



**HIGHER SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS**  
NATIONAL RESEARCH UNIVERSITY  
SAINT PETERSBURG

**Evaluation criteria of a portfolio for foreign citizens applying for educational programmes of higher education - Master's programs within the framework of a separate competition for foreign citizens within the admission campaign 2025-2026**

**Saint Petersburg, 2024**

## Criteria for portfolio assessment for English-taught Master programmes at HSE St. Petersburg 2025-2026

### 38.04.00 Economics and Management

Finance

International Business in the Asia-Pacific Region

Arts and Culture Management

Data Analytics for Business and Economics

### 41.04.00 Political Science and Area Studies

Comparative Politics of Eurasia

Data Analytics for Politics and Society

### 39.04.00 Sociology and Social Work

Data Analytics for Politics and Society

### 46.04.00 History and Archaeology

Global and Regional History (<https://spb.hse.ru/en/ma/grhistory/requirements/>)

### 54.04.01 Design

Design (track ‘Art-direction for cultural institutions’)

\* Interview is held in English

	Status	Requirements	Score
CV	Compulsory element	Europass format or similar form of curriculum vitae <b><u>in English</u></b>	Fail / Pass
Motivation Letter	Compulsory element	Max 1 A4 page, font Times New Roman, font size 14, space 1,5. Language – English Please, include the answers of the following questions to your Motivation letter: 1) Why do you want to study in Russia? 2) Why do you choose HSE St. Petersburg and the programme you are applying for? 3) How will education at HSE St. Petersburg contribute to your professional development? 4) What ways do you think you can make a contribution to the University? 5) What makes you a good candidate for this programme?	0-5
		For the <b><u>Master’s programme ‘Data Analytics for Business and Economics’</u></b> , the additional points (5) are given for the rationale for choosing one of three applied tracks: • Customer Analytics	+5

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People Analytics</li> <li>• Economic Data Analysis</li> </ul> <p>For the <b><u>Master’s programmes ‘Arts and Culture Management’, ‘International Business in the Asia-Pacific Region’</u></b> the maximum number of points for a criterion is 10.</p> <p>For the <b><u>Master’s programmes ‘Arts and Culture Management’:</u></b> motivation letter’s volume 500-750 words, Times New Roman, font 14, 1.5 spacing.</p>	10
<b>Recommendation Letter</b>	Compulsory element	<p>The formal letter of reference should be written on the official letterhead including the contact information and signature of the header for recommendation letter. It is strongly recommended to submit at least one recommendation letter.</p> <p>For the <b><u>Master’s programmes ‘Arts and Culture Management’ and ‘Data Analytics for Business and Economics’</u></b>, the maximum number of points for a criterion is 5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 letter – 5 scores</li> <li>• 2 letters – 10 scores</li> </ul> <p>0-5</p>
<b>Diploma with transcript of records</b>	Compulsory element	<p>Diploma of Higher Education / University Diploma with the transcript of records = 5 scores Additional scores could be awarded for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Match with educational programme specialization + 5 scores</li> <li>2) Diploma with Distinction / high GPA + 5 scores</li> <li>3) In case you are in the final year of Undergraduate studies and have not received the Diploma yet, you should submit the transcript of records for all academic years. +5 scores are awarded for the transcript of records with primarily excellent marks.</li> </ol> <p><i>*It is required to provide a verified translated certified copy of your Diploma in Russian in case the Diploma with transcript of records is neither in English nor in Russian.</i></p>	5 – 15

