

Master's Programme in Social Sciences

Transformation in South Caucasus

Programme Title:

Interdisciplinary English-language Master's programme *Transformation in South Caucasus*
(interdisciplinuri inglisurenovani samagistro programa *transformacia samxreT kavkasiaSi*)

Academic degree offered:

Master in Social Sciences (MSocSc)
(socialuri mecnierabis magistri)

Academic supervisor:

Professor Alexander Rondeli, Faculty of Social and Political Studies, Department of International Relations, Tbilisi State University.
External academic advisor: Professor Stephen Jones, Chair of European Studies at Mount Holyoke College, Massachusetts, USA.

Aim and objectives:

The main aim of the programme is to advance research and scholarship in economic, social and political transformation of the South Caucasus region. To achieve this objective the programme takes an integrated approach to transformation studies. By integrated approach we mean: 1) looking at the transformation process through the lenses of different disciplines such as political science, international relations, economics, sociology and history; 2) combining in the curriculum theoretical, skills-oriented, and research courses. *Transformation in South Caucasus programme* is the only interdisciplinary regional programme that includes students from Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia. Thus, additional objective of the programme is to facilitate exchange of academic resources and promote research cooperation among the South Caucasus countries.

Intended outcomes:

Graduates of the *Transformation in South Caucasus programme* will be able to integrate theoretical knowledge with research skills to conduct independent research on political, policy and social issues in the transition countries, draw adequate conclusions and present them publicly. Successful graduates will also be prepared to continue studies at the doctoral level.

Employment

The programme will prepare future practitioners who plan to become researchers, policy-makers, civil servants, professionals working for national and local governments, research institutions and non-profit organizations.

Admission requirements

Applicants normally have successfully completed undergraduate degree in one of the following fields: Political Science, Sociology, International Relations, International Law, International Economics, Journalism, Political Geography or Foreign Languages. Prior work experience is not required; however, it is desirable that the candidates have some work experience in the organizations dealing public policy issues in transition context. Applicants that participated in conferences and/or spend at least one semester in an English-language university will be given advantage.

The programme's admission examination consists of three components: (1) English language test (2) written examination - answer to two questions in a form of argumentative essay – 70% of the exam evaluation; (2) oral interview – 30% of exam evaluation.

Since the language of instruction is English, the admission examinations are also conducted in English. Thus, the applicants are required to demonstrate speaking, reading and writing skills in the English language at least B2 level or above.