

POLITICAL SCIENCE

CENTRAL
EUROPEAN
UNIVERSITY

www.ceu.hu/polsci

Degrees offered

Master of Arts in Political Science (MA); one year

Master of Arts in Political Science (MA); two years*

Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science (PhD)

Application deadlines

January 25, 2010: For applicants who wish/are required to take the CEU-administered admissions examinations and/or are requesting exemption from the English language proficiency requirement.

March 16, 2010: For applicants submitting applications complete with language scores and other applicable test scores.

April 16, 2010: For applicants to the doctoral program.

For further details:
www.ceu.hu/admissions

Financial aid

CEU is committed to sustaining a geographically diverse and multi-cultural student body. To further this goal, the university welcomes financial aid applications from students from all over the world.

Detailed information is available at: www.ceu.hu/admissions/financialaid

* This program is accredited in Hungary.
For more information visit:
www.ceu.hu/hundegrees

The Department of Political Science is unique within Europe with a curriculum that covers almost all areas of political studies, with a special emphasis on comparative politics. Representing a comprehensive range of academic approaches and expertise, the department's faculty address, in a comparative manner, questions of political philosophy, democratization and regime change, constitutional politics, political economy, media, voting behavior, party politics, human rights and Europeanization. The programs invite students who wish to develop the analytical skills necessary to achieve excellence in their areas of study. With original scholarship, basic and applied research, and creative instructors, graduate work at the department attracts an outstanding selection of ambitious and qualified students from throughout the world.

The student/faculty ratio for the Department of Political Science is 5:1.

Career Paths

Upon completion of the program, students will have acquired a solid background in political science and political economy, political theory, and social science research. Alumni of the department continue their career in higher education, politics, political analysis, the media, civil service, international NGOs and research organizations, business, government, and other related areas. Graduates who wish to further their studies elsewhere typically enroll in the doctoral programs of leading European and US universities.

Additional information on CEU graduates' career paths is available at: www.ceu.hu/alumnicareer/lifeafterceu

The Master's Programs

Master of Arts in Political Science (One-year Program)

The program offers a comprehensive and interdisciplinary curriculum in theory and research methods of contemporary political science. Specializations include a variety of fields such as: politics and economics of democratization in a comparative perspective; political culture; international development; comparative and European politics; current issues in the theory and practice of constitutional democracy; political theory; political sociology and political economy. US standards in research and teaching are harmonized with the diverse needs of an international student body.

Master of Arts in Political Science (Two-year Program)

The two-year program specifically addresses the needs of students who have a three-year study background in political science (or a related discipline) and would like to gain comprehensive knowledge about contemporary political theory and European politics as well as different research methodologies and empirical skills necessary for the practice of political science. Student have the opportunity to deepen their knowledge in fields such as comparative politics, political economy, political communication or political theory.

Specializations

The department offers MA students a variety of courses by means of which certificates can be obtained:

- Certificate in Social and Political Theory
- Certificate in Comparative Politics
- Certificate in Political Economy
- Certificate in Political Communication
- Certificate in Electoral Politics
- Certificate in Political Research Methodology and Social Analysis
- Certificate in Comparative European Politics
- Certificate in Post-communist Politics

Sample Courses for the Master's Programs

Comparative European Politics (Anton Pelinka); Revolution and the State (Andras Bozoki); Political Economy of Post-communist Transformation (Dorothee Bohle); Political Communication (Gabor Toka); Topics and Methods in Comparative Politics (Maurizio Cotta); Parties and Party Systems (Zsolt Enyedi); Biotechnology and Social Policy (Judit Sandor); Politics of Central Asia (Matteo Fumagalli)

Hairong Lai



China, Class of 2008
Deputy Director and Senior Fellow,
China Center for Comparative Politics
and Economics, China

“Central European University opens a new world for research in political science. I benefited enormously from CEU’s rigorous and systematic training on empirical research methodology, and from the open-mindedness and the impressive diversity of its academic community.”

