

THE HUNGARIAN AND CENTAL-EUROPEAN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES CENTER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SZEGED

This brochure describes the various Hungarian and Hungarian-related programs offered in English by the *Hungarian & Central-European International Studies Center* (HSC = *Hungarian Studies Center*) at the University of Szeged in Hungary.

What is the Hungarian Studies Center?

- ✓ The Hungarian Studies Center is an international student-oriented program within the University of Szeged, which has been designed to offer Hungarian studies and contextual subjects to foreign students and other interested visitors in English.
- ✓ We teach the Hungarian language at various levels in an intensive and communication-centered program, and offer a large number of courses related to Hungary and East-Central Europe in English.
- ✓ Besides offering traditional cultural subjects such as history, literature, folklore and arts, we also extend our syllabus towards Eastern-European economics, sociology, current politics and film.
- ✓ We maintain ties with the local government and small businesses of our region, representatives of which are also involved in our courses as guest lecturers.
- ✓ Numerous field trips are organized to provide international students with direct contacts and >real life= experiences in the local community, as well as offering a whole course, "AHungary at Large", created with this goal in mind.
- ✓ We fully integrate Hungarian students in our classes for international students through a special program for Hungarian students, *Teaching Hungarian Studies for Foreigners*. This is an important feature of our program, which brings Hungarian and international students together. They practice language as partners and work on common projects.
- ✓ Hungarian Studies at the University of Szeged has a long tradition. The program was established in 1971, when students from Oregon, USA, chose Szeged as their study abroad destination. Since then the Hungarian Studies Center has hosted over two thousand international students from over fifty countries.
- ✓ The Hungarian Studies Center is located in one of the central buildings of the university along with language labs, computer labs, and the foreign language center. We have two classrooms and three offices, and our staff includes a program director, a program manager, two language teachers, one student advisor, one financial assistant and various guest professors of different disciplines. The number of staff for an average semester is around 10.

Program options offered by the Hungarian Studies Center

Core programs

- ✓ *Hungarian & East-Central European Studies and/or Hungarian Language* (1 or 2 semesters).
- ✓ *Hungary and East-Central Europe Programs for groups* (ranging from one week to a full semester, upon request).
- ✓ *Special language immersion programs* for individuals, such as diplomats and businesspeople.

Special programs

- ✓ *General Studies elective courses* for international students who are enrolled in different degree programs at the university.
- ✓ *Teaching Hungarian Studies for Foreigners*. This is offered to Hungarian students who work together with our international students as language partners.

Why study at the Hungarian Studies Center?

- ✓ Classes are small; students receive personal attention from professors. Individual attention is given by Hungarian Studies Center administrators and advisors.
- ✓ The medium of instruction is English.
- ✓ It is an affordable way to explore a new culture and study a unique language.
- ✓ The city of Szeged is located within the new European Union in a way that you have an easy access to many key European cities.
- ✓ Hungary's recent accession into the European Union places it at an exciting time in history. What is more, you can also learn about the recent past, that is the socialist-communist experiments with a centrally planned and ideologically controlled society.
- ✓ Students participate in a student orientation program for a week before their classes start.

Facts about the University of Szeged

- ✓ Established in 1921, the University of Szeged is one of Hungary's largest institutions of higher education, with a student population of 30,000 who study at 11 different faculties (including humanities, law, medicine, music, and science).
- ✓ The university is centrally located in downtown Szeged, easily accessible by bus, tram, bicycle, and on foot.
- ✓ Tuition is affordable.
- ✓ There is a bustling student community.

What is student life like in Szeged?

- ✓ Students from all over the world study at the university.
- ✓ In addition, Hungarian students learning to teach Hungarian language and culture to foreigners form language partnerships with international students.
- ✓ The Hungarian Studies Center organizes folk dance evenings, international evenings, and excursions to nearby places of interest.

- ✓ Other student activities include sports, performances, and various clubs that are international student focused.
- ✓ Szeged has many cinemas, theatres, museums, thermal baths and a large of pubs, discos, coffee houses and places to just hang out.
- ✓ Several nearby towns and villages in neighbouring Serbia and Romania are also accessible by train or bus, providing unique daytrips for shopping or exploring.

