

Catalogue of  
Ph.D Programs  
(Delivered in English)

2024

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## About International Black Sea University

The International Black Sea University (IBSU) has been engaged in educational and scientific activities since 1995. The university is the first English-language educational institution in Georgia, which provides programs in both English and Georgian languages at all three levels of education.

More than 200 local and invited professors from different countries provide a high level of education at the university. International Black Sea University offers many opportunities to students. Namely: diverse public lectures, discussions with experts in various fields, participation in local and international conferences, mock trials, access to more than 25,000 books in the library and constantly updated electronic literature, involvement in more than 30 different clubs; Participation in various sports tournaments, opportunity of training in the gym, basketball court, open and closed stadiums, excursions, picnics, hiking and other extracurricular activities.

More than 4,500 graduates of the International Black Sea University hold an high education diploma issued by the university. IBSU students actively benefit from exchange programs. The university has signed 70 memorandums with educational institutions of 24 countries. IBSU is involved in Erasmus+ and DAAD projects.

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Please see the contact information in the section of a program

## Ph.D Programs

### Business administration

<b>Name of the Educational Programme:</b>	<b>Business Administration</b>
<b>Awarded Qualification:</b>	Ph.D in Business Administration
<b>Credit Value of the Programme:</b>	53 ECTS
<b>Language of Education:</b>	English
<b>Programme Admission Preconditions:</b>	<p>According to Georgian legislation, the candidate for studying in this program should have a Master's degree or a degree equal to it. With the exception of a person who has been awarded an academic master's degree based on the completion of a master's educational program that includes at least 60 credits, as provided for in paragraph 23 of Article 46 of the Law of Georgia on Higher Education. The requirement of the program is to have a bachelor's or a Master's degree in Business Administration or Economics. If the candidate possesses a foreign Master's Diploma or an equivalent to it which is duly recognized under the law of the country concerned, the validity of the candidate's diploma / awarded credits has to be confirmed by the LELP – Georgian National Center for Education Quality Enhancement.</p> <p>The criteria for admission to the doctoral program, as well as the evaluation criteria for the doctoral candidate selection process, is determined by the University, as approved by the „Doctoral Education and Dissertation Council Regulation“</p> <p>The candidate to the program should meet other admission criteria according to University regulations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• should have the B2 level in English. An applicant who holds an international certificate of the relevant foreign language level determined as a prerequisite for admission to the educational program is exempted from</li></ul>

passing the foreign language test. The level of the test conducted to determine the language proficiency level is determined by the „Language Competency Level“; The applicant is exempted from passing the foreign language exam if he/she has completed a foreign language educational program, having achieved the level determined by the prerequisite for admission to the program in the foreign language.

- the candidate to the program has to submit a 5-page research Proposal, the correspondence of which to the program requirements is assessed by a Dissertation Field Board commission consisting of minimum of three people (including program coordinators and minimum 3 field professors, including the supervisor of the program)
- The candidate is required to have a prior paper/publication in the relevant field, or/and participation in scientific research projects and events, or/and at least 2 years of work experience in the relevant field
- Then an interview based on the proposal is held

The program will also allow: Students enrolled in mobility in accordance with the order №10 / n of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia of February 4, 2010 "On the Approval of the Procedure and Fees for Transfer from a Higher Education Institution to another Higher Education Institution.

The assessment criteria for the Research Proposal are:

	Not reflected	Unacceptable	Acceptable, with major changes	Acceptable, with minor changes	Acceptable
<b>Title:</b> neither too narrow, nor too wide; terms used adequately; sounds contemporary	0	1-3	4-6	7-9	10-12
<b>Significance and novelty:</b> the topic is contemporary, less studied; the potential of novelty and value is presented	0	1-3	4-6	7-9	10-12

