

DIPLOMA IN REFUGEE STUDIES

JAGIELLONIAN UNIVERSITY, KRAKOW

**DARTMORE INSTITUTE FOR CENTRAL
EUROPEAN STUDIES, PRAGUE**



Diploma in Refugee Studies (RS) is a one-year programme of study and practical work experience. The first five months of academic training in Prague and Krakow are followed by six months of working at partner institutions in non-industrialized countries and Central Europe.



RS provides the only multidisciplinary academic training in the forced migration and refugee field in Central and Eastern Europe. The main idea behind this programme is to link high quality innovative research with improving the conditions, rights and lives of the ever-growing number of refugees and other forced migrants. We aim to achieve this via rigorous academic training and relevant practical internships leading to first-hand experience and networking.

The programme is attractive to a wide range of students, academics, policy makers and professionals engaged in reform regarding issues relating to forced migration and refugees.

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

RS aims to offer high-quality training in the field of refugee studies through an interdisciplinary approach and first-hand access to refugee communities worldwide via practical training, as well as co-operation with other renowned academic institutions and links with their diploma programmes.

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The RS programme is a one-year course organized around two semesters, which encompass two mutually interlinked founding pillars of the studies: **ACADEMIC STUDIES** and **PRACTICAL PLACEMENT**. The first semester lasts five months and focuses on obtaining the necessary theoretical background in the mandatory fields. In the second semester, students undertake six-month-long practical work placements at establishments of partner institutions in non-industrialized countries.



ACADEMIC STUDIES

The academic part of the programme takes place in Prague, the Czech Republic. It is organized into three mutually interconnected parts.

1. All students receive an introduction to refugee studies and insight into the contemporary issues in forced migration, a grounding in psycho-social consequences of forced migration, and substantive knowledge of refugee law and human rights issues related to refugees.

2. In addition, students select two elective courses from a list prepared and approved by the Academic Advisory Board for each academic year. They can choose one elective course from the category of regional studies/country of origin information and one course from the general category of electives.

3. Finally, all students are trained in skills crucial to all workers in the field of refugees and forced migration, such as the art of interviewing, working with interpreters, taking testimony, researching country of origin, and developing legal argumentation skills in the Clinics: Practice of Refugee Law course.

CURRICULUM

REQUIRED COURSES

Students are required to take the following courses:

- R1 Introduction to Refugee Studies**
- R2 Contemporary Issues in Forced Migration**
- R3 Psycho-Social Consequences of Forced Migration**
- R4 Refugee in International Law**
- R5 Human Rights and Refugees**
- P1 Clinics: Practice of Refugee Law**

ELECTIVE COURSES

The following courses are currently recognized as electives:

- E1 Anthropology**
- E2 Introduction to Development**
- E3 Public International Law**
- E4 Humanitarian Emergencies**
- C1 Caucasus Studies**
- C2 Middle East Studies**
- C3 Sub-Saharan African Studies**
- C4 Southeast Asian Studies**



PRACTICAL PLACEMENTS

The purpose of this programme component is to provide students with practical experience which complements their studies, enhance their professional development and – at the same time – benefits partner institutions in non-industrialized countries and Central Europe active in the refugee problem, whilst ensuring much-needed dissemination of knowledge and information regarding refugee and forced migration issues.

The mandatory internship approach promotes a better understanding of major global problems confronting the contemporary world among the students, while giving them an insight into the workings of the partner institutions, and exposing them to some of the most efficient policies and programmes in this field.

At the same time the students represent a pool of qualified interns whose work addresses some of the most pressing problems faced by the partner institutions in non-industrialized countries, such as a severe lack of human resources, an expanding workload, insufficient research resources and limited access to information and training.

Finally, the dissemination of refugee and forced migration related information in CEE countries is enhanced due to the emergence of a well-informed and knowledgeable group of graduates who are motivated through the connections and networking made during their practical traineeships.

ABOUT THE STAFF

Barbara Harrell-Bond (DPhil, Oxford University) is an anthropologist of law with many years of research experience in West Africa prior to her founding the Refugee Studies Programme (now the Refugee Studies Centre) at the University of Oxford. She directed the Centre between 1982-96. In 2004, Barbara Harrell-Bond was elected as an Honorary Fellow at Lady Margaret Oxford College Hall for her contribution to the field of refugee studies. In 2005, she was listed on the Queen Elizabeth's Honours list as an Officer of the Order of the British Empire for her services to refugee and forced migration studies.

