



Detailed program

Monday, September 4th 2

Tuesday, September 5th 4

Wednesday, September 6th 6

Thursday, September 7th 8

Friday, September 8th 10

Tuesday, September 12th 12

Wednesday, September 13th 13

Thursday, September 14th 13

Dear Undergraduate Students,

Welcome to CEU! Below you'll find an itinerary of orientation and pre-session weeks. The corresponding schedule can be found here: [Orientation Week](#) (4th-8th September) and [Pre-Session Week](#) (11th – 15th September).

Orientation Week will take place both at the Quellenstrasse (QS) campus (51 Quellenstrasse, 1100 Vienna) and at Ankersaal Kulturhaus Brotfabrik. Ankersaal is just a 5-minute walk from the QS campus. The address is Absberggasse 27, Stiege 3, Floor 3, 1100 Vienna.

Session labelled with “**C**” are compulsory for everyone.

Please note that some sessions (eg Vienna Quiz, yoga, mindfulness meditation) require pre-registration. Registration links will be sent on 4th September.

Monday, September 4th

8:00 Meet and Greet / [QS Auditorium \(C\)](#)

Come to the QS Auditorium to meet the BA team and pick up your ID card! Breakfast will be provided, and this will be a great opportunity to meet your fellow students.

10:00 Campus Tours / [QS Reception \(C\)](#)

Meet in the QS Reception where you will be split up into smaller groups and given tours of the campus by members of the BA team and returning BA students.

11:00 Welcome to CEU / [QS Auditorium \(C\)](#)

Tim Crane (Pro-Rector for Foresight and Analysis) will be joined by Andres Moles (Dean of Undergraduate Studies), Katalin Horvath (Director of the Student Services Office), and Helmut Summesberger (Head of Student Life) to welcome you to CEU. The BA Team including the Program Directors will be in attendance as well.

12:00 Welcome Lunch / [Ankersaal](#)

Join the welcome lunch with all new CEU students (BA, MA and PhD) at Ankersaal. This lunch is a great opportunity to start building valuable relationships and to celebrate the beginning of your academic studies. Join us on Floor 3!

12:30 Meet the Student Center / [Ankersaal](#)

There will be one recurring event **from Monday to Thursday through Orientation Week: "Meet the Student Center."** The Student Center will be available at the Ankersaal each day at 12:30. If you need any guidance or support with your residence permit application or ÖGK insurance registration, please bring the necessary documents to the team, who will be delighted to assist you. To locate the event, please follow the signs guiding you to the 3rd floor.

The Student Center operates daily from 13:00 to 16:00 at the QS campus in room B601. During their opening hours, you can schedule a slot for a personal consultation. Appointment booking opens in the middle of August.

13:30 Warm up - How to communicate in Austria? / Ankersaal (C)

Austrian authorities uphold a cherished tradition of maintaining formal communication, emphasizing the importance of courtesy and respect. Our colleagues from the Student Center will advise on a range of etiquette rules to foster positive, polite, and fruitful exchanges.

14:00 Residence Permits / Ankersaal (C)

Compulsory for all non-Austrian citizens and students who were not already residing in Austria prior to their studies, this session will introduce you to the Austrian residency permit process. We will discuss what documents are required for a successful application, who the responsible authorities are, and how to renew existing permits.

15:00 Living and Studying in Vienna / Ankersaal

This session offers helpful information about navigating the city of Vienna, including tips on how to get around the city, how to purchase the student “Semester Ticker” for public transportation, and some insider information on customs and manners in Vienna.

15:30 Introducing the Student Records Office / Ankersaal (C)

The Student Records Office (SRO) provides a wide array of services related to academic aspects of studying at CEU. The office is responsible for overseeing enrollment, course registration, credit transfer, the preparation of diplomas, issues transcripts and certificates upon request, as well as keeping students’ academic records. It also monitors the submission of grades.

16:00 Survival in German / Ankersaal

From “*Grüß Gott!*” to “*Zahlen bitte*” - hear German from a real Viennese – fun and informative.

17:00 Vienna Quiz / QS Auditorium

Let’s find out who knows the most about the city buzzing with the highest-quality life in the world (according to Mercer’s)! [QuizNight](#) will present a fun set of questions about Vienna’s past and present, the essential things to see and do, along with the city’s hidden gems. Pre-registration will open in September. The event is organized by the CEU Community Engagement Office.

Tuesday, September 5th

9:30 Program Breakout Sessions & Icebreakers / [see below for rooms \(C\)](#)

Meet your Program Directors and Program Coordinators and learn more about what to expect over the course of your degree. After the information sessions, there will be icebreakers to get to know each other better!

