



UNIVERSITY OF SZEGED

FACULTY OF LAW AND POLITICAL SCIENCES

## **ENGLISH MASTER IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

### **PROGRAM INTRODUCTION**

**APPLICABLE FROM ACADEMIC YEAR 2024/2025**

This document outlines the requisite components for the completion of the English Master in International Relations Program (MIR Program), as well as the structure of the courses offered within the MIR Program.

The document contains the requirements for completion of the program:

- a. Minimum number of credits to be earned and their sources
- b. Thesis defense
- c. Final exam

### **Requirements for completion of the program**

To complete the program, students must fulfill the following requirements:

1. Earn at least 120 credits from the courses listed in the program curriculum.
2. Successfully defend their thesis.
3. Successfully complete the final examination.

In addition to the aforementioned requirements, the following regulations govern the method and further requirements for obtaining the qualification: the relevant and current legislation, the university's study and examination regulations, as well as other university and faculty study and examination regulations.

There is no language exam requirement for the diploma.

- a) Minimum number of credits to be earned and their sources
  - i. Earning Credits

In the Program curriculum below, the required 120 credits must be obtained from the followings as indicated below:

Master International Economic Relations - Legal and Business Aspects (120 ECTS)										
Semester	Mandatory subjects									Total ECTS/Semester
I. Fall	Comparative Constitutional Law and Governance Theory L (5)	Research Methods in International Relations and Political Sciences I L (2)	Economic Fundamentals of EU Integration L (3)	Diplomatic Relations L (4)	The Main Historical Milestones of the 20th and 21st Century L (4)	International Organizations L (5)	XSH_HunLang-0001 Hungarian as a Foreign Language <b>ONLY</b> for Stipendium Hungaricum Students S (2)			24 + ( 2)
I. Spring	Research Methods in International Relations and Political Sciences II S (2)	Democracy, Subsidiarity and Multilevel Governance in Europe L (3)	European Economic and Monetary Union L (4)	Global Economic Trends and Centers L (5)	The Foreign Relations of the EU to the Main Regions outside the EU L (3)	Peace Studies S (3)	Economic and Social Statistics L (3)	XSH_HunLang-0002-2 + XSH_Final 0003 (Hun-Elem-Lang_EX) Hungarian Elementary Language Exam <b>ONLY</b> for Stipendium Hungaricum Students S (2)		25 +(2)
II. Fall	International Political Economy L (5)	International Energy and Environmental Studies L (3)	The European Union and European Policies L (4)	The European Union and European Policies Seminar S (2)	European Business Environment L (4)	Freedom, Security and Justice in the European Union L (4)	Globalization and Development L (3)	Non-State Actors S (4)	International Negotiations and Intercultural Communication S (3)	32
II. Spring	Protection of Human Rights L (3)	Protection of Human Rights S (2)	International Business Transactions L (3)	International Business Transactions Seminar S (2)	Research and Development in the EU L (4)	Political Risk Management and the Deliberative Process L (5)	Transnational Security Threats S (4)	Final thesis (10)		33
Total ECTS										114*

\* + 6 ECTS  
optional courses

Compensatory courses (30 ECTS)										
I. Fall	Basics of International Law L (5)	European Constitutional Identities L(5)	Introduction to Political Philosophy L (5)		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PLEASE NOTE!</b> Students who obtained an International Relations BA degree issued by a Hungarian higher education institution are exempt from the compensatory courses. All other students are entitled to complete the compensatory courses (30 ECTS in total) throughout the 1st year of the Programme, distributed between the two semesters.</p>					
I. Spring	Legal English S (5)	Introduction to the Institutions of the European Union S (5)	Introduction to the Study of International Relations L (5)							

Optional courses (6 ECTS)											
Fall	Autonomies and national minorities in Europe L (3)	Introduction to International Teamwork – Research and Tools S (3)	Political analysis in practice S (3)								
Spring	European Competition, Trade and Industrial Policies L (3)	Human Rights and Business L (3)	Final exam preparation S (3)	Topics of US Constitutionalism S (2)	Algorithms, Law, and Policy S (2)	<p style="text-align: center;">Required ECTS = 6 during the Programme</p>					

Mandatory Courses	<b>Professional Knowledge Related to Law and Economics</b>	38
	<b>Professional Knowledge in Social and Political Sciences</b>	12
	<b>Professional Knowledge Related to International Studies</b> (including the credit value of the thesis which is 10 credits)	64
Compensatory courses		30
Mandatory optional courses		6-18
Total mandatory		120

The subjects serving as sources for the credits are announced each semester in the course schedule. They can be registered for and completed according to the conditions set out in the curriculum and the course schedule.

