

## **PROGRAM-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS**

### **CULTURE, POLITICS, AND SOCIETY**

**Program Director:** Tamara Steger

**Contact Information:**

[stegert@ceu.edu](mailto:stegert@ceu.edu)

**Office:** Quellenstraße 51 / Room A006

**Degree offered:** BA in Culture, Politics, and Society

**Duration of the program:** 3 Academic Years

**Structure of the Academic Year:** 3 terms: Fall, Winter, and Spring

**Duration of the Fall Term:** 12 weeks<sup>1</sup>

**Duration of the Winter Term:** 12 weeks

**Duration of the Spring Term:** 11 weeks (teaching period is 6 weeks)<sup>2</sup>

**Amount of credits required per Academic Year:** 60 ECTS

**Overall amount of required credits:** 180 ECTS

### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**Program structure: year-by-year**..... [page 2](#)

**Program structure: thematic modules**..... [page 2](#)

**Specializations and credit requirements**..... [page 5](#)

**Yearly course requirements**..... [page 7](#)

---

<sup>1</sup>Following the end of term, there is an additional exam week when make-up classes and/or in-class exams may take place. Assignments maybe be due within two weeks of the end of teaching time.

<sup>2</sup> Following the end of term, there is an additional exam week when make-up classes and/or in-class exams may take place. Assignments maybe be due within two weeks of the end of teaching time.

## **PROGRAM STRUCTURE: YEAR-BY-YEAR**

Each Academic Year is subdivided into six modules: three thematic, two skills-oriented, and one project-oriented.

**First year:** The learning experience focuses on the “What?” to gain a foundation in concepts and disciplinary approaches in each subject area. *Credit Requirements:* mandatory courses (44 ECTS credits) and mandatory electives (16 ECTS credits) = 60 ECTS credits total.

**Second year:** The learning experience focuses on the “How?” in order to strengthen the capacity to explore, discern and question problems and to build knowledge and skills in research methodologies. *Credit Requirements:* 1 mandatory course (4 ECTS credits), mandatory electives (44 ECTS credits), and experiential learning (12 ECTS credits).

**Third year:** This year is considered the “Why?” year, in which courses focus on analysis. The fall term of the third year is also when students have the opportunity to study abroad. In the winter and spring students will complete their thesis.

