

**PÁZMÁNY PÉTER CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY**

**DOCTORAL SCHOOL OF  
HISTORY**

**PROGRAMME PLAN**



Budapest, 2026

EDHT 24/2026 (III. 17.)

## PLAN OF INSTRUCTION

When developing the structure of subjects, we aimed to align with all the quality assurance targets specified in the Doctoral School's Quality Assurance Plan, ensuring both the defined goals and practical feasibility are met.

**TOTAL TO BE OBTAINED: 240 credits**

**Number of credits to be completed during the first four semester: 130 credits**

Including:

- Consultations (2 semesters): 20 credits
- Additional compulsory courses: 60 credits
- Elective courses: 50 credits
- Complex Examination

**Number of credits to be completed during the 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> semesters: 110 credits**

Including:

- Consultations (4 semesters): 40 credits
- Elective courses (research module): 70 credits

**TRAINING MODULE (170 credits)**

**Compulsory courses (120 credits)**

Theme related lecture 1-6: total of 60 credits

Tutorial – semesters 3-8: total of 60 credits

*Theme related lectures:*

<b>History</b>	<b>Archaeology</b>	<b>Global Armenian Studies</b>
Political Social History of Hungary in the 20 <sup>th</sup> Century	Archeology of the Medieval Middle East	Advanced Social Sciences Research Design and Methodology for Armenian Studies
Historiography and View of History	The Medieval Archeology: Academic Writing in Medieval Archaeological Studies	Armenian Christianity in Context
Philosophy of History	Archeology of Pannonia in the Late Antiquity and the Early Christian Period	Philosophy of History
History of Europe's Cultural Regions	Archeology of the Carpathian Basin in Roman Times	Contemporary Critical Debates Around Modernity and the Early-Modern in Relation to Armenian Studies
History of Economy	Archeology of the Late Middle Ages and the Early Modern Era	Armenian Experience and Eastern Christianity
Conceptual History	Archeology of the Carpathian Basin in the Migration Period with an Eurasian Perspective	Religion, Human Rights and Collective Violence in the Armenian Context

## **Compulsory electives (50 credits)**

Elective course 1-10. Out of the 10 elective courses, completing 5 is mandatory.

### *Elective courses of the History programme (2022-2026):*

Political theory in the age of Hellenism and in Rome in the early imperial period.  
State violence and society in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Historical perspectives

### *Elective courses of the Archaeology programme:*

Archeological Research into Medieval Fortresses and Castles  
Ecclesiastic Architecture in the Middle Ages  
Roman Epigraphy  
Major Issues in the Archeological Research of the 11-14<sup>th</sup> Century  
Archeological Research on Medieval Settlements  
Physical Anthropology and Bioarcheology in the Service of Archeological Research  
Methods of Non-Invasive Archeology and Landscape Exploration  
The Defense System of the Roman Empire (limes)  
Archaeological Research on Medieval Royal Centres and Towns  
Archaeological Research on the Early History of the "Magyars"

### *Elective courses of the Global Armenian Studies programme (2026):*

Historical terminology in Hungarian (Terminológia)  
Classical Armenian language and manuscript reading (Ókori nyelv)

## COMPLEX EXAMINATION

The complex examination is a public examination taken by the doctoral student, serving as a comprehensive evaluation of the student's knowledge in the field of study. It is conducted during the fourth active semester and is assessed by a committee comprising a minimum of three members. One re-take, limited to the theoretical part only, is allowed, which must take place in the same semester.

The eligibility criteria for applying for the complex examination are as follows:

- a) Proficiency in two foreign languages at a level deemed necessary for the scientific discipline, typically demonstrated by achieving at least a B2 level complex state-accredited language exam or an equivalent certificate. Deaf students may provide evidence of proficiency in a sign language other than Hungarian. Foreign doctoral students must also certify proficiency in an additional foreign language, alongside their native language, as per the stipulations of these Regulations.
- b) The successful completion of a minimum of 90 credits during the study and research phase of the doctoral program, in addition to fulfilling all compulsory curricular requirements.
- c) Prior to the complex examination or the final examination, doctoral students are required to electronically submit 40-40 standard pages of their dissertation, complete with proper annotations and supervisor approval, to the following address: [doktori@btk.ppke.hu](mailto:doktori@btk.ppke.hu).

