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Saulkrasti, Latvia – warm and welcoming

News from the Nordic Summer University (NSU): Summer Session 2017

Apologies for any cross posting

In this newsletter you can read about:

- Summer Session 2017 venue and location
- Keynote Speakers
- Preliminary program from our eight study circles
- Scholarship and grant recipient deadlines
- Prices and practical information regarding travel
- Registration for the Summer Session
- More detailed information about excursions
- Overall program of the week

Summer Session 2017

Welcome to NSU Summer Session for 2017 in Saulkrasti, Latvia. Session will start 26th July (arrival date for the participants) and end the 2nd August (day of departure). For more general information, have a look at <https://nordic.university>. For special information, see the blog made by the arrangement committee (Arrkom), which contains practical information about the summer session including excursions, guides how to get to Saulkrasti and much more <https://nsu2017.wordpress.com/>.

Saulkrasti is an historic sea resort situated on the Baltic sea, 50 kilometers from Riga. The summer session 2017 will be held in Minhauzena Unda, a holiday accommodation in the middle of a pine forest less than a five-minute walk from the sandy beach seaside.

Keynote Speakers

NSU proudly presents this year's keynote speakers for the summer session:

Professor Sigridur Thorgeirsdottir is Professor of Philosophy at the University of Iceland. She specializes in the philosophy of Nietzsche, feminist philosophy and philosophy of nature and embodiment. More information of her research and publications is found here <http://uni.hi.is/sigrthor/>.

The second keynote Cecilia Malmström Olsson is a Ph.D. in dance science and literature and has been working in the field of dance for the past 35 years as a dancer, dance critic and researcher.

Preliminary programs from our eight study circles

Preliminary Study Circle programs can be found by clicking on the link for each individual circle here: <https://nordic.university/study-circles/>

Note that these schedules are preliminary and subject to small changes.

Scholarship and Grant Recipient Deadlines

May 15, Recipients will receive an offer by email from Arrkom

May 22, Final day for the recipients to confirm the offer, if not confirmed, the offer will be automatically given to the next applicant on the list (with a 48 hour window to confirm)

May 30, The list of scholarship and grant recipients is finalized.

June 1, Last day to register and pay for the Summer Session

Prices and practical information

As this year's venue is smaller than the expected number of participants, we are currently working towards finding extra spaces for all the people. We will let you know as soon as possible about what is available. Please do not worry - everyone who wishes to come will get a nice place to stay!

All prices are in Euro (€) / person:

- Single room: **550**
- Double room: **300**
- Triple room: **200**
- GRANT recipients: **60**
- SCHOLARSHIP recipients: **40**
- Adult not participating in the NSU program (bed in double room): **350**
- Children 5 - 18 years: **150**
- Children 2 - 4 years: **50**
- Children less than 2 years: **free**

Make your payment for the Summer Session at the NSU online shop <https://payment.nsuweb.org/>

Registration process

The final deadline to register and pay to attend the Summer Session is **1st of June**.

If you cancel and have paid before the 1st of June, you will be reimbursed, minus an administration fee of 27 Euro (250 SEK). If you cancel after the 1st of June, you will not receive any refund at all. Terms and conditions can be found at the site for payments. We advise all participants to take travel insurance in case of cancellations!

For registration and more info visit: <https://registration.nsuweb.org/>

Note: Grant and scholarship holders will be given a place in caravans- fun!

Cost for grant holders is 60 euros and for scholarship holders 40 euros.

There are also 3 accessible rooms available.

Families with children should get in touch with Arrkom to find the best solution. Our email is: arrkom@nsuweb.org.

Excursions

Horseback riding in Saulkrasti

During the excursion day you can choose from different activities such as horseback riding in Saulkrasti at the seaside. Please note that excursions are not included in the overall price of the summer session. You have to purchase them separately!



Riga city

You can choose a bus drive in the morning for a stimulating visit to Riga, the capital of Latvia. Included is a guided tour around tourist attractions and a visit to the National Art Museum or you can take the bus to Riga and dive into your own exploration of the city.

