INFORMATION PACKAGE

MA IN CENTRAL EUROPEAN HISTORY (ONE YEAR)

2014-15 ACADEMIC YEAR

Last reviewed: 5 September, 2014
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1. General Introduction to the Program

Accreditation
The one-year Master of Arts degree in Central European History was first launched at CEU in 1992. It is registered by the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York (US) for and on behalf of the New York State Education Department, and is also accredited as "further professional training" ("szakirányú továbbképzés") by the Hungarian Accreditation Committee.

Besides the one-year program, described in this booklet, the department also offers an MA program in Historical Studies (two years, as a joint initiative of the Department of Medieval Studies and the Department of History, in two tracks: Interdisciplinary Medieval studies, and Comparative History of Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe; registered by the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York (US) for and on behalf of the New York State Education Department, and by the Hungarian Accreditation Committee). We also co-host MATILDA (European Master's in Gender and Women’s History, https://history.ceu.hu/matilda).

Character of the Program
The Master’s programs of the Department of History explore comparative themes in the history of Central, South-eastern, Eastern and Eastern Mediterranean Europe within a wider European and, indeed, global context: they strive to explain regional phenomena through their broader linkages, and use regional history for a better understanding of universal historical processes. Special emphasis is laid on topics that bring into focus the interplay of indigenous experience and external influence, which supply the historical individuality of the regions of the European landmass east of the Rhine. Such themes are approached not only through the lens of the traditional, but still fundamental and permanently rejuvenating fields of economic and social, political and institutional, religious and cultural history: other areas and approaches are also robustly represented in the professional orientation of our faculty, including intellectual history, historical anthropology, history of science, the history of visual culture, urban and environmental history, gender history, global and transnational history, communication history. In order to foster a critical spirit of inquiry and high standards of verification, the empirical themes are supplemented by a solid training in methodology, especially the epistemological issues related to the study of history and historiography. The syllabi for our courses, available at http://history.ceu.hu/courses, provide concrete examples of the readings and issues taught in the MA programs.

Our MA programs are graduate programs. The department does not as a rule offer training in subjects that are meant to be acquired in undergraduate education. Students are also expected to develop familiarity with, and experience in the basic skills of independent research. Faculty members offer guidance, assistance, and supervision in students’ own creative work and, naturally, information on fields which students may not have studied earlier.

Our MA programs are programs in comparative history. This does not imply that students are expected to work on topics that are per se comparative. It means, however, that they should strive to develop an ability to place their topics in a comparative perspective. In order to achieve this, they should be prepared to obtain training and participate in research discussions of several fields of scholarship besides their own specialization, primarily by selecting courses that point beyond the thematic, spatial and temporal boundaries of the subject of their theses. They should also take advantage of the interdisciplinary background of our faculty, and to a certain extent also of their peers, many of whom have been previously trained in a discipline other than history.

Who May /Should Apply? Entry Requirements
The one-year MA program is a very intensive one, designed for applicants with four or five years of previous university education. Having an undergraduate degree in history is an advantage, but the department also welcomes applications from students in other social science and humanities disciplines.
and will decide on a case by case basis whether the latter can be accepted in the one-year program, or would be better advised to pursue the two-year program. Holders of three-year BA degrees should apply for the two-year program.

In addition to meeting the general CEU admissions requirements, applicants must provide a 500-word outline of their proposed research topic for the MA thesis (see sample proposal, http://history.ceu.hu/content/masterartsdegreeprograms), which will be weighted heavily in the admissions decision. The topic is expected to fall within the broad thematic focus of the department as described above, and should be delimited and set out with the greatest possible clarity. Previous work on the subject should also be pointed out. Applicants should indicate which courses or professors they see as especially relevant to their interests. For more information, please visit http://www.ceu.hu/admissions

2. STRUCTURE AND OPERATION OF THE DEPARTMENT

The Department of History has assembled a distinctly international faculty from over a dozen countries in three continents. Some of them permanently reside in Budapest and work at CEU full time or part time, others are affiliated to us as recurrent visiting professors, who teach here a term each academic year while maintaining a position in a prestigious research or educational institution elsewhere. (For detailed information on the faculty, see http://history.ceu.hu/profile-type/faculty, for short notes Appendix 1 of this package.) The department is chaired by the Head of Department, the MA and PhD programs have additionally their separate Program Directors.

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY, ADMINISTRATION

Matthias Riedl, Head of Department
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Email: matriedl@ceu-budapest.edu
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Karl Hall, Director of the One-Year MA Program
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Constantin Iordachi, Director of the Doctoral Program
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Fax: (36-1) 327-3191

The departmental office takes care of most of the students’ everyday concerns, but matters of finances, health insurance, housing, and administrative issues (residence permits, stipends, registration, etc.) should be referred to the relevant offices of Student Services, CEU Budapest.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES**

Students are represented at the level of the Department, the University administration, the CEU Senate and the Student Dormitory.