	<b>Theoretical and practical value:</b> it is presented how the research can impact the field	0	1-3	4-6	7-9	10-12
	<b>Literature overview:</b> presents main achievements and names; reference list includes at least 10 important titles	0	1-3	4-6	7-9	10-12
	<b>Research questions / hypothesis</b> are original and well-formulated	0	1-3	4-6	7-9	10-12
	<b>Research methods</b> are adequate to the topic and well defined	0	1-3	4-6	7-9	10-12
	<b>Academic and clear language</b>	0	1-3	4-6	7-9	10-12
	<b>Interview / oral presentation *:</b> reveals a good knowledge of the topic, arguments any point from the proposal	0	1-4	5-8	9-12	13-16
	Total:					100
	* A candidate who obtains at least 51 points in the previous items is admitted to the interview; the candidate who obtained 41-50 points, can resubmit an improved version within submission deadlines. ** A candidate who obtains at least 9 points from the oral interview will be admitted.					
<b>Purpose of the Programme:</b>	<p>The purpose of the program is to give the students skills to help them:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analyse and formulate relevant research questions aimed to make a significant contribution to their respective fields of research; develop and implement research design and methodologies in practice that enable them to advance the boundaries of knowledge in their specialized fields.</li> <li>Apply knowledge of modern Business administration theories to understand and solve various Business problems, Develop recommendations, and make decisions;</li> </ol>					

	3. Demonstrate excellent oral and written communication skills, actively engage in international conferences collaborate well in international research groups, and publish articles in prominent journals.	
<b>Learning outcome</b>	<b>Knowledge and understanding</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Demonstrates deep theoretical and practical knowledge related to the latest achievements of the field of business administration;</li> <li>2. Formulates Ideas related to the modern tendencies of the business field which enables to critically evaluate and independently work on research literature, books, monographs, international articles;</li> <li>3. Understands critically theories, methodologies, and knowledge to address fundamental questions in their major area of study and contribute new mythologies and knowledge to existing literatures and theories.</li> </ol>
	<b>Skills</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Analyses and form own views, using research and analytical methods and make decisions to solve problems in academic and business life as well.</li> <li>5. Develops his/her own research questions, models, and methodology, and interpret the results to make judgments about problems surrounding society and business.</li> <li>6. Conducts and supervises the research of other students show professional skills and show knowledge at a level required for university undergraduate and master teaching in their discipline and assessment of student learning.</li> </ol>
	<b>Responsibility and autonomy</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Communicate with people from different backgrounds as both leaders/mentors and team members with integrity and professionalism;</li> <li>8. Express own views on the corresponding topic in the business community, independently participates in scientific or professional debates, and presents his/her work;</li> <li>9. Adheres to the principles of ethics and academic integrity in conducting and implementing research;</li> </ol>
<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>	<p>Student knowledge assessment system:</p> <p>The purpose of assessment is to qualitatively determine the student's learning outcomes in relation to the goals and parameters of the academic program.</p>	

Assessment of the student's knowledge is carried out in oral and/or written form. The maximum evaluation of the training course/component is equal to 100 points. The assessment includes an intermediate and final assessment, the sum of which is 100 points.

The evaluation system allows:

Five types of positive evaluation:

- A) (A) Friadi - 91-100 points;
- b) (B) very good – 81-90 points;
- c) (C) good – 71-80 points;
- d) (D) satisfactory – 61-70 points;
- E) (E) Sufficient – 51-60 points.

Two types of negative evaluation:

- a) (FX) failed - 41-50 points, which means that the student needs more work to pass and is allowed to take the additional exam once with independent work;
- b) (F) Failed – 40 points and less, which means that the work done by the student is not enough and he has to study the course/subject afresh.

The minimum competence threshold for intermediate and final assessments is at least 51% of the corresponding assessment.

The point distribution of midterm and final assessments, their minimum competency thresholds and assessment rubrics are spelled out in the syllabus of the relevant component.

Credit can be obtained only after the student has achieved the learning outcomes set by the syllabus, taking into account the following necessary requirements:

- a) in case of exceeding the minimum competence limit of intermediate and final assessments;
- b) in case of obtaining at least 51 points out of the maximum 100 points of the final assessment.



