

2025 Global Communication Ph.D. Program in English

I Program Description

1. About The Program

International communication refers to the cross-cultural exchange and flow of information between nations, states, or other international actors, as defined in political science. The International Communication (All English) Doctoral Program is planned and implemented by the School of Journalism. The program has a global enrollment policy. Graduates will receive an academic doctorate from Renmin University of China.

In 2017, the School of Journalism of Renmin University of China launched the master's program of "the Belt and Road" global journalism and communication (all English). As of June 2024, the project has admitted a total of 18 students and awarded 14 master's degrees. Students all give high evaluations of the teaching and training process.

In 2021, the School of Journalism of Renmin University of China established the Department of International Journalism and Communication to integrate teaching, scientific research and social service resources. On this platform, 22 international news and communication teaching and research faculty members (the vast majority of whom have academic backgrounds from top overseas universities) are gathered, including 6 doctoral supervisors.

This time, the School of Journalism and Communication of Renmin University of China opened a new doctoral program in international communication (all English). This project aims to cultivate high-end practical talents for overseas non-Chinese speaking global news communication in the new media environment; Cultivate composite journalism talents with international perspectives, high academic literacy, and strong practical abilities; To cultivate talents who have a profound understanding of news communication theory, are familiar with global audiences, are skilled in integrating media communication techniques, and are committed to promoting dialogue and understanding between their country, China, and the world.

The program is an all English doctoral program in journalism and communication for foreign students, especially excellent young people from countries along the "the Belt and Road". The students are mainly high-level talents such as journalists and scholars from overseas.

2. Learning progress requirements for the main training stages

(1) Course learning: 1-2 semesters focus on course learning, and the required course credits for this program must be completed by the second academic year or earlier.

(2) Subject comprehensive examination: After completing other major courses in addition to elective courses in this program, you can enter the comprehensive examination stage, usually taking the doctoral subject comprehensive examination in the second academic year. Upon passing the assessment, proceed to the thesis proposal stage.

(3) Thesis proposal: The thesis proposal is usually presented in the 4th to 5th semesters. Upon passing the assessment, the student enters the stage of writing their thesis.

(4) Encourage and support doctoral students to participate in international academic exchange activities, broaden their international perspective, and enhance their academic level.

(5) Academic exchange activities: Complete before applying for defense.

(6) Research achievement review: Completed before applying for defense.

(7) Pre defense and defense of doctoral thesis: Generally, pre defense and defense of doctoral thesis are conducted in the fourth academic year. The thesis pre defense should be completed two months before the formal submission of the doctoral thesis defense application, allowing sufficient time to complete the thesis revision and other work; those who fail the pre defense of their thesis will have another pre defense six months later.



3. Core Courses with Credits and Semesters

During the pursuit of a doctoral degree, it is required to obtain a total of no less than 34 credits in the degree program. Public courses shall not be less than 7 credits, professional courses shall not be less than 17 credits, elective courses shall not be less than 6 credits, method courses shall not be less than 2 credits, and advanced seminar courses shall not be less than 2 credits. For specific course and credit requirements, please refer to the "Program Course and Credit Requirements".

Components	Courses	Credits	Semester
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Public Courses (No less than 7 credits)	Contemporary Chinese Politics	3	1
	Chinese Language Study	4	1
Method Courses (No less than 2 credits)	Academic Norms and Thesis Writing (required)	2	2
	Advanced research method (selective)	2	1
Professional courses (no less than 17 credits)	Contemporary Chinese Society	3	1
	Contemporary Chinese Foreign Policy	3	1
	Theories of Communication	2	1
	Theories of Journalism	2	2
	Proseminar for Graduate Study	2	1
	Practice and Frontiers of International News Reporting	2	1
	Global Journalism and Communication	2	1
	Research Design in Journalism and Communication	2	1
	History of Chinese and Foreign Media	3	1
Prompt Engineering for Thesis Writing	1	2	
Elective Courses (no less than 6 credits)	An Introduction to Chinese Excellent Traditional Culture	2	1
	Comparative Politics Theory	2	1
	Development Theory and International Relations: From Strangers to Colleagues	2	1

	Exchange and mutual learning between Chinese and foreign civilizations	2	2
	Human- Computer Interaction and Design Thinking	2	2
	Socialized communication	2	2
	Business and Financial News Writing	2	1
	Creative communication and integrated design	2	2
	Multimedia narration	2	2
	Community Informatics	2	2
	Digital Media and Society	2	2
Advanced seminar course (no less than 2 credits)	Proseminar for Graduate Study	2	1

[*subject to revision at the start of the program]

4. About the School of Journalism and Communication, RUC

Over the past 60 years, the School of Journalism and Communication at Renmin University of China, known as the ‘cradle’ of the country’s journalists and communication professionals, has graduated more than 10,000 students. The school currently has about 1200 students in its BA, MA and PhD programs. The number of international students continues to grow.

