Political Economy Master's Programme (English, full-time) - Oral Admission Exam Requirements for the 2026A Central Admission Procedure

Name of the Master's Programme	Political Economy
Type of Exam	Oral
Name of the Exam	Admission Interview for the Political Economy Master's Programme
Duration of the Exam	15–30 minutes
Mode of the Exam	online
Short Description of the Exam	This is a motivational and professional interview that follows the schedule below: 1. Introduction - Brief introduction of the applicant's educational and professional background 2. Motivational questions - Why did you choose the Political Economy master programme at Corvinus University of Budapest? - What are your expectations about the programme? - How do you think this master programme can advance your career objectives? - What makes you an ideal candidate for this study programme? 3. Professional part (conversation about political economy-related topics considering the applicant's interests and prior knowledge of the field) See sample questions below 4. Closing part - Do you have any questions regarding the study programme? Evaluation aspects - demonstrates clear motivation for studying political economy - demonstrates basic knowledge on the topic of discussion - demonstrates good oral skills in English
Tools Allowed During the Exam	none
Recommended Literature	Clift, Ben. 2021. Comparative Political Economy. States, Markets and Global Capitalism. 2nd Edition. Red Globe Press/Macmillan. Christian May, Daniel Mertens, Andreas Nölke, Michael Schedelik. 2024. Political Economy: Comparative, International, and Historical Perspectives. Spinger Cham
Exam Topics	potential benefits and drawbacks of state intervention in the economy; role of foreign investment in economic upgrading; relationship between capitalism and democracy; role of institutions in the market; path-dependence in economic development; how states may address income inequality; corruption and economic development; institutional trust; political polarization and developmental outcomes; economic crises and executive power; financialization; industrial policy; free market competition and inequality; institutional attributes of capitalism; political culture; economic consequences of digitalization and robotization; welfare state expansion vs. retrenchment

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Sample Questions / Example Tasks	- What are the benefits (or drawbacks) of state ownership in the economy? - What are the benefits (or drawbacks) of foreign investments in the host country? - How does the quality of democracy affect economic growth? - How does institutional trust influence quality of government? - How does corruption affect economic development? - Does democracy cause economic catch-up/development? - How may income inequalities affect political polarization? - How does robotization affect the labour market in developing and advanced economies? - How do economic crises such as the COVID-19 affect the power of the executive (the government)? - What are the potential social benefits (drawbacks) of the minimum wage?