	<p>A student will be admitted to the additional exam if he scored 41 - 50 points out of a maximum of 100 points in the final assessment or at least 51 points, but did not pass the minimum competence limit defined for the final assessment.</p> <p>The format and evaluation criteria of the midterm and final assessment components are determined according to the syllabus of each learning component, taking into account their specificities and following the above criteria.</p> <p><b>Dissertation Defense</b></p> <p>c) The dissertation is assessed by a jury during the defense.</p> <p>d) During the defense of the doctorate dissertation, the assessment takes place according to the following rubric:</p> <p>The assessment of the dissertation finally is done with the following wording:</p> <p>a) Excellent (summa cum laude) – 91points and over of maximum point – an excellent performance;</p> <p>b) Very good (magna cum laude) – 81-90 points of maximum point – a result exceeding given requirements in all aspects;</p> <p>c) Good (cum laude) – 71-80% of maximum point – a result exceeding given requirements;</p> <p>d) Medium (bene) – 61-70 points of maximum point – a result satisfying given requirements in all aspects;</p> <p>e) Satisfactory (rite) – 51-60 points of maximum point – a result satisfying given requirements despite some mistakes;</p> <p>f) Insufficient – 41-50 points of maximum point – a result not satisfying given requirements because of serious mistakes;</p> <p>g) Completely unsatisfactory (sub omni canone) – 40 points and less of maximum point – a result absolutely not satisfying given requirements.</p> <p>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.</p>
<p><b>Field of Employment:</b></p>	<p>A Doctorate degree is usually essential for an academic career or a specialist scientific post within research organizations academic institutions and Governmental Agencies.</p>

more specific employment areas of Ph.D. business administration can be mentioned as follows:

- In higher educational institutions, including both academic and administrative positions to provide successful development of educational process;
- Scientific institutions (in particular: in such public and international organizations, which function as research institutes on modern tendencies in the business environment);
- Public and private business companies;
- As independent business experts.
- Governmental agencies;

#	Course / Module / Internship / Research Component	Status	Credit number	Distribution of credits per courses and semesters										Distribution of Hours		Total number of hours		
				I Year		II Year		III Year		Contact Hours				Independent work				
				I Semester	II Semester	III Semester	IV Semester	V Semester	VI Semester	Lecture	Seminar / Group Work / Laboratory Work	Midterm exam(s)	Final exam		Total number of contact hours			
I	Compulsory/Elective courses (study Component)			43 ECTS														
1	Pedagogy of Higher Education for Business and Technology	Compulsory	5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								8	20	2	2	32	93	125
2	Multivariate Data Analysis	Compulsory	10	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								11	31	2	2	46	204	250
3	Research Methodology	Compulsory	8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								14	14	2	2	32	168	200
4	Applied Econometrics	Compulsory	5		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>							11	17	2	2	32	93	125
5	Doctoral Seminar	Compulsory	10		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>							-	14	2	2	32	218	250

6	Professor's Assistance	Compulsory	5		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				32	-	-	-	32	93	125
II	<b>Elective Courses</b>		<b>10 ECTS</b>												
2	Organization Theory	Elective	10		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				13	15	2	2	32	218	250
3	Theory of Consumer Behavior	Elective	10		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				14	14	2	2	32	218	250
4	Advanced Corporate Finance	Elective	10		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				12	16	2	2	32	218	250
II I	<b>Research Component – Doctoral Dissertation</b>	Compulsory			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>							
<b>Total</b>			<b>53</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>30</b>										