<p><b>Certificate of Language Proficiency</b></p>	<p>Additional element</p> <p>Compulsory element for <b><u>Master's programmes 'International Business in the Asia-Pacific Region'</u></b></p>	<p>General requirements to the submitted certificates (+5 scores):  IELTS 6.0  TOEFL iBT 80-90  TOEFL PBT 500-550  CAE / CPE / BEC – previous studies taken in English (verified by Diploma and transcript of records)</p> <p>+10 scores if  IELTS &gt;6.0  TOEFL iBT &gt;85  TOEFL PBT &gt;550  Native English speaker</p> <p>For the <b><u>Master's programme 'Data Analytics for Business and Economics'</u></b>:  +10 scores if  IELTS &gt; 6  TOEFL iBT &gt; 100  TOEFL CBT &gt; 250  TOEFL PBT &gt; 600</p>	<p>0 – 10</p>
<p><b>Academic, professional and personal merits, including GMAT/GRE certificates</b></p>	<p>Additional element</p>	<p>Participation in international competitions, scientific conferences, Summer and Winter schools at HSE, distinction in studies, other international certificates including GMAT/GRE; publications. At the discretion of the programme, <b><u>max 10 scores</u></b> might be awarded.</p> <p>For the <b><u>Master's programme 'Data Analytics for Business and Economics'</u></b>:  +5 scores if  GMAT&gt;600  GRE Subject test to mathematics&gt;660  GRE Quantitative Reasoning&gt;154  +10 scores if  GMAT&gt;700  GRE Subject test to mathematics&gt;855  GRE Quantitative Reasoning&gt;166</p> <p>For the <b><u>Master's programme 'Finance'</u></b>, the maximum number of points (10) for a criterion is given separately for GMAT or GRE certificates:  GMAT 500-600 = 10 points  GRE Math 450-600 = 10 points</p> <p>For the <b><u>Master's programmes 'International Business in the Asia-Pacific Region'</u></b> the maximum number of points for a criterion is 15</p>	<p>0 – 10</p> <p>0 – 15</p>

		For the <b><u>Master's programme 'Design'</u></b> provide a creative project and examples of creative portfolio.	
<b>Writing sample of up to 50 pages</b>	<b>For Master's programme '<u>Global and Regional History'</u> only</b>	<p>The work does not have to correspond to the profile of this master's programme. Provide your most successful, in your opinion, published or unpublished text. This may be your BA thesis or its section, or another thesis, a publication or something prepared or intended for publication, or any unpublished manuscript.</p> <p>For <b><u>Master's programme 'Global and regional history'</u></b> only writing sample evaluation criteria:</p> <p>depth of analysis  use and analysis of sources  theoretical statement of the research question  novelty of conclusions  and / or: criteria for evaluating the quality of work in the subject area of your undergraduate</p>	0 - 20
<b>Interview</b>	Compulsory element	<p>The interview is in English. The procedure is following: 1. The interview has to be appointed in 14 days after the day the application has been submitted upon condition that the application form is properly filled out and all required documents are submitted. 2. Date and time for the interview are appointed by HSE St. Petersburg. By request of an applicant it is permitted to reschedule the time for interview once only. The applicant has to inform the Commission about rescheduling by sending an email to: <a href="mailto:iadmission-spb@hse.ru">iadmission-spb@hse.ru</a></p> <p>3. Skype with web-camera or similar available communication tool (Zoom) is used in order to conduct the interview. The interview might also be conducted internally. 4. Before the interview starts, the Commission has to verify the Applicant's identity (the Applicant has to show the ID) 5. Recommended</p>	Fail – 50

		<p>duration of the interview – 15 minutes 6. During the interview the applicant has an opportunity to give the comprehensive comments on the application and the motivation letter; to show the understanding of the educational specialization; to show strong communication skills in English</p> <p>For the <u>Master's programmes 'Comparative Politics of Eurasia':</u> recommended duration of the interview – <b>30 minutes</b>; during the interview, the Commission tests the applicant for 15 minutes on issues that include the basics of comparative politics and international relations, in the format of multiple choice test and then talks with the applicant on the substantive aspects of his application (on portfolio elements);</p> <p>For the <u>Master's programmes 'International Business in the Asia-Pacific Region'</u> the maximum number of points for a criterion is 40</p>	<p>Fail – 50 (0 - 25 based on test results; 0 - 25 based on discussion)</p> <p>Fail – 40</p>
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