

A Concept of International Master Programme in Applied and Interdisciplinary History “Usable Pasts”, 2-years, in English, HSE – St. Petersburg

General characteristics of the programme

A new Master Programme in Applied and Interdisciplinary History “Usable Pasts” will be opened in 2015 at the Faculty of History on the Saint-Petersburg Campus of the National Research University, Higher School of Economics. It is a 2-year International Master Programme taught in English.

A large part of historical studies is conducted as applied research. Using and interpreting historical data enables historian to construct “usable pasts” as a tool for understanding the present and imagining possible and alternative avenues of future development. Applied history embraces methods and practices dealing with identification, preservation, interpretation, and presentation of historical artifacts, texts, structures, and landscapes. In one part of our training we focus on material objects in history and their meanings within the framework of heritage and memory studies. The other part of the training will encompass a critical approach to the politics of circulation of historically formed discourses of identity and legitimacy in present day society. The two-pronged approach to the complex problem of historical legacy and heritage will fill out the gap in professional training in history and provide a platform for creating interactive processes that link the historical object, the historian, and the public.

Built on international experience of developing similar programmes, we use methodologies of global, comparative and transnational historical research that facilitate the study of patterns connecting European, Russian, Eurasian and global history. A crucial feature of the programme is its interdisciplinary character. In our view, applied history suffers from insufficient dialogue with research in other disciplines, not limited to other branches of humanities but social and natural sciences, including economics, geography and ecology. For that reason, the programme not only solicits applicants with undergraduate degrees in history, but actively seeks to enroll applicants with degrees in social sciences, economics, law as well as the natural sciences and engineering.

Technological and environmental histories are now occupying a significant place among the leading and most rapidly developing subfields of history because of their relevance to a large number of hot contemporary debates, be it a building of new economy based on innovations, a new division of labor, problems of energy supply, food security or climate change among others. The environmental history, on the one hand, is by its very nature an interdisciplinary pursuit and environmental historians are well-placed to serve the interests of the historical profession but making a bridge between humanities and natural sciences. On the other hand, environmental history might form the important component of applied (and public) history because interdisciplinarity is especially important for providing the methodological basis for understandings and practices of work with complex cultural-natural heritage.

The programme is centered in St. Petersburg, which is a UNESCO World site. St. Petersburg and the surrounding areas are uniquely rich in museums, monuments, cultural-natural and archaeological heritage sites that provide unique opportunities for practical training. The history of the metropolitan imperial city and its complex environment provide ample opportunities

to study variegated practices of preservation of material legacy and approaches to historical memory studies including symbolic representations of its imperial and Soviet past.

Although the programme will utilize its location in Russia and will provide respective training on the basis of Russian and Eurasian history, it will not be limited to Russian and Eurasian space and will include the following subfields of area- studies: the Baltic region, the Circumpolar North and the Global South.

The curriculum is formed around three blocks:

1) Historical memory and historically informed discourses of public politics and identity politics, nationalism, cultural heritage and nationalization of the past, symbolic representations of history in post-imperial and post-colonial societies, studies of collective trauma and historical justice.

2) Historical training with the main focus on historical, cultural, and natural heritage, including public museums and media space; archeology and policy of historical heritage, environmental history, history of science, technological history, urban history, economic history, history and law.

3) Methodology of interdisciplinary history and applied historical methods including but not limited to material culture, methods of environmental and technological history, digital humanities, oral history, database management, historical-geographic information systems and visualization methods.

Classwork and practical training will take place over the first year and a half, with the last half-year devoted to research and thesis writing. Exchange programmes established with European and US universities, as well as with the universities of the BRICKs countries will providing students with opportunities to spend one semester at a partnership institutions.