## Computer science

<b>Name of the Educational Programme:</b>	<b>Computer Science</b>																								
<b>Awarded Qualification:</b>	Doctor of Computer Science/კომპიუტერული მეცნიერების დოქტორი																								
<b>Credit Value of the Programme:</b>	60 ECTS																								
<b>Language of Education:</b>	English																								
<b>Programme Admission Preconditions:</b>	<p>According to Georgian legislation, the candidate to enroll at this program should have a Master’s degree in computer science or closely related fields. According to the university regulations, the candidate should have at least the B2 level in English certified by an international certificate and the relevance is approved by the IBSU School of Languages or a Master’s diploma received from English language program during last five years. In addition, according to the university regulations, the candidate has to submit a dissertation (research) proposal. The correspondence of the proposal to the program requirements is assessed by the Dissertation Field Board commission according to the rubric below, afterwards the interview based on the proposal is held. The assessment criteria for the dissertation proposal are:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 45%;"></th> <th style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">Not reflected</th> <th style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">Unacceptable</th> <th style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">Acceptable (with major changes)</th> <th style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">Acceptable (with minor changes)</th> <th style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">Acceptable</th> </tr> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">CRITERIA</th> <th style="text-align: center;">0</th> <th style="text-align: center;">1-3</th> <th style="text-align: center;">4-6</th> <th style="text-align: center;">7-9</th> <th style="text-align: center;">10-12</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><b>Title: neither too narrow, nor too wide; terms used adequately; sounds contemporary</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"> </td> <td style="text-align: center;"> </td> <td style="text-align: center;"> </td> <td style="text-align: center;"> </td> <td style="text-align: center;"> </td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Significance and novelty: the topic is contemporary, less studied; the potential of novelty and value is presented</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"> </td> <td style="text-align: center;"> </td> <td style="text-align: center;"> </td> <td style="text-align: center;"> </td> <td style="text-align: center;"> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Not reflected	Unacceptable	Acceptable (with major changes)	Acceptable (with minor changes)	Acceptable	CRITERIA	0	1-3	4-6	7-9	10-12	<b>Title: neither too narrow, nor too wide; terms used adequately; sounds contemporary</b>						<b>Significance and novelty: the topic is contemporary, less studied; the potential of novelty and value is presented</b>					
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		Theoretical and practical value: it is presented how the research can impact the field																
		Literature overview: presents main achievements and names; reference list includes at least 10 important titles																
		Research questions / hypothesis are original and well-formulated																
		Research methods are adequate to the topic and well defined																
		Academic and clear language																
		Sub-totals:																
		Total:																
<p>Requirement for the next step:</p> <p>A candidate who obtained at least 51 points (out of 84) is admitted to the interview/oral presentation. The proposal of a candidate, who obtained 41-50 points, will be reassessed if the candidate improves the proposal within the submission deadline</p>																		
		<table border="1"> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Interview / oral presentation: reveals a good knowledge of the topic, arguments</td> <td>Not reflected</td> <td>Unacceptable</td> <td>Acceptable (with major changes)</td> <td>Acceptable (with minor changes)</td> <td>Acceptable</td> </tr> <tr> <td>0</td> <td>1-4</td> <td>5-8</td> <td>9-12</td> <td>13-16</td> </tr> </table>	Interview / oral presentation: reveals a good knowledge of the topic, arguments	Not reflected	Unacceptable	Acceptable (with major changes)	Acceptable (with minor changes)	Acceptable	0	1-4	5-8	9-12	13-16					
Interview / oral presentation: reveals a good knowledge of the topic, arguments	Not reflected	Unacceptable		Acceptable (with major changes)	Acceptable (with minor changes)	Acceptable												
	0	1-4	5-8	9-12	13-16													

	<table border="1" data-bbox="1075 190 1770 305"> <tr> <td data-bbox="1075 190 1283 305">any point from the proposal</td> <td data-bbox="1283 190 1356 305"></td> <td data-bbox="1356 190 1446 305"></td> <td data-bbox="1446 190 1562 305"></td> <td data-bbox="1562 190 1694 305"></td> <td data-bbox="1694 190 1770 305"></td> </tr> </table> <p data-bbox="814 354 1997 378">The candidate who obtained at least 9 from the interview / oral presentation will be considered as 'passed'.</p>	any point from the proposal					
any point from the proposal							
<p data-bbox="69 394 373 418"><b>Purpose of the Programme:</b></p>	<p data-bbox="814 394 1436 418">The goals of the PhD Program in Computer Science are:</p> <ol data-bbox="814 435 2032 824" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="814 435 2032 621">1. Preparation of highly qualified personnel for academic and scientific careers in the field of computer science. The faculty has three directions of computer science: theoretical computer science, system design and security, artificial intelligence. The doctoral program is designed to take into account the interests of individual students, which means that students must make a distinct and important contribution to the study and development of at least one direction while studying for a doctorate.</li> <li data-bbox="814 638 2032 703">2. To prepare computer science PhD students for industry, which means that PhD students will develop the ability to formulate, model, analyze, solve and implement complex problems coming from the industry.</li> <li data-bbox="814 719 2032 824">3. To develop PhD students the skills necessary for a successful career in the market, to make it focused on finding ways to solve interdisciplinary scientific problems, to improve the vision of professional and ethical responsibility for academic, scientific and industrial work.</li> </ol>						
<p data-bbox="69 837 275 862"><b>Learning outcome</b></p>	<ol data-bbox="814 837 2032 1382" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="814 837 1787 862">1. Systematically reviews the field of computer science based on critical understanding;</li> <li data-bbox="814 878 2032 943">2. Describes current research and challenges in computer science subfields (theoretical computer science, systems design and security, artificial intelligence).</li> <li data-bbox="814 959 2032 1024">3. critically evaluates the ways of solving complex research problems and the ways of planning their improvement;</li> <li data-bbox="814 1040 1881 1065">4. Prepares a project proposal, a publication and a report based on the received scientific results.</li> <li data-bbox="814 1081 1745 1105">5. Modeling real-world problems by using computer systems and creating software;</li> <li data-bbox="814 1122 2032 1187">6. Conducts scientific researches, the process of reviewing scientific papers and dissertations and presents an article describing the received scientific product in a refereed high-rated journal and conference materials.</li> <li data-bbox="814 1203 1982 1227">7. Plans the lecture process, undergraduate and graduate researches in various fields of computer science.</li> <li data-bbox="814 1243 2032 1308">8. Analyzes potential ethical and social implications of research, review, technology creation and implementation.</li> <li data-bbox="814 1325 2032 1382">9. Summarizes the achievements of experts in the field of computer science, from the point of view of a specialist in the field.</li> </ol>						

