

RUSSIAN AND EURASIAN STUDIES, BA

Banner Code: LA-BA-REST

Website: russianstudies.gmu.edu/programs/LA-BA-REST

Russian and Eurasian studies majors study the Russian language, spoken worldwide by some 250 million people, while also acquiring a foundational knowledge of the history, culture, literature, politics, sociology, economics, and geography of the region. This degree program is flexible, enabling students to focus their interests in one of three concentrations: Russia studies, Russian language and culture, and Eurasia studies. Russian and Eurasian studies prepares students for a wide range of career options in the private sector, government, and education. All students have opportunities for research, global-engagement, public service, and career preparation.

Admissions & Policies

Policies

Students pursuing this degree must complete 33 credits in one of the concentrations available with a minimum GPA of 2.00.

For policies governing all undergraduate degrees, see AP.5 Undergraduate Policies.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Total credits: minimum 120

Students should be aware of the specific policies associated with this program, located on the Admissions & Policies tab.

Students pursuing this degree complete the requirements for one of the available concentrations.

Concentrations in the Major

Concentration in Eurasia Studies (EURS)

The Eurasia studies concentration is designed to provide students with interdisciplinary training in the study of Eurasia, with special focus on Central Asia and secondarily on Russia/the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. Students will develop a high degree of competence in the history, politics, and culture of Eurasia and a basic competence in a relevant language.

Russian or Other Eurasian-Related Language

| | |
|--|----------|
| Select two courses of Russian or other Eurasian-related language | 6 |
| Total Credits | 6 |

Courses used to meet this requirement may be in the same language that is used to meet the college language requirement, in which case the student needs to complete 6 credits beyond intermediate proficiency (beyond courses numbered 210 at Mason). With the approval of the director, courses used to meet this requirement may be in a Eurasian-related language that was not used to meet the college language requirement at a level approved by the director.

Social Science Courses at the 300- and 400-Level

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|---|----------|
| Select two social science courses at the 300- and 400-level | 6 |
| Total Credits | 6 |

Courses used to fulfill this requirement must focus primarily on Central Asia and Eurasia and may be in any social science discipline (ANTH, ECON, GGS, GOVT, SOCI).

History Courses at the 300- and 400-Level

| | |
|--|----------|
| Select two history courses at the 300- and 400-level | 6 |
| Total Credits | 6 |

Courses used to fulfill this requirement must focus primarily on Central Asia and Eurasia.

Literature or Film Courses at the 300- and 400-Level

| | |
|---|----------|
| Select two literature or film courses at the 300- and 400-level | 6 |
| Total Credits | 6 |

Courses used to fulfill this requirement must be related to Eurasia.

Courses at the 300- and 400-Level

Students choose from courses that focus predominantly on Eurasia. The courses used to meet this requirement may be in any field of study including special topics courses and other courses that deal primarily with the geographic areas covered in the Russian and Eurasian studies major. To use a special topics course or other course with variable content to meet this requirement, students should seek the advanced written approval of the director. (Special topics courses may be repeated for credit when the topic is different.) The following courses when the topic is relevant, among others, may be used to meet this requirement.

Select three courses at the 300- and 400-level from the following: 9

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| ARTH 386 | The Silk Road (Mason Core) |
| HIST 328 | Rise of Russia (Mason Core) |
| HIST 329 | Modern Russia and the Soviet Union (Mason Core) |
| HIST 387 | Topics in Global History (Mason Core) |
| HIST 388 | Topics in European History |
| HIST 460 | Modern Iran (Mason Core) |
| HIST 462 | Women in Islamic Society (Mason Core) |
| HIST 499 | RS: Senior Seminar in History (Mason Core) |
| GOVT 338 | Government and Politics of Russia |
| GOVT 340 | Central Asian Politics |
| GOVT 345 | Islam and Politics |
| GOVT 444 | Issues in International Studies |
| GOVT 447 | Revolution and International Politics |
| RUSS 470 | Topics in (Post) Soviet Film |
| GGG 330 | Geography of the Soviet Succession States |
| ECON 380 | Economies in Transition (Mason Core) |
| Any 300- or 400-level CONF course | |

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| Total Credits | 9 |
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Concentration in Russia Studies (RUSS)

The Russia studies concentration is designed to provide students with in-depth interdisciplinary training in Russia and the Soviet Union. Students will develop a high degree of competence in Russian history, politics, society, and culture as well as a basic competence in the Russian language and the broader Eurasian context.

