「2024年度ウィーン大学スプリングスクール派遣報告書」

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One of the reasons why I decided to participate in this program is because I've liked classical music from a young age. Vienna is widely known as the capital of music, and many famous musicians were active there. Therefore, I've always wanted to visit Vienna. In Vienna, we learned about the rich history during the imperial period from 1880 to 1938. We studied political history, labor issues, the history of the University of Vienna, and musicians. We learned not only from lectures, but also by visiting museums. It enabled us to understand them more deeply.

Among various things we experienced, I would like to write about music, which I am particularly interested in. Many musicians, including Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Johann Strauss, were active in Vienna. Traces of these musicians remain in Vienna as various forms, such as their memorial statues, the houses where they composed their music, the cuisine they enjoyed, and the atmosphere of the city. During free time, I visited the Viennese Music Association, Schoenborn Palace, St. Charles Church, and Vienna's oldest restaurant. I was glad to share experiences with musicians. Sharing things with them allowed me to imagine what they were thinking when they composed their music and how they played music. Music is a special part of Vienna's culture, and the entire city seemed to be filled with music.

In lectures at the University of Vienna, I learned about musicians who were active in Vienna from the 19th to early 20th centuries, such as Gustav Mahler and Arnold Schoenberg. Although I knew the names of these musicians, I didn't know much about them. Gustav Mahler was a composer in Vienna at the turn of the century and played an important role as an opera director. By combining symphonies and songs, he developed music. In other lectures, I learned that at the time, Vienna was defeated in wars and suffering from a great depression. When I listened to his music, I felt music was developing while reflecting the atmosphere of Vienna during that period. Schoenberg is also the musician who developed contemporary music. When I listened to his music for the first time at The House of Music, I felt uneasy. In the lecture, it was revealed that the uneasy melodies were intentionally created using various techniques. Knowing his intentions deepened my understanding of his works and made me want to know his music more. Speaking of musicians who were active in Vienna, I often thought of Mozart and Strauss. However, I could learn other great musicians who contributed to the development of music, and my interest in music grew even more. In addition, I gained a deeper understanding of the culture and history of other countries. By learning about their historical backgrounds, I was able to explore how their music reflected the spirit and social conditions of the times. This perspective allows us to see music not only as artistic expression but also as a reflection of the times. I would like to continue to learn about cultures and histories of other countries and broaden my perspective. Through this, I will also keep deepening my understanding of my culture and history.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to Professor Mazal, the students at the University of Vienna, and the participants from Kyoto University. This wonderful experience in Vienna is very precious to me, and I will continue to learn and become more familiar with various cultures.