- The *departmental student representation* consists of three elected representatives, one each from the Ph.D. and MA programs, who represent students' concerns with the head of department and the program directors. In addition to their Student Union functions, representatives are expected to attend departmental meetings.

- The *CEU Student Union*, which brings together the student representatives of all departments and programs, provides student feedback and input to the University’s Central Administration on academic and non-academic issues.

- The Student Union elects one *student representative to the Faculty Senate*. This student representative represents all students and reports on issues of general student concern.

- A separate *Student Dormitory Council* is elected to provide student input and feedback to the central administration on student dormitory issues.

For further information regarding student representation, please turn to either the departmental staff, Student Services, or the Residence Center.

**FORUMS OF COMMUNICATION**

There are several forums where departmental information and materials are disseminated. Please consult regularly the following ones:

- The *Groupwise mailing system* is the main channel of communication for all departmental information concerning assignments, grants, events, opening hours of the library, and so on. You should use your Groupwise address for your correspondence with CEU faculty, fellow students, and ideally, also with academic contacts outside CEU. It is in your interest and indeed your responsibility to read your e-mails at least daily.

- Your *personalized pigeonhole* in front of the Departmental Office on the first floor of Nádor 11 will be used to transmit your paper mail, certificates, corrected drafts and other paper documents. Please check it regularly.

- The *departmental website* ([http://history.ceu.hu](http://history.ceu.hu)) is the main source for information on program guidelines, course lists, faculty activities, and current events.

- The *noticeboards* in the entrance hall and corridor of Nádor 11 contain the most updated information on upcoming public lectures and conferences at the Department.

- The *infosys* ([https://infosys.ceu.hu](https://infosys.ceu.hu)) processes and confidentially displays information concerning your course enrolment, credits, and grades.
The e-learning site ([http://ceulearning.ceu.hu](http://ceulearning.ceu.hu)) collects all course syllabi and readings in their last updated version. For help with the site, contact Gabor Acs, ext. 2999, email: acsg@ceu.hu.

The common drive (O:) is used by some instructors and coordinators to store and share digital data. Please use it in accordance with their instructions.

The following media are further sources of useful internal information.

- The facebook group of the CEU History Department, found at ([https://www.facebook.com/groups/37739447124/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/37739447124/)), is a medium for academic and social communication among students, alumni, and faculty. By becoming a member, you can receive and share information on grants, scholarships, jobs, conferences, events, and all news of common interest.

- For general information on current CEU events, you can consult the CEU homepage ([http://www.ceu.hu](http://www.ceu.hu)), the online journal "CEU Planet" ([http://www.ceu.hu/category/ceu-planet](http://www.ceu.hu/category/ceu-planet)), and the student journal, the "CEU Weekly" ([http://ceuweekly.blogspot.hu](http://ceuweekly.blogspot.hu)).

- The site Discuss@CEU ([http://discuss.ceu.hu](http://discuss.ceu.hu)) is available for the exchange of messages of a non-academic character, such as notices of general interest to fellow students, the search for apartments and flatmates, the buying and selling of items like computers, printers, bicycles, and tickets, as well as discussions on political events, social initiatives, and the like. Please refrain from circulating such private messages via the Groupwise mailing system.

If you have difficulties with your computer or with the printer, please contact the Computer Help Desk: 327-2000 (from a university phone simply dial 2000) or 327-3030 (student helpdesk).

**Research Facilities**

Research and study facilities include CEU’s libraries, the computer laboratories, and access to other research libraries in Budapest.

**The CEU Main Library**

The library on the first floor of the Faculty Tower at the CEU campus at 9 Nádor utca in the 5th district ([http://www.library.ceu.hu/cat/#!/&panel1-1](http://www.library.ceu.hu/cat/#!/&panel1-1)) possesses literature in all fields of the humanities, including all important historical periodicals, besides major source collections and extensive modern literature in English and other languages. It also provides a range of electronic research resources. You may also make suggestions for books the CEU Library might order within the limits of the acquisition budget. On this possibility, please consult the members of the History Department Library Committee, Marsha Siefert (siefertm@ceu.hu) or Tolga Esmer (tuesmer@ceu.hu).

The Library's holdings on pre-modern topics are mostly kept at the **CEU-ELTE Medieval Library** (H-1088 Budapest, Múzeum krt. 6-8., 1st floor 148-150. Tel: 485-5200 or 411-6900/5139, e-mail: medlib@ceu.hu).

