

January 21, 2023

Dear Gulnash Askhat,

On behalf of the Central Asia Program at the Institute for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies, at the Elliott School of International Affairs of The George Washington University, I am pleased to invite you as a visiting scholar for our Eurasian Studies Program from September 1, 2023, to August 27, 2024.

As a visiting scholar for our Eurasian Studies Program, you will undertake a tailor-made, intense training program with a focus on Eurasian Studies. The program provides a high-quality, fast-paced scholarly experience in which scholars can seamlessly integrate theory and practice. In addition, you will have the same opportunities as full-time GW students to utilize the University's resources such as library access, office space, and our network to support your learning experience with us.

The total cost for the program will be **\$19,700** and will include the following:

- GW campus services (library access, GW email, departmental facilities, classrooms, etc.): **\$ 5,000**
- Tailor-made classes, workshops, guest speakers, and lectures: **\$10,500**
- Faculty coordination and administration fee: **\$ 3,500**
- Printing facilities: **\$ 700**

The price indicated above does not include housing, food, transportation, or medical insurance costs. We understand that your scholarship will be providing all the necessary funding for your visit.

I look forward to welcoming you to the Institute for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies at The George Washington University.

Sincerely,



Marlene Laruelle
Director, Institute for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies
Elliott School of International Affairs
The George Washington University
1957 E Street, NW, Suite 412
Washington, DC 20052



Eurasian Studies Program

1. Name

Gulnash Askhat

2. Country

United States

3. Host Organization

Institute for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies
Elliott School of International Affairs
The George Washington University
Washington, DC 20052, USA

4. Duration

12 months: 09/01/2023 – 08/27/2024

5. Specialization & Subject Area

Specialization: International Relations

Subject Area: Eurasian Studies

6. Scientific research topic

Diaspora as a new actor in international relations

7. Current Affairs and the Latest Innovations

In response to the need for Kazakhstan to equip its foreign policy leaders and professionals with in-depth theoretical knowledge of the critical disciplines of international relations and an understanding of public, regional, and foreign policy intersections, The George Washington University's Central Asia Program is pleased to offer a tailor-made, 12-month intensive Eurasian Studies Program (ESP). The ESP features an interdisciplinary and cross-cultural approach to the study of the Eurasian region through the 500 Scholars International Scholarship, with the goal of training the next generation of Kazakhstani scholars and policymakers.

The Institute for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies—#1 university-affiliated regional studies center in the US—offers a unique platform for international experts and practitioners of Eurasian studies to discover

American academic and policy culture. In addition to providing a customized program, the Eurasian Studies Program aims to develop and strengthen the connection between Kazakhstan's top researchers and recognized American experts on Eurasian studies by engaging The George Washington University's worldwide network.

The George Washington University's Elliott School of International Affairs is one of the world's leading schools in its area and the largest school of international affairs in the United States. Located in the heart of Washington, DC, its mission is to educate the next generation of international leaders, conduct research that advances the understanding of important global issues, and engage the policy community in the United States and abroad. GW's location in Washington, DC—the epicenter of policy, practice, and research—provides interns with the distinct advantage of being in a neighborhood that is home to national organizations such as the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, the International Finance Corporation, and others.

8. Objective

The Eurasian Studies Program is built with a specific focus on providing comprehensive training for scholars and practitioners from Kazakhstan to complement their academic background with a more nuanced and detailed knowledge of the current state of Eurasian affairs. It will attempt to answer the following questions:

- What is the evolving place of Central Asia in global politics?
- What are the foreign policy and economic interests of the Central Asian countries?
- What are the interests of the regional and great powers in the region?
- What are relations of Central Asia with those regions adjacent to Eurasia?
- How are energy and environment interlinked in the region?
- What is the future of China's Belt and Road Initiative and regional integration?
- How can we integrate the study of social anthropology with labor, migration, and the traditional and modern roles of women and youth?
- What are the domestic features of the political regimes of Central Asia?
- What can we learn from the latest works of history on Central Asia?
- How can cultural diplomacy affect the region's soft power?

