

Application requirements

The English-language program «APPLIED SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY»

The English-language program «Applied social psychology» involves two educational trajectories:

1. A two-year training at HSE with a HSE's master's diploma;
2. The double-degree program with training during the first year at HSE, and the second year - at Tilburg University (hereinafter - TiU).

To be admitted to any of the two tracks all applicants must provide the following documents:

1. A photocopy of the diploma and academic transcripts. Diplomas received at the non-Russian universities have to be officially verified (more information at the International Admissions Office).

2. A photocopy of the passport.

3. Certificates of English language proficiency. In the presence of certificates of international examinations with required scores applicant is exempt from the qualification examination of English language. The required scores are: TOEFL PBT – 577; TOEFL IBT – 90; Academic IELTS – 6.5 (every part no less than 6.0); Cambridge Proficiency in English – any score, Cambridge Advanced English – A, B and C. In the absence of the certificate, students must pass an entrance HSE English exam – passing score is 51 and above. If the candidate has not received the required number of points on the international exam in a foreign language, the certificate should still be attached to the portfolio. Exceptions for those who plan to study on *HSE track*: applicants for whom English is a native language, and who received basic education entirely in English. Exceptions for those who plan to enter *double-degree*

program with TiU – citizens of Australia, Canada (except Quebec), Ireland, New Zealand, Great Britain and United States or applicants who have an undergraduate or graduate diploma from one of these countries.

4. Motivation letter in English. Write it as follows:

Part 1 (short paragraph):

- write about your interests and why have you decided to apply for a master's degree.

Part 2:

- tell about your research projects if you have done any (e.g. your thesis work): write the topic(s) and briefly describe the results;
- if you published a project or presented it at a conference, write about it. Tell about any of your scientific accomplishments (e.g. scholarships or grants that you might have received);
- write about your job experience, especially if it was somehow related to your master's program application.

Part 3 (most important one)

- describe what areas of social psychology would you like to study. Be as precise as you can – your goal is to show that you understand what social psychology is about and that you know what you want;
- if possible, formulate a research question or a topic that you would like to work on;
- visit the program's website <https://www.hse.ru/ma/socpsy/> and International Laboratory of Socio-Cultural research <https://scr.hse.ru/>. Study the scientific interests of the program's teachers and the lab researchers and describe whose scientific interests are close to yours and why;
- write about your motivation and personal characteristics that will demonstrate your will to study diligently.

Important:

- The commission will need to see from your letter that you are a) motivated, b) competent and c) possess scientific or applied potential in the area of social psychology.
- Please use active (not passive) voice and describe examples.
- The letter should have 500-1000 words, not longer.
- The letter must not be a copy of your CV – it should rather be an addition to it!

5. Summary (5-10 pages) of your final qualifying work (research thesis) in English. The summary should consist of the following parts:

- Study goal;
- Problem statement;
- Hypotheses;
- Methods;
- Main results;
- Conclusions and directions for future studies.

OR

Instead of the summary you can describe a project (5-10 pages) of a new scientific study that fits the field of the master's program (social, cross-cultural, economic or organizational psychology). The project should include the following parts:

- Introduction (goal, usefulness of the study, scientific problem statement);
- Theoretical basis for the study that allows to create the hypotheses;
- Research questions or hypotheses;
- Possible methods of the study;
- Expected results;
- Scientific and applied significance;
- Literature references.

The summary and the project proposal are interchangeable and are equally evaluated, so you need either one OR the other.

6. CV in English. Please specify:

- contact details (residential address, e-mail, phone)
- education
- place of work, grants, internships, publications (if any)

The list presented above includes **compulsory** documents that are necessary for portfolio review. An applicant can also attach extra documents that might increase the final evaluation score (e.g. recommendations or publications description).

The portfolio must either consist of hard copies of all required documents and be submitted to HSE Admissions office, or consist of e-copies that must be uploaded through online application form here https://www.hse.ru/en/ma/socpsy/how_to_apply or here <https://www.hse.ru/en/admissions/graduate-apply>.

Portfolio evaluation criteria:

Documents	Criteria	Max. score
English proficiency certificate	Satisfying the minimal necessary requirements	Compulsory for portfolio review
Diploma and academic transcripts	Matching educational attainment profile of the program, the composition of courses, grades.	20
Motivation letter	Understanding the specifics of the university and the program, and a clear vision of how the training program would help	20

	achieve applicant's goals.	
<p>Summary of your final qualifying work (research thesis)</p> <p>OR Summary of your project of a new scientific study that fits the field of the master's program</p>	<p>Knowledge of the research process, the ability to state problems and hypotheses of the study.</p> <p>The ability to choose adequate tools to test hypotheses, report and interpret the results.</p> <p>Proper presentation of the study in English.</p>	25
CV	Relevance of educational trajectory and experience to the master's program content.	20
Recommendations		5
Scientific publications/Conference participation	Matching educational attainment profile of the program	10
Total		100 points