Closely affiliated to CEU, the **Open Society Archives** (OSA, [http://www.osaarchivum.org/hu](http://www.osaarchivum.org/hu)) is an outstanding center for research and education, whose collections and activities relate to the period after the Second World War, mainly the Cold War, the history of the formerly communist countries, human rights, and war crimes.
Budapest Research Libraries outside CEU
A number of further major research libraries are located in Budapest (see http://www.library.ceu.hu/worldlib.html ). The following three are the most important ones:

- **The National Széchényi Library (Országos Széchényi Könyvtár, OSZK)**, is the Hungarian national library, founded in 1802 with the mission to collect all books printed in Hungary and Hungarian books printed abroad. It is housed in the "F" building of the Buda Castle. See its English website at http://regi.oszk.hu/index_en.htm

- **ELTE University Library (ELTE Egyetemi Könyvtár)** goes back to a 1561 foundation and is the oldest library in the country. It is located at 6 Ferenciek tere in the 5th district. See its English website at http://konyvtar.elte.hu/en/

- **Library and Information Center of the Academy of Sciences (Magyar Tudományos Akadémia Könyvtára, MTAK)** is a special national research library founded in 1826 and established at 1 Arany János utca in the 5th district. See its English website at http://www.mtak.hu/index_en.php?name=h_1_4

Students are introduced to these major libraries during their first weeks at CEU, and guided tours of other scholarly libraries are also organized. Their holdings can be researched in the cumulative catalogue "MOKKA" (Magyar Országos Közös Katalógus), on the website http://www.mokka.hu Most of the old collections are not yet included in this online catalogue.

**Interlibrary Loan**
Books that are not available in any Budapest library may be ordered by ILL (Interlibrary Loan). For guidelines on using this facility, please see: http://www.library.ceu.hu/illending.html.

3. **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

**PROGRAM STRUCTURE**
In accordance with the CEU academic calendar the History Department offerings are divided into a Pre-Session (2 weeks: September), the Fall term (12 weeks: late September to December), the Winter term (12 weeks: January-March) and a Spring Session (10 weeks: April-June). The Pre-Session (general orientation about the university and about the curriculum) is designed to introduce students to resources both within CEU and in Budapest. The Fall and Winter terms consist of intensive coursework and lay the groundwork for the Master’s thesis. For the one-year MA the Spring Session is largely research-oriented. During April students do fieldwork or archival research. The university provides modest grants to assist students in accomplishing their research (in early February, information is made available about the application procedure for these grants). At the beginning of the academic year (most probably in October), there is an optional educational trip to Vienna or Prague. In May all students return to CEU to consult with their thesis supervisors, participate in workshops with faculty and fellow students to present their projects, and complete their theses by the second week of June.

**ACADEMIC ADVISORS**
The task of academic advisors is to introduce students to current ideas and publications in their field, to generally guide them in the choice of literature, methodology, and scientific approaches, and to help them draft their Thesis proposals and research chapters.
MA students are expected to discuss their research project and proposal draft with the faculty member most experienced in their area. The Head of Department and the Director of the One-year MA Program will suggest mentors. The students should choose advisors before the end of the Fall Term (24 November, 2014). To students who have not determined their supervisor and/or second reader by that date, the Department will ex officio assign appropriate faculty members. From then on, only in exceptional cases may supervisors be changed (such as change of topic or unavailability of a faculty member) and only with the joint permission of the program director and departmental head.
WORKLOAD AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to graduate, one-year MA students must earn **40 credit points**, out of which 2 are obtained by attending the spring thesis workshops and 8 for a successfully defended thesis. The remaining 30 are course credits. One course credit equals one hour (50 minutes) of classroom attendance per week over a 12-week long academic term. History Department courses are usually 2 or 4 credit courses (i.e., two or four hours per week for a term), with proportionate reading assignments and other requirements which altogether demand a time investment of c. 3 times as much as the number of class contact hours.

In the one-year MA, the only mandatory courses are Historiography (4 credits, Fall term) and Academic Writing (2 credits in both the Fall and Winter terms). The remaining 22 course credits can be collected in elective courses, mainly from the wide-ranging offer of the History Department, but bearing in mind that it is possible to take a limited number of courses from other CEU departments as well. History MA students are allowed to take 4 credits from **cross-listed courses** per academic year, as well as 4 credits from courses outside the department per academic year, with the possibility of case-by-case decisions on further individual requests.

Courses the Medieval Studies Department offers in Ottoman History count towards the History requirements and do not fall under the extra 4 credits arrangement.