Required Language Courses

Other relevant advanced language courses may be used to fulfill this requirement with the prior written approval of the director. Majors are encouraged to take additional advanced Russian language courses.

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------|---|
| RUSS 250 | Gateway to Advanced Russian | 3 |
| RUSS 380 | Advanced Russian I | 3 |
| Total Credits | | 6 |

Russian or Soviet History

When the topic is relevant, HIST 300 Introduction to Historical Method (Mason Core), HIST 388 Topics in European History, or HIST 499 RS: Senior Seminar in History (Mason Core) may be used to fulfill this requirement with the prior written approval of the director.

| | | |
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| Select two courses from the following: | | 6 |
| HIST 326 | Stalinism | |
| HIST 327 | The Soviet Union and Russia Since World War II | |
| HIST 328 | Rise of Russia (Mason Core) | |
| HIST 329 | Modern Russia and the Soviet Union (Mason Core) | |
| HIST 426 | The Russian Revolution | |
| Total Credits | | 6 |

Social Sciences Dealing Primarily with Russia

Any topically appropriate courses in any social science discipline (ANTH, ECON, GGS, GOVT, SOCI) may be used to fulfill this requirement with the prior written approval of the director.

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Select two courses from the following: | | 6 |
| GOVT 338 | Government and Politics of Russia | |
| GGS 330 | Geography of the Soviet Succession States | |
| ECON 380 | Economies in Transition (Mason Core) | |
| Total Credits | | 6 |

Russian Literature or Culture

Other relevant courses may be used to fulfill this requirement with the prior written approval of the director.

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Select two courses from the following: | | 6 |
| RUSS 310 | Readings in Russian Literature | |
| RUSS 311 | Contemporary Russian Short Fiction | |
| RUSS 325 | Major Russian Writers (Mason Core) | |
| RUSS 326 | A Survey of Russian Literature (Mason Core) | |
| RUSS 327 | A Survey of Russian Literature (Mason Core) | |
| RUSS 353 | Russian Civilization (Mason Core) | |

| | | |
|---------------|--|---|
| RUSS 354 | Contemporary Post-Soviet Life (Mason Core) | |
| Total Credits | | 6 |

Courses at the 300 and 400 Level

Students choose from courses that focus predominantly on Eastern Europe, Russia, or Central Asia. Courses used to meet this requirement may be in any field of study including special topics courses and other courses that deal primarily with the geographic areas covered in the Russian and Eurasian studies major. To use a special topics course or other course with variable content to meet this requirement, students should seek the advanced written approval of the director. (Special topics courses may be repeated for credit when the topic is different.) Examples of courses that may meet this requirement:

