

American Studies

Name of the Educational Programme:	American Studies
Awarded Qualification:	Doctor of American Studies/ამერიკისმცოდნეობის დოქტორი
Credit Value of the Programme:	60 ECTS
Language of Education:	English
Programme Admission Preconditions:	<p>According to Georgian legislation the candidate for studying at this program should have a Master's degree or a degree equivalent to it. According to University regulations, the candidate should have the C1 level in English, which is certified by an international certificate of the corresponding level or education at an English-language Master's program. The candidate may also take a corresponding exam at IBSU. Also, according to university regulations, the candidate to the program has to submit a dissertation proposal, the correspondence of which to the program requirements is assessed by program coordinator and dissertation field board constituting at least 3 members.</p> <p>If the applicant reveals extraordinarily high command of English during the introduction of the proposal before the field board commission, compiled with at least 3 affiliated professors, but has introduced the certificate of B2 level in English, can undergo additional oral interview in the English language with the commission of the field board, and if the evaluation is high enough, the applicant can be admitted to the program.</p>
Purpose of the Programme:	<p>With a vibrant American Studies field with its own theories, methods and applications, research areas and highly professional Georgian and American experts the program will emphasize cultural and historical inquiry of the United States and prepare Georgian and International students to participate in the world as critical thinkers, clear communicators, and global citizens, equipped with democratic, human values.</p> <p>American Studies multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary program aims to enable students to study and analyze various aspects of American society concerning dynamics of ethnicity, emigration, politics and literature; the unique specificity and interactive methods of this field enable students to establish analytical thinking and creative analysis about various contextual issues.</p>

	<p>The program aims to develop student’s thinking; speaking and writing skills which will help them to write a doctoral dissertation effectively and creatively; to develop respect toward social, ethical and moral values; communication and decision-making skills, sense of responsibility and ability of self-education;</p> <p>Create all the conditions for students’ academic and career development in the following organizations: higher educational institutions, historical museums, embassies, archives, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Parliament, Committee of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defense (Cultural Departments), non-governmental organizations which will implement the scientifically-based innovations.</p> <p>The program responds to the internalization requirements through 1) admitting doctorants from the US and Europe; 2) since 2010 appointing American Professors as opponents. 3) Since 2017 appointing American co-supervisors for doctorants; 4) American professors permanently invited to read the courses of the program: a) XX Century American Political History; b) XX Century American Literature</p>	
<p>Learning outcome</p>	<p>Knowledge and understanding</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student has the knowledge of American multiculturalism, Emigration, History, XX century American political history, XX century American literature; • Multiculturalism, Politics, Literary terms and theories, which enables him / her to work independently on educational literature – course books, monographs, articles published in international journals; • Student is aware of American Studies interdisciplinary field and its newest trends; • Student is aware of the ways to refresh his/her knowledge dealing with American Studies; • Student is aware of tolerance towards various ethnic groups which is a typical characteristic of the US democracy.
	<p>Applying knowledge</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student has the capacity to select a contemporary research topic in the sphere of American Studies, according to the chosen topic to find and analyze the literature, to pose problem questions, to select adequate methods of research and to work out a hypothesis, and further to test it out; • Student can independently plan and carry out research from multidisciplinary subjects, present the obtained results for publication in international reviewed journals;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student can prepare analytical conference articles concerning American multiculturalism, politics, and literature.
Making judgments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student can critically analyze and assess the read literature and information obtained from the mass-media concerning American Studies, is able to, based on the information obtained make decisions and solve problems; • Draw some parallels between the native and foreign cultures, find differences and similarities and make the appropriate conclusions; • Based on available methods of research, student can develop his/her own research platform (questionnaires, interview items, tests to assess knowledge); can plan and hold an experiment, as well as interpret its results.
Communication skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student can establish verbal and written communication concerning the latest trends of American Studies; • Student can establish his/her opinion and communicate with the representatives of other cultures; • Student can participate in scientific-professional debates, present his/her own scientific work at a conference and during the dissertation defense, can answer the questions of interested parties and correspond in written of professional issues; • Student can effectively bring his/her ideas to the listener's / reader's mind, present them by contemporary information technologies, using effective body language (mimics, gestures)
Learning skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doctorate student can efficiently plan his/her own studies, professional development, can carry it out and monitor it independently; • Doctorate student is ready to carry out various research (develop a project, publication, or conference paper).
Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect towards American and at the same time other cultures, traditions, and customs;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tolerance towards various cultures and individual differences. Doctorate student can contribute to sharing principles of humanism and liberalism and develop innovative methods for their application.
<p>Evaluation Criteria</p>	<p>The goal of evaluation is to determine student's education results qualitatively in relation to academic program goals and parameters.</p> <p>Student may be assessed orally and/or in a written way. A student's knowledge and skills are assessed through 100 points grading system. It consists of midterm and final evaluations, sum of which makes up 100 points.</p> <p>The grading system allows:</p> <p>five types of positive grades:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (A) Excellent – 91-100 points; (B) Very good – 81-90 points; (C) Good - 71-80 points; (D) Satisfactory - 61-70 points; (E) Enough - 51-60 points; <p>two types of negative grades:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (FX) Fail – 41-50 points, meaning that a student requires some more work before passing and is given a chance to sit an additional examination after independent work; (F) Fail – 40 points and less, meaning that the work of a student isn't acceptable and he/she has to study the subject anew. <p>For the midterm and final evaluations minimal passing grade is set. The final evaluation minimal passing grade must not exceed 60% of final evaluation grade.</p> <p>Midterm and final evaluation grade distribution, their minimal competence levels and assessment criteria are described in the corresponding syllabus.</p> <p>A credit can be awarded only after the attainment of learning outcomes, envisaged by the course syllabus and following requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Obtaining minimal competence levels set for midterm and final evaluations; Obtaining minimum 51 points out of 100 points of final grade.

