

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 are able to complete a program with minimal disruptions to careers and other commitments.

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

Requirements Detail	
Minimum Credit Requirement	30 credits
Minimum Residence Credit Requirement	16 credits
Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement	Half of degree coursework (15 credits out of 30 total credits) must be completed graduate-level coursework; courses with the Graduate Level Coursework attribute are identified and searchable in the university's Course Guide (https://registrar.wisc.edu/course-guide)).
Overall Graduate GPA Requirement	3.00 GPA required.
Other Grade Requirements	The Graduate School requires an average grade of B or better in all coursework (300 or above, not including research credits) taken as a graduate student unless conditions for probationary status require higher grades. Grades of Incomplete are considered to be unsatisfactory if they are not removed during the next enrolled semester.

Assessments and Examinations Contact the program for information on required assessments and examinations.

Language Requirements Contact the program for information on any language requirements.

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 at or above the 300 level (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 the University's Course Guide (http://public.my.wisc.edu/portal/f/u12411s4/p/CourseGuide-Browse-Courses.u12411n31/detached/render.uP?pCm=view&pP_action=advancedSearch&pP_form-submit=true).
- At least 6 of these credits (two courses) must be graduate-level **seminars** (700 through 900 level). REECAS M.A. students are expected to use original language source material in their graduate seminar papers.
- 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.

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).

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

Asian Languages and Cultures

ASIAN/AFRICAN/ RELIG ST 370	Islam: Religion and Culture	3-4	HISTORY 357	The Second World War	3-4
Anthropology			HISTORY 359	History of Europe Since 1945	3-4
ANTHRO 330	Topics in Ethnology ¹	3-4	HISTORY 417	History of Russia	3-4
ANTHRO 606	Ethnicity, Nations, and Nationalism ¹	3-4	HISTORY 418	History of Russia	3-4
ANTHRO 690	Problems in Anthropology ¹	3-4	HISTORY 419	History of Soviet Russia	3-4
Art History			HISTORY 420	Russian Social and Intellectual History	3-4
ART HIST 310	Icons, Religion, and Empire: Early Christian and Byzantine Art, ca. 200-1453	3	HISTORY 424	The Soviet Union and the World, 1917-1991	3-4
ART HIST 351	20th Century Art in Europe	3-4	HISTORY 425	History of Poland and the Baltic Area	3-4
ART HIST 556	Proseminar in 20th Century European Art ¹	3	HISTORY 434	American Foreign Relations, 1901 to the Present	3-4
ART HIST 805	Seminar-Ancient Art and Architecture ¹	3	HISTORY/ RELIG ST 439	Islamic History From the Origin of Islam to the Ottoman Empire	3-4
ART HIST 815	Seminar-Medieval Art ¹	3	HISTORY 475	European Social History, 1914-Present	3-4
ART HIST 856	Graduate Seminar in Twentieth Century European Art ¹	3	HISTORY 500	Reading Seminar in History ¹	3
Communication Arts			HISTORY/CURRIC/ JEWISH 515	Holocaust: History, Memory and Education	3
COM ARTS 352	Film History to 1960	3	HISTORY/HIST SCI/ MED HIST/ MEDIEVAL/ S&A PHM 562	Byzantine Medicine and Pharmacy	3
COM ARTS 456	Russian and Soviet Film	3	HISTORY 600	Advanced Seminar in History ¹	3
COM ARTS 463	Avant-Garde Film	3	HISTORY 753	Seminar-Comparative World History ¹	1-3
COM ARTS 958	Seminar in Film History ¹	2-3	HISTORY/FRENCH/ GERMAN/POLI SCI/ SOC 804	Interdisciplinary Western European Area Studies Seminar ¹	3
Economics			HISTORY 849	Seminar-Topics in History of Imperial Russia, 1649-1917	1-3
ECON/A A E/ REAL EST/ URB R PL 306	The Real Estate Process	3	HISTORY 850	Smr-Hist of the Soviet Union & Modern Hist of E Central Europe	1-3
ECON 364	Survey of International Economics	3-4	HISTORY 891	Proseminar in Modern European History	1-3
ECON 390	Contemporary Economic Issues ¹	3	International Business		
ECON 467	International Industrial Organizations ¹	3-4	INTL BUS 365	Contemporary Topics ¹	1-3
ECON/A A E 474	Economic Problems of Developing Areas ¹	3	INTL BUS/ REAL EST 430	International Real Estate ¹	3
ECON/SOC 663	Population and Society ¹	3	Journalism and Mass Communication		
Folklore			JOURN 620	International Communication ¹	4
FOLKLORE/ LITTRANS 347	In Translation: Kalevala and Finnish Folk-Lore	3-4	JOURN 621	Mass Communication in Developing Nations ¹	4
FOLKLORE/ RELIG ST 352	Shamanism	3	Law		
FOLKLORE/ SCAND ST 443	Sami Culture, Yesterday and Today	4	LAW 828	International Transactions	2-3
FOLKLORE/ SLAVIC 444	Slavic and East European Folklore	3	LAW 918	Selected Problems in International Law-Seminar ¹	2-3
FOLKLORE 460	Folk Epics ¹	3	LAW 942	European Union Law	2-3
Geography			Literature in Translation		
GEOG 318	Introduction to Geopolitics	3	LITTRANS/ FOLKLORE 347	In Translation: Kalevala and Finnish Folk-Lore	3-4
GEOG 353	Russia and the NIS-Topical Analysis	3	LITTRANS 455	Modern Serbian and Croatian Literature in Translation	3
GEOG 518	Power, Place, Identity ¹	3	LITTRANS 473	Polish Literature (in Translation) since 1863	3
GEOG 918	Seminar in Political Geography ¹	2-3			
GNS 324	Literatures of Central Asia	3			
History					
HISTORY/ MEDIEVAL/ RELIG ST 309	The Crusades: Christianity and Islam	3-4			