## **PROGRAM STRUCTURE: THEMATIC MODULES**

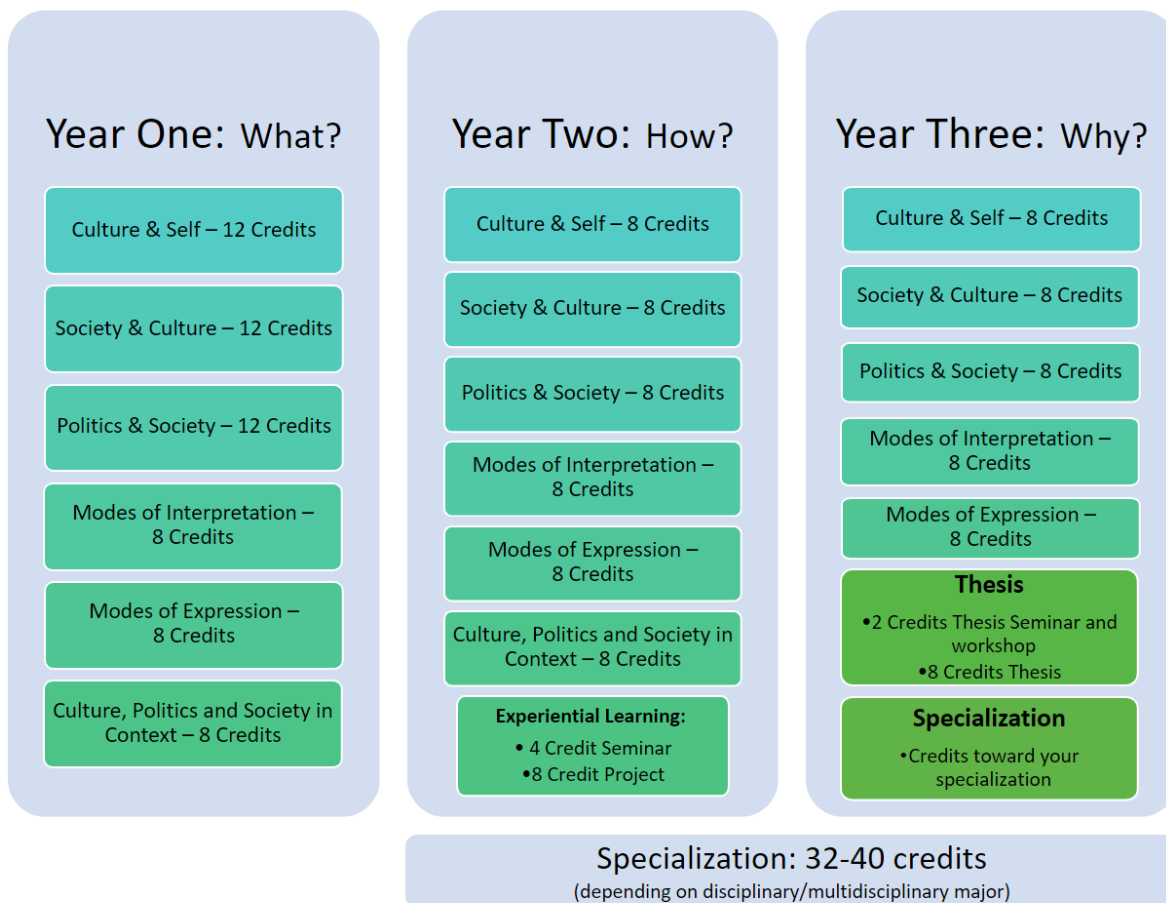
The CPS Program consists of modules, from which students are required to draw their courses over the course of the three-year program. Modules are completed successfully once students have passed the mandatory and elective courses in the module.

Each CPS-hosted course is designated to fulfil the requirements of one (or more) module(s). If a course fits multiple modules, the student must select which single module they would like the credits to fulfil.

The module requirements are as follows. Before graduation, students must have completed at least:

- 28 ECTS credits of Culture and Self courses
- 28 ECTS of Politics and Society courses
- 28 ECTS of Society and Culture courses
- 24 ECTS credits of Modes of Expression courses
- 24 ECTS credits of Modes of Interpretation courses
- 16 ECTS credits of CPS in Context courses
- 20 ECTS credits of thesis courses

It is recommended that students distribute the module requirements equally throughout their studies.



The modules in the CPS program are:

Module	Upon completion of the relevant module, students will have learned...
<i>Culture and Self</i> 28 ECTS Credits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multi-disciplinary perceptions and understandings of self-hood and personal identity as they are shaped by and practiced in different cultures.</li> </ul>
<i>Society and Culture</i> 28 ECTS Credits	<p>Year One -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A basic understanding of what is society and modernity;</li> <li>• The fundamental social categories that structure social and cultural life; and</li> <li>• Today's primary social challenges.</li> </ul> <p>Years 2+ -</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Various ways of studying social and cultural wholes and social forces; and</li> <li>• About social sciences as a way of knowing animated by debates about the central social categories that structure social and cultural life and the best ways for understanding, analyzing, and acting upon the social world.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Politics and Society</i> 28 ECTS Credits</p>	<p>Year One -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A variety of perspectives on politics in relation to the broader social world (e.g., – past and present, national, international, and transnational).</li> </ul> <p>Years 2+ -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An advanced understanding of political dynamics and institutions, past and present.</li> <li>• Analytical skills through inquiry that engages: questions of agency, normative frameworks, social contexts, and institutional settings.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Modes of Interpretation</i> 24 ECTS Credits</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A strengthened capacity to read, interpret and critically analyze multiple textual genres ranging from traditional written texts to visual data and media such as painting, sculpture, photography, film, and digital media.</li> <li>• Critical Interpretive strategies regarding establishing causality, the broader history and effects of media, and the gaps between argument, evidence and establishing a fact by focusing on the components that construct texts or media artefacts and a research question and asserting linkages to fundamental questions in the social sciences, humanities and media studies.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Modes of Expression</i> 24 ECTS Credits</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing proficiency in modes of expression including video, photo, audio, creative writing, data visualization and coding.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Culture, Politics, and Society in Context</i> 16 ECTS Credits</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connections between in-class coursework and out-of-the-classroom learning that draws on the past and present of the city of Vienna, its institutions, and</li> </ul>

