

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 an 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
- Doctoral School of Sociology/ Interdisciplinary Social Research PhD Programme

INTERDISCIPLINARY SOCIAL RESEARCH PROGRAMME

Unique credit requirements of the Interdisciplinary social research doctoral programme

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)						
PHDEIntVal	Values in Sociology	1-3	5	mandatory	lecture	
PHDEIntDS1	Dynamic Sociology I.	1-3	5	mandatory	lecture	
PHDEIntDs2	Dynamic Sociology II.	2-4	5	mandatory	lecture	
PHDEIntCA1	Cultural Archetypes I.	1-3	5	mandatory	lecture	
PHDEIntCA2	Cultural Archetypes II.	2-4	5	mandatory	lecture	
PHDEIntM1	Methodology I.	1-3	5	mandatory	lecture	

PHDEIntM2	Methodology II.	2-4	5	mandatory	lecture	
PHDEIntSP	Social Psychology	2-4	5	mandatory elective	lecture	
PHDEIntES1	Elective Seminar I.	1-4	5	mandatory elective	seminar	
PHDEIntES2	Elective Seminar II.	1-4	5	mandatory elective	seminar	
PHDEIntES3	Elective Seminar III.	1-4	5	mandatory elective	seminar	
PHDEIntES4	Elective Seminar IV.	1-4	5	mandatory elective	seminar	
PHDEIntES5	Elective Seminar V.	1-4	5	mandatory elective	seminar	
PHDEIntES6	Elective Seminar VI.	1-4	5	mandatory elective	seminar	
SCIENTIFIC MODULE (REQUIRED NO OF COMPLETED CREDITS: 50)						
PHDEIntRS1	Research Seminar I.	1	3	mandatory	seminar	

PHDEIntRS2	Research Seminar II.	2	3	mandatory	seminar	
PHDEIntRS3	Research Seminar III.	3	3	mandatory	seminar	
PHDEIntRS4	Research Seminar IV.	4	3	mandatory	seminar	
PHDEIntTT1	Tea Time Discussion	1	2	mandatory	seminar	
PHDEIntTT2	Tea Time Discussion	2	2	mandatory	seminar	
PHDEIntTT3	Tea Time Discussion	3	2	mandatory	seminar	
PHDEIntTT4	Tea Time Discussion	4	2	mandatory	seminar	
PHDEIntTuE1	Tutorial seminar I.	1	5	mandatory	seminar	
PHDEIntTuE2	Tutorial seminar II.	2	5	mandatory	seminar	

PHDEIntTuE3	Tutorial seminar III.	3	10	mandatory	seminar	
PHDEIntTuE4	Tutorial seminar IV.	4	10	mandatory	seminar	
COMPREHENSIVE FINAL EXAM						
PHDEIntKompleE	Comprehensive final exam: course work and scientific work	4	0	mandatory		

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

1. PHASE: STUDY AND RESEARCH

The aim of phase: to begin independent research work under the guidance of the supervisor (scientific module). In line with the characteristics of interdisciplinary social research, students become familiar with methods and topics belonging to several social science fields (study module).

Scientific and teaching activities completed during this phase can be accepted as academic teaching and academic achievement credits of the 2. phase (research and thesis writing phase) according to the credit values indicated. Academic teaching or academic achievement credits are therefore not included in the 120 credits required for the comprehensive exam.

The Tea Time Discussions and Professorial Seminars are also part of the scientific module. It is mandatory for students to attend every semester. At the Professorial Seminar, the student presents their current research to the community of the doctoral school. At the TeaTime Discussions, speakers with broad scientific and business experience present their current research results and achievements.

5TH-8TH SEMESTERS: RESEARCH AND THESIS WRITING PHASE (REQUIRED NO OF COMPLETED CREDITS: 120)						
TUTORIAL SEMINARS (REQUIRED NO OF COMPLETED CREDITS: 40)						
PHDEIntTuE5	Tutorial seminar V.	5	10	mandatory	seminar	
PHDEIntTuE6	Tutorial seminar VI.	6	10	mandatory	seminar	
PHDEIntTuE7	Tutorial seminar VII.	7	10	mandatory	seminar	
PHDEIntTuE8	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	Research centre disputaion of the first full draft version of the dissertation	1-8	15	mandatory elective		

PhDProm	Science promotion (presentation or article)	1-8	5	mandatory elective		
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2. PHASE: RESEARCH AND THESIS WRITING

The aim of the phase is to complete independent research and write the dissertation. It is necessary to obtain the required 120 credits through Tutoring Consultations, Academic Achievements and Academic Teaching by the end of the 2. phase (the 8th semester of doctoral training). Academic Achievements or Teaching after the 8th semester (The *public defense of the first full draft version of the dissertation*) do not have credit value.

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.