Master’s in European Studies

East European Studies

uva.nl/ma-east-european-studies
'We like our courses to be spaces of collaborative learning, and to this end we use digital platforms of engagement so that studying becomes a synergic intellectual exercise.'

Eastern Europe remains fascinating and ambiguous, and of utmost importance to Europe as a whole. In this Master’s programme we will address urgent questions, such as: ethnic and religious tensions; frozen conflicts threatening to erupt at any time; democratic revolutions against autocracies; nationalist populists against a pro-European intelligentsia; Russian Cold War rhetoric and military adventures in Ukraine and Syria; troll armies, hackers, and social media countercultures.

The Master’s in East European Studies will enable you to provide a nuanced, in-depth analysis of developments in the region with intensive courses on recent history, contemporary politics, ideology and the media. You will gain a thorough understanding of the history of Eastern European countries (in particular Russia) and insight into recent developments in the region. The programme collaborates with the Dutch institute in St Petersburg and includes a field trip to a capital city of the former Soviet space.
Career prospects

Graduates of East European Studies Master’s programme have acquired an in-depth knowledge of Eastern Europe. Possible employers are:

- European institutions such as the EU, the Council of Europe, OECD and the OSCE;
- National governments (in particular policy departments) such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- The national or European business community, including the services industry.
- Academic institutions.

Spotlight on a course

Russia and the World

The idea of a “New Cold War” has become a popular trope. While the label is misleading, there is no doubt that Moscow’s foreign policy has received more attention from diplomats, politicians, and the media around the world than it has at any time since the collapse of the USSR.

The module Russia and the World introduces the most relevant approaches to studying Russia’s place in the world.
Entry requirements

The Master’s in East European Studies is open to students with a university Bachelor’s diploma in:

• European Studies
• Humanities*
• Social Sciences*

* provided you have demonstrable knowledge of Eastern Europe and/or Russia. This requirement is met with the UvA minor programme East European Studies or with at least 30 ECTS in (East) European history, politics or culture. Please check: uva.nl/ma-east-european-studies>

Application and admission