- Culture, Politics and Society / [QS Auditorium](#)
- Data Science and Society / [D002](#)
- Philosophy, Politics and Economics / [D001](#)

10:00 Parents & Family Information Session / [meet in QS Reception at 9:50](#)

For any parents and families who are in Vienna and would like to learn more about the BA Programs and CEU. The session will include presentations by Andres Moles (Dean of Undergraduate Studies), Elena Dancu (Career Services Office) and Helmut Summesberger (Head of Student Life) and there will be the opportunity to ask questions after. After the session, Helmut Summesberger will give a tour of the campus.

Please fill out [the registration form](#) to register your family members by the end of **Thursday 31st August**.

13:00 Student Well-being and Health Insurance / [Ankersaal \(C\)](#)

In this session, the Student Center will introduce you to two insurance plans, ÖGK Student Self-insurance and Expat & Co. They will share general information about the requirements of the providers and authorities. In addition, you will learn about the CEU Medical Center and CEU's psychological counseling service, two in-house services for the CEU community.

13:30 Learn about ÖGK services / [Ankersaal \(C\)](#)

15:00 Student engagement, opportunities and well-being events / [Ankersaal \(C\)](#)

15:30 IT Orientation / [Ankersaal \(C\)](#)

This session is an introduction to all the major IT services CEU offers. It will cover the following topics: IT Account, Multi-factor Authentication Methods (MFA), Office 365 services (email account, document management, and collaboration tools), WiFi, VPN, video conferencing via Zoom, uploading, recording, editing, and sharing video on Panopto, virtual and physical computing resources, printing services. You will learn where to ask for IT support and how to deal with security threats.

17:00 History of CEU Screening of Free University / QS Auditorium

We are excited to invite you for a glimpse of the vibrant academic life of CEU. As part of this experience, we will provide a brief overview of our university's rich history. Following that, we have arranged a special screening of the documentary “Free University” (Szabad Egyetem), directed by Jonathan Hunter.

After the movie, we will have an engaging and inspiring discussion where you are encouraged to share your thoughts and reflections. Before we dive into the program, we invite you to join us for a snack.

About the movie:

Free University (Szabad Egyetem), 2019 Hungary, 54 min

A group of CEU students refuses to accept that their university is expelled from Hungary, choosing to resist the decline of academic freedom. Imagine waking up as an “enemy of the people.” This was the reality for students and staff of Central European University (CEU) as a coordinated legal and media apparatus began to demonize and eventually criminalize the Hungarian-American institution. The documentary follows students of CEU as they struggle against their exile by an increasingly authoritarian government. Through their stories, we show life in a backsliding democracy and the consequences of democratic “red lines” being crossed with impunity.

Directors: Jonathan Hunter, Lucie Janotová; Edited & translated by Ádám Hushegyi;

Cinematographer: Ifra Asad; Producer: Mackenzie Nelson

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/347911131>

Wednesday, September 6th

8:00 Visit the Meldeamt with the Student Center's representatives and register your address/ [Campus](#)

In Austria, address registration is mandatory within 3 days upon arrival. You must register your address in a municipal office (Meldeamt) with a Meldezettel/registration slip. After the authorities process your registration, you will receive a Meldebestätigung (confirmation of address registration). Please note that without the Meldebestätigung, you will not be able to collect your final residence permit or register with ÖGK. It is an important document in facing bureaucratic hurdles. To assist you with this task, the Student Center's team offers help visiting a Meldeamt together. You will receive guidance and support, ensuring a smooth and hassle-free registration process. Meet the team in front of the Campus.

14:30 Meet the Ombudspersons Network / [Ankersaal](#)

Take this opportunity to meet and greet the members of the [CEU's Ombudspersons Network](#), a group of five Senate-appointed volunteers from our community who are in charge of handling informal harassment complaints with the intention of reaching an amicable solution. They are ready to answer any questions about complaint mechanisms and the [CEU Policy on Harassment](#).

15:00 Communications at CEU / [Ankersaal](#) (C)

The Communications Office (CO) aims to present CEU as a uniquely international, research-intensive institution dedicated to the principles of an open society. The unit is responsible for managing the official website and social media outlets, creating rich media products, coordinating CEU branding, and producing publications. For the successful completion of this mission, the CO relies on good cooperation between students, academics, and staff. You can greatly support our communications mix, giving interviews, posing as our photo models, and spreading the word about what you learn and experience at CEU.

15:20 Emergency Communications at CEU / [Ankersaal](#) (C)

This session will help you to understand emergencies, how to respond, whom to call, and what to do. You will be familiarized with CEU's Emergency Protocol, how the leadership communicates in case of an emergency (both on and off campus), and what to do to stay safe.

