

PROGRAM-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS **CULTURE, POLITICS, AND SOCIETY**

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Degree offered: BA in Culture, Politics, and Society

Duration of the program: 4 Academic Years

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

Duration of the Fall Term: 12 weeks¹

Duration of the Winter Term: 12 weeks

Duration of the Spring Term: 11 weeks (teaching period is 6 weeks)²

Amount of credits required per Academic Year: 30 US Credits average

Overall amount of required credits: Minimum 120 US Credits

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

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PROGRAM STRUCTURE: YEAR-BY-YEAR

Each of the first three academic years are subdivided into modules: three thematic, two skills-oriented, and one project-oriented (only in the first and second years).

Year One: The learning experience focuses on the “What?” to gain a foundation in concepts and disciplinary approaches in each subject area. *Credit Requirements:* mandatory courses (22 credits) and mandatory electives (8 credits) = 30 credits total.

Year Two: 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 (2 credits), mandatory electives (22 credits), and experiential learning (6 credits).

Year Three: This year is considered the “Why?” year, in which courses focus on analysis. The third year is also when students have the opportunity to study abroad.

Year Four: This year focuses on specialization through the chosen major, completing a thesis and optionally a capstone.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE: THEMATIC MODULES

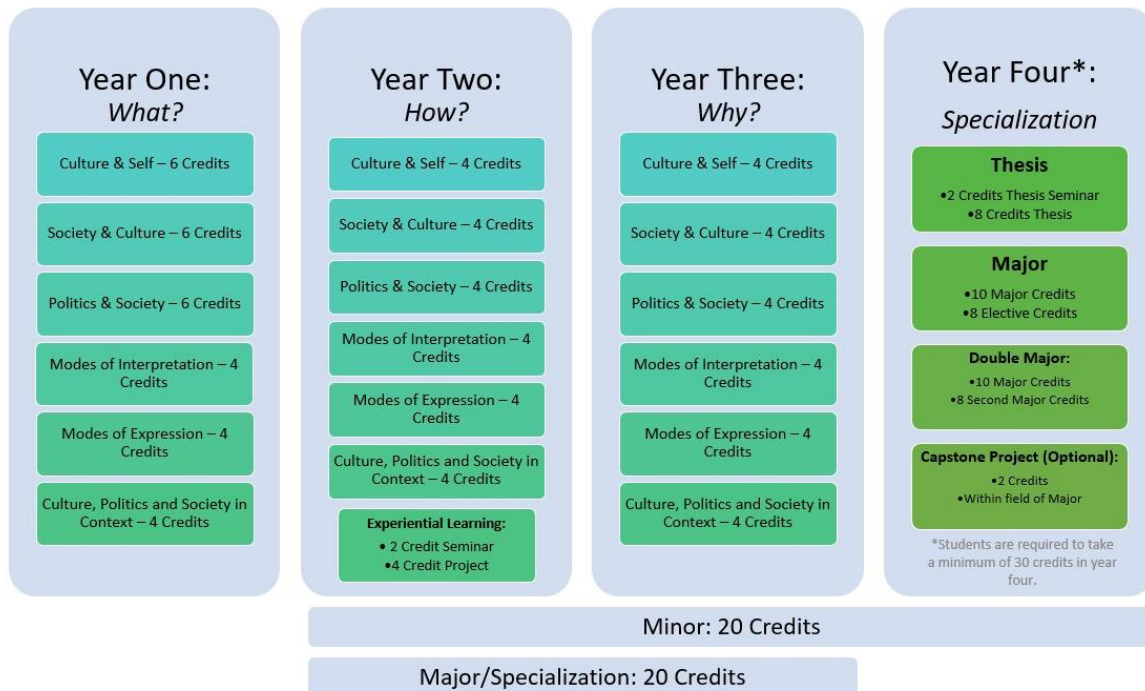
The CPS Program consists of modules, from which students are required to draw their courses over the course of the four-year program. Modules are completed successfully once students have passed the mandatory and elective courses in the module.

