



RUDN
university



FACULTY
OF HUMANITIES AND
SOCIAL SCIENCES



MIDDLE EAST STUDIES

M.A. IN AREA STUDIES



PROGRAM ADVANTAGES

- ✔ Learning Arabic and a European language of your choice.
- ✔ Comprehensive and systematic study of history and culture, domestic and foreign policy, regional economic relations, and the place of the countries of the region in the international division of labor, the distinctive features of the legal system of the Middle East.
- ✔ The possibility of studying abroad as part of dual degree programs (Jordan, Morocco).
- ✔ The opportunity for internships with prospects of further employment in Russian and foreign media (Russia Today, TASS), government agencies, foreign companies and Russian companies with representation in the Middle East, leading think tanks and international organizations.



STUDYING PROCCESS

120 ECTS credits.

Lectures, workshops and several types of internship.



THE PROBLEM OF ENERGY SECURITY IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF THE REGION OF SPECIALIZATION

- Complexity of the concept of energy security.
- Energy security as integral part of national security.
- Political Economy of Energy Security.
- Legal aspect of energy security. Technical energy safety.
- OPEC's and GECF role in the global energy market.
- Pipelines VS LNG.
- Turkey as a new energy transit hub.



RUSSIAN POLICY IN THE REGION OF SPECIALIZATION

- Foreign Policy Concept of the Russian Federation 2016.
- National Security Strategy of the Russian Federation until 2020.
Russia's geopolitical interests in the Middle East and North Africa.



SECURITY PROBLEMS AND CONFLICTS IN THE REGION OF SPECIALIZATION

- The ethnic dimension of conflicts in the Middle East.
- The problem of adaptation in the foreign cultural environment in interethnic relations.



POLITICAL SYSTEMS AND CULTURES IN THE REGION OF SPECIALIZATION

- Emergence and evolution of nation states in the Middle East.
- National liberation movements in the Middle East.
- Decolonization of North African countries.
- The process of forming independent states.



SOCIAL AND POLITICAL THOUGHT OF THE PEOPLES OF THE REGION OF SPECIALIZATION

- The main prerequisites for the emergence of new Arab social and political thought.
- The policy of the Sultan government in the Arab vilayets and Arab nationalism.
- Impact of Tanzimat reforms on public and political thought in the Arab East.
- General characteristics of intellectual life in the Arab East by the mid-19th century.
- The role of religious factor in the formation of social and political thought of the Arab East.
- The Arab East and the European Powers.
- Christian missions and their contribution to the dissemination of modern education in the Arab East.
- Peculiarities of modernization process of Arab traditional society.



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS IN THE REGION OF SPECIALIZATION

- The phenomenon of “growing diversity” in international processes.
- The role of non-state actors in political and socio-economic regional processes.
- Major “power centers” in the Middle East.
- “Arab Spring” and new challenges to the countries of the region.



STUDENTS FEEDBACK



 **EKAZHEVA E. (RUSSIA)**

“ «Personally for me, studying at the department of theory and history of international relations was, on the one hand, a unique opportunity to get education in one of the most prestigious Russian Universities, and on the other hand - the most beautiful stage of my life, associated with acquaintance with the richest cultures of different regions. And, first of all, with the most ancient civilization of the Middle East. And, of course, forever in my memory will remain a fascinating internship in Morocco, where I not only honed my Arabic language skills and learned a lot about the culture and life of this country, but also realized my long, childish dream - to be in a fascinating and charming Arab East!» ”

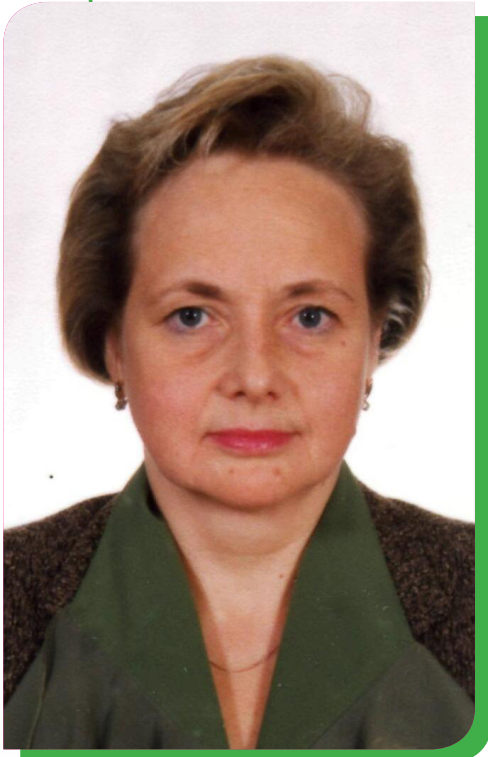
 **KUDRIAKOVA O. (RUSSIA)**

“ “The Area Studies” program, which I studied for 4 years, gave me the opportunity to study a whole range of issues related to the region of my specialization. Already from the first year I was assigned to my specialization. The list of academic disciplines is very wide. During these 4 years we studied political geography, history and state law of the countries of the region, economics and foreign policy. We also studied two foreign languages, one of which was chosen according to the region of specialization. We had the opportunity to go for internships in the countries of the studied language for different periods of time. ”



ACADEMIC DIRECTOR OF THE PROGRAMME

SHPAKOVSKAYA MARINA ANATOLIEVNA



Doctor of History, Professor of the Department of Theory and History of International Relations.

AREAS OF SCIENTIFIC INTERESTS:

foreign policy of Afghanistan, innovative technologies in the study of the history of international relations, modern educational methods.

Author of scientific articles in peer-reviewed Russian and foreign scientific journals (HAC, SCOPUS, Web of Science), regularly gives reports at international conferences on international relations. Co-author of the textbook “History of International Relations and Russian Foreign Policy 1648-2018”. Editor of the collection of articles “International Relations and World Policy in the XXI century”. Organizer of the conference “Modern International Relations”.

Recipient of grants of Russian scientific foundations for research and organization of scientific events.