

#### July 3 - July 16, 2022 Seggau Castle, Leibnitz, Austria, Europe









#### **TOPIC**

#### Re-Measuring, Re-Calculating, Re-Counting: State - Society - Religion in Transition

GUSEGG 2022 will offer a discussion of how measurements inform our lives, as individuals and as a society. Personal and political decisions are often based on numbers and their interpretation. In times of immense data collection and digitalization of information, numbers influence how individuals interact with each other and how social structures determine these interactions. Even before the Covid-19 pandemic, our societies had already become "digital by default" (Hill, Betts & Gardner 2015), which has given numbers and numeric measurements even more importance. More and more aspects of life - working, learning, shopping, leisure, communication with friends and family, but also activism and political engagement - happen online. The current push for digitalization is closely linked to datafication, the increasing use of algorithms, and machine learning, which create new concerns, As Sharon Block (2020) has recently pointed out, "algorithms are a list of programmed instructions, and can be millions of lines of proprietary code, never seen or understood by end users," leading to critical algorithms studies as a response to the impact of unknowable algorithms on individual and collective decisions and actions.

Thus, GUSEGG 2022 will address the pressing questions of how our lives are influenced by numbers, how our online and offline actions and interactions are being measured, calculated. and counted, by ourselves and others, and what this means for states, societies, and our understanding of the world. In order to develop strategies and methods to meet the challenges of our times, this summer school suggests engaging in academic contemplation and interdisciplinary exchange about our datafied world. Such investigations offer us the opportunity of developing disruptive intellectual approaches and ideas, as we can gain insights into the many forces that make us believe that the challenges we face are essential, natural, or inevitable. Therefore, the suggested analysis offers us not only an understanding of our own alliances to data on an individual, a regional, national, and global level, but also the possibility of moving from a passive position to active involvement in transformation processes. By gaining insights into how measuring, calculating, and counting work in different domains, such as politics, society, and research, we can - continuing the work of sociologist Aaron Cicourel (1964) – understand how our realities are re-measured, re-calculated, and re-counted.

## **OVERVIEW**

#### Target Group

The Graz International Summer School Seggau is designed for internationally oriented, highly motivated students from all disciplines and all levels who wish to deepen their understanding of current European and international affairs by studying and discussing global developments and challenges, reflecting aspects of individual and collective identities.

#### Organizers

GUSEGG is organized by the University of Graz in cooperation with the Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the European Community (COMECE) and the Diocese Graz-Seckau. The Office of International Relations of the University of Graz acts as the coordinating unit. Prof. Dr. Roberta Maierhofer (Center for Inter-American Studies of the University of Graz) is the academic director.

#### **Aims and Objectives**

- Interdisciplinary cooperation of researchers and students,
- Focus areas of the University of Graz -Southeastern Europe and North, Central, and South America,
- Unique educational opportunity for future leaders.



# HOW THE SUMMER SCHOOL WORKS

Students will deal with the relevance and effect of Europe and the EU (emphasis on Southeastern Europe) and the Americas on global affairs by attending the offered morning lectures, dicussions, and participating in one of the following seminars in the afternoon:

#### Seminar Modules

 Narratives in Archives
Media Archeology: Private and Public
From Pancakes to Donuts: Economic Models
Mediation and Memory: Tradition and Transformation in Jewish Life
Narrative Didactics as Re-Measurement
"When I'm 64" – Aging Masculinities and a Datified World
Re-Measuring Nostalgia / Re-Calculating Knowledge

#### Workshops

a) Creative Writingb) Documentary Productionc) Academic Writing

Participate in the Poster and Documentaries Presentations





# **7** GOOD REASONS TO APPLY

- 1 2-week summer university with a unique castle campus atmosphere at Seggau Castle
- 2 6 ECTS credits
- 3 Lectures, panel discussions, workshops, and 7 parallel seminar modules (small groups)
- 4 **Improving skills** in public speaking, academic writing, creative writing, and critical thinking
- 5 Discussions and networking opportunities with international lecturers and guests
- 6 Publishing opportunity: Off Campus: Seggau School of Thought publication series
- 7 All-inclusive package (tuition, meals, accommodation, extra-curricular program, and excursion to Graz)



### THE VENUE



# APPLICATION DEADLINE March 14, 2022

#### How to Apply

Please see our website

https://international.uni-graz.at/de/summerschools/graz-international-summer-school-seggau/ for more information.

#### **Costs and Funding**

The total student participation fee of 1.500 Euro covers the tuition, and room & board for the entire two weeks. Travel arrangements have to be made and paid for individually.

#### **Scholarship Opportunities**

Scholarships are available (please see our website for detailed information), and will be awarded upon application.

# **CONTACT & INFO**

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