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:

- 14 credits of Culture and Self courses
- 14 credits of Politics and Society courses
- 14 credits of Society and Culture courses
- 12 credits of Modes of Expression courses
- 12 credits of Modes of Interpretation courses
- 8 credits of CPS in Context courses
- 10 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> 14 Credits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-disciplinary perceptions and understandings of self-hood and personal identity as they are shaped by and practiced in different cultures.
<i>Society and Culture</i> 14 Credits	Year One <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A basic understanding of what is society and modernity; The fundamental social categories that structure social and cultural life; and Today's primary social challenges.

	<p>Years 2+</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various ways of studying social and cultural wholes and social forces; and • 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.
<p><i>Politics and Society</i> 14 Credits</p>	<p>Year One</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A variety of perspectives on politics in relation to the broader social world (e.g., – past and present, national, international, and transnational). <p>Years 2+</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An advanced understanding of political dynamics and institutions, past and present. • Analytical skills through inquiry that engages: questions of agency, normative frameworks, social contexts, and institutional settings.
<p><i>Modes of Interpretation</i> 12 Credits</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • 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.
<p><i>Modes of Expression</i> 12 Credits</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing proficiency in modes of expression including video, photo, audio, creative writing, data visualization and coding.

<p><i>Culture, Politics, and Society in Context</i> 8 Credits</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 surroundings (including, for example, the region and neighboring cities).
<p><i>Experiential Learning</i> 6 credits</p>	<p>Year 2, Spring Term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
<p>Year 4</p>	
<p><i>Major Module</i> min. 10 Credits</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disciplinary expertise based on a major.
<p><i>Thesis and Capstone Module</i> 10-12 Credits</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To formulate own thesis research question and undertake significant research based on advanced, specialized knowledge in a specific discipline leading into the final thesis (and optional capstone project). • To conduct and complete an undergraduate academic thesis project that derives from previous work in the student’s field.

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.

MAJORS & MINORS AND CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

In their second year, students will be required to declare their subject major. 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 major or a multidisciplinary major. Students enrolled AY2023/24 must choose one of three multidisciplinary majors.

Disciplinary Majors and Minors (available only to students enrolled before 2023/24)

Critical Humanities (minor only)

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**

**Visual Theory & Practice is not a standalone major. It may only be selected as a double major alongside a chosen disciplinary major.*

To complete a disciplinary major, students must earn a total of 36 credits:

- 16 total credits from courses in the major taken during Year 2 and Year 3; at least 6 credits must be taken in the major per year
- 20 credits in the major during the fourth year, including:
 - 10 credits of 4th year courses in the major
 - Thesis seminar & workshop (2 credits) and written thesis (8 credits)
- The thesis (and optional capstone) must be completed within the field of the major
 - 10-12 credits: the thesis (and optional capstone) must be interdisciplinary and cover both majors
 - 2 credits Thesis Seminar & Workshop
 - 8 credits Written Thesis
 - 2 credits Capstone (optional)
- Mandatory courses do not count towards the major

For students wishing to complete a double major:

- Same requirements as above for Year 2 and Year 3 for each major (16 credits for major A and 16 additional credits for major B)
 - Course credits may only count towards one major (i.e., if an offered course falls into two different major subjects, it may only be counted towards one of them)
- Year 4:
 - 10 credits of 4th year courses in one major
 - 8-10 credits of 4th year courses in the second major
 - Once again, courses must be unique, i.e., the credits of one course cannot be counted towards 2 majors
 - 10-12 credits: the thesis (and optional capstone) must be interdisciplinary and cover both majors
 - 2 credits Thesis Seminar & Workshop
 - 8 credits Written Thesis
 - 2 credits Capstone (optional)

Multidisciplinary Majors (available to all students)

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

Cultural and Historical Studies (History, Medieval Studies, Nationalism, 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**

**Visual Theory & Practice* is not a standalone major. It may only be selected as a double major alongside a chosen multidisciplinary major.

Students must take a certain amount of credits in their majors over their time of study.