15:30 Fire and Safety (Daniel Übleis) / [Ankersaal](#) (C)

We have arranged a dedicated session on fire and work safety at CEU, delivered by our external Work Safety Officer, Daniel Übleis. It is of utmost importance that you pay close attention during this session, as it is your responsibility to be well-informed about the necessary actions to take in an emergency.

16:00 Student Union and Clubs Fair / Ankersaal (C)

Meet representatives of the CEU Student Union and learn how you can get involved in their activities. The Student Union (SU) is responsible for student representation at CEU. It is engaged in various institutional decision-making and policy-shaping processes, organizes numerous activities and events, and supports students' initiatives. Follow the SU SharePoint to learn more.

Students can discover, join, and start new Student Clubs, meet fellow CEU students from different departments, and chat with the Student Union representatives. Details of the event can be found [here](#).

16:30 CEU Item Drive (Community Engagement Event) / Ankersaal

This event is intended to support incoming students by providing an opportunity to pick up useful household items donated by the CEU community. Valuable giveaways include picture frames, candles, small decorative items, and small plants.

19:00 Student Union Party - TBD

Thursday, September 7th

11:30 Demonstration of Mindfulness Meditation / [Campus, A109](#)

Mindfulness meditation is a form of contemplative practice that teaches you to stay in and with the present moment. It involves being entirely focused on "the now". It allows you to acknowledge and accept your thoughts, feelings, and sensations without judgment. Join us for a short demonstration: no experience, no preparation, no commitment, no mobile phones needed. Pre-registration is required. (max. 15 people)

11:30 Parent Students: rights and benefits / [Ankersaal](#)

In this session for CEU students with children, Ana Belén Amil (Gender Equality and Diversity Officer) and Lisa Auzinger (Student Well-being Coordinator) will share benefits and support provided to pregnant students and parent students by CEU, ÖGK/SVS, and the Austrian State.

12:00 Lunch for Parent Students

After the informative presentation, we warmly invite all students that are parents to join us for a delightful lunch at [Magdas](#). This gathering provides an opportunity for them to connect, share experiences, and ask questions they may have.

13:00 Alumni (Jason Weedon) / [Ankersaal](#)

Alumni from Day One: Welcome to the Family! Do you know that by joining CEU become part of a global family of over 18,000 alumni in nearly 150 countries? Take part in this session to learn how alumni support students at CEU by sharing their treasured experiences after graduation. We will talk about how you can get involved from Day One and make the most of being a member of this powerful network. We look forward to meeting you soon.

14:00 Modern Language Courses Center for Academic Writing / [Ankersaal](#)

The Center for Academic Writing Language offers [extracurricular foreign language courses](#) (German, French, Spanish, and Hungarian). The courses are offered both online and on-site. They cover all levels and are all fee-paying. They are open to all members of the CEU community, students, staff, faculty, and alumni. If you want to learn more about these courses and meet the language teachers, come and attend this session.

15:30 Introduction to Sustainable CEU: Environmental Activism at CEU / [Ankersaal](#)

Sustainable CEU is a campus group comprised of interested students, staff, and community members who are interested in promoting environmental engagement within the University and the local community. We invite you to join this session if you are interested in learning more about how to get involved in helping event organization, workshops, and community outreach in the upcoming year.

Friday, September 8th

10:00 and 11:00 Yoga Session / [Campus, 6th floor \(C/D wing\), BA lounge](#)

This relaxation practice will be a soothing combination of breathing exercises, progressive muscle relaxation, slow yoga, visualization, meditation, and mindfulness practice. No former experience is needed, but registration is required. Bring comfortable clothes, and a yoga mat will be provided for all participants. Pre-registration is required (max. 15 people).

11:30 Demonstration of Mindfulness Meditation (László Bíró) / [Campus, A-109](#)

Mindfulness meditation is a form of contemplative practice that teaches you to stay in and with the present moment. It involves being entirely focused on "the now". It allows you to acknowledge and accept your thoughts, feelings, and sensations without judgment. Join us for a short demonstration: no experience, no preparation, no commitment, no mobile phones needed. Pre-registration is required (max. 15 people).

From 12:30 onwards | Join the CEU Hiking Club for a scenic outing and mountaintop picnic

Join the [CEU Hiking Club](#) for a scenic walk around the Kahlenberg vineyards in Vienna's 19th District (Döbling). The first outing of this academic year will offer beautiful views of the inner districts and the Danube River while introducing you to a popular excursion destination for the city's residents, which now includes you too! The picnic will be at [Am Himmel](#), a mountain peak amongst the vineyards, forests, and meadows on the slopes of the hills.

