UNIVERSITY OF KLAGENFURT
Die Wissenschaft und ihre Lehre ist frei.
Artikel 17 Staatsgrundgesetz. 1867
Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt (AAU) is a young and innovative university at the intersection of three cultures. Since its foundation in the year 1970, it has established itself as the leading academic educational institution in the region, and as a hub for the acquisition, exchange, and transfer of knowledge across the entire Alps-Adriatic Region.

Future-oriented degree programmes, outstanding achievements in teaching and research, numerous co-operations at home and abroad, ideal conditions for the advancement of young researchers and a one-of-a-kind campus nestled between a Renaissance city and Lake Wörthersee give the university its distinctive character. The THE Young University Rankings 2021 place the University of Klagenfurt at rank 48 among the best young universities worldwide.

More than 11,900 students pursue their studies and research on the campus, including around 2,000 from 100 different nations across the globe.
A total of 11,900 students study and conduct research at the university. This means that AAU is of a good size, yet still remains manageable. Every year, around 2,200 students take up their studies at our university.

The university in numbers

AAU has four faculties: The Faculty of Technical Sciences, the Faculty of Management and Economics, the Faculty of Humanities, and the Faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies (IFF).

The range of programmes is comprised of 18 Bachelor’s degrees, 27 Master’s degrees, 14 teaching subjects for trainee teachers, and 5 doctoral degrees. The most recent addition is the Master’s degree in “Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity”.

The University Sports Institute (USI) is situated on the campus. USI offers 250 sports courses every year. More than 5,000 sports enthusiasts use the varied range of offers every semester, from sailing on Lake Wörthersee, ski tours in the Carinthian mountains, sport climbing, to stand-up paddling: everything is possible.

Estrella is the university’s campus dragon and is depicted in the official AAU seal.

New knowledge only becomes effective through its dissemination – in scientific communities as well as among the general public. Around 1,000 publications appear every year.

Around 1,000 members of staff work at 35 departments and various centres for research and teaching. The 792 academics working at AAU come from 75 different countries. The university provides excellent conditions, encouraging outstanding performances in research and teaching.

The University of Klagenfurt has over 440 co-operation arrangements with more than 250 universities around the world. This provides great opportunities for Erasmus and joint-study visits, internships or summer schools abroad. The International Office provides guidance and support to those planning study periods abroad.

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IMPLEMENTING CRYPTOGRAPHY SECURELY

“I don’t know of any technical device that is not vulnerable to attack,” states Elisabeth Oswald, who has been researching cybersecurity at the Digital Age Research Center (DARC) since 2019. Encryption technologies perform well in many areas, but ultimately cryptography can only offer absolute security in theory. She and her team are working on the SEAL project (Sound and Early Assessment of Leakage for Embedded Software) to improve the testing and evaluation of cryptographic implementations. The project is funded by an ERC Horizon 2020 grant.

GENDER BUDGETING

Since 2009, Austria’s constitutional objective has been to achieve equality between women and men in the budgetary management of the federal government, the provinces and the municipalities. But what have the provinces and municipalities actually done since then to achieve this goal? And what effects have these measures had? Birgit Moser-Plautz, postdoctoral researcher at the Department of Public, Nonprofit and Health Management, is investigating this question in a project funded by the Anniversary Fund of the Austrian National Bank (ÖNB).

MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES ON OPTIMISATION

Optimisation problems surround us constantly in our daily lives. For example, supermarkets safeguard supplies by optimising the transport routes of goods, and energy suppliers optimise the provision of electricity. Discrete, stochastic, i.e. randomly influenced, and continuous mathematical models are used to analyse these problems. The goal of the doc.funds doctoral school, funded by the Austrian Science Fund FWF and headed by Michaela Szölgyenyi (Department of Statistics), is to enable the 14 doctoral students to combine the knowledge from several mathematical fields and thus create synergies.
MORE DIGITAL INNOVATIONS FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) form the backbone of the Austrian and European economy. They are essential for our prosperity, and they drive innovation. With its Digital Innovation Hubs, the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG) supports cooperation between universities and companies in order to keep SMEs fit for the future with enhanced digitalisation and innovation skills. In the Digital Innovation Hub SÜD, scientists and partner organisations, together with representatives from industry, focus primarily on digital business models, logistics and further education.