To complete a multidisciplinary major students must earn a total of 40 credits³

- 20 total credits from courses in the multidisciplinary major taken during Year 2 and Year 3
 - At least 6 credits must be taken in the major per year
 - Students should take at least 2 credits in each contributing discipline
- 20 credits in the major during the fourth year, including:
 - 10 credits of 4th year courses in the major
 - Thesis seminar (2 credits) and written thesis (8 credits)
- The thesis (and optional capstone) must be completed within the field of the major
 - 10-12 credits: the thesis (and optional capstone) must be interdisciplinary and cover both majors
 - 2 credits Thesis Seminar & Workshop
 - 8 credits Written Thesis
 - 2 credits Capstone (optional)
- Mandatory courses do not count towards the major.

Students pursuing a multidisciplinary major have the opportunity to complete a double major in *Visual Theory and Practice*. The credit requirements for the additional major are as follows:

- Years 1-3
 - 20 total credits from the major - Students double majoring in Visual Theory and Practice will be allowed to allocate relevant first-year course credits to the 20-credit major requirements.
- Year 4:
 - 8-10 credits of 4th year courses in the second major
 - Once again, courses must be unique, i.e., the credits of one course cannot be counted towards 2 majors
 - The thesis (and capstone) must be interdisciplinary and include a component incorporating Visual Theory and Practice.

In addition to these, students who are not pursuing a Visual Theory and Practice double major may apply Modes of Expression courses (eg. Fundamentals of Documentary Filmmaking) towards their major with approval from the Program Director. To seek

³ 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.

approval from the Program Director, students must submit this [Microsoft Form](#) (demonstrating how their final project for the course relates to their major) 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.

Minor Credit Requirements (open to all students)

- 15 credits of courses in the minor by the end of year 4. Credits taken in years 2, 3, and 4 can count towards this requirement.

Students must declare their minor by the end of Year 3. The Program Coordinator will send out a declaration form during Spring Term of Year 3.

Students completing a multidisciplinary major can only pursue a minor outside of the subjects encompassed in their major. For example, a student majoring in *Social and Environmental Studies* is not able to complete a minor in Environmental Studies and Policy, Gender Studies, or Sociology and Social Anthropology.

Students should refer to the course lists found on the Undergraduate Studies SharePoint to determine which courses count towards which majors:

<https://ceuedu.sharepoint.com/sites/undergraduatestudies>

YEARLY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Year One Mandatory Courses (22 credits) and Mandatory Electives (8-9 credits)

Fall Term

Mandatory Courses

- Introduction to Academic Writing (2 credits)
- Introduction to Cultural Studies (3 credits)
- Communities, Societies, States: Key Issues in Sociology and Anthropology (3 credits)

Mandatory Elective Courses

- Introduction to Gender Studies (2 credits)
- Knowledge & Reality (3 credits)
- Introduction to Environmental Studies (2 credits)
- What is History? An Introduction to the Discipline (2 credits)

- Introduction to Law and the Legal System (2 credits)
- Introduction to the Study of Nationalism (2 credits)

Winter Term

Mandatory Courses

- Political Concepts and Ideologies (3 credits)
- Sound and Vision (2 credits)
- Genres of Writing (2 credits)

Mandatory Elective Courses

- Introduction to Public Policy (2 credits)
- Introduction to International Relations (2 credits)
- Democratic Freedom and Its Enemies (2 credits)

Spring Term

Mandatory Courses

- Governance Within and Beyond the State (3 credits)
- Layers of the City (2 credits)
- Visiting Layers of the City (2 credits)

Year Two

Fall Term

Mandatory

- Understanding Methods in Social Sciences (2 credits)

Spring Term

Mandatory

- Experiential Learning (6 credits)

The remaining 22 credits over fall and winter terms consist of requirements for modules and majors, and electives.

Year Three

Fall Term

Mandatory

- Understanding Research Design (2 credits)

The remaining 28 credits over fall and winter terms consist of requirements for modules and majors, and electives.

Students studying abroad should take a similar course to Understanding Research Design while abroad or when they're back at CEU. Students studying abroad for the entire year will have the opportunity to take Understanding Research Design in their fourth year instead.

Year Four

Fall

Mandatory

- Thesis Seminar (1 credit)

Winter

Mandatory

- Thesis Workshop (1 credit)

Spring

Mandatory

- Written Thesis (8 credits)
- Optional Capstone Project (2 credits)

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