

EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES: LANGUAGES AND DISCOURSES

Would you like to become a specialist in Eastern Europe and its languages? Earn a degree from the oldest and most prestigious university in Poland. Join our interdisciplinary international programme at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków!



JAGIELLONIAN UNIVERSITY
IN KRAKÓW

Why Eastern Europe?

Eastern Europe is one of the key areas for the political and economic stability of the world. Politically, culturally, linguistically, and religiously diverse, it is also an area of several historical and contemporary conflicts, including the ongoing war in Ukraine. Our program will give you an insight into the cultural background of these conflicts. Most importantly, it will allow you to immerse yourself in the cultural specificities of individual countries, equipping you with essential intercultural competencies vital for professions in business, administration, journalism, or non-governmental sectors.

Why languages? What languages?

The key to understanding societies and cultures is to know their language. Without it, you will not become an expert in business, politics, or culture of any region. Our programme enables you to become proficient in two foreign languages. You can choose Russian, Ukrainian, or Polish. You'll achieve a B2+ proficiency in your main language of study, and B1+ in your secondary choice.



Why discourses?

Languages do not function in a vacuum. They occur in discourses—specific contexts and fields of communication, developing and

changing over time. Within each distinct discourse, every language operates a little differently. Our innovative programme empowers you to explore various discourses of interest, such as political, legal, literary, religious, or collective memory discourse. Through this exploration, you will gain insight into how your selected languages operate within these domains, how they are shaped by the communities that use them, and how they, in turn, exert influence on those communities.

Why in Poland?

While Poland is geographically part of Central Europe, its geopolitical position has closely intertwined it with the nations, societies, languages, and cultures of Eastern Europe. The neighbourhood with Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus has shaped Polish culture and its identity. It has also naturally provided inspiration for subsequent generations of Polish scholars. When studying Eastern European issues in Poland, you do so in the environment of experts who are perfectly familiar with the specificities of the region. Your participation in our programme will therefore immerse you in the life and culture of both Central and Eastern Europe.

Why in Kraków?



You will immerse yourself in the city that blends its thousand-year history with youthful energy, and combines medieval architectural pearls with modern student facilities. It is a vibrant hub of culture and entertainment, attracting hundreds of thousands of students annually. As a dream destination for studying, Kraków will leave an indelible mark on your life.

Why at Jagiellonian University?

Established in 1364, the Jagiellonian University stands as one of the world's oldest academic institutions. Among its students were Nicolaus Copernicus—one of the most important scholars in the history of mankind, Karol Wojtyła (known as Pope John Paul II)—one of the most important figures in the history of the 20th century, the eminent poet Wisława Szymborska—Nobel Prize winner in literature, and Stanisław Lem—one of the most important science fiction writers in the world. It is time for you to become a member of the international student community of our University.

About the programme

The entire curriculum is taught in English. Your lecturers will be experienced professors from the Jagiellonian University, specialists in the languages, cultures, literatures, and contemporary issues of Eastern European countries.

Mandatory courses will introduce you to the history of Eastern Europe, provide basic knowledge of linguistics, studies on discourse, and memory. However, compulsory courses will only be a small part of your study programme. You will shape your own path by choosing from a wide range of optional courses. It is up to you to decide which countries, languages, and cultures of the Eastern European region you wish to delve deeper into. You may specialise in issues related to Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, or Poland. It depends on you how much you want to focus on the language of media or politics, on the literature, cinema, theatre, or on the conflicts of collective memory.

Visit our website: east.uj.edu.pl