Students are encouraged to enroll in the **language courses** offered by the Source Language Teaching Group (SLTG) or the Center of Academic Writing (CAW). All credits earned in these language courses will appear on the student's transcript, but only courses that are of direct relevance for the student's thesis can count toward the 22 elective course credits. The department can grant students a maximum of 2 credits per language course, even if it is a 3 or 4 credit course. In all cases where students request language credits to be counted into their elective credit requirements, they must seek approval by the Head of Department.

While students thus have significant latitude to construct their personal curriculum, in order to achieve a proper balance and range within their training in history, they are also strongly encouraged to look beyond the scope of their thesis research in selecting their courses.

The MA Program Director, their supervisors and other faculty assist them in making a selection that is best suited for both their specific field of research and the program’s aim of comparative training.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CALENDAR UNIT</th>
<th>ACTIVITY / COURSE</th>
<th>CREDITS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-session</td>
<td>Orientation (M)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Zero-week course presentations (M)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall term</td>
<td>Historiography (lecture + seminar, M)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Academic Writing (M)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective courses (recommended load)</td>
<td>8-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter term</td>
<td>Academic Writing / thesis tutoring (M)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective courses (recommended load)</td>
<td>10-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring session</td>
<td>Thesis workshops (M)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thesis and defense</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>40</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

M = mandatory activity/course
CLASS ATTENDANCE
Regular attendance is mandatory in all classes. A student who misses more than two units (two 100 min sessions) in any 2 or 4 credit class, without a verified reason beyond the student's control, must submit an 8-10 page paper assigned by the Professor, which as a rule should cover the material in the missed class. The paper is due not later than 3 weeks after the missed class.

AUDITING COURSES
If a student wants to officially register for a class without earning a letter grade or credit, the course may be registered as an audit. The cost and workload incurred in this case is the same as if the course were taken for credit, that is, a student auditing a course may be required to participate fully in the class. Expectations should be clarified with the course instructor at the beginning of the course. A course registered for audit will appear on the student’s transcript with the symbol AUD if attendance was regular, or W if the attendance was unsatisfactory. No credit is earned, nor is the GPA affected.

SPECIALIZATIONS
In addition to the regular MA degree in History, you can earn a certificate of attendance from one of four specialization tracks, if your research falls into the respective subject area. The specializations mark academic fields currently of particular relevance in which there is a faculty strength in the Department of History coincide with those in other CEU units. Each specialization organizes peculiar lecture series, conferences, excursions, and social events. Interested students should register for these specializations before the end of Zero Week, but may still do so after they have enrolled in the Department’s MA programs.

The Department currently offers the following specializations:

- The Specialization in **Eastern Mediterranean Studies** belongs to the activities of CEMS, the Center of Eastern Mediterranean Studies (head: Professor Volker Menze; [https://cems.ceu.hu](https://cems.ceu.hu)). By cutting through traditional chronological, geographic and disciplinary boundaries, the Specialization in Eastern Mediterranean Studies presents students with a unique opportunity to explore how various classical traditions were appropriated by and adjusted to the realities of medieval and early modern polities in the Eastern Mediterranean. This Specialization provides a framework for a comparative approach to (as well as in-depth individual focus on) the history, religion and culture of the Later Roman and Byzantine Empires, the Arab Caliphate and the Ottoman Empire in all their diversity.

- The Specialization in **Jewish Studies** is offered by the CEU Jewish Studies Project (head: Professor András Kovács; [http://web.ceu.hu/jewishstudies](http://web.ceu.hu/jewishstudies)). For fifteen years already, it has enabled students in History, Medieval Studies and Nationalism Studies to follow a teaching program in Jewish history and culture from the Middle Ages to the present, with a focus on modern Central and Eastern Europe. Classes on anti-Semitism, the Holocaust, contemporary Jewry, and the state of Israel are part of the program. In years of sufficient student demand, Hebrew and Yiddish language classes are organized. The Specialization offers its students a number of special fellowships and grants, as well as an extra-curricular program of lectures, conferences, and excursions.

- The Specialization in **Political Thought** engages in the comparative study of political thought from a variety of perspectives, both within and outside the Western canon. Special attention will be given to the historicity of diverse political traditions but also to recurring themes and questions. Learning to recognize political thought, both past and present, as being time- and place-specific will equip students, regardless of their major field of study, with additional analytical and methodological skills grounded in the appreciation of the contextual and
inter textual aspects of diverse intellectual traditions. Beyond contextualization, students will learn about comparative methods, addressing topics of political thought from intercultural and diachronic perspectives.

