

## **AWARENESS during ZKF class meetings**

The ZKF focuses on the presentation and discussion of students' artistic work. We want to provide a format in which all content is welcome and possible, regardless of gender, origin, class, sexual orientation, nationality, individual experiences. As long as works are presented and discussed in an appropriate and constructive way for everyone at eye level.

However, it is possible that topics within the ZKF may hurt individual feelings. In order to make the discussion format as open and wide-ranging as possible, we would like to refrain from issuing "warnings" and instead provide content in advance. In this way, each person can decide for themselves whether or not to participate.

We have defined the following guidelines for you to prepare, in order to support you before, during and after the presentation:

- 1) Content information: Before each presentation, you should provide a short text with information on the content/topic (2-3 sentences) in consultation with your dialog group. Copies of the text are laid out before the presentation so that each person can decide individually whether to stay or not.
- 2) Information on technical conditions: e.g. strobe lighting, confined spaces, many people in a confined space, darkness, extreme volume, odors, etc.
- 3) If you feel irritated, you can leave the room during the presentation and a confidant/buddy can be called in, ideally chosen by each student at the beginning of the semester.
- 4) In the event of exceptional psychological stress, psychological counseling is available at the University. The team will be happy to make initial contact.
- 5) Feedback on the presentations and the dialog group can be given at the subsequent ZKF.
- 6) The classes' own Awareness Group is also a point of contact for this topic and can serve as a discussion forum.

Our aim with the ZKF is to provide a forum that can address all topics appropriately. If there are moments that stand in the way of the above, we - teachers and students - try to question our patterns of action, change them and develop new approaches.

Info text should be made available as one A4 sheet before the presentation. It provides information about the content and general conditions.

Here is a previous example:

Presentation by Oskar „SoSe 2024

[Project name, date, dialogue group]

We're about to go down into the Wien River Canal together. At the bottom, we'll go into the tunnel and have a look around together.

The canal tunnel itself is very spacious, but the access is a bit narrow. It will also be very dark below. So if you know that you have serious problems with small spaces or darkness, I would advise you not to go down there. I realize that it will be a new experience for many, so it's perfectly fine to be apprehensive at first, but basically nothing can really happen. We may also encounter spiders, rats or other small rodents below, but unfortunately I have no control over that. Außerdem würde ich euch um zwei Sachen bitten, damit die Tunnelbegehung zu einem schönen Erlebnis für alle werden kann:

1. please try to talk as little as possible and if you do, then please talk quietly in a whisper with your neighbor or in small groups. The reverberation downstairs is very strong and I want the natural sound of the tunnel to be clearly audible to everyone.
2. if you use flashlights downstairs, I would ask you to shine them only on the floor. It can be very uncomfortable to get a strong light in your eyes in the dark.

Briefly about the process:

First we will go down a small spiral staircase below the surface, about 10m deep, and then, after a bend in the passage, we will arrive at the water. Please watch your heads as we descend, as the passage is very low in some places. We then wait at the bottom until everyone in the group has arrived.

Then we'll go a little deeper into the tunnel together as a group. I will lead the group and my friend Max will bring up the rear. If it gets too much for someone and they want to get out, they can wait for the tail light and then walk back to the tunnel exit with them. We will walk inside the tunnel for about 5 minutes, then we will stop for about 15 minutes and I will show you my work. We will switch off all the flashlights so that you can see the tunnel with all your senses.

At the end, we all go out together as a group, again with me in the front and Max bringing up the rear. The whole tour will take about 30 minutes.