

Dual Degree Report

National Chengchi University, Taiwan
IMBA Program

x

WU Vienna University of Economics and Business, Austria
SIMC Program

Richard Cheng-Lin Huang
Class of 2021

Dual Degree Period: Sept 2022 – Aug 2023

Dual Degree Report

Instructions:

As part of the dual degree program, all outgoing DD students at IMBA are required to report to the IMBA Program on the following criteria:

1. Preparation and arrival
2. Bureaucracy procedures
3. Accommodation
4. Studying at host institution
5. Everyday life and leisure time
6. Conclusion

1. Preparation and arrival (planning, organizing and applying at the host institution)

To begin, understand the dual degree options that are available and what the partnered universities offer. Below are the details for my scenario.

Key factors for my decision: Program details, degree offering, location of the university, language, and culture of the country

Dual Degree Website: <https://dualdegree.nccu.edu.tw/>

Overview of dual degree and application process

WU Vienna: <https://dualdegree.nccu.edu.tw/index.php/wu-vienna-university-of-economics-and-business-vienna-austria/>

Specific details of the program

Curriculum of Double Degree Study:

Important to understand the courses offered and requirements to graduate at WU.



Double Degree Study Plan 2022/23

121 ECTS credits/48.4 NCCU credits

National Chengchi University, College of Commerce (NCCU)
WU Vienna

International Master of Business Administration (IMBA)

MSc Strategy, Innovation, and Management Control (SIMC)



FIRST YEAR				SECOND YEAR			
Coursework at NCCU for NCCU IMBA students pursuing the Double Degree program with WU:				Coursework at WU for NCCU IMBA students pursuing the Double Degree program with WU:			
Course title	ECTS credits	NCCU credits	Semester	Course title	ECTS credits	NCCU credits	Semester
<i>Core courses worth at least 22 NCCU credits are to be selected from the following courses</i>				<i>In Electives (choice of 5 electives from the following study areas)</i>			
Leadership and Team Building	5	2	1 st /2 nd	Thesis Seminar: How to Write a Thesis	2	0.8	3 rd
Managerial Economics	7.5	3	1 st /2 nd	Business Project	15	6	3 rd /4 th
Accounting	7.5	3	1 st /2 nd	Personal Skills I-II (à 2 ECTS credits)	4	1.6	3 rd /4 th
Business Quantitative Methods	7.5	3	1 st /2 nd	Advanced Strategic Management	25	10	3 rd /4 th
Leaders Forum	2.5	1	1 st /2 nd	Advanced Entrepreneurship and Innovation Management			
Corporate Social Responsibility and Ethics	2.5	1	1 st /2 nd	Advanced Financial Management and Management Control			
Financial Management	7.5	3	1 st /2 nd	Advanced Organizational Design			
Marketing Management	7.5	3	1 st /2 nd	Advanced Business Research Methods			
Management Information Systems	7.5	3	1 st /2 nd	Total ECTS/NCCU credits	46	18.4	
Strategic Talent Management	7.5	3	1 st /2 nd				
Total ECTS/NCCU credits	55	22					

Master Thesis (20 ECTS credits/8 NCCU credits)

Applying for the dual degree program can be competitive, therefore, I recommend researching the options early and planning for application period.

Personal note: discuss with your classmates and see where your peers are applying for. It is a good idea to have classmates you work well with in the same dual degree program.

2. Bureaucracy procedures (visa and residence permit-including costs)

To study in Austria, you are required to obtain a Resident Permit (card form).

Below are the details:

Resident Permit Application Form:

https://www.bmi.gv.at/302/Formulare/20180901/06_Aufenthaltsbewilligung_Student_NEU-Formular.pdf

Instructions on how to complete the form correctly:

https://www.bmi.gv.at/302/Formulare/Erklaerungen_201908/06_Aufenthaltsbewilligung_Student-Erklaerung_EN_20190823.pdf

Documentation Requirements:

- Student residence permit application form
- Valid (and signed) passport and passport copy
- 1 recent passport-sized colour photo
- Taiwan ID card
- English Taiwan household registration transcript (must be notarized as above)
- Birth certificate (must be notarized as above)
- Police Record Certificate (must be notarized as above)
- Austrian University Admission Permit
- A copy of your current university/school confirmation letter or student ID
- Schengen medical insurance
- Proof of funds (bank account statement)
- Proof of accommodation (housing contract)

Costs:

Schengen Medical Insurance: NTD 5,570 (Cathay Insurance from July 6, 2022 – Jan 2, 2023)

Austrian Embassy Certification: NTD 11,340 (7,560 Certification + 3,780 Fees)

After submitting all required documents to the Austrian Embassy in Taiwan, you will be sent an email from the government's office in Austria to book an appointment to pick up your Resident Permit in person.

