RUSSIAN STUDIES

Master’s degree programme of Charles University (Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Social Sciences) supported by Boris Nemtsov Foundation for Freedom
KEY FACTS

- EUROPEAN MASTER’S DEGREE PROGRAMME
  accredited at Charles University

- 2 YEARS duration

- RUSSIAN AND ENGLISH language of instruction

FOCUS

Comprehensive study of Russian politics and society as well as the environment of the post-Soviet world provided by highly qualified scholars with vast experience in the region.
PROGRAMME MISSION

1. Advancing knowledge of Russia and the post-Soviet region
2. Fostering interaction between Russian and international scholars and students
3. Educating new generations of researchers, politicians, and journalists with a critical view of Russian history, politics, and social structure
Russian history, society, and politics after 1991

Understanding of Russian regime evolution and failed democratic transition, economic transformation, patterns of foreign policy, external and internal colonialism, social fragmentation, work of propaganda and independent media

Multidisciplinary approaches for the comparative study of Russia, post-Soviet Central and Eastern Europe, and Eurasia
The programme consists of 7 core courses and a range of elective courses.

**CORE COURSES**
- introduce key areas of study

**ELECTIVE COURSES**
- aim to expand knowledge of Russian politics, society, culture and media

**GUEST LECTURES**
- by policymakers, entrepreneurs, journalists, and intellectuals

List of elective courses to be updated every semester according to the academic needs of students.
CURRICULUM

CORE COURSES

- Evolution of Russia’s political system after 1991
- Research methodology
- Russian society after 1991
- Post-Communist transition
- Russia’s foreign policy in post-Soviet Russia
- Comparative analysis of political regimes in the region
- The role of media in post-Soviet Russia
Students will choose courses from 4 “baskets”

1. Society, Domestic Policy, and Economy of Post-Soviet Russia
2. Russia’s Foreign Policy after the Collapse of the USSR
3. Language and Symbols of Contemporary Russian Politics and Culture, Problems of Identity
4. Journalism and Media Landscape in Modern Russia

*The list of courses will be revised every semester to meet academic needs and interests of students*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CURRICULUM</th>
<th>ELECTIVE COURSES (examples)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Putinism and Authoritarian Revanchism in Russia</td>
<td>Nationalism, Minorities, and Identity Conflicts in Russia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disinformation, Sanctions, Foreign Agents</td>
<td>The Role of Russia in International Organizations (UN, OSCE, Council of Europe)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Religion and Confessions in Modern Russia</td>
<td>Historical Consciousness and Identity in Russia: From The Empire To The Putin Era</td>
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<td>Central Asia in the Post-Soviet Period</td>
<td>Understanding Digital Authoritarianism</td>
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<td>Russia and its Neighbors</td>
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APPLICANTS

We expect our alums to use gained expertise for the benefit and development of their countries and the whole world.

Young Russians motivated to rebuild the country and meaningfully contribute to the creation of robust and sustainable democratic institutions after the fall of the Putin regime.

Citizens of other countries wishing to improve their knowledge of Russia and the region and its role in global political, economic, and social developments.
ADMISSION PROCESS

APPLICATION SUBMISSION

- **BA DIPLOMA or EQUIVALENT**
  required documents
- **MARCH 31 2024 / AUGUST 12 2024**
  application deadline for the 1st and 2nd rounds
- **SUBMIT**
  application form

ADMISSION EXAM

- **ORAL EXAM**
  discussion on Russian history, politics, and society in English and Russian
- **MAY 21, 22, 28 2024**
  exam dates for the 1st round applicants
- **AUGUST 26-30, SEPTEMBER 2-4 2024**
  exam dates for the 2nd round applicants

30 applicants to be admitted

admission process contact
prijimacky@ff.cuni.cz
## Admission Exam

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Scores</th>
<th>Language</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Post-Soviet Russian Politics and Society</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Russian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russian History</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Russian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motivation</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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The passing score is determined by the results of the admission campaign.
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. **Russian language skills** — C1, C2

2. **English language skills** — B2

3. **Knowledge of the post-Soviet Russian history, politics, and social dynamics**
TUITION FEES

In the Czech Republic, academic programmes taught in foreign languages are required by law to charge tuition fees.