- The Specialization in Religious Studies, run by the Center for Religious Studies (http://religion.ceu.hu), is available in the Departments of History and Medieval Studies. It provides students with a solid methodological and theoretical foundation for competently addressing religious phenomena from an analytical and interdisciplinary perspective. The specialization introduces students to the concepts and methods in the study of religion, as well as to a wide range of religious phenomena from Late Antiquity to the present, with an emphasis on the historical and comparative study of monotheistic religions. Students are made familiar with the central texts and themes of the great debates on religion, and are trained for the comparative study of their social, institutional, cultural, intellectual, and political contexts and implications.

**ACADEMIC WRITING**

Students are required to attend academic writing sessions given by the Center for Academic Writing during both the Fall and Winter terms. All the Academic Writing courses are registered for Pass/Fail. If students wish to have consultations any time within the academic year, they should sign up for a 30-minute consultation with their instructor, using WC Online at https://ceu.mywconline.com.

The Fall term course will provide weekly sessions dealing with crucial reading and writing skills, as well as mandatory and optional consultations on particular aspects of individual assignments and research projects. The consultations will also aim to develop students’ essay writing skills by discussing the seminar assignments due for the mandatory Historiography course.

In addition to taught sessions focusing on the writing needs of the thesis, the Winter term course will consist of individual consultations designed to provide practical assistance in the systematic build-up of the thesis. Second-year students from the History track of the 2YMA program who are also preparing to submit their theses in June will be joining the classes in the Winter Term.

Exemption may be granted from attending the AW classes for native speakers and those with an MA in English literature and/or English language teaching. The exemption must be applied for, and the decision to grant it depends on the evaluation of the mandatory critique assignment and class work.

**COURSE SYLLABI AND READERS**

Some readers for courses (as described in the course syllabi) are available in the CEU Library, but the bulk of the course materials may be found at the department’s e-learning site: http://ceulearning.ceu.hu/course/index.php?categoryid=41. Links to individual courses are also included in the departmental course listings: http://history.ceu.hu/courses. In many instances digital folders of course readings are also stored in bulk on the O: // common drive for those who prefer.

**COURSE PAPERS AND DRAFTS**

Seminar papers and research chapters that are submitted for class discussion should be sent to the class instructor(s) through the Groupwise email in .doc/docx or .rtf format (not .pdf or .odf), written in 12 pt. characters with double spacing and pagination. After sending a seminar paper, please make sure that its reception is confirmed.
**COURSE GRADING**
Grading of MA courses takes into account the following skills and learning outcomes:

- content literacy: understanding and critical evaluation of key concepts and theoretical approaches, familiarity with the “state of the art” in the relevant traditions of research in the field, capacity of placing geographically circumscribed knowledge into a broader transnational/regional framework;

- academic skills: formulating and discussing questions, working with primary and secondary sources, designing appropriate historical research strategies and techniques, writing in an adequate Academic English language and generating an adequate critical apparatus, reflecting on one’s own academic practices, values and ethical principles in designing and conducting research.

**COURSE EVALUATION**
Central European University uses an online system, CoursEval, for course and teacher evaluations. Students are asked to evaluate their courses at the end of each semester through a survey of 14 questions. The CoursEval system is entirely independent of all other university systems. It is managed solely by the Institutional Research Office at the Office of the Provost. All surveys are anonymous; neither the numeric nor the text answers can be linked to the individual respondents in any way. Faculty members receive a report on their evaluations after they have uploaded all the grades to Infosys, they do not have access to the names of individual students. CoursEval student evaluations serve as a major source of feedback for both teachers and Departments, and are integral components of curriculum development at the University and individual Departments. CoursEval reports are thoroughly studied by the departments and the Office of the Provost in order to respond to student needs and observations effectively. If you have any questions about CoursEval and the procedures involved do not hesitate to contact Anna Galacz at the Institutional Research Office (galacza@ceu.hu).

**ACADEMIC HONESTY**
The offense of academic misconduct includes plagiarizing, that is, representing the ideas or words of another without proper attribution to the source of those ideas or words, whether intentional or not. Students should consult faculty or the Academic Writing Center if they are in any doubt about the difference between appropriate citation and plagiarism. Additionally, students may not submit an assignment or part of an assignment for credit in more than one course, nor reuse assignments that were presented in an academic framework outside CEU, unless approved by both course instructors. However, course papers may be incorporated into the thesis. Acts of academic misconduct will result in serious consequences such as a failing grade for the assignment, the course or removal from the program. For further information, please refer to the university’s Code of Ethics: [http://documents.ceu.hu/documents/p-1009-1v1402-0](http://documents.ceu.hu/documents/p-1009-1v1402-0)

**THE MA THESIS**
Each student is required to write a thesis of 15,000 to 25,000 words in length, based on original, primary source-based research. Students are expected to indicate and describe their proposed thesis topic in their application, but this topic can be refined and developed during the coursework. The research component will be especially enhanced by knowledge of some type of available primary resources, whether printed sources, archival documents, prospective interviews and fieldwork, or periodical collections. The full digital texts of many recent theses can be found through the CEU Library online catalog. For the full text of the MA Thesis Guidelines, see Appendix 2 of this Information Package.

