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## **Poster Presentation**

Our poster, entitled „**Vienna: Kunst und Kitsch**” would highlight the most salient aspects of our four-week unit for a second-year German course.

We have created an innovative and intellectually challenging unit whose content and linguistic goals go beyond traditional „Landeskunde” units so prevalent in first and second-year textbooks.

The unit focuses on three content areas

- Malerei: Gustav Klimt
- Architektur: Friedensreich Hundertwasser, and
- Wiener Kaffeehauskultur

all of which have a strong visual component. Each content area focuses on a specific genre for speaking and writing tasks. For instance, the unit on Gustav Klimt teaches and asks students to produce a description of one of Klimt’s paintings („Bildbeschreibung”), while the unit on architecture works with Hundertwasser’s manifestoes on his architectural philosophy and then asks students to produce a counter-manifesto.

At the end of each subunit, students are encouraged to consider if and how tourism and marketing have turned „Kunst” into „Kitsch.” We discuss the fact that Gustav Klimt’s „Der Kuss” now adorns the covers of Danielle Steele novels, or that many of the „Kaffeehäuser” in Vienna have become (nothing but) tourist attractions.

„Vienna: Kunst und Kitsch” acquaints students with some of the highlights of Austrian culture present in the Austrian capital and asks them to consider the changing role and value of „art” and „C/culture” in today’s society.