

# Student Exchange at WU

Vienna, Austria





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# About WU

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WU (Vienna University of Economics and Business) is one of Europe's leading institutions of higher education in the fields of economics, business, business law, and social sciences. Exchange students who decide to come to WU can be sure of getting an education at an internationally renowned university.

WU's academic strengths are based on its broad research and teaching portfolio, covering all topics fundamental to today's economy and society. The university's high standards in research and teaching have consistently been confirmed by prestigious international accreditations.

WU has made its international orientation a number one priority. About 22,000 students are currently enrolled at WU, over a quarter of which come from outside of Austria. WU welcomes about 1,000 exchange students from its partner universities every year. Reputable partner institutions around the world facilitate research cooperation as well as student and faculty mobility.

The university's active membership in renowned international networks like CEMS (The Global Alliance in Management Education), PIM (Partnership in International Management), and GBSN (Global Business School Network), gives faculty and students excellent opportunities to interact with international academic and business partners.

Additionally, the inspiring architecture of WU's modern campus provides faculty and students with a state-of-the-art infrastructure creating the best possible environment for teaching, studying, and developing new ideas in one of the most livable cities in the world.

**Diversity, open-mindedness, responsibility, and innovation are key values at WU.**

# International Recognition

WU's triple accreditation is both an incentive and an obligation. It ensures the high quality of WU's programs and their continuous development to achieve and maintain excellent academic standards.

International accreditations are an important element in WU's strategy. They strengthen WU in its efforts to position itself among the top institutions in Europe, promote WU's reputation, and ensure that WU's programs are continuously further developed based on the highest academic standards.

With accreditations from **AACSB** (The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business), **EQUIS** (European Quality Improvement System), and **AMBA** (The Association of MBAs), WU belongs to an elite circle of some of the world's leading business schools.

In the accreditation processes, WU's high-quality teaching, its internationalization strategy, and its excellent connections to the business community are regularly cited as the university's main assets. Fewer than 1% of universities worldwide can claim triple accreditation by EQUIS, AACSB, and AMBA.

In addition to accreditations, influential international rankings have consistently placed WU among the best universities in its field.

## RANKINGS

### Masters in Management Ranking 2021 (Financial Times)

- › 18th out of 100 programs for Master's in International Management (3rd place in the German-speaking area)

### QS Program Rankings 2022

- › Masters in Finance: placed 16th
- › Masters in Management: placed 11th
- › Masters in Marketing: placed 10th
- › Masters in Supply Chain Management: placed 2nd



# Key Facts

WU’s profile is characterized by the university’s broad research and teaching portfolio, its international networks and close ties to the corporate world, thus resulting in excellent job prospects for its graduates.

The 11 Academic Departments form the foundation of the WU organizational structure, and are complemented by 60 Institutes, 14 Research Institutes and 7 Competence Centers. Over 1,000 faculty members contribute to WU’s research and teaching activities.

The departments are organized according to academic disciplines. All of them are involved in WU’s three bachelor programs. Most departments also have graduate and doctoral programs (MSc/LL.M., doctoral/PhD).

The research institutes focus on interdisciplinary topics, which often cross department boundaries. Competence centers coordinate research and teaching areas at WU. They serve as contact points for internal and external stakeholders.

WU’s research and teaching activities cover core business areas like finance, marketing, strategy, international business, and innovation as well as fields like sustainability, socio-ecological economics, information systems, and business law.

## WU STUDENTS

Total number of students <sup>*)</sup>	21,271
International students <sup>*)</sup>	6,518
Incoming and outgoing students in WU’s mobility programs (incl. exchange)	~ 2,000 per year

<sup>\*)</sup> as of fall 2021

## WU'S ACADEMIC UNITS

### DEPARTMENTS

- › Economics
- › Finance, Accounting & Statistics
- › Foreign Language Business Communication
- › Global Business and Trade
- › Information Systems and Operations
- › Management
- › Marketing
- › Private Law
- › Public Law and Tax Law
- › Socioeconomics
- › Strategy and Innovation

### RESEARCH INSTITUTES

- › CEE Legal Studies
- › Computational Methods
- › Co-Operation and Co-Operatives
- › Cryptoeconomics
- › Economics of Aging
- › Economics of Inequality
- › European Affairs
- › Family Business
- › International Taxation
- › Liberal Professions
- › Regulatory Economics
- › Research on Capital Markets
- › Spatial and Real Estate Economics
- › Supply Chain Management
- › Urban Management and Governance

### COMPETENCE CENTERS

- › Business Languages
- › Emerging Markets & CEE
- › Empirical Research Methods
- › Experimental Research
- › Sustainability, Transformation and Responsibility
- › Nonprofit Organizations and Social Entrepreneurship
- › Entrepreneurship

# Program Portfolio

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WU's portfolio of programs in the fields of business, economics, law, and social sciences includes 3 bachelor programs, 15 master programs, and 5 doctoral/PhD programs. WU's range of English-taught programs is attracting an increasing number of students from Austria and abroad.