"The raison d'être of the Refugee Studies Centre at the University of Oxford was not only to establish refugee studies as an academic field, but to stimulate the development of similar academic programmes in other countries that were the hosts of refugees and with significant success. Today the list of countries where refugee studies has been established is extensive, but there are no such programmes in Central and Eastern Europe and only a few in the non-industrialized 'south'... I strongly support the Refugee and Forced Migration Study Programme initiated in the Czech Republic and I indicate my sincere interest in providing any assistance in seeing it through to its fruition."

Richard Wilson is a tenured Professor of Law and Director of the International Human Rights Law Clinic at American University's Washington College of Law in Washington, D.C. Richard Wilson has been a law school teacher for more than 20 years, and has directed the Clinic, one of the oldest in the United States dealing with human rights issues, since its founding in 1990. The clinic, which is one of the largest human rights law firms in the United States, provides pro bono legal services in a wide range of human rights and refugee issues.

"I have been involved in the rapidly expanding area of clinical legal education and forced migration in Central and Eastern Europe for more than a decade. One of the key components of the Forced Migration Academy is its inclusion of empirical and practice dimensions to accompany the theoretical aspects covered in the academic curriculum. I believe that such a component is absolutely essential to the training of lawyers and other advocates in this rapidly expanding and multidisciplinary field."

Petra Levrincova (LL.M., Central European University, Budapest) - after working for the Refugee Legal Aid Project in Cairo (now Africa and Middle East Refugee Assistance - AMERA) in 2002 and 2003, and completing a legal internship at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda in Arusha, Tanzania, Petra returned to Prague and started doctoral studies at Charles University, where she also lectures in public international law and international refugee law on the International Economic and Political Studies Programme.

"I was privileged enough to obtain a solid educational as well as practical experience in the field of international and refugee law, and at the same time meet people who were committed to the professional development of young academics and practitioners. I have noticed that combining advanced higher education with high-level practical training can bring changes. By setting up RS in Prague I hope I can honour the debt."

ADMISSIONS

RS programme commences in SEPTEMBER 2009

Tuition fees for the 2009 academic year are 4 900 €

Students may wish to seek sponsorship from donor organizations or employers.

Please note that the fees do not include living expenses and travel to/from the place of internships.

General Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must have already earned at least a first degree from a recognized university or institution of higher education, or provide documentation indicating that they will earn their first degree from such a university or institution by the time of enrollment on the RS.

HOW TO APPLY

To be able to process applications to study at the RS, the following documents are required from applicants and must be included in the application package:

Type of Documentation	Explanatory Remarks
Completed Application Form	The <i>Application form</i> must be completed in English. (Form can be downloaded from the RS website)
Copy of Diploma	An official copy of the diploma in the original language signed and stamped by a public notary or an authorized university official, and an official English language translation of the diploma. Applicants who are in their final year of their first degree must submit an official stamped and signed letter from their university in English stating that the student is expected to complete their first degree by the start of the following academic programme at RS.
Academic Transcripts	An official copy of an up-to-date or full Academic Transcript in the original language stamped and signed by a public notary or an authorized university official, and an official English language translation of the Academic Transcript.
Proof of Proficiency in English	A valid and official Test Score Report from one of the test types listed under <i>Language Requirements</i> (see website) must be presented.
Curriculum Vitae	A full and up-to-date Curriculum Vitae or Resume in English, including the list of publications, if any, must be presented.
Two Letters of Recommendation	Each Letter of Recommendation should assess the applicant's ability to engage in graduate-level work and their potential for research and successful academic and professional career. (Forms for Letters of Recommendation can be downloaded from the RS website)
Financial Statement	Statement of ability to financially support oneself for the duration of the studies at RS.

Further information on the programme and admissions is available on the RS website



REFUGEE STUDIES

CONTACT INFORMATION:

**Dartmore Institute for Central European Studies
National Gallery, Museum of Modern Art
Dukelskych Hrdinu 47,
170 00 Prague 7
Czech Republic**

**Should you like to discuss any aspect of the
programme please contact:
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WWW.RSPRAGUE.ORG



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