You will find more information about the activities in Riga from the links below:

<https://www.liveriga.com/en/> - various information

<http://www.lnmm.lv/en/> - museums

<http://www.latvia.travel/en/article/art-nouveau> - architecture

<http://www.latvia.travel/en/sight/riga-st-peters-church> - sight from above

<http://rigaoldtown.com/riga-guide/riga-old-town-a-short-guide/> - old town

<http://culturemap.lv/> - cultural events in Riga (visit this page near the end of July)



Riga

If you are a hyperrealism sympathizer visit **ARSENĀLS Exhibition Hall of the Latvian National Museum of Art** at Torņa iela 1, one of the largest exhibition halls in Riga. One of the best-known Latvian painters Maija Tabaka will be exhibiting there. The Exhibition Hall is located in an important architectural monument – a customs warehouse or arsenal built at the beginning of the 19th century in the late Russian Classical style. It was adapted for museum use in the second half of the 1980s.

<http://lnmm.lv/en/aei/visit/exhibitions/>

The Riga Zoo is open for visitors all year round. Summer is the time when most animal babies are born. If planning a visit to the zoo, keep in mind that: animals are most active in the first part of the day. During the summer from 11:30-14:15 visitors have an opportunity to see animal feeding shows. Seeing all the exhibits in a leisurely manner

might take no less than 3-4 hours. Standard price: adults - 6 €; children (4-18 years), students, senior citizens (to 70 years), - 4 € (identification required); family ticket (2 adults + 2 children, or 1 adult + 3 children) - 17 € (each additional child - 2 €); tickets for groups of 10 or more adults - 5 €/pers.

http://rigazoo.lv/public/index_en.html

If you are a nature lover but still want to visit Riga city you can travel to the **Latvian University Botanical Garden**. During summer the prices are - adults - 4.90 €; children (7-17 years) - 2.90 €; children under 6 years – free entrance; students, senior citizens - 3.90 € (identification required).

<http://www.botanika.lu.lv/nacciemosh>

Historic town Sigulda

You could take the bus drive to Sigulda, rich in natural beauty within the city environment. Sigulda invites you to study medieval castles, to hike in [Gauja National Park](#), and to take part in other events like Zilver winery where wines and other drinks are made from homegrown fruits and berries. Group price for visiting the winery is 5 €/person (at least 5 people in the group).

The Castle of Livonian Order in Sigulda was built in 1207 as a castellum type fortress, later rebuilt into a convent type building. From 2012 it is possible to climb up the North Tower, the Main Gate Tower and enjoy the medieval aura. Price for entrance at the castle is 2 € for adults; 1 € for students and seniors or 5 € for a family (2 adults, 2 and more students up to 15 years old).

Swimming in the air while resting on an air current may be enjoyed in the vertical wind tunnel - **AERODIUM**, which has become world-famous through participation in



Sigulda

various global events. Prices for a flight start from 45 €.

More information about AERODIUM here:

<https://www.aerodium.lv/en/flight>

More on Sigulda city here:

<http://tourism.sigulda.lv/>

Munchausen's Museum

Families can also spend the day at Munchausen's Museum located just 15 km from Minhauzena Unda (NSU symposia location). In Munchausen's Museum everything there is true, yet different... The museum revives the legend of Hieronymus Karl Friedrich von Munchausen. Prices for the museum: adults - 3,50 €, schoolchildren, seniors - 2,50 €, guide for a group - 20 €, guide for a family - 5 €.

Information about Munchausen's museum here: <http://minhauzens.lv/en/munchausens-world/munchausens-museum/>



Munchausen

Excursion Transportation

There will be two organized buses -

9:30* Minhauzena Unda - 10:30* Riga city – 18:30* Minhauzena Unda

9:45* Minhauzena Unda – 10:30* Sigulda city - 18:30* Minhauzena Unda

*Departure times may be adjusted, stay tuned.

To take part in Saulkrasti horseback riding or The Munchausen Museum, shuttle minibuses will be available.

Prices for the buses will be clarified in the following newsletters. The approximate price is 7 €/person.

There is public transportation also available from Saulkrasti to various cities if there is something specific you would like to visit that is not included in the excursions planned.

