

**International Relations BA**
Study Abroad Course List**Tuition fee/credit:** 105 USD*For course syllabi, please contact the Study Abroad Office!*

Code	Course title	Semester	Credits (ECTS)
PONTS1001	Central European Political Structures	Fall	8
PONTS1009	Geography of Elections	Fall	8
PONTS1010	Geopolitics	Fall	8
PONTS1012	History of EU Integration I.	Fall	8
PONTS1020	International Political Economy I.	Fall	8
PONTS1028	Latin America from the Cold War up to the present	Fall	8
PONTS1031	Political Africa Studies	Fall	8
PONTS1032	Political Geography, Geography of Security	Fall	8
PONTS1033	Regional Policy	Fall	8
PONTS1035	The EU in International Affairs	Fall	8
PONTS1039	Theories of International Relations	Fall	8
PONTS1044	Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection	Fall	8
PONTS1045	Political Culture - International Cultural Relations	Fall	8

**Detailed information about the courses:****Central European Political Structures**

Language of instruction:	English
Form of teaching:	lecture
Class hours per week:	2
Credits (ECTS):	8
Course description:	The course offers a survey of the history of Central European political systems after WW2. It gives an introduction to the "Soviet system", together with the reasons of territorial division, efforts and reforms in countries of the Soviet Bloc, the collapse of the Soviet Union (reasons, consequences). The new position of the former Communist countries in the new world order will be discussed in details. Within the frames of the course the following topics will be discussed; East-Central Europe after Jalta; The building up of the Communist Bloc, The Stalinist Model, the bloc after the death of Stalin, the different ways of Socialism, the ways to transition, the collapse of Socialism, the new institution building, the consequences of the change of the regime, the ways to the EU, the consequences of economic crisis, the new challenges.
Assessment methods:	Active participation, written examination
Teaching period:	Fall Semester

Geography of Elections

Language of instruction:	English
Form of teaching:	lecture
Class hours per week:	2
Credits (ECTS):	8
Course description:	The course will focus on the political geography of elections, dealing with the politics of the electoral process. We will examine how elections contribute to the development and use of power and legitimacy in political systems. Most attention will be given to the analysis of the electoral systems, how they influence voters' choices. With the help of this course students will be able to analyse the special categories of the geography of elections and will be able to compare the different structures.
Assessment methods:	Active participation, written examinations
Teaching period:	Fall Semester



Geopolitics

Language of instruction:	English
Form of teaching:	lecture
Class hours per week:	2
Credits (ECTS):	8
Course description:	The course aims at providing an overview of geopolitical thought from its classical to its post-modern theories. Separate attention will be devoted to the Cold War and how the international system has been transforming into a more multipolar setting since the collapse of the Soviet Union. While states and the state system will be under investigation, students will have the chance to look into non-state actors and the new dynamics of entities of the semi-periphery. Africa will be exposed as an intriguing case study for geopolitical considerations. The methods will include lectures, classroom discussions, student presentations and documentaries.
Assessment methods:	Active participation, written examination
Teaching period:	Fall Semester

History of EU Integration I.

Language of instruction:	English
Form of teaching:	lecture
Class hours per week:	2
Credits (ECTS):	8
Course description:	The European Union is a system of cooperation that has an inevitable influence on Hungary. The goal of the subject is to familiarise students with the history and special features of this integration. They will be given an overview of the international system of relations that influence European integration, the history of relations between the member states and their development through crises with special attention to the enlargement process. The courses will explore the creation, structure, operation and relations of the integration institutions – the European Parliament, the Commission, the Council, the Court – and the opportunities for the enforcement of supranational, intergovernmental and subnational agreements with the help of advisory organisations. They will put a great emphasis on the struggle of Hungary to achieve full membership and its role in the Union. Students will have sufficient knowledge to understand the development of integration, be able to assess the role of member state interests, analyse the special transformation of the Union and interpret the different standpoints coherently.



	This knowledge will contribute to the evolution of European identity.
Assessment methods:	Active participation, written examination
Teaching period:	Fall Semester

International Political Economy I.

Language of instruction:	English
Form of teaching:	seminar
Class hours per week:	2
Credits (ECTS):	8
Course description:	This course provides an introduction into the political economy. It also examines the different national economies and the role of different actors. It has got a special focus on Central and Eastern Europe, discussing the transition into market economy and also the integration of the CEECs both into the global economy and the European Union. The course highlights among others the different approaches of economic transformation, privatization, the changing role of the state, creation of financial markets, the determining role of the FDI and discussing the differences of the 'Outer directed and the Top-down directed capitalism' transition models. Students will be able to distinguish the importance and consequences of the different scenarios of the change of the regime and the role of the Central and Eastern European region and the European Union as a global market in the world economy.
Assessment methods:	Active participation, written examination
Teaching period:	Fall Semester

Latin America from the Cold War up to the present

Language of instruction:	English
Form of teaching:	lecture
Class hours per week:	2
Credits (ECTS):	8
Course description:	During the Cold War the opposition between USA and the Soviet Union resulted in a nuclear standoff. In order to avoid direct conflicts within the territories of the two camps the Latin American countries became the locations of superpower conflicts. The wars in Latin America substituted the conflicts among the superpowers. This course observes the geopolitics of the Latin American world, the Cuban revolution, the democratic transition and the system of the new international relations.
Assessment methods:	Active participation, written examination
Teaching period:	Fall Semester

