

**“GOOD PRACTICE” IN ACADEMIC COOPERATION  
AUSTRIA - IRAN**

**HUMAN SCIENCES**

**EXAMPLE: History of Art - History of Material & Visual Culture**



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## UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA

among the European universities with the **longest tradition** in research and teaching, founded in 1365.

**Largest German-speaking** University  
students enrolled in more than 180  
programmes

**Internationality:** students and researchers  
from more than 130 countries, excellent  
**international cooperation**

Very large **range of fields of study** and a **wide spectrum of scientific and scholarly subjects** in research – excellent possibilities for **interdisciplinary research** and education

**Excellence in research:** Shanghai-Ranking 2013: Mathematics and Physics ranked in the Top-100. University of Vienna constantly moving up in selected fields, e.g. Linguistics recently ranked 24 in the QS-Ranking. Only Austrian university ranked among the Top-200 Universities worldwide in THES, QS and Shanghai-Rankings.



## University of Vienna: early contact between Austria and Iran

University founded in 1365 by  
**Duke Rudolph IV**  
ruled **Austria** 1359-65

He was buried in Vienna  
in a very precious  
**cloth of silk and gold** from Iran

with inscriptions in the name of  
**Sultan Abu Said Bahadur Khan**  
ruled **Iran** 1316-35





## DEPARTMENT OF ART HISTORY

oldest university institution for history of arts, and of visual and material culture  
teaching and research  
wide range of methods

### arts in global perspective

Europe and North America

Byzantium

Islamic countries and Islamic West Asia

China and East Asia

### across periods

from late antique to medieval, early modern, modern and contemporary art

**PROFESSORSHIP  
HISTORY OF ISLAMIC ART**

focus on arts in West Asia  
Iranian / Persian Art

**international team =>**  
teaching in German and **English**

**different media of visual arts  
and material culture**

architecture  
painting and manuscripts  
ceramics and metalwork

**wide scope of regions in  
teaching and research**

Iran and Central Asia  
Syria and Iraq  
Turkey  
Egypt  
North Africa and Spain



Austria  
Max Hartmuth



Italy  
Mattia Guidetti



Tunisia  
Nourane Ben Azzouna



Netherlands  
Ilse Sturkenboom



Iran  
Safa Mahmoudian



France  
Suzanne Compagnon

## 2014

- talks on collaboration
- visit Deputy Minister for Science and Research  
Dr. Hossein Salar Amoli



## 2015

Memoranda of Understanding

- University of Tehran:  
full partnership
- University of Shahid Beheshti:  
faculty agreement

## 2016/17

University of Tehran:

- Erasmus+
- Teaching mobility
- Faculty staff trips



**JOINT RESEARCH  
CO-SUPERVISION of PhD theses**

EXAMPLES

**Medieval garden architecture between Mesopotamia and the Indus River**

University of Vienna, Department of Art History

& University Shahid Beheshti, Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning

**Shiite inscriptions programmes in Safavid religious architecture**

University of Tehran, Institute of Archaeology

& University of Vienna, Department of Art History

PROCEDURE

- 1) **Individually**: faculty-faculty - preferred
- 2) Cotutelle: university-university



