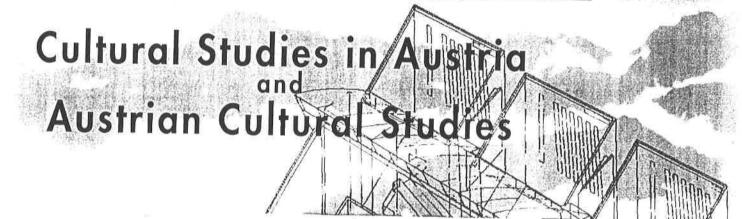
KOOPERATIONEN

Higher Education Science Research in Austria





A European Première for Language Instruction

The promotion of innovative methods and approaches to foreign language instruction is one of the main objectives of the recently established European Centre for Modern Languages (Europäisches Fremdsprachenzentrum, EFSZ) in Graz. EFSZ is planning a series of different seminars and workshops in foreign language instruction designed for teachers, experts, and policy makers from Western as well as Central and Eastern Europe.

The EFSZ program will address a broad range of linguistic issues such as curricular design, the development of testing methods, the instruction and continuing education of language teachers, writing and improving textbooks and instructional material, and related research and policy issues. Topics for the specific seminars are chosen upon the basis of need analysis in the field, focus on specific issues, and are taught by recognised experts in their respective fields. Twenty seminars are being planned for next year.

The EFSZ has been established under the auspices of the Council of Europe, and its "of-

ficial languages" analogously will be English and French. However, German will obviously be one of the working languages in Graz, and the instruction of German as a foreign language also is going to play an important role in the EFSZ programme. The Centre's objective is to promote the instruction of all European languages, including the "small ones."

Graz municipal, Styrian provincial, and Austrian federal agencies cover approximately half of the EFSZ budget of 20 million schillings (1.8 m USD), and contributions by members of the Council of Europe and signatories of the CE Cultural Convention cover the remainder.

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