I. COURSE DATA

1. Code number: 7NK40NBK75M
2. Title of the course (in Hungarian): 
3. Title of the course (in English): Foreign policy of Hungary, 1945–2004
4. Number of lessons: 28
5. Credit value: 5
6. Frequency the course is launched at: Spring Semester
7. Language of the course: English
8. Pre-study requirements: Possession of a Bachelor’s or Master’s degree in international relations or other social sciences. Applicants are expected to have a sufficient knowledge of English to attend classes and write papers in English. TOEFL (with a minimum score of 80 (computer-based) or IELTS (minimum score of 5.5 overall) or equivalent internationally recognised language certificate is required.
9. Type of the course: Compulsory/Lecture
10. Institute responsible: Institute for International Studies
11. Name of the person responsible: Csaba BÉKÉS
12. Course content:
The aim of the lecture course is to present the history of Hungarian foreign policy during and following the Cold War era in a broad international context. The lectures, mostly based on archival research, will focus on the special role Hungary, as a loyal member of the Soviet Bloc played in fostering East–West rapprochement from the early nineteen-sixties on, aiming gradually at the country’s virtual reintegration with the Western part of Europe.
13. Mid-term study requirements: None
14. End-term study requirements: Exam mark
15. Assessment method: Assessment and grading is based on a research-paper (40%) and a final oral exam (50%). Grades are also shaped by in-class activities (10%).
16. Literature: Mandatory readings will be made available online for the students.
Recommended readings:


17. Teacher: Csaba BÉKÉS

II. COURSE PROGRAMME (DETAILS ON CONTENT AND REQUIREMENTS)

18. Course description:
The course starts with an introductory lecture on the main trends in Hungarian foreign policy between the two World Wars and then analyses the still much debated process of Sovietization of the East Central European region, including Hungary. Due attention will be paid to the European peace settlement following World War II and to the Paris Peace Treaty. After discussing Hungary’s integration in the Soviet Bloc, presentation of the emerging détente process and the new doctrine of „active foreign policy” between 1953 and 1956 will follow. The crisis year 1956 will be dealt with in a broad international context, comparing great power politics towards the three crises of the time: Poland, Hungary and Suez. Several classes will be devoted to the analysis of Hungarian foreign policy in the Kádár era focusing on key issues like the German question, European security, political cooperation within the Soviet Bloc and Hungary’s role in fostering East–West rapprochement. The last three lectures will analyze Hungarian foreign policy during and after the political transition in 1989–1990 up to the country’s joining the European Union in 2004.

Week 1

*Introductory lecture: The main trends in Hungarian foreign policy, 1918–1945*


Week 2

*The Sovietization of East Central Europe, 1944–1949*

Week 3
The European peace settlement following World War II and the Paris Peace Treaty


Week 4
The Emerging Cold War: Hungary’s integration in the Soviet Bloc, 1944–1953


Week 5
The emerging détente and the doctrine of active foreign policy, 1953–1956


Week 6
The crisis year 1956: Poland –Hungary–Suez


Week 7
The beginning of János Kádár’s foreign policy, 1956–1963

Week 8
Hungary, European security and the German question, 1954–1969


Week 9
Hungary and the Helsinki process, 1970–1975


Week 10
The road from Helsinki to IMF membership, 1975–1982


Week 11
Hungary between East and West, 1982–1987


Week 12

(http://www.rev.hu/portal/page/portal/rev/tanulmanyok/rendszervaltas/roundtable_bekes)

Week 13


Week 14

19. Competency description:
Students will acquire a broad and up to date knowledge on the history of Hungarian foreign policy by studying both the determinations and the room for manouvre of a small East Central European state during and following the Cold War era. Hungarian foreign policy will be analysed in a regional comperative framework as well as in the general context of East–West relations. Students will also get an insight on the development, dilemmas, determinations and challenges of democratic Hungary in the process of the Euro-Atlantic integration.

20. Individual student assignments:
Students need to submit a cc. 15 page long research-paper in connection with one of the lecture topics by the time of lecture 14.

21. Course participation:
Attendance of the class is compulsory as English language literature on the topic is scarce and thus a successful final exam is possible only by the knowledge of the content of the lectures. Absence from a maximum of 3 classes is acceptable when a serious reason is proven.

22. Mid-term assessment: None

Instructor: