

Major in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies

Why study Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies?

The University of Kansas Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies (REES) program covers a broad geographic region, home to rich and diverse cultures that have had an enormous impact on today's world. Interdisciplinary study of Russia, Eastern Europe, and Eurasia creates informed citizens with in-depth understanding of this geopolitically and culturally critical world region, which plays a central role in today's political, economic, cultural, and environmental issues.

The KU REES program is collaborative and interdisciplinary in nature, and offers a unique opportunity to study contemporary politics and medieval history, environmental problems and great works of literature and art, as well as multiple other related subjects. It offers opportunities to study abroad in a variety of culturally rich, exciting places. Crucially, it prepares students for a wide range of careers in research, business, government, and the nonprofit sector, with the opportunity to make a profound impact on both national and international levels.

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is no longer admitting students to this degree.

Undergraduate Admission

Admission to KU

All students applying for admission must send high school and college transcripts to the Office of Admissions. Unless they are college transfer students with at least 24 hours of credit, prospective students must send ACT or SAT scores to the Office of Admissions. Prospective first-year students should be aware that KU has qualified admission requirements that all new first-year students must meet to be admitted. Consult the Office of Admissions (<http://admissions.ku.edu/>) for application deadlines and specific admission requirements.

Visit the International Support Services (<http://www.iss.ku.edu/>) for information about international admissions.

Students considering transferring to KU may see how their college-level course work will transfer on the Office of Admissions (<http://credittransfer.ku.edu/>) website.

Admission to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Admission to the College is a different process from admission to a major field. Some CLAS departments have admission requirements. See individual department/program sections for departmental admission requirements.

Requirements for the Major

Bachelor of Arts in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies Course Requirements

Students take intensive REES language and course work to enhance their traditional disciplinary study. The most common REES major combinations are with Global & International Studies, Slavic Languages & Literatures, Political Science, and History.

Code	Title	Hours
Prerequisite Language Skills		
Students selecting this major must complete 4th semester proficiency in a Russian, East European, or Eurasian language. This entails completion of one of the following courses:		
Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian:		
BCRS 208	Intermediate Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian II	3
Czech:		
CZCH 208	Intermediate Czech II	3
Polish:		
PLSH 208	Intermediate Polish II	3
Iranian/Dari/Tajik Persian:		
PERS 210	Intermediate Iranian/Dari/Tajik Persian I	3
Russian:		
RUSS 208	Intermediate Russian II	5
Turkish:		
TURK 208	Intermediate Turkish II	3
Uyghur:		
UYGR 202	Intermediate Uyghur II	3
Ukrainian:		
UKRA 208	Intermediate Ukrainian II	3
Introductory Course		
3		
Satisfied by one of the following:		
REES 110	Understanding Russia and Eastern Europe	3
or REES 111	Understanding Russia and Eastern Europe, Honors	
or REES 310	Understanding Russia and Eastern Europe	
or REES 311	Understanding Russia and Eastern Europe, Honors	
REES 220	Societies and Cultures of Eurasia	3
or REES 221	Societies and Cultures of Eurasia, Honors	
SLAV 140	Understanding Russia	3
or SLAV 141	Understanding Russia, Honors	
HIST 117	Russia, An Introduction	3
REES Area Studies Electives		21
21 hours of interdisciplinary area studies courses focusing on Russia, Eastern Europe, and Eurasia, taken in consultation with the advisor.		
Out of the 21 distribution hours, 12 should be upper-division area studies courses (300 level and higher).		
Research Methods and Capstone Experience		6
Satisfied by one of the following tracks, typically completed in the senior year, culminating in a final capstone paper. Students are encouraged to select a track based on their interests and the availability of courses. Students taking a methods/capstone sequence in another department may petition to substitute that sequence.		
Global and International Studies Track:		

GIST 610 & GIST 698	Interdisciplinary Methods for Global Contexts and Capstone Seminar	6
History Track:		
HIST 301 & HIST 696	The Historian's Craft and Seminar in: _____	6
Literature, Linguistics, and Culture Track:		
Political Science Track:		
POLS 306 & POLS 493	Political Science Methods of Inquiry and Directed Readings	4-6
or		

Majors are strongly encouraged to study abroad. Please see your advisor about this opportunity.

Russian, East European, and Eurasian Major Hours & GPA

While completing all required courses (above), majors must also meet each of the following hour and grade-point average minimum standards:

Major Hours

Satisfied by 30 hours of major courses.

Major Hours in Residence

Satisfied by a minimum of 15 hours of KU resident credit in the major.

Major Junior/Senior (300+) Hours

Satisfied by a minimum of 12 hours from junior/senior courses (300+) in the major.

Major Junior/Senior (300+) Graduation GPA

Satisfied by a minimum of a 2.0 KU GPA in junior/senior courses (300+) in the major. GPA calculations include all junior/senior courses in the field of study including F's and repeated courses. See the Semester/Cumulative GPA Calculator (<http://clas.ku.edu/undergrad/tools/gpa/>).

