

PROGRAM-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS, AND ECONOMICS

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Degree offered: BA in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Duration of the program: 4 Academic Years

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

Duration of the Fall Term: 12 weeks

Duration of the Winter Term: 12 weeks

Duration of the Spring Term: 11 weeks (teaching period is 6 weeks)¹

Amount of Credits required per Academic Year: 30 US Credits

Overall amount of required Credits: Minimum 120 US Credits

Program Structure

First Year: Students take three introductory modules to the three disciplines: philosophy, politics and economics. In addition, they take a course on academic writing.

Second Year: Students choose to focus on two of the three disciplines, taking one module in each of their choices. They take an additional module comprising courses from across CEU, allowing for a broadening of the educational experience.

Third Year: Students continue taking courses in their chosen disciplines, taking two modules of elective courses within the disciplines. Third year students also complete a thesis module and a module of elective courses from across various subjects. In the third year, students also have the option of studying abroad.

Fourth Year: Students can choose to specialize in one of the three subjects: philosophy, politics, or economics, this discipline will be their major. Students can also choose to have a double major with both of the subjects chosen in the second year, but must connect the two subjects in their Capstone project.

Program Majors

In the second year of the program, students choose two out of the three disciplines, in which to specialize. This is further narrowed down in the fourth year when students choose one, or in some cases two, subjects to further specialize in as their major.

¹ Assignments maybe be due within two weeks of the end of teaching time.

Major Credit Requirements:

In order to complete a Major students must earn:

- 32 credits from courses in the major during the first three years, including 8 credits in a thesis module related to the major subject
- 30 credits in the major during the fourth year including:
 - An independent capstone project for 8 credits
 - 10 credits of advanced coursework in the major (BA and MA courses)

Third Year Thesis

The aim of this module is to give students the opportunity to pursue a question, topic or subject in significant detail, within Philosophy, Politics or Economics. The question may also be one which involves overlap between two or even three of these disciplines — so there is the opportunity for serious interdisciplinary study. The seminar enables students to present their work to their colleagues and to gain feedback on it. The thesis writing class will confront students with the challenges involved in writing a thesis. At the completion of this module, students will have learned how to develop a sustained and detailed line or argument, or piece of research; they will have learned how to consult relevant literature and other sources; they will have learned how to prepare a long piece of systematic academic work; and they will have learned how to present their work in a seminar to their fellow students. The thesis should be between 4,500 and 6,000 words.

Capstone Project

In their third year, students will have had the opportunity to write a short thesis on a subject of their choice. In the fourth year, they will be able to develop their independent study skills further in a special ‘capstone’ project in the major subject, the work for which will be spread across the Winter and Spring terms (2 credits worth in the former, and 6 credits in the latter). The project will be a different kind of task from the third year thesis. It could involve practical projects and activities; or a series of related essays; maybe videos or the organization of events; or a placement with a written report.

What the project precisely involves will partly depend on the student’s major — placements may be more appropriate for an Economics or perhaps a Politics major, for example. Students will be encouraged to think creatively about how they might address intellectual questions in their disciplines. For example, they might run a small colloquium, or a blog or other internet platform; they might make a video about some aspect of their subject, or conduct some research in the environment outside the university; students might experiment with ways of promoting their subjects in public, or to schools or even to prisons and other less-explored intellectual environments. Students whose projects tend more towards straightforward written work will be encouraged to think about different ways to present their ideas in written form (e.g. as dialogue or as a sequence of short discussion notes, rather than as a straightforward thesis or dissertation). The capstone project should not overlap in content or form with the third year thesis.

Students who are taking a Double Major must undertake a capstone project that links the two subjects of their Double Major: Philosophy and Politics, Philosophy and Economics, or Politics and Economics. Such a capstone project is a condition of doing a Double Major at all.

Although the program encourages the use of non-traditional learning methods, it is crucial that the capstone project must explain, explore or present intellectual problems from within the chosen discipline (or disciplines) in a rigorous manner. To this end, each student's project will have an adviser. Students must discuss the broad outlines of their project at a meeting with their adviser at the end of their 3rd year, and make a concrete plan for how they will develop it in their fourth year.

Program Modules

The Philosophy, Politics, and Economics 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 compulsory and elective courses in the module.

