

Ilia State University
Joint degree Master's Programme - Central and East European, Russian and Eurasian Studies (CEERES)
Programme Curriculum

Faculty/School	<p>Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Ilia State University</p> <p>The programme is supported by the consortium of 8 partner universities (CPU):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The University of Glasgow (UoG), Scotland, United Kingdom • University of Tartu (UTartu), Estonia • Ilia State University (ISU), Georgia • Jagiellonian University (JU), Poland • Corvinus University of Budapest (CUB), Hungary • University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina • KIMEP University (KU), Kazakhstan <p style="text-align: center;"><i>And Key Associate Partner</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, Ukraine <p>Students study at UTartu (semester 1), UoG (semester 2) and at another of the consortium partner universities listed above, depending on the area of their interests of study (in semesters 3 and 4).</p> <p>The present description of the Programme Curriculum refers to the programme which students will follow if they decide to pursue studies at Ilia State University in semesters 3 and 4.</p>
Programme Title	Central and East European, Russian and Eurasian Studies (CEERES)
Academic Degree Acquired	<p>Students shall work towards two awards depending on the combination of studies at the University of Tartu, the University of Glasgow and at one of the consortium partner universities.</p> <p>The graduates will receive the following joint degrees, on condition they choose to pursue their studies in semesters 3 and 4 at Ilia State University:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jointly awarded degree: International Master from the University of Glasgow, Glasgow, Scotland, the UK and from the University of Tartu, Tartu, Estonia; • Master of Caucasus Studies from Ilia State University, Tbilisi, Georgia
Programme Duration/ECTS credits	4 semesters, 120 ECTS
Programme Inception Year and Modification	The programme was created in 2018 and modified in 2021. With a view to further improvement, it can be renewed prior to each academic year.
Language of Instruction	English
Programme Leader (from ISU)	Professor Ghia Nodia
Admissions	

UoG, as the coordinating Institution, manages the admissions processes relating to the Programme on behalf of UTartu and the rest of the consortium partner universities (CPU).

If the citizen of Georgia admitted to the joint master programme intends to pursue his/her studies at Ilia State University, he/she must have passed the Unified Masters Exam; For more information regarding Unified Masters Exam, see www.naec.ge.

Applicants wishing to be admitted to the programme have to submit following documents online:

- A copy (or copies) of official degree certificate(s);
- A copy (or copies) of official academic transcript(s), showing full details of subjects studied and grades/marks obtained; Entry requirements for postgraduate taught programmes are a 2.1 Honours degree or equivalent qualification (for example, GPA 3.0 or above);
- Official English translations of certificate(s) and transcript(s);
- Two supporting reference letters on headed paper;
- Any additional documents required for this programme (see Entry requirements for this programme);
- A copy of the photo page of passport (Non-EU students only)
- A two-page personal statement highlighting:
 - Why you see this programme as a next step in your academic career?
 - Why you want to apply for this programme?
 - How you think this programme will help you in your future career
- One of the following certificates proving the English language proficiency level (applicable to only those applicants whose first language is not English):
 - **IELTS** (International English Language Testing System) academic module test (not General Training): overall score 6.5, sub-test score no less than 6.0
 - **TOEFLibt**: overall score 90, sub-test score no less than: Reading 20, Listening 19, Speaking 19, Writing 23
 - **CAE** (Cambridge Certificate of Advanced English): overall score **176**; sub-test score no less than **169**
 - **CPE** (Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English): overall score 176; sub-test score no less than **169**
 - **PTE Academic** (Person Test of English, Academic test): overall score **60**; sub-test score no less than **59**
 - **Trinity College London Integrated Skills in English**: ISEII at Distinction with Distinction in all sub-tests

Programme Objectives

The core aims of the Central and Eastern European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies curriculum (CEERES) is to provide students with thorough knowledge of historical and contemporary tendencies of developments in the society, politics, economics and culture. To this end, the programme is structured to offer a wide variety of options for advanced study of the region's shared Communist past and the ways in which this has shaped - and continues to shape - the dynamics of post-Communist and post-Cold War transformation.

