each step unveiling the grandeur of 19th-century and medieval castles, churches, and sculptures. Among these historical marvels, St. Stephen's Cathedral stood out the most. Its majestic exterior was a sight to behold, but the interior's solemn grandeur truly broadened my horizons. Attending a ceremony inside, despite not understanding German, I felt the solemnity and sanctity of church rituals for the first time.

The welcome evening on the first day was equally memorable. We met local students, tasted Austria's appetizing aperitifs, and dined in a restaurant set within a centuries-old wine cellar, which was astonishing. My visit to the Leopold Museum exposed me to the Symbolist movement pioneered by the painter Schiele. It was an eye-opening reminder that each artistic innovation marks the beginning of a new era.

What impressed me the most was how the lectures seamlessly integrated with the following day's excursions. For instance, after a lecture on "Austria's Capital from 1880 to 1938," our visit to the Museum for Social and Economic Affairs the next day brought the previous day's lessons to life. The museum's depiction of the typical dwellings of Vienna's different social classes from the late 19th to early 20th century deepened our understanding of the era.

The program concluded with a visit to the Parliament building, highlighting the hard-won and precious nature of democracy. Generally, this seminar program was not just an academic exercise but a profound journey through Vienna's art, history, and culture that will stay with me for a lifetime.

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It is a great honor for me to obtain the opportunity to take part in the winter school program and arrive in the place that I have been heard from a long time ago. Participating in the Vienna University Winter School was an extraordinary journey that left an unforgettable mark on my academic and personal growth. This immersive experience provided us with a platform for intellectual exploration, cultural exchange, and personal development.

My engagement with the Winter School's academic offerings was both stimulating and rewarding. Taking courses in Political Science and History, I've been fully engaged in fascinating lectures, lively discussions, and practical activities. The professors, experts in their fields, skillfully lead us through complex ideas while urging us to think critically and explore deeply. For instance, we explored how the modern city emerges and how the infrastructure has been changing and getting better while going through a long period of time and several times of political changes. Attending such seminars and lectures has helped me refine my analytical skills and develop a better understanding of the pressing issues that influence the world and society today. On the other hand, outside of the classroom, the Winter School provided several cultural opportunities that allowed me to explore Vienna's rich heritage. Especially, guided tours to famous landmarks like St. Stephen's Cathedral and the Austrian Parliament Building offered intriguing insights into Austria's history and artistic contributions. Being impressed by the masterpieces of Egon Schiele and some other outstanding artists, we seemed to be able to speak to artists of the past.

Moreover, one of the most valuable aspects of my Winter School experience was the opportunity to connect with fellow participants from diverse backgrounds and nationalities. The conversations and ideas exchanging between us are inspiring and unforgettable. These interactions not only enriched my experience during the program but also laid the foundation for cross-cultural exchanges in the future. The knowledge gained, friendships forged, and experiences shared have equipped me with a broader perspective. I am confident that the lessons learned and connections made during this transformative experience will continue to shape my academic and professional endeavors in the years to come.

In conclusion, from academic learning to cultural immersion and connecting with others, the program provided a well-rounded environment that allowed me to develop intellectually, culturally, and personally. I'm thankful for the chance to have been a part of this remarkable experience and would enthusiastically encourage others to join for a similarly rewarding educational journey.

ウィーン学際セミナー報告書

Faculty of Integrated Human Studies, 3rd year

Seeing is believing. So I went to Vienna. Then I left the city with a feeling which had completely changed.

Initially, I had certain preconceived notions about Vienna. I knew Vienna had a lot of masterpieces of fine arts such as one by Gustav Klimt and one by Egon Schiele, but I had already seen them so I didn't have a strong interest in them. I knew Vienna had a complex and dramatic history, but I was not good at world history. So I thought it was not to my taste. I knew Vienna had a lot of beautiful basilicas, but I prefer modern architecture. So I thought I was not the right person for it. I knew Vienna was "the capital of music", but I am not interested in that kind of "music". So I thought it was not for me. I knew Vienna had a lot of delicious food such as "wienerschnitzel", and I like to eat. So, actually, all that interests me is food.

