

The background image is a scenic view of a coastal city, likely Dubrovnik, Croatia. In the foreground, there is a dense cluster of multi-story buildings with light-colored facades and terracotta roofs. A prominent church with a red-tiled dome is visible on the left. In the middle ground, a large, rocky hill rises from the city, topped with a fortress or castle. The sea is visible in the background, with distant mountains on the horizon under a clear blue sky.

Master of Arts in Slavic and East European Studies



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

CENTER FOR SLAVIC AND
EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES



OVERVIEW

The Master of Arts in Slavic and East European Studies is an interdisciplinary, terminal degree administered by the Center for Slavic and East European Studies (CSEES). Through the degree, students study several different fields and approaches in order to better understand a country, region, or people of Eastern Europe. As part of the degree, students work closely with their advisor to select courses and develop a specialization, enabling them to design the degree around their interests. It prepares graduates for work in the government, non-profit, and public sector, or to pursue a PhD. Program graduates since 2006 have had an 87 percent employment rate.

DEGREE DETAILS

There are three main components to the master's degree.

Language proficiency in an East European/Eurasian language

- Four years of Russian and/or
- Two years of another East European/Eurasian language

38 credit hours of area studies course work, defined as courses with at least 25 percent of content on Eastern Europe/Eurasia

- Slavic 6501: Introduction to Slavic Studies
- Courses from three or more disciplines
- Courses in at least two different colleges or divisions within the College of Arts and Sciences
- At least 9 credit hours at the 6000-level or above
- At least 9 credit hours in the student's area or discipline of concentration
- No more than 6 credit hours at the 4000-level

Defending of a thesis or passing of an exam

- Thesis: Developed in consultation with the student's faculty advisor and thesis committee. Thesis track students may register for up to two semesters of thesis writing credit
- Exam: Students sit a four hour written exam. Fifty percent of the exam is based on the student's area of concentration and written by the faculty advisor. Two additional examiners write 25 percent each of the remaining exam

SAMPLE SPECIALIZATIONS

Students have the unique opportunity to design their own program of study in consultation with the CSEES director and the student's faculty advisor by selecting a specialization or area of concentration. Some of the most popular specializations in the past have included but are not limited to:

- Russian and (Post)-Soviet Politics and Culture
- Intelligence/Security
- Central Asian Studies
- Balkan Studies
- Gender Studies in Eastern Europe



DUAL DEGREE OPTIONS

While pursuing a master's in Slavic and East European Studies, students have the option of completing another master's degree in a second discipline.

Dual degree in Slavic and East European studies and public policy

CSEES and the John Glenn School of Public Affairs offer a combined degree program for students interested in East European/Eurasian area studies and public policy. Students are able to augment their area studies knowledge with policy and management skills.

58 credit hours of coursework are needed to complete the dual program, and include:

- 20 credit hours of Slavic and East European area studies coursework
- 24 credit hours of public policy coursework
- 14 credit hours of electives

Students also must meet the language proficiency requirement of CSEES and complete the exit requirements of both degrees.

Dual degree with another master's program

Students may also choose to pursue a second master's in another department that offers a specialization in Eastern Europe/Eurasia. Past examples include: Slavic and East European languages and cultures, geography, history, history of art, music, political science and sociology.

A student seeking a dual degree must fulfill all the requirements for both degrees, although up to 50 percent of the credit hour requirement for each degree may be used for dual credit.

ADVISING

Each CSEES master's student has two advisors:

- Based on their field of interest and within the first year of the program, students select their faculty advisor with whom they will work on their exam or thesis
- CSEES' assistant director functions as the student's program advisor and oversees the student's progress towards degree completion

FUNDING

The primary form of funding available for master's students is Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships. Students interested in the program are strongly encouraged to contact the assistant director of CSEES to discuss funding options.



STUDY ABOARD/INTERNSHIPS

To further develop language skills, many master's students study abroad during the summer in between year one and two of the master's program. A variety of programs are available through the Office of International Affairs, or through other third-party providers for students studying all languages and regions of Eastern Europe/Eurasia.

An additional option for students is to obtain a summer internship. A variety of internships are available at government agencies, non-profits, and companies that work in the region.

Students should meet with the assistant director of CSEES early on to discuss internship and study abroad opportunities.

INTERESTED?

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