## Evaluation Criteria

The goal of evaluation is to determine student's education results qualitatively in relation to academic program goals and parameters.

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.

The Grading system allows:

five types of positive grades:

- a. (A) Excellent – 91-100 points;
- b. (B) Very good – 81-90 points;
- c. (C) Good - 71-80 points;
- d. (D) Satisfactory - 61-70 points;
- e. (E) Enough - 51-60 points;

two types of negative grades:

- a. (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;
- b. (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.

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.

Midterm and final evaluation grade distribution, their minimal competence levels and assessment criteria are described in the corresponding syllabus.

A credit can be awarded only after the attainment of learning outcomes, envisaged by the course syllabus and following requirements (both have to be fulfilled):

- a) Obtaining minimal competence levels set for midterm and final evaluations;
- b) 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.

The format and evaluation criteria of the midterm and final evaluation components are determined according to the syllabus of each study course, taking into account their specificities and following the above criteria.

	<p>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.</p> <p>The prerequisite for awarding the academic degree of doctor is to pass the formative evaluation stage and the average of the points assigned by the Defense Commission, not less than 51 points.</p> <p>The assessment of dissertation finally is done with the following wording:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Excellent (summa cum laude) – 91points and above – an excellent work;</li> <li>b) Very good (magna cum laude) – 81-90 points– a result that exceeds the requirements in every way;</li> <li>c) Good (cum laude) – 71-80 points – a result that exceeds the requirements;</li> <li>d) Medium (bene) – 61-70 points – an average level work that meets the basic requirements;</li> <li>e) Satisfactory (rite) – 51-60 points – result, which despite its shortcomings, still meets the requirements;</li> <li>f) Insufficient – 41-50 points – unsatisfactory level of work that does not meet the requirements;</li> <li>g) Completely unsatisfactory (sub omni canone) – 40 points and less – result that meets none of the requirements.</li> </ul> <p>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.</p>
<p><b>Field of Employment:</b></p>	<p>The PhD program in Computer Science will prepare internationally qualified competitive professionals. The knowledge and skills acquired by graduates will enable them to meet the challenges of modern scientific achievements. Graduates will be able to be employed in both private and public sectors, as a leading specialist, where they will practically perform the main professional activities both independently and in a group. In particular, they can occupy a scientist position at research unit, an academic position at educational organization and a leading specialist position at IT department in an industry.</p>



#	Course / Module / Internship / Research Component	Status	Credit number	Distribution of credits per courses and semesters								Distribution of Hours							
				I Year		II Year		III Year		IV b.ř.		Contact Hours				Independent work	Total number of hours		
				I Semester	II Semester	III Semester	IV Semester	V semester	VI Semester	VII Semester	VIII Semester	Lecture	Seminar / Group Work / Laboratory Work / Practical work	Midterm exam(s)	Final exam			Total number of contact hours	
1	Pedagogy of Higher Education for Business and Technology	Mandatory	5	5									8	20	2	2	32	93	125
2	Research Methodology	Mandatory	10	10									15	13	2	2	32	218	250
3	PhD Seminar I	Mandatory	5	5									0	14	0	2	16	109	125
4	PhD Seminar II	Mandatory	5	5									0	14	0	2	16	109	125
5	Professor's Assistantship	Mandatory	5	5									0	30	0	2	32	93	125
6	PhD Thesis	Mandatory				√	√	√	√					112			112	2888	3000
7	Cyber Physical Systems	Elective	10	10									28	14	2	2	46	204	250
8	Wavelets Theory	Elective	10	10									28	14	2	2	46	204	250
9	Computational Thinking for Modeling and Simulation	Elective	10	10									14	28	2	2	46	204	250
10	Automated Reasoning	Elective	10	10									28	14	2	2	46	204	250
11	Internet of Things (IoT)	Elective	10	10									28	14	2	2	46	204	250
12	Access Control Models	Elective	10	10									14	14	2	2	32	218	250