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Select three courses from the following: | | 9 |
| RUSS 302 | Russian Conversation and Composition | |
| RUSS 303 | Russian Advanced Conversation | |
| RUSS 310 | Readings in Russian Literature | |
| RUSS 311 | Contemporary Russian Short Fiction | |
| RUSS 325 | Major Russian Writers (Mason Core) | |
| RUSS 326 | A Survey of Russian Literature (Mason Core) | |
| RUSS 327 | A Survey of Russian Literature (Mason Core) | |
| RUSS 353 | Russian Civilization (Mason Core) | |
| RUSS 354 | Contemporary Post-Soviet Life (Mason Core) | |
| RUSS 381 | Advanced Russian II | |
| RUSS 401 | Readings in the Social Sciences | |
| RUSS 407 | Russian Drama and Theater | |
| RUSS 410 | Russian Poetry | |
| RUSS 470 | Topics in (Post) Soviet Film | |
| RUSS 480 | Fourth-Year Russian | |
| RUSS 481 | Fourth-Year Russian | |
| HIST 300 | Introduction to Historical Method (Mason Core) | |
| HIST 312 | Nationalism in Eastern Europe | |
| HIST 328 | Rise of Russia (Mason Core) | |
| HIST 329 | Modern Russia and the Soviet Union (Mason Core) | |
| HIST 387 | Topics in Global History (Mason Core) | |
| HIST 388 | Topics in European History | |
| HIST 426 | The Russian Revolution | |
| HIST 499 | RS: Senior Seminar in History (Mason Core) | |
| THR 352 | Dramatic Literature Seminar | |
| ECON 380 | Economies in Transition (Mason Core) | |
| GGS 330 | Geography of the Soviet Succession States | |
| GOVT 338 | Government and Politics of Russia | |
| GOVT 340 | Central Asian Politics | |
| GOVT 444 | Issues in International Studies | |
| GOVT 447 | Revolution and International Politics | |
| Total Credits | | 9 |

Concentration in Russian Language and Culture (RULC)

Students in the Russian language and culture concentration develop a high degree of competence in Russian language and culture and a basic familiarity with Russian and Eurasian history and politics.

Required Courses in Advanced Russian

| | | |
|---------------|---------------------|---|
| RUSS 380 | Advanced Russian I | 3 |
| RUSS 381 | Advanced Russian II | 3 |
| RUSS 480 | Fourth-Year Russian | 3 |
| or RUSS 481 | Fourth-Year Russian | |
| Total Credits | | 9 |

Russian Culture or History

| | | |
|---------------|---|---|
| RUSS 353 | Russian Civilization (Mason Core) | 3 |
| or HIST 328 | Rise of Russia (Mason Core) | |
| RUSS 354 | Contemporary Post-Soviet Life (Mason Core) | 3 |
| or HIST 329 | Modern Russia and the Soviet Union (Mason Core) | |
| Total Credits | | 6 |

Russian Literature or Cinema in Translation

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Select two courses from the following: | | 6 |
| RUSS 325 | Major Russian Writers (Mason Core) | |
| RUSS 326 | A Survey of Russian Literature (Mason Core) | |
| RUSS 327 | A Survey of Russian Literature (Mason Core) | |
| RUSS 470 | Topics in (Post) Soviet Film | |
| Total Credits | | 6 |

Courses Taught in Russian

| | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| Select three courses from the following: | | 9 |
| RUSS 302 | Russian Conversation and Composition | |
| RUSS 303 | Russian Advanced Conversation | |
| RUSS 310 | Readings in Russian Literature | |
| RUSS 311 | Contemporary Russian Short Fiction | |
| RUSS 401 | Readings in the Social Sciences | |
| RUSS 410 | Russian Poetry | |
| RUSS 481 | Fourth-Year Russian | |
| Total Credits | | 9 |

Social Sciences

Students choose from courses dealing with Russia. Any other topically appropriate course in a social science discipline (ANTH, ECON, GGS, GOVT, SOCI) may be used to fulfill this requirement with the prior written approval of the director.

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Select one course from the following: | | 3 |
| GOVT 338 | Government and Politics of Russia | |
| ECON 380 | Economies in Transition (Mason Core) | |
| GGG 330 | Geography of the Soviet Succession States | |
| Total Credits | | 3 |

Writing-Intensive Requirement

The university requires all students to complete at least one course designated "writing intensive" in their majors at the 300 level or above. Students majoring in Russian and Eurasian studies may fulfill this

requirement by successfully completing RUSS 302 Russian Conversation and Composition, RUSS 325 Major Russian Writers (Mason Core), or RUSS 407 Russian Drama and Theater.

