

# Summary of Degree Programme 'Applied and Interdisciplinary History «Usable Pasts»'

## Field of Studies

46.04.01 History

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## Approved by

Протокол заседания учёного совета № 8 от 28.11.2014

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## HSE University Educational Standard

[Образовательный стандарт НИУ ВШЭ по направлению подготовки История](#) (PDF, 389 Kb)

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## Last Update

Протокол заседания совета факультета Санкт-Петербургская школа гуманитарных наук и искусств  
№8.3.2.5-09/07 от 27.06.2019

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## Network Programme

No

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## Length of Studies, Mode of Studies, Credit Load

**2 years**

Full-time, 120 з.е.

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## Language of Instruction

ENG

Instruction in English

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## Track(s)

None

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## Degree Level

Master

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## Double-degree Programme

No

## Competitive Advantages

The program “Applied and Interdisciplinary History” is innovative, there are no such programs on the domestic educational market. This one-year program focuses on training specialists who will be able to work in the media and political sphere, while our program provides a broader focus, including technological and environmental history, as well as the management and preservation of historical heritage.

At the same time, the Applied and Interdisciplinary History program has several advantages in the international context. It provides an opportunity to get acquainted with new interpretations and tricks of studying heritage from the perspective of political, cultural and material history. The program is fully consistent with the strategy for the development of history on the St. Petersburg campus and offers courses that allow research using the methods and approaches of global, comparative and transnational history in priority areas - urban studies, nationalism, history and computer, etc.

Specific benefits of the proposed program include:

- The program is aimed at training masters with innovative thinking and interdisciplinary training, who have the desire to implement and practically implement new ideas and projects.
- A strong brand of HSE - the leading Russian university for the training of specialists in the field of social sciences and humanities, forming a strong scientific school, which has a positive impact on the reputation of HSE - St. Petersburg in this field. Thanks to the HSE brand, strong applicants and teachers come to the branch who have an active life position and are ready to work at a high level and introduce innovative teaching technologies.
- The functioning of the Center for Historical Studies at the HSE - St. Petersburg, within the framework of which studies of undergraduates can be carried out.

## Professional Activities and Competencies of Programme Graduates

Focusing on approaches to training specialists in European countries and the provisions of the Bologna process, the master's program “Applied and Interdisciplinary History” provides for maximum compliance competency-based training model. That is why the emphasis in the program is on the following aspects:

providing the optimal level of fundamental knowledge for successful professional activities and practical skills in the applied special fields of historical research;

development of skills, abilities, and, most importantly, a way of thinking that allows you to be creative in solving assigned tasks and independently searching for new solutions;

maximum assistance to the development of a specialist for rapid professional, socio-economic, scientific adaptation in modern society by involving in solving practical problems, organizing research practice, involvement in scientific research.

When preparing a master's program in the “Applied and Interdisciplinary History” program, the teaching staff proceeds from the fact that the graduate must have systemic and professional competencies enshrined in the original HSE standard in the direction of preparation 46.04.01 History.

As part of MA training, students will be prepared to solve the following types of professional tasks:

- research tasks:

- collecting and primary processing of empirical information using a wide range of sources based on the use of modern methods and technologies;
- analysis and generalization of the results of scientific research in accordance with the requirements modern historical science;
- conducting theoretical and applied research in the field of humanities;
- presentation of the results of research, making reports and reports on topics of research, participation / organization of a scientific discussion on the research materials;

- pedagogical tasks:

- teaching of historical disciplines at all levels of general education;
- preparation and editing of educational and methodological and scientific and methodological materials;
- organization of extracurricular activities of students and students, stimulation of their independent research and practical activities;

- expert-analytical:

- work with databases and information systems for the humanities and social sciences;
- organization of the collection and preparation of analytical information of a retrospective nature;
- the creation of evidence-based historical expertise;

- cultural and educational:

- development of educational, generally accessible materials for instilling in society an understanding of the significance of the past and the value of scientific attitude to historical heritage;

- editorial and publishing:

- processing the source text and preparing it for publication;
- scientific editing of professional texts.

The specific types of tasks and tasks of professional activity, for which the graduate is mainly preparing, are determined by the Higher School of Economics together with interested participants in educational relations and are reflected in the PM concept.

The implementation of the master's program "Applied and Interdisciplinary History" involves the training of specialists who possess the following professional learning outcomes. The graduates will be:

PC-1 Able to conduct independent fundamental and applied research using classical and modern methodology, including problem analysis, setting goals and objectives, highlighting the object and subject of research, choosing a research method and methods, as well as evaluating its quality

PC-2 Able to analyze and propose a scientifically based interpretation of historical events in their relationship in accordance with the requirements of modern historical science

PC-3 Able to present the results of his research using special terminology

PC-4 Able to carry out scientific polemics orally and in writing

PC-5 Able to analyze received information using modern software

PC-6 Able to search and analyze historical sources written in one of the ancient languages, in a foreign language

PC-7 able to extract, select and structure information from sources of different types and types in accordance with professional tasks

PC-8 Able to motivate others to work independently

PC-9 Able to form the skills of students in the perception of a historical text

PC-10 Able to carry out historical and cultural examination and analysis

PC-11 Able to develop strategies aimed at preserving, recognizing objects and objects as monuments of cultural and historical heritage

PC-12 Able to deliver cultural and educational lectures, participate in cultural and educational events organized by the media

PC-13 Able to prepare texts for publication in Russian, foreign and ancient languages, incl. using electronic means

## Programme Modules

The structure of the program includes three blocks of training courses:

1. Historical memory and politics of identity, the theory of nationalism, the legacy of empire and colonialism and postcolonial forms of politics of identity, history in national, colonial and postcolonial discourses, historical heritage, public museum and media spaces, archeology and politics of historical heritage, history for "amateurs" .
2. Interdisciplinary historical research: environmental history, the history of science, technological history, the history of communications, mobility and transport, historical urban studies, economic history, history and law.
3. Methodology and methods of applied history: oral history, genealogy, visual historical research, computer science in history (databases, geographic information systems, text analysis systems, etc.).

