FAQ first-time enrolment (winter term 2017)

Q: Is it possible to attend courses of the Preparatory Programme without being a student?

A: No, you can only attend courses with an admission letter of a Vienna university that states one or more supplementary examinations.

Q: Can I choose the institution where to attend the courses?

A: Yes, except for the courses with a reduced fee at VWU itself for which you have to fulfill certain conditions (nationality, asyslum status, supplementary examinations in subjects - for details check goo.gl/arNQ5U). You can however choose between the three cooperation partners Sprachenzentrum der Universität Wien, die Berater® and Deutsch-Kolleg - Österreichische Orient-Gesellschaft Hammer-Purgstall.

Q: When does enrolment begin?

A:. Enrolment for the Winter Term 2017/18 opens August 21, 2017.

Q: Which documents are necessary for enrolment?

A: You need a valid admission letter and your passport/travel document/certification of asylum status.

Q: Is enrolment also possible from my home country?

A: No, you have to enrol personally at your course institution.

Q: Which kind of visa do I need?

A: For details on entry to Austria please check https://goo.gl/RhAUuy. Make sure to plan your entry to Austria according to enrolment deadlines. Enrolment Septemeber 1, 2017, is not possible, enrolment period for the summer term 2018 opens January 22, 2018.

Q: My visa D ends before August 21. What can I do?

A: Please contact vwu-koordination@oead.at (in English or German)

Q: Is the deadline of September 1, 2017 also valid for enrolment at Sprachenzentrum der Universität Wien, die Berater® und Deutsch-Kolleg - Österreichische Orient-Gesellschaft Hammer Purgstall?

A: Yes, the deadline applies to every student and every institution.

Q: I will arrive in Austria on September 1, 2017. What are my choices?

A: Enrolment is no longer possible after September 1, 2017. You have to wait till enrolment period for winter term 2017/18 opens on August 21. Note that there might be serious issues with migration authorities so please plan your entry carefully beforehand.

Q: Can I replace the entry-test with a language certificate (ÖSD, Goethe, etc.)?

A: No, every student that needs to do a supplementary exam in German has to do the entry test.

Q: What does the entry test look like and when does it take place?

A: The entry test consists of a written part (60 or 90 minutes) and an oral part (approximately 10 minutes). The entry test takes place between registration and course start, please ask for the excat dates when registerin,

Q: I have to do supplementary examinations in German and other subjects. What level of German do I need in order to do the subject courses at VWU?

A: You need to have advanced knowledge of German (level FG). You enrol at a cooperation partner and do the entry test there. In case your knowledge of German is sufficient you will be transferred to VWU for all courses.

Q: Why don’t the courses follow the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (A1, A2, …)?

A: Courses of the Preparation Programme prepare for the supplementary examination (EPD) that tests the language skills needed to successfully complete your studies at a Viennese university. These skills cannot be described by the CEFR. You can find details to course levels in the Preparation Programme at https://goo.gl/fCbBBo

Q: How can I get an enrolment confirmation for health insurance at Wiener Gebietskrankenkasse?

A: You will get the confirmation when enrolling at your course institution after August 21,2017.

Q: For how long can I attend courses in the Preparation Programme?

A: As non degree programme student (außerordentlicher Studierender) you can attend courses for a maximum of 4 terms, in exceptions you can apply for a 5th and 6th semester.

Q: How long does the Programme take?

A: This depends on your level and your progress and learning speed. If you join the programme with good knowledge (approx.. solid B1) you might be able to finish German within a semester. For students with littler or no previous knowledge it usually takes 3 semesters, very good students can finish in two semesters.

Q: I am already registered but would like to cancel he course. What can I do?

A: You can cancel the course according to the coniditons of your course institutions under the condition you are no longer registered with your university nor with Gebietskrankenkasse.

Q: Why is there a different fee at VWU?

A: There is a reduced fee at VWU that applies for some countries, students with asylum status and students with subjects that already have advanced knowledge of German.

F: What do I need to do after registering for the course?

A: You have to register at university until September 5, 2017. Registration at university after that date is no longer possible for students in the Preparatory Programme.

F: Can I leave Austria after registration and come back for the course only?

A: No, because you have to take an entry test that determines your level of German. If you miss the placement test there is no guarantee you will get a spot in an adequate group. The Programme is very intensive and if you join after the course has started teachers will and cannot dedicate extra time to you. Make sure you can attend the course from the start otherwise we advise to study at home and join the Programme for the following term only.