

Russian and East European Studies

The Bachelor's degree in Russian and East European Studies (REES) offers concentrators a broad background in the history, economy, government, geography, culture, international relations, languages and literatures of the Former Soviet Union and/or Eastern European countries and nationalities. The degree prepares majors for graduate study as well as for occupational opportunities in areas ranging from government to business to teaching. As participation in global economics and politics by countries of the Former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe continues, REES concentrators are found in numerous and varied professions.

Through interdisciplinary study involving the departments of Anthropology, Economics, History, Political Science, Slavic Languages and Literatures, and Sociology, students may develop a comprehensive program or one with a specialization. The University of Michigan offers a rich and varied array of courses relevant to Russia, the successor states of the Former Soviet Union, and Eastern Europe. This guide describes some of the skills and abilities acquired by concentrators along with representative career paths available to them.

SKILLS & ABILITIES

The interdisciplinary nature of the REES program provides graduates with a broad range of skills and abilities that may be applied in many different occupational settings. In addition to their knowledge about a specific region, REES graduates are proficient in such areas as analytical abilities, an awareness of other cultures, inter-

personal skills, and language ability. The ability to understand the historical development of cultures is extremely useful to graduates working in such different areas as international joint venture law, teaching, or museum practice. The following list presents examples of the skills and abilities developed by REES concentrators.

Research/Project Development	Cross-Cultural Perspective	Analysis	Communication
Integrating different approaches	Sensitivity to problems of ethnicity and nationalism	Reading critically	Advanced language training
Working with original sources	Working with people from other cultures	Comparing translations	Writing clearly
Identifying areas for research	Acknowledging value systems	Perceiving patterns	Reading for content and tone
Planning long-term projects	Understanding historical aspects of present societies	Questioning assumptions	Translating/interpreting
Proposing hypotheses	Applying interdisciplinary knowledge to a region		Presenting information orally
Applying methodologies from many disciplines	Interpreting cultural norms		Synthesizing information

OCCUPATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

The wide range of occupations listed below reflects the numerous career paths chosen by graduates in Russian and East European Studies. With training and skills from several disciplines, REES graduates are prepared to succeed in areas as diverse as international business and public service. The following list was compiled from follow-up

surveys of University of Michigan graduates and from national data. For some of these occupations, such as journalist, related skills or training are desirable. Additional graduate study is generally expected for those occupations marked with a • on the list below.

Government	Business/Industry	Non-Profit Organizations	Education/Research
• State Department area specialist Sister city program coordinator Legislator Foreign Service officer State legislative reference service researcher County ombudsperson • Defense Intelligence Agency researcher National Security Agency translator	Investment analyst • Foreign acquisitions lawyer Insurance salesperson Commercial loan investigator • Political risk consultant Relocation coordinator Marketing services manager Corporate trainer Publishing house acquisitions editor Journalist Foreign correspondent (TV/newspaper) Web designer	• UNESCO lawyer • Professional association director Relief agency volunteer coordinator Newsletter writer • Archivist, ethnic organization archives Foundation international programs officer Development officer Diversity trainer	• Manuscript curator • Professor Teacher • Population policy researcher Study abroad office director Language school operator Folklorist

CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

The interdisciplinary nature of the program is reflected in the curriculum, which includes coursework in economics, political science, history, literature or film; a third year competency in Russian, Czech, Polish, Romanian, Arme-

nian, Hungarian, Ukrainian, or Serbo-Croatian; and one course in either Anthropology, Sociology, or Geography. See the LS&A Bulletin or the department for further information on prerequisites and requirements.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For information about choosing a career, about graduate/professional school, internships, or job descriptions; and for library resources:

The Career Center
3200 Student Activities Building
764-7460
www.careercenter.umich.edu

For information about the concentration and degree requirements:

Center for Russian and East European Studies
1080 S. University Avenue, Suite 4668
764-0351

LS&A Academic Advising Center
1255 Angell Hall
764-0332