

RUSSIAN, EAST EUROPEAN AND CENTRAL ASIAN STUDIES, M.A.

The master of arts degree program in Russian, East European and Central Asian studies provides interdisciplinary area studies training for emerging professionals and future leaders in business, development, government, journalism, law, publishing, and the military. The curriculum is designed to promote a broad understanding of the cultural, political, economic, social, and historical factors that have shaped the development of societies in Eurasia, Russia, and Central and Eastern Europe; mastery in Russian, East European, or Central Asian languages at a level necessary for doing advanced research on and professional work in the region; and knowledge of methodological and analytical approaches of different disciplines that will contribute to a better understanding of the region and will prepare students for conducting advanced research. The program requires both area studies and language training.

The M.A. program is designed to be completed in three semesters, but motivated students who enter with prior language study and commit to intensive summer coursework have the option of completing the course of study within 12 calendar months. Students will work closely with the M.A. advisor, who serves as their primary graduate studies advisor, to ensure that their course of study is both coherent and sufficiently interdisciplinary.

ADMISSIONS

Please consult the table below for key information about this degree program’s admissions requirements. The program may have more detailed admissions requirements, which can be found below the table or on the program’s website.

Graduate admissions is a two-step process between academic programs and the Graduate School. **Applicants must meet** the minimum requirements (<https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/>) **of the Graduate School as well as the program(s)**. Once you have researched the graduate program(s) you are interested in, apply online (<https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/>).

Requirements	Detail
Fall Deadline	January 2
Spring Deadline	The program does not admit in the spring.
Summer Deadline	The program does not admit in the summer.
GRE (Graduate Record Examinations)	Required.
English Proficiency Test	Every applicant whose native language is not English or whose undergraduate instruction was not in English must provide an English proficiency test score and meet the Graduate School minimum requirements (https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/#english-proficiency).
Other Test(s) (e.g., GMAT, MCAT)	n/a

Letters of Recommendation Required 3

Students entering the master's program must have a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution and provide evidence of academic achievement and intellectual ability, including a minimum total grade point average of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) and a 3.4 in related area courses, letters of recommendation, and strong scores on the Graduate Record Exam (GRE). There is no minimum admission requirement for language, but students are strongly advised to complete two years of area language study before entering the program.

Applicants for admission to the M.A. degree program in Russian, East European and Central Asian studies should submit an online application. The following materials are required: statement of purpose, official transcripts from all postsecondary institutions attended, three letters of recommendation, Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores, language questionnaire, and application for university fellowships for incoming students. Speakers of English as a second language must submit Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), or International English Language Testing System (IELTS) scores as well.

FUNDING

GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid. Further funding information (<https://grad.wisc.edu/funding/>) is available from the Graduate School. Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and restrictions related to funding.

PROGRAM RESOURCES

Each year a faculty committee selects a limited number of deserving graduate students (in any field of study) for Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships. Applicants must be citizens or permanent residents of the United States and must demonstrate their commitment to the study of a language of Russia, Eastern Europe, or Central Asia, and to related area studies topics. Applications and supporting materials for the FLAS fellowship competition must be submitted by approximately February 15 each year. For more information and an application, see Foreign Language & Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships (<http://flas.wisc.edu/>).

Students interested in studying Polish may be eligible to apply for a Michael and Emily Lapinski fellowship (<https://gns.wisc.edu/lapinski-scholarship/>). The annual deadline is March 1. Please contact the Slavic program for more information.

CREECA also nominates eligible incoming graduate students in its M.A. program for the Advanced Opportunity Fellowship (for targeted students). To be considered for university funding, all application materials must be received by the early January deadline indicated on the CREECA M.A. application form.

A limited number of teaching assistantships and project assistantships may be available in CREECA and in specific departments that offer high-enrollment courses on REECAS. Information about these assistantships can be obtained by writing or calling CREECA and the respective departments. In addition to these opportunities, other fellowships and financial assistance are available outside CREECA. For further information,

incoming graduate students should write directly to the appropriate department or organization.

