GER 313G

Innovation and Crisis: Fin-de-Siècle Vienna

At the turn of the 20th century, the booming Vienna metropolis was a site of innovation in literature, the arts, and psychology. It was also a moment of crisis, as the traditionally ordered Austro-Hungarian society began to experience the process of upheaval that culminated in World War I. This course explores the ways that modern life reshaped human thought, sensory experience, and sexuality through the examination of textual and visual materials by Freud, Hofmannsthal, Loos, Klimt, Musil, Schiele, Schnitzler and others.

Selected sources:
- Sigmund Freud: Three Essays on the Theory of Sexuality
- Adolf Loos: Ornament and Crime. Selected Essays
- Ernst Mach: The Analysis of Sensations
- Robert Musil: The Man Without Qualities
- Carl E. Schorske: Fin-de-siècle Vienna. Politics and Culture