WU's bachelor programs are three years in duration and provide a well-founded general education, offering a choice of majors and a broad range of specializations.

The two-year master programs are more specialized, with specific qualification profiles. Eight master programs are exclusively taught in English, whereas the other seven master programs incorporate several modules taught in English. WU has successfully integrated many international aspects in research and teaching.

**“I want to thank WU for the opportunities to learn so many new and interesting things in such a different way that really did change the way I see my future career field. I loved to see the beautiful campus every day, it was a true aesthetic pleasure!”**



## WU'S DEGREE PROGRAMS

### BACHELOR PROGRAMS (BSC WU/LL.B.WU)

#### English-taught bachelor's programs

- › Business and Economics

#### German-taught bachelor's programs

- › Business, Economics and Social Sciences
- › Business Law

### MASTER PROGRAMS (MSC WU/LL.M. WU)

#### English-taught master's programs

- › Business Communication
- › Digital Economy
- › Economics
- › International Management/CEMS
- › Marketing
- › Quantitative Finance
- › Socio-Ecological Economics and Policy
- › Strategy, Innovation, and Management Control
- › Supply Chain Management

#### German-taught master's programs

- › Business Education
- › Business Law
- › Export and Internationalization Management
- › Finance and Accounting
- › Management
- › Socioeconomics
- › Taxation and Accounting

### DOCTORAL/PHD PROGRAMS

#### English-taught PhD programs

- › PhD in International Business Taxation
- › PhD in Finance

#### German-taught doctoral/PhD programs

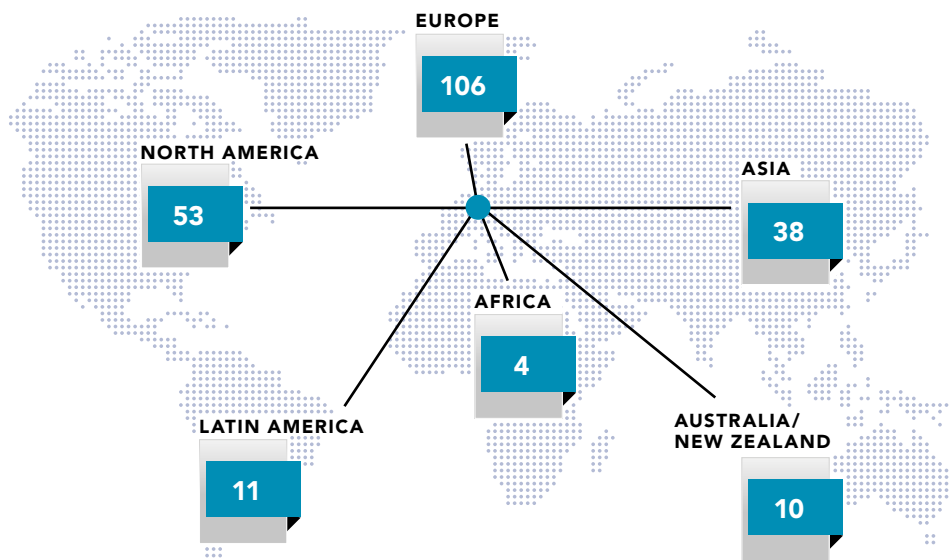
- › Doctoral Program in Business Law
- › Doctoral Program in Social and Economic Sciences
- › PhD in Economics and Social Sciences

# Partner Universities

Top-class programs, attractive locations, and excellent academic reputation are the hallmarks of WU's cooperation with numerous partner universities for student exchange around the globe.

A worldwide network of partner universities is one of the key pillars of WU's internationalization strategy. About half of WU's partners are located in Europe, and about the same number on other continents, with a strong focus on North America and Asia.

