

Programme profile

Title:	European Cultural Studies
Study field:	7357 Foreign Languages and Cultures
Level:	doctoral
Duration:	3/5 academic years (<i>internal/external study</i>)
Degree:	doctor of philosophy (PhD.)
Guarantor:	prof. Genovaitė Kačiušienė, CSc.

Programme description

The question of European identity occupied an important place in the great debates of ideas from the interwar period until the early 1950s. Subsequently, the construction of the current European Union with an economic, utilitarian and/or functionalist approach has obscured the question of European identity. Opponents of the European project have quickly become “Eurosceptics” and brought passion to the European debate. The pragmatic and soulless Europe could not find sufficient support among the citizens of many Member States who condemned the economic hegemony, the power of banks and the absence of European and social projects. Thus, the question of European identity has gradually regained importance and has become one of the key arguments of the supporters of the absolute power of the nation states: The identity of Peoples (“Nations”) and of citizens would be purely national in character, and the building of a European “government” would be limited by this assumption. In this sense, European identity doesn’t exist and European “government” is only a result of free cooperation between national governments.

It is therefore essential to focus research not only on institutional and economic issues, but, because there are many “identity crises” that can divert countries of the European project, on social and cultural aspects as well. There is obviously no single European “identity”, but many “representations”. It is through multidisciplinary research, focused on the general theme “Identities and Cultures in Europe”, that we can explore what Europeans share today, from Western or Central Europe: histories, representations, lifestyles, institutions, values, aspirations, cultural expressions, etc. Dissertations may follow this general approach, and may incorporate mobility (research internships in foreign countries, participation in seminars, conferences, etc.), to explore historical developments, specific events, particular institutions, focus on more sociological analyses, or a comparative approach, for example.

Graduate profile

Graduates should find positions at research institutes, universities and centres of research, as well as in companies or administration, related to the large field of management of culture, education, etc. They also could be involved in European projects, as projects leaders or managers.

Admission requirements

Applicants are expected to hold a master’s degree in the human or social sciences; however, those have studied other subjects can be also considered as possible candidates. Admission will be decided by the Board of Examiners. All applicants must pass an entrance exam and write a research proposal (with a tentative schedule for the 3/5 years of study).

Programme organization

Lectures, seminars and research activities are led by selected lecturers from the Department of European Cultural Studies, of Matej Bel University's Faculty of Arts, as well as the Faculty of Economics etc. Students will be encouraged to develop their academic activities with our partners in Europe.

Lecturers:

prof. Genovaitė Kačiuškienė, CSc.	(http://www.ff.umb.sk/gkaciuskiene/)
prof. PhDr. Larisa Sugay, DrSc.	(http://www.ff.umb.sk/lsugaj/)
prof. PhDr. Peter Terem, PhD.	(http://www.fpvmv.umb.sk/pterem/)
as. prof. PhDr. Alexandra Bitušíková, CSc.	(http://www.ff.umb.sk/abitusikova/)
as. prof. PhDr. Jolana Darulová, CSc.	(http://www.ff.umb.sk/jdarulova/)
as. prof. PhDr. Ľudmila Mešková, CSc.	(http://www.ef.umb.sk/index.asp?zid=140&uid=57)

The application form should be sent to: michal.smigel@umb.sk by 15 May of the current calendar year. The €45 entrance exam fee must be transferred to:
Account number: 7000095590/8180, Variable symbol: 10317603,
IBAN: SK7581800000007000095590, SWIFT: SPSRSKBA,
Matej Bel University, Národná 12, 974 01 Banská Bystrica

The fee does not cover living expenses. Students may apply for accommodation and view dining options at <http://www.umb.sk>

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<http://www.ff.umb.sk/en/departments/department-of-european-cultural-studies/>