The curriculum's specific components and its mobility schemes delivered by the University of Glasgow, the University of Tartu and Ilia State University will help students in the achievement of the following aims:

- developing fresh and innovative approaches to the study of the East European and Eurasian region with a special focus on the Caucasus region;
- increasing students' familiarity with a range of relevant disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches derived from the Social Sciences and Humanities;
- providing a knowledge of a regional language (Russian) to a level that is sufficient for conducting research using written sources in that language;
- supervising students' independent research with a focus on the Caucasus region;

- utilising mobility experiences to develop, appreciate the importance of, and articulate intercultural awareness.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the programme, students should:

1. Be able to create new and innovative approaches for studying current issues and problems in the Caucasus region;
2. Know and combine different approaches relevant to the scientific discipline (social sciences and humanities) as well as interdisciplinary, for conducting independent research;
3. Be able to interpret, synthesize and critically evaluate data both from primary and secondary sources (including in the original language);
4. Treats with source criticism research pertaining to the Caucasus region, both those originating from the region as well as those written from outside;
5. Read and use for research purposes sources written in one of the regional languages (Russian);
6. Be able to understand ethical questions pertaining to people-based independent research and find solutions for these questions based on the best academic experiences.
7. Possess skills for independent study, including time management in accordance with the provided deadlines while planning or conducting their research or other tasks.
8. Be able to compose coherent, analytical and linguistically correct written texts, with an appropriate reference system and proper tables, diagrams and figures (where appropriate);
9. Be able to interact efficiently with the audience, present their material with clarity during oral presentations;
10. Be able to use various information and communication technology tools, find options that best support the aims of their work;
11. Use various information technology sources (text-based programmes, databases etc), including informed and critical use of Internet sources;
12. Navigate successfully international working environments, including multinational organizations, and adapt to different cultures.

Programme Structure

CEERES Programme is designed to allow students pursue their studies at three universities. Specifically, students will be expected to spend the first semester at the University of Tartu (UTartu). In semester 2, students will take their master course and identify their preferred study track in the remaining semesters 3 and 4. Students who choose Eurasian Studies path may spend the third and fourth semesters at Ilia State University. The programme structure allows students to balance their work load and accumulate 30 ECTS per semester, thus collecting 120 ECTS by the time of their graduation.

To fulfill the programme requirements students must accumulate 80 ECTS in core study courses, internship and Master's Thesis) and 34 ECTS from the pool of elective courses. Programme components are distributed across semesters in the following way:

Semester 1: University of Tartu

- Core courses – 24 ECTS Introduction to Central and East European, Russian & Eurasian Studies – 12 ECTS
- Social Science Methodology – 6 ECTS
- Russian for Social Scientists (beginner) – 6 ECTS

Elective courses – 6 ECTS

Semester 2: The University of Glasgow

Core courses – 20 ECTS

- Russian for Social Scientists (intermediate) – 10 ECTS
- Rethinking Central Asian Security – 10 ECTS

Elective courses – 10 ECTS

Semester 3: Ilia State University

Core study component – 6 ECTS

- Internship – 6 ECTS (for the detailed information on Internship, see the Internship Guidelines)

Elective courses – 24 ECTS

Semester 4: Ilia State University

Master's Thesis – 30 ECTS / The master's thesis (dissertation) will be supervised by two supervisors: UT, UoG and ISU. For the detailed information on Master's Thesis see the Master's Thesis Guidelines.

Teaching Methods

Lectures, seminars, practical assignments, group work and projects (including research/problem-based projects), presentation, discussion, debates, reflection, experiential learning, enquiry-based learning, supervision.

Specific teaching and learning methods employed in study courses are listed in course syllabi.

Student Evaluation

To determine the compatibility of the existing grading system in partner universities, the following table is used:

ECTS	Percentage / guidelines	UoG	Glasgow	Tartu	Tartu	ISU
		Scale	Descriptor	Scale	Descriptor	Scale
A	98-100% (Strong A)	22 (A1)	Exemplary range and depth of attainment of intended learning outcomes, secured by discriminating command of a comprehensive range of relevant materials and analyses, and by deployment of considered judgment relating to key issues, concepts and procedures. [Fluent commence of theory in the analysis of empirical evidence]	A/5	Excellent - an outstanding and particularly broad-based level of achievement of the learning outcomes characterized by exceptional, free and creative use of the knowledge and skills	(A) 91-100 Excellent
A	94-97% (Average A)	21 (A2)		A/5		(A) 91-100 Excellent
A	91-93% (Weak A)	20 (A3)		A/5		(A) 91-100 Excellent
B	88-90% (Strong B)	19 (A4)		B/4	Very Good - a very high level of achievement of the learning outcomes characterized by proper and creative use of the knowledge and skills. More specific and detailed elements of knowledge and skills may reveal certain errors that are neither substantive nor serious.	(B) 81-90 Very Good
B	84-87% (Average B)	18 (A5)		B/4		(B) 81-90 Very Good
B	81-83% (Weak B)	17 (B1)	B/4	(B) 81-90 Very Good		

