

Bologna Information Package for MA in Political Science International Relations

1. Program Information

1.1. Aim: Yeditepe University is part of a world-class city centrally located in a geographically strategic region with easy access to Europe, the Middle East and Asia. The M.A. Program in Political Science and International Relations aims to recruit students from the neighboring regions in addition to Turkish nationals and educate them in the fields of domestic and international politics with skills and abilities to be employed by either public or private sector at home or abroad since 2004. Only one third of the applicants at the master's level have been accepted to the programs, as a measure to increase the quality of the graduate studies.

1.2. Targets: The curriculum not only embraces an interdisciplinary approach but also allows room for specialization through elective courses with a focus on Middle Eastern studies. The courses are designed beyond the classic lecture format so that students can actively participate in classes through presentations, discussions, projects and so forth. Besides, the curriculum is being reshaped in accordance with the responses we hear from the advisory board of the department, which was established as part of Bologna process and includes some prominent members of public and private sector in Turkey. The board has already begun to play a role of mediator between the department and the general public.

2. Program Learning Outcomes

Theoretical, Factual

PO1. To demonstrate the ability to specialize and expand knowledge in the fields of political science, international relations, comparative politics, Turkish politics and foreign policy.

PO2. The ability to comprehend the interdisciplinary quality of the political science and international relations discipline.

Cognitive-Practical

PO3. A command of basic research models and approaches of political science and international relations discipline and the ability to apply them in academic research and project design.

PO4. Having the ability to assess and interpret the different political and societal systems in the Middle East with an interdisciplinary approach.

PO5. Having a command of qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis methods and abiding by the highest levels of academic and research ethics.

Proficiency in Independent Study and Taking Responsibility

PO6. The ability to present and debate an issue that requires specialization in the field of political science and international relations. The ability to discuss this issue within an intellectual framework, and the ability to express oneself in a professional and academic manner.

Proficiency in Learning

PO7. The ability to analyze and critically evaluate basic research models, approaches and intellectual traditions in the field of political science, international relations

Proficiency in Communication and Social Skills

PO8. The ability to utilize academic writing and presentation skills to projects, dissertations and articles.

PO9. Having advanced reading, writing, comprehension and speaking skills in the English language.

PO10. Having the ability to apply knowledge of political science and international relations discipline to information technologies and traditional tools so as to produce sound solutions to problems.

Area Specific Proficiencies

PO11. Possessing experience and social skills necessary for employment in the public and private sectors and/or being admitted to a competitive Ph.D. program.

PO12. Having empathy towards diverse and differing communities, which will facilitate conducting teamwork at local as well as global platforms.

PO13. Having competency of comprehending and interpreting local and global issues through information exchange with international academics and students.

3. Degree Awarded

Upon successful completion of coursework (72 ECTS) and research (60 ECTS) in order to write and defend a thesis, graduates of this program are awarded with a master's degree in political science and international relations. Students, who choose not to work on a thesis, are required to take additional three electives rather than the seminar and will be expected to write a graduation project to be awarded with a master's degree without a dissertation.

4. Admission

The Master's Program in Political Science and International Relations is open to all candidates holding a B.A. from a Turkish or an international university, as approved by the Turkish Higher Education Board (YÖK). Prospective students are required to take the ALES (Graduate Education Test), a general requirement of YÖK, and achieve a minimum score of 55 EA (quantitative and verbal joint section). Candidates must also pass an oral examination given by the faculty members.

In our institution, the medium of education is English and candidates must have taken the TOEFL with a minimum score of 213 in the computer-based system or 79 in the internet-based system. Those students whose English is not sufficient for graduate studies may join the master's program upon successful completion of an English language program.

5. Employment Opportunities

Graduates of our department have been accepted to doctoral programs not only in Turkey but also in some most reputable universities in Europe and the US. The graduates who preferred not to pursue an academic career have found prestigious positions both in private and public sector (such as in the media, finance, Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade).

6. Graduation Requirements

To complete the program, students are required to take a total of 132 ECTS. After successful completion of the required course work, students will be expected to conduct research and write an MA thesis based on their findings. Students generally finish their course work in the first year and their research in the second year. Students, who choose not to work on a thesis, are required to take additional three electives rather than the seminar and will be expected to write a graduation project (60 ECTS) to be awarded with a master's degree without a dissertation.