Historians skilled in applied interdisciplinary studies may come to play important public roles as historical knowledge increasingly informs society in fields related to heritage management, identity related public discourses in politics and education, among others. Despite demonstrable need, applied history is professionalizing more slowly in Europe than in the USA, Canada and Australia, where public history includes a broad range of historical research and activities connected with applying historical knowledge to contemporary life. Educational programmes in Russia do not include the training in applied history despite the acute relevance of the problem of historical and cultural heritage management and historically informed politics of identity. Although the primary focus of the programme is on historical heritage and politics of collective memories, applied history takes many forms – consultancies of science, development and innovation, museum presentations, television documentaries, collection and recording projects, and the re-translation of historical knowledge into modern information system formats.

Aim and objectives of the programme

The aim of the programme is to train high-skilled specialists who can build careers in non-academic jobs demanding historical expertise or further pursue research tracks. The programme is founded on a practical focus, proposing both traditional training methods focused on research and developing practical skills related to applied history. On the one hand, the programme focuses on preparing students for work in the public sphere right after graduation. Other objective implies that the programme produces graduates with strong background for further academic career: it trains

students in new historical approaches and methodologies that will make them successful in application to PhD programmes.

This innovative programme designed to correspond to the best foreign patterns of teaching applied history which includes a broad range of historical research and practices connected with applying historical knowledge to the contemporary social, political and economic activities. At the present day labor market requirements of highly-skilled professionals in the field of applied and interdisciplinary history are not met in Russian, CIS and Eastern Europe. Despite the need in these professionals is high, applied history is professionalizing more slowly in Europe than in the USA, Canada and Australia where its place is to a large extent occupied by public history which includes a broad range of historical research and activities connected with applying historical knowledge in the contemporary life. Corresponding to international standards in teaching of applied history as well as standards adopted by professional communities and international organizations (including the International Federation of Public History) this Master`s programme seeks to fill this gap in professional training in history.

The programme has the following objectives:

1. To realize a unique combination of fundamental and applied training to prepare graduates who will demonstrate essential knowledge of global, comparative, and transnational history as well as specific expertise and skills related to the key elements of applied history.
2. To implement interdisciplinary training needed for competence in applied history in such fields as:
 - historical memory and identity policy, theories of nationalism, imperial and colonial studies and postcolonial forms of identity, history in national, colonial and postcolonial discourses;
 - environmental and technological history, history of science, history of law, economic history;
 - historical heritage, public museums and media space, archeology and policy of historical heritage, historical urban studies;
3. To put a special emphasis on practical use of knowledge via focusing on research work and practical orientation of MA thesis.
4. To train students in using modern IT and software in order to help them develop skills in translation of historical data for application in society.
5. To introduce active learning methods – case studies, project and team work in the learning process as well as research seminars, master classes and internships which will correspond to present educational standards. A part of this training is devoted to developing skills of writing papers related to policy and practices of management of cultural and historical heritage. To realize a combination of studies and academic research by organizing regular seminars and involving students in the projects conducted by the Center for Historical Research which is a part of HSE – Saint-Petersburg.

Applied history is demanded by political realities in the age of “knowledge economy”. In Russia training in applied and interdisciplinary history is of particular importance. Since the end of the Soviet era when history had been used for ideological purposes, historians focus on academic research leaving applied history open to non-professionals. This tendency is apparent on the whole post-Soviet and, speaking more generally, post-socialist and post-colonial area. At the same time historians skilled in applied and interdisciplinary studies may come to play important public roles as historical knowledge increasingly informs society in fields related to heritage management, identity related public discourses in politics and education, among others.

The target audience of the programme and admission

The target audience of the programme are citizens and non-citizens of the Russian Federation including exchange students, 20 -25 students at the starting year of the programme.

The programme solicits applicants with undergraduate degrees in history, other fields of humanities, social and political sciences, economics, law, natural sciences (especially geography and ecology) and engineering. The working or volunteering experience in public sphere or institutions that deal with problems of historical legacy and heritage might be an advantage for admission. For non-historians who will be admitted to the programme the introductory courses in history are offered.

The students of the programme must have a good command in English proved by international certificates. They must have skills needed for full enrolment in English language studies, namely reading professional literature, listening to lectures, writing class and research works, participating in discussions as well as making presentations.