Upper Level Requirement

Students seeking a bachelor's degree must apply at least 45 credits of upper-level courses (numbered 300 or above) toward graduation requirements.

College Level Requirements for the BA Degree

In addition to the Mason Core program, students pursuing a BA degree must complete the coursework below. Except where expressly prohibited, a course used to fulfill a college level requirement may also be used simultaneously to satisfy other requirements (Mason Core requirements or requirements for the major).

Philosophy or Religious Studies

| Code | Title | Credits |
|--------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Select 3 credits from the following: | | |
| PHIL ¹ | | 3 |
| RELI | | |

¹ Note that the following courses may not be used to fulfill this requirement:

- PHIL 323 Classical Western Political Theory
- PHIL 324 Modern Western Political Theory
- PHIL 327 Contemporary Western Political Theory
- PHIL 393 Humanities College to Career
- PHIL 460 Senior Seminar in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Additionally, PHIL 253 Philosophy and Literature (Mason Core) and RELI 235 Religion and Literature (Mason Core) cannot be used to fulfill both the philosophy/religious studies requirement and the Mason Core literature requirement.

Social and Behavioral Sciences

| Code | Title | Credits |
|--|-------|---------|
| Select 3 credits of social and behavioral sciences from the following (additional to the Mason Core social and behavioral sciences requirement) ¹ | | |

| | | |
|-------------------|--|--|
| ANTH | | |
| CRIM | | |
| ECON | | |
| GOVT | | |
| HIST ² | | |
| LING | | |
| PSYC | | |
| SOCI | | |

Or choose from the following GGS courses:

| | | |
|---------|---|--|
| GGG 101 | Major World Regions (Mason Core) | |
| GGG 103 | Human Geography (Mason Core) | |
| GGG 110 | Introduction to Geoinformation Technologies | |
| GGG 301 | Political Geography | |
| GGG 303 | Geography of Resource Conservation (Mason Core) | |
| GGG 304 | Population Geography (Mason Core) | |
| GGG 305 | Economic Geography | |
| GGG 306 | Urban Geography | |

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| GGG 315 | Geography of the United States |
| GGG 316 | Geography of Latin America |
| GGG 320 | Geography of Europe |
| GGG 325 | Geography of North Africa and the Middle East |
| GGG 330 | Geography of the Soviet Succession States |
| GGG 357 | Structures in Urban Governance and Planning |
| GGG 380 | Geography of Virginia |

¹ The two courses used to fulfill the combined college and Mason Core requirements must be from different disciplines in the social and behavioral sciences.

² HIST 100 History of Western Civilization (Mason Core) and HIST 125 Introduction to World History (Mason Core) may not be used to fulfill this requirement.

Foreign Language

Code **Title** **Credits**
Intermediate-level proficiency in one foreign language, fulfilled by:¹

Completing a course in a foreign language numbered 202, 209, or 210 (or higher level courses taught in the language)

Or achieving a satisfactory score on an approved proficiency test

Or completing the following ASL three course sequence:

EDSE 115 American Sign Language (ASL) I

EDSE 116 American Sign Language (ASL) II

EDSE 219 American Sign Language (ASL) III

¹ Students who are already proficient in a second language may be eligible for a waiver of this requirement. Additional information on waivers can be found at the Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs (<http://chssundergrad.gmu.edu>).

Non-Western Culture

Select 3 credits of an approved course in the study of a non-Western culture (additional to the Mason Core requirement in global understanding)

| Code | Title | Credits |
|---|--|----------------|
| Select 3 credits (additional to Mason Core Global Understanding requirement) ¹ | | |
| ANTH 114 | Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (Mason Core) | 3 |
| ANTH 300 | Civilizations | 3 |
| ANTH 301 | Native North Americans | 3 |
| ANTH 302 | Peoples and Cultures of Latin America (Mason Core) | 3 |
| ANTH 303 | Peoples and Cultures of the Andes | 3 |
| ANTH 306 | Peoples and Cultures of Island Asia (Mason Core) | 3 |
| ANTH 307 | Ancient Mesoamerica (Mason Core) | 3 |
| ANTH 308 | Peoples and Cultures of the Middle East (Mason Core) | 3 |
| ANTH 309 | Peoples and Cultures of India (Mason Core) | 3 |