The City of Szeged

- ✓ Szeged is just two hours from the capital, Budapest, and located near the southern border of Hungary within half an hour from both Serbia and Romania.
- ✓ Szeged has 170,000 inhabitants.
- ✓ The city is situated on both sides of the river Tisza. The river flooded the entire town in 1879, and the international reconstruction left the town with unique architecture reflecting the styles of Eclecticism and Art Nouveau dating from the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries.
- ✓ Szeged is known as the ACity of Sunshine@ because of the yearly average of 2000 hours of sunshine.
- ✓ World famous local products are Pick Salami and the spice, paprika.

What does it mean to be a full-time student at the Hungarian Studies Center?

- ✓ You can transfer credits earned at the Hungarian Studies Center to your home college or university.
- ✓ You receive a student ID, which provides many different discounts, including greatly reduced fares on Hungarian public transport.
- ✓ With affordable insurance, you have access to the Hungarian health service.
- ✓ You are entitled to attend any class taught at the university as well as those through Hungarian Studies Center. The Institute of the English and American Studies, for example offers more than a hundred of courses each semester, all run in English.

What does it mean to be a part-time student at the Hungarian Studies Center?

- ✓ You have access to any class offered through Hungarian Studies Center, up to 8 hours per week.
- ✓ Note that in this option credits are not transferrable, and no student ID or health insurance is available.

What are the options for summer courses?

- ✓ Every August we have a 4-week long summer course.
- ✓ The course includes six hours of language instruction and two hours of culture classes per day, Monday through Friday.

- ✓ Language classes are offered from beginner to advance levels in small groups.
- ✓ Various events are organized by the program such as excursions, weekend trips, folk-dance and international evenings and film nights.
- ✓ Accommodation at a local B&B is recommended, but administrators can assist you in finding alternative accommodation as well.
- ✓ A shorter, two-week course is also offered.
- ✓ We offer discounts on summer courses to our former and continuing students.

What can you expect from new student orientation?

- ✓ New student orientation is always the week before the first day of classes.
- ✓ You will be met by a Hungarian student at the train station and taken to the B&B reserved for you by the program until permanent accommodation is found (usually within a couple of days of arrival).
- ✓ An opening dinner will give you the opportunity to meet the staff of Hungarian Studies Center and both Hungarian and other international students.
- ✓ You will explore the city, university, and neighboring places of interest with student guides.
- ✓ We will help you with locating permanent accommodation.
- ✓ You will be assisted with banking and any necessary residence permit procedures.
- ✓ We will help you through the university procedures including registration for classes, and obtaining a student ID, health insurance (if needed), and library and computer lab passes. You will also be introduced to the sport and cultural facilities.
- ✓ For the closing of the orientation, a trip is organized to a nearby national historical park. The excursion is concluded by a dinner at a traditional Szeged country fish restaurant.

What kinds of accommodation can you find in Szeged?

- ✓ Finding accommodation in Szeged is not difficult as there is a wide variety of housing options throughout the town.
- ✓ Flat rental with other international or Hungarian students costs EUR 100-150 per month.
- ✓ You can rent a flat individually for EUR 150-300 month.
- ✓ Staying with Hungarian families is also possible for EUR 130-250 per month. Host families often offer full room & board, so costs will vary.

What are the tuition costs and fees?

- ✓ Full-time tuition: EUR| 1800 per semester.
- ✓ Part-time tuition: EUR 75 per semester hour.
- ✓ Summer course tuition: EUR 550 for the 4 week course, EUR 300 for the 2 week course.
- ✓ Orientation fee: EUR 30.
- ✓ Application fee: EUR 30.
- ✓ There are other minor fees and deposits (for transcripts, IDs, certificates, library use, etc.) not amounting to more than EUR 30.

How long do the semesters last?

- ✓ The fall semester begins in early September and ends in the middle of December. Spring semester begins in the first week of February and ends in the middle of May.
- ✓ The summer school is in August.
- ✓ Our updated online academic calendar for exact dates can be found on our web page.

How can you apply?

- ✓ Complete the enclosed application form, or you can download it from our website:
<<http://www.arts.u-szeged.hu/hungarianstudies>>
and return it to our address.

The *deadlines* for applications are:

- ✓ Academic year (September – May): July 1.
- ✓ Fall semester (September – December): July 1.
- ✓ Spring semester (February – May): December 1.
- ✓ Summer school (August): July 1.

How can you contact the Hungarian Studies Center?

You can contact the program director or program manager directly at the following:

- ✓ e-mail: hstud@hstud.u-szeged.hu
- ✓ phone: +36-62-420-894 or +36-62-544-685.
- ✓ fax: +36-62-420-894.

By mail:

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- ✓ Our website: <www.arts.u-szeged.hu/hungarianstudies>

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