Admission to the programme is upon application requires a motivation letter in English and an interview. Additional score will be given for international educational experience proved by a certificate.

The Master Programme should have combined sources of finances: budget for citizens of the Russian Federation, quota for students from near abroad and far abroad, and scholarships for non-citizens of the Russian Federation. Scheme of selective tuition waiver and scholarships to international students should be applied, at least during first 5 years of the programme development. We plan to reduce the number of scholarships and tuition waiver for students by developing international exchange programmes.

Year	Number of students funded by the budget (for citizens of the Russian Federation)	Number of students with tuition waiver (non-citizens of the Russian Federation)	Number of students by quota from near abroad and far abroad	Number of students who need scholarship (non-citizens of the Russian Federation)	Total number of students
1	15	8	2	5	20-25
2	15	6	2	4	20-25
3	15	5	2	3	20-25
4	15	3	2	2	20-25
5	15	3	2	2	20-25

Upon completion of the programme, graduates will be equipped with cutting edge historical methodologies and competences required for practical application of their knowledge in modern society. Prospect careers include a wide range of jobs where skills in applied history are particularly useful such as museums, archives and libraries, media, non-profit organizations,

public institutions, professional scientific institutions and environmental services connected with heritage (large museums, city councils, national parks), and more. Being trained in the programme graduates can also continue academic research on a PhD level.

Graduates from the programme will be researchers for a new century with broad interests, who have deep knowledge of the works of their colleagues in different branches of history and other social sciences, and also able to present their own original ideas, and are capable of fruitful collaboration both the international academic community and in interdisciplinary environment. Specialization in applied and interdisciplinary history will allow the graduates possess a well-rounded education with both research and practical experience, a dual advantage in the international job market. They are expected to have widespread success in museum, archival, government, media, consulting, and educational careers.

Place of the programme among other related international programmes

All the examined programmes in applied and public history put a special focus on both theoretical training and on fieldwork in public institutions as places for further career building. They put an emphasis on developing professional communication skills by involving students into seminar and workshop activities. The programmes stress their connections with a wide range of institutions and professional networks having profoundly developed cooperation with public partners. They include compulsory training in public history with a focus on national history in some cases and optional courses on a variety of disciplines linked to public history.

European programmes offer more theoretical courses enabling the awareness of the connections between historical research and its application to the public that American ones. While many of U.S. programmes are focused on the national history, examined European programmes propose training in the global modern history putting the national history into a larger context. Our programme follows the European model of situating public and applied history in both the global and the national context. It, however, does not copy the path of European programmes, but goes further in terms of offering training in global, comparative, and transnational public history that brings transcending national histories. Unlike European programmes, this programme offers training in symbolic use of the past in post-imperial and post-colonial societies. This provides a critical stance to evaluate Europeanness by looking from beyond Europe and, at the same time, recreating a larger European context of cultural heritage which includes St. Petersburg.

Although HSE has some experience developing master training in history, teaching resources, modern material and technical facilities which will help develop an outstanding Master programme, there is an obvious need in considering foreign experience. Educational programmes in Russia do not include the training in applied history despite the acute relevance of the problem of historical and cultural heritage management and historically informed politics of identity.

On a global scale one might find various academic, professional and public initiatives which illustrate both recognition and great demand for applied history in the society. There are a number of international organizations and programmes which support and encourage development of the field. One of them is the National Council on Public History which is a membership association aiming to use the past in the present as well as to develop international cooperation between historians and their public. The association which was founded thirty years ago states its belief in “that historical understanding is of essential value in society”. This initiative entails publishing a journal *The Public Historian* which brings together people, institutions, agencies, businesses, and academic programme allied with the field of public history. Another organization is the International Federation for Public History that represents a recent European initiative:

founded in 2009 it pursues similar aims, in particular building contacts between public historians at European and a global level.

