

PROFILE OF THE ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE OF ASIAN AND AFRICAN STUDIES

Overview of the discipline:

Asian and African Studies is a complex academic discipline, which encompasses a great number of separate fields of scientific knowledge and their applications to the countries and peoples of Asia and Africa. The origins of the discipline date back to the 18th century, and Russian scholars have played a critical and at times pre-eminent role in the development of the field throughout its entire existence. The inherent complexity and comprehensive breadth of Asian and African Studies require covering a large number of academic specialisations, ranging from history, ethnology, and linguistics to economics and sociology.

Fields of research:

Regional and Industry-Based Economics (Asian and African Countries)¹

– corresponds to Higher Attestation Committee (HAC) field of study 5.2.3. Regional and Industry-Based Economics

- I1 Health Economics
- I2 Education and Research Institutions
- I3 Welfare, Well-Being, and Poverty
- J01 Labour Economics: General
- J1 Demographic Economics
- J6 Mobility, Unemployment, Vacancies, and Immigrant Workers
- L6 Industry Studies: Manufacturing
- L7 Industry Studies: Primary Products and Construction
- L8 Industry Studies: Services
- L9 Industry Studies: Transportation and Utilities
- O5 Economywide Country Studies
- Q02 Commodity Markets
- Q1 Agriculture
- Q2 Renewable Resources and Conservation
- Q3 Non-Renewable Resources and Conservation
- R1 General Regional Economics
- R2 Household Analysis
- R3 Real Estate Markets, Spatial Production Analysis, and Firm Location
- R4 Transportation Economics
- R5 Regional Government Analysis
- Z1 Cultural Economics
- Z3 Tourism Economics

¹ *The subject heading list corresponds to the JEL (Journal of Economic Literature) classification code system, which is a generally accepted international mechanism for classifying research in economic sciences. A research study may pertain to several subject heading classifications simultaneously. To achieve more precise positioning for their research studies, affiliated students can refer to the original version of the JEL codes (<https://www.aeaweb.org/econlit/jelCodes.php>).*

World Economy (Asian and African Countries)¹

– corresponds to Higher Attestation Committee (HAC) field of study 5.2.5. World Economy

F02 International Economic Order and Integration

F1 Trade

F2 International Factor Movements and International Business

F3 International Finance

F5 International Relations, National Security, and International Political Economy

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Social Structure, Social Institutions and Processes

(Asian and African Countries)

– corresponds to Higher Attestation Committee (HAC) field of study 5.4.4. *Social Structure, Social Institutions and Processes*

1. Differentiation and Integration of Society
2. Social Inequality
3. New Social Movements
4. Social Conflicts
5. Social Factors and Mechanisms in Spatial Transformations. Territorial Communities Within the Social Structure.
6. Social Contexts of Religiosity, Secularisation, and Desecularisation
7. Social Aspects of Economic Relations
8. Formal and Informal Social Connections
9. Social Capital and Trust
10. Social Analysis of Generational Differences
11. Social Aspects of Migration Processes
12. Social Institution of the Family and Partnership
13. Socialisation Practices in Youth Subcultures
14. Social Experience in Childhood
15. Virtual and Real-Life Communities
16. Social Aspects of the Law
17. Social Problems of Urbanisation/Deurbanisation and Regional Development
18. Social Consequences of Disasters
19. Sociology of Tourism
20. Sociology of Sports
21. Sociology of Medicine

Political Sociology (Asian and African Countries)

– corresponds to Higher Attestation Committee (HAC) field of study 5.4.5. Political Sociology

1. Social Foundations of Power and Authority
2. State-Society Interactions
3. Recruitment of Political Elites
4. Trends in Contemporary Political Processes in Various Institutional Contexts

Sociology of Culture (Asian and African Countries)

– corresponds to Higher Attestation Committee (HAC) field of study 5.4.6. Sociology of Culture