| | | |
|----------|---|---|
| ANTH 313 | Myth, Magic, and Mind (Mason Core) | 3 |
| ANTH 314 | Zombies | 3 |
| ANTH 316 | Peoples and Cultures of the Caribbean (Mason Core) | 3 |
| ANTH 323 | Digging and Dealing in the Dead: Ethics in Archaeology | 3 |
| ANTH 330 | Peoples and Cultures of Selected Regions: Non-Western | 3 |
| ANTH 332 | Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Globalization (Mason Core) | 3 |
| ANTH 381 | Medical Anthropology | 3 |
| ANTH 383 | Cities of the Global South | 3 |
| ANTH 396 | Issues in Anthropology: Social Sciences (Mason Core) | 3 |
| ARAB 360 | Topics in Arabic Cultural Production | 3 |
| ARAB 420 | Survey of Arabic Literature | 3 |
| ARAB 440 | Topics in Arabic Religious Thought and Texts (Mason Core) | 3 |
| ARTH 203 | Survey of Asian Art (Mason Core) | 3 |
| ARTH 204 | Survey of Latin American Art (Mason Core) | 3 |
| ARTH 206 | Survey of African Art (Mason Core) | 3 |
| ARTH 318 | Art and Archaeology of Ancient Egypt | 3 |
| ARTH 319 | Art and Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (Mason Core) | 3 |
| ARTH 320 | Art of the Islamic World (Mason Core) | 3 |
| ARTH 382 | Arts of India (Mason Core) | 3 |
| ARTH 383 | Arts of Southeast Asia (Mason Core) | 3 |
| ARTH 384 | Arts of China (Mason Core) | 3 |
| ARTH 385 | Arts of Japan (Mason Core) | 3 |
| ARTH 386 | The Silk Road (Mason Core) | 3 |
| ARTH 482 | RS: Advanced Studies in Asian Art | 3 |
| CHIN 318 | Introduction to Classical Chinese (Mason Core) | 3 |
| CHIN 320 | Contemporary Chinese Film | 3 |
| CHIN 325 | Major Chinese Writers (Mason Core) | 3 |
| DANC 118 | World Dance (Mason Core) | 3 |
| ECON 361 | Economic Development of Latin America (Mason Core) | 3 |
| ECON 362 | African Economic Development (Mason Core) | 3 |
| FREN 451 | Topics in Sub-Saharan Francophone Literature and Culture | 3 |
| FREN 454 | Topics in Caribbean Francophone Literature and Culture | 3 |
| GGG 101 | Major World Regions (Mason Core) | 3 |
| GGG 316 | Geography of Latin America | 3 |
| GGG 325 | Geography of North Africa and the Middle East | 3 |
| GGG 330 | Geography of the Soviet Succession States | 3 |
| GGG 399 | Select Topics in GGS | 3 |
| GOVT 328 | Non-Western Political Theory | 3 |
| GOVT 332 | Government and Politics of the Middle East and North Africa | 3 |

