

István Szijártó Associate Professor Loránd Eötvös University, Faculty of Humanities, Institute of History, Department of Social and Economic History H-1088 Budapest, Múzeum krt. 6-8., szijarto@elte.hu

Tel: + 36 1 4855212, fax: + 36 1 4855224

http://szijarto.web.elte.hu, http://elte.academia.edu/IstvanSzijarto

Personal involvement

1. Have you personally taught Microhistory at university level? What kind of courses they were? What was the students' response to this course or these courses?

Yes, BA-, MA- and PhD-courses. The response was mostly positive.

2. These courses formed parts of what module or unit of education? Were they compulsory or optional for students?

Mostly elective, but in a certain PhD-programme it has been compulsory, and also for future teachers of history (on MA-level).

3. In which languages have you taught these courses?

Mostly in Hungarian, twice in English.

4. Do you think that there is interest from the part of students in being enrolled in an MA in Microhistory in English?

Possibly.

5. Do you personally intend to take part in teaching a joint international MA in Microhistory in English?

Yes.

6. Have you got colleagues who would take part in teaching in a joint international MA in Microhistory? Who are they? Have they explicitly declared their willingness or you just suppose that they might participate?

Yes, the participants of this project.

Institutional involvement

7. Would your university be interested in taking part in such a venture? (Please on this point base your reply on the responsible declaration of the relevant office or officer of your university. Eötvös University, for example, have a Vice-Rector for International Affairs.)

Eötvös University is open to participating.

8. If your university's attitude to such a programme is not outright negative, what framework would be acceptable for it? Does your university insist on giving an MA degree itself? Would it consider teaching courses that are part of an MA accredited elsewhere? Would it be part of the difficult process of the accreditation of a joint degree?

A joint degree is hopeless, double or multiple degrees are in theory possible to try, but as the recent abolishing of the MA-programme "Renaissance Studies" demonstrates, the Vice-Dean for International Affairs maintains that without explicite government support it is hopeless to start a new MA.

9. Does your university run English-language BA or MA or PhD programmes in History? Is there a chance that Microhistory be integrated into such a programme instead of establishing a full-fledged MA specially for Microhistory?

Eötvös University has an accredited MA in History in English, Microhistory as a 30-60 credit specialization can form its part. This is clearly the preferred form for our university.

10. If your university is willing to try to embark on the accreditation of a joint MA degree or its own MA degree in Microhistory, what are the prerequisites of such a procedure in your country? Approximately how much time does it need?

Contents and formalities

11. If your university would teach courses of an MA accredited by another university or courses of a joint international MA, what tuition fees does it expect to receive?

Multiple degrees are given in an Erasmus Mundus (now: Erasmus+) cooperation of four universities. Full fees there are 2000 EUR for Europeans. (There are 2-3 such students only, the rest get fellowships.) ELTE MA in History costs presently 1600 EUR for one academic year, although the cost is said to be rather 3000 EUR, so it is to be raised soon.

12. Are there any examples of a joint BA or MA programme at your university? What is its institutional framework look like?

13. What makes an MA in your system of education? How many semester of teaching, how many courses and credits, how many seminars and lectures, and how is the writing of the thesis integrated into the studies? Which are the rules followed in giving marks to students?

120 credits, 2 academic years

14. Does your institution has experience in or established practices as for building online courses into its curricula? Do you personally think that such courses might make a part of a joint international MA in Microhistory?

No experience. Perhaps it is feasible.

15. According to you, which courses should form parts of a joint international MA in Microhistory? Which subject areas should not be omitted from the curriculum?

History and theory of microhistory, material culture and everyday life, global microhistory e.g.

16. Are you personally willing to teach any of these courses? Which one? And have you got colleagues in your university who are willing to teach any?

History and theory of microhistory, the microhistory of Renaissance Italy.

17. If so, would you teach an online course? Have you got experience in that? Is your institution technically prepared to make this possible?

No experience. Not a preferred form.

18. Could you be personally involved in teaching a course (for example an online course or an intensive course, as a guest lecturer or in any other way) even if your institution abstains from this future cooperation?

Yes.

19. Which are the courses that your institution would be willing to take the responsibility for?

History and theory of microhistory.

20. How such a curriculum should be put together from the point of view of the students? Should they travel from one participating institution to the other spending each semester in a different country? Or should they stay at their degree-giving mother university and leave for other participating institutions for intensive courses? Maybe instead of travelling, the widespread use of online courses should be advocated? Should travelling to other institutions for a semester be offered to students as optional?

The university giving the degree should set the terms.

Other

- 21. Which are the financial schemes applied to student and teacher mobility in your institution? Can we use it for the purposes of running an joint MA in Microhistory?
- 22. Please add your comment which you would like to make but have not yet had the chance to do so.