



Welcome to the  
Department of Political Science

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Orientation session for  
the 2-year MA students  
2011/2012

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

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- ✦ 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

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- ✦ Head of department
- ✦ The head is the person to whom you can address all special requests, comments, 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](mailto:bohled@ceu.hu))

# Other office(r)s of interest

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- ✦ 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 Week

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## ✦ September 5 - 9: Pre-session

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

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Complete mandatory and elective credits in courses in two years and defend a thesis in an oral exam:

- ✦ Attend remedial courses if needed
- ✦ All mandatory courses are in the first year
- ✦ 4 mandatory courses are in the Fall Semester, 22 ECTS credits + elective course(s)
- ✦ Approx. 25 ECTS credits in the Winter
- ✦ You will have 3 mandatory courses, plus you will have to choose one course from the following courses:
  - Political Economy II,
  - Political Theory
  - Topics and Methods in Comparative Politics.

# Diploma requirements (cont.)

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- ✦ Complete 100 ECTS credits in total
  - Mandatory and elective courses
- ✦ Submit and defend an approx. 18,000-word-long thesis
  - See departmental guidelines for thesis writing
- ✦ Pass the Comprehensive oral exam:
  - Exam questions will be distributed ahead of time (you can check them on the website)
  - Draw and answer question(s) before an Exam Committee

# Diploma requirements (cont.)

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- ✦ Academic Writing for Political Scientists courses are mandatory in all four semesters
- ✦ You will be able to choose more freely between the elective courses in the second year
- ✦ You can include elective courses offered or cross-listed by the department

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

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

# Diploma requirements (cont.)

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- ✦ You will have to take the Multivariate Statistics course – this course requires some background knowledge in statistics.
- ✦ All students are required to take the placement exam in quantitative methods during the Zero Week, and based on the results you will know if you can enroll or not in the Multivariate Statistics course. If you do not meet the entry requirements you will be suggested to take one of the statistics courses offered in the Fall term:
  - Quantitative Methods Analyzing Countries or
  - Quantitative Methods: Analyzing People.
  - Attending the classes should give you the proper background necessary for Multivariate Statistics.

# Diploma requirements (overview for fall semester)

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## **Introductory courses (0 ECTS.)**

- ✦ Academic Writing
- ✦ Computer Skills

## **Remedial course (0-20 ECTS. Depending on educational background)**

- ✦ You will be contacted

## **Mandatory core courses (54 ECTS)**

- ✦ *Foundational theoretical and methodological courses (20 ECTS)*
- ✦ Foundational Political Philosophy
- ✦ Comparative European Politics
- ✦ Political Economy I
- ✦ Political Communication

# Departmental Calendar

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## ✦ September 12 - 16: Zero Week

- One introductory class from each course (try to attend all these classes and check out the cross-listed course)
- 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

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- ✦ September 19 - December 9: Fall semester
  - Task: Take four mandatory courses, any catch-up course required, and qualitative method course if necessary
- ✦ December 10 - January 8: Winter break
  - Task: No exams, just holidays!
- ✦ January 9 – March 30: Winter semester
  - Task: Take three mandatory courses + one mandatory elective course
- ✦ January 30: Deadline to choose thesis title and supervisor (you will have to fill out a questionnaire)
- ✦ March 12: Submit the final thesis topic

# Departmental Calendar

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- ✦ April 2 - June 14: Spring semester
  - ◆ Special Courses (Ken Benoit, Laszlo Barabasi); thesis writing
- ✦ April-May: Research trips (some dept. funding might be available)
- ✦ April 23: Submit a 2,500-word draft of thesis
- ✦ June 15: Submit a 5,000-word outline of thesis
- ✦ Fall Term 2012/13:
  - ◆ Task: Take elective courses
  - ◆ Thesis writing course
  - ◆ November 5: Submit a formal research proposal of at least 8,000 words
- ✦ Winter Term 2012/13
  - ◆ February 4, 2013: Submit a 12,000 words draft
  - ◆ April 29, 2013: Submit a 15,000-word draft
  - ◆ May 24, 2013: submit a full draft of your thesis
  - ◆ May 29, 2013: submit final version of the thesis
- ✦ June 3-7, 2013: thesis defenses + oral exams
- ✦ June 13, 2013: Graduation Ceremony

# Certificate programs in political science

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**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 40 ECTS (20 CEU) 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

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

# Besides courses you will also need to pick a thesis supervisor

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**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.)

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**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.)

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**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.)

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**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:

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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

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- ✦ As MA2 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](mailto: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 MA1 students will elect their representatives at the same event - there will be two elections!)

# Course Readers, Communication


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- ✦ 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

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- ✦ 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](mailto:sergiulor@yahoo.com)) or the department



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

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

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