The complex examination consists of two main components:

1. The theoretical section of the complex examination evaluates the student's knowledge in at least two specific subjects or topics that are part of the compulsory or compulsory elective courses within the curriculum. This section may also include a written examination.  
Knowledge of source language(s): if the language of the sources on which the dissertation is based is not Hungarian, but a living or dead foreign language, reading and translating a short text (max. 500 words) from the source language during the exam (max. two language) before the examination board. A degree in the language(s) or a higher level language exam can replace this part of the exam.
2. In the second part of the complex examination, the student presents their knowledge of literature, research findings, the research plan for the second phase of the doctoral program, and the schedule for preparing the dissertation and publishing its results.

The supervisor has the opportunity to assess the student's performance in writing beforehand and/or during the examination.

The complex examination is graded using a two-grade system (pass or fail), and the results are announced on the day of the final part of the examination.

### ***Subject Listing***

#### History Programme:

The historical periods and areas constituting the theoretical part of the comprehensive exam:

- 1) Ancient East from 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium BCE to 5<sup>th</sup> century AD;
- 2) History of the Western Mediterranean Basin (Greek and Roman history) from 2<sup>nd</sup> millennium BCE to 5<sup>th</sup> century AD;
- 3) Universal history, Early Middle Ages (5<sup>th</sup>–10<sup>th</sup> centuries);

- 4) Universal and Hungarian history, Middle Ages (11<sup>th</sup>–15<sup>th</sup> centuries);
- 5) Universal and Hungarian history, Early Modern and Modern eras (16<sup>th</sup>–18<sup>th</sup> centuries);
- 6) Universal and Hungarian history, 19<sup>th</sup> century;
- 7) Universal and Hungarian history, 20<sup>th</sup> century.

#### Archaeology Programme:

##### Archaeology of the Roman Period

1. History and archaeological research of Pannonia and Dacia in the Roman period
2. The Late Roman relics in Pannonia – with special attention to Christianity
3. The relations between Pannonia and the Barbaricum in the light of archaeological research
4. Towns and settlements and their material culture in the Roman period
5. Archaeology of Roman military camps and the limes

##### Archaeology of the Migration Period, Hungarian prehistory and the Age of Conquest

1. Archaeology of the Early Migration period (5<sup>th</sup>–6<sup>th</sup> centuries AD)
2. Archaeology of the Late Migration period (7<sup>th</sup>–9<sup>th</sup> centuries AD)
3. Archaeology of the Carpathian Basin in the Carolingian period
4. Archaeology studies in Early Hungarian History
5. Archaeology of the Conquest period

##### Archaeology of the Carpathian Basin and Europe in the Mediaeval Period

1. Mediaeval towns and craftsmanship
2. Mediaeval villages and agriculture
3. The élite in the Mediaeval period and their representation in architecture (castles, palaces)
4. The formation and development of the Mediaeval Church (churches, cemeteries)
5. The archaeology of the early Modern Age (Ottoman period)

##### Archaeology of the Mediaeval Middle East

1. Archaeology of the Umayyads and the Abbasids
2. Material culture of the Late Abbasid period (the Fatimids, Seljuqs, Ayyubids, Mamluks)
3. Military architecture of the Middle East in the Mediaeval period
4. Archaeology of the Crusades
5. Material culture of Christianity in the Middle East

##### Non-Invasive Archaeology and Archaeometry

1. Processes for site survey, landscape exploration and data analyses
2. Archaeological heritage management, archaeological museology – theory and practice
3. Methodology for environmental archaeology and bioarchaeology
4. Physical dating techniques, isotope archaeology and geo-archaeology methodology and their role in reconstructing archaeological chronology and lifestyle
5. Current trends in archaeological theory (e.g. economy archaeology, domestic archaeology, archaeology of war and conflict, cognitive archaeology, archaeology of identity)