The Modules in the PPE Program are:

Module	Description
<i>Introduction to Philosophy</i> 10 Credits	The aim of this module is to introduce students to the core areas of philosophy: ethics, epistemology, metaphysics, logic, and to some of the ideas of Plato and Aristotle, central figures in the history of the Western tradition.
<i>Introduction to Politics</i> 10 Credits	The aim of this module is to introduce students to the foundations of the study of the main areas of politics: comparative politics, political economy, and political theory, and familiarize them with some of the central problems and approaches in these fields.
<i>Introduction to Economics</i> 8 Credits	The aim of this module is to introduce the students to the foundations of economic thought. Students will be exposed to the basics of microeconomic and macroeconomic theory as well as teachings of premier schools of economic thought and some eminent economists.
<i>Academic Writing</i> 2 Credits	The aim of this module is to increase students' agency as writers by acquiring both the theoretical knowledge and practical skills necessary to produce texts for the interdisciplinary academic discourses.
<i>Core Topics Module: Philosophy</i> 10 Credits	The aim of this module is to deepen and broaden students' understanding of philosophy and to present philosophical ideas in a historical context. Students will learn about the central themes of early modern philosophy; within this historical framework, further courses will outline the problems of mind and science. Students' understanding of normative philosophy is developed by studying its practical applications.
<i>Core Topics Module: Politics</i>	The aim of this module is to provide students with an in-depth understanding

10 Credits	of the central problems in comparative politics, political economy, and political theory. They will be introduced to the different approaches and schools of thought to these problems, and to acquire a basic understanding of the different methods of studying them.
<i>Core Topics Module: Economics</i> 10 Credits	The aim of this module is to introduce the students to the foundations of the quantitative side of economic theory and to the work with data. Students will be exposed to the basics of algebra, and differential calculus as well the basics of probability theory, and foundations of statistics. In addition, basics of regression analysis, times series analysis and panel data analysis will be presented. Importantly students will obtain an introduction to the usage of econometric software.
<i>Second Year Optional Courses Module</i> 10 Credits	Students take a number of courses either from other parts of the PPE syllabus, or from the other BA programs at CEU.
<i>Advanced Topics Module: Philosophy</i> 8 Credits	The aim of this module is to give students the opportunity to range more widely in their philosophical studies, by choosing five courses in the theoretical, normative and the historical areas of the subject.
<i>Advanced Topics Module: Politics</i> 8 Credits	The aim of this module is to provide students who choose to specialize in politics with a deepened understanding and knowledge of some selected problems in the areas of comparative politics, political economy, political theory and international relations.
<i>Advanced Topics Module: Economics</i> 8 Credits	The aim of this module is to introduce the students to the variety of sub-disciplines inside economics, at an advanced level.
<i>Third Year Optional Courses Module</i> 6 Credits	Students take a number of courses either from other parts of the PPE syllabus, or from the other BA programs at CEU.
<i>BA Thesis Module</i> 8 Credits	This module is compulsory for all students. As well as the 6 credits for the thesis itself, all students are required to take the thesis seminar (1 credit) in which students present their thesis work, and classes on thesis writing organized by the Center for Academic Writing (1 credit).
<i>Advanced Coursework Module</i> 10 Credits	This module allows students in the fourth year to further specialize in a chosen major. Students take courses either from the Advanced Topics module OR from a selection of MA courses in their chosen discipline.
<i>Study Abroad Module</i> 12-30 Credits	All students will have the option to apply to study at a university outside Austria for fall term or the entire year. Students studying abroad will work with their Academic Advisor to make individual plans regarding credit and module distribution in line with their chosen subjects and time abroad.
<i>Capstone Project</i> 8 Credits	This module allows students to further develop their independent study skills. Students will conceive and conduct a project related to their major, which can take a number of forms and should not simply be another thesis.

Students must choose two of the three Core Topics Modules. These are the two disciplines in which students will focus in their second and third years.