And I was more interested in other cities which I had planned to go to (I will mention later.).

Seeing is believing. In the program, I saw a lot of things. I saw pictures of Gustav Klimt. One of my senior students who majored in fine arts had taught me about Gustav Klimt, so I had some idea about his pictures. After the guided tour in the Leopold Museum, my idea was changed. He tried so many styles and seeing with my own eyes his pictures were so precise. Same thing happened. I have been to the exhibition of Egon Schiele in Tokyo. I have seen many pictures he drew and I have made up my own ideas for him. After seeing a lot of pictures of him, I changed my thoughts about him. I found I had known only a part of his style. I had classes about Vienna from 1880 to 1938 (in which there are a lot of changes in Vienna), and I was especially interested in politics in Vienna or Austria. Because they changed their monarchy system. I talked with a teacher and students from Wien University about politics. At the first of the program, I went to the basilica and was so impressed that I went to other basilicas after that. Unfortunately, I did not manage to get tickets for concerts of that kind of "music". However, the night club I went to was awesome and I got a new way to dance in the Dorner Ball. And, of course, the food in Vienna was perfect. I fell in love with Gulasch which is something like beef stew and is a traditional cuisine in Hungary. I had Gulasch for lunch and dinner on the same day.

Next, I will talk about my whole trip during this vacation. First, I went to St. Julian in Malta and stayed there for a week. Then I went to Catania (in Sicily) and went up to Napoli, Rome, Firenze, Bologna and Venezia. In Italy, I spent 2 nights

in each city. From Venezia, I went to Vienna and I took part in this program. After Vienna, I stayed in my friend's house in Salzburg for a day and then I moved to Munchen, which was my last city in Europe. Now I am in Bangkok and tomorrow I am going to go back to Japan. (I can have done this trip because we met up on site and were dismissed on site in this program.)

As you see, I went to a lot of cities. Every city has attractive points, however, I miss Vienna most. And I know the reason. The reason is that I was in Vienna for more than a week. This is not a ridiculous reason. And this is the main point of this program I think.

We can not get how people in other cities live in a short trip. In a short trip, we just go to famous places and have famous food. But in this program, we had plenty of free time. So I had a picnic and an aperitif party with other students. I went to the local night club (My Austrian friend told me that it was a dangerous place after that but it was fine). I joined the party at Vienna University of Technology (they celebrated their last day in the first week of the semester). And I just chilled in a park or cafe like other Austrians (or Europeans).

And those kinds of experiences changed my mind. I cannot put into words yet, but I believe I was changed by this program.

The Report of The Program

Faculty of Agriculture, third year

I participated in the seminar for four purposes, such as to experience the history and culture of Vienna on site, to act spontaneously during my free time, to talk with students from the University of Vienna, and to measure my English ability. Looking back, I feel that I have fulfilled all these objectives in the seminar and at the same time I have learned and gained much more than that.

Firstly, I took a German course for three days in Vienna. Although I had had no prior knowledge of German, I practiced speaking German in the class anyway. After the class, I was happy when I was able to order a food simply in German at a café and felt that German was no longer an unknown language. Of course, I did not dramatically improve my ability to speak German after just a three-day course, but I feel that my attention to the conversations of people and the words I saw on the street changed during my subsequent stay in Vienna.

Secondly, the seminar began, and we learned about Vienna around 1880-1930. To be honest, I had little prior knowledge of history, politics, law, art, and music of Vienna, so I was worried that I would not be able to keep up with the lectures. However, once the seminar started, all the lectures and guided tours were interesting, and I learned various things from them. Thanks to the experience of gaining knowledge in the lectures and looking at the exhibits in the tours, I was able to understand the historical background, mutual influences, change of ideologies, and accompanying cultural transition in Vienna and surrounding regions and countries. Also, because I gained knowledge in various fields in the seminar, I was able to notice many things just by walking around the city, such as the architectures and exhibits in the museums that I saw during my free time, and my stay in Vienna became even more enjoyable.