Health Insurance:

You are required to have Austrian health insurance during your stay in Austria.

I recommend applying for ÖGK (Austrian Public Health Insurance). Below are the details:

<https://www.ceu.edu/info-current-students/health-care/insurance/oegk>

Apply for Student Self-Insurance

Documents Required:

- the completed [application form](#)
- a Photo ID (copy) or e-card (copy)
- a Meldebestätigung (Austrian address registration)
- a [certificate of enrollment](#)
- a confirmation of the duration of previous studies (in case you have already studied in an EU/EEA country or Switzerland)

Costs: The monthly contribution for the self-insurance for students is EUR 66.79 (2023). For detailed information please check the [ÖGK website](#).

3. Accommodation

Picking your accommodation is crucial during your time abroad. Luckily, WU recommends some options on their website to get started.

<https://www.wu.ac.at/en/programs/incoming-students/exchange-semester/your-semester-at-wu-from-start-to-finish/accommodation/>

Below are the details of my accommodations:

Building Name: DIE ZIMMEREI

<https://zimmerei.apartments/wohnung-mieten-wien#wohnung-mieten>

Google Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/uDFjx7TSLBQaXaF9>

DIE ZIMMEREI Locations Info service EN Find apartment

Save €150 on your rental now*

RENT AN APARTMENT IN VIENNA NOW

Living in the heart of Vienna!

One can only love Vienna. And if you are drawn to the Austrian metropolis as a student or job starter, you will also get a bit of a heartbeat at ZIMMEREI Wien. Our apartments are not only located in the heart of the city! A restaurant, a café and a gym await you in the building. The phenomenal view from the roof terrace stretches across Vienna's city center to the Prater. And if you fancy company, you can look forward to many very different community areas and a large learning lounge with outdoor facilities. Find a suitable place with us and rent your new apartment in Vienna!

*Receive a voucher of 150€ upon successful rental. Either for "Fit Fabrik Plus Messecarree" or "Burger's Bar", directly at your ZIMMEREI booth at Vorgartenstraße 204. Promotional period until September 30th, 2023, only while stocks last. Receipt of the voucher when the apartment is handed over, no cash payment possible.

Description:

- Multipurpose building for residential and commercial space
- Building offers comfortable living with single unit spaces
- Personal washroom and kitchen, only washer and dryer are shared
- Units range from studio (20+ sqm) to one-bedroom (40+ sqm) options
- Minimum contract is 6 months and then you can cancel your contract whenever with 3 month notice by email

Costs:

One-bedroom rent: 1,170/month

Washer Fee: 3.50/use

Water, electricity, heating: Included in monthly rent

Pros:

- Well managed and clean property
- Lots of common areas and study areas to utilize
- Fitness center downstairs called Fit Fabrik (EUR 40/month)
- Location is great. Right beside Krieau metro station, close to campus, supermarket downstairs, and restaurants nearby

Cons:

- No air conditioning in unit, but available in lobby and common areas
- Kitchen space is small and need to bring your own kitchen equipment/utensils

Personal note: This accommodation is more expensive than average, but you get the value of what you are paying for. Super accessible to school and well maintained. The building mostly hosts other students, expats, refugees, and individuals who are working.

4. Studying at the host institution

University (courses offered, level of courses, exam types, etc.)

Pre-semester orientation & cultural program: <https://www.wu.ac.at/en/programs/incoming-students/exchange-semester/your-semester-at-wu-from-start-to-finish/orientation/>

To start familiarizing yourself with the culture, getting to see the city, and meeting classmates during your exchange, I highly recommend joining the Orientation and Cultural Program.

Sample Program Orientation and Cultural Program

WEEK 1	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
9.00 – 12.30	*Pre-semester German language course		Day trip to Retz An excursion to the town Retz with Austria's largest wine cellar and one of the last operational windmills in Austria	*Pre-semester German language course	
Afternoon	Kick Off Event	Staatsoper and City Tour See where the magic happens and discover Vienna together afterwards		Parliament and Wiener Kaffeehaus Get to know Austria Politics and discuss it in a Viennese coffee house	House of Music Learn about Austrian Music tradition
WEEK 2	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
9.00 – 12.30	*Pre-semester German language course		Day trip to Graz An excursion to Austria's second largest city.	*Pre-semester German language course	
Afternoon	UNO and Donauinsel Learn about Vienna in an international context and take a walk on Danube island	Ottakringer brewery A tour through the brewery with free beer tasting		Dance class Learn how to waltz	Weltmuseum
Evening					Kick Out Event Let's go bowling

