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| **HSE School of Political Science** | **HSE Department of Theoretical Economics** | **HSE School of Philosophy** | **HSE School of World Economy** |

**Master’s Program «Politics. Economics. Philosophy»**

Master in Political Science - *41.04.04.*

**PROGRAMME OUTLINE**

* ***Interdisciplinary Master’s program***
* ***Area of study – 41.04.04. Political Sciences***
* ***Degree – Master of Political Science***
* ***Language – English***
* ***Location – Moscow***
* ***Duration and mode of study – 2 -year full-time programme***
* ***Tuition waivers – State funded places (for citizens) and waiver options (for a limited number of foreigners) are available, as well as a system of discounts;***
* ***Interdisciplinary faculty team of leading scholars and experts***

MS Program ***“Politics. Economics. Philosophy”*** (PEP) proposes two professional career tracks for its students:

1. Experts and consulters in the field of strategic decision-making in either public bodies or non-governmental organizations (government, ministries, political parties, PR agencies, business analytical centers, NGOs etc)
2. Analysts, researchers and teachers in academia motivated to continue their studies at the PhD programs at the leading universities in Russia and abroad.

Interdisciplinary nature of the PEP program is supported by its teaching staff recruited from four leading faculties of the Higher School of Economics: Faculty of Social Sciences, Faculty of Economic Sciences, Faculty of Humanities, and Faculty of World Economy and International Relations. The program is governed by the inter-faculty Academic Council representing all its stakeholders.

1. **The purpose and aims of the PEP program**

MS program ***“Politics. Economics. Philosophy”*** follows the example of famous Oxford PPEs – programmes in *Philosophy, Politics and Economics*, started in 1920s and intended to update the pattern of classical education.

Challenges of contemporary societies stimulated a new wave of interest to the interdiscip-linary PPE/PEP educational pattern providing skills and competencies necessary to cope with complexities of the real world. New PPE/PEP programs were recently established in many leading universities all over the world, and the *National Research University “Higher School of Economics”* is among them.

Along with the trend towards deeper specialization and pragmatism strongly represented in current systems of higher education, the opposite countervailing trend towards integration of knowledge is no less evident and tends to strengthen through time. It is fueled by the understanding that important breakthroughs in the social sciences and humanities are often achieved at the interdisciplinary crossings, and that divided disciplinary knowledge is unfit to face most of the challenges of contemporary world. The demand for specialists capable of strategic thinking, prepared to cope with complex problems, trained to work within interdisciplinary and/or international teams is becoming more and more imperative. A widening network of the programs developing the pattern and purpose of Oxford PPEs *“Philosophy, Politics and Economics”*, or alternatively *“Politics, Economics and Philosophy”* is an educational response to such social demand.

**The purpose** of the new Master’s program ***“Politics. Economics. Philosophy”*** at the National Research University “Higher School of Economics” is to introduce internationally competitive pattern of interdisciplinary educational program based on best research and teaching practices in the social sciences and humanities.

**The program is aiming at**:

1. Training experts capable of designing and implementing strategic decisions in governmental, business and non-governmental organizations, mastering modern analytical tools and skills of critical thinking necessary for a socially responsible politician. The key motive to choose this program for such students is the perspective of building their social capital.
2. Attracting a cohort of bright students capable and motivated to enhance their intellectual capital for the innovative interdisciplinary research with the perspective of its continuation at the PhD schools in the Higher School of Economics and leading international universities.
3. Developing contemporary educational technologies in the social sciences and humanities based on principles of inter- and multi-disciplinarity and providing adequate basis for research addressing vital challenges of contemporary society.
4. Intensifying interdisciplinary cooperation within the National Research University “Higher School of Economics”.