In my free time during my stay in Vienna for two weeks, I visited various places on my own, went to the opera, or a little further away from Vienna with some seminar participants. I also traveled to Munich after the seminar. During these experiences, I was able to know the atmosphere and culture of these cities that I had never actually known before, encounter many new discoveries, and fully feel the comfort of freedom gained by fulfilling obligations and responsibilities.

And the best event of the seminar was meeting people. I felt a sense of respect when I heard what students from the University of Vienna were interested in and what they had studied in their research, and at the same time, I also felt a sense of closeness when we talked about the problems of life in Vienna, part-time jobs, and hobbies. Moreover, it was remarkably interesting to talk with Kyoto University students who were also attending the seminar. It was new to me to learn from people who studied in various fields and belonged to different grades. Meeting people from the University of Vienna and Kyoto was very stimulating and enjoyable for me and was a wonderful experience.

One of my major reflections from this seminar was my inexperience in English, and there were many

things I did not do well during the three weeks. I would like to improve my English ability (also German ability).

By participating in the seminar, I was able to not only learn about Vienna but also reconsider Japan. I saw what I could not see if I just stayed in Japan, felt what I could not feel, and learned what I could not learn. The experiences I gained during these three weeks will be a treasure in my life and will definitely have a great impact on my life in the future. I would like to express my gratitude to Prof. Mazal and Prof. Yoshida for giving me the opportunity for this valuable experience.

ウィーン大学学際セミナー
参加報告書

工学部物理工学科 4回生

More than one week has passed since I finished the interdisciplinary seminar at the university of Vienna. However, the memories of the seminar remain still vividly. I learned, felt, and experienced many things which I had never done or won't be able to do in Japan.

One of the most typical points of this seminar is that participants were given the broad freedom as well as the responsibilities. I had to attend our classes and museum tours punctually and seriously, but as long as I did so, the rest of my time was all under my supervision. From what to eat and where to go for free time to reservation of my flights, I managed those things all by myself. It encouraged me not only to learn through the lectures but also to think, search, and take action in order to enrich my stay in Vienna. It was not easy for me to make reservations for flights, museums, and the opera, but after all of these went well, I got the feeling that I could do anything all by myself. Since we met and dispersed at Vienna, I went other countries before and after the seminar. I traveled Italy with my friends as graduation trip, Prague by myself before the seminar starts, and Budapest after the seminar. In total, I stayed in Europe for three weeks. Before I went to Europe, I was afraid of discrimination to Asian woman. But it ended a needless worry. Most people in Europe were kind and friendly. I am sure that not everyone is such person who I met, in other words, there might be people who are unkind or have prejudices. But as for my trip, people who I met made my trip much richer one.

Thorough the classes and museum tours, I learned about Vienna in 1880~1930 from the aspects of arts, history, economy, law, and music. I am majoring in aerospace engineering in my university, so these subjects are not familiar to me. In addition to this, all lectures are held in English. To tell the truth, I don't think I could understand all the material of the classes. However, professors were very kind and welcomed to ask whatever. I felt that they tried their best to explain simply and answer our questions sincerely. Thanks to it, I enjoyed the classes themselves and understood that how difficult periods Vienna overcame, how it became the glorious capital like what it is today, and how the arts, economy, law, and music are related to its history. Not only taking classes in the classroom but also visiting some museums and other historical buildings like churches and the Parliament building, it enabled me to understand much better and get strong impressions. It is impossible to experience these fieldworks in Japan, so it was a precious experience for me.

Finally and most importantly, I would like to thank students who attended the seminar together, professors and students of Vienna university, and prof. Yosida. Thanks to students, I spent great time. It was full of fun to visit various sights in Vienna, see the opera,

eat typical Austrian food and cakes, and chat together. I hope our relationship will last long. Thanks to Vienna university's professors and students, I learned a lot of things about Vienna. They had deep knowledges and helped me to understand them. Thanks to prof. Yoshida, I could join such a wonderful seminar. She is the very person who gave me the opportunity to study abroad and try a lot of experiences which I had never faced in Japan. I am deeply grateful for her and would like to tell congratulations to her retiring. Thank you very much.