Likewise, some internationally renowned organizations support public historians in order to help the public and politics meet its demands towards historical research. For instance, the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the W. K. Kellogg Foundation spur support for community engagement in institutional policy and practice. One more illustrative initiative is provided by The American Society for Environmental History which has recently offered a new public outreach award to support internationally historical projects going beyond academic research (applied historical research applied in forms of museum exhibitions, historic preservation, and archaeology, among others).

These examples prove that different organizations promote applied history research while expecting historians to play a significant role in the public. This is most apparent in the United States, a country with a significantly developed public sphere, where a broad range of historical research and activities is strictly connected with a large public interest towards history in applying historical knowledge to contemporary life and real-world issues. In Europe the field is much less developed, although some European universities instill the presence of historians in the public sphere, in particular in the German media and political setting which seeks to comprehend a challenging history of the last century.

We have conducted a thorough analysis of several programmes which offer degrees in applied or public history, placing a particular emphasis on internationally renowned experience of the Arizona State University and University of Massachusetts at Amherst. We also focus on solid European public history programmes such as those in the Free University in Berlin, and Zurich University, both taught in German, and several (among others) British programmes such as those at the University of York and University of London, Royal Holloway.

Some examples:

The Arizona State University Public History Master Program is the oldest and widest in the United States launched in 1980. It concentrates on cultural resource management, historical administration, historic preservation, digital humanities, and scholarly publishing. The curriculum includes different forms of training. First, training emphasizes involving students in the theories and methods of public history, as well as basing in variety of historical research from museum studies and archives to historic preservation and digital humanities. An internship allows students to build their professional networks and introduces them to the settings in which they will start their careers. Second, the programme offers short courses which are stated to be unique features of the programme, which help students learn about leading theorists and practitioners in the field. Last, in order to move training beyond the classroom, the programme actively encourages developing individual projects, based on programmatic, thematic, and place-based approaches: for example, they treat Arizona as a museum and curate the region's environmental landscapes from its cities to rivers to deserts.

MA in History with a concentration in Public History at Massachusetts was opened in 1986 to prepare students to work on historical projects with various audiences and institutions, as well as to train them for work in museums, archives, historic preservation agencies, to provide historical services for area institutions, a rich network of museums, archives, etc. The requirements for a Master's degree consists of five history courses in a research field, namely American history, and four courses in a public history field (an introductory seminar with two related courses and an internship in specialization).

MA Program in Public History with a focus on modern history is a mutual programme of Free University in Berlin and the Center of Modern History in Potsdam launched in 2008. On the one hand, it is presented as an initiative aimed to meet the increasing interest in history expressed by media, museums, and memorials. On the other hand, the programme seeks to instill modern

history in the media and publicity. The programme offers both theoretical and practical training, in particular theoretical base for understanding how historical learning and historical culture operate as well as practical skills of making presentations and managing projects.

The only Russian programme in Public history we are aware is a one-year programme at the *Moscow School of Social and Economic Sciences conducted jointly with the University of Manchester*. While following all the programmes in public history in making historical research applicable in the broad public, its training focused mostly on media and politics, while “Usable Pasts” programme provides much broader perspective entailing larger applicability of developed skills, including environmental and technological focuses and management of historical heritage.

While being rather unique in Russia, the programme “Usable Pasts” will, thus, also be distinguishing in the international context. It proposes new interpretations and focuses on historical heritage, proving a variety of courses within several tracks which help training of candidates who will have abilities to deal with historical heritage interpreted from political, cultural and material perspectives. The programme corresponds to the strategy of the development of history in the Saint-Petersburg campus by framing research and education in global, of global, comparative, and transnational history and corresponds with its areas of excellence – studying of tolerance, urban studies and computerization.

Structure of the curriculum

The curriculum of the programme is shaped according to the standard requirements and principles of Master programmes recognized at HSE in order to help students acquire gradually needed competences. Following the strategy introduced to the Faculty of History at the Moscow Campus, the curriculum rejects a widely used practice of including or reproducing courses and disciplines of the Bachelor level studies. Instead, both teaching and student individual research is based on creative learning of new research methodology and practical training during research seminars and internships.

