

Master's Degree in Social Sciences graduate program 2009-2010
Transformation in the South Caucasus
Admission examination

Examination format:

- Written examination (applicants will write two short essays in response to questions) - 40% of the overall score
- Interview - 40% of the overall score
- English test (B2 level) - 20% of the overall score
- National Exam for Master's programs - pass/fail

Suggested topics that may be included in the written examination:

1. The South Caucasus and international rivalry in the region
2. Prospects of regional cooperation in the South Caucasus
3. Nationalism and regional politics in the South Caucasus
4. Political aspects of transition
5. International Organizations and security of the South Caucasus
6. Post-Soviet nation-building and globalization
7. Social aspects of transition
8. Economic reforms in transition countries

Academic materials recommended for general reading before the examinations:

1. Svante Cornell, *Small Nations and Great Powers: A Study of Ethnopolitical Conflict in the Caucasus*, Curzon: 2000, pp. 333-411.
2. Svante Cornell, Pipeline Power: The War in Georgia and the Future of the Caucasian Energy Corridor, *Georgetown Journal of International Affairs, Business & Economics*, Winter/Spring 2009.
3. Charles Grant, Europe's Blurred Boundaries: Rethinking enlargement and neighbourhood policy, pages 49-72, Ch. 5 & 6, London: Centre for European Reform.
4. Rosa Balfour & Antonio Missiroli, Commentary: Dealing with troubled neighbourhoods, *European Policy Centre*, 12/02/2009.
5. Baylis J / Smith S. *The Globalization of World Politics*. 1st chapter – Scholte J A pp 13-34
6. Dawisha, K., Parrott, B., *Conflict, Cleavage, and Change in Central Asia and the Caucasus*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997, pp 1 – 156.
7. Wright, J, et al., *Transcaucasian Boundaries*, London: UCL Press, 1996, pp 11-54, 89-227.
8. Wigell, M. (2008). Mapping 'Hybrid Regimes': Regime Types and Concepts in Comparative Politics. *Democratization*, 15 (2): 230-250.
9. Graeme Gill, *Democracy and Post-Communism: Political Change in the Post-Communist World*, London, Routledge, 2002
10. Valerie Bunce, The Political Economy of Post-Socialism, *Slavic Review*, Vol 58, No.4, pp. 756-793
11. World Bank, *Making transition Work for Everyone*, Washington, 2001, pp.29-138
12. Way, L. (2008). The real causes of color revolutions. *Journal of Democracy*, 19 (3): 55-68.

Additional reading recommended:

Golts T. *Georgia Diary, A Chronicle of War and Political Chaos in the Post-Soviet Caucasus*. M.E. Sharpe. 2006 - Available in CSS library

De Waal T. *Black Garden*. New York University Press. 2003 - Available in CSS library

Mathijs Pelkmans. *Defending the Border: Identity, Religion, And Modernity in the Republic of Georgia (Culture and Society After Socialism)* - Available in CSS library

Charles King. *The Ghost of Freedom: A History of the Caucasus* – Available in CSS library

Emerson M – *Regional Cooperation in the south Caucasus / Center for European Policy and Study* -

Charles King. *The Five Day War: Managing Moscow after the Georgia Crisis*. *Foreign Affairs*, Nov. Dec. 2008 -

Application Materials

All Applicants should submit on-line application form (www.ucss.ge) and in addition fill in hard copy of Application form that will be available at the Center for Social Sciences from May 15, 2009.

1. **CSS Application form** (should be received from CSS students' dean) including:
 - CSS application cover page
 - Applicant's curriculum vitae.
 - A personal statement (of not more than 400 words) detailing:
 - a. Your reasons for undertaking this program
 - b. What you feel you would get from the program personally and professionally
 - c. How this program will allow you to contribute to your country's development.
 - A short statement (of no more than 400 words) explaining the key problems you feel are faced by your country or region (related to political, economic, social, gender issues etc.).
 - Two references. At least one of these has to be academic but the other can be professional.
2. **TSU registration form** (should be received from CSS students' dean)
3. Copies of applicant's academic degree documents (diploma of higher education, etc.) or confirmation letter for an excepted degree. (If application is sent electronically, the originals of these documents should be faxed or posted to the CSS. Georgian applicants should also submit originals of documentations, which will be returned to them after registration of their application at CSS database).
4. Three photos 3X4
5. Copy of Identification Card (Copy of Passport for regional and international applicants)
6. Documents certifying status regarding the military service (for Georgian male applicants)