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements (<http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiesandrequirements>), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Face to Face	Evening/ Weekend	Online	Hybrid	Accelerated
Yes	No	No	No	Yes

Mode of Instruction Definitions

Accelerated: Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students typically take enough credits aimed at completing the program in a year or two.

Evening/Weekend: Courses meet on the UW–Madison campus only in evenings and/or on weekends to accommodate typical business schedules. Students have the advantages of face-to-face courses with the flexibility to keep work and other life commitments.

Face-to-Face: Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW–Madison Campus.

Hybrid: These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.

Online: These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.

CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Requirement	Detail
Minimum Credit Requirement	30 credits
Minimum Residence Credit Requirement	16 credits
Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement	15 credits must be graduate-level coursework. Details can be found in the Graduate School’s Minimum Graduate Coursework (50%) policy (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244).
Overall Graduate GPA Requirement	3.00 GPA required. This program follows the Graduate School’s GPA Requirement policy (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203).
Other Grade Requirements	n/a

Assessments and Examinations	Students have the option to complete a thesis. Contact the program for more information.
Language Requirements	Language learning is an integral part of the program, and students will be required to enroll in language courses each term. Students already proficient in their main language will be expected to choose another Slavic or Central Eurasian language for the duration of their program. For degree completion, students must have a minimum of two years of university-level study (or the equivalent) of a regional language with at least three years of study strongly recommended. During the academic year, the program offers Czech, Finnish, Kazak, Persian, Polish, Russian, Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, and Turkish (Turkish–Azeri). Students entering with prior experience in Russian are required to take a pre-program assessment. Students are also required to take a language course each term. See below for more details.

REQUIRED COURSES

In addition to language classes each term, students will be required to complete a minimum of 22 non-language (area studies) credits from the course list to be distributed as follows:

- Seven courses in Russian, East European and Central Asian studies numbered 300 or above (21 credits). These courses must be distributed over at least three departments. At least 50% of credits applied toward the graduate degree credit requirement must be with courses designed for graduate work. Courses with the graduate level coursework attribute are identified and searchable in Guide. (<https://guide.wisc.edu/courses/>)
- At least 6 of these credits (two courses) must be graduate-level **seminars** (numbered 700 through 999). REECAS M.A. students are expected to use original language source material in their graduate seminar papers. See table below.
- A 1-credit "Introduction to REECAS" module (SLAVIC 755 Topics in Slavic Literature). The course number of this module varies, depending on the home department of the faculty director of CREECA. Students are required to attend the weekly CREECA lecture series and to write four short essays based on the content of those lectures. Papers are read and evaluated by the CREECA director and associate director.
- Students may elect to write a master's thesis, but this is not required. This 3-credit, faculty-supervised, independent research course could count toward the required 22 non-language credits, but could not take the place of a required graduate-level seminar. The master's thesis will demonstrate the student's ability to engage in original research in his or her chosen field, including the ability to use original-language material.

General Courses

Code	Title	Credits
Agricultural and Applied Economics		
A A E/ECON/ REAL EST/ URB R PL 306	The Real Estate Process	3
A A E/INTL ST 374	The Growth and Development of Nations in the Global Economy	3