1. Social Morphology of Culture: Structure, Form, and Level of Cultural Activity
2. Social Dynamics of Culture. Social Mechanisms of Continuity and Innovation in Culture
3. Social Regulation of Cultural Activity. Power and Culture. Culture and Social Control
4. The Phenomenon of Mass Society and Its Sociocultural Parameters. Mass and Elite Culture
5. Civilization and Culture. Global and Local Trends in Cultural Development
6. Cultural Communication. Modern Communications Technologies and Their Impact on the Spiritual Life of Society
7. Global Communications Systems (Television, Internet) and the Spiritual Life of Society
8. Subjective Structure of the Culture of Society
9. Cultural Socialisation and Personal Self-Identification
10. Religion as a Sociocultural Phenomenon. Social Functions of Religion
11. Religious Organisations and Movements
12. Education and Cultural Reproduction
13. Sociocultural Technologies for the Transmission of Knowledge
14. Social Policy in the Field of Education. Science as a Sociocultural Institution
15. Contemporary Cultural Policy: Content, Level, and Implementation Mechanisms
16. Corporate Culture
17. Legal Culture and Socially Normative Systems for Regulating Society
18. Language and Society, Discourse Analysis
19. Social, Collective, Cultural, and Group Memory
20. Museum Studies

21. The Market for Art Objects
22. Social Media
23. Cultural Studies (Sociology of Culture)

Political Institutions, Processes, and Technologies (Asian and African Countries)
– corresponds to Higher Attestation Committee (HAC) field of study 5.5.2. *Political
Institutions, Processes, and Technologies*

1. Political Management
2. Political Systems
3. Political Regimes
4. Political Institutions
5. Political Organisations
6. Functions and Types of Political Authorities
7. The State and Its Types; Forms of State Structures
8. Political Elites
9. Political Processes and Their Types
10. Ideology
11. Symbolic Politics
12. Political Culture
13. Political Psychology
14. Political Socialisation
15. Public Opinion and Politics
16. Political Behaviour and Political Participation
17. Mass Political Communication
18. Public Politics
19. Internal and External Factors in Political Decision-Making
20. Political Regions and Regional Politics
21. Local Self-Government as a Political Phenomenon
22. The Ethno-Cultural Factor in Political Processes and Ethnic Politics
23. The Religious Factor in Political Processes; Church-State Relations
24. Biopolitics
25. Digital Politics

International Relations, Global and Regional Studies (Asian and African Countries) – corresponds to Higher Attestation Committee (HAC) field of study 5.5.4.

International Relations, Global and Regional Studies

1. Activities of State and Non-State Actors
2. Formal and Informal Institutions in International Relations and World Politics
3. The Global System and Regional Subsystems in International Relations and World Politics
4. The Ideological Factor in International Relations
5. The Formation and Implementation of Foreign Policy Strategies, Concepts, and Doctrines
6. International Relations as a Space for Realising and Upholding the Values and Interests of Diverse Subjects
7. Integration Processes in the Contemporary World
8. Power and Power Centres in the World Order
9. International Security
10. International Crises and Conflicts
11. International Terrorism and the Struggle Against It
12. Peacekeeping Activities
13. Subjective Factors in International Relations and World Politics
14. International Organisations
15. Foreign Policy and Diplomacy
16. Political Aspects of Global and Regional Economic Processes
17. Humanitarian, Social, and Environmental Issues in World Politics and International Relations
18. Demographic and Migration Processes in International Relations and World Politics
19. International Links of Sub-National Subjects
20. Informational, Cognitive, Bio- and Other New Technologies in International Relations and World Politics

Russian History

– corresponds to Higher Attestation Committee (HAC) field of study 5.6.1. *Russian History*

1. History and Culture of Medieval Rus' and Its Neighbours
2. History and Culture of Muscovite Russia in the XIV–XVII Centuries.
3. History and Culture of the Russian Empire in the XVIII–Early XX Centuries.
4. History and Culture of the USSR and Contemporary Russia
5. History of Political Entities on the Territory of Russia
6. Regional and Local History of Russia. Cooperation and Interrelations Among Cultures, Religions, and Peoples on the Territory of Russia
7. Economic History of Russia and Its Regions
8. Social History of Russia and Its Regions
9. History of Mindsets and Worldviews in Russia and Its Regions
10. History of Everyday Life in Russia and Its Regions
11. Historical Imagology
12. History of Gender in Russia and Its Regions
13. History and Culture of Diasporas
14. History of Statehood and State Institutions in Russia
15. The Russian State and Russian Society
16. History of Social Thought in Russia
17. History of Ethnic Relations on the Territory of Russia and the Nationalities Policy of the Russian State
18. History of Religious Thought in Russia, Religious Movements, Churches, and Other Organisations of Believers, Religious Movements and Groups
19. Historical Ecology of Russia
20. Historical Demography of Russia
21. Historical Geography of Russia