13	Blockchain and Cybersecurity	Elective	10		10							14	14	2	2	32	218	250
14	Discrete Optimization Algorithms	Elective	10		10							14	14	2	2	32	218	250
15	Rewriting Theory	Elective	10		10							14	14	2	2	32	218	250
16	Pattern Recognition Applications	Elective	10		10							14	14	2	2	32	218	250
<b>Total number</b>			60	30	30													

## American Studies

<b>Name of the Educational Programme:</b>	<b>American Studies</b>
<b>Awarded Qualification:</b>	Doctor of American Studies/ამერიკისმცოდნეობის დოქტორი
<b>Credit Value of the Programme:</b>	60 ECTS
<b>Language of Education:</b>	English
<b>Programme Admission Preconditions:</b>	<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</p>

	<p>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>	
<p><b>Purpose of the Programme:</b></p>	<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><b>Learning outcome</b></p>	<p><b>Knowledge and understanding</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student has the knowledge of American multiculturalism, Emigration, History, XX century American political history, XX century American literature;</li> <li>• Multiculturalism, Politics, Literary terms and theories, which enables him / her to work independently on educational literature – course books, monographs, articles published in international journals;</li> <li>• Student is aware of American Studies interdisciplinary field and its newest trends;</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student is aware of the ways to refresh his/her knowledge dealing with American Studies;</li> <li>• Student is aware of tolerance towards various ethnic groups which is a typical characteristic of the US democracy.</li> </ul>
	<b>Applying knowledge</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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;</li> <li>• Student can independently plan and carry out research from multidisciplinary subjects, present the obtained results for publication in international reviewed journals;</li> <li>• Student can prepare analytical conference articles concerning American multiculturalism, politics, and literature.</li> </ul>
	<b>Making judgments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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;</li> <li>• Draw some parallels between the native and foreign cultures, find differences and similarities and make the appropriate conclusions;</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>
	<b>Communication skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student can establish verbal and written communication concerning the latest trends of American Studies;</li> <li>• Student can establish his/her opinion and communicate with the representatives of other cultures;</li> <li>• 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;</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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)</li> </ul>
	<b>Learning skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doctorate student can efficiently plan his/her own studies, professional development, can carry it out and monitor it independently;</li> <li>• Doctorate student is ready to carry out various research (develop a project, publication, or conference paper).</li> </ul>
	<b>Values</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respect towards American and at the same time other cultures, traditions, and customs;</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>
<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>	<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"> <li>(A) Excellent – 91-100 points;</li> <li>(B) Very good – 81-90 points;</li> <li>(C) Good - 71-80 points;</li> <li>(D) Satisfactory - 61-70 points;</li> <li>(E) Enough - 51-60 points;</li> </ol> <p>two types of negative grades:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(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;</li> <li>(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.</li> </ol>	

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.

Midterm and final evaluation grade distribution, their minimal competence levels and assessment criteria are described in the corresponding syllabus.

A credit can be awarded only after the attainment of learning outcomes, envisaged by the course syllabus and following requirements:

- a) Obtaining minimal competence levels set for midterm and final evaluations;
- b) 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;

	<p>f) Insufficient – 41-50 points of maximum point – a result not satisfying given requirements because of serious mistakes;</p> <p>g) Completely unsatisfactory (sub omni canone) – 40 points and less of maximum point – a result absolutely not satisfying given requirements.</p> <p>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.</p>
<b>Field of Employment:</b>	<p>Graduates of both concentrations of the program can work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At Higher educational institutions as lecturers; scientific research institutions</li> <li>• Governmental organizations: Ministry of Foreign Affairs (American Department), Committee of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defense (NADO Department, Cultural Departments).</li> <li>• American Embassy, American and other foreign organizations, non-governmental organizations.</li> </ul>

№	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.		Contact hours								
				I Semester	II Semester	III Semester	IV Semester	V Semester	VI Semester	Lecture/Consultation	Seminar / Practical work/ lab work /	Midterm exam(s)	Final Exam	Total number of hours	Independent Work	Total number of hours	Number of contact hours in a week	