C	78-80% (Strong C)	16 (B2)	reveal appreciable depth of understanding. [Shows knowledge of theory as it relates to empirical evidence]	C/3	Good - a high level of achievement of the learning outcomes characterized by proper use of the knowledge and skills. More specific and detailed elements of knowledge and skills may manifest certain uncertainty and imprecision.	(C) 71-80 Good
C	74-77% (Average C)	15 (B3)		C/3		(C) 71-80 Good
C	71-73% (Weak C)	14 (C1)	Clear attainment of most of the intended learning outcomes, some more securely grasped than others, resting on a circumscribed range of evidence and displaying a variable depth of understanding. [Sufficient appreciation of the relation between theory and practice]	C/3	Satisfactory - a sufficient level of achievement of the learning outcomes characterized by the ability to use the knowledge and skills in typical situations; non-typical situations reveal gaps and uncertainty.	(C) 71-80 Good
D	66-70% (Strong D)	13 (C2)		D/2		(D) 61-70 Satisfactory
D	61-65% (Weak D)	12 (C3)		D/2		(D) 61-70 Satisfactory
E	58-60% (Strong E)	11 (D1)	Acceptable attainment of intended learning outcomes, displaying a qualified familiarity with a minimally sufficient range of relevant materials, and a grasp of the analytical issues and concepts which is generally reasonable, albeit insecure. [Weak command of theory as it relates to empirical evidence]	E/1	Poor - a minimally acceptable level of achievement of the learning outcomes characterized by a limited ability to use the knowledge and skills in typical situations; non-typical situations reveal considerable gaps and uncertainty.	(E) 51-60 Sufficient
E	54-57% (Average E)	10 (D2)		E/1		(E) 51-60 Sufficient
E	51-53% (Weak E)	9 (D3)		E/1		(E) 51-60 Sufficient
F X	48-50% (close to pass)	8 (E1)	Attainment deficient in respect of specific intended learning outcomes, with a mixed evidence as to the depth of knowledge and weak deployment of arguments or deficient manipulations. [Insufficient command of theory as it relates to evidence]	F/0 fail	Fail - the knowledge and skills acquired by the student are below the minimum required level.	(FX) 41-50 Unsatisfactory (exam resit)
F X	44-46% (close to pass)	7 (E2)		F/0 fail		(FX) 41-50 Unsatisfactory (exam resit)
F X	41-43% (close to pass)	6 (E3)		F/0 fail		(FX) 41-50 Unsatisfactory (exam resit)
F	38-40% (some effort made but	5 (F1)		F/0 fail		(F) 0-40 Failure

	not sufficient)		appreciably deficient in critical respects, lacking secure basis in relevant factual and analytical dimensions.			(repeat course)
F	34-37% (some effort made but not sufficient)	4 (F2)		F/O fail		(F) 0-40 Failure (repeat course)
F	31-33% (very poor result)	3 (F3)		F/O fail		(F) 0-40 Failure (repeat course)
F	21-30% (very poor result)	2 (G1)	Attainment of intended learning outcomes markedly deficient in respect of nearly all intended learning outcomes, with irrelevant use of materials and incomplete and flawed explanation.	F/O fail		(F) 0-40 Failure (repeat course)
F	11-20% (almost no effort)	1 (G2)		F/O fail		(F) 0-40 Failure (repeat course)
F	0-10% (no effort)	0 (H)	No convincing evidence of attainment of intended learning outcomes, such treatment of the subject as is in evidence being directionless and fragmentary.	F/O fail		(F) 0-40 Failure (repeat course)
		CR	Credit refused - failure to comply, in the absence of good cause, with the published requirements of the course or programme; and/or a serious breach of regulations.			

Employment Opportunities

The graduates can be successfully employed in public as well as commercial organizations that require specialized knowledge of the regions of Central and Eastern Europe, Russia and Eurasia. The graduates can also continue their studies at the doctoral level.

Study Resources

Students have access to the study materials, IT facilities and resources of UT, UoG and ISU:

- The University of Tartu study resources include the university library services - <https://utlib.ut.ee/en/services>, databases - <https://utlib.ut.ee/en/databases%20> and a conference center - <https://utlib.ut.ee/en/conference-centre>
- Glasgow University study resources include electronic platform for synchronous and asynchronous communication, academic advisor, UoG Moodle platform, the Russian and East European library collection, which is widely recognized as the most comprehensive in the United Kingdom - <http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/library/>
- Ilia State University study resources include Scientific Journals Databases

<http://library.iliauni.edu.ge/elegtronuli-sametsniro-bazebi/> , e-learning Moodle platform, Argus system (platform for registration on courses, assessment, communications between students and lecturers etc), computer labs and other library services for students <http://library.iliauni.edu.ge/servisebi/>); students will also be offered internship placements at ISU partner organizations in Tbilisi – “Georgian Foundation for Strategic and International Studies (GFSIS)” and “Caucasus Institute for Peace Democracy and Development (CIPDD)”.

