

Post Graduate (PhD) Program of Sociology and International Studies
Eötvös Loránd University Budapest

DOCTORAL SCHOOL OF SOCIOLOGY

Faculty of Social Sciences

Discipline: Social Sciences ²⁴⁴

Level: Doctoral (PhD)

Aim of the training: To launch scholars on the path to national and international academic careers. Scholars who are able to see and study social phenomena in their interconnectedness, cultural and historical determinants, with the diversity of methodological approaches and who can facilitate their social communication and exploitation. Prospective graduates must demonstrate their ability to carry out research that results in innovative solutions on their own, and to translate them into an international scientific publications. The program prepares students for a scientific degree and for pursuing high-quality research and teaching activities – all in accordance with the international standard for academic training regarding form and content.

Length of the training: 8 semesters (4 semesters of study and research phase + 4 semesters of research and thesis writing phase)

Academic Periods: Study and research phase, 4 semesters; research and thesis writing phase, 4 semesters

Language of the program: English

Forms of doctoral training: Full-time education

Funding: Tuition fee, limited number of state scholarships available

Requirements for admission: 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.

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, (1) one intermediate level state exam in English or equivalent is needed and (2) an additional complex intermediate level state exam or equivalent in another foreign language (non-Hungarian) is required. Native languages 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: Academic part + methodology part + scientific part

The Doctoral School ends: Absolutorium

Full credit requirements: 240 credits

Ways to obtain credit (varied by programs – for the number of credits expected for each programme see the detailed description of the programme below):

Study and research phase: altogether 120 credits, out of which:

- Minimum number of credits to be completed in the study module: 60
- Minimum number of credits to be completed in the scientific module: 30

Research and thesis writing phase : altogether 120 credits, out of which:

- Minimum number of credits to be completed with tutorial seminars: 32
- Minimum number of credits to be completed in the scientific module: 35
- Minimum number of credits to be completed with academic teaching: 15

Minimum number of credits to be completed by each semester: 15

Comprehensive examination

The comprehensive examination must be completed at the end of the 4th active semester. Prerequisites are the 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 academic and methodology part is built on the following courses (varied by programs): Theory of Social Policy, Methodology and Practice of Social Policy and Social Work, Social Theory, History of Sociology, Social Research Methodology, Interdisciplinary Research Theory; Methodology of Interdisciplinary Research, Basic Concepts of Political Theory, International Relations, and Research Planning 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 scientific research evaluation part, students must submit a whole chapter of their thesis and provide their finalized research plan including the proposed structure of the thesis. Students must submit these materials at the time they apply for the comprehensive examination. Students must defend all their material submitted for the research evaluation part.

The committee of the complex examination evaluates the student's progress based on the research work carried out in the study and research phase, the finalized research plan and the chapter of the dissertation submitted. The committee also declares whether it is realistic to expect the student to complete their research and produce a high-quality dissertation within the next two years.

Evaluation of the comprehensive examination is pass or fail.

THE DOCTORAL SCHOOL'S PROGRAMMES IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE

- Doctoral School of Sociology/Sociology PhD Programme
- Doctoral School of Sociology/International Studies PhD Programme

DESCRIPTION OF THE DOCTORAL SCHOOL'S PROGRAMMES IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE

I. SOCIOLOGY

Course Code	Title of the Course	Semester	Credit	Type	Lecture or Seminar	Prerequisites
1ST-4TH SEMESTERS: STUDY AND RESEARCH PHASE						
STUDY MODULE (REQUIRED NO OF COMPLETED CREDITS: 70)						
PHDEImE1	Social Theory I	1-3	10	mandatory	lecture	
PHDEImE2	Social Theory II	2-4	10	mandatory	lecture	PHDEImE1
PHDSocTE1	History of sociology	1-4	10	mandatory	lecture	
PHDSocMOE1	Research design and methods I.	1-3	10	mandatory	lecture	
PHDSocMOE2	Research design and methods II.	2-4	10	mandatory	seminar	PHDSocMOE1
PHDSocSemE1	Academic English and essay writing	1-4	5	mandatory	seminar	
PHDSocSemE2	Information search- and publishing strategy	1-4	5	mandatory	seminar	
PHDSocVE1	Elective seminar I.	1-4	5	mandatory elective	seminar	
PHDSocVE2	Elective seminar II.	1-4	5	mandatory elective	seminar	
SCIENTIFIC MODULE (REQUIRED NO OF COMPLETED CREDITS: 50)						
PHDSocKutE1	Research Colloquium I.	1-4	5	mandatory	seminar	
PHDSocKutE2	Research Colloquium II.	1-4	5	mandatory	seminar	Research Colloquium I.
PHDSocTuE1	Tutorial seminar I.	1	10	mandatory	seminar	
PHDSocTuE2	Tutorial seminar II.	2	10	mandatory	seminar	
PHDSocTuE3	Tutorial seminar III.	3	10	mandatory	seminar	
PHDSocTuE4	Tutorial seminar IV.	4	10	mandatory	seminar	
COMPREHENSIVE FINAL EXAM						
PHDSocKomplexE	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)

Minimum number of credits to be completed by the end of the 4th semester: 120

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

Introductory lectures are around the topics of social theory, history of sociology, and research design and methodology (altogether 4 courses). The number of credits for these courses is 40. The courses are announced by the program management, and the lecturers are invited by the Head of the Doctoral School.

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 the three courses. Courses are announced by the program management, and lecturers are invited by the Head of the Doctoral School.

Mandatory elective seminars can be fulfilled in two ways. Offered seminars cover topics relevant to the doctoral school and student research. These seminars provide an opportunity for students to meet with university professors and researchers in order to discuss current research and its outcomes in a variety of disciplines. Seminars are study units in which the student has the opportunity to expand their theoretical and methodological knowledge in regard to their own research topics, to present their methodological problems, and to gain research experience. The other possibility is for the completion of these mandatory elective seminars is having regular consultation with an expert of the scientific field of the doctoral student in the whole semester. Such consultations are recorded in the formal training of the doctoral students.

The number of credits for seminars or consultations is 5 for each, two courses must be completed (10 credits in total). Minimum 2 research seminars are announced per semester.

The mandatory elective seminars are announced by the Head of the Doctoral School, in cooperation with the supervisors and Head of Programmes.

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 Head of Programme.

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.

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.

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

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

Tutorial seminars are mandatory in each semester.

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.

II. INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

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	1-8	15	mandatory elective		

	dissertation, 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.

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.

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 Head of Programme.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

The credit values for teaching and research activities are provided for each program in the credit table for the Research and Thesis Writing phase and are also valid for the Study and Research phase. The number of credits to be awarded for achievements will be decided by the Head of Program on the basis of the suggestion of the supervisor and the Secretary of Program.

Students may submit teaching and research activities twice a semester, during the periods announced by the administration of the Doctoral School in the Neptun system. Credit values provided in the credit table of each program are the maximum number of credits that can be awarded for an activity. The amount of credits actually received for a given activity is determined by the Head of Program on the basis of a proposal from the supervisor and the Secretary of Program.

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.

For scientific publications with multiple authors or joint conference presentations, credits are accepted at 100% for up to three authors and 50% for four or more authors. In the case of partial (not fully independent) participation in an educational activity (e.g., teaching a course at the university), the credit for that activity will be prorated in proportion to the actual activity performed.

A requirement for the submission of the doctoral thesis is the publication of at least two scientific papers on the subject of the doctoral thesis.

Tutorial seminars

In those semesters, when tutorial seminars are mandatory, 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.