A A E/ECON 474	Economic Problems of Developing Areas	3	HISTORY 357	The Second World War	3-4
Asian Languages and Cultures			HISTORY 359	History of Europe Since 1945	3-4
ASIAN/AFRICAN/ RELIG ST 370	Islam: Religion and Culture	3-4	HISTORY 417	History of Russia	3-4
Anthropology			HISTORY 418	History of Russia	3-4
ANTHRO 330	Topics in Ethnology ¹	3-4	HISTORY 419	History of Soviet Russia	3-4
ANTHRO 606	Ethnicity, Nations, and Nationalism ¹	3-4	HISTORY 420	Russian Social and Intellectual History	3-4
ANTHRO 690	Problems in Anthropology ¹	3-4	HISTORY 424	The Soviet Union and the World, 1917-1991	3-4
Art History			HISTORY 425	History of Poland and the Baltic Area	3-4
ART HIST 310	Icons, Religion, and Empire: Early Christian and Byzantine Art, ca. 200-1453	3	HISTORY 434	American Foreign Relations, 1901 to the Present	3-4
ART HIST 351		3-4	HISTORY 500	Reading Seminar in History ¹	3
ART HIST 556	Proseminar in 20th Century European Art ¹	3	HISTORY/ CURRIC/ED POL/ JEWISH 515	Holocaust: History, Memory and Education	3
ART HIST 805	Seminar-Ancient Art and Architecture ¹	3	HISTORY 600	Advanced Seminar in History ¹	3
ART HIST 815	Seminar-Medieval Art ¹	3	HISTORY 753	Seminar-Comparative World History ¹	1-3
ART HIST 856	Graduate Seminar in Twentieth Century European Art ¹	3	HISTORY/FRENCH/ GERMAN/POLI SCI/ SOC 804	Interdisciplinary Western European Area Studies Seminar ¹	3
Communication Arts			HISTORY 849	Seminar-Topics in History of Imperial Russia, 1649-1917	1-3
COM ARTS 352	Film History to 1960	3	HISTORY 850	Smr-Hist of the Soviet Union & Modern Hist of E Central Europe	1-3
COM ARTS 463	Avant-Garde Film	3	HISTORY 891	Proseminar in Modern European History	1-3
COM ARTS 958	Seminar in Film History ¹	2-3	International Business		
Economics			INTL BUS 365	Contemporary Topics ¹	1-3
ECON/A A E/ REAL EST/ URB R PL 306	The Real Estate Process	3	INTL BUS/ REAL EST 430	International Real Estate ¹	3
ECON 364		3-4	Journalism and Mass Communication		
ECON 390	Contemporary Economic Issues ¹	3	JOURN 620	International Communication ¹	4
ECON 467	International Industrial Organizations ¹	3-4	JOURN 621	¹	4
ECON/A A E 474	Economic Problems of Developing Areas ¹	3	Law		
ECON/SOC 663	Population and Society ¹	3	LAW 828	International Transactions	2-3
Folklore			LAW 918	Selected Problems in International Law-Seminar ¹	2-3
FOLKLORE/ LITTRANS 347	In Translation: Kalevala and Finnish Folk-Lore	3-4	LAW 942	European Union Law	2-3
FOLKLORE/ RELIG ST 352	Shamanism	3	Literature in Translation		
FOLKLORE/ SCAND ST 443	Sami Culture, Yesterday and Today	4	LITTRANS/ FOLKLORE 347	In Translation: Kalevala and Finnish Folk-Lore	3-4
FOLKLORE/ SLAVIC 444	Slavic and East European Folklore	3	LITTRANS 455	Modern Serbian and Croatian Literature in Translation	3
FOLKLORE 460	Folk Epics ¹	3	LITTRANS 473	Polish Literature (in Translation) since 1863	3
Geography			Political Science		
GEOG 318	Introduction to Geopolitics	3	POLI SCI 334	Russian Politics	3-4
GEOG 518	Power, Place, Identity ¹	3	POLI SCI 340	The European Union: Politics and Political Economy	3-4
GEOG 918	Seminar in Political Geography ¹	2-3	POLI SCI 401	Selected Topics in Political Science ¹	3-4
GNS 324	Literatures of Central Asia	3	POLI SCI 421	The Challenge of Democratization	3-4
History					
HISTORY/ MEDIEVAL/ RELIG ST 309	The Crusades: Christianity and Islam	3-4			