Yearly Curriculum Plan

Year 1

Modules	Fall term	Winter term	Spring term	Credits
Philosophy	Introduction to Philosophy (5)	Introduction to philosophy (3)	Introduction to philosophy (2)	10
Politics	Introduction to Politics (2)	Introduction to Politics (4)	Introduction to Politics (4)	10
Economics	Introduction to Economics (4)	Introduction to Economics (4)	-	8
-	Introduction to Academic Writing (2)	-	-	2
Total credits	13	11	6	30

Year 2

Modules	Fall term	Winter term	Spring term	Credits
Core Topics Module	Minimum 10 credits (Maximum 14 credits – if a student would like to take more than 12 credits, they need to discuss this with the Academic Advisor)	Minimum 10 credits (Maximum 14 credits – if a student would like to take more than 12 credits, they need to discuss this with the Academic Advisor)	(Maximum 8 credits – if a student would like to take more than 6 credits, they need to discuss this with the Academic Advisor)	10
Core Topics Module				10
Optional Courses Module				10
Total credits				30

Year 3

The Third year, students choose two out of the three subjects of philosophy, politics and economics. Students can choose to have a term or a year studying abroad.

	Fall term	Winter	Spring	Credits
Student who studies abroad for the whole year	30 advanced course credits at the host university* - 10 credits in one of their chosen disciplines, - 10 credits in the other of their chosen disciplines, - 10 credits optional			30
Student who studies abroad for the fall term	12 credits advanced course credits at the host university* - 4 credits in one of their chosen disciplines - 4 credits in the other of their chosen disciplines - 4 credits optional	10 credits advanced 3d year courses - 4 credits in their chosen disciplines - 4 credits in the other of their chosen disciplines - 2 credits optional	6 credits: Students write their thesis	30
Student who stays at CEU for the year	12 credits advanced 3d year courses - 4 credits in one of their chosen disciplines - 4 credits in the other of their chosen disciplines - 4 credits optional	2 credits thesis seminar + thesis writing workshop		
Student who studies abroad for the winter+spring term	14 credits advanced 3d year courses - 4 credits in one of their chosen disciplines - 4 credits in the other of their chosen disciplines - 4 credits optional + 2 credits of their choice	16 advanced course credits at the host university* - 6 credits in one of their chosen disciplines - 6 credits in the other of their chosen disciplines - 4 credits optional		30

* The distribution of credits will be treated flexibly in light of available courses at the host university

Year 4

In their fourth year, students can choose one or two majors (one or two subjects out of philosophy, politics or economics). A minimum 10 credits (including available MA courses) is required for a major. Students can choose up to 22 credits in a major.

Those students who completed a thesis in their 3rd year do an additional capstone project. Students who didn't complete a thesis in the third year do a thesis as their capstone project.

	Fall	Winter	Spring	Credits
Student who studied abroad for a year or the winter + spring term and opts for Austrian BA only	2 credits thesis seminar + thesis writing workshop 6 credits: Students write their thesis (arranged in the course of one or more terms)			8
Student who opts for the 4-year degree	22 credits of 4th year advanced courses - including up to 6 credits of optional courses - including available MA courses - between 10 and 22 credits in a chosen major 2 credits (thesis seminar + thesis writing workshop) or capstone project preparation		6 credits: students write their thesis / complete their capstone project	30

Credit Requirements

YEAR 1	Introduction to Philosophy	Students must take 10 credits over the course of their first year. (All courses are mandatory.)
	Introduction to Politics	Students must take 10 credits over the course of their first year. (All courses are mandatory.)
	Introduction to Economics	Students must take 8 credits over the course of their first year. (All courses are mandatory.)
YEAR 2	Core Topics in Philosophy	Students must take at least 10 credits in their second year (6 of which need to come from the mandatory classes) if Philosophy is one of their chosen discipline. All courses are elective for students who did not take Philosophy as their chosen disciplines.
	Core Topics in Politics	Students must take at least 10 credits in their second year (6 of which need to come from the mandatory classes) if Politics is one of their chosen discipline. All courses are elective for students who did not take Politics as their chosen disciplines.
	Core Topics in Economics	Students must take at least 10 credits in their second year (6 of which need to come from the mandatory classes) if Economics is one of their chosen discipline. All courses are elective for students who did not take Economics as their chosen disciplines.
	Optional Courses Module	The following courses count towards the Optional module: - courses taken from other BA programs, - courses taken from the discipline the student did not choose, - elective courses taken from the student's chosen disciplines once the required 10 credits are completed. All courses are elective.

Annex 1.