Alan Renwick



United Kingdom, Class of 1997
Lecturer, School of Politics and
International Relations, University
of Reading, UK

“Studying at CEU provided me with deeper knowledge about the Central and Eastern European region, especially since theories were enriched by fellow students’ experiences from their countries. CEU also helped me build a dense network of contacts.”

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Central European University does not discriminate on the basis of—including, but not limited to—race, color, national and ethnic origin, religion, gender and sexual orientation in administering its educational policies, admissions policies, employment, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

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Entry Requirements for the Master’s Programs

All applicants must meet the General CEU Admissions Requirements (see: www.ceu.hu/admissions/apply), and submit:

- a 100-word statement of purpose describing the reason(s) why they are applying to the program
- a short (approximately 500 words) exposition of an issue or problem in political science in which they are interested
- samples of previous writings and/or a list of scholarly publications and relevant research experience (as applicable). Note that these materials will not be kept, commented on or returned by the department.

Applicants must also take a 45-minute Test of Writing Ability under examination conditions. Successful applicants typically hold a first degree in political science, economics, sociology, history or law (other degrees are also given consideration).

The Doctoral Program

The doctoral program is primarily oriented towards academia, preparing graduate students for a career in research and/or university-level teaching. The emphasis is on the development of professional-level research and analytical skills in one or more of the following fields: comparative politics, European studies, international relations, political economy, political theory, public policy and human rights. The different tracks are taught and administered together with the departments of international relations and European studies, public policy, philosophy and legal studies. More information is available at: <http://web.ceu.hu/polsci/>

During their studies at CEU, doctoral candidates are actively introduced to research networks in their field through participation in major research projects in which CEU faculty are partners or lead personnel. Travel support from CEU for participation in major academic conferences and summer schools is available. There are also opportunities to participate in graduate student workshops that the department organizes regularly, in collaboration with some of the most outstanding European and US universities (including: LSE, EUI, Pompeu Fabra, Sciences Po, SUM).

Doctoral enrollment may continue up to a maximum of six years. Students admitted into CEU doctoral programs are eligible to receive the CEU Doctoral Fellowship for up to three years. Numerous additional funding opportunities exist, such as the Doctoral Research Support Grant Program, the Erasmus Mobility Scheme, and various research and travel funds. Further information on financial aid is available at: www.ceu.hu/admissions/financialaid/doctoral. Additional information on CEU’s doctoral programs can be found at: www.ceu.hu/studentlife/students/policies

Sample Courses for the Doctoral Program

Democratic Theory (Janos Kis); Interest Group Politics (Philippe Schmitter); Comparative Party Competition (Herbert Kitschelt); Voting Behavior and Public Opinion (Gabor Toka); Social Movements (Sidney Tarrow); Institutions and Institutional Change (Nenad Dimitrijevic); Survey Methodology (Tamas Rudas); Origins of Social Contract (George Klosko); The Political Economy of Advanced Capitalism (Bela Greskovits)

Entry Requirements for the Doctoral Program

In addition to meeting the General CEU Admissions Requirements (see: www.ceu.hu/admissions/apply), applicants must have earned a GPA of 3.3 or higher in their Master’s program (or an equivalent grade), and must also submit a:

- 100-word statement of purpose discussing their field of scholarly interest and future professional goals, and the reason(s) why they are applying to the program
- 500-word summary of their MA thesis
- 500-word outline of their doctoral dissertation topic

Applicants are also encouraged to attach samples of previous writings, a list of scholarly publications or relevant research experience. Candidates who are not CEU graduates must also take the CEU-administered Test of Writing Ability.

Selected Areas of Research

Research areas for the Department of Political Science include: European politics, democratization and regime change; voting behavior; party politics; comparative political economy of Eastern European and developing countries; media policy; bioethics; analytical and normative political theory; constitutional theory; quantitative analysis, survey methods and methodology of social science. The department collaborates with the following research centers at CEU: the Center for Ethics and Law in Biomedicine, the Center for Media and Communication Studies, the Center for the Study of Imperfections in Democracy.

MORE INFORMATION AND INQUIRIES

For detailed information about the academic programs and courses, specific entry requirements, and a list of faculty, visit the departmental website or contact the department.

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