| | | |
|----------|---|-----|
| GOVT 333 | Government and Politics of Asia | 3 |
| GOVT 340 | Central Asian Politics | 3 |
| GOVT 341 | Chinese Foreign Policy | 3 |
| GOVT 345 | Islam and Politics | 3 |
| GOVT 432 | Political Change and Social Development in Sub-Saharan Africa | 3 |
| GOVT 433 | Political Economy of East Asia | 3 |
| HIST 251 | Survey of East Asian History (Mason Core) | 3 |
| HIST 252 | Survey of East Asian History (Mason Core) | 3 |
| HIST 261 | Survey of African History (Mason Core) | 3 |
| HIST 262 | Survey of African History (Mason Core) | 3 |
| HIST 271 | Survey of Latin American History (Mason Core) | 3 |
| HIST 272 | Survey of Latin American History (Mason Core) | 3 |
| HIST 281 | Survey of Middle Eastern Civilization (Mason Core) | 3 |
| HIST 282 | Survey of Middle Eastern Civilization (Mason Core) | 3 |
| HIST 326 | Stalinism | 3 |
| HIST 327 | The Soviet Union and Russia Since World War II | 3 |
| HIST 328 | Rise of Russia (Mason Core) | 3 |
| HIST 329 | Modern Russia and the Soviet Union (Mason Core) | 3 |
| HIST 353 | History of Traditional China | 3 |
| HIST 354 | Modern China | 3 |
| HIST 356 | Modern Japan (Mason Core) | 3 |
| HIST 357 | Postwar Japan (Mason Core) | 3 |
| HIST 358 | Post-1949 China (Mason Core) | 3 |
| HIST 360 | History of South Africa (Mason Core) | 3 |
| HIST 364 | Revolution and Radical Politics in Latin America (Mason Core) | 3 |
| HIST 365 | Conquest and Colonization in Latin America (Mason Core) | 3 |
| HIST 366 | Comparative Slavery | 3 |
| HIST 367 | History, Fiction, and Film in Latin America | 3 |
| HIST 387 | Topics in Global History (Mason Core) | 3-6 |
| HIST 426 | The Russian Revolution | 3 |
| HIST 460 | Modern Iran (Mason Core) | 3 |
| HIST 461 | Arab-Israeli Conflict | 3 |
| HIST 462 | Women in Islamic Society (Mason Core) | 3 |
| HIST 465 | The Middle East in the 20th Century | 3 |
| JAPA 310 | Japanese Culture in a Global World (Mason Core) | 3 |
| JAPA 340 | Topics in Japanese Literature (Mason Core) | 3 |
| KORE 320 | Korean Popular Culture in a Global World | 3 |
| MUSI 103 | Musics of the World (Mason Core) | 3 |
| RELI 211 | Religions of the West (Mason Core) | 3 |
| RELI 212 | Religions of Asia (Mason Core) | 3 |
| RELI 240 | Death and the Afterlife in World Religions | 3 |

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| RELI 272 | Islam | 3 |
| RELI 313 | Hinduism (Mason Core) | 3 |
| RELI 314 | Chinese Philosophies and Religious Traditions | 3 |
| RELI 315 | Buddhism (Mason Core) | 3 |
| RELI 337 | Mysticism: East and West | 3 |
| RELI 365 | Muhammad: Life and Legacy | 3 |
| RELI 374 | Islamic Thought (Mason Core) | 3 |
| RELI 375 | Qur'an and Hadith | 3 |
| RELI 379 | Islamic Law, Society, and Ethics | 3 |
| RELI 387 | Islam, Democracy, and Human Rights | 3 |
| RELI 490 | Comparative Study of Religions (Mason Core) | 3 |
| RUSS 353 | Russian Civilization (Mason Core) | 3 |
| RUSS 354 | Contemporary Post-Soviet Life (Mason Core) | 3 |

¹ A course used to fulfill the Mason Core global understanding requirement may not be simultaneously used to satisfy this college-level requirement. A course used to fulfill this requirement may be used simultaneously to fulfill any other requirements (Mason Core requirements, college-level requirements, or requirements for the major). Additional information on waivers can be found at the Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs (<http://chssundergrad.gmu.edu>).