140,000 CZK annual tuition fee
≈ 5700 EUR

SCHOLARSHIPS

We want all interested, qualified students to be admitted and not be deterred by the tuition fees.

- up to $1000 USD/month
  - the Nemtsov Foundation will provide 500 and 1000 USD/month stipends for 6 months (can be extended for 6 months extra)
- up to 15 APPLICANTS
  - high scores on the entrance exam
  - can prove financial need

Application form for scholarship
Scholarships and visa support contact email
russianstudies@ff.cuni.cz
COOPERATION WITHIN ERASMUS+

ERASMUS+ framework will allow us to invite guest professors teaching special courses on sociology, transitional justice, public policy & good governance, and media and send our students to European universities for one or two semesters.

Sciences Po and Ruhr-Universität Bochum are our key ERASMUS+ partners with more partnerships in development.
COLLABORATION WITH STANFORD

The Stanford U.S.-Russia Forum (SURF) is a student exchange program that brings together around 25 Russian and American students to work on joint projects.

The program implies project work coached by relevant faculty and annual student-to-student conferences in 2024, 2025, and 2026

SURF program overview
https://cddrl.fsi.stanford.edu/content/surf-program-overview
"In cooperation with the Boris Nemtsov Educational Foundation's MA program, the SURF program will produce collaborative research by students from both countries on core issues of mutual interest to American and Russian participants.

Now more than ever there is an increased need for better mutual understanding and opportunities for person-to-person dialogue on common areas of interest. The SURF program anticipates a time when relations between the US and Russia are eventually more productive and constructive.

We seek, therefore, to build a foundation in the expectation that at some point, we will return to a time when the Russian and American governments and societies can constructively collaborate."

KATHRYN STONER, MOSBACHER DIRECTOR OF CDDRL AT STANFORD
LEADERSHIP

Dr. Eva Lehečková
Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Charles University

Zhanna Nemtsova
Co-Founder, Boris Nemtsov Foundation

Dr. Marek Prihoda
Co-Director, Boris Nemtsov Academic Center for the Study of Russia (Faculty of Arts, Charles University)
Part of our mission is to support qualified scholars-at-risk from the region.

- Russian-speaking scholars at risk
- Czech professors
- Guest lecturers from Europe, the United States, and Israel
KEY FACULTY

Alena Markova, PH.D
- Modern History of Central and Eastern Europe
- Studies of Nationalism and National Identity
- Language Policy
- Post-Soviet Transformation Processes

Maria Kuznetsova, MA
- History of Post-Soviet Russia
- Historical Politics and Memory Research
- Totalitarianism and Post-Totalitarian Society

Sergei Medvedev, PH.D
- Political History of Russia
- Theories of Social and Political Transformation
KEY FACULTY

Marek Prihoda, PH.D
- Russian History

Ekaterina Rycheva, PH.D
- Modern Russian Language and Media Language
- The Language of Advertising and Politics
- The Language of Modern Russian and Soviet Cinema

Dmitry Dubrovsky, PH.D
- Human Rights
- Minority Studies
- Academic Rights and Freedoms in Russia

Ivan Fomin, PH.D
- Methodology and Research Methods of Political Science and Economics
VISITING PROFESSORS

Leading international experts on Russia and the region will teach short-term courses

TIMOTHY FRYE
- PhD in Political Science, Professor at Columbia University, USA
  - Post-Communist Political and Economic Transition
  - Comparative Political Science

OLGA SOLOVYEVA
- Lecturer in International Business and Technology, Regent's University London
  - Understanding Digital Authoritarianism

ANDREJ RICHTER
- PhD, professor at Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia
  - International Standards for Media Regulation
  - Legal Foundations of Internet Journalism
CONTACTS

- Secretariat of the Academic Center, Scholarships and visa support contact email 
  russianstudies@ff.cuni.cz

- Admission process contact 
  prijimacky@ff.cuni.cz

- Boris Nemtsov Foundation

- Boris Nemtsov Academic Center

ZHANNA NEMTSOVA
co-Founder of the Nemtsov Foundation for Freedom, Administrator of the Master’s Programme

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