POLI SCI/ INTL ST 439	The Comparative Study of Genocide	3-4
POLI SCI 534	Socialism and Transitions to the Market	3-4
POLI SCI 659	Politics and Society: Contemporary Eastern Europe	3-4
POLI SCI/FRENCH/ GERMAN/HISTORY/ SOC 804	Interdisciplinary Western European Area Studies Seminar	3
POLI SCI 814	Social Identities: Definition and Measurement ¹	3
POLI SCI 854	Nationalism and Ethnic Conflict	3
POLI SCI 948	Seminar: Topics in Comparative Politics ¹	3
POLI SCI 949	Seminar-Post Communist Politics	3
Slavic Languages		
SLAVIC 342	Introduction to Serbian and Croatian Literature	3
SLAVIC 405	Women in Russian Literature	3-4
SLAVIC 420	Chekhov	3-4
SLAVIC 421	Gogol	3-4
SLAVIC 422	Dostoevsky	3-4
SLAVIC 424	Tolstoy	3-4
SLAVIC 433	History of Russian Culture	3
SLAVIC 434	Contemporary Russian Culture	3
SLAVIC 440	Soviet Literature	3-4
SLAVIC 449	History of Serbo-Croatian Literature	3
SLAVIC 454	Modern Serbo-Croatian Literature	3
SLAVIC 470	History of Polish Literature until 1863	3
SLAVIC 472	History of Polish Literature after 1863	3
SLAVIC/ THEATRE 532	History of Russian Theatre	3
SLAVIC 701	Survey of Old Russian Literature	2
SLAVIC 702	Eighteenth-Century Russian Literature	2
SLAVIC 705	Special Topics in Russian Language/ Linguistics	3
SLAVIC 755	Topics in Slavic Literature	1-3
SLAVIC 801	Slavic Critical Theory and Practice	3
SLAVIC 802	The Structure of Russian	2
SLAVIC 803	Introduction to Old Church Slavonic and the History of Russian Literary Language	2
SLAVIC 804	Methods of Teaching Slavic Languages	2
SLAVIC 820	College Teaching of Russian	1
SLAVIC 900	Seminar: Slavic Literature and Culture	1-3
Scandinavian Studies		
SCAND ST/ FOLKLORE 443	Sami Culture, Yesterday and Today	4
SCAND ST/ MEDIEVAL 444	Kalevala and Finnish Folk-Lore	4

Sociology		
SOC 496	Topics in Sociology ¹	1-3
SOC 621	Class, State and Ideology: an Introduction to Marxist Social Science ¹	3
SOC 633	Social Stratification ¹	3
SOC/FRENCH/ GERMAN/HISTORY/ POLI SCI 804	Interdisciplinary Western European Area Studies Seminar ¹	3
SOC/C&E SOC 929	Seminar: Class Analysis and Historical Change	3

Theatre and Drama		
THEATRE/ SLAVIC 532	History of Russian Theatre	3
THEATRE 911	Seminar-Problems in Theatre and Drama ¹	2-3

Seminar Courses

Code	Title	Credits
GEOG 918	Seminar in Political Geography	2-3
HISTORY 753	Seminar-Comparative World History	1-3
HISTORY 849	Seminar-Topics in History of Imperial Russia, 1649-1917	1-3
HISTORY 850	Sem-Hist of the Soviet Union & Modern Hist of E Central Europe	1-3
HISTORY 891	Proseminar in Modern European History	1-3
POLI SCI 854	Nationalism and Ethnic Conflict	3
SLAVIC 800	Proseminar-Slavic Literature and Culture	1
SLAVIC 900	Seminar: Slavic Literature and Culture	1-3

Language Courses

Code	Title	Credits
ASIALANG 137	First Semester Persian	4
ASIALANG 138	Second Semester Persian	4
ASIALANG 237	Third Semester Persian	4
ASIALANG 238	Fourth Semester Persian	4
ASIALANG 337	Fifth Semester Persian	3-4
ASIALANG 338	Sixth Semester Persian	3-4
GNS 329	Elementary Summer Immersion Turkish	8
GNS 331	First Semester Kazakh	4
GNS 332	Second Semester Kazakh	4
GNS 339	First Semester Turkish	4
GNS 340	Second Semester Turkish	4
GNS 351	First Semester Central Eurasian Language	4
GNS 352	Second Semester Central Eurasian Language	4
GNS 370	Topics in GNS (Intermediate)	3
GNS 429	Intermediate Summer Immersion Turkish	8
GNS 431	Third Semester Kazakh	4
GNS 432	Fourth Semester Kazakh	4