**II. Target groups, criteria of acceptance**

The PEP program in designed for those who are not satisfied with too narrow specialization of her/his bachelor training, who are ambitious enough to expect more from their future. We are waiting for bright graduates from leading Russian and foreign universities with wide interests, ready be at the forefront of events, either in politics, or social sciences. We expect – among others – the graduates from thebachelors programs of participating faculties of the Higher School of Economicsaspiring to strengthen their intellectual outlook and capacity, acquire additional skills, or to master new professional and career tracks. It is also open to the graduates with a solid background in quantitative methods (mathematics, econometrics, computer modeling etc) striving to apply them to most pressing social and economic problems, and to the young philosophers and social theorists concerned about gaps and controversies in contemporary social sciences. The program “Politics. Economics.Philosophy” expects to have up to 20 state-funded places available for candidates satisfying entry requirements.

Entry opportunities:

* Through entry procedures including:
* pass/fail exam in English (or language proficiency certificate)
* portfolio-based admission
* Through the HSE Olympiad for students and graduates (for the winners).

**III. International practices**

The first ‘Philosophy, Politics, Economics’(PPE) programme at the undergraduate level was introduced at Oxford in the 1920s as an update of classical educational programmes called ‘the Classics’ or ‘the Greats’, which were well known for their emphasis on ancient history, classical philosophy and languages. The PPE programme was presented as ‘Modern Classics’, or ‘the Modern Greats’, and was initially intended for young people seeking to enter the public service. For them, ‘the Classics’ were considered obsolete and unable to deliver the knowledge and skills necessary for public service in a modern state.

Oxford PPEs became an important source for replenishing British and international political elites. Among their notable graduates are the current UK prime minister David Cameron; the current leader of the opposition Ed Miliband; former UK premiers Harold Wilson and Edward Heath; the current Prime Minister of Australia Tony Abbott; outstanding political and military leaders from other countries, such as Zulfikar and Benazir Bhutto, Solomon Bandaranaike, Pedro Pablo Kuczynski, and Wesley Clark; as well as famous social thinkers, such as Isaiah Berlin, Roy Bhaskar, Guido Calabresi, Nobel laureates in economics John Hicks and James Meade, and many influential journalists and business leaders.

Following the Oxford model, many universities in the UK have launched their own PPE programmes (York, Warwick, Manchester, Lancaster, Durham etc.). Likewise, some prestigious U.S. universities, such as Yale (‘Ethics, Politics and Economics’), Carnegie Mellon and others have done the same. In recent years, this trend has spread to continental Europe, especially Germany (Hamburg, Witten, Konstanz, etc.), Italy (LUISS, Rome), and elsewhere: China, Japan, Australia, South Africa, Israel, Turkey, etc.

In the UK, Master’s programmes of the PPE/PEP (“Politics-Economics-Philosophy”) type are currently offered at the London School of Economics and University College London, as well as the Universities of York, Essex, Edinburgh another others; in Germany at Witten/Herdecke and Bayreuth Universities in Hamburg; in the Netherlands at Erasmus (Rotterdam) and Leiden Universities; and in Switzerland at Bern and Basel Universities. In the U.S., a similar programme has opened at Duke University. Holding the seventh (1st in the UK) position in The Times Higher Education 100 Under 50 world ranking, i.e. among “younger” universities under 50, York University plays a leading role among PPE Master’s programmes.

PPE/PEP programmes provide advanced training in the core disciplines of political science, economics and philosophy, enriching opportunities for its graduates to choose educational and professional tracks in the future and preparing them for jobs requiring a broad outlook and the ability to work in an interdisciplinary environment. The qualities and skills of PPE graduates are needed in such fields as political and socio-economic forecasting, analytical support for policy decision-making, institutional design, assessment of new social phenomena in emerging knowledge-based societies and new trends in the social sciences.

**IV. Comparative advantages of the program, its niche at the educational market**

The PEP program is designed to master tools addressing not only standard tasks common to most of social science programs, but also skills required in goal-setting activities, intended to harmonize conflicting values and interests of social and economic classes or groups. The graduates of the PEP Master programget knowledge and skills to govern social processes, i.e. to design and implement strategic political projects beyond, or “above” routine management. Due to these qualities they can count on professional and career advance up to leading positions in political structures and business corporations.