**Political Africa Studies**

Language of instruction:	English
Form of teaching:	lecture
Class hours per week:	2
Credits (ECTS):	8
Course description:	The course is designed to investigate the historic heritage and potential place and role of Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) – its countries, regional economic communities, together with the continent-wide African Union, including also countries of North Africa as its member states – in the global arena. It will tackle a number of intriguing current issues of EU–SSA relations, the major bilateral linkages such as the ones with the USA, China, Japan, India, Brazil, and other emerging economies of Asia, their development, aid and foreign policies. Special attention will be given to analysing the re-emergence of Central and Eastern European countries across SSA and how they could formulate separate (or joint) policies towards African countries, former allies or friends from the era of the Soviet Bloc. The present setting and interactions among state elites, governments, non-governmental organizations, the citizens themselves and the numerous external actors will stay in the centre of discussion.
Assessment methods:	Active presence, written examination
Teaching period:	Fall Semester

Political Geography, Geography of Security

Language of instruction:	English
Form of teaching:	lecture
Class hours per week:	2
Credits (ECTS):	8
Course description:	Within the framework of the course students will get acquainted with the geographical frames of the modern geography of security and the role of the state. Students will have the opportunity to examine the concept of the state within different disciplines, touching issues like states, borders, nations, national minorities, identities, sovereignty, state policies, the size and shape of states, etc. The question of borders will also be discussed with the help of the following concepts: borders, borderlines, CBSs, Euroregions, natural and artificial borders. The question of 'core area' and its role in international conflicts will also be discussed with the help of the Balkan peninsula, as an example. (The



	Balkans and the successor states of Yugoslavia, and the problem of Kosovo.) The course deals with the special role of capital cities based on different examples. The course also examines the role of enclaves, corridors, exclaves, their challenges from the point of state security. The course will discuss the effect of environmental and political conflicts and their consequences for state security. With the help of this course students will be able to understand the different historical, economic, cultural and security aspects of the role of the state.
Assessment methods:	Active presence, midterm and final exam
Teaching period:	Fall Semester

Regional Policy

Language of instruction:	English
Form of teaching:	lecture
Class hours per week:	2
Credits (ECTS):	8
Course description:	Regional policy is one of the most important public policies of the EU and for the European member states. Its aims, institutions, means are used in Europe and also are expanding to another continents applied by international development agencies. The principles of the EU structural and cohesion funds like subsidiarity, partnership, monitoring, evaluation, have crucial influence in formulation of domestic development policies aimed catching up the regions lagging behind. The course in a frame of regional and civilization studies introduces the main objectives of EU cohesion policy, and its means like planning, financing, monitoring etc. The students can get insight into the basic terms of regional (social, economic, infrastructural) inequalities and challenges of economic development as well. The material of the course consists public policy documents (guidelines, plans, legal regulations), statistical data and maps on regional inequalities and also some theoretical literature. Basic skills and theoretical backgrounds, methodological means for analysing of territorial, regional inequalities both in the home countries and international level.
Assessment methods:	Active presence, written examination
Teaching period:	Fall Semester

**The EU in International Affairs**

Language of instruction:	English
Form of teaching:	lecture
Class hours per week:	2
Credits (ECTS):	8
Course description:	The precise and real nature of the European Union (EU) has long been a question in international affairs. It is difficult to understand, how to deal and cooperate with an actor, which is neither a traditional state nor an intergovernmental international organization. While the EU has significant decision-making authority in certain policy areas, it lacks influence in others. This mix of competencies in external relations can confuse non-members and strain relations among EU member states and the Union's supranational institutions. The course investigates the complexities of the EU's role and authority in international affairs and its relations with peripheries and other actors.
Assessment methods:	Active presence, written examination
Teaching period:	Fall Semester

Theories of International Relations

Language of instruction:	English
Form of teaching:	lecture
Class hours per week:	2
Credits (ECTS):	8
Course description:	This course is designed to provide comprehensive knowledge on the field of theories of international relations. It will introduce students to the most important contending theories such as liberalism and neo-institutional liberalism, realism and neorealism, radical perspectives, and postmodern approaches. It describes how these different approaches explain the basic concepts of international relations, how they define the international system; state and nation; or the role of individuals. Among these topics, it will outline how violent conflicts and wars evolve, how we define peace, and how we can use theories in practice.
Assessment methods:	Active presence, written examination
Teaching period:	Fall Semester

**Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection**

Language of instruction:	English
Form of teaching:	seminar
Class hours per week:	2
Credits (ECTS):	8
Course description:	The course focuses on the main environmental issues and policies on environmental protection and sustainable development. It gives an insight to the operation of global civic sector and climate change issue. Furthermore, it discusses the formulation process of sustainable development, the dilemma escalated around this paradigm and its integration in policies, primarily into developmental policy. It also analyses in detail the idea of political ecology (ecopolitics), highlighting its political aspects and directions, moreover, its symbolic system and communication devices of green thought. The second part of the course discusses the concept, the set of instruments and the methods of environmental policy, the role and presence of the green and antiglob movement.
Assessment methods:	Active presence, written examination
Teaching period:	Fall Semester

Political Culture - International Cultural Relations

Language of instruction:	English
Form of teaching:	lecture
Class hours per week:	2
Credits (ECTS):	8
Course description:	The aim of the course is to look into the connections among the various aspects of political culture ranging from the importance of international cultural relations and co-operation, to cultural protectionism, and the aspects of culture and development. The course uses methods from comparative politics and global studies. Theories of international relations, together with the critics of the basic notions of political culture, cultural diplomacy, intercultural communication, as well as concepts and phenomena of European culture, the "Americanisation" of global culture, cultural hegemony and cultural protectionism will be discussed and debated. A number of institutions, tools and programmes of cultural institutions worldwide will be also analysed. Students will broaden their understanding of the concept of political culture. They will be able to point out the underlying connections among the different aspects of "politics" and "culture", and how culture is defended by political tools, as well as how politics need to base upon and



	protect culture in different contexts. Contemporary knowledge will be acquired about institutions and programmes of culture in our global world.
Assessment methods:	Active presence, written examination
Teaching period:	Fall Semester