

POSTGRADUATE (PH.D.) PROGRAM OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
Eötvös Loránd University Budapest
Faculty of Social Sciences, Doctoral School of Sociology

Discipline: International Studies

Level: Doctoral (Ph.D.)

Aim of the program: to ensure the existence of a new generation of scientists dedicated to international studies and related sciences, their thorough preparation for acquiring the Ph.D. qualification and for carrying out independent academic research and lecturing activities at a post-graduate academic level. The program aims to provide this in conformity with international educational standards in international studies, meeting formal and content requirements; as well as providing highly qualified research experts and university teachers in the future, along with training specialists (of both theoretical and practical approaches) for different fields of international relations practice at a high level, recognized on an international scale.

Length of the program: 4+4 semesters (+2 semesters).

Periods:

- study and research phase, 4 semesters;
- research and thesis writing phase, 4 semesters.

Language of the program: English

Form of doctoral program: Full-time education

Funding: Limited number of state scholarships available, tuition fee.

Requirements to enter the program: MA or MSc degree in social sciences, or related fields (as well as other university-level qualifications relevant to applicant's research topics) and a successful admission interview, research plan.

Language requirements for admission: applicants are required to submit a certificate of English proficiency or, if the applicant's language of instruction during their previous training was English, a university degree or high school diploma will suffice. **For the completion of the program,** an additional complex intermediate level state exam or equivalent in a foreign language (non-Hungarian) is required. Native languages (other than English) can be accepted as a second foreign language. Knowledge of the native language can be proved by a university degree or high school diploma.

Comprehensive examination: must be taken at the end of 4th active semester academic part + methodology part + scientific part.

The program ends: with the defense of the dissertation.

Full credit requirement: 240 credits

Erasmus: Those students, who would like to go with Erasmus or other mobility program to another country are suggested to do so between the 5th and the 8th semester of the program.

Course Code	Title of the Course	Semester	Credit	Type	Lecture or Seminar	Notes
1ST-4TH SEMESTERS: STUDY AND RESEARCH PHASE						
STUDY MODULE (REQUIRED NO. OF COMPLETED CREDITS: 70)						
	Basic Concepts of Political Theory	1-3	10	mandatory	lecture	
	International Relations	1-3	10	mandatory	lecture	
	Global Constitutionalism	2-4	5	mandatory elective	seminar	2 seminars must be selected from this group of 4
	International Political Sociology	2-4	5	mandatory elective	seminar	
	International Human Rights	2-4	5	mandatory elective	seminar	
	European Studies	2-4	5	mandatory elective	seminar	
PHDSocMOE 1	Research design and methods I.	1-3	10	mandatory	lecture	
PHDSocMOE 2	Research design and methods II.	2-4	10	mandatory	seminar	PHDSocMOE1
PHDSocSem E1	Academic English and essay writing	1-4	5	mandatory	seminar	
PHDSocSem E2	Information search- and publishing strategy	1-4	5	mandatory	seminar	
	Elective seminar I.	1-4	5	mandatory elective	seminar	
	Elective seminar II.	1-4	5	mandatory elective	seminar	
	Elective seminar III.	1-4	5	mandatory elective	seminar	
	Elective seminar IV.	1-4	5	mandatory elective	seminar	
SCIENTIFIC MODULE (REQUIRED NO. OF COMPLETED CREDITS: 50)						
	Research Colloquium I.	1-4	5	mandatory	seminar	
	Research Colloquium II.	1-4	5	mandatory	seminar	prerequisite: Research Colloquium I.

	Tutorial seminar I.	1	10	mandatory	seminar	
	Tutorial seminar II.	2	10	mandatory	seminar	
	Tutorial seminar III.	3	10	mandatory	seminar	
	Tutorial seminar IV.	4	10	mandatory	seminar	