This 2-week program will give a first introduction to Austria and allow you to meet other students from WU. In addition, there is German courses available from beginner to advanced.
Cost: EUR 350

Courses:

Winter 2022:

- [1845 Business Project](#)
- [65270 Deutsch A1.1+](#)
- [1867 Elective - Selected Topics in Entrepreneurship](#)
- [0646 Elective - Value Creation and Value Capture in a Digital Age](#)
- [0574 Personal Skills - Visual Thinking](#)
- [1910 Thesis Seminar: How to Write a Thesis](#)

Summer 2023:

- [5440 Elective - Artificial Intelligence](#)
- [5403 Elective - Innovation Performance Management](#)
- [6078 Elective - Pursuing Sustainability: Navigating and Managing Complex Social Systems](#)
- [5060 Personal Skills](#)

Course selection is pretty straight forward. As a dual degree student, your WU coordinator will assist you in your course selection and you will have priority over other students. Select courses that meet the requirements and subjects you are interested in learning.

WU offers services to connect you with a buddy and tandem partner.

Buddy Program: ebnwu.com/buddy-program. Registration from July 15 to August 15.

Tandem Learning: wu.ac.at/en/lrc/tandem-learning. Registration begins in September.

Campus Life:

WU Campus offers everything you need to survive academically and personally. Below are some details and comments.

Canteen: WU Mensa is the campus canteen that offers a range of affordable and yummy food

Gymnasium: Basketball court, weight room and activities available via <https://www.usi.at/>

Volunteer Opportunity: With SIMC, you will be able to be part of different departments/initiatives that the program offers. Including:

- Partners & Alumni
- Get2Gether & Sports
- Communications
- Social Responsibility
- Entrepreneurship Avenue
- NIMS
- FIT

These departments will be introduced at the Kickoff session of SIMC, where the heads of each department will discuss the volunteer opportunity and what the department entails.

I signed up for Entrepreneurship Avenue and had a great experience being the Head of Marketing for EA2023.

[Entrepreneurship Avenue](#) (EA) is the largest student-focused entrepreneurship event in Europe and is organized by SIMConnect and ECN in a collaborative effort (Entrepreneurship Center Network). As the ECN founded the EA in 2014, it supports you as a strategic and sparring partner for the 10th edition of the event series. The Avenue consists of a kick-off, four Workshops (called Labs), which help students from interdisciplinary backgrounds to develop their own start-up ideas, and a final conference. The Conference is the highlight of the event-series. Here, more than 1500 participants get inspired by a diverse program that features speakers from Silicon Valley and local heroes, a pitch competition, interactive workshops, a Start-up Fair, Job Chats, and many more.

I recommend this department if you are interested in the entrepreneurship and want to network with startups across Austria. It was a great 9-month experience working with a diverse team of students across Vienna and creating value throughout the event series.



5. Everyday life and leisure time

Cost of living: much higher than in Taiwan. Cooking at home will help you save a lot.

Culture shock: Vienna is named the most livable city, but grumpiest city. Therefore, be open to the fact that people can be cold and less enthusiastic

Climate: It gets really cold during the winter and really hot during the summer. Be prepared.

Leisure opportunities: Living in one of the most international cities in Europe, you will find a lot of flight and train options throughout Europe. Take advantage of your free time to explore the different countries and cultures.

City and surrounding area: the city provides a mix of history, nature, and modern lifestyles. Take advantage of the rich culture, the parks, and environment during your time in Vienna.

6. Conclusion (best and worst experience; would you study there again?)

During my time in Austria, I have an overall amazing experience and highly recommend it.

Best experiences:

- Experiencing the most livable city in the world for a whole year
- Being able to travel Europe with Vienna so accessible to other cities
- Meeting people from all over Europe and the world

Worst experiences:

- I do not have any

Lastly, I here is my testimonial as an IMBA Dual Degree Student.



Richard Huang | Canada | Class of 2021

With NCCU's IMBA Program, I was able to pursue a dual degree in Taiwan and Austria, allowing me to benefit from two diverse education systems and cultures. From the very beginning, the Masters Program provided an environment that encouraged intellectual growth, innovation, and cultural exchange. The last 2 years of the program was a truly transformative journey of education and experiences. This unique international exposure not only expanded my academic horizons but also fostered a global mindset and lifelong connections with fellow students. I highly recommend this program to anyone who is seeking to enrich their educational experience and be part of an amazing community.