The **Final Examination** is a composite oral examination scheduled for the last week of the Spring Session. It is a ca. 50-minute academic discussion. The three-member Examination Committee is chaired by the Second Reader of the MA thesis; the second member of the Committee is the First Supervisor of the examinee, and the third member is a non-CEU Professor.
Grading Assessment of the MA Thesis

Theses in the MA programs are graded according to three criteria:

- **Original findings**: All theses must show mastery of source work. The best theses employ a sophisticated apparatus of empirical demonstration that is not only sensitive to the ethics of accuracy but also capable of weaving together disparate source genres in an original fashion;

- **Substantive argumentation**: The presentation of the argument should be such that the generalist reader can readily ascertain the scholarly stakes even if subtleties are lost, while the specialist reader can easily identify the relationship of the thesis to a larger body of literature and not detect serious gaps. The quality of argumentation is assessed at multiple levels: with respect to key concepts and theoretical approaches employed in the wider profession, practical engagement with more circumscribed debates, and simply the consistent use of working terminology throughout the body of the thesis. The best theses will also demonstrate a reflexive awareness of how the problem being addressed may, in turn, shed light on the scope and uses of historical inquiry.

- **Style**: Regardless of region or era, method or sources, each thesis should exemplify fluency in presentation, aiming to win the reader through polished prose and rhetorical sophistication.

Theses deemed worthy of the "A" grade must exhibit high quality in all three domains – excellence in one cannot compensate for shortcomings in another.

The Hanák Prize

Since 1997 the Department of History has recognized outstanding research by its MA students, and since 1998 this recognition has been known as the Péter Hanák Prize, in honor of the founding Chair of the Department. One or more Hanák Prizes have been awarded annually (this list is also available from [http://history.ceu.hu/hanakprizewinners](http://history.ceu.hu/hanakprizewinners)). The Prize (a book) is presented to the author(s) of the best theses chosen on the basis of nominations by supervisors and evaluations by other faculty members.

Continuing Studies

The Department encourages its best graduates to continue their scholarly work at CEU or other universities. The MA in History counts as the first step in the PhD program, in which, with the exception of a few students on external grants or supporting themselves, students are fully funded by CEU for three years (and usually another fourth year is supported). Those wishing to proceed to the doctoral program may apply for acceptance at the end of the Winter Term. The final decision on applications is made after the thesis defense. (For more information, see the departmental homepage).

4. Life in the Department

The “CEU experience” has been described by the vast majority of former students as incomparable to anything they had encountered before in terms of challenge and excitement. It will both test and improve not only your ability to absorb and process a vast amount of information and knowledge, in English as your working language, but also your openness towards a whole array of different lifestyles, mindsets, attitudes, customs and opinions. We hope that the period you spend at CEU will not only contribute to your professional development, but also deepen your commitment to the values of a tolerant and multicultural society.

Residency Requirement

Students are expected to be in residence, in other words, to stay in Budapest and attend classes during the whole academic year, except the Winter and Research breaks. Permission to be absent from classes and/or from Budapest must be requested by e-mail from the MA Program Director or the Head of Department, via the MA coordinator. Unauthorized absence may lead to disciplinary action, and possibly even to expulsion from CEU. There is – unfortunately – no budget for holiday travel; those wishing to visit their families during the winter break have to cover the costs themselves.
Since MA students from different countries far from home belong to the small community of the Department, departmental staff or student colleagues should be informed of any trips abroad to avoid misunderstandings and causing unnecessary alarm.

**DEPARTMENTAL EVENTS**

Apart from the excursion - a two-three day educational trip to the Habsburg or Czech capital, with visits to public collections and historic sites, - which are considered parts of the curriculum, the following social events should be noted here:

- the welcome party and Buda hills walk: these take place during the orientation period in September to create opportunities for students of all categories (one- and two-year MA as well as PhD) and faculty to get acquainted in informal situations;
- the cycle of “Scholarly and social meetings of the History Department”: at recurrent weekly sessions during the academic terms, a faculty member or an advanced doctoral candidate gives an informal talk on his current research, followed by discussion and a pub visit;
- the Christmas Party;
- the farewell party (evening of the last day of MA thesis defenses);
- conferences, workshops, public lectures by visitors, and other means to keep you busy, should you find too much free time on your hands (!)