These university partnerships give WU students the unique opportunity to enrich their studies through exchange periods at prestigious institutions. At the same time, exchange students from renowned universities around the globe contribute to WU's inspiring, distinctly international classroom atmosphere.



# Global Network

Active membership in renowned international associations defines WU's global network. These contacts link WU to other top institutions and create a high-value learning environment for the benefit of students and faculty.

**CEEPUS** (Central European Exchange Program for University Studies) – Enhances the exchange of students and faculty in Central, Eastern, and South Eastern Europe. WU is coordinator of the CEEPUS AMADEUS network.

**CEMS** (Global Alliance in Management Education) – A global alliance of leading business schools, multinational companies, and NGOs. CEMS sets a global standard in management education through its Master's in International Management program.

**ENGAGE.EU** – A European network of universities intended to serve as a model for interdisciplinary education and research, a platform for exchanging ideas, and a catalyst for social change.

**ERASMUS+** is the EU's flagship exchange program, aimed at enhancing cooperation between higher education institutions across Europe and with third

countries. WU is a holder of the Erasmus Charter.

**GBSN** (Global Business School Network) – Prestigious business schools have joined forces to support management education in the developing world. GBSN serves to facilitate collaboration and share knowledge, advancing management education that delivers international best practice with local relevance.

**PIM** (Partnership in International Management) – A worldwide consortium of highly renowned business schools, facilitating international cooperation among members, fostering the development of joint programs, student and faculty exchange, and joint research.

**THEMIS** – Top universities have come together to create a new standard in business law responding to an ever-increasing demand for law professionals with international know-how and expertise.



**“Vienna is the most livable city in the world. Studying at WU gives you the opportunity to learn from local and foreign teachers, you’ll meet incredibly intelligent students and you’ll get the chance to get involved with other non-academic activities. I loved it.”**



# Exchange@WU

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WU's exchange students study at a renowned European university with a pronounced international classroom atmosphere in one of the most popular cities in the world. These factors contribute to an experience that is academically, personally, and professionally rewarding.

## BENEFITS

Every year WU welcomes about 1,000 exchange students from all over the world. WU's incoming students benefit from the variety of courses offered, WU's comprehensive support structures for exchange students, and its modern campus infrastructure and facilities. Additionally, they profit from Vienna's favorable location in the heart of Europe and the city's excellent quality of life.

## ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

During an exchange semester or year at WU, students can choose from a broad academic portfolio in business, economics, and law at undergraduate and graduate levels with many courses taught in English.

WU also offers German courses for students who would like to improve their language skills.

In addition, WU welcomes partner university students for short academic programs, with the International Summer University<sup>WU</sup> as WU's flagship summer program for international students.

## SUPPORT

WU offers comprehensive support services ranging from welcome and orientation programs to a buddy network, housing assistance, language courses, and much more. An experienced team at WU's International Office serves as the main contact point for exchange students and helps with all exchange-related matters.

# Learning German

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Learning a foreign language can be a rewarding experience in many ways. Exchange students have various options for learning German at WU.

## PRE-SEMESTER GERMAN LANGUAGE COURSES

WU offers preparatory German courses for incoming students who want to acquire solid foreign language skills before attending regular classes. The courses are held prior to the start of each semester. Courses are available for all different skill levels, from beginner to advanced. The course schedules allow exchange students to participate both in the language courses and the orientation program.

## GERMAN BUSINESS COMMUNICATION COURSES

Exchange students at WU can also attend German Business Communication classes.

These language courses are offered at five different skill levels, starting from beginner to very advanced. Courses run throughout the entire semester.

- › All German language courses are subject to a participation fee.

## TANDEM LANGUAGE LEARNING

Tandem learning is a reciprocal language learning program, in which WU students are paired with native speakers of their target language in order to help each other learn their respective languages. The program is organized by WU's Raiffeisen Language Resource Center and runs throughout the semester.





# Courses

A broad variety of courses taught in English and in German allows exchange students to put together their ideal course program perfectly matching their study interest and schedule.

## COURSES IN ENGLISH

WU offers around 500 demanding, high-quality courses taught in English each semester, covering all core business and economics fields as well as related areas like business law, information systems, and personal skills.

A number of courses are offered in block format for increased scheduling flexibility. In the winter semester, several of the courses held in English for exchange students end before the Christmas break.

## COURSES IN GERMAN

Exchange students with sufficient German skills are free to register for courses taught in German.