Political Science		
POLI SCI 334	Russian Politics	3-4
POLI SCI 340	The European Union: Politics and Political Economy	3-4
POLI SCI 351	Politics of the World Economy	3-4
POLI SCI 401	Selected Topics in Political Science ¹	3-4
POLI SCI 421	The Challenge of Democratization	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 561	Radical Political Theory	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 302	Zarys historii literatury polskiej	3
SLAVIC 342	Uvod u srpsku i hrvatsku literaturu	3
SLAVIC 350	Special Topics in Russian Language, Literature, and Culture	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	Istorija srpske i hrvatske literature	3
SLAVIC 454	Moderna srpska i hrvatska literatura	3
SLAVIC 470	Historia literatury polskiej do roku 1863	3
SLAVIC 472	Historia literatury polskiej po roku 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
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

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

With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 7 credits of coursework numbered 300 or above taken as a UW–Madison undergraduate student. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a Master's degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

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

The Graduate School regularly reviews the record of any student who earned grades of BC, C, D, F, or Incomplete in a graduate course (300 or above), or grade of U in research credits. This review could result in academic probation with a hold on future enrollment or in being suspended from the Graduate School.

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.

An advisor generally serves as the thesis advisor. In many cases, an advisor is assigned to incoming students. Students can be suspended from the Graduate School if they do not have an advisor. An advisor is a faculty member, or sometimes a committee, from the major department responsible for providing advice regarding graduate studies.

A committee often accomplishes advising for the students in the early stages of their studies.

CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED

15 credits

TIME CONSTRAINTS

Master's degree students who have been absent for five or more consecutive years lose all credits that they have earned before their absence. Individual programs may count the coursework students completed prior to their absence for meeting program requirements; that coursework may not count toward Graduate School credit requirements.

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://employeedisabilities.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, Brenner, Castañeda Dower, Ciancia, Dale, Danaher, DuBois, Erbil, Evans-Romaine, Gerber (director), Glowacki, Hanukai, Hendley, Herrera, Hirsch, Kaiser, Karpukhin, Livanos, McDonald, Michels, Miernowska, Neville, Ospovat, Radeloff, Reynolds, Shevelenko, Tishler, Tumarkin, Walter, Wink, Wodzyński, Yudkoff, Zilbergerts.