

PROGRAM-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

CULTURE, POLITICS, AND SOCIETY

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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 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: 60 ECTS

Overall amount of required credits: 180 ECTS

Number of modules in entire program: 18

Number of modules per academic year: 6

Program Structure

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

First year: Students are required to earn 12 ECTS in each of the thematic modules, 8 ECTS in each of the skills-oriented modules and 8 ECTS in the project-oriented module. All courses in the first year are mandatory.

Second year: Students are required to earn a minimum of 8 ECTS in each module.

Third year: Students are required to earn a minimum of 8 ECTS in each module, 20 ECTS are earned through mandatory courses.

Program Specializations

Students graduate with a specialization, which are listed on pages 6-7. To complete one of the disciplinary specializations (available to students enrolled before 2023), students must earn 32 ECTS in a specialization throughout years two and three of their studies, plus 20 ECTS of thesis courses, and complete their thesis project in the field of their specialization.

¹Following 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.

² 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.

Students also have the option to complete their degree with a dual specialization. In order to complete two specializations, students must take 32 ECTS in each of their chosen disciplines and complete an interdisciplinary thesis. Credits from an individual course may only be counted towards one specialization.

To complete one of the multidisciplinary specializations (available to all students from academic year 2022-23)³, students must complete 40 ECTS in the specialization throughout years two and three of their studies. To ensure multidisciplinary studies, at least 4 ECTS must come from each contributing discipline. Additionally, students must complete 20 ECTS of thesis courses and complete a multidisciplinary thesis.

Second Year Experiential Learning

Students in the BA must spend a spring term pursuing an experiential learning module. Experiential learning enables students to be immersed in an organization, or project, outside university coursework, in which students learn how contemporary work, and collaborative projects are organized. Students will have the opportunities to pursue internships, partnerships, or research assistantships, with institutions such as NGO's, museums, businesses, professionals, international organizations, social or political movements, community groups, or with individuals such as activists, artists, scientific researchers, or experts. The Experiential Learning module comprises two distinct parts – a practical component in which students individually pursue a practical project related to their academic or career interests and a seminar in which students will be expected to share and reflect on their experiences completing the project.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this module, students will be able to:

- Identify an experiential learning setting of interest
- Decipher how an organization, practice, or profession works
- Apply communication skills outside the classroom
- Plan and complete projects
- Work in a team
- Reflect upon feedback from others
- Clarify their career aspirations
- Analyse the experiential site in relation to previous coursework

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.

Third Year Thesis

The thesis requirements are unified across all the BA programs at CEU. Please refer to the Undergraduate thesis guidelines for specific information regarding requirements.

Program Modules

The Culture, Politics, and Society 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 compulsory 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 modules in the CPS program are:

Module	Description
Year 1	
<i>Culture and Self I</i> 12 ECTS	The module aggregates courses which – in spite of their diverse disciplinary origins – are all focused on the perception and understanding of selfhood and personal identity, and the ways these are shaped by and practiced in different cultures.
<i>Society and Culture I</i> 12 ECTS	This module introduces students to the basic understanding of what is society, what is modernity, what are the fundamental social categories which organize social and cultural life, and what are today's primary social challenges, such as inequality and environmental change.
<i>Politics and Society I</i> 12 ECTS	This module is constituted by courses introducing students to a variety of perspectives on politics - past and present, national, international and transnational - in their relation to the broader social world.
<i>Modes of Interpretation I</i> 8 ECTS	The module develops students' capacity to read and interpret multiple textual genres, ranging from traditional written texts, to visual data and media such as painting, sculpture, photography, film, and digital media.

<i>Modes of Expression I</i> 8 ECTS	This introductory module comprises two mandatory courses, one on academic writing, and the other on communicating through image and sound.
<i>Culture, Politics, and Society in Context I</i> 8 ECTS	Drawing upon the city of Vienna, the surrounding region, or neighboring cities, as sites for learning, this module takes students out of the classroom to vividly connect coursework to the past and present of the city, its institutions, and its surroundings.
Year 2	
<i>Culture and Self II</i> min. 8 ECTS	This module is constituted by courses from various disciplines focused on the practices and ideas about selfhood and personal identity as these are manifested in diverse cultures.
<i>Society and Culture II</i> min. 8 ECTS	This interdisciplinary module is constituted by courses introducing students to the various ways of studying social and cultural wholes and social forces. Students learn how the social sciences are a way of knowing, with debates not only about the central social categories structuring social life, but also debates within the social sciences about how to best understand the social world.
<i>Politics and Society II</i> min. 8 ECTS	This interdisciplinary module puts together courses that advance students' understanding of the activity of politics and the variety of political orders, past and present.
<i>Modes of Interpretation II</i> min. 8 ECTS	This module advances students' critical interpretive capacities by focusing on the components that construct a text or media artefact, and the components that construct a research question.
<i>Modes of Expression II</i> min. 8 ECTS	In this module students will select a minimum of two courses among a range of elective courses which are each devoted to gaining basic proficiency in a single medium, from video to photo, audio, creative writing, data visualization, or coding.
<i>Culture, Politics, and Society in Context II</i> min.8 ECTS	Students must spend a spring term pursuing an experiential learning module, enabling students to be immersed in an organization, or project, outside university coursework, in which students learn how contemporary work, and collaborative projects are organized.

Year Three	
<i>Culture and Self III</i> min. 8 ECTS	This module continues exploring the practices of selfhood and personal identity from a variety of disciplinary perspectives, while concentrating on developing students' analytical skills.
<i>Society and Culture III</i> min. 8 ECTS	This module trains students to formulate their own questions, to embark on their own analyses of the social world, and to consider if, and how, to act upon the social world.
<i>Politics and Society III</i> min. 8 ECTS	This module focuses on developing students' analytical skills by considering questions of agency, normative frameworks, social contexts, and institutional settings.
<i>Modes of Interpretation III</i> min. 8 ECTS	The module develops students' capacity to critically analyze research, media, and texts, by linking interpretative strategies to fundamental questions in the social sciences, humanities, and media studies, on establishing causality, the broader history and effects of media, and the gaps between argument, evidence, and establishing a fact.
<i>Modes of Expression III</i> min. 8 ECTS	Students will have the opportunity to take advanced courses in a given medium, such as coding or filmmaking, while also continuing to take basic courses from a variety of media, gaining a broader basic proficiency across disciplines as well.
<i>Third Year Thesis</i> 20 ECTS	In this module, students develop, research and write a thesis. Additionally, students are given the opportunity to explore career options related to their 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.

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

Specializations (available to students entering 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**

New Specializations available from AY 2022-23 (only specializations available to students enrolling from AY 2023-24):

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. Students looking to complete a specialization in Visual Theory & Practice must do so in conjunction with a specialization in another subject and will therefore complete a dual 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 major discipline can be found on the Undergraduate Studies website (<https://undergraduate.ceu.edu/students>)