The school has established a tight bond with prominent universities in the US, Canada, Russia, Britain, Germany, Japan, South Korea, Singapore, Hong Kong and Taiwan. The school offers courses in English at the BA, MA and PhD levels and promotes overseas studying for both undergraduate and graduate students.



II Application Qualifications

Applicants should:

1. NOT have Chinese nationality; Hold a valid ordinary passport; be physically and mentally healthy; Not have criminal record;
2. Must have a master's degree;
3. Must have the language ability to handle doctoral studies; Have a good command of English: the overall score of IELTS must be 6.0 or above, or TOEFL score must be 90 or above. Applicants who have obtained an English-taught degree should provide a certificate of language instruction issued by their previous universities. Applicants who are native English speakers are not required to submit English proficiency certificate.
4. Be subject to the additional nationality regulations of Ministry of Education of People's Republic of China.

III Application Time

Self-financed applicant:

December 3, 2024- April 30, 2025

Please note:

- (1) Chinese Government Scholarship (Type B: High-level Program) applicant:
December 3, 2024- February 15, 2025
- (2) International Students Office (ISO) of RUC will review the application materials during the application period. Applicants who do not pass the preliminary online review shall resubmit the application materials before the deadline. Late application will not be accepted after the deadline.

IV Major, Duration, and Campuses

Major: Global Communication

Research Field: 1. Theories of Global Communication

2. Research on Global Communication Practice

Duration: Basic learning period of 4 years

Campuses: According to the university charter, our institution operates across the Zhongguancun Campus and the Tongzhou Campus.

V Application Procedure

1. Online Application

Applicants must log in to the International Students Application System of Renmin University of China (<http://international.ruc.edu.cn/application>) within the application time, fill in the application information authentically, upload the application materials and pay the application fee online in the system. The application fee is RMB 800. The application fee will not be refunded.

2. Qualification Review

RUC will review the applicants' information and materials in the application system within the application time. Applicants who do not pass the online preliminary review should re-upload the related information or documents in time within the application period.

3. Mail Documents

Applicants should mail the hard copies of the application materials to the university through EMS or SF-Express within one week after passing the Qualification Review.

4. School Review

After the qualification review, the school will review the application documents. Applicants will get the interview notice if the check of the application documents is approved.

5. Admission and Enrollment

The university will publish the results of enrollments from March to July, 2025. Students should bring the admission documents including admission notice for onsite registration in September, 2025 to the university. The university will re-check the applicant's information and documents after onsite registration. If there were any violations or fraudulent situation found, the university will turn down the admission.



VI Application Documents

1. Application Form for International Students of Renmin University of China (Original)

After online application, the system will automatically generate an application form. The form should be printed and signed.

2. Final Education Certificate

1) Applicants who have graduated should submit the copy of their final education certificate, with the notarization or verification of the final education certificate by the institutions entrusted by the Education Ministries.

2) If the applicant is currently a student at school, please submit the original Certificate of Expected Graduation issued by the current university. The copy of their final education certificate, with the notarization or verification of the final education certificate by the institutions entrusted by the Education Ministries must be provided to the university before registration.

3. Transcript (original)

Transcript must include a list of all completed courses up to graduating year. If the score is not in centesimal system, an explanation of the grading scale is needed.

4. Copies of the Information Page of the Passport

The applicant must hold an ordinary passport. The validity of the passport must be later than **March 31, 2026**. If the applicant is currently in China, please provide the copy of the visa page (if any).

Notes:

- 1) The university does not accept applicants who hold the following documents to apply as international students: "Travel Permit of the People's Republic of China", "Exit Entry Permit of the People's Republic of China", "Mainland Travel Permit for Hong Kong and Macao Residents", "Mainland Travel Permit for Taiwan Residents", "Residence Permit for Hong Kong, Macao/Taiwan Residents of the People's Republic of China", etc.
- 2) Applicant is not allowed to change the passport or personal information from the date of application until 3 months after onsite registration. The personal information includes name, gender, date of birth, nationality, passport number, and etc. If it was unavoidable to change your passport or personal information due to extremely special circumstances or force majeure, a written application should be submitted to the University for the Consent from the university. If the identity documents and personal information submitted by the applicant did not match the personal information provided during the application and admission process, the university will turn down the enrollment procedures.

