Technische Universität Wien

Vienna, Austria

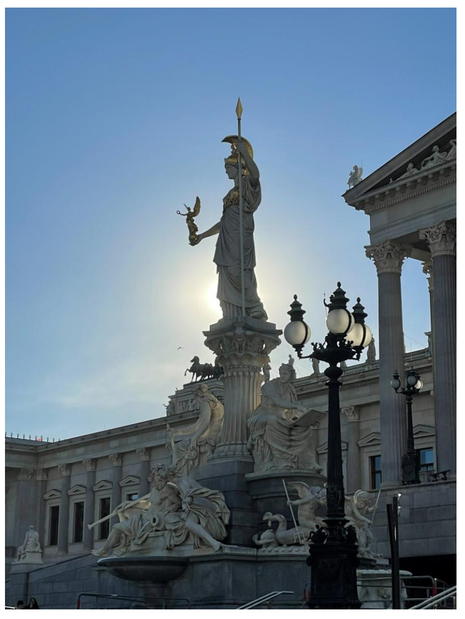
Rosalie Altena, SYA 2025/26

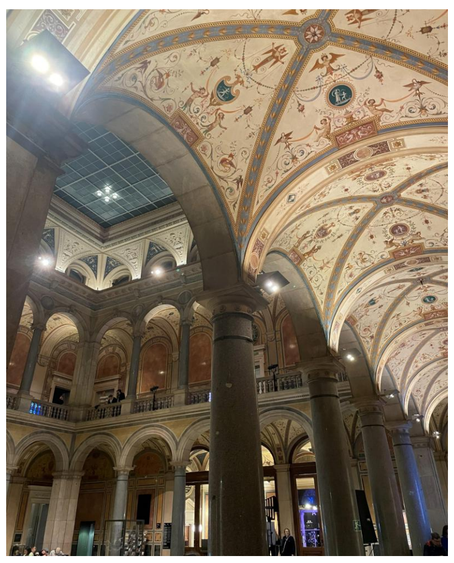
Background

- The TU Wien was founded in 1815 by Emperor Francis I of Austria
- As a University of Technology, TU Wien covers a wide range of scientific disciplines with focus on engineering, computer science and natural sciences
- It's located in the heart of Vienna, spread across four main university buildings
- It ranks #190 in the QS World University Ranking and in the top 100 in the world for its Computer Sciences department
- Famous alumni include Christian Doppler (Doppler Effect), Ferenc Krausz (Nobel Prize in Physics 2023), Ingeborg Hochmair (microelectronic, multi-channel cochlear implant) and Viktor Kaplan (Kaplan turbine)











TU Wien offers a wide variety of courses in English and German (requires B2 German) across its eight faculties: Architecture and Planning, Chemistry, Civil Engineering, Computer Sciences, Electrical Engineering and Information Technology, Mathematics and Geoinformation, Mechanical and Industrial Engineering and Physics.

Courses I took included:

- Introduction to Meteorology and Climatology
- Physiology and the Basics of Pathology
- Ecology and Sustainable Development
- Data acquisition and Survey methods
- Design and assessment of sustainable processes
- Applied Bioinformatics
- Biomedical sensors and signals
- Medicinal Chemistry

Top tips:

- Organise early – a lot of private student accommodation is full very quickly – don't be afraid to call!
- Don't forget to register your arrival (it needs to be done within 3 days or there might be a fine!)
- Almost all shops are closed on Sunday, they close early on Saturday and are often shut on Christian holidays too!
- Be prepared to be sociable
- It's really easy to travel to a lot of neighbouring countries – go exploring!
- Take a good look through the courses on offer and take a chance on something that sounds kind of interesting but nothing like you've done before
- Take as many opportunities as you can for new experiences: Go hiking, take part in a Viennese ball or watch an opera
- Vienna gets very cold in the winter (and very hot in the summer!) so don't forget your jacket!







Extracurricular

- The Erasmus Student Network organises several events throughout the year from nights out to Salsa lessons
- Museums owned by the Wien Museum group are free on the first Sunday of the month
- A nonstopkino-card for unlimited cinema trips is only 22 euros a month!
- USI Wien offers an unbelievably wide range of sport courses each semester
- Innes Institute offers either intensive or evening courses in German from A1.1 to C1.2
- Lange Nacht Der Museen, 3rd October 2026 one ticket (only 16 euros) gives access to over a hundred museums for one night between 6pm and midnight
- Christmas markets!
- Zwidemu, free outdoors raves between the museums in the summer
- Pub quizzes in Irish pubs (there are a bunch!)
- There are tons of running clubs, knitting clubs etc.

Griessner, A., 2006. *Overview map of Austria* [Online]. San Francisco: Wikimedia Foundation. Available from: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Austria_locat.svg [Accessed 3 September 2026].
Other images by author.