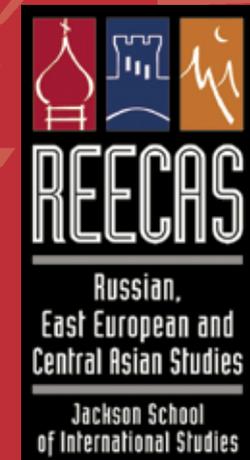


Welcome to the REECAS Graduate Certificate!

The Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies (REECAS) Program at the University of Washington, founded in 1947, is one of the oldest and most distinguished programs of its kind in the country. In a period of continuing and unpredictable geopolitical change, REECAS defines as its mission the promotion of in-depth interdisciplinary study of all major postcommunist subregions — Eastern and Central Europe, the Baltic region, the Caucasus, Central Asia and Russia — in order to understand the legacies of the imperial and communist past as well as to analyze the emerging institutions and identities that will shape Eurasia's future. This mission is strongly and actively supported by the UW administration. We are able to provide a foundation for serious research on the region by offering regular instruction in 15 regional languages, including several that are often unavailable elsewhere. With over 65 participating faculty members in the humanities, the social sciences and several professional schools, REECAS represents an unparalleled resource for students who are interested in the societies, politics, languages and cultures of Eurasia. Through a commitment to historical understanding, innovative teaching and interdisciplinary research, we strive to further contemporary scholarship and to educate students about this critical region of the world.

Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies
Jackson School of International Studies
University of Washington
203B Thomson, Box 353650
Seattle, WA 98195-3650



Graduate Certificate

University of Washington
Seattle, Washington

The Graduate Certificate program in Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies provides students from many colleges and professional schools at the UW an opportunity to engage in interdisciplinary study and to enhance their academic experiences by giving them a solid understanding of issues facing this region.



Students who complete the program will be equipped to inform public policy on the region and to serve as regional specialists in their chosen fields.

The Certificate program presents the opportunity for students to bolster their graduate education with area studies and language classes available across the University of Washington. The program is designed to help students advance their career goals, providing them with faculty advisors within REECAS and an array of courses to add considerable breadth to their degrees.



Required courses

JSIS A 504/Introduction to REECAS (5 credits)

This course provides a basic intellectual foundation for interdisciplinary graduate-level study of Russia, East Europe and Central Asia. Students read important texts and are introduced to major debates on the history, politics, and culture of the region. Instruction is provided by REECAS faculty members from the major scholarly disciplines. Topics covered include the nature of Stalinism, the sources and consequences of ethnic conflict and nationalism, postcommunist democracy and authoritarianism, and the challenges of contemporary globalization.



JSIS A 512/Capstone Course (1 credit)

This course provides a unifying experience for Graduate Certificate students. It will consist of compiling a student portfolio in which the student will present two revised and expanded essays: one from JSIS A 504, and one from an elective course. The student will also write a framing essay (5000 words) which describes why they entered the Graduate Certificate program, reflects on what they have learned by articulating a framework that connects the two essays they have written and revised, and considers how the graduate certificate has prepared them for their careers. The student's faculty mentor, a REECAS faculty member assigned to the student when first admitted into the program, will supervise the course.

In addition, students must take two elective REECA-focused courses (10 credits). A maximum of six of these credits may apply to the student's degree program (these "double counted" credits must be elective coursework in their degree program). The elective courses will typically be in the Departments of Anthropology, Economics, Geography, History, Comparative Literature, International Studies, Political Science and Sociology. We also encourage students to take an elective course in one of the Ellison Center's study abroad programs or Exploration Seminars.

Students will also be required to have completed two years of study of a regional language (or pass a proficiency test at the equivalent level) either before or during the certificate program.

Special thanks to Daniel Waugh, Allison Dvaladze and Marta Mikkelsen for photographs.

Please visit the Ellison Center website for additional information about the Certificate program, entrance requirements, financial assistance and upcoming events.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please call or email the REECAS program.

☎ 206-543-4852 ✉ reecas@uw.edu
WEBSITE: ellisoncenter.washington.edu



The Ellison Center, a National Resource Center funded by the Title VI Program of the US Department of Education, enriches the REECAS Certificate experience through its vast array of event and publication offerings as well as its employment and fellowship opportunities.

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