5. Two Recommendation Letters

Two recommendation letters from two professors or associate professors written in Chinese or English are mandatory. The recommendation letters must contain the signature, name, position, work unit, and other information of the recommender of the referee.

6. Personal Statement and Study Plan

The personal statement and the study plan shall be written in English. It provides an opportunity for you to present yourself including personal study and work experience, academic research achievements, research plans, career planning after graduation, etc.

7. *Foreigner Physical Examination Form* (Original)

The Foreigner Physical Examination Form should be the original document in English or Chinese. The template of Foreigner Physical Examination Form can be downloaded on the website of International Students Office (<http://iso.ruc.edu.cn/ENGLISH/Download/ApplicationDocuments/index.htm>). The applicant should go to local authentic hospital for physical examination in strict accordance with the items specified in the Foreigner Physical Examination Form. A physical examination form missing items, photo, cross-page seal, signature of the doctor, and the seal of the hospital is considered invalid. The validity of The Foreigner Physical Examination Form is 6 months.

8. English Proficiency Certificate

The overall score of IELTS must be 6.0 or above, or TOEFL score must be 90 or above. Applicants who have obtained an English-taught degree should provide a certificate of language instruction issued by their previous universities. Applicants who are native English speakers (including those of Chinese descent born in foreign countries) are not required to submit English proficiency certificate.

9. Proof of Economic Capability (choose one of the following)

- 1) The Employment & Income Certificate of the applicant or the guarantor
- 2) The Bank deposit of applicant or the guarantor should be no less than RMB 30,000.

10. Statement of Guarantee (Original)

The template of the State of Guarantee can be downloaded from the website of the International Students Office (<http://iso.ruc.edu.cn/ENGLISH/Download/ApplicationDocuments/index.htm>). The Statement of Guarantee should be signed by the economic guarantor.

11. Certificate of No Criminal Record (original or notarized copy).

1) Applicants who are currently not reside in Chinese mainland should offer the certificate issued by the local public security department.

2) Applicants who are currently reside in Chinese mainland should offer the certificate issued by entry and exit administration departments of China.

The Renmin University of China Commitment Letter for Non-Criminal Record on International Students Office website is not for the Master Programs in English, and it cannot be used as the Certificate of No Criminal Record.

12. Nationality Proof

According to the Nationality Law of the People's Republic of China and the Letter No.12 [2020] of the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China, some applicants shall provide additional materials as National Proof Documents.

13. Other Supportive Documents

Copies of published academic papers, awards or other research results may be attached if necessary.

Matters needing attention: All application documents shall be in Chinese / English. And all application materials will not be returned once submitted.

VII Scholarship application

1. Chinese Government Scholarship Type A: Bilateral Program

The applicant should first apply to the dispatching authorities for overseas study of your home country, such as Chinese embassies and consulates abroad or other organizations. Applicant should log in to the Chinese Government Scholarship Information System (<https://studyinchina.csc.edu.cn>), and fill out the application form and choose Type A. The first choice of the university should be Renmin University of China.

The dispatching authorities will send the application information to the university to decide whether the application can be approved by qualification and interview.

2. Chinese Government Scholarship Type B: High-level Program and Silk Road Program

The applicant should apply to the university and the Chinese Scholarship Council at the same time while applying for the master program. Applicant should log in the Chinese Government Scholarship Information System (<https://studyinchina.csc.edu.cn>) and fill out the application form by choosing Type B, High-level Program or Silk Road Program. Agency number of Renmin University of China is 10002. The final name list will be issued by the China Scholarship Council. The application period and enrollment guide will be further notified.

3. Beijing Municipal Government Scholarship

Beijing Municipal Government Scholarship established by the People's Government of Beijing Municipality, supports excellent international students to study or conduct research at universities in Beijing. The application requirements and procedure will be further notified.

***Note: Only one of the above scholarship programs can be selected for application.**

VIII Contact Information

1. Contact information of International Students Office

For any question or inquiry about application materials, scholarship information, registration fee, etc., please consult the International Students Office.

Phone: 86-10-62512698

Fax: 86-10-62515343

Address: Room 108, International Cultural Exchange Center, Renmin University of China, No. 59, Zhongguancun Street, Haidian District, Beijing

Postal Code: 100872

E-mail admission@ruc.edu.cn Official website: <http://iso.ruc.edu.cn>

2. Contact information of School of Journalism and Communication

For any question about the Global Communication Ph.D. Program, please consult our program admissions team.

E-mail: xwjwk@ruc.edu.cn

IX Others

International Students Office reserves the right of final interpretation of this enrollment brochure; if there are any changes in the relevant enrollment information, please refer to the latest information released by International Students Office.