**5. DEPARTMENTAL PROJECTS AND PUBLICATIONS**

The Department of History is an active initiator of ambitious research projects on the history of Central, Southeastern, Eastern and Eastern Mediterranean Europe as well as bringing together research on larger geographical entities covering all of Europe and its near abroad. It is a top priority for us to involve students from an early stage of their studies.

**PASTS, INC. CENTER FOR HISTORICAL STUDIES**

Many of our departmental research projects are undertaken with the support of our sister institution, Pasts, Inc. Center for Historical Studies – a platform for international cooperation initiatives in training and research. Pasts, Inc. was established in 2002 as a core of a transnational, interdisciplinary, intercultural network of scholars. Its mission has been to contribute to the education, training and career development of emerging scholars, in connection with specific research projects. Thus, the Center initiates, supports, and hosts a variety of research, conference, educational, training activities, as well as publications. It provides a structure and a visibility to the Department of History that has proved to be helpful in student recruitment and external partnerships.

Past, Inc. endeavors to maintain the status of history, or “historical studies” as a fundamental frame of reference for the transmission of knowledge in the university system, a precondition of political, anthropological, social etc. discourse. Our goal in doing this is to ‘socialize’ graduates in various kinds of activities: participation in organizing and pursuing research, academic and art events (workshops, conferences, lectures, round tables, concerts, readings and exhibitions), academic management (fundraising and PR), as well as publishing activities. Our research projects relate directly to elements of the teaching program and student research of the Department of History, several related CEU units, and external partners. Detailed information on Pasts’ strategic partners, research associates, ongoing and planned initiatives is available from [http://pasts.ceu.hu](http://pasts.ceu.hu).

PASTS, INC. HOSTS AND SPONSORS A REFEREED JOURNAL, EAST CENTRAL EUROPE (IN THE FOLLOWING ECE). [WEBSITE] THROUGH ITS MEMBERS OF THE EDITORIAL BOARD, AUTHORS AND PEER REVIEWERS, ECE IS AN INTERFACE FOR COOPERATION WITH VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS AT CEU. ATTACHED TO THE CENTER, IT HAS THE AMBITION TO BECOME THE JOURNAL OF CEU AS A WHOLE BY KEEPING ITS HISTORICAL OUTLOOK, AND COVERING GENERAL THEMES IN THE HUMANITIES WITH A REGIONAL FOCUS. ECE, besides appearing in traditional format, also maintains an electronic review database of current academic literature published in the languages of the region, to which students, including MA students, are encouraged to contribute actively and frequently as part of the accomplishment of their thesis-related tasks. While continuing to be hosted by Pasts, the journal is published by Brill, Leiden, in a new series and format: [WEBSITE] .


PASTS INC. INITIATES AND SUPPORTS OTHER PUBLISHING PROJECTS AS WELL, THE MOST IMPORTANT OF WHICH IS A BOOK SERIES WITH CEU PRESS, PASTS INCORPORATED. CEU STUDIES IN THE HUMANITIES. 11 VOLUMES HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED SO FAR. THE AUTHORS AND EDITORS INCLUDE SENIOR AND JUNIOR CEU FACULTY MEMBERS (ALFRED RIEBER, ALEKSEY MILLER, BALÁZS TRENCSÉNYI), CEU ALUMNI WHO HAVE MADE A MARK INTERNATIONALLY (MARIUS TURDA), AND LEADING WORLD FIGURES IN HISTORICAL AND HUMANISTIC STUDIES (MARIA TODOROVA, PAUL WEINDLING, MOSHE IDEL). THE TOPICS RANGE FROM PROBLEMS IN THE HISTORY OF EMPIRES AND BORDERLANDS, THROUGH DISCOURSES AND PROCESSES OF IDENTITY BUILDING, TO RACIALISM AND EUGENICS (FULL LIST OF TITLES AVAILABLE AT [WEBSITE]). THE FIRST TWO VOLUMES IN A SERIES OF DOCUMENTS AND RESEARCH REPORTS HAVE ALSO BEEN PUBLISHED (SEE [WEBSITE]).
DEPARTMENTAL FACULTY, AY 2014-2015

Aziz Al-Azmeh, University Professor, Director of the Center of Religious Studies (history of religions, Islamic history). - on sabbatical leave during 2014-2015.


Julian Casanova, Visiting Professor (comparative history of dictatorships, civil wars and social movements).

Roumen Daskalov, Recurrent Visiting Professor/ New Bulgarian University, Sofia (modernization of the Balkans, cultural and social history of modern Eastern Europe, anthropological theories of culture).

