Concentration in Eurasian Studies (IAS)

The Major in International and Area Studies — Concentration in Eurasian Studies: New Silk Roads

This track focuses on the social, cultural and economic interconnections among the peoples of Eurasia. We define Eurasia as the vast landmass stretching east/west from China to Europe and north/south from Siberia into the Caucasus, the Crimean Peninsula, Central Asia and the Himalayas. Ancient trade routes that crisscrossed the interior spaces of Europe and Asia, known collectively as the Silk Road, served as a globalizing thoroughfare for the movement of peoples, cultural practices, religious values and commodities. Recent infrastructural improvements in these areas, as well as international economic, environmental and political concerns, have once again opened up transnational economic networks and cross-cultural exchange along these "new silk roads." For this concentration, students draw from a variety of disciplines to study not only specific geographical regions but also vital intersections and interrelationships among regions and peoples.

This concentration requires 36 units of course work:

- 6 units of introductory course work (100-200 level)
- 30 units of advanced course work from a minimum of three academic disciplines (at least two must be at the 400 level), and dealing with three different regions (Eastern, Western and Central Eurasia) or with a transregional focus.

Additional requirements and regulations:

- Completion of all IAS course work with a grade of C+ or higher.
- Students must satisfy the standard IAS foreign language requirement (the successful completion of four semesters of one language appropriate to their concentration) with Arabic, Chinese, Hebrew, Hindi, Russian or another Eurasian language as decided in consultation with their IAS adviser.
- One semester of language must be completed before declaring the major.
- We strongly encourage students to study abroad. Russian Language and Literature study abroad programs are an especially good fit for this concentration, though other programs may also apply. For those students who do not study abroad, an additional 3-unit course at the 300 or 400 level is required.
- Throughout the course of completing the Eurasian studies major, students must take course work dealing with three different regions (Eastern, Western and Central Eurasia) or with a transregional focus.
- No more than 3 credits may be from directed readings, research or independent study excluding the honors thesis.
- The advanced credits must be unique to the IAS major.
- All prime IAS majors must complete a capstone experience.

N.B.: A single course may satisfy more than one of these distribution requirements (disciplinary or regional). Some of these requirements may be completed while abroad.

Strongly recommended courses (3 units each):

- Anthro 3775 Ancient Eurasia and the New Silk Roads 3
- IAS 374 Russian Literature and Empire 3

Introductory courses (choose one to two from this list; 3 to 6 units):

- Comp Lit 215C Introduction to Comparative Practice I 3
- History 1500 Silver, Slaves and the State: Globalization in the 18th Century 3
- IAS 125 Migration and the Migrant Experience 3
- IAS 127 Migration in the Global World: Stories 3
- IAS 129 Perspectives on Migration: History, Memory and the Making of Modern Europe 3
- IAS 140 East Asia in the World 3
- IAS 160 World Politics and the Global Economy 3
- JINE 208F History, Text and Identity: Introduction to Jewish Civilization 3
- JINE 210C Introduction to Islamic Civilization 3
- Russ 215C Introduction to Russian Civilization 3

If a student chooses only one from above, the other course may be chosen from this list (3 units):

- Chinese 227C Chinese Civilization 3
- History 2157 Freshman Seminar: The Meaning of Pakistan: History, Culture, Art 3
- IAS 125 Migration and the Migrant Experience 3
- IAS 127 Migration in the Global World: Stories 3
- IAS 129 Perspectives on Migration: History, Memory and the Making of Modern Europe 3
- IAS 135 Freshman Seminar — Chinatown: Migration, Identity and Space 3
- IAS 140 East Asia in the World 3
- IAS 155 Freshman Seminar: Mapping the World: Introduction to Human Geography 3
- IAS 160 World Politics and the Global Economy 3
- IAS 216 Introduction to South Asian Civilization 3
- IAS 223 Korean Civilization 3

Advanced courses (Choose 10 courses from the current internationally focused course offerings in the following areas of
study. All courses must be approved by the student's IAS adviser in order to count for the major.):

- **Anthropology**
  - Anthro 3051 Anthropology of Tibet and the Himalayas 3
  - Anthro 3053 Nomadic Strategies and Extreme Ecologies 3
  - Anthro 3122 From Country to Heavy Metal: Ancient Civilizations of the Old World 3
  - Anthro 3617 Past and Present Cultural Environments 3
  - Anthro 374 Social Landscapes in Global View 3
  - Anthro 376 Warriors, Merchants, Monks and Courtesans: Ancient Narratives of Globalization in Google Earth
  - Anthro 3775 Ancient Eurasia and the New Silk Roads 3
  - Anthro 4041 Islam and Politics 3
  - Anthro 4455 Ethnographic Fieldwork 3
  - Anthro 448 Contemporary Issues in Cultural Anthropology
  - Anthro 4761 The Pleistocene Peopling of Eurasia 3
  - Anthro 4803 Advanced GIS Modeling and Landscape Analysis

- **Arabic**
  - Arab 352 Iraqi Literature 3

- **Art History**
  - Art-Arch 3415 Early Chinese Art: From Human Sacrifice to the Silk Road 3
  - Art-Arch 4924 1968 and its Legacy 3