COMPREHENSIVE FINAL EXAM						
PHDisKomplexE	Comprehensive final exam: course work and scientific work	4	0	mandatory		
5TH-8TH SEMESTERS: RESEARCH AND THESIS WRITING PHASE (REQUIRED NO. OF COMPLETED CREDITS: 120)						
TUTORIAL SEMINARS (REQUIRED NO OF COMPLETED CREDITS: 40)						
PHDSocTuE5	Tutorial seminar V.	5	10	mandatory	seminar	
PHDSocTuE6	Tutorial seminar VI.	6	10	mandatory	seminar	
PHDSocTuE7	Tutorial seminar VII.	7	10	mandatory	seminar	
PHDSocTuE8	Tutorial seminar VIII.	8	10	mandatory	seminar	
ACADEMIC TEACHING (REQUIRED NO. OF COMPLETED CREDITS: 20)						
PHDOktE1	Teaching a full independent academic course	1-8	20	mandatory elective		
PHDDemE1	Teaching assistance at an academic course	1-8	10	mandatory elective		
ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT (REQUIRED NO. OF COMPLETED CREDITS: 60)						
PHDTanE1	Publishing a scientific publication	1-8	20	mandatory elective		
PHDTanRE1	Publishing a scientific review	1-8	5	mandatory elective		
PHDKonfE1	Participation in a conference with presentation	1-8	15	mandatory elective		
PHDKonfE2	Participation in a conference with poster	1-8	10	mandatory elective		
PHDBookE1	Publishing a scientific book as author or co-author	1-8	40	mandatory elective		
PHDEditE1	Publishing a scientific book as editor or co-editor	1-8	20	mandatory elective		
PHDDefE	Public defense of the first full draft version of the dissertation, elective	1-8	15	mandatory elective		
PhDProm	Science promotion (presentation or article)	1-8	5	mandatory elective		

For the current plan of course announcements, doctoral students should contact the secretary of the program.

A) Study and research phase: course work and scientific research (1st-4th semesters)

The minimum number of credits to be completed by the end of 4th semester is **120** credits.
Minimum number of credits to be completed by each semester: 15.

Study Module

Minimum number of credits to be completed in the study module: 70.

Purpose of the phase: the purpose of the study and research phase is twofold. On one hand, students must start doing independent work (science module). On the other hand, adjusting to the nature of social science research, students have the opportunity to gain insight into qualitative/quantitative research methods and theories appropriate for specialization in international studies.

Introductory courses are based on the topics of political philosophy, theory of international relations, international political sociology, European studies and international human rights, along with research design and methods. Minimum requirement: to complete the introductory module in the first semester, for 30 credits altogether: Basic Concepts of Political Theory, International Relations and Research design and methodology I. In the second semester, two introductory seminars must be selected for 10 credits altogether. (select from: Global Constitutionalism, International Political Sociology, International Human Rights and European Studies.) 40 credits in sum.

Students must prepare a study plan during the first semester (due by the end of the academic period) under the direction of their tutors. This contains the types of subjects the student will be attending from the following semester. (The study plans have to be handed in to the officer in the Registrar's Office. They will be also handed over to the program director.)

Introductory seminars help the students in their academic progress with methodological consultations, academic writing and publishing strategies. The requirements for completing the introductory seminars are 20 credits for three courses: Research design and methodology II., Academic English and essay writing and Information search- and publishing strategy. The courses are announced by the program management, and the lecturers are invited by the Head of the Doctoral School.

Mandatory elective seminars dedicated to topics relevant to the doctoral program and the research fields of the students. These seminars provide an opportunity for students to meet professors and researchers from different areas to discuss their research projects and results. During these seminars all doctoral students are expected to present their ongoing work. They have the opportunity to present and debate the theoretical and methodological problems of their research. We recommend completing these seminars during the 3rd and 4th semesters for 20 credit altogether. The number of credits per subject is 5.

Scientific module

Minimum number of credits to be completed in the scientific module: 50.

The scientific module incorporates the acquirement of the required knowledge (both theoretical and practical) to do academic research in the selected field of the student, writing and submitting publications, bibliographies, book reviews, translations, participating in academic conferences and workshops, holding lectures, tutorial consultations, preparing research plans, and conducting field work.

Tutorial seminars are mandatory in each semester. At least one meeting per month is required with the presence of the doctoral student and the supervisor during term-time. Meetings can be face-to-face or online – depending on the actual circumstances. A short memo written by the student is required about these meetings. The doctoral student has to upload the memo to the virtual folder provided by the administration of the doctoral school.

Research colloquiums are one of the central courses of the program. At these courses, all doctoral students have the opportunity to present and discuss their project in its initial stage. These courses are coordinated by the program director.