There are two routes planned: one is more of a hike with more off-road terrain and a greater incline, and the other is a nature walk that will be slower in pace and less physically demanding terrain-wise. While the routes are different, no matter which you choose, you will see similar sights, and we will all still picnic together.

If you'd rather forgo the nature outing, that's also perfectly fine; please feel free to meet us directly at Am Himmel at 4:30pm with whatever you'd like to eat and drink.

Hike details:

- Meeting time and place: 12:30pm outside the entrance of CEU or 1:30pm at the [Beethovengang tram stop](#) (tram line D)
- Distance: 10km (about 6.21mi) | [Click here for detailed route information](#)
- Estimated duration: 3 hours in total, including breaks

Walk details:

- Meeting time and place: 1:30pm outside the entrance of CEU or 2:30pm at the [Beethovengang tram stop](#) (tram line D)
- Distance: 5km (about 3.11mi) | [Click here for detailed route information](#)

- Estimated duration: 1 hour and 30 minutes, including breaks

Know before you go! There are several things that you should do before, as well as during and after, our outing together to keep you safe and allow you to have the best time possible:

1. **Wear appropriate clothes for being outside.** We suggest athletic clothes, a reliable pair of sneakers, and a light jacket. Long pants are best as they protect your legs, including from bugs and ticks; if you wear shorts, it's recommended you wear high socks.
2. **Bring (and drink) plenty of water.** Make sure to hydrate before the excursion and sip water throughout our shared time together.
3. **Prepare your sun protection.** Apply sunscreen (and bring it with you to reapply). It's also recommended that you bring a hat and/or sunglasses with you.
4. **Prepare your bug and tick repellent and avoid areas where they are most likely to be.** Austria has bugs (e.g., mosquitos) and ticks, including those that carry tick-borne illnesses. Please put on repellent before you go and take it with you to reapply as needed. Along the way, avoid thick tall grass and bushes. [Check yourself for ticks](#) as you go, and help your friends do the same. After you return home, it's recommended you do the same. If you find that you have a tick, try to remove it immediately; if you can't, go to the doctor as soon as you can.
5. **Bring (and drink) plenty of water.** Make sure to hydrate before the excursion and sip water throughout our shared time together.
6. **Bring cash to pay for food and drinks along the way.** While CEU will bring some things for the picnic, you might like to stop at a shop along the way. It's common in Austria for shops to not accept cards/only take cash.

Pre-Session Week: September 11th – 15th

Library Tours / [meet outside CEU Library \(1st floor\)](#) (C)

Learn about CEU's library and research services. You only need to attend your assigned session. More information will be sent out regarding the groups later this month.

Academic Writing (C)

The Introduction to Academic Writing Fall Term courses start during pre-session. More information about room numbers and groups will be sent out later this month.

Academic Advising (C)

Meet your Undergraduate Academic Advisors! Learn more about academic advising in the Undergraduate Programs and about important CEU policies.

You only need to attend your assigned session. More details will be sent out later this month.

Tuesday, September 12th

10:30 and 11:00 Introduction to Career Services / [D002](#) (C)

In this session you will be introduced to the Career Services Office and how they can support and prepare you during your time at CEU for your career after you graduate.

You only have to attend your assigned session. Details will be sent later this month.

15:00 Consent Workshop / [B505](#)

Sexual acts may only take place with the consent of the other person. Even though most of us don't doubt this basic rule, the question of when (no) consent exists is answered very differently in some cases. In this workshop, we will thus address the question of what is meant by consent in the context of sexual acts and sexualized behavior, and when we can assume that the boundary of a person has been crossed legally but also personally.

Details on how to sign up will be sent closer to the date.

Wednesday, September 13th

10:00 and 10:30 Introduction to Counselling Services / D002 (C)

In this session you will be introduced to CEU's Counselling Services and how they can support you during your time at CEU.

You only have to attend your assigned session. Details will be sent later this month.

17:00 Scavenger Hunt / meet in front of the main entrance of Stephansdom

Get to know your fellow students and the center of Vienna while you work in teams to find treasures throughout Vienna's 1st district! Prizes to be won!

Thursday, September 14th

11:00 Equality, Gender and Disability / QS Auditorium (C)

In this session students will learn about the variety of policies and measures through which CEU promotes equal opportunities within the institution and removes barriers to full participation in student life. The main topics covered will be:

- the advancement of gender equality,
- protections and complaint procedures in case of discrimination and harassment,
- the rights of student with disabilities,
- accessibility,
- and how to request accommodations.