World History (Asian and African Countries)

– corresponds to Higher Attestation Committee (HAC) field of study 5.6.2. World History

1. History and Culture of the East and Africa in Antiquity
2. History and Culture of the East and Africa in the Middle Ages
3. Modern and Contemporary History and Culture of the East and Africa
4. History of Individual Regions, Territories, Civilizations, Countries, Cultures, Peoples, Diasporas, Religions, and Communities, and Interrelations Between Them
5. Social and Economic History of Regions, Countries, Provinces, and Cities
6. History of Social Processes, Institutions, and Structures
7. Political History of Individual Countries and Regions
8. Cultural History of Individual Countries and Regions
9. History of Political Institutions
10. History of Political Culture
11. History of International Relations and Foreign Policy
12. History of Wars and Armed Conflicts
13. History of Mindsets and Worldviews
14. History of Everyday Life
15. Historical Imagology
16. Intellectual History
17. History of Social Thought
18. History of Religion
19. Historical Ecology
20. Historical Demography
21. History of the Family, History of Childhood, History of Gender
22. Historical Geography

Social (Cultural) Anthropology (Russia, Asian and African Countries)

– corresponds to Higher Attestation Committee (HAC) field of study 5.6.4. Ethnology, Anthropology, and Ethnography

1. Social and Cultural Genesis
2. Social and Cultural History of Individual Peoples and Regions
3. Cultural History of Social Institutions
4. Forms of Social and Cultural Communities From the Family to the Nation
5. Intercultural Cooperation
6. Anthropology of Migration and Disaporas
7. Anthropology of Ethnicity and Race
8. Historical Anthropology (Study of Anthropological Issues in Written Sources)
9. Political Anthropology
10. Legal Anthropology
11. Economic Anthropology
12. Anthropology of Folk Knowledge, Science, and Education
13. Anthropology of Art
14. Anthropology of Historical and Cultural Memory
15. Anthropology of Religion
16. Socio-Anthropological Aspects of Folklore and Mythology
17. Socio-Anthropological Aspects of Psychology
18. Socio-Anthropological Aspects of Ecology
19. Socio-Anthropological Aspects of Demography
20. Anthropology of Ageing
21. Anthropology of Gender
22. Ethnographic Museum Studies

Research Source Studies, Historiography, and Special Historical Disciplines

(Russia, Asian and African Countries)

– corresponds to Higher Attestation Committee (HAC) field of study 5.6.5.

Historiography, Research Source Studies, and Historical Research Methods

1. Research Source Studies for the History of Russia, Asia, and Africa
2. History and Contemporary Status of Historical Sciences in Russia and the Countries of Asia and Africa
3. Contribution of Special Historical Disciplines in the Study of the Past in Russia, Asia, and Africa

History of Philosophy (Asian and African Countries)

*– corresponds to Higher Attestation Committee (HAC) field of study 5.7.2. History of
Philosophy*

1. History of Arab and Islamic Philosophy
2. History of Philosophy of China and East Asian Countries and Peoples
3. History of Philosophy of India and South Asian and Southeast Asian Countries and Peoples
4. Philosophical Thought in Sub-Saharan Africa
5. History of Philosophy of Individual Asian and African Countries and Peoples

Philosophy of Religion and Religious Studies (Russia, Asian and African Countries)

– corresponds to Higher Attestation Committee (HAC) field of study 5.7.9.

Philosophy of Religion and Religious Studies

1. The Issue of Religion in Diverse Schools of Philosophy
2. Philosophy of Religion and Religious Philosophy
3. Content of Religious Ontologies, Epistemology, Sociology, Philosophy of History, Anthropology, Ethics, Aesthetics, Axiology, Schools of Thought in Law, Schools of Thought in Economics, Politics, and the State; Specific Features of Cognitive Processes, Morals, Art, and Law in Diverse Religions and Confessions
4. The Person in Diverse Religious and Philosophical Concepts
5. Religious and Philosophical Concepts of Culture
6. Religious Culture as a Phenomenon; Distinctiveness of Specific Religious Cultures
7. Esoteric Teachings
8. History of the Development of Theological Knowledge; History of the Study of Religion in Russia, and the Countries of Asia and Africa
9. Myth and Religion
10. Interconnections and Mutual Influences Between Religions and Other Areas of Culture; Religion Within the Universe of Culture
11. Sacred Religious Texts
12. Religion and Social Development of the Regions and Peoples of Russia, Asia, and Africa
13. Religion and Politics in Russia and the Countries of Asia and Africa
14. Religion and Science in Russia and the Countries of Asia and Africa
15. Theology and Dogma in the Religions of the Peoples of Asia and Africa
16. Religious Signs and Symbols
17. Diversity of Religious Experience

