Why a Master of Arts in European Studies degree?

The MA in European Studies is an interdisciplinary program that allows students to develop an expertise in Europe as a whole, together with a specialization in a given region. It includes a study abroad experience and internship opportunities. The MA in European Studies will help prepare you for international careers in business, government, journalism, education, research, or the non-profit sector (e.g., NGOs). The program helps meet a high demand for candidates prepared to work for international companies and organizations with specific interests in Europe.

Why the MA in European Studies at BGSU?

BGSU’s MA in European Studies complements learning about Europe and one of its regions (and languages) with opportunities for experiential learning and skill acquisition through internships and study abroad. The practical component not only enhances your learning experience, it also helps graduate students to find jobs in a wide variety of professions that require international and intercultural expertise.

Furthermore, students are able to carry out individualized research and are encouraged to examine different aspects of Europe by making use of a wide array of interdisciplinary approaches through history, politics, culture and/or the arts. Graduates of the MA in European Studies will be able to enhance their prior expertise in business or other fields through this international and interdisciplinary perspective.

Learning outcomes

Upon completion of the MA in European Studies, graduates will have developed advanced intercultural and international competence. They will be able to compare and assess cultural, political, historical, economic and other similarities and differences between North America and Europe. Graduates will be able to interact in professional contexts with Europeans and analyze and solve real-life professional problems collaboratively in an international setting. They will also have the opportunity to attain advanced proficiency in a European Language other than English.

Program strength and uniqueness

- Interdisciplinary program inviting individualized research.
- Study abroad component.
- Internship opportunities abroad or with international companies in the area.
- Advanced studies of Europe as a whole and one of its regions.
- Development of advanced intercultural and international competence.
- Experiential learning preparing students for a globalized job market.

Professional opportunities

The program prepares students for international careers in business, journalism, education, research, or the non-profit sector. A 2008 Business Roundtable report found that international trade supports more than one in five U.S. jobs. Economically, Europe remains the second-largest trade partner of the U.S. and of the state of Ohio. The Ohio Exports Report from February 2016 finds that European countries accounted for 18 percent of Ohio’s exports. The four largest markets were France ($1.9 billion), United Kingdom ($1.8 billion), Germany ($1.5 billion), and The Netherlands ($0.7 billion). International companies based in Northwest Ohio with strong ties to Europe include Chrysler (owned by Fiat) and First Solar (which profits from Germany’s and other European countries’ support for green energy).

According to the European Commission, the EU and the United States have the largest bilateral trade relationship and enjoy the most integrated economic relationship in the world.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Your Name Here -
Admission requirements

To gain regular status admission, applicants must have a minimum 2.75 undergraduate cumulative GPA from a regionally accredited institution. Applicants with below a 2.75 may be considered for conditional admission status. Applicants are required to submit scanned copies of official or unofficial transcripts from all institutions attended. Upon admission, final official or notarized copies of transcripts from all institutions where degrees were earned and diplomas from international institutions must be submitted. Applicants are also required to submit official scores from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE).

All applicants must submit a 2-3 page statement of purpose outlining their experience within the field of European Studies, their professional goals, and the research interests they wish to pursue. Three letters of recommendation from individuals with knowledge of the applicant’s qualifications and ability to successfully complete graduate study are also required.

International applicants are also required to submit scores from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS).

Cost of tuition

Please refer to www.bgsu.edu/offices/bursar for current information on tuition and fees.

Financial assistance

Financial assistance is available for full-time students through graduate assistantships and tuition scholarships on a competitive basis. The amount of funding is primarily based upon the strength of the applicant’s undergraduate academic credentials. For more information, please contact the graduate coordinator.

Domestic students enrolled in four or more credit hours are also eligible to apply for financial aid using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to calculate student contribution and financial need. You may apply online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

How to apply

Visit the BGSU Graduate College website at www.bgsu.edu/graduate/admissions.

Application deadline (w/ funding), Fall term: March 1
Application deadline (w/o funding), Fall term: July 15
Application deadline (w/o funding), Spring term: November 15

Applications for Fall and Spring are reviewed on a rolling basis as soon as all supporting materials have been received. Students seeking assistantships should apply by March 1 for consideration.

Curriculum

A total of 30 credit hours of coursework at the graduate level are required.

Areas of Specialization (selection)

- European Arts & Letters
- European Political Economy
- Regional Focus (France, Germany & Austria, Russia or Spain)
- Other European Languages (Italian, Russian, Slovenian) in combination with an arts and science or political-economic specialization

Required Courses (9 hours)

- ES 5010 Intro to European Studies (3)
- Two of the following:
  - HIST 6800 Seminar (3)
  - HIST 6470 Problems in Modern Europe (3)
  - HIST 6320 Topics in World History (3)
  - POLS 6710 Seminar in International Relations (3)
  - POLS 6510 Seminar in Comparative Government (3)
  - CERM 6160 Contemporary Germany (3)
  - FREN 5350 Topics in French Culture or Civilization (3)

Elective Courses (12 hours minimum)

- ES 6950 Research Workshop (1-3)
- ES 6990 Internship in European Studies (3-6).
  Internship or service-learning course in a European country or with a European company/organization.
- 6-9 credit hours in approved, related graduate elective coursework

Language Requirement (6 hours)

- Two language courses at the advanced level (3rd year) or above in one European language.

Capstone Experience (3 hours minimum)

Students select between one of the following capstone experiences:

- Plan I: ES 6990 Thesis (3 credits minimum)
- Plan II: ES 6980 Comp Reading / *Capstone (3 credits minimum)

* Projects may include development of a professional portfolio, e-portfolio, or other presentational materials that integrate research with reflection of experiential learning outcomes (internships, study-abroad, specific research projects).