## WORKLOAD

The standard workload in one semester is 30 ECTS credits, which corresponds to around 5 courses. Exchange students are allowed to sign up for a maximum of 36 ECTS credits plus a German Business Communication course.

**“I was very impressed by the selection offered. It goes into a lot of different special fields.”**



# Exchange Services



# Housing

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**WU provides housing assistance to incoming exchange students to help them find a convenient place to stay. WU's cooperation with providers of student accommodation ensures that housing is guaranteed for exchange students.**

Exchange students coming to Vienna have several housing options. WU does not have on-campus housing, but there are several options to choose from:

## **OPTION 1: RESIDENCE HALLS**

There are several residence halls throughout Vienna offering short-term rental possibilities. Some of the options are OeAD Housing, the Student Hotel Vienna, Campus Studios, Linked Living Apartments, Milestone, and Room4rent. Rents start at €400 per month. If you want to book a room in a student dorm, please make

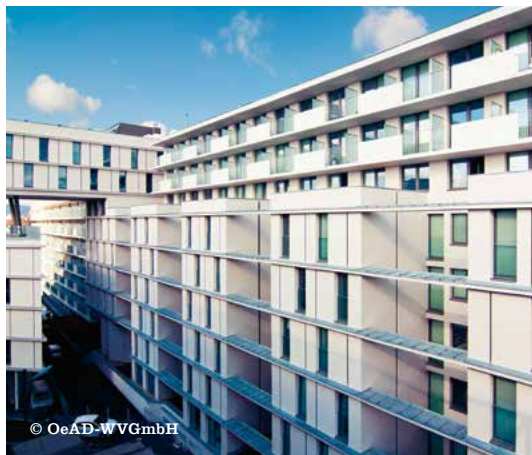
sure that you complete your registration as soon as possible. Room allocations are based on a first come, first served principle.

## **OPTION 2: PRIVATE ACCOMMODATION**

WU has a cooperation with the platform [housinganywhere.com](https://housinganywhere.com). HousingAnywhere has specialized in helping international students find and book a room abroad.



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# Orientation Programs

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WU's Orientation and Cultural Program is the perfect opportunity to kick-start an exchange experience at WU.

## ORIENTATION AND CULTURAL PROGRAM

The two-week Orientation and Cultural Program held before the beginning of the semester offers exchange students a head start on their international experience. This multifaceted program provides valuable insights into Austrian culture and daily life.

The program includes guided tours in and around Vienna, trips to major Austrian cities, museum visits, numerous social events, and, of course, a welcome event on Campus WU.

In small, intimate groups, students are given the opportunity to adjust to their new surroundings, get to know each other, and to truly enjoy their exchange experience.

The programs take place in February and September. Participation is optional. The program is subject to a participation fee and can be combined with participation in the pre-semester German language course.

## ERASMUS BUDDY NETWORK

The Erasmus Buddy Network (EBN) is a department of the Student Union of WU. Exchange students can register online for the Buddy Program before coming to Vienna. Buddies assist exchange students especially during their first few weeks in Vienna. On demand, they pick up incoming students upon arrival and help with student residence procedures and administrative requirements. The Erasmus Buddy Network also organizes a number of social activities, such as skiing weekends or trips to Prague and Budapest.

# Green mobility

On average, all WU outgoing exchange students taken together travelled around 10 million km on the way to our partner universities and back. In other words, our WU outgoing exchange students circled the world 240 times.

**Help us to make these 10 million km as green as possible.** Many exchange semester destinations can easily be reached by train or bus. We compiled eight destinations for you, but many more exist!



The website [ecopassenger.org](https://ecopassenger.org) can help you compare routes and travel emissions across Europe.

DESTINATION	TRAVEL TIME		CO <sup>2</sup> EMISSIONS	
	Train	Plane	Train	Plane
<b>Zurich</b>	7h 50min	1h 20min	10,4 kg	126,4 kg
<b>Hamburg</b>	8h 40min	1h 35min	27,3 kg	139,0 kg
<b>Berlin</b>	8h 45min	1h 15min	28,1 kg	115,3 kg
<b>Brussels</b>	10h 20min	1h 45min	27,3 kg	152,8 kg
<b>Amsterdam</b>	10h 45min	1h 50min	33,0 kg	158,3 kg
<b>Milan</b>	11h 20min	1h 20min	12,9 kg	131,4 kg
<b>Paris</b>	12h 10min	2h	14,2 kg	172,4 kg
<b>Rome</b>	13h 50min	1h 35min	43,5 kg	141,2 kg