Introductory courses

- Introduction to World History: 3 ECTS, 108 hours
- Primary Sources and Information Resources in Historical Research: 3 ECTS, 108 hours

Core general courses

- Historical textology: 4 ECTS, 144 hours
- Theory and History of Culture: 6 ECTS, 216 hours
- History of Historical Knowledge / Historiography: 4 ECTS, 144 hours

Disciplines of the programme

Core courses of the programme

- Historical Memory and Identity Narratives: 3 ECTS, 108 hours
- Technology, Science and Environment in History: 4 ECTS, 144 hours
- Historical Heritage: Policy and Practices: 3 ECTS, 108 hours

Elective courses

Bloc 1

- History of Economics and Economic Institutes: 5 ECTS, 180 hours
- Ideology and Political Imagination of Imperialism and Nationalism: 5 ECTS, 180 hours

Bloc 2

- History of Social Institutes, Movements and Communication: 5 ECTS, 180 hours
- Space, Borders and Mobility in History: 5 ECTS, 180 hours

Bloc 3

- Urban Studies in Transnational Perspectives: 5 ECTS, 180 hours
- History and Law: Problems of Contemporary Contextualization: 5 ECTS, 180 hours

Bloc 4

- Applied History in Area Studies: Baltic Region: 4 ECTS, 144 hours
- Applied History in Area Studies: Russia and Eurasia: 4 ECTS, 144 hours
- Applied History in Area Studies: the Global South: 4 ECTS, 144 hours
- Applied History in Area Studies: the Circumpolar North: 4 ECTS, 144 hours

Bloc 5

- Digital Methods and Tools for Historical Research: 5 ECTS, 180 hours
- Method of Interview in Contemporary History: 5 ECTS, 180 hours

Optional Discipline from Another MA Programme: 3 ECTS, 108 hours

Research Training and Internships: 17 ECTS, 612 hours

Research Seminar: 18 ECTS, 648 hours

First Year Research Paper: 6 ECTS, 216 hours

Preparation and Defense of Master Thesis: 24 ECTS, 864 hours

The curriculum is embracing three focuses of learning:

1) Historical memory and historically informed discourses of public politics and identity politics, nationalism, cultural heritage and nationalization of the past, symbolic representations of history in post-imperial and post-colonial societies, studies of collective trauma and historical justice.

2) Historical training with the main focus on historical, cultural, and natural heritage, including public museums and media space; archeology and policy of historical heritage, environmental history, history of science, technological history, urban history, economic history, history and law.

3) Methodology of interdisciplinary history and applied historical methods including but not limited to material culture, digital humanities, oral history, database management, historical-geographic information systems and visualization methods.

Curriculum also include adaptation courses: Introduction to World History and Primarily Sources and Information Resources for Historical Research for students with degree in non-historical studies.

One of the aspects of the Master programme focuses on relations between historical memory and historical heritage. Analysis of identities of different societies and national states is based on theories of nationalism and empire as well as theories of post-colonial studies. These elements of the curriculum seem to be crucial since a lot of conflicts and problems in the present Russian society and in the post-Soviet space are caused by debates on historical heritage of the empire and colonialism as well as on ideals and norms of national communities and states.

Another unique feature of the programme is that it includes such new fields of historical studies as environmental and technological history, including history of expert knowledge. The teaching and training also includes history of companies, social movements and family, as well as history of mobility and communications, especially when such studies go beyond the academic research acquiring wider public significance. The most significant area of the programme is policy and practices of dealing with historical heritage, including archeological, cultural, environmental and industrial ones, historical urban studies. During their studies the students will learn to work with digital heritage, making virtual exhibitions, guide books, geographical information systems (GIS).