BETTER VIDEO QUALITY FOR VIEWERS

Since October 2019, the University of Klagenfurt and Bitmovin have been collaborating on the Christian Doppler Laboratory ATHENA. The team, led by Christian Timmerer, is working on new tools and methods for encoding, transporting and playing back live and on-demand videos using the HTTP adaptive streaming method. This method is often used by online video and TV providers. The resulting insights will help support the development of future generation solutions for higher quality video experiences with lower latency, while reducing storage and distribution costs.

POLAND BETWEEN HITLER AND STALIN

On 1 September 1939, Nazi Germany attacked Poland. Since Hitler had reached an agreement with Stalin on the division of the country a short time earlier, the Red Army also invaded Poland 17 days later. For 21 months, the country was under the rule of two extreme occupying powers. A research team led by Dieter Pohl (Department of History) is investigating the structures and logics of the two regimes within this context defined by time and space. The project is funded by the Austrian Science Fund FWF.
DRONE EXPLORES MARS

The fact that the Mars helicopter “Ingenuity” is exploring the Red Planet is due, in part, to a navigation technology co-developed by Stephan Weiss, Professor of Control of Networked Systems at the University of Klagenfurt. In 2021, doctoral students Alessandro Fornasier, Martin Scheiber and Christian Brommer took part in the AMADEE-20 Mars mission simulation run by the Austrian Space Forum (ÖWF) and collected data for the continued development of the helicopter in Israel’s Negev Desert.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE WITHOUT BIAS

Artificial intelligence depends on the kind of data that is available to it and how that data is processed. If decisions are made or supported by AI, there is a risk that discrimination against groups of people or minorities will be reinforced. The EU Horizon project (Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Network) aims to help researchers identify discriminatory AI decisions and provide solutions that harness the power of AI while safeguarding legal and social norms. It is led by Katharina Kinder-Kurlanda, Professor of Humanities of the Digital, at the Digital Age Research Center (D!ARC).

INNOVATIVE JOURNALISM IN DEMOCRACIES

We know a lot about how media innovations influence journalism economically and technologically, but not about how journalistic innovations affect the quality of reporting and thus the public in democratic societies. A project funded by the Austrian Science Fund (FWF) and involving the University of Klagenfurt aims to close this gap. It is headed by Matthias Karmasin, who is also the director of the Institute for Comparative Media and Communication Studies at the Austrian Academy of Sciences.
When we make decisions every day, whether in our professional or everyday lives, we often face complicated challenges that we can’t always overcome alone, but where we can do better as a team. In the DECIDE doctoral programme, Dario Blanco Fernandez wants to find out how people work together when it comes to solving tasks and reaching (good) decisions.

The Karl Popper Kolleg at the University of Klagenfurt provides promising young researchers and international researchers at the cutting edge of their fields a forum for long-term subject-specific synergies in the area of doctoral degrees. Currently, the focus is on "Responsible Safe and Secure Robotic Systems Engineering (SEEROSE)." In addition, specific doctoral programmes like "Decision-Making in a Digital Environment (DECIDE)" allow doctoral students to examine decision-making behaviour in the digital age from an economic, technical, and psychological perspective. Furthermore, there are seven thematic doctoral programmes, a mentoring programme for young scientists, and a range of training programmes designed especially for young researchers.

At the University of Klagenfurt, young researchers encounter ideal conditions for successfully proving and asserting themselves in the international competition for attention, reception, innovation, scientific positions, and research funding. They are the ones who raise new questions about the problems of our age on a daily basis and contribute to answering them with their scientific work, which is as precise as it is creative.

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Klagenfurt meets Venice

The University of Klagenfurt and Ca' Foscari University in Venice have been partners in research and teaching since 2011. Among other initiatives, the double-degree PhD programme "Italian Studies" was launched in 2019. The programme allows doctoral students to stay at the partner university for a period of 12 to 18 months and to receive a double degree.