After successfully completing the program, participants will:

- Acquire a more nuanced view of the Eurasian region, its politics, economy, social evolution, and soft power;
- Become acquainted with some of the top experts on the Eurasian region;
- Practice team diplomacy, negotiations, and strategic positioning in a series of simulation games;
- Build professional networks in the US;
- Improve their academic and policy writing through a series of targeted workshops; and
- Complete their own research project and present it to wider DC community.

In the final semester of the program, participants will complete a research project on a topic of their choosing and will be able to present it in a series of public seminars.

They will also work closely with a Kazakhstani university partner to be sure the knowledge acquired during the fellowship can be used back at home and spread among Kazakhstani universities. Fellows will be able to organize joint events between IERES and the Kazakhstani partner during their fellowship.

9. Curriculum

The Eurasian Studies Program sits at the intersection of the core disciplines of international relations and political science, supplemented by studies in history and anthropology as well as in-depth research on regional relations. The curriculum integrates lectures by IERES faculty, renowned US scholars in Eurasian affairs, and academic classes with extensive writing and public-speaking lessons, as well as simulation games in diplomacy and

strategic studies.

1. International Relations: Central Asia in its Global Environment
2. International Relations: Central Asian Security
3. International Relations: Great-Power and Middle-Power Diplomacy
4. Regional Affairs: China
5. Regional Affairs: South Asia, Korea, and Japan
6. Regional Affairs: Iran, Turkey, and the Middle East
7. Regional Affairs: Russia
8. Regional Affairs: The EU, the US, and Central Asia
9. Economics: Energy and Environment of Central Asia
10. Economics: Belt and Road and Regional Integration
11. Anthropology: Migration, Gender, and Youth
12. Political Science: Modern Domestic Politics of Central Asia
13. Political Science: Human Rights and Humanitarian Policy
14. History: New Approaches in Central Asian History
15. History: Post-Colonialism
16. History: Cultural Diplomacy and Material Culture
17. Academic and Policy Writing
18. Research Theory and Methods (Qualitative and Quantitative)
19. Public Speaking

10. Activities

- ✓ 32 lectures on Eurasian Studies
- ✓ 30 hours of Research Methods
- ✓ 30 hours of Academic Writing in English
- ✓ 10 hours of simulation games
- ✓ Writing of an academic article to be peer-reviewed by IERES faculty
- ✓ Presenting final research
- ✓ Final certificate

11. The object of the study

Diaspora Studies

12. Academic writing

- Conduct independent academic research in the specific area of concentration
- Develop a hypothesis, a research problem, and related questions
- Frame the problem with the correct research methodology such as quantitative, qualitative, descriptive, analytical, applied, or exploratory research
- Collect data by using observational/ experimental/ simulation/ or derived methods that accurately addresses the research problem
- Measure the effectiveness of a program/project
- Use data to make decisions
- Evaluate feasibility of research proposal

13. Logistics

Participants are encouraged to provide their own laptop for use during the program. The University will provide photocopied material for each class or online PDFs. Library facilities and Wi-Fi connectivity will be provided on campus.

14. Expected results

1. Participated in all theoretical training and practical exercises
2. Observed GW courses related to their research topics
3. Submitted all reading tasks, written assignments, and presentations
4. Actively participated in all individual and groupworks, discussions
5. Participated in each weekly topic associated with practical visits discussions to the different offices of GW
6. Visited main DC-area universities related to their field of interests
7. Presented of a poster on an aspect of the Eurasian Studies
8. Submitted written research paper included concepts of research design, data collection, statistical and interpretative analysis, and final report
9. Presented research results/report which should include: a short intro, research question/hypothesis, description of the methods, tables and/or graphs related to the findings, and an interpretation of the data.

15. Research methods

All participants will have access to GWU libraries in offline and online format including the access to the Library of Congress which has the research library that officially serves the United States Congress and is the de facto national library of the United States.

Research Methods Course and Academic Writing courses will be parts of the program where program participants will learn to develop conceptual and practical understandings of academic and professional communication in English and to formulate their research conclusions.

Participants will use empirical/social science research methods to work on their research papers and will receive support via consultations and tutoring on programming, software development, and quantitative reasoning that are available to GW students and faculty. They will have access to software resources available on Gelman Library computers and GW's Central IT Office. The program participants will be able to use a variety of software packages for working with data, including statistical packages (e.g. SPSS and STATA), computational environments (e.g. MATLAB) and GIS tools (e.g. ArcGIS).