A student is allowed to take an additional (make-up) exam in case he/she scored 41-50 points of final grade or minimum 51 points, but did not obtain minimal competence level set for final evaluation.

Considering its specification, the format and the assessment criteria of mid-term and final evaluations can be determined in the specific module/course syllabus.

The assessment of the scientific-research component is carried out as a whole, in the form of a final assessment. This includes the formative evaluation stage (evaluation of experts and presentation to the pre-defense) and the evaluation received at the defense.

Dissertation Defense

- c) The dissertation is assessed by a jury during the defense.
- d) During the defense of the doctorate dissertation, the assessment takes place according to the following rubric:

The assessment of the dissertation finally is done with the following wording:

- a) Excellent (summa cum laude) – 91points and over of maximum point – an excellent performance;
- b) Very good (magna cum laude) – 81-90 points of maximum point – a result exceeding given requirements in all aspects;
- c) Good (cum laude) – 71-80% of maximum point – a result exceeding given requirements;
- d) Medium (bene) – 61-70 points of maximum point – a result satisfying given requirements in all aspects;
- e) Satisfactory (rite) – 51-60 points of maximum point – a result satisfying given requirements despite some mistakes;
- f) Insufficient – 41-50 points of maximum point – a result not satisfying given requirements because of serious mistakes;
- g) Completely unsatisfactory (sub omni canone) – 40 points and less of maximum point – a result absolutely not satisfying given requirements.

The student is awarded the academic degree of doctor in case of obtaining any of the above-mentioned grades considered by items from a) to e); in case of getting the grade considered by item f) – the student has a right to present the rewritten doctorate dissertation during the first year; and in case of getting the grade considered by item g) – the student has no right to present the same doctorate dissertation.

Field of Employment:	<p>Graduates of both concentrations of the program can work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Higher educational institutions as lecturers; scientific research institutions • Governmental organizations: Ministry of Foreign Affairs (American Department), Committee of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defense (NADO Department, Cultural Departments). • American Embassy, American and other foreign organizations, non-governmental organizations.
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№	Course / Module / Internship / Research Component	Status	Credit number	Distribution of credits per courses and semesters								Distribution of hours					
				I s.y.		II s.y.		III s.y.		Lecture/Consultation	Seminar / Practical work/ lab work /	Contact hours			Independent Work	Total number of hours	Number of contact hours in a week
				I Semester	II Semester	III Semester	IV Semester	V Semester	VI Semester			Midterm exam(s)	Final Exam	Total number of hours			
I	Compulsory of Specialty	Compulsory	50	30	20	30	30	30	30	70	66	11	11	163	1087	1250	8
1	Pedagogy of Higher Education	Compulsory		10						8	20	2	2	32	218	250	2
2	Advanced Research Methods	Compulsory		10						15	13	2	2	32	218	250	2
3	XX Century American Political History	Compulsory		10						15	13	2	2	32	218	250	2
4	American Ethnicity	Compulsory			10					15	13	2	2	32	218	250	2

5	Seminar in American Studies	Compulsory			10					5	0	2	2	5	241	250	5 hours are distributed in 15 weeks
II	Elective of Specialty	Elective	10		10					15	13	2	2	32	218	250	2
6	XX Century American Literature*	Elective			10					15	13	2	2	32	218	250	2
7	Professor's Assistantship **	Elective			10					0	0	0	0	0	0	250	2
Total			60	30	30	30	30	30	30	90	199	13	13	195	1305	1500	18
III	Compulsory component of research	Compulsory															
8	Dissertation	Compulsory															