- **Chinese**
  - Chinese 341 Early and Imperial Chinese Literature 3
  - Chinese 342 Modern and Contemporary Chinese Literature 3

- **Classics**
  - Classics 346C Greek History: The Age of Alexander 3

- **Comparative Literature**
  - Comp Lit 394 Worldwide Translation: Language, Culture, Technology 3

- **Environmental Studies**
  - EnSt 380 Applications in GIS 3

- **Film and Media Studies**
  - Film 475 Screening the Holocaust 3
  - Film 485 Visualizing Orientalism: Art, Cinema and the Imaginary East 1850–2000

- **History**
  - History 301T Historical Methods — Transregional History 3
  - History 3073 The Global War on Terrorism 3
  - History 314C Islamic History: 1200–1800 3
  - History 3350 Out of the Shtetl: Jewish Life in Central and Eastern Europe in the 19th and 20th Centuries 3
  - History 3559 Socialist and Secular? A Social History of the Soviet Union 3
  - History 356C 20th-century Russian History 3
  - History 3598 The First World War and the Making of Modern Europe 3
  - History 3680 The Cold War, 1945–1991 3
  - History 3681 The U.S. War in Iraq, 2003–2011 3
  - History 38R8 The Russian Revolution: Writing-Intensive Seminar 3
  - History 39SC Imperialism and Sexuality: India, South Asia and the World: Writing-Intensive Seminar
  - History 4154 Postcolonial South Asia: Nations, Cultures and Identities in Transnational Perspective
  - History 4274 Palestine, Israel and the Arab-Israeli Conflict 3
  - History 449C Imperial Russia 3
  - History 49SC Advanced Seminar: Incredible India? 3

- **International and Area Studies**
  - IAS 3040 International Law and Politics 3
  - IAS 3248 Intercultural Communication 3
  - IAS 3266 "East" and "West" in Jewish Imagination and Politics 3
  - IAS 364 Anarchism: History, Theory and Praxis 3
  - IAS 374 Russian Literature and Empire 3
  - IAS 3750 Topics in Russian Lit and Culture: Madmen or Visionaries? (WI) 3
  - IAS 376 International Economics 3
  - IAS 379 Russians Abroad: Literature, Migration, Identity 3
  - IAS 396 Comintern: The Communist International's Global Impact 3
  - IAS 420 Islam, Immigrants and the Future of European Culture 3
  - IAS 4622 Labor and Labor Movements in Global History 3
  - IAS 4869 Reading War and Peace 3
  - IAS 488 Europe on the Move: Mobility in the 19th Century 3

- **Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Languages and Cultures**
  - JINE 361 City of Peace: Baghdad in Medieval Times (ca. 762–1250) 3
  - JINE 3622 Topics in Islam 3
JINE 370C Islamic Movements: Reform, Revival, Revolt 3
JINE 442 Empire and Memory: Approaches to Islamic Historiography (ca. 800–1250) 3
JINE 445 Topics in Islam 3
JINE 4970 Empire and Messianism in the Middle East 3

• Music
  Music 315 Selected Areas for Special Study I 3

• Political Science
  Pol Sci 393 History of Political Thought III: Liberty, Democracy and Revolution 3

• Psychology
  Psych 413 Contemporary Topics in Social Psychology 3

• Religious Studies
  Re St 311 Buddhist Traditions 3

• Russian Language and Literature
  Russ 350C The 19th-century Russian Novel (WI) 3

Additional Information

Language Requirement for the Major in Eurasian Studies/International and Area Studies: All IAS majors must satisfy a foreign language requirement that entails the successful completion of four semesters of a language appropriate to their concentration while at Washington University. For some students, this may mean the first four semesters of a language; for others who place into advanced language classes, and with approval from IAS language faculty, this may include literature, culture, oral communication and linguistic courses in the target language, once they complete the basic language sequence. Advanced courses in literature, social sciences and culture used to satisfy this requirement may be counted as advanced credit for IAS majors as long as they are cross-listed with IAS or approved for IAS study abroad credit and are not applied toward a language major or minor. A maximum of two of these classes may be completed while abroad on a Washington University approved program in the target language (may be within the same semester abroad). Native speakers of a foreign language must satisfy the four-semester requirement in another language appropriate to their concentration. Heritage speakers must seek appropriate placement by the coordinator of the language program and complete the four-semester requirement.

Study Abroad: Majors are strongly encouraged to study abroad in one of Washington University's Overseas Programs during junior year or the summer. Some credit for courses taken abroad may be applied to the major. For those who do not study abroad, an additional 3-credit course at the 300 or 400 level is required.

Senior Honors: Students must confidently expect to graduate with an overall GPA of 3.65 or higher in order to qualify for Senior Honors. Students should enroll in IAS 485 Preparation for IAS Honors Thesis in the fall of senior year, and in IAS 486 IAS Senior Honors Thesis in the spring of senior year (under the corresponding section number of the faculty member overseeing their thesis) in order to be properly tracked by the IAS capstone coordinator.

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