Compensatory Courses:

Students who obtained an International Relations BA degree issued by a Hungarian higher education institution are exempt from the compensatory courses. All other students are entitled to complete the compensatory courses (30 ECTS in total) as presented in Table 2. throughout the 1st year of the Programme, distributed between the two semesters.

Table 2. Compensatory Courses

<b>I. semester</b>					
Course code	Course title	Weekly hours	Credit	Course type	Completion requirement
BIL-NMAAN-24	Basics of International Law	2	5	lecture	exam mark
EVI-NMAAN-24	European Values and Identities	2	5	lecture	exam mark

IPP- NMAAN- 24	Introduction to Political Philosophy	2	5	lecture	exam mark
	<b>Total</b>	6	<b>15</b>		

## II. semester

	Course title	Weekly hours	Credit	Course type	Completion requirement
LE- NMAAN- 24	Legal English	2	5	practical session	practice mark
ISIR- NMAAN- 24	Introduction to the Study of International Relations	2	5	lecture	exam mark
IIEU- NMAAN- 24	Introduction to the Institutions of the European Union	2	5	practical session	practice mark
	<b>Total</b>	6	<b>15</b>		

### b) Final exam

#### i. Prerequisites for Final Examinations:

- A minimum of 120 credits must be completed in accordance with the curriculum set forth in the MIR Program.
- The final certificate (absolutorium) must be earned. A final certificate is granted by the higher education institution to students who have fulfilled the academic and examination requirements outlined in the curriculum, in addition to having completed 120 ECTS.
- Registering in the Final Exam through the MODULO system.

#### ii. Structure of the Final Exam and the Thesis Defense

Upon successful completion of the prerequisites outlined in point i., students will be eligible to take the final examination. The initial phase of the final examination will entail a defense of the thesis, which will be followed, if successful, by the second phase, as delineated herein.

### iii. The MA Thesis

Students of the MIR program are bound by the latest Thesis Regulations of the University of Szeged Faculty of Law and Political Sciences which is available on the [Faculty's website](#). The general requirements, as outlined in the Thesis Regulation, are indicated below. For all other requirements, the Thesis Regulation should be consulted.

- a) The length of the thesis shall be at least 80,000 characters (spaces included) in Bachelor's and Master's programmes and, subject to the decision of the programme leader, including footnotes and the table of contents. The inner title page, the bibliography, annexes, appendices, pictures, maps and diagrams shall not be included in the length of the thesis.
- b) The pages of the thesis shall be numbered consecutively with increasing Arabic numerals beginning with one. Page numbers shall be placed at the top or at the bottom of the pages.
- c) On the left-hand side of the pages a margin of 3 cm is required while on all the other sides a 2.5 cm margin shall be left.
- d) The thesis paper shall be written in Times New Roman font with 1.5 line spacing. Bold, italic or underlined font types shall only be applied to titles or highlighting. A font size of 12 shall be used for the thesis with the following exceptions: - for (chapter) titles and subtitles the font size shall be 13-15;
  - the font size of 10 shall be used for footnotes;
  - for titles of pictures, maps, diagrams and tables, the font size shall be 10-12;
  - and
  - for internal text of tables and diagrams the font size shall be 8-12.

e) Tables, diagrams, pictures and maps shall be both numbered and titled and a reference to their source shall also be provided. Tables, pictures, maps and diagrams covering a whole page or not fitting into the body of the text shall be placed in the appendix or annex.

f) Annexes or appendices shall be titled and if there are several of them, they shall also be numbered.

Should the thesis fail to meet the requirements stipulated in Section 2.1 a), b) and c), the committee evaluating the thesis shall grade the thesis as unsatisfactory/failing without substantive examination or consideration. Violation of other formal requirements may be considered as a basis for grading the thesis as unsatisfactory/failing depending on their gravity or otherwise taken into account in its assessment.

Once the Thesis has been submitted, the Advisor assesses it in writing and grades the formal aspects of the Student's Thesis Work in NEPTUN as part of the designated course on a 3-tier scale: failed-passed-excellent). In addition, the Program Administration additionally assigns the Thesis to a Reviewer/Opponent, who then prepares a written assessment of the Thesis, evaluating it as to format and content and asking 1 to 3 questions from the student.

In their assessments, Reviewers suggest a grade for the Thesis. The Reviewer's assessment will be sent to the Final Examination Panel (Panel), as the Reviewer is not necessarily one of the 2 or 3 members of the Panel.