18. Religiosity: Research Methods and Findings
19. Religion and Personal Identity
20. The Sacred and the Profane; Sacred Objects, Spaces, Places, Times, Words, Texts, Persons, and Communities
21. Psychology and Practice of World Religions

Literatures of the World's Peoples (Russia and the Countries of Asia and Africa)
(indicating the specific national literature)

– corresponds to Higher Attestation Committee (HAC) field of study 5.9.2.

Literatures of the World's Peoples

1. History of the Literatures of Russia, Asia, and Africa
2. Literary Theory, Including Theory of Poetry, for the Literatures of Russia, Asia, and Africa
3. Literature in the Ancient Languages of the Near East
4. Biblical Studies; Bible Translation Studies in Ancient and Eastern Languages
5. Comparative Studies in the Literatures of the East
6. Comparative Studies in the Literatures of the East and West

Folklore Studies (Russia and the Countries of Asia and Africa)

– corresponds to Higher Attestation Committee (HAC) field of study 5.9.4. Folklore Studies

1. Oral Traditions of the Peoples of Russia, Asia, and Africa
2. Folklore of Non-Literate Cultures of Russia, Asia, and Africa
3. Song and Storytelling in the Folklore and Mythology of the Peoples of Russia, Asia, and Africa
4. Contemporary City Folklore, Including Oral Creativity of Sub-Cultural Groups and Internet Folklore
5. Theory and Typology of the Folklore of the Peoples of Russia, and of Asian and African Peoples

Languages of the Peoples of Russia

– corresponds to Higher Attestation Committee (HAC) field of study 5.9.5. Russian

Language. Languages of the Peoples of Russia

1. Theoretical Issues in Linguistics as Applied to the Languages of the Peoples of Russia
2. Grammar and Lexicon of Individual Languages, Language Families and Groups
3. Historical Grammar and Etymology
4. Field (Empirical) Research Using Materials From the Languages of the Peoples of Russia
5. Corpus-Based Research Using Materials From the Languages of the Peoples of Russia
6. Sociolinguistics of the Languages of the Peoples of Russia

Languages of the Peoples of Foreign Countries (Countries of Asia and Africa)

(indicating the specific language or language family)

– corresponds to Higher Attestation Committee (HAC) field of study 5.9.6. Languages of the Peoples of Foreign Countries (indicating the specific language or group of languages)

1. Theoretical Issues in Linguistics as Applied to the Languages of the East
2. Grammar and Lexicon of Individual Languages, Language Families and Groups
3. Historical Grammar and Etymology
4. Field (Empirical) Research Using Materials From Eastern Languages
5. Corpus-Based Research Using Materials From Living and Ancient Written Languages of the East
6. Sociolinguistics of Eastern Languages

History of Visual Arts, Applied and Decorative Arts, and Architecture (Russia, Countries of Asia and Africa)

– corresponds to Higher Attestation Committee (HAC) field of study 5.10.1. Theory and History of Culture and Art

1. Regional Specifics in the Development of Diverse Art Forms. Artistic Schools: Their Formation and Functioning
2. External and Internal Patterns in the Development of Diverse Art Forms
3. Tradition and Innovation in Art. Issues in the Creative Genesis, Composition, and Transformation of Artistic Styles
4. Composition of the Imagery and Language of the Arts. The Search for Ideas and Stylistic Schools in Diverse Art Forms
5. Methods and Forms of Interaction Among Diverse Art Forms
6. Art as a Social Phenomenon
7. The Role and Place of Art in the Evolution and Development of Spiritual and Material Culture, and in Human Habitats
8. Development of Techniques in the Creation of Works of Art
9. The Creative Lives and Artistic Legacies of Great Masters of the Arts
10. Folk Art and Popular Art Forms
11. Mass and Pop Art
12. History of the Development of Art Theory and the History of Art Criticism Knowledge in Russia and the Countries of Asia and Africa
13. Issues in Art History in the Context of the Development of Other Fields of Human Activity