# Dates and Deadlines

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## WINTER SEMESTER

<b>April / May</b>	<b>Nomination deadline</b> for partner universities Nominated exchange students receive an email with information about their studies at WU
<b>May</b>	<b>Application deadline</b> for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>› Orientation and Cultural Program</li><li>› Pre-semester German language courses</li><li>› Online pre-enrollment for students</li></ul>
<b>July</b>	<b>Course catalog</b> for the winter semester goes online
<b>Mid-August</b>	<b>Online registration for courses</b>
<b>Early September</b>	<b>1st welcome days</b> Latest arrival date for participants of the Orientation and Cultural Program and/or the pre-semester German language course
<b>September</b>	<b>Orientation and Cultural Program</b> (two weeks) <b>Pre-semester German language course</b> (two weeks)
<b>End of September</b>	<b>Start of semester</b> <b>2nd welcome days</b> Latest arrival date for all winter semester exchange students
<b>Mid-October</b>	<b>GO GLOBAL– Your event to internationalize your studies</b>
<b>End of December – beginning of January</b>	<b>Christmas Break</b> <b>Several courses held in English end before the Christmas break</b> , which allows exchange students to leave Vienna before Christmas
<b>End of January</b>	Official end of the winter semester



SUMMER SEMESTER	
<b>October / November</b>	<b>Nomination deadline</b> for partner universities Nominated exchange students receive an email with information about their studies at WU
<b>November</b>	<b>Application deadline</b> for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Orientation and Cultural Program</li> <li>› Pre-semester German language courses</li> <li>› Online pre-enrollment for students</li> </ul>
<b>Late December / early February</b>	<b>Course catalog</b> for the summer semester goes online
<b>Mid-January</b>	<b>Online registration for courses</b>
<b>Early February</b>	<b>1st welcome days</b> Latest arrival date for participants of the Orientation and Cultural Program and/or the pre-semester German language course
<b>February</b>	<b>Orientation and Cultural Program</b> (two weeks) <b>Pre-semester German language course</b> (two weeks)
<b>Late February</b>	<b>Start of semester</b> <b>2nd welcome days</b> Latest arrival date for all summer semester exchange students
<b>End of June</b>	Official end of the summer semester

“I met so many friends at WU,  
and I was exposed to a lot of  
new cultures and people from  
all over Europe and the whole  
world. I found that there  
was a really good sense of  
community at WU.”



# International Summer University<sup>WU</sup>

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WU's International Summer University (ISU<sup>WU</sup>) is intended for all students who want to use the summer months to give their academic progress an extra boost.

WU's International Summer University Program (ISU<sup>WU</sup>) is a short-duration, high-quality academic program for international students looking for a WU program that is shorter than a full exchange semester. Every year up to 200 students representing more than 20 nationalities from all over the world participate in ISU<sup>WU</sup>.

The program's main objective is to deepen the students' knowledge in specific business-related fields and to open up international and intercultural perspectives.

Throughout the program, participants are assisted by the dedicated ISU<sup>WU</sup> team, which also organizes the various social and cultural activities students can enjoy besides their academic training.

- › The program is organized in two **three-week sessions** in **July** and **August** and offers courses at the **undergraduate** and **graduate** levels.
- › ISU<sup>WU</sup> courses typically also integrate important contemporary topics like sustainable management, social media, entrepreneurship, innovation, and many more. Group work on practical case studies and real-life projects in intercultural teams provide a valuable learning experience for the students.
- › ISU<sup>WU</sup> is taught entirely in **English**. An international team of lecturers gives the intensive academic program its global orientation and guarantees high quality standards in teaching.

# Campus WU

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WU's modern campus provides faculty and students with a state-of-the-art infrastructure creating the best possible environment for teaching, studying, and developing new ideas.

## INTELLIGENT ARCHITECTURE

Campus WU is the concrete realization of WU's vision for a modern university, reflecting the values and ideas WU stands for. The campus consists of six distinct building complexes, designed by international architects, clustered around the central Library & Learning Center, all together creating an environment for WU students and staff that encourages productive work and communication.

## STATE-OF-THE-ART TEACHING AND LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

All auditoriums and classrooms are equipped with state-of-the-art presentation technology. Natural daylight creates a pleasant teaching and learning atmosphere. Plenty of student workplaces and special project rooms are at the disposal of WU's students for independent study and work on group projects.