7. Contact Information

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8. Teaching Methods

Teaching Methods	Main learning activities	Tools utilized
Lecture	Listening and making sense	Standard classroom technological equipment, PowerPoint presentations, computers
Discussion based lecture	Listening and making sense , observation, critical thinking, questioning	Standard classroom technological equipment, PowerPoint presentations, computers
Case study	Predesigned special skills	
Small group work	Listening and making sense , observation, critical thinking, questioning	Standard classroom technological equipment, PowerPoint presentations, computers
Seminar	Research-lifelong learning, writing, reading, using Information technologies, listening and making sense, management skills	Standard classroom technological equipment, PowerPoint presentations, computers, seminar room equipment
Group work	Research-lifelong learning, writing, reading, using Information technologies, listening and making sense, management skills, group work, critical thinking, questioning	Databases, scientific databases in the library, e-mailing, chat rooms and web based forums
Research paper	Research-lifelong learning, writing, reading, using Information technologies	Databases, scientific databases in the library, e-mailing
Oral presentation/exam	Research-lifelong learning, questioning, interpretation, presentation	
Survey	Research-lifelong learning, writing, reading	
Panel	Listening, making sense, observation	Standard classroom technological equipment, PowerPoint presentations, computers, seminar room equipment
Guest speaker	Listening, making sense, observation	Standard classroom technological equipment, PowerPoint presentations, computers, seminar room equipment
Activities within a Student Body or Research Project	Research-lifelong learning, writing, reading, making sense, group work, critical thinking, questioning, management skills	

9. Course Categories

MA in POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

*SCIENTIFIC PREPARATION- FIRST SEMESTER			T	U	L	Y	E
POLS	517	History of International Relations	3	0	0	3	8
POLS	518	Introduction to Political Science	3	0	0	3	8
		Extra Elective (All Courses)					
			6				16

*SCIENTIFIC PREPARATION – SECOND SEMESTER			T	U	L	Y	E
POLS	552	History of Political Thought	3	0	0	3	8
POLS	555	Introduction to International Relations	3	0	0	3	8
		Extra Elective (All Courses)					
							6 16

FIRST SEMESTER			T	U	L	Y	E
POLS	522	Comparative Politics	3	0	0	3	8
FEAS	501	Research Methodology and Ethics	3	0	0	3	6
POLS		Specialization Elective 1 (All Courses)	3	0	0	3	8
POLS		Specialization Elective 2 (All Courses)	3	0	0	3	8
		Extra Elective (All Courses)					
			12				30

SECOND SEMESTER			T	U	L	Y	E
POLS	515	Theories of International relations	3	0	0	3	8
POLS	536	Turkish Foreign Policy	3	0	0	3	8
POLS		Specialization Elective 3 (All Courses)	3	0	0	3	8
FEAS	598	Seminar	0	0	0	0	18
		Extra Elective (All Courses)					
							9 42

THIRD SEMESTER			T	U	L	Y	E
POLS	599	THESIS					60
							60

FOURTH SEMESTER			T	U	L	Y	E

Number of Credits and Courses to be Completed	
Credits:	21
ECTS:	132
Courses:	7+Seminar+Thesis

ELECTIVE COURSES			T	U	L	Y	E
POLS	558	Issues in the Middle East	3	0	0	3	8
POLS	556	Political Modernization in Turkey	3	0	0	3	8
POLS	557	History of the Modern Middle East	3	0	0	3	8
POLS	559	Ideology, Identity and Beliefs in the Middle East	3	0	0	3	8
POLS	521	European Union and Turkey	3	0	0	3	8
POLS	526	Current Issues in World Politics	3	0	0	3	8
POLS	520	Globalization and Regionalization in World Politics	3	0	0	3	8
POLS	528	Identity Formation Processes	3	0	0	3	8
POLS	529	Modern Geopolitics and Security Strategies	3	0	0	3	8
POLS	562	American Foreign Policy in the Middle East	3	0	0	3	8
POLS	527	Russian Foreign Policy	3	0	0	3	8
POLS	533	Principles of Political Economy	3	0	0	3	8
POLS	524	Global Politics in Post-Cold War Era	3	0	0	3	8
POLS	531	Issues in Turkish Foreign Policy	3	0	0	3	8
POLS	532	Turkish Political Life	3	0	0	3	8
POLS	530	International Law and	3	0	0	3	8

		Organizations						
POLS	525	International Organizations	3	0	0	3	8	
POLS	534	International Politics	3	0	0	3	8	