



EASTERN EUROPEAN AND RUSSIAN STUDIES

Programme type	Master's studies (university)
Field of study	Political Sciences
Study area	Social Sciences
Degree	Master in Social Science
Duration	1.5 years (3 semesters)
Workload	90 ECTS
Language of instruction	English
Location	Vilnius, Lithuania
Starting date	1 st of September
Tuition fee for EU and Non-EU students	3200 EUR/ per year

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

- *The objective*

The Eastern European and Russian studies programme is devised to provide you with deep and comprehensive knowledge about the region - its political, economic and cultural particularities, and develop your academic and analytical skills that will enable you to analyse, evaluate and assess key political and social processes within this dynamic and exciting region.

- *Career opportunities*

Our graduates have found a number of different possibilities: some pursue their careers as civil servants in public administration institutions and diplomatic service. Others work as analysts and experts in the international organizations, academic and research institutions, private sector in Lithuania and abroad. And just in case you wish to spread your knowledge and learn even more as a graduate of the Eastern European and Russian studies you will have access to the third cycle (doctoral) studies.

KEY LEARNING OUTCOMES

- first-hand experience of Eastern Europe regional specifics through study across the range of area specific courses including state, society, economics, culture and politics of the region
- professional expertise on the key issues that impact domestic and foreign policies in the states of Eastern Europe and Russia;
- advanced knowledge of the concepts, theories and methods in the contemporary political science, especially in the field of International Relations and Comparative Politics;
- deep understanding of the history and political systems of the Eastern European countries and Russia, as well as political and economic transformation processes that are taking place in the region;
- skills to analyse the development of the region in the context of contemporary international and regional co-operation;
- methodological skills required to undertake and produce an independent research project.

COURSE INFORMATION

The programme has the following structure:

Course Type	1st Semester	2nd Semester	3rd Semester
Compulsory Courses	Economic Transformation: From Command Economy to a New System (10 ECTS)	Master seminar (5 ECTS)	Master seminar (5 ECTS)
	Search and Research: Methods and Approaches in Political Science (5 ECTS)	Russian Politics and Economy in Post-modern World (10 ECTS)	Master's Theses (20 ECTS)
	State and Society in Eastern Europe and Russia: From Autocracy to Democracy (5 ECTS)	Eastern European Security (5 ECTS)	
	Inventing Eastern Europe: Explorations of the European East (5 ECTS)		
Elective Courses	Russian Language (5 ECTS)	International Political Economy and Globalization (5 ECTS)	International Negotiations (5 ECTS)
	Introduction to Political Science Methods (5 ECTS)	Change management in public sector organizations (5 ECTS)	Security and Sustainable Development (5 ECTS)
		Theories of Social Revolutions and Movements: Comparative Analysis (5 ECTS)	Project Management in Public Sector (5 ECTS)
		Islam in Europe (5 ECTS)	

		Contemporary Politics of Central Eurasian Countries and Regions (5 ECTS)	
		Energy Security (5 ECTS)	
		Belarus and Ukraine Studies (5 ECTS)	
		Nordic and Baltic Studies (5 ECTS)	

During the first semester of studies students start with four compulsory courses that introduce them to the economic, historic and cultural context of Eastern Europe and Russia, as well as research methods of political science, which will be crucial in preparing their MA thesis. These courses take up to 10 ECTS credits each. Students will also have one elective course to deepen their knowledge in the most common language of the region – Russian, or different methods of Political Science.

The second semester offers students the opportunity to build their own extensive knowledge and expertise in their preferred field of interests by choosing two elective subjects from the list of courses open to all Master level students at the Institute. Students will also attend Master's seminars to further develop their MA thesis research design and two compulsory course dedicated to providing in-depth knowledge of economic and political particularities in Russia and also Eastern European Security.

During the third semester, students work on their Master's thesis and continue attending Master's seminars. Additionally, they can extend their knowledge by attending one elective subject based on their academic or professional interests. Moreover, students are offered the opportunity to build their resume by conducting a professional internship with non-governmental organizations or research institutions based in Vilnius.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

All the subjects of the programme should be passed and positive assessment of the Master's Thesis public defense.

EXAMINATION AND ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

The main form of assessment is an examination. Every course unit is concluded with either a written or written-oral examination or pass/fail assessment. Student's knowledge and general performance during the examination are assessed by using the grading scale from 1 (very poor) to 10 (excellent).

APPLICATION AND SELECTION REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor degree or its equivalent;
- English language proficiency - the level not lower than B2 (following the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) (Internationally recognized certificate or *Skype* interview)
- The selection criterion is based on the weighted average of all grades recorded in the transcript of your academic report.

Academic contact

Ms. Ieva Miklaševskaja
+37052514135
ieva.miklasevskaja@tspmi.vu.lt

Admission contact

Admissions Office
admissions@cr.vu.lt