Choosing an academic career the PEP graduate will have comparative advantages in the research fields at the crossing of scientific disciplines where deep knowledge of the philosophy and methodology of science is a crucial prerequisite. And it is these very fields from which new scientific ideas usually originate and where most pressing problems of contemporary societies can be reasonably tackled and resolved.

On the Russian educational market PPE-type programs are almost absent. The first such program has been launched in 2011 at the Far Eastern Federal University in Vladivostok by the School of Humanities. It was positioned within the area of “Philosophy”, and until now this pattern was not followed by other universities.

Existing master programs in “Political Science”, available from many Russian universities, are usually designed as a continuation of respective bachelors programs in terms of “mixing” general and professional courses, and do not claim to be interdisciplinary. The only program offered as an English-speaking and interdisciplinary one is the MA program “*Political Governance and Public Policy****”*** at the Saint-Petersburg State University.

**V. The PEP graduate: specific qualities and job opportunities**

Knowledge and skills acquired by PEP graduates can be applied in strategic planning, political forecasting and programming, modeling political and social processes. Their professional capacity is based not only upon specific analytical methods (which is an essential prerequisite), but also due to their broad intellectual outlook and comprehensive understanding of the social processes. This is achieved through philosophical courses, training in critical thinking and social communication, interdisciplinary cooperation. Broad education enhances graduates’ flexibility, their adaptive capacities in face of dynamic changes undergoing in contemporary science and society.

The most immediate field to apply graduates’ skills is that of political expertise and organization: analytical support of decision-making in governmental bodies, political parties, NGO and business structures. Another option: think tanks and other research centers particularly focused on interdisciplinary problems of institutional reforms and social policy. Double and triple training of the graduates allows them to prepare and initiate strategic decisions and take leading function in their implementation, thus claiming for key positions where joint competences from politics, economics and philosophy are most relevant. More specifically the PEP master’s program is aimed at training high-qualified specialists with:

* ability to think and work strategically;
* analytical and expert skills necessary for designing and elaborating governmental, or corporate programs, action plans and “road maps”, projects of normative acts;
* ability to identify interests of political actors (at national and international levels) and design mechanisms of their mutual matching and reconciliation with long-term imperatives of social and economic development;
* skills to develop short-term and long-term socio-economic and political forecasts, evaluate strategic risks of specific strategies and actions;
* skills to organize and carry out brainstorming sessions and situation analyses;
* experiences of interdisciplinary team-work and team building
* skills to apply computer technologies to search and analyze information using Russian and international databases;
* skills to prepare high-quality research articles and analytical papers.

Educational programs available in Russia are not focused on cultivating specialists with such combination of capacities and competences. Goal-setting and strategic decision-making is often left to administrators without relevant education and outlook, having to rely upon personal limited experiences and intuitions. Difficulties and delays in the process of professionalization of governance functions in Russia are partly due to this fact. The PEP program at the Higher School of Economics is aiming to make its contribution to compensating shortages of professionals in the area of strategic analyses of political, economic and social challenges facing contemporary Russia.

**VI. International partnerships**

Master program “Politics.Economics.Philosophy” positions itself as a part of the emerging international university network of PPE/PEP programs. Participation in such a network is intended to facilitate students’ and teachers’ exchanges, internship programs etc. Opportunities of student’s exchanges is currently available within the partnership agreement of the NRU “Higher School of Economics” with Witten/Herdecke University in Germany, as well as with other partner universities of the Higher School of Economics. The current pool of visiting professors and partners include: Professor **Uskali Mäki**, leading specialist in the philosophy of social sciences from the University of Helsinki, Finland; **Stefan Hedlund**, Professor of Russian and East European Studies from Uppsala University, Sweden; **Joachim Zweynert**, Professor of International Economics from Witten/Herdecke University, Germany; **Ivan Boldyrev**, Assistant professor of the NRU HSE and Assistant researcher at Witten/Herdecke University, Germany.

