Application packet (portfolio) for

"International Master in Comparative Social Research"

Faculty of Sociology

1. Curriculum Vitae (2 page limit).

Candidates should submit a standard CV, including, at a minimum, their educational achievements, work and research experience, publications (if any), and language knowledge.

2. Letter of motivation (1 page limit).

This letter should describe the candidate's reasons for applying to this Master Program , in the context of the candidate's long-term career goals and background.

3. Statement of research interests and methods knowledge (1 page limit).

This statement should consist of at least one paragraph describing the candidate's research interests and another describing their experience in using different specific social science research methods (such as regression analysis, cluster analysis, factor analysis, expert interviews, narrative interviews, focus groups, experimental design, etc.) and computer packages that can assist in analysis (such as SPSS, STATA, R, INVIVO, ATLASti).

4. Two short letters of recommendation (at least one should be academic).

These two letters should be submitted to the admissions office directly by the recommender by email (inter@hse.ru) or in a sealed envelope. Each letter should specify how the reference knows the student (and for how long) and should address the student's qualification for this program and for further academic study in general. At least one of this letters must be from a current or former teacher (or senior academic colleague) of the student.

5. For non-native English speakers test results should be submitted.

Certificate	Minimum requirements
IELTS	Score of 6 or above

TOEFL IBT (Internet Based)	Score of 80 or above
TOEFL PBT (Paper Based)	Score of 500 or above
CAE, BEC Higher, CPE (Certificate of Proficiency in English)	Pass

Native speakers of the English language, and students who have completed an entire degree exclusively in English do not need to submit proof of their English ability. All other applicants should submit test results no more than two years old (at the time of submission).

6. Official transcripts of previous educational studies.

All applicants must include up-to-date BA (or equivalent) transcripts even if the candidate is not yet complete with his/her degree. These transcripts should be official copies, stamped or approved by the study program's Director of Studies. Students with also a higher degree (such as another MA), should submit both transcripts within their application.

7. GRE results (if available).

These are optional. But students who have taken the GRE may submit their results in support of their packet.

Criteria for Portfolio Evaluation

Criteria	Maximum points
Academic qualifications and potential, documented by:	**60**
Official transcript of previous studies (BA or equivalent)/GRE results (if available)	35
Statement of research interests and methods knowledge	10
Curriculum vitae (to include publications, if any)	5
Two letters of recommendation	10
Student motivation, documented by:	**20**
Letter of motivation	10
Two letters of recommendation	5
Curriculum vitae	5
English Language Ability, documented by:	**20**
TOEFL, IELTS, or CAE test results	10
Letter of motivation	5
Statement of research interests and methods knowledge	5
Total 100	**100**