Studying abroad in St. Petersburg was an unforgettable experience. The classes were interesting and informative, but the city itself became a teacher of incomparable value.

— Noah Burrell, Duke University student

**QUICK FACTS:**

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**DUKE GLOBAL FACTS**

Russia and Eurasia
DUKE IN THE WORLD

The United States shares a deep and complex history with Russia and Eurasia, and the two regions’ dynamic relationship has great influence both at a local and global level. Duke University programs and course offerings in Russian and Eurasian studies attempt to examine this complicated history through a critical lens in order to gain perspective on current issues ranging from government policy to medical practices.

EDUCATION THROUGH PARTNERSHIP

Duke’s partners in Russia and Eurasia include universities, hospitals, and governments from throughout the region. Duke’s graduate schools and programs, including the Fuqua School of Business, the School of Medicine, and the Sanford School of Public Policy’s Duke Center for International Development (DCID) have particularly robust relationships in this region.

The Fuqua School of Business played a key role in the establishment of Nazarbayev University’s graduate business school. The continued partnership between the two universities allows Fuqua students and faculty to connect and exchange ideas with intellectual peers in a region with a dynamic and rapidly growing economy.

Duke Center for International Development (DCID) partners with the Kazakhstan’s Academy of Public Administration in an annual Program in Public Policy and Management. Senior officials from Kazakhstan come to Duke for the three-month program, during which they attend lectures and visit local governments and nonprofit agencies, as well as meet with
lobbyists in Washington, D.C. DCID has worked with more than 250 officials from the Academy of Public Administration, Kazakhstan’s tax committee and the national railway.

DCID, housed under the Sanford School of Public Policy, is also a part of the Regional Hub of Civil Service in Astana, Kazakhstan. This hub, supported in part by the United Nations Development Programme, consists of more than 30 countries and international organizations. As part of the hub, DCID has the opportunity to collaborate on educational and research activities, seminars, and academic exchanges and programs.

Faculty members with an interest in this region also work closely with colleagues at St. Petersburg State University in Russia on joint research, events and publications. This intellectual exchange also extends to students and faculty, who have the opportunity to learn and teach at the partner university.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

In addition to the above partnerships, Duke sponsors a number of trips for students to experience the cultures and customs of Russia and Eurasia.

The Global Education Office for Undergraduates (GEO) operates a semester-long program at St. Petersburg State University, one of Russia’s oldest universities. The program explores Russian language, culture,
history and media, and includes classes covering Perestroika in 19th and 20th century Russia, Slavic proverbs, contemporary Russian media and the Russian language. GEO also offers a summer program at this university on language, culture, policy and neuroscience. Each of these programs includes excursions to Moscow and other Russian cities.

**DukeEngage** also offers a unique study abroad and civic engagement program in St. Petersburg. Students work with the Russian Ministry of Health and take classes at St. Petersburg State University, focusing on community development and outreach, disability services, and health and human services.

Students can choose Russia and Central Asia as their world region of focus in the **International Comparative Studies** major at Duke, engaging with courses ranging from “The Russian Novel” to “Eastern Europe in Transition: Markets, Media, and the Mafia.” Students often supplement these courses with additional research and study abroad opportunities.

**RESEARCH**

Duke faculty members conduct research in or related to **8 countries in Russia and Eurasia**. This research spans 8 of Duke’s schools, as well as many of its institutes and centers.

Among Duke’s researchers exploring topics related to Russia and Eurasia are:
• **Mustafa Ozgur Tuna**—on social and cultural change among Muslim communities of Central Eurasia since the early 19th century

• **Charles Maxwell Becker**—on economic demography, determinants of health care utilization, and urban economics in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Russia.

• **Carol Apollonio**—on Russian literature, Russian and Japanese translation, and language pedagogy

Professor and “cyber archaeologist” **Maurizio Forte** founded the DIG@Lab, a “digital digging laboratory,” to explore 3D documentation of archaeological excavations around the world, or “virtual museums.” He has coordinated archaeological fieldwork and research projects in Kazakhstan and Turkey to further these efforts to bring together history and technology.

• **Anna Krylova**—on 20th century Russia and the challenges posed in envisioning and building a socialist alternative in the age of industrial and post-industrial modernity and globalization

• **Erdag Goknar**—on the legacies of the Ottoman Empire and the Kemalist cultural revolution upon modern Turkey.

To find more Duke experts, visit global.duke.edu/regions and search our Global Activities Map by school and country of interest.

**RUSSIA AND EURASIA AT DUKE**

Russia and Eurasia are represented at Duke through a number of nationally recognized centers and programs.

The **Center for Slavic, Eurasian, and East European Studies (CSEEES)**, for example, brings together faculty and students from across campus
Students and professors interested in Russian and Eurasian studies benefit from the peer-reviewed journal *Glossos*, whose chief editor is Duke professor Edna Andrews. *Glossos* provides knowledge and resources for Slavic and East European language instructors and learners, as well as the applied and theoretical linguistic communities.

In addition to the *International Comparative Studies* major’s commitment to Russian and Central Asian regional studies, the Duke history department allows students to choose a geographic concentration on Russia and Eurasia.

Together these initiatives help students build upon knowledge gained in more than **170 Russia and Eurasia related courses** offered at Duke.