

**Research project at the Center of Inter-American Studies
University of Graz**

Supervisor: Roberta Maierhofer, Center for Inter-American Studies, University of Graz

ELIGIBILITY: 2.5 CGPA and 2+ years of study

DURATION: 8 weeks, 40h/week, May 4 - July 3, 2020

CREDITS: No exchange transcript from the host; admitted students must contact relevant department at U of T and enroll in independent research course.

APPLICATION: Transcript of Records, Resume and, Motivation letter addressed to Prof. Dr. Roberta Maierhofer. The documents must be uploaded on the Mobility Online Portal by **December 3, 2020**.

VIRTUAL EXCHANGE: If in-person exchanges are cancelled, this project can be completed remotely. In the case of virtual research, funding will be confirmed.

The Center for Inter-American Studies, under the leadership of Prof. Dr. Roberta Maierhofer, was established by the Rectorate of the University of Graz as a platform for interdisciplinary and inter-regional communication and collaboration in the Americas in 2006 and was officially founded in 2007. This new interest in Inter-American relationships was sparked by processes such as globalization and transnational migration - developments that transform cultural identities and challenge conceptions of "self" and "other." Especially in Europe, which itself is in the midst of negotiating a "European identity" in addition to national and regional ones, changing reference points demand re-conceptualization of academic perspectives. For European scholars of Inter-American Studies, the "Americanness" of the Americas and the changing qualities of "self" and "other" are of particular interest, encouraging a re-definition of positions and mental frameworks. By building intra-regional cooperation in international education based on teaching and research, new possibilities of collaboration and mobility are created and a wide variety of research projects in the field of Collective Identities, re-conceptualizing traditional approaches not only in terms of transnational and trans-regional, but also in terms of Euro-American relations, international summer schools, multifaceted lecture series, and publications contribute to the establishment of Inter-American Studies on a national and also international level. The university's declaration of North-, Central- and South America as the second regional focus alongside the already established focus on South-Eastern Europe in 2012 highlights the commitment of the University of Graz to the study of the Americas.

The research student will be involved in all current projects of the Center for Inter-American Studies such as:

- Jewish Studies in the Americas and Southeastern Europe; Masculinity and Ageing (comparative Europe – the Americas)
- Sources of Habsburg's 'Latinamerica' in Austria: From Charles V to Maximilian of Mexico (Working on documents of different periods from different Austrian archives including the work of the ADEVA in Graz.)
- Dictatorships and Authoritarian Governments in Latin America and the Caribbean during the 20th century: The Nazi connections (focus on the influence of European Fascism for the development of Latin-American and Caribbean dictatorships especially Nazi criminals who escaped after 1945. The research is related to a common project of Eric Jennings (Univ. Toronto) and Christian Cwik (Univ. Graz))
- Organization of the GUSEGG Summer School "STABILITY, SECURITY, AND HAPPINESS: STATE - SOCIETY - RELIGION", <https://international.uni-graz.at/de/stud/int-focus/summerschools/gusegg-summer-school/>