#### **iv. Final Exam**

1. During the Final Examination, the Students shall start with the obligatory Thesis Defense procedure including presentation of their research outcomes and providing answers to the questions asked in the Advisor's assessment. The presentation and the answers are then assessed by the Panel, based on the grade given by the Advisor). If the Thesis Defense is successful, its grade is communicated to the Student on site after a brief consultation of the Panel. *The Defense Grade is the grade given by the Final Examination Panel.*
2. If Thesis Defense is unsuccessful, the Students may not continue their Final Examination and are informed to that effect, as the case may be.
3. Upon a successful Thesis Defense, the second part of the Final Examination starts. Here, the students are referred to question(s) per each Subject Areas.
4. The Final Examination shall be considered successful if Students answer the questions pertaining to all the two Subject Areas on a satisfactory level. *The Panel shall assess the answers given per Subject Area.*
5. The Final Grade of the Final Examination is the average of the grades of the Thesis Defense and those given on the questions answered in the two Subject Areas (In accordance with the general rules of “rounding up”, the average should be calculated up to two decimal digits after the decimal point).
6. *If one of the Subject Areas produces a Failed assessment based on the Students' answers, all subject Areas will have to be repeated on the Retake Final Examination.*

#### **RETAKING THE FINAL EXAMINATION**

1. No successful Final Examinations can be retaken to improve the grade or assessment.
2. The Final Examination qualifies as unsuccessful, if the Examination Board assesses the total of the student's answers during the examination in one of the specific Subject Areas as Failed.
3. In this case, the Final Examination (*with both subject areas*) should be retaken in another Final Examination period.

#### **CALCULATING DIPLOMA AVERAGE**

Diploma averages for the MA program in International Relations are calculated as the average of the following 2 criteria:

1. the average of all the grades for all the mandatory courses in the curriculum as presented in Table 3. over the course of 2 years – except practices and seminars – and,
2. the result of the Final Examination

Those courses which the students needed to accredit in the form of +30 ECTS compensatory courses based on the curriculum do not account toward this result.

Table 3. **Mandatory Courses to be accounted into the Diploma Average:**

Comparative Constitutional Law and Governance Theory
Research Methods in International Relations and Political Sciences I
Economic Fundamentals of EU Integration
Diplomatic Relations
The Main Historical Milestones of the 20th and 21st Century
International Organizations
Democracy, Subsidiarity and Multilevel Governance in Europe
European Economic and Monetary Union
Global Economic Trends and Centers
The Foreign Relations of the EU to the Main Regions outside the EU
Economic and Social Statistics (lecture)
The European Union and European Policies (lecture)
European Business Environment
Freedom, Security and Justice in the European Union
Globalisation and Development
Protection of Human Rights (lecture)
International Business Transactions (lecture)
Research and Development in the EU
Political Risk Management and the Deliberative Process
International Political Economy

Optional Courses

**Fall semester**

Course code	Course title	Weekly hours	Credit	Course type	Completion requirement
NMAAN-24-1	Autonomies and National Minorities in Europe	2	3	lecture	exam mark
NMAAN-24-2	Introduction to International Teamwork - Research and Tools	2	3	practical session	practice mark
NMAAN-24-3	Political analysis in practice	2	3	practical session	practice mark
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>	6	<b>9</b>		

Spring Semester					
Course code	Course title	Weekly hours	Credit	Course type	Completion requirement
NMAAN-24-4	European Competition, Trade and Industrial Policies	2	3	lecture	exam mark
NMAAN-24-5	Human Rights and Business	2	3	lecture	exam mark
NMAAN-24-6	Final exam preparation	2	3	practical session	practice mark
	<b>Total</b>	6	<b>9</b>		

As stipulated in the latest Stipendium Hungaricum Programme Operational Regulations, which are available on the scholarship information website, scholarship holders must

successfully complete an additional course, entitled "Hungarian as a Foreign Language", within two semesters.

**Table 5. Obligatory Additional Courses for Stipendium Hungaricum Students**

<b>I. semester</b>					
Course code	Course title	Weekly hours	Credit	Course type	Completion requirement
XSH_HunLang-0001	Hungarian as a Foreign Language ONLY for Stipendium Hungaricum Students S(0)	2	2	practical session	practice mark
<b>II. semester</b>					
XSH_HunLang-0002-2 + XSH_Final-0003	Hungarian as a Foreign Language ONLY for Stipendium Hungaricum Students S(0)	2	2	practical session	practice mark