Although the programme will utilize its location in Russia and will provide respective training on the basis of Russian and Eurasian history, it will not be limited to Russian and Eurasian space and will include the following subfields of the area-studies: the Baltic region, the Circumpolar North and the Global South.

Classwork and practical training will take place over the first year and a half. The last half-year devoted to research and thesis writing.

Core modes of study are:

- lectures which provide main theoretical background and analytical review of current scholarship;
- educational and research seminars to teach students to work with professional academic literature and historical sources, hold a discussion as well as gain skills needed for academic writing;
- individual and group research projects of academic and applied character;
- student presentations at seminars and conferences inside and outside the programme;
- internships in research and educational institutes, archives, libraries, museums in Russia and abroad;
- researching and writing of MA Thesis under individual supervision of the faculty member.

Research seminar, internships and exchanges.

One of the most important parts of studies are the research seminar and the projects based on thematic approaches which takes a large part of students` activities. The aim of project activities is to develop abilities in doing substantive research on a chosen topic. The project research is supervised by a lecturer or practitioner depending on a topic and student`s interests. It could be of more academic or more applied character and connected with the training students obtained during the internship periods.

Research seminar an important part of studies in the programme. Research seminar is being held during the whole period of studies. It implies regular meetings and independent work. Its aim is to help students develop skills needed for successful completing of thesis requirements. It

includes both class studies and individual work under supervision. The subject of the seminar contribution should be related to the course work and Master`s thesis

The general score for participation in research seminars is composed by completing the seminar requirement: 1) essays reflecting current progress of work on term paper and master thesis 2) oral presentations 3) participation in class discussions.

In the first year a student must submit four texts: research plan (module 2), term paper project (module 3), historiography review (module 4), term paper for final defense (module 4).

In the second year a student must submit four texts: explicate thesis research plan (module 1), synopsis of a thesis (module 2), report on empirical research (module 3), Master Thesis for defense (module 3).

The aim of the seminar is to introduce students to high quality recent research in the broad realm of applied and interdisciplinary history, production, translation, and application of historical knowledge. As a result, the seminar is expected to help students produce high quality Master`s theses on a publishable level. Students are expected to receive deep experience of working with academic literature, participation in academic discussions, and skills required for producing and reasoning their own point of view as well as participation in project-based activities built up on the experience and knowledge they got during the internship periods.

Students will be involved into various research activities, such as:

- Deeper learning of historiography of the field with particular focus on literature related to the topics of the course paper and MA Thesis. In the beginning of the first year the seminar will be organized around presentations of lecturers who will introduce their own research and methods, as well as organizational aspects of the seminar.
- Producing individual projects – course work in the first year, and Master`s thesis in the second. In so doing students will have to make presentations and take part into discussions of current results, sources, theoretical issues, and other questions related to their research, including discussions of course works and topics of Master`s theses with other students in class in the first year of studies.
- Presentation of detailed research plans of Master`s dissertations;
- Preliminary defense of Master`s theses.

Internships both in Russia and abroad form important part of curricula. The places for internships include various museums, archeological institution, tourist companies, media and NGOs. Internships are the compulsory requirement for students which enable them to establish connections between theory and practice while making a contribution into communities of applied historians. There are two periods of internships: two weeks at the end of the first year of studies and three – four weeks during the second semester when the MA Thesis will be under preparation. There will be possibilities to take internships in other regions than St. Petersburg. In addition to internships students will be involved in other learning and project activities such as Summer Schools in Russia and abroad.

Exchange programmes established with European and US universities will providing students with opportunities to spend one semester at partnership institutions. In order to develop an internationally renowned and attractive programme we include wide possibility for diverse and productive programmes of student exchange. The range of universities potentially are from Scandinavia and UK to the universities of BRICKs countries. One of the milestones on this way is formation of the Academic Council of the programme which members, distinguished international scholars, will provide high-level expertise on the quality of our programme and will promote the programme in Europe and the US.