Below is a sample 4-year plan for students pursuing the major in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies (REES). The REES major requires 4th-semester language proficiency in a REES language, plus one additional semester of an advanced language course (i.e. 5th semester language course).

To view the list of courses approved to fulfill KU Core Goals, please visit the KU Core website (<http://kucore.ku.edu/courses/>).

Freshman

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
ENGL 101 (Goal 2.1, (2 crs req), BA Writing I) ¹	3	ENGL 102 (Goal 2.1 (2 crs req), BA Writing II)	3
MATH 101	3	Quantitative Reasoning (Goal 1.2, BA Quantitative Reasoning) ³	3
1st Semester Language (BA Second Language) ²	5	2nd Semester Language (BA Second Language) ²	5
REES 110 or 111 (Major Requirement), or	3	Goal 2.2 Communication	3
REES 220 or 221	3	Elective or possible minor course (Total Hours)	3
LA&S 292 (Research Methods (recommended))	1		
	15		17

Sophomore

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
3rd Semester Language (BA Second Language) ²	3	4th Semester Language (BA Second Language) ²	3
Goal 3 Social Science	3	Goal 3 Natural Science	3
Goal 4.1 US Diversity	3	Lab Science (BA Lab Requirement)	1-2
REES Distribution Elective (Major Requirement) ⁴	3	REES Distribution Elective (Major Requirement) ⁴	3
Elective or possible minor course (Total Hours)	3	Elective or possible minor course (Total Hours)	3
	15		13-14

Junior

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Goal 4.2 Global Awareness	3	Goal 5 Social Responsibility & Ethics	3
REES Advanced Level Language (5th semester, Major Requirement)	3-5	Slavic Languages and Literatures 500+ (Major Requirement) ⁵	3
REES Distribution Elective (Major Requirement) ⁴	3	REES Distribution Elective (Major Requirement) ⁴	3
Elective or possible minor course (Total Hours)	3	Elective or possible minor course (Total Hours)	3
Elective or possible minor course (Total Hours)	3	Elective or possible minor course 300+ (Total Hours)	3
	15-17		15

Senior

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
REES 492 (Goal 6 Integration & Creativity, Major Requirement)	3	REES 496 (Major Requirement)	3
REES Distribution Elective (Major Requirement) ⁴	3	REES Distribution Elective (Major Requirement) ⁴	3
REES Distribution Elective (Major Requirement) ⁴	3	Elective or possible minor course 300+ (Total Hours)	3
Elective or possible minor course 300+ (Total Hours)	3	Elective or possible minor course 300+ (Total Hours)	3
Elective or possible minor course 300+ (Total Hours)	3	Elective or possible minor course 300+ (Total Hours)	3
Elective or possible minor course 300+ (Total Hours)	3		
	15		15

Total Hours 120-123

- ¹ The BA requires completion of two courses of collegiate-level writing instruction. Students who test out of Composition will still need to complete ENGL 102 (or equivalent) and one additional Goal 2.1 course.
- ² The BA degree requires 4th-semester language proficiency. The REES major requires 4th-semester language proficiency specially in a Russian, Eastern European, or Eurasian language.
- ³ Visit this website (<https://collegeadvising.ku.edu/ba-quantitative-reasoning-courses/>) for a list of courses that fulfill the BA Quantitative Reasoning requirement.

- ⁴ The REES major requires 18.0 hours of elective course work from each of the following geographic distribution categories: Russia & Eastern Europe, South & Central Europe, and Europe & Central Eurasia; and each of the following disciplinary distribution areas: Arts, Culture, & Religion, History, and Social Sciences. There is not a specific order these must be taken, but it is recommended to take Jr/Sr level courses when possible.
- ⁵ A list of courses that fulfills this requirement can be found under the degree requirements tab.

Please note:

All students in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences are required to complete 120 total hours, of which 45 hours must be at the Jr/Sr (300+) level.

The same course cannot be used to fulfill more than one KU Core Goal. However, overlap of a KU Core course with a major or degree-specific requirement is allowed. Overlapping is recommended to allow more opportunities to explore other majors and/or minors.

Honors

Departmental Honors

Honors in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies is open to REES majors who have earned, both at the time of entry into the program and at graduation, a grade-point average of 3.5 or higher in courses that satisfy requirements for the REES major.

Students must complete REES 492 Research Methods in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies and REES 499 (Honors) Capstone Seminar in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies with a grade of B or better. The research paper produced in REES 499 must demonstrate the student's proficiency in at least one of the REES languages through the use of foreign language sources. The paper is evaluated by an honors committee of at least three REES faculty members who have read and commented on the research paper and heard its oral defense. The committee is constituted by the student in consultation with either the director or associate director of CREES.

Study Abroad

Though not required, study abroad is strongly encouraged. Courses taken abroad may count toward the major if approved by the REES advisor.

Consult the Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies (<http://www.crees.ku.edu/>) or the Office of Study Abroad (<http://www.studyabroad.ku.edu/>) for information about programs.