## **RESEARCH MODULE (70 credits)**

### **Publication (one of the two courses is obligatory)**

Preparing a Study (Publication) in English (over 40.000 n) 1. (5 credits)

Preparing a Study (Publication) in English (over 60.000 n) 1. (10 credits)

### **Review (one of the two courses is obligatory)**

Writing a review in English (over 5000 n) 1. (3 credits)

Writing a review in English (over 10.000 n) 1. (6 credits)

### **Conference presentation**

Presentation at a conference in English 1. (5 credits)

### **Elective courses**

Preparing a Study (Publication) (over 40.000 n) 2. (5 credits)

Preparing a Study (Publication) (over 40.000 n) 3. (5 credits)

Preparing a Study (Publication) (over 60.000 n) 2. (10 credits)

Preparing a Study (Publication) (over 60.000 n) 3. (10 credits)

Writing a review (over 5000 n) 2. [History] / Excavation field practice (in Hungary) (less than 3 weeks) [Archaeology] / Internship (Archives, Museum) (less than 3 weeks) [Armenian Studies] (3 credits)

Writing a review (over 5000 n) 3. [History] / Material collection and research, field survey in a foreign country (less than 3 weeks) [Archaeology/Armenian Studies] (3 credits)

Writing a review (over 10.000 n) 2. [History] / Excavation field practice (abroad) (over 3 weeks) [Archaeology] / Internship (Archives, Museum) (over 3 weeks) [Armenian Studies] (6 credits)

Writing a review (over 10.000 n) 3. [History] / Material collection and research, field survey in a foreign country (over 3 weeks) [Archaeology/Armenian Studies] (6 credits)

Presentation at a conference in English 2. (5 credits)

Presentation at a conference in English 3. (5 credits)

Presentation at a conference in English 4. (5 credits)

Presentation at a conference in English 5. (5 credits)

Presentation at a conference in English 6. (5 credits)

Participation in Conference organization process 1. (2 credits)

Participation in Conference organization process 2. [History] / Preparation of teaching material [Archaeology/Armenian Studies] (2 credits)

Book writing (15 credits)

Editing, bibliography writing (10 credits)

*Recommended mobility window: semesters 5-7.*

### ***Educational Module (15 credits may be collected in the Research Module from conducting a seminar)***

Conducting a seminar based on the wider scope of the thesis 1. (5 credits)

Conducting a seminar based on the wider scope of the thesis 2. (5 credits)

Conducting a seminar based on the wider scope of the thesis 3. (5 credits)

**Program Plan**  
**Appendix 1**

**Learning Outcomes**

Based on the competency matrices associated with the course descriptions, the English-language program of the doctoral school of history develops the following competencies from among the level descriptors corresponding to Level 8 of the MKKR:

**Knowledge:**

In terms of learning outcomes, the student of the doctoral school

Possesses the subject knowledge of the discipline, including general and specific characteristics, main directions and well-defined boundaries, agreed and contested links within the discipline of history at a research level.
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Possesses the relevant knowledge of the research methodology required for independent research in the field of history.
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**Skills:**

Has the ability to creatively analyse the field of history, synthesise and develop new perspectives on broad and specific relations and undertake appropriate evaluative and critical work.
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Has the ability to identify unforeseen problems related to the historical field, and explore theoretical and practical context in detail at a research level to solve these problems.
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**Attitude:**

Can represent and develop - in his/her own field - those relations which contribute to the process of human self-creation through the specificity of the field of history.
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His/her general attitude is a firm professional commitment, a persistent dedication to the search for new paths and an acceptance of the need for perseverance.
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**Autonomy and responsibility:**

Has the ability to play the role of an equal discussion partner with professionals in the field of history.
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Develops and initiates new areas of knowledge and new practices with creative autonomy.
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