Faculty of the programme

Leading university professors, lecturers and research associates as well as visiting faculty will engage to teaching in the programme. At present, there are professors whose professional interests are connected to varying degrees with applied history and interdisciplinary approaches to history; all them have a very good working knowledge of English, involved in international academic and publication activities.

Head of the programme:

Julia Lajus, Candidate of Science in History, Associate Professor, Higher School of Economics, Saint-Petersburg, Department of History, research interests in environmental and technological history, history of science, polar history, contemporary history, studies of cultural – natural heritage, urban history, digital history;

Julia Lajus has a good experience of doing research and teaching abroad. She is a member of editorial board of two international journals and serves as vice-president of the European Society of Environmental History (ESEH). During last 10 years she participated in several global research projects funded by international foundations, including European Science Foundation and others. In 2009-2010 she worked as Marie Curie Research Fellow at University of Birmingham, UK (mobility programme from the European Commission). She presented her research not only at many conferences but gave invited seminar talks and lectures for students at such universities as University of New Hampshire and Florida State University (USA); Wilfrid Laurier University (Canada); University of Birmingham; Cambridge University; Royal Holloway, University of London, and University of Glasgow (UK); University of Arhus (Denmark); Royal Institute of Technology and Sodertorn University (Sweden); University of Klagenfurt (Austria) and others. Her research interests include environmental history, especially history of biological resources in marine and polar areas, history of field sciences such as marine biology, fisheries, oceanography and geophysics; and history of the Russian Arctic in comparative and transnational perspective. Julia Lajus published seven papers in international journals and more than ten chapters in monographs with leading international publishers (total number of publications over 60). She organized and co-organized 5 international conferences and 2 international summer schools. Julia Lajus prepared several courses in English, one of them - “Technology, Environment and Science in the Soviet Union”- she taught at the European University at St. Petersburg.

Faculty members:

Adrian Selin, Doctor of Science in History, Professor, Higher School of Economics, Saint-Petersburg, Faculty of History, research interests in transnational history of the Baltic region, border studies in history, practices of management of archaeological and cultural heritage. Adrian Selin has large experience not only in historical but also in archaeological research. For many years he organized and conducted such research in Staraya Ladoga and as a member of the Research Center “Petroscandica”. He has well-developed international cooperation especially with Scandinavian historians and archeologists. He received several fellowships from Visby Programme to do research in Sweden. For the Programme Adrian Selin is developing courses on politics of historical and archaeological heritage, on spatial and cross-border history in the Baltic region and others.

Alexandr Semyonov, PhD, Professor, Higher School of Economics, Saint-Petersburg, Faculty of History, research interests in colonial and post-colonial studies, new imperial history, history of nationalism and historical memory and identity;

Ronald Suny, PhD, University of Michigan, USA, participant of the international project of the Center for Historical Research HSE St. Petersburg, well-known expert in Russian/Soviet history of nationalism;

Nathan Marcus, PhD (New York University, USA), Associate Professor, Higher School of Economics, Saint-Petersburg, Faculty of History, research interests in economic history.

Alexandra Bekasova, Candidate of Science in History, Associate Professor, Higher School of Economics, Saint-Petersburg, Faculty of History, research interests in mobility studies, technological history, urban history;

Tatiana Borisova, Candidate of Science in History, Associate Professor Higher School of Economics, Saint-Petersburg, Faculty of History, research interests in history of law, contemporary history;

Marina Loskutova, PhD, Associate Professor Higher School of Economics, Saint-Petersburg, Faculty of History, research interests in history of science, environmental history, oral history;

Dmitry Kalugin, Candidate of Science in Phylology, Associate Professor Higher School of Economics, Saint-Petersburg, Faculty of History.

Ivan Sablin, PhD, Senior Teacher, History, Higher School of Economics, Saint-Petersburg, Faculty of History, research interests in transnational and global history, digital history.

Simo Mikkonen, PhD, Associate Professor, University of Juvaskula, Finland, exchange visiting professor at HSE SPb research interests in contemporary transnational and social history, history of culture and communications.