	surroundings (including, for example, the region and neighboring cities).
<i>Experiential Learning</i> 12 ECTS credits	Year 2, Spring Term - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project-related approaches, practices, skills and techniques related to a student’s academic or career interests based on an experiential learning opportunity - a research project or an internship or a civic engagement project with institutions such as NGOs, museums, businesses, professionals, international organizations, social or political movements, community groups, or individuals such as activists, artists, scientific researchers or experts.</li> </ul>
<i>Thesis Module</i> 20 ECTS Credits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To formulate own thesis research question and undertake significant research based on advanced, specialized knowledge in a specific discipline leading into the final thesis.</li> <li>To conduct and complete an undergraduate academic thesis project that derives from previous work in the student’s field.</li> </ul>

Module designation is carefully curated by the CPS program. However, should a student take a course outside of the course offering that has been pre-assigned to modules, or if they think a specific course fits another module, they may submit a petition to count a class towards an alternative module. The petition should be submitted via this [Microsoft Form](#) by the end of week 6 of the term in which a class takes place. Petitions will be reviewed by the Program Director and students will be informed of the decision before the start of registration for the following term.

Please refer to the CEU Course Hub (<https://courses.ceu.edu/unit/undergraduate-studies>) for up-to-date course offerings each year.

## **SPECIALIZATIONS AND CREDIT REQUIREMENTS**

In their second year, students will be required to declare their subject specialization. The Program Coordinator will send students a form at the end of fall term. Students who

enrolled before AY 2023/24 may choose between a disciplinary specialization or a multidisciplinary specialization. Students enrolled in AY2023/24 must choose one of three multidisciplinary specializations.

**Disciplinary specializations** (available to students enrolled before AY 2023-24):

*Cultural Heritage*

*Environmental Studies*

*Gender Studies*

*History*

*Human Rights*

*International Relations*

*Medieval Studies*

*Nationalism Studies*

*Philosophy*

*Political Science*

*Sociology and Social Anthropology*

*Visual Theory & Practice\**

*\*Please note that Visual Theory & Practice is not offered as a standalone specialization and may only be selected as a double specialization in conjunction with specialization in another subject.*

To complete a disciplinary specialization, students must earn a total of 72 ECTS credits:

- 32 ECTS credits from courses in the specialization taken during Years 2 and 3 of their studies
- 20 ECTS in thesis courses (4 ECTS thesis seminar & workshop, 16 ECTS written thesis); the thesis must be in the field of specialization.
- Mandatory courses do not count towards the specialization.

Students also have the option to complete their degree with a dual specialization:

- Students must take 32 ECTS during Year 2 and Year 3 in each of their chosen disciplines (32 ECTS for specialization 1 and 32 ECTS for specialization 2)
  - Course credits may only count towards one specialization (i.e., if an offered course falls into two different specialization subjects, it may only be counted towards one of them)
- 20 ECTS in thesis courses (4 ECTS thesis seminar & workshop, 16 ECTS written thesis); the thesis must be interdisciplinary and include both specializations.

**Multidisciplinary specialization** (available to all students)

There are three multidisciplinary specialization and *Visual Theory and Practice*:

*Cultural and Historical Studies (History and Medieval Studies, Nationalism Studies, Cultural Heritage, Philosophy)*

*Political, Legal and Governmental Studies (International Relations, Political Science, Legal Studies, Human Rights, Public Policy, Political Philosophy)*

*Social and Environmental Studies (Environmental Studies and Policy, Gender Studies, Sociology, Social Anthropology, Social Philosophy)*

*Visual Theory and Practice\**

*\*Please note that Visual Theory & Practice is not offered as a standalone specialization and may only be selected as a double specialization in conjunction with a multidisciplinary specialization.*

Students who are not completing the Visual Theory and Practice specialization have the option to count Modes of Expression courses (eg. Fundamentals of Documentary Filmmaking) towards their specialization. This is contingent upon approval from the Program Director. Students who wish to petition for a Modes of Expression course to count towards a non-VTP specialization should complete this [Microsoft Form](#). Students will be required to provide information documenting that their final project for the course relates to their specialization. The petition should be submitted by the end of week 6 of the term in which the class takes place. Petitions will be reviewed by the Program Director and students will be informed of the decision before the start of registration for the following term.

Up to date course lists for each specialization discipline can be found on the Undergraduate Studies website (<https://undergraduate.ceu.edu/students>)

**To complete a multidisciplinary specialization, students must complete:**<sup>3</sup>

- 40 total ECTS from courses in the multidisciplinary specialization taken during Year 2 and Year 3. Students should take at least 4 ECTS credits in each contributing discipline
- 20 ECTS in thesis courses (4 ECTS thesis seminar & workshop; 16 ECTS written thesis). The thesis should be multidisciplinary.
- Mandatory courses do not count towards the specialization

Students who also want to specialize in Visual Theory and Practice (VTP) must complete:

- 40 total ECTS from courses in the multidisciplinary specialization taken during Year 2 and Year 3. Students should take at least 4 ECTS in each contributing discipline.
- 40 ECTS in VTP courses taken throughout the 3 years of study.
- 20 ECTS in thesis courses (4 ECTS thesis seminar & workshop; 16 ECTS written thesis). The thesis should be multidisciplinary.
- Mandatory courses do not count towards the specialization

## YEARLY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

**Year One** Mandatory Courses (44 ECTS) and Mandatory Electives (16-18 ECTS)

Fall Term

### Mandatory Courses

- Introduction to Academic Writing (4 ECTS credits)
- Introduction to Cultural Studies (6 ECTS credits)
- Communities, Societies, States: Key Issues in Sociology and Anthropology (6 ECTS credits)

### Mandatory Elective Courses

- Introduction to Gender Studies (4 ECTS credits)
- Knowledge & Reality (6 ECTS credits)
- Introduction to Environmental Studies (4 ECTS credits)
- What is History? An Introduction to the Discipline (4 ECTS credits)
- Introduction to Law and the Legal System (4 ECTS credits)
- Introduction to the Study of Nationalism (4 ECTS credits)

---

<sup>3</sup> Students who enrolled in Academic Year 2020-21 may petition to complete a multidisciplinary specialization according to the original credit requirements. Please submit requests to the Program Director.



## Winter Term

### Mandatory Courses

- Political Concepts and Ideologies (6 ECTS credits)
- Sound and Vision (4 ECTS credits)
- Genres of Writing (4 ECTS credits)

### Mandatory Elective Courses

- Introduction to Public Policy (4 ECTS credits)
- Introduction to International Relations (4 ECTS credits)
- Democratic Freedom and Its Enemies (4 ECTS credits)

## Spring Term

### Mandatory Courses

- Governance Within and Beyond the State (6 ECTS credits)
- Layers of the City (4 ECTS credits)
- Visiting Layers of the City (4 ECTS credits)

## Year Two

### Fall Term

#### Mandatory

- Understanding Methods in Social Sciences (4 ECTS credits)

### Spring Term

#### Mandatory

- Experiential Learning (12 ECTS credits)

The remaining 44 ECTS credits over fall and winter terms consist of requirements for modules and specializations, and electives.

## Year Three

### Fall Term

#### Mandatory

- Understanding Research Design (4 ECTS credits)
- Thesis Seminar (4 ECTS ECTS credits)

### Winter Term

Mandatory

- Thesis Workshop (2 ECTS credit)

Spring Term

Mandatory

- Written Thesis (16 ECTS credits)

The remaining credits over fall and winter terms consist of requirements for modules and specializations, and electives. Students studying abroad should take a similar course to Understanding Research Design while abroad or when they're back at CEU.

Up-to-date course lists for each specialization can be found on the Undergraduate Studies SharePoint page: <https://ceuedu.sharepoint.com/sites/undergraduatestudies>