## JOINT RESEARCH: COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS

### EXAMPLE

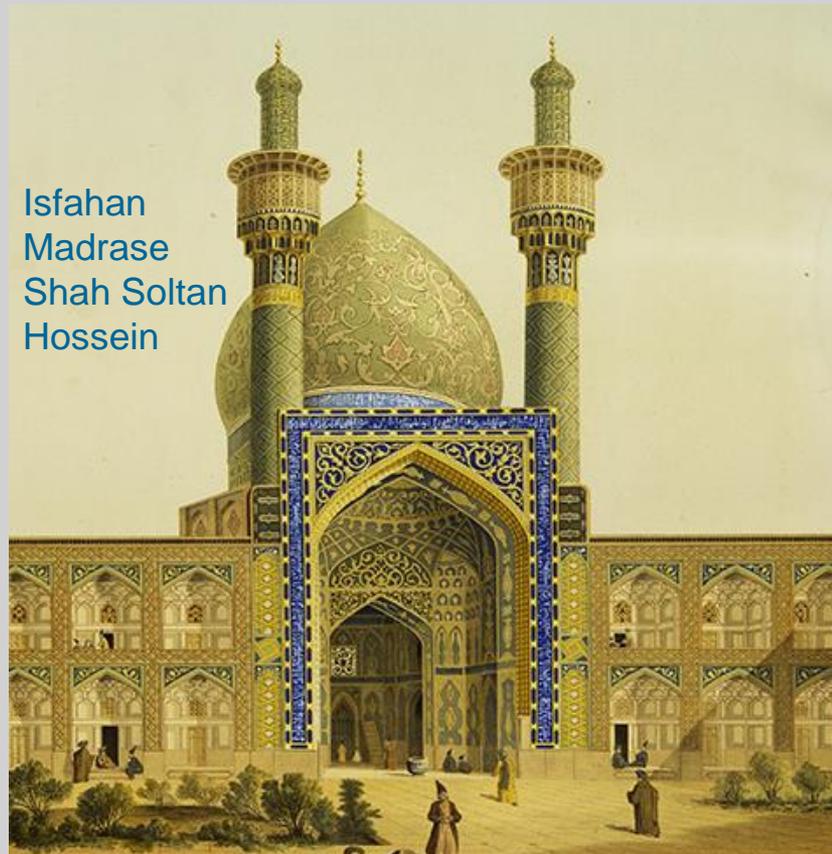
Two-part conference on 19th-century art & architecture

a) Vienna 2017: Art & architecture in Islamic countries – cross-regional

b) Tehran 2018: Art & Architecture in Iran – regional focus

### Funding Austrian and Iranian

Vienna, 19th-century Zacherl factory, modelled on:



Isfahan  
Madrase  
Shah Soltan  
Hossein



## STUDENT EXCHANGE: FROM IRAN TO AUSTRIA AT UNIV. OF VIENNA

### Visiting Student Programme: PhD, MA

students enrolled in Iranian university

- restricted time, 3-9 months, non-degree seeking
- no fees, full student status, participation in classes

### Students gain

- feedback and supervision by professor and assistants
- on methodology and from international, non-Iranian perspective
- international experience including use of English/German language
- access to research facilities (libraries, databases)

EXAMPLES so far students from:

University of Tehran

Islamic Arts University Tabriz

University of Arts Esfahan

### PROCEDURE

Students must be accepted by UV-professor, application to Centre of Doctoral Studies



## STUDENT EXCHANGE: FROM UNIV. OF VIENNA IN AUSTRIA TO IRAN

### Short Term Grant Abroad: PhD, MA

students from the University of Vienna  
grant for research work abroad  
up to 3 months

EXAMPLE so far students to:

University of Tehran and Institute for Persian Language Studies

### Students gain

- international experience in a non-European country
- acquaintance with Iranian culture and an Islamic society
- and with Persian language

### Desired

- provide more Persian language classes in Vienna
- and scholarship for language classes in Iran

## STAFF EXCHANGE

### SHORT TERM and JOINT TEACHING at University of Vienna

#### EXAMPLE Course: History of Persian lustre ceramics

Joint teaching: professor University of Kashan + professor University of Vienna (UV)

block course: teaching of one term condensed into one month time

#### PROCEDURE

In Austria salary & social insurance

1) **Teaching assignment individually** by Departments of UV – all universities in Iran

2) Non-EU Teaching Mobility Programme - partner universities of UV



## JOINT TEACHING: JOINT CLASSROOM or FIELDTRIP

### EXAMPLE

**Student field trips by UV-Department of Art History to Iran in 2013, 2016, ...**

Iranian students join Austrians  
visit of monuments and discussion

with students from

- University of Tehran
- University Shahid Beheshti
- University of Arts Esfahan
- University of Mashhad

### PROCEDURE

so far on individual basis

**desired:** on formal basis

**joint classes as part of curriculum**



Thanks  
with name of host country  
shown in human letters  
by Austrian students in fieldtrip:

IRAN

ایران