Additionally, participants will be able to use Data Consultation Resources which includes:

- Software consultation services
- Get support with database design, software development, APIs, code review, and more.
- Peer Tutoring
- Individual and small group tutoring in a variety of course topics, including support for quantitative and spatial reasoning topics, data analysis, and statistical projects
- Consultation with a Data Services Librarian

Eurasian Studies Program Plan

Course	Duration	Methods of study	Reporting form
Initial needs assessment and intended learning outcomes	Every Wednesday	Collective Discussion, Academic Advice by GW faculty	Feedback evaluation at the end of the fellowship
Academic Writing and Research Methods Program	Month 1-2	<p>Group lectures and practical application sessions (6 weeks, 18 classes): Designed and facilitated by a faculty member in GW's <u>English for Academic Purposes (EAP) program</u>; lecture material will be organized by topic to develop participants' conceptual and practical understandings of academic and professional communication in English and to engage them collaboratively with the material through brief discussions and virtual idea sharing.</p> <p>Week 1: What makes academic writing "academic"?</p> <p>Week 2: What shapes approaches to—and responses to—academic writing?</p> <p>Week 3: How is knowledge created in my field?</p> <p>Week 4: How do I communicate my research through writing?</p> <p>Week 5: How do I prepare myself to communicate effectively in professional contexts?</p> <p>Week 6: How do I design and deliver successful presentations?</p>	Theoretical training and practical exercises, guided reading tasks, written assignments and presentations
Eurasian Studies	Month 1 to 6	<p>Lectures and Readings</p> <p>Week 7-8: International Relations: Central Asia in its Global Environment; Central Asian Security; Great-Power and Middle-Power Diplomacy</p>	Theoretical training, guided reading tasks, written notes, individual and group work, discussion

		<p>Week 9-11: Regional Affairs: China; South Asia, Korea, and Japan; Iran, Turkey, and the Middle East; Russia; The EU, the US, and Central Asia</p> <p>Week 12-13: Economics: Energy and Environment of Central Asia; Belt and Road and Regional Integration</p> <p>Week 14: Anthropology: Migration, Gender, and Youth</p> <p>Week 15-16: Political Science: Modern Domestic Politics of Central Asia; Human Rights and Humanitarian Policy</p> <p>Week 17-18: History: New Approaches in Central Asian History; Post-Colonialism; Cultural Diplomacy and Material Culture</p>	<p>Each weekly topic will be associated with practical visits and discussions to the different offices in charge of these questions at GW and in the main DC-area universities</p>
<p>Practical meetings with different US Institutions</p>	<p>Month 1 to 12, afternoon, twice a month</p>	<p>Visits and meetings with Eurasian Studies specialists</p> <p>GW Georgetown University American University John Hopkins University American Council IIE, World Bank IMF Library of Congress, American Educational Research Association</p>	<p>Presentation of a poster on an aspect of the Eurasian Studies</p>
<p>Communication and Leadership Skills</p>	<p>Month 4-6</p>	<p>Workshops and Seminars</p> <p>Week 19: The Unspoken Rules of Spoken English Week 20: Principles of Communication Week 21: Leadership: Vision, Management and Ethics Week 22: Leadership: How to Run Meetings, Panels & Briefings Week 23-24: Leadership and the Media</p>	

Empirical/social science research	Month 6 to 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct independent academic research in the specific area of concentration in consultation with Prof. Laruelle: • Develop a hypothesis, a research problem, and related questions • Frame the problem with the correct research methodology such as quantitative, qualitative, descriptive, analytical, applied or exploratory research • Collect data by using observational/ experimental/ simulation/ or derived methods that accurately addresses the research problem • Measure the effectiveness of a program/project • Use data to make decisions • Evaluate feasibility of research proposal 	Written research paper included concepts of research design, data collection, statistical and interpretative analysis, and final report
Presentation/report research results	Month 12	Present research results/report which should include: a short intro, research question/hypothesis, description of the methods, tables and/or graphs related to the findings, and an interpretation of the data.	Recording of the project presentation
Final Certificate of Completion	Month 12		

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