Code	Course Title	ECTS	Contact Hours	Prerequisites	Spring	Autumn	Instructor	Course Status
1.	Introduction to Central and East European, Russian & Eurasian Studies	12	26			x	Heiko Pääbo	core
2.	Social Science Methodology	6	32			x	Stefano Braghiroli, Catherine Helen Gibson	core
3.	Russian for Beginners I	6	64			x	Mihhail Orekhov,	core
4.	E-Governance	6	28			x	Robert Krimmer, Stefan Dedovic	optional
5.	History of the Baltic Sea Region	6	16			x	Heiko Pääbo	optional
6.	Comparative Ethnopolitics	6	32			x	Kristina Kallas, Kristjan Kaldur	optional
7.	Conflict Management and Resolution	6	32			x	Eiki Berg	optional
8.	Foreign Policy Analysis	6	32			x	Andrey Makarychev	optional
9.	International Relations	6	32			x	Viacheslav Morozov	optional
10.	Security Politics	6	32			x	Thomas Michael Linsenmaier	optional
11.	The Essentials of Biopolitics	6	32			x	Andrey Makarychev	optional
12.	The Politics of History and Memory	6	32			x	Heiko Pääbo, Andrii Nekoliak	optional
13.	Russian for Social Scientists (Intermediate)	10	160	3	x		Shamil Khairov	core
14.	Post-Soviet Russia: Renegotiating Global and Local Identities	10	22		x		Federica Prina	optional

15.	Russian Foreign Policy	10	22			x		Ammon Cheskin	optional
16.	Rethinking Central Asian Security	10	22			x		Luca Anceschi	optional
17.	Contested States: The Caucasus since 1991	10	22			x		Huseyn Aliyev	optional
18.	Defacto States in the Post-Soviet Space	10	22			x		Adrian Florea	optional
19.	Media and Democratization in Central & Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union	10	22			x		Helen Hardman	optional
20.	Russia, China and International Politics of Eurasia	10	22			x		Marcin Kaczmarek	optional
21.	Geopolitics of Central and Eastern Europe	10	22			x		Eamonn Butler McIntosh	optional
22.	Russian as a Foreign Language Course (B.1)	6	120	13			x	Natalia Pevnaya	optional
23.	Practical Course of Georgian for Foreigners (A1.1)	6	60				x	Maia Damenia	optional
24.	Remembering the Soviet Past in Georgia: Between Memory and History. An Introduction into Interdisciplinary Memory Studies	6	32	1			x	Oliver Reisner	optional
25.	Forms & Consequences of Europeanisation in the Caucasus: Introduction to the Concept and its Application	6	30	1			x	Oliver Reisner	optional
26.	Foreign Policies of the States of the South Caucasus: Comparative Perspective	6	30				x	David Aprasidze Giorgi Gvalia	optional
27.	Democratization and Political Development in the South Caucasus	6	30	1				Giorgi Nodia	optional
28.	Energy and Economics of Transition in the South Caucasus	6	30	1			x	Dimitri Japaridze	optional
29.	Ethnic Conflicts in Comparative Perspective, Caucasus and Central Asia	6	30	1			x	Nino Pavlenishvili	optional
30.	Political History of the Caucasus	6	30	1			x	Timothy Blauvelt	optional
31.	Research Seminar on Stalin and Stalinism	6	26	1			x	Timothy Blauvelt	optional
32.	Security and Geopolitics of the Caucasus	6	32	1			x	David Darchiashvili	optional

33.	Attitudes to "Others" in Georgia	6	30	1		x	Nino Javakhishvili	optional
34.	Citizenship from Below in Post-Soviet Societies	6	32	1		x	Florian Mühlfried	optional
35.	Introduction to Mountain Cultures of the Caucasus	6	32	1		x	Oliver Reisner	optional
36.	The History of Soviet Georgia	6	30			x		
37.	Russian as a Foreign Language Course (B.1-2)	6	60			x	Natalia Pevnaya	optional
38.	Russian as a Foreign Language Course (A2-2)	6	60			x	Natalia Pevnaya	optional
39.	Internship	6				x	Giorgi Nodia	core
40.	Master's Thesis	30		1,2		x	Professors from UoG, UTartu and ISU	core