Additionally to the announced lectures, students must prepare a research plan in their first semester by November 30, with the guidance of the supervisor. The plan includes the steps they will take regarding their research in the following 4 years. This study plan must be submitted either in person or in electronic format to the administration of the doctoral school (signed by the supervisor). Students have to update their research plans each year of their studies, depending on the development of their research. In each academic year, the deadline for the research plan update is October 15.

Academic achievements (e.g., conference participation, or publishing an academic research paper – see the whole list below) and teaching practice earned additionally to the required 50 credits in the first two years can be accepted in the second two years as academic achievement.

The evaluation system and requirements

The instructor of the course evaluates the students' performance on a five-point or a three-point scale. The grades of the five-point scale are the following: excellent (5), good (4), satisfactory (3), sufficient (2) and insufficient (1). The grades of the three-point scale: excellent (3), pass (2), fail (1). Course requirements may include a written or oral exam, or writing a paper as specified by the instructor.

Other provisions related to course announcement

The classes take place on a weekly basis. If needed, appropriate courses may be held in blocks. To start an elective course the minimum number of students is 3. Students apply to courses in the first week of the application period. The administration notifies the students about those courses, which will not be held. Students applied to these courses have to choose a substituting course until the third week of the application period.

The Comprehensive Examination

The comprehensive examination must be completed at the end of the 4th active semester.

Prerequisites: Completion of the minimum required credits in study and research modules in the first 4 semesters.

At the exam, the doctoral student reports on their theoretical knowledge and also on the state of their research.

The theoretical part is built on the following courses: Basic Concepts of Political Theory, International Relations and Research Design and Methods. For each student, selected topics will be provided, on which the theoretical part of the comprehensive examination will be built on. These topics are selected by their supervisor in cooperation with the Head of Program. Students are informed about these topics the latest until the end of the first month of the semester.

For the research evaluation part, students have to submit a whole chapter of their thesis and

provide the plan for the further development of their thesis, such as its structure. Students have to submit these materials at the time they apply for the comprehensive examination. Students have to defend both their chapter and their thesis plan.

Evaluation of the comprehensive examination is pass or fail.

B) Research and thesis writing phase (5th-8th semesters)

The purpose of this phase: The primary focus of this phase is to prepare students for doctoral activities and to ready them to take part in the scholarly community. To achieve this goal, students must take advantage of opportunities, such as scientific activities. These activities help confirm the competence of students as they earn their degree. Accordingly, students must pursue publications and demonstrate suitability as an educator and the ability to give lectures of a scientific nature.

Minimum number of credits to be completed between the 5th and 8th semester: 120.

Tutorial seminars are mandatory in each semester. At least one meeting per month is required with the presence of the doctoral student and the supervisor during term-time. Meetings can be face-to-face or online – depending on the actual circumstances. A short memo written by the student is required about these meetings. The doctoral student has to upload the memo to the virtual folder provided by the administration of the doctoral school.

For recording *academic achievements* students have to submit a form to the administration of the doctoral school, in which they describe and prove their academic achievement. Accomplishment of credits granted for the academic achievement is based on the decision of the supervisor and the director of the Doctoral School. After successful accomplishment credits will be recorded in the Neptun.

Precondition of the thesis defense is minimum two academic publications, which are closely connected to the topic of the dissertation. Scientific papers can be the followings: paper published in a book of collected scientific essays, paper published in an academic journal. Chapters in edited volumes count as scientific papers. In the case of articles published in journals the following journals may be considered: Those mentioned as Q1, Q2, Q3 and Q4 in the Scimago journal ranking system, or those included in the journal list of the IXth Scientific Section of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. Additionally, selected journals of the specific Doctoral Program can be accepted. Scientific books written or edited by the doctoral student can be taken into account if they are published at a reputable publisher. To decide if a publisher is reputable doctoral students should contact the Director of Program. Only those academic achievements can be accepted in the organized doctoral program, on which the affiliation with the Doctoral School is shown.

According to *academic teaching* related duties, minimum 20 credits have to be acquired. It can be completed by teaching at least one academic course. Completion can be also earned by being a teaching assistant of an academic course, but in this case, 10 credits can be earned. Before the start of the teaching, the approval of the Head of the Doctoral School is needed.

The *public defense of the first full draft version of the dissertation* is mandatory. However, as it is not part of the absolutorium, only those can get credits for it, who organize it until the 8th semester.