

Cian Stryker

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Education

MA: Russian, Eastern European, and Central Asian Studies

Harvard University, Cambridge MA

September 2019-Present

GPA: 4.0

BPhil: Political Science and Russian, Eastern European Studies

University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh PA

August 2014-August 2019

GPA: 3.952

Work Experience

Davis Center's Program on Central Asia, Harvard University

Innovation Fellow

September 2019-Present

- Researching the effects of digital surveillance on Central Asia vis-à-vis China's Digital Silk Road.
- Designing and organizing a digital toolbox website on Central Asia and the South Caucasus
- Planning and coordinating an international workshop on digitization in Central Asia.

United Nations World Food Programme

Program Intern

October 2018-April 2019

Dushanbe, Tajikistan

- Performed translation between English, Russian, and Tajik documents
- Tasked with English editing of academic articles and WFP reports
- Improved distribution of WFP resources according to gender reports

Association of Slavic, Eastern European, and Eurasian Studies

Office Assistant

August 2017-April 2018

Pittsburgh, PA

- Assisted with preparations for 2017 ASEEES Convention in Chicago
- Posted academic job offerings, calls for papers, and grant proposals
- Involved with VISA applications for foreign academics attending the convention

Russian and Eastern European Studies Center, University of Pittsburgh

Student Ambassador

August 2017-April 2018

Pittsburgh, PA

- Presented opportunities from REES to over 50 undergraduate classes per semester
- Held office hours weekly to help students find study abroad programs and funding
- Performed REES projects including editing grant applications and potential course modules

Westminster Foundation for Democracy

Office Internship

September 2016-April 2017

Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

- Translated documents from English to Russian and Russian to English
- Advised for projects aimed at assisting sub-national governmental structures
- Planned cooperative program between UK's and Kyrgyzstan's Female Caucasus

Awards

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship—Academic Year

April 2019 | April 2020

- \$45,000 scholarship received twice to continue studying Russian at the graduate level
- Used in combination both times with a \$30,000 Harvard University tuition award

Boren Scholarship

April 2018

- \$20,000 scholarship funded by the Defense Department to study in Dushanbe, Tajikistan
- Studied Farsi through American Councils for an academic year, August 2018-May-2019
- Performed research regarding Tajik perspectives of Chinese influence

Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Grant, Russia **May 2018**

- Declined in lieu of the Boren and Fulbright-Hays to study in Tajikistan

Fulbright-Hays **April 2018/January 2019**

- \$14,000 (\$7,000 each award) to support the study of Russian and Persian
- Used as additional funding for American Council's Eurasian Regional Language Program
- Augmented the Boren Scholarship to study Farsi in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

Brackenridge Research Grant **April 2018**

- \$4,000 Summer research grant from the Honors College of the University of Pittsburgh
- Performed statistical analysis of diaspora minority migration, economic incentives, and discriminatory political practices

Phi Beta Kappa National Honors Society **April 2017**

- Fulfilled interdisciplinary course requirements while maintaining a high GPA
- Completed all requirements a year early and was inducted with distinction as a junior

Critical Language Scholarship **March 2017**

- All expenses covered State Department scholarship to study Russian.
- Earned 8 credits over 9 weeks in Nizhny Novgorod, Russia.

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship—Summer **April 2016**

- Full tuition scholarship and \$2,500 stipend to study Russian in Narva, Estonia
- Studied Russian for 8 weeks while performing field interviews in Russian
- Participated in the Defense Department's ProjectGo with ROTC students.

Carroll Award **April 2016**

- \$5,000 Scholarship from the University of Pittsburgh Political Science Department
- Studied Russian in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan for 8 months at the London School for Languages
- Performed field interviews in Russian for research on ethnic relations

Publications

Stryker, Cian. (2018). *Integration and Differentiation within the Russian-Speaking Diaspora: Estonia and Kyrgyzstan*. (Bachelor of Philosophy Thesis). University of Pittsburgh. <http://d-scholarship.pitt.edu/34260/>

Conferences

Panelist at the European and Eurasian Undergraduate Research Symposium **April 2018**

- Presented a conference paper titled, "Integration and Differentiation within the Russian Diaspora: Estonia and Kyrgyzstan" at the University of Pittsburgh

Panelist at the Midwest Slavic Association **March 2018**

- Presented a portion of my honor's thesis as a conference paper titled, "Integration and Differentiation within the Russian Diaspora: Estonia and Kyrgyzstan" at Ohio State University

Technical and Language Skills

Languages

- Russian: Advanced (OPI: Advanced Mid/High. DLPT Reading: 2+. DLPT Listening: 2)
- Persian: Advanced Speaking (OPI: 2) Advanced Reading and Advanced Listening

Programming Languages

- Highly proficient in R to perform large scale data gathering, cleaning, analysis, and visualization
- Comfortable with Stata to perform statistical analysis
- Proficient with ArcGIS Pro to perform a variety of spatial analytical tasks