Courses Offered to PPE Students in 2021/2022

YEAR	TERM	MODULE	MANDATORY OR ELECTIVE	TITLE	CREDIT	PREREQUISITES
1	Fall	Introduction to Philosophy	Mandatory	Knowledge and Reality	3	
1	Fall	Introduction to Philosophy	Mandatory	Critical Reasoning	2	
1	Fall	Introduction to Politics	Mandatory	Introduction to Comparative Politics: History, Topics, and Methods	2	
1	Fall	Introduction to Economics	Mandatory	Principles of Microeconomics	4	
1	Fall	-	Mandatory Elective	Introduction to Academic Writing	2	
1	W	Introduction to Philosophy	Mandatory	Ethics	3	
1	W	Introduction to Politics	Mandatory	Introduction to Comparative Methodology	2	
1	W	Introduction to Politics	Mandatory	Political Concepts and Ideologies	2	
1	W	Introduction to Economics	Mandatory	Principles of Macroeconomics	4	
1	S	Introduction to Philosophy	Mandatory	History of Philosophy: Plato and Aristotle	2	
1	S	Introduction to Politics	Mandatory	Introduction to Political Institutions	2	
1	S	Introduction to Politics	Mandatory Elective	Introduction to Political Economy: Interests, Institutions and Ideas	2	
2	Fall	Core Topics in Philosophy	Mandatory Elective	Descartes and his successors	2	
2	Fall	Core Topics in Philosophy	Mandatory Elective	Logic	2	
2	Fall	Core Topics in Philosophy	Elective	Philosophy of Social Science	2	
2	Fall	Core Topics in Politics	Mandatory Elective	Nations and Society	2	
2	Fall	Core Topics in Politics	Elective	Ruling the World: International Orders in Theory and Practice	2	
2	Fall	Core Topics in Politics	Elective	Central and Eastern Europe and the EU	2	
2	Fall	Core Topics in Politics	Elective	Global Politics of China	2	
2	Fall	Core Topics in Economics	Mandatory Elective	Introduction to Mathematics	3	
2	Fall	Core Topics in Economics	Elective	Economics of Inequality	2	
2	Winter	Core Topics in Philosophy	Mandatory Elective	Kant and his Predecessors	2	
2	Winter	Core Topics in Philosophy	Elective	Applied Ethics	2	
2	Winter	Core Topics in Philosophy	Elective	Philosophy of Art	2	
2	Winter	Core Topics in Politics	Mandatory Elective	Political Economy: Rational Choice and Collective Action	2	
2	Winter	Core Topics in Politics	Mandatory Elective	Political Philosophy in the 17th and 19th century	2	
2	Winter	Core Topics in Politics	Elective	Environmental Politics and Environmental Policies	2	
2	Winter	Core Topics in Economics	Mandatory Elective	Introduction to Statistics	3	Introduction to Mathematics
2	Winter	Core Topics in Economics	Elective	Social Policy and Labour Markets	2	
2	Spring	Core Topics in Philosophy	Elective	Philosophy of Mind	2	
2	Spring	Core Topics in Politics	Elective	Voting Behavior	2	
2	Spring	Core Topics in Economics	Elective	Introduction to Econometrics	2	Introduction to Mathematics
2	Spring	Core Topics in Economics	Elective	Behavioral Economics	2	
2	Fall	Optional Courses Module	Elective (from CPS)	Group identity and Prejudice	2	
2	Fall	Optional Courses Module	Elective (from CPS)	Anthropology and the History of Capitalism	2	
2	Fall	Optional Courses Module	Elective (from CPS/QSS)	Introduction to Environmental Sciences	2	
2	Fall	Optional Courses Module	Elective (from CPS)	Robots, Artificial Intelligence, and Genres of the Human	2	
2	Fall	Optional Courses Module	Elective (from CPS)	Social Justice and Human Rights: A Multidisciplinary Take	2	
2	Fall	Optional Courses Module	Elective (from CPS)	A History of the World Since 1300	3	
2	Winter	Optional Courses Module	Elective (from CPS)	Premodern Empires – Structures and Ideologies	2	
2	Winter	Optional Courses Module	Elective (from CPS)	Economics for non-economists	2	
2	Winter	Optional Courses Module	Elective (from CPS)	Cultures of Quantification	2	
2	Winter	Optional Courses Module	Elective (from CPS)	History of Film	2	