In addition to the general direction of studying historical collective memory in the framework of the master's program, special attention will be paid to the analysis of the relationship between historical memory and the historical heritage of the complex post-imperial space that arose after the collapse of the USSR. For the analysis of narratives of identity of post-Soviet societies and nation-states, the theory of nationalism and empires and theories of postcolonial studies. This aspect of the curriculum is very important, since a significant part of the conflicts and problems of modern Russian society and the post-Soviet space are associated with the approval or contesting of the historical heritage of the empire and colonialism, with the statement or contesting the ideal and norm of the national community and state.

The uniqueness of this program is also associated with the inclusion in the curriculum structure of such new areas of historical research as environmental and technological history, the history of space, mobility and communications.

An important area of study is the study of the policy and management of historical heritage, including archaeological, cultural, natural and industrial. Students will receive, among other things, practical skills in working with digital forms of heritage, creating virtual expositions, reference books, and geographic information systems.

Although the program will be implemented in St. Petersburg, it will not be limited only to Russian and Eurasian history. An important component of the curriculum structure is elective special courses on the applied history of certain regions: the applied history of the Baltic region, the circumpolar North and the global South. These components of the program, along with an increased focus on the study of the post-Soviet and post-socialist space as a whole, will attract foreign students from different regions of Europe and the world into the program.

The structure of the curriculum has three main blocks - general disciplines of the direction, basic and varied

disciplines of the program. In the first year, basic directional disciplines are studied, most of the basic program disciplines and varied program disciplines. In the second year, the study of some basic and varied disciplines of the program continues, much attention is paid to practical training and the work of a research seminar. The program provides electives for the first and second years of study. Students whose previous education was not connected with history are offered adaptation courses in general history and source study. Students have the right to the individual training courses of other master's programs of the campus.

In the first year of study, undergraduates listen to adaptation and compulsory courses, and also choose courses from one thematic block and two disciplines in applied history in regional studies. During the last two weeks before the end of the first academic year, and also for three to four weeks in the second year of study, undergraduates practice in Russian and foreign organizations - museums, archaeological expeditions, NGOs, travel agencies, media, etc. In the second year of study, students write a master's thesis. The dissertation is an independent study and should demonstrate the ability of students to apply theoretical knowledge to solve specific scientific and applied problems in the field of historical science. In this part of the program, a research seminar is important.

### **Research Seminar, Practices and Exchanges**

The main task of the research seminar is to make the scientific work of students a constant and systematic element of the educational process, to include them in the life of the scientific community so that students can master the technology and the "kitchen" of research activities in detail.

A research seminar is the basic form of research work of undergraduates and sets as its main goal the development of all stages of research work, the result of which is the writing and successful defence of a master's thesis. The forms of the seminar include consideration and discussion of the topic of term papers of first-year students and master's theses of second-year students, as well as conducting pre-defences of course and master's theses.

The seminar performs both scientific and educational: teachers and invited experts, and then students themselves, can make presentations and presentations of scientific research at it, as they begin to conduct their own research. Students' independent work will be discussed, starting from the preliminary stage, at the stage of selecting a topic and forming hypotheses of research. The training function of the seminar is also important - students will learn how to draw up their work, presentations, make reports, conduct scientific discussions, and oppose other works. In the second year of study, the presentation of student research at the seminar will actually become a form of pre-defense of a master's thesis.

Practices both in Russia and abroad are an important part of the curriculum. Practices are an essential part of students' learning, which allows them to establish strong links between theory and practical activity in the field of applied and interdisciplinary history. Practice conducted in two stages: 2 weeks at the end of the first year of study and 3-4 weeks in the second half of the second year of study during the preparation of the master's thesis. In addition to internships, students will have the opportunity to participate in Summer Schools and research projects both in Russia and abroad.

## **Options for Students with Disabilities**

This degree programme of HSE University is adapted for students with special educational needs (SEN) and disabilities. Special assistive technology and teaching aids are used for collective and individual learning of students with SEN and disabilities. The specific adaptive features of the programme are listed in each subject's full syllabus and are available to students through the online Learning Management System.

## **Programme Documentation**

All documents of the degree programme are stored electronically on this website. Curricula, calendar plans, and syllabi are developed and approved electronically in corporate information systems. Their current versions are automatically published on the website of the degree programme. Up-to-date teaching and learning guides, assessment tools, and other relevant documents are stored on the website of the degree programme in accordance with the local regulatory acts of HSE University.

I hereby confirm that the degree programme documents posted on this website are fully up-to-date.

Vice Rector Sergey Yu. Roshchin

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