



Welcome to the Department of Political Science

Orientation session for
1-year MA students
2011/2012

In front of you: Robert Sata, Balint Bethlenfalvy and Bori Darabos...

- ✦ Balint and Bori are the coordinators of the MA program and Robert is the academic coordinator
- ✦ Krisztina Zsukotynszky is the PhD School Coordinator
- ✦ Offices: FT 802, 803, Kriszta sits in N15
- ✦ We are the ones to talk to about routine aspects of the program like requirements, class schedule, syllabi, readers, etc.

... and Dorothee Bohle

- ✦ Head of department
- ✦ The head is the person to whom you can address all special requests, comments, and suggestions regarding the program and your studies
- ✦ Office: FT 807
- ✦ Office hours: Tuesday 13:30-17:30 (or by appointment, which you can arrange by sending an email to bohled@ceu.hu)

Other office(r)s of interest

- ✦ The student services (all offices located on the ground floor of the Monument Building) deal with your accommodation, stipend, special theatre tickets, etc.
- ✦ The Student Records Office manages course registration, issues transcripts and diplomas
- ✦ Alumni and Career Office keeps contact with former students and provides personalized counseling to students and alumni
- ✦ Computer Help Desk (basement)
- ✦ The Academic Pro-Rector, the Student Council and the University Disciplinary Committee are the ultimate authorities with respect to student complaints (for details see the CEU Student Handbook)

Pre-session

✦ September 5 - 9: Pre-session Week

Prepare for the semester:

- settle down in Budapest
- get to know CEU facilities like the computer system and the library
- attend orientation sessions
- meet your mentor
- Departmental MA reception (September 8, 3 pm)
- start thinking about what classes to register for

For further details see the departmental schedule

Diploma requirements

Defend a thesis and earn 32 credits in courses, which:

- ✦ (usually) HAVE TO include *Scope and Methods: Research Design and Techniques* (two-credit course) and one four-credit core course from each *core groups*: **1. Research Methods, 2. Political Theory, 3. Political Economy, 4. Comparative Politics**
- ✦ include elective courses offered or cross-listed by the department; and
- ✦ MAY include 4 credits of any other courses offered at CEU and 4 credits in PhD-level political science courses, with a permission of the doctoral committee. Such a request can be sent to ds@ceu.hu.

Note also the departmental policies that regulate further details, which are available on the departmental website.

Your core courses

✦ Research methodology:

- ◆ Quantitative Methods -Analyzing Countries, (Fall),
- ◆ Quantitative Methods - Analyzing People (Fall),
- ◆ OR Multivariate Statistics (Winter)

– you will be enrolled based on the results of the placement exam during the Zero Week

✦ Political Theory:

- ◆ Introduction to Political Philosophy (Fall) OR
- ◆ Introduction to Contemporary Political Philosophy (Winter)

✦ Political Economy:

- ◆ Concepts in Political Economy (Fall) OR
- ◆ Political Economy II (Winter)

✦ Comparative Politics:

- ◆ Comparative Political Research (Fall) OR
- ◆ Topics and Methods in Comparative Politics (Winter)

Your core courses

- ✦ It is up to you whether you take a core course in the fall or in the winter semester but make sure that you take one four-credit core course plus from each core group during these two semesters.
- ✦ You do not have to choose the research methods course. The result of the placement exam will determine which one you will take.

NOTE: you can be exempted from any and all core groups if you pass the relevant exemption test(s) during the zero week – You will still need 32 credits from courses.

For details see the [MA](#) and [PhD](#) course schedules

Departmental Calendar

✦ September 12 - 16: Zero Week

- One introductory class from each course (try to attend all these classes and check out the cross-listed courses)
- Exemption tests (passing an exemption test in the field of a core group gives you exemption from the given core group requirement)

[sign up with Balint or Bori, FT#802 by 1 pm, Thursday 8 September]

- **September 16, 12:30 pm, FT#809: Mandatory placement test in Quantitative Research Methods**

✦ September 16, 3 pm: Opening Ceremony in CEU Auditorium

Departmental Calendar

- ✦ September 19 - December 9: Fall semester
 - ◆ Task: Earn approx. 16 credits from courses
 - ◆ Complete Core requirements
- ✦ December 12 - January 8: Winter break
 - ◆ Task: No exams, just holidays!
- ✦ January 9 - March 30: Winter semester
 - ◆ Task: Earn the rest of your 32 course credits
 - ◆ Complete Core requirements
- ✦ January 30: Deadline to choose thesis title and supervisor (you will have to fill out a questionnaire)
- ✦ March 12: Submit a formal research proposal of at least 2,500 words

Departmental Calendar

- ✦ April 2 - June 14: Spring semester (no classes)
 - Special Courses (Ken Benoit, Laszlo Barabasi); thesis writing
- ✦ April-May: research trips (some dept. funding available)
- ✦ April 23: submit 5,000-word first draft of thesis
- ✦ May 25: submit a full draft of your thesis
- ✦ May 29: submit final version of your thesis
- ✦ June 4-8: MA thesis defenses
- ✦ June 14: Graduation Ceremony

Option: Certificate programs in political science

Basic idea: in the course of your studies for an MA in Political Science you can, if you so wish, specialize in a field of your choice, and receive from the department – in addition to your MA diploma – a certificate proving this.

Requirement: you will earn at least 12 credits in courses related to the given specialization and receive a B+ or better grade in each course. The list of courses belonging to each specialization is available through the departmental website.

