



## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

# RUSSIAN, EAST EUROPEAN, AND EURASIAN STUDIES (REEES) THINK TANK

**Application Deadline:**  
**End of day (EDT), June 5, 2026**

**Apply at:**

**[2026 Application Form](#)**

- Create a research project with faculty mentor support
- Participate in the University of Illinois Virtual Summer Research Laboratory
- Present at a professional conference. Opportunities include:
  - The Midwest Slavic Association Conference at The Ohio State University
  - The Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) Conference in Chicago
  - The Southern Conference on Slavic Studies in Atlanta
- Develop AI-literacy through a curated workshop series
- Learn digital humanities skills
- Publish a digital research project on our website

Learn more about the program at:

**[www.reeesthinktank.com](http://www.reeesthinktank.com)**



# PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

**Program length: June 2026 - April 2026**

## **Think Tank scholars must be able to:**

- Be available for regular Friday Zoom meetings from 4:00-6:00 PM (ET).
- Join in bibliographic sessions organized by the Slavic Reference Service at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.
- Participate in AI-literacy and digital humanities training workshops hosted by the Think Tank.
- Present at a professional conference in either Fall 2026 or Spring 2027. Your travel to the conference is fully funded.
- Complete digital projects that will be published on the Think Tank website.
- **There are no language requirements for this program. We only ask that participants have a desire to learn more about this region!**

**[2026 Application Form](#)**

**We will consider applications from students who will be enrolled in a U.S.-based undergraduate program in the 2026-2027 academic year. We strongly encourage underrepresented and underserved students to apply.**

# HOW CAN I APPLY?

## [2026 Application Form](#)

**The application requires students to write short essays on the following topics:**

- Share with us why it is important for you to gain access to resources and build a community in the field of Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies.
- Explain how this program will help advance your academic and professional goals.
- Describe how you would empower and support other students in the program.
- Tell us if you already know what you might want to research about Eastern Europe, Eurasia, Russia, and/or Global Russias. If you're not sure or think you'll need help picking a topic, that's OK!
- Have a professor complete a recommendation form on your behalf. We strongly recommend that students arrange an independent study at their university to support their Think Tank projects. If this is possible for you, please have that professor complete your recommendation. Access the form here:  
[2026 Recommendation Form](#)
- Submit an unofficial transcript.

**APPLICATIONS ARE DUE ON June 5, 2026.  
READY TO APPLY? GO TO:**

[2026 Application Form](#)



## QUESTIONS?

For questions about program details and the application, contact:

Dr. Kelly Knickmeier Cummings  
[kellykc@thinkreees.org](mailto:kellykc@thinkreees.org)

or

check out our FAQ document:

**[2026 Think Tank FAQ](#)**

**The REEES Think Tank is a national program based at The Ohio State University in partnership with Howard University, The University of Miami, and the nonprofit Think REEES Inc.**