For more information contact Ginta Zabarovska from Arrkom:

ginta.zabarovska@gmail.com

Short guide on directions

If you come by plane



To get from the airport to the bus station take Bus 22, which leaves every 10 – 30 minutes and the duration of the trip is 30 minutes. The ticket costs 2.00 EUR and you can buy it from the driver. Be aware that the bus stop is outside the main entrance of the airport, so you should cross the car park to get there. You will find the bus stop in the far right corner of this airport terminal map (left).

If you take the coach from Estonia or Lithuania

Bus from Tallinn coach station to Riga coach station: <https://luxexpress.eu/en/tallinn-riga>. If you book in advance, the tickets are only 5 euros per journey.

Bus from Vilnius coach station to Riga coach station: <https://luxexpress.eu/en> If you book in advance, the tickets are only 5 euros per journey.

Lux Express has coaches between Riga and other European capitals so if you are not afraid of long bus journeys and want to save money this option is something to consider!

A ferry from Sweden

If someone wants to enjoy a relaxing, long voyage, there are also ferries from Stockholm to Riga. Find out about them by following this link: http://www.directferries.com/ferries_from_sweden_to_latvia.htm

The ferry will arrive at Riga Passenger Terminal from where you can take the bus no. 7 or 5 to Riga coach station. This will take approximately 25 minutes.

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The ferry will arrive at Riga Passenger Terminal from where you can take the bus no. 7 or 5 to Riga coach station. This will take approximately 25 minutes.



From Riga coach station to Saulkrasti

At the Riga Coach Station you should buy a ticket to Saulkrasti. The ticket costs around 2.55 EUR. The destination is a bus stop called “Koklītes” near “Minhauzena Unda”, so you should ask the bus driver where to get out. You will notice a road sign like the one on the left.



The duration of the trip is around 1 hour. The hotel, “Minhauzena Unda” is within walking distance from the bus stop and looks like the above.

Or like the above here.

Overall program of the week

	Wed. July 26	Thursday July 27	Friday July 28	Saturday July 29	Sunday July 30	Monday July 31	Tuesday August 1	Wed. August 2
8.00-8.45		morning exercise	morning exercise	morning exercise	morning exercise	morning exercise	morning exercise	morning exercise
7.30-9.00	Breakfast	Breakfast (children's circle intro)	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
9.00-11.30	Joint meeting Board and Coordinators (JMBC)	Study-Circles	Study-Circles	Study-Circles	Excursions	Study-Circles	Study-Circles	Departures
11.30-13.00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch		Lunch	Lunch	
13.00-15.00	Joint meeting Board and Coordinators (JMBC)	Study-Circles	Study-Circles	Study-Circles		Study-Circles	Study-Circles	
15.00-15.30	Coffe	Coffe	Coffe	Coffe		Coffe	Coffe	
15.30-17.00	Joint meeting Board and Coordinators (JMBC)	KEYNOTE: Cecilia Malmström Olsson	KEYNOTE: Sigríður Þorgeirsdóttir	KEYNOTE: Cecilia Malmström Olsson		KEYNOTE: Sigríður Þorgeirsdóttir	Performance of the Childrens Circle to the Study Circles	
17.00-18.00	Arrival of participants		General Assembly part I	NSU Press – conference		General Assembly part II	Fotball/ Joint meeting Board and Coordinators (JMBC)	
18.00-19.30	Welcoming dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Beach dinner	Dinner	Gala Dinner	
19.30-21.00	Welcoming evening	Cultural program	Cultural program	Cultural program/ Circle 7 LAB NIGHT	Cultural program	Cultural program	Cultural program	

Preliminary Schedule Summer Session 2017 - NB: May be subject to small changes

Since 1950, the Nordic Summer University (NSU) actively supports the cultivation of new ideas and growing research networks in the Nordic countries. As an independent, non-profit academic institution, NSU fosters the development of new research areas and emerging researchers in the Nordic and Baltic countries. Committed to egalitarian and interdisciplinary modes of learning, the NSU is open for senior scholars, doctoral and master students, as well as artists and professionals with relevant backgrounds. NSU is a non-profit organization, funded by Nordic Council of Ministers / Nordic Council (www.norden.org).

Please forward to anyone who may be interested.



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