Certificate programs in 2011/12

- ✦ **Social and Political Theory**
- ✦ **Comparative Politics**
- ✦ **Political Economy**
- ✦ **Political Communication**
- ✦ **Electoral Politics**
- ✦ **Research Methodology**
- ✦ **Comparative European Politics**
- ✦ **Post-Communist Politics**
- ✦ **Public Policy**
- ✦ **Constitutional Politics**

Another option: Earn a Hungarian (i.e. European) degree

- ✦ Those of you who are interested can sign up for “szakirányú továbbképzés” (further specialization) in political science
- ✦ Requirements:
 - ✦ 4 year long university education prior to CEU
 - ✦ pass the final oral exam at the department at the end of the year (drawing questions out of a list provided earlier, see website for details)
- ✦ Those interested in this degree should signal this to Balint or Bori by November 2, 2011.

Besides courses you will also need to pick a thesis supervisor

Dorothee Bohle: political economy of globalization, eastern enlargement of the EU, comparative political economy of Central European transformation

Andras Bozoki: comparative politics (democratization, East Central European politics) and theories of political change

Nenad Dimitrijevic: political theory, constitutional theory

Anil Duman: political economy, economic development, welfare state policies, and comparative economic systems, labor market institutions, social security regimes, and their interactions

Zsolt Enyedi: party politics, comparative politics, political attitude research

Faculty specialization (cont.)

Attila Folsz: the political economy of post-communist transitions, monetary and exchange rate politics, European integration

Matteo Fumagalli: Central Asian and post-Soviet politics, social and political activism, the comparative study of authoritarianism, the politics of identity and ethnicity

Bela Greskovits: political economy of transition and macro-economic stabilization, leading economic sectors and their political consequences

Janos Kis: political philosophy, democratic theory

Levente Littvay: statistical questions, assessment of electoral systems and the genetics of social and political behavior.

Faculty specialization (cont.)

Tamas Meszerics: decision theory, organization theories, bureaucratic politics, foreign policy, history of the cold war

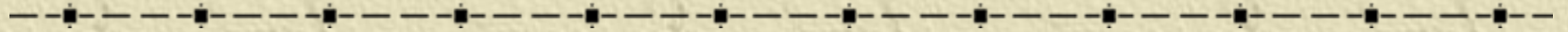
Zoltan Miklosi: political and moral philosophy, especially theories on political obligation and egalitarian justice

Andres Moles: contemporary political and moral philosophy, with particular reference to liberal and democratic thought, and issues concerning social and distributive justice

Anton Pelinka: comparative politics, democratic theory, west European politics

Tamas Rudas: data analysis, applied statistics, survey methodology, mathematical statistics

Faculty specialization (cont.)



Judit Sandor: human rights, legal policy, health care law, privacy, discrimination, politics of reproduction

Carsten Q. Schneider: comparative research methods, democratization

Lea Sgier: political communication, media policy and media law, journalism and politics, information society, environmental politics

Gabor Toka: voting behavior, public opinion, electoral systems

Visiting professors in 2011/12

Fall:

Julian Casanova (University of Zaragoza)

Greg Bognar (New York University)

Lina Dencik (Center for Media and Communication Studies)

Winter:

Julia Szalai (ELTE University)

Sidney Tarrow (Cornell University)

Herbert Kitschelt (Duke University)

Philippe Schmitter (European University Institute)

Spring:

Albert-Laszlo Barabasi (Northeastern University)

Keneth Benoit (Trinity College)

Class schedules during the semesters:

You will find these displayed on the departmental notice board on the 8th floor of the Faculty Tower and on the departmental website:

<http://www.ceu.hu/polsci>

Some overlaps between the timeslots of the various courses are inevitable. If there is such an overlap between two courses that you would like to take, ask the instructor and your classmates whether rescheduling may be possible (not likely).

Attendance is mandatory, you cannot sign up for two classes at the same time-slot.

Student Representatives


- ✦ As MA students of the Department of Political Science you have the right to vote and the right to be elected as a representative to the Student Union of the MA students.
- ✦ You are to elect your representative and his/her deputy.
- ✦ As of the rights and obligations of students and their representatives please visit the site of the CEU Student Union <http://www.ceu.hu/studentlife/students/su>
- ✦ Please send short statement that you would like to run as a candidate to the departmental email (polsci@ceu.hu) a by **Wednesday, September 7**. There are no other requirements for nominations.
- ✦ Elections will take place at the MA Reception. (Please note that MA2 students will elect their representatives at the same event - there will be two elections!)

Course Readers, Communication

- ✦ The readers for all the courses are available in electronic form on the common 'O' drive.
(O:/POLSCI/Readers)
- ✦ There are pigeon holes for all of you on the 8th floor corridor. Please check them regularly.
- ✦ Primary communication is via email. It is your duty as a student to check your CEU email regularly and respond to all departmental requests.
- ✦ Our offices have an open-door policy. Please visit the secretariat between 9:00-17:00.

CEU Political Science Journal

- ✦ CEU PSJ is a peer review journal
(<http://www.personal.ceu.hu/PolSciJournal/>)
- ✦ In its seventh year of existence, and is looking for collaborators / editorial assistants. You get a chance to work at a professional journal, which is a great experience.
- ✦ Especially wanted:
 - ◆ language editor
 - ◆ local organizer of distribution
- ✦ Please contact:
Sergiu Gherghina (sergiulor@yahoo.com) or the department



Once again, welcome to
the Department of Political
Science. Try to make the
most of our offering.

With any further questions, please
turn to us or your academic advisor.