GNS 439	Third Semester Turkish	4
GNS 440	Fourth Semester Turkish	4
GNS 451	Third Semester Central Eurasian Language	4
GNS 452	Fourth Semester Central Eurasian Language	4
GNS 529	Advanced Summer Immersion Turkish	8
GNS 531	Fifth Semester Kazakh	3-4
GNS 532	Sixth Semester Kazakh	3-4
GNS 539	Fifth Semester Turkish and Azeri	3-4
GNS 540	Sixth Semester Turkish and Azeri	3-4
GNS 551	Fifth Semester Central Eurasian Language	4
GNS 552	Sixth Semester Central Eurasian Language	4
SLAVIC 101	First Semester Russian	4
SLAVIC 102	Second Semester Russian	4
SLAVIC 111	First Semester Polish	4
SLAVIC 112	Second Semester Polish	4
SLAVIC 115	First Semester Czech	4
SLAVIC 116	Second Semester Czech	4
SLAVIC 117	Intensive Second Year Russian	4
SLAVIC 118	Intensive Second Year Russian	4
SLAVIC 203	Third Semester Russian	4
SLAVIC 204	Fourth Semester Russian	4
SLAVIC 207	Third Semester Polish	4
SLAVIC 208	Fourth Semester Polish	4
SLAVIC 217	Third Semester Czech	4
SLAVIC 218	Fourth Semester Czech	4
SLAVIC 275	Third Year Russian I	3
SLAVIC 276	Third Year Russian II	3
SLAVIC 277	Third Year Polish I	3
SLAVIC 278	Third Year Polish II	3
SLAVIC 279	Intensive Third Year Russian	8
SLAVIC 301	Introduction to Intensive Polish	3
SLAVIC 304	Fourth Semester Intensive Polish	4
SLAVIC 305	Fifth Semester Intensive Polish	3
SLAVIC 306	Sixth Semester Intensive Polish	3
SLAVIC 315	Russian Language and Culture I	3
SLAVIC 321	Fourth Year Russian I	3
SLAVIC 322	Fourth Year Russian II	3
SLAVIC 331	Fourth Year Polish I	3
SLAVIC 332	Fourth Year Polish II	3
SLAVIC 351	First Semester Intensive Czech	3
SLAVIC 352	Second Semester Intensive Czech	3
SLAVIC 451	Third Semester Intensive Czech	3
SLAVIC 452	Fourth Semester Intensive Czech	3
SLAVIC 705	Special Topics in Russian Language/ Linguistics	3

1

When topic is Russia, Eastern Europe, or Central Asia.

POLICIES

GRADUATE SCHOOL POLICIES

The Graduate School's Academic Policies and Procedures (<https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy/>) provide essential information regarding general university policies. Program authority to set degree policies beyond the minimum required by the Graduate School lies with the degree program faculty. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.

MAJOR-SPECIFIC POLICIES

PRIOR COURSEWORK

Graduate Work from Other Institutions

With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 9 credits of graduate coursework from other institutions. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master's degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

UW-Madison Undergraduate

This program follows the Graduate School's policy for Satisfying Requirements with Coursework from Undergraduate Career at UW-Madison. (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1216/>)

UW-Madison University Special

With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 9 credits of coursework numbered 300 or above taken as a UW-Madison University Special student. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master's degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

PROBATION

This program follows the Graduate School's Probation policy. (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1217/>)

ADVISOR / COMMITTEE

Every graduate student is required to have an advisor. To ensure that students are making satisfactory progress toward a degree, the Graduate School expects them to meet with their advisor on a regular basis.

CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED

15 credits

TIME LIMITS

This program follows the Graduate School's Time Limits policy. (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1221/>)

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS

These resources may be helpful in addressing your concerns:

- Bias or Hate Reporting (<https://doso.students.wisc.edu/bias-or-hate-reporting/>)
- Graduate Assistantship Policies and Procedures (<https://hr.wisc.edu/policies/gapp/#grievance-procedure>)
- Hostile and Intimidating Behavior Policies and Procedures (<https://hr.wisc.edu/hib/>)
 - Office of the Provost for Faculty and Staff Affairs (<https://facstaff.provost.wisc.edu/>)
- Dean of Students Office (<https://doso.students.wisc.edu/>) (for all students to seek grievance assistance and support)

- Employee Assistance (<http://www.eao.wisc.edu/>) (for personal counseling and workplace consultation around communication and conflict involving graduate assistants and other employees, post-doctoral students, faculty and staff)
- Employee Disability Resource Office (<https://employee disabilities.wisc.edu/>) (for qualified employees or applicants with disabilities to have equal employment opportunities)
- Graduate School (<https://grad.wisc.edu/>) (for informal advice at any level of review and for official appeals of program/departmental or school/college grievance decisions)
- Office of Compliance (<https://compliance.wisc.edu/>) (for class harassment and discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence)
- Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (<https://conduct.students.wisc.edu/>) (for conflicts involving students)
- Ombuds Office for Faculty and Staff (<http://www.ombuds.wisc.edu/>) (for employed graduate students and post-docs, as well as faculty and staff)
- Title IX (<https://compliance.wisc.edu/titleix/>) (for concerns about discrimination)

Students should contact the department chair or program director with questions about grievances. They may also contact the L&S Academic Divisional Associate Deans, the L&S Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning Administration, or the L&S Director of Human Resources.

OTHER

Accelerated language study available during summer. We encourage qualified US citizens and permanent residents to apply for the Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowship through CREECA. FLAS applications are due on or near February 15 of each year; please check flas.wisc.edu for updates. The application form for FLAS is separate from the application for admission. We regret that other sources of funding, such as teaching assistantships and project assistantships, are limited.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Take advantage of the Graduate School's professional development resources (<https://grad.wisc.edu/pd/>) to build skills, thrive academically, and launch your career.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the cultural, political, economic, social, and historical factors that have shaped the development of societies in Eurasia, Russia, and East and Central Europe.
2. Articulate, critique, and/or elaborate the theories, research methods, and approaches to inquiry in one or more of the disciplines represented in the interdisciplinary field of Russian, East European, and Central Asian studies (REECAS).
3. Identify sources and assemble evidence pertaining to questions or challenges in REECAS.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of Russian, East European, and Central Asian studies in a historical, social, or global context.
5. Select and utilize appropriate methodologies and practices in one or more of the disciplines represented in the interdisciplinary field of REECAS.

6. Evaluate and synthesize information pertaining to questions or challenges in REECAS and should communicate clearly in written and spoken work in ways appropriate to REECAS.
7. Recognizes and apply principles of ethical and professional conduct in the context of Russian, East European, and Central Asian studies.
8. (Language proficiency) Develop speaking, listening, writing, and reading skills in one or more of the languages of Russia, East and Central Europe, and Central Eurasia, and integrate these skills to communicate in a variety of social and academic situations.

PEOPLE

Faculty: Borowski, Castañeda Dower, Ciancia, Dale, Danaher, DuBois, Erbil, Evans-Romaine, Gerber, Glowacki, Hanukai, Hendley, Herrera, Hirsch, Karpukhin, Kinzley, Kydd, Livanos, McDonald, Michels, Miernowska, Neville, Ospovat, Radeloff, Reynolds, Shevelenko (director), Stoychuk, Tishler, Tumarkin, Walter, Wodzyński, Yudkoff.

For a full list of affiliated faculty, please visit our website (<https://creeca.wisc.edu/people/faculty/>).