

## Alumni profiles

Alumni profiles in the Centre for Russian and East European Studies

**[Video: Christophe Laarman, MSc Contemporary Russian and East European Studies \(2011\) \(/schools/government-society/departments/russian-east-european-studies/alumni/profiles/christophe-laarman.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/russian-east-european-studies/alumni/profiles/christophe-laarman.aspx)**

Christophe Laarman describes his experience of studying an MSc in Contemporary Russian and East European Studies at the Centre for Russian and East European Studies, University of Birmingham during his recent graduation.

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**[Beth Saffer, BA Russian Studies \(2009\) \(/schools/government-society/departments/russian-east-european-studies/alumni/profiles/saffer-beth.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/russian-east-european-studies/alumni/profiles/saffer-beth.aspx)**

"The Russian department! It was a great place to study, a very supportive environment and lovely people. I got on with everyone on the course and have some fantastic memories."

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**[Maya Atwal, MSc Contemporary Russian and East European Studies \(2007\) \(/schools/government-society/departments/russian-east-european-studies/alumni/profiles/atwal-maya.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/russian-east-european-studies/alumni/profiles/atwal-maya.aspx)**

"I wished to broaden my knowledge of the region to include comparative politics in the region alongside continuing to develop my Russian language skills in a centre that was renowned for its research excellence in Russia and Central and Eastern-Europe."

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**[Dr John Tedstrom, PhD Russian and East European Studies \(1994\) \(/schools/government-society/departments/russian-east-european-studies/alumni/profiles/tedstrom-john.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/russian-east-european-studies/alumni/profiles/tedstrom-john.aspx)**

"I learned to appreciate the larger context of the experience we're all having - it's one thing to have experts in particular subjects and another to share that experience in a useful way."

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