Tolga Esmer, Assistant Professor (Cultural and Social History of the Ottoman Empire and its Successor States, Early Modern & Modern Islamic and Balkan History. Frontier and Borderland Studies; Empires.)

András Gerő, Recurrent Visiting Professor/ Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest (Social and cultural history of Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, national mythologies).

Gábor Gyáni, Recurrent Visiting Professor/ Institute of History, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest (Central European urban and social history in the 19th and 20th centuries; theory of history).

Karl Hall, Associate Professor, Director of One-Year MA Program (History of the modern physical sciences, with a special emphasis on Russia and the Soviet Union; 19-20th century Russian and European cultural and intellectual history).

Constantin Iordachi, Director of Doctoral Studies/Associate Professor (Modern and contemporary social, legal and institutional history of South-Eastern and Central Europe; Fascism and Communism; comparative citizenship studies).

Maciej Janowski, Recurrent Visiting Associate Professor / Institute of History, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw (Nineteenth century social history, liberalism, Polish and Central European history).

Victor Karády, Professor Emeritus (Historical sociology, history of education in the 19th and 20th centuries, social history of modern European Jewry).

Jacek Kochanowicz, Recurrent Visiting Professor/ Warsaw University (Economic history of Central and Eastern Europe, comparative history, socialism and communism).

László Kontler, Professor (Early-modern European intellectual history, political thought, the Enlightenment, knowledge production, inter-cultural transfers).

András Kovács, Professor at Nationalism Studies Program; Director of the CEU Jewish Studies Program (Minority identities, Anti-Semitism, social history of post-Holocaust Jewry).

János Kovács, Visiting Lecturer, Permanent Fellow, Institute for Human Sciences, Vienna (history of economic thought in Eastern Europe, economic history of communism, political economy of new capitalism in Eastern Europe, economic cultures after communism, institutional economics).

Mária Kovács, Professor at Nationalism Studies Program; Director of the CEU Nationalism Studies Program (Nationalism, liberalism and the professions; international minority protection).
Noemi Levy-Aksu, Visiting Assistant Professor (19th and 20th century Ottoman history, European social history).

Miklós Lojkó, Visiting Associate Professor; Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest (Political and economic history of 20th-century Central Europe, British and French policy towards Central Europe).

Alexei Miller, Recurrent Visiting Professor/Institute for Scientific Information, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow (Nationalism in Eastern and East-Central Europe in the 19th century; empires; comparative history of borderlands).

Michael L. Miller, Associate Professor, Nationalism Studies Program (Nationality conflicts, religious, cultural and political development of Central European Jewry in the nineteenth century)

Katalin Péter, Professor Emerita / Institute of History, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest (The Reformation and confessionalization, family history and women in early-modern Europe).

István Rév, Professor; Director of the Open Society Archives (Memory cultures; Communism and Fascism; aesthetics and the visual; exhibiting and archiving).

Alfred J. Rieber, University Research Professor (Russian and Soviet Foreign Policy, social history of imperial Russia, comparative history of Eurasia).

Matthias Riedl, Head of Department, Associate Professor, Chair of Comparative Religious Studies, (History of Religion and Theology, History of Political Thought, Reformation and Renaissance studies)

Ilona Sármány-Parsons, Recurrent Visiting Professor/ University of Vienna (Visual culture, history of art, architecture and art criticism in modern Central Europe).

Ostap Sereda, Visiting Faculty, Senior Researcher at I.Krypiakevych Institute of Ukrainian Studies (National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (Nationalism and public sphere in 19th-century Eastern and Central Europe)).

Marsha Siefert, Associate Professor (Communications and media history; Cold War culture and diplomacy; oral history and biography; cultural history, music and film)

György E. Szőnyi, Recurrent Visiting Professor/ University of Szeged (Renaissance occultism, religious heterodoxy, semiotics and early modern history, English and Hungarian studies).

Balázs Trencsényi, Assistant Professor (Intellectual history of Central and Southeastern Europe, early-modern political thought, history of historiography, nationalism and patriotism) - on sabbatical leave during 2014-2015.

Carsten L. Wilke, Associate Professor; Director of the Two-Year MA Program; in charge of the Jewish Studies Specialization for the History and Medieval Studies Departments (History of European Jewry; Jewish thought and culture; Jewish-Christian relations; comparative studies in religious modernity; early modern European history).

Susan Zimmermann, University Professor, Departments of History and Gender Studies (History of Central European women’s movements; comparative internationalisms; histories and concepts of social change in a local-global perspective; comparative history of welfare policy) – on partial sabbatical leave during 2014-1015.