1. **Curriculum**

Core courses

1. Contemporary political theory
2. Theory & methodology in political science and economics
3. Contemporary economics
4. Intellectual history
5. Data analysis in the social sciences***2-year seminar is an intensive training in academic***

Special courses

***Political science***

1. Institutions and Practices in Russian Politics: Comparative Analysis
2. Global Governance
3. Regional Studies in Comparative Perspective: Russia & the World

***Economics***

1. State and Economy
2. Comparative Economic Systems
3. Comparative Political Economy

***Philosophy***

1. Contemporary Analytical Philosophy
2. Political Ethics and Social Choice
3. Philosophy of New Social Movements

***Research tools***

1. Social networks analysis

***University pool of elective courses (free module)***

***Bridging courses (in Russian)***

* 1. Mathematics
  2. Basics of Economics
  3. Basics of Political Science

***Internships and research opportunities***

1. PEP interdisciplinary and inter-faculty research seminar
2. Research and teaching projects at the NRU HSE or partner organization

**VIII. Interdisciplinary Research Seminar**

The aims of the research seminar are to enhance students’ research skills of designing, developing and writing research papers and academic articles, of conducting empirical and conceptual work; and to develop qualities necessary for comprehensive interdisciplinary analyses of complex social, political and economic problems crossing the borders of disciplinary knowledge. To secure the interdisciplinary character of the PEP program the seminar is conducted by two professors representing different scientific disciplines. Special workshops will be organized to master quantitative and qualitative methods of social research, methods of case studies, discourse analysis etc.

Lectures and master-classes of visiting professors from leading universities, as well as detailed analyses of political documents and academic papers will provide students with knowledge of professional best practices.

The research seminar is the basic place where students’ texts are presented and collectively considered, and where skills of critical thinking are cultivated. Particular attention will be devoted to the elaboration of students’ course works and final theses at different stages of preparation.

The general scheme of the research seminar structured by modules is the following: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**I year** 1 module: Presentation of research opportunities and projects available for students. Mastering skills of academic writing

2 module: Interdisciplinary workshop. Presentations of course-work topics

3 module: Workshops on research methods

4 module: Presentations of students’ course works

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**II year** 1 module: Team-work within case-study workshops.

Presentation of Theses projects.

2 module: Workshops on research practices

3-4 modules: Presentations of the Theses

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**IX. Program management**

**Academic Council**

Interdisciplinary nature of the PEP program is granted by its faculty recruited from four leading departments of the National Research University “Higher School of Economics”: ***School of Political Science, Faculty of Economics, School of Philosophy, and School of World Economy***, all represented in the Academic Council of the program:

**Oleg Ananyin,** tenured professor, Department of Theoretical Economics, Head of the program, Member of the Council of the *“European Society of the History of Economic Thought” (ESHET*) and of the editorial board of *“SCEME Studies in Economic Methodology series”* (Pickering & Chatto).

**Michael Ilyin,** tenured professor, School of Political Science, Head of the PhD school in politics, Vice-President of *“International Political Science association”* (IPSA) in 2012-2014, Co-Editor of *“World Political Science Review”*, President of the *“Russian association of Political Science”* (1997-2001).

**Vladimir Avtonomov,** tenured professor, Department of Theoretical Economics, Chairmen of the Scientific council at the Faculty of Economics, Corresponding member of the Russian academy of sciences, chief researcher of IMEMO, Russian Academy of Sciences.

**Alexander Filippov,** tenured professor, School of Philosophy, Head of the Centre of Fundamental Sociology, Editor-in-chief of the journal *“Социологическое обозрение” (“Sociological review”).*

**Leonid Grigoriev,** tenured professor, Headof the School of World Economy, Chief adviser of the Analytical Centre of the Russian government, Deputy Minister of Finance of Russian Federation (1992-93)

**Andrey Melville,** professor, Dean ofthe Faculty of Social Sciences, Honorary scientific worker of Russia, Member of *“World International Studies Committee”,* and of the editorial boards of *“American Political Science Review”* and *“Journal of International Relations and Development”*, Professor in the *“Stanford Overseas Program”* (2005-2007).

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