Mason Core

Note: Some Mason Core requirements may already be fulfilled by the major requirements listed above. Students are strongly encouraged to consult their advisors to ensure they fulfill all remaining Mason Core requirements.

| Code | Title | Credits |
|--|------------------------------------|---------|
| Foundation Requirements | | |
| | Written Communication | 6 |
| | Oral Communication | 3 |
| | Quantitative Reasoning | 3 |
| | Information Technology | 3-7 |
| Core Requirements | | |
| | Arts | 3 |
| | Global Understanding | 3 |
| | Literature | 3 |
| | Natural Science | 7 |
| | Social and Behavioral Sciences | 3 |
| | Western Civilization/World History | 3 |
| Synthesis/Capstone Requirement ¹ | | |
| | Synthesis/Capstone | 3 |
| Total Credits | | 40 |

¹ minimum 3 credits

Additional Elective Courses

Any remaining credits may be completed with elective courses to bring the degree total to 120

Accelerated Master's

The accelerated master's program below specifies the BA in Russian and Eurasian Studies as a feeder degree for its program. It is important to note, however, that many accelerated master's programs are available for any bachelor's degree at Mason, including this one. See the full list of master's degrees with accelerated programs at George Mason.

Bachelor's Degree (selected)/Middle East and Islamic Studies, Accelerated MA

Overview

Highly-qualified undergraduates pursuing a BA in select majors (listed below) may apply to the accelerated master's degree in Middle East and Islamic studies. If accepted, and depending on their undergraduate major, students will be able to earn a bachelor's degree in their chosen major and a master's degree in Middle East and Islamic studies after satisfactory completion of 144 credits, sometimes within five years. See AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees.

Students in an accelerated degree program must fulfill all university requirements for the master's degree. For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies.

Selected Majors

- government and international politics
- global affairs
- history
- religious studies
- Russian and Eurasian studies
- sociology
- anthropology

It is preferred, though not required, that the student have a minor in Middle East studies or Islamic studies.

Application Requirements

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions. For information specific to the accelerated MA in Middle East and Islamic studies, see Application Requirements and Deadlines (<http://meis.gmu.edu/programs/la-ma-ancel-meis>).

Accelerated Option Requirements

While undergraduate students, accelerated master's students complete two graduate courses as indicated on their Accelerated Master's Program Application with a minimum grade of 3.00 in each course. Once admitted to the accelerated master's pathway, students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25 in all course work. Upon completion and conferral of the undergraduate degree in the semester indicated in the application, they submit the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form and are admitted to graduate status.

| Code | Title | Credits |
|--|--|---------|
| Select two courses from the following: | | |
| MEIS 500 | Critical Issues and Debates in Middle East and Islamic Studies | 6 |

| | | |
|---------------|---|---|
| HIST 575 | Approaches to Middle East and Islamic History | |
| GOVT 632 | Politics and Societies of the Middle East | |
| RELI 644 | Islamic Texts and Contexts | |
| Total Credits | | 6 |

As graduate students, accelerated master's students have an advanced standing. They must meet all master's degree requirements except for the two courses (6 credits) they completed as undergraduates. Students must begin their master's program the semester immediately following conferral of the undergraduate degree.

Reserve Graduate Credit

Students may take up to 6 additional graduate credits as reserve graduate credit. These credits do not apply to the undergraduate degree. To apply these credits to the master's degree, students should use the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form.

| Code | Title | Credits |
|--|--|---------|
| Select up to 6 additional graduate credits from the following: | | |
| MEIS 500 | Critical Issues and Debates in Middle East and Islamic Studies | 6 |
| HIST 575 | Approaches to Middle East and Islamic History | |
| GOVT 731 | Advanced Seminar in Comparative Politics (when content focus is the Middle East) | |
| GOVT 733 | Islam and Politics | |
| RELI 644 | Islamic Texts and Contexts | |
| Total Credits | | 6 |

The ability to take courses, including ones not listed above, for reserve graduate credit is available to all high achieving undergraduates with the permission of the department. Permission is normally granted only to qualified Mason seniors within 15 hours of graduation. Permission is normally granted only to qualified Mason seniors within 15 hours of graduation. See AP.1.4.4 Graduate Course Enrollment by Undergraduates.