The cantilevered roof of the Library & Learning Center – also famous for its impressive four-story-high entrance hall – is the campus' main architectural landmark.

## OPEN SPACE

Other key features of Campus WU are barrier-free accessibility and the "green building" principles that were used in the design of the campus. Generously proportioned open grounds between the individual buildings invite students, faculty and visitors to stroll around and relax.

Campus WU also offers restaurants, cafés, a supermarket, and a bookstore. The nearby Prater Park, Vienna's biggest recreational area, is a perfect place for enjoying leisure activities. Two subway stations connect Campus WU to the city center, which is in close range.



# Life in Vienna

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Vienna ranks among the most attractive cities around the world. Tradition and culture, research and education, economic growth, and a safe and livable environment make it a place with a very high standard of living that is recognized internationally.

Vienna is Austria's capital and its political and economic center. 2.6 million people live in the Vienna metropolitan area, one of EU's top regions. Its central location also makes Vienna an ideal starting point for trips to other European cities.

Many international organizations and companies have their headquarters in Vienna, which is not least due to the city's modern and efficient infrastructure – Vienna offers an excellent public transportation network and well-organized public services – and its safe and livable environment. Vienna has an abundance of public parks, which provide attractive leisure opportunities. The city is also famous for its tap water, which flows to the city from mountain springs and is known for its high quality.

The Vienna city center is on UNESCO's World Heritage list. Famous historical

buildings such as St. Stephen's Cathedral or Schönbrunn Palace are must-see sights. Vienna's tradition as an imperial city, its world-class musical heritage, and traditional and contemporary art play an important role in the city's everyday life.

With a total of 22 higher education institutions and over 190,000 students, Vienna is one of the biggest university cities in the German-speaking world.



© WienTourismus/Peter Rigaud





# Contact

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WU (Vienna University of Economics and Business)

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[wu.ac.at/io/en](http://wu.ac.at/io/en)

[instagram.com/wuinternationaloffice](https://www.instagram.com/wuinternationaloffice)

# Links

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Austrian Students' Union (ÖH WU)  
**[ebnwu.com](http://ebnwu.com)**

Austria Tourism  
**[austria.info](http://austria.info)**

Vienna Tourist Board  
**[wien.info/en](http://wien.info/en)**

Vienna Public Transportation  
**[wienerlinien.at](http://wienerlinien.at)**

WU ZBP Career Center  
**[zbp.at/en](http://zbp.at/en)**





#### AR ADMINISTRATION AND RESEARCH

- › Administration
- › Research Institutes

#### EA WU EXECUTIVE ACADEMY

- › Corporate Relations & Alumni Services
- › Research Institutes

#### D5 DEPARTMENTS 5

- › Strategy and Innovation
- › Socioeconomics (only Ecological Economics)
- › Research Institutes

#### AD ADMINISTRATION

- › Rector's Council
- › Finance, Accounting and Statistics (only Accounting)

#### D4 DEPARTMENTS 4

- › Economics
- › Socioeconomics
- › Finance, Accounting and Statistics (without Accounting)
- › Library for Social Sciences

#### D3 DEPARTMENTS 3

- › Public Law & Tax Law
- › Private Law
- › Research Institutes
- › Library for Law

#### LC LIBRARY & LEARNING CENTER

- › Ceremonial halls
- › Forum
- › IT-Services
- › Central Library
- › Study Service Center
- › International Office
- › WU Shop

#### D1 DEPARTMENTS 1

- › Global Business & Trade
- › Research Institutes
- › Cafeteria

#### TC TEACHING CENTER

- › Audimax
- › Aula

#### D2 DEPARTMENTS 2

- › Foreign Language Business Communication
- › Information Systems & Operations
- › Management
- › Marketing
- › Support Center

#### SC STUDENT CENTER

- › ÖH Students' Union
- › Sports Center
- › Student organizations
- › University Chaplain
- › Kindergarten



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AACSB  
ACCREDITED



ASSOCIATION  
AMBA  
ACCREDITED

WU (Vienna University of Economics and Business)  
Welthandelsplatz 1, 1020 Vienna, Austria  
[wu.ac.at](http://wu.ac.at)

Arriving by public transport:  
Subway: U2 stations "Messe-Prater" or "Krieau"  
Bus: 82A, "Südportalstraße" stop