SAFE ROBOTICS

At first, robotics research is mainly about what is feasible. System safety is often neglected in the process. Jasmin Wachter, who is pursuing her doctoral studies at the Karl Popper Kolleg "Responsible Safe and Secure Robotic Systems Engineering (SEEROSE)," aims to find out what measures are needed so that greater security for robotics actually pays off.
AAU offers a broad choice of Bachelor’s, Master’s and doctoral degree programmes in the fields of engineering, management and economics, culture, and languages. The teacher training degree (secondary school level) in Klagenfurt is taught jointly with the University College of Teacher Education (Carinthia) as part of the Development Network South-East.

We are continually expanding our range of degree programmes and adapting it to anticipate the latest requirements. New offers have been added in recent years, especially with regard to English-language programmes. Today, ten of the Bachelor’s and Master’s programmes are taught in English, including the Bachelor’s degree “International Business and Economics” and the Master’s degree “Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity.”
A COLLECTION COVERING CENTURIES

Most of the books are freely accessible in the library’s reading rooms. The precious historical collections of the library are carefully stored in the archives: the Karl Popper Collection, the Joseph Buttinger Library, the Goess Library, and the Hermann Broch Library. The special collections include 30,000 old prints, 700 early prints, 271 incunables, 374 paper manuscripts, and 66 parchment manuscripts. The oldest object is a palimpsest from the 6th century, which was found on the mirror of a manuscript from the 10th century. Selected exhibits from the special collections are regularly presented in the exhibition series “Treasures at the university library.”

The university library is home to around 1,045,400 printed books, 67,000 e-books, 33,600 e-journals, and more than 63 licensed databases. It is the university’s knowledge centre for matters relating to studying, research, teaching, and continuing education. The origins of the library date back to the second half of the sixteenth century.
The University of Klagenfurt is an institution with strong ties to the arts. 11 of the current 35 doctores honoris causa are writers, painters, and musicians. Our campus is filled with art, some of it hidden, some of it striking, some of it subversive, some of it quite obvious, and some of it cleverly concealed in unexpected places. The campus is very inviting as a space to explore and to stroll through. We would be happy to show you the diverse art forms on our campus as part of an art tour. We look forward to your registration at kunst@aau.at.

**TREASURE TROVE**

One very special feature is the University Cultural Centre UNIKUM, a space of applied artistic endeavour, forging links between artistic practice and research into creative subjects. The UNIKUM focuses especially on the creative and communicative processes of art.

**ARTEFICIA EXHIBITION**

11 honorary doctors present personal objects, including Peter Handke’s "Stockholm shirt" (worn for the 2019 Nobel Prize speech).
Art on campus

Newly designed wall of the Oman-Saal, featuring Estrella, the university’s very own official dragon.
The University of Klagenfurt is a young and innovative university. The campus is international, diverse, and features modern infrastructure. AU is one of the few universities to offer a broad spectrum of degree programmes, while still retaining its manageable size. The campus is fresh, green, and well arranged. The northern and central buildings as well as the exterior facades were comprehensively refurbished in 2018. Plans are currently underway for a future-oriented new construction that will create more space for students on campus in the form of a learning centre. All campus facilities are within easy walking distance. The university is a wonderful place to study, enjoy culture, and meet friends. The "Lakeside Science & Technology Park" is located in the immediate vicinity of the university and is home to around 70 companies and institutions, predominantly from the technology sector.
Choosing Klagenfurt as your place to study means living in a beautiful city: located on the shore of Lake Wörthersee, it is the southernmost city in Austria and home to more than 100,000 inhabitants. This highly liveable setting offers many green areas, relaxed cafes, as well as a small but excellent culture and pub scene. Klagenfurt also offers the ideal environment for creative and aspiring start-ups. Many of them are founded by alumni of the university, who remain in close contact with their alma mater. Klagenfurt is also surrounded by mountains and countless lakes and thus perfect for recreational activities with a strong sporting focus.

Carinthia has always been a place that encourages encounters and exchanges between the Alpine and the Mediterranean cultures. Slovenia, Italy, and Croatia are very close. Travelling from Klagenfurt, you can reach the Adriatic in just over an hour. Those who study in Klagenfurt can look forward to a vibrant and international atmosphere.