<b>I</b>	<b>Compulsory of Specialty</b>	<b>Compulsory</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>1087</b>	<b>1250</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>1</b>	Pedagogy of Higher Education	Compulsory		10						8	20	2	2	32	218	250	2
<b>2</b>	Advanced Research Methods	Compulsory		10						15	13	2	2	32	218	250	2
<b>3</b>	XX Century American Political History	Compulsory		10						15	13	2	2	32	218	250	2
<b>4</b>	American Ethnicity	Compulsory			10					15	13	2	2	32	218	250	2
<b>5</b>	Seminar in American Studies	Compulsory			10					5	0	2	2	5	241	250	5 hours are distributed in 15 weeks
<b>II</b>	<b>Elective of Specialty</b>	<b>Elective</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>						<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>6</b>	XX Century American Literature*	Elective			10					15	13	2	2	32	218	250	2
<b>7</b>	Professor's Assistantship **	Elective			10					0	0	0	0	0	0	250	2
<b>Total</b>			<b>60</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>1305</b>	<b>1500</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>III</b>	<b>Compulsory component of research</b>	<b>Compulsory</b>															
<b>8</b>	Dissertation	Compulsory															

## Education Sciences



<b>Name of the Educational Programme:</b>	<b>Education Sciences</b>
<b>Awarded Qualification:</b>	Doctor of Education Sciences
<b>Credit Value of the Programme:</b>	60 ECTS
<b>Language of Education:</b>	English
<b>Programme Admission Preconditions:</b>	<p>According to Georgian legislation, the candidate should have a Master's degree or a degree equal to it.</p> <p><b>Educational Background</b> The program requires either a Bachelor's or a Master's degree in the Education / Psychology / Philology field, or a one-year 60-credit teacher-training certificate.</p> <p><b>Working Experience</b> The candidates should have at least two years of experience in teaching or working in the education field.</p> <p><b>Scientific/Research Background</b> The candidates should submit at least one published article in the scientific journal/ conference proceedings in the area of the studies. The article should be written in English.</p> <p><b>Language Requirement</b> The candidate should have the C1 level in the English language according to the Common European Framework of Reference, which should be documented by the International Certificate (FCE (A grade), CAE, IELTS-7.0, TOEFL iBT-95, CERTUS, etc) or by the Master's Diploma (delivered in English).</p> <p><b>Dissertation Proposal</b> The candidate is requested to submit a dissertation proposal, which aims to check the candidate's research potential. The written dissertation proposal is evaluated by the Dissertation Field Board.</p> <p><b>Assessment criteria for the dissertation proposal</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Title: neither too narrow nor too wide; terms used adequately; sounds contemporary.</li> <li>2. Significance and Novelty: the topic is contemporary and less studied; the potential of novelty and value is presented.</li> <li>3. Theoretical and Practical Value: It presents how the research can impact the field.</li> <li>4. Literature Review: presents main achievements and names; reference list includes at least 10 important titles.</li> </ol>

	<p>5. Research Questions / Hypotheses are original and well-formulated.</p> <p>6. Research Methods are adequate to the topic and well defined.</p> <p>7. Academic and Clear Language</p> <p>The 7 items are evaluated according to the following criteria: Acceptable- 3 points, Acceptable, but requires minor changes- 2 points, Acceptable, but requires major changes-1 point, Unacceptable- 0 points. The maximum point is 21. The candidate needs at least 11 points to be admitted to the interview.</p> <p>Interview The Dissertation Field Board interviews the candidate. Interview / oral presentation: reveals a good knowledge of the topic, arguments for any point from the proposal. The assessment criteria are: Excellent- 3 points, Good- 2 points, Satisfactory- 1 points, Dissatisfactory- 0 points. The candidate who obtains at least 1 point from the oral interview will be admitted.</p>				
<p><b>Purpose of the Programme:</b></p>	<p>The pivotal purpose of the program is to equip graduates with a multifaceted skill set: a profound understanding and practical application of education theories for problem-solving, effective communication with peers and society, and modern teaching and assessment techniques; proficiency in research, active participation in research, ongoing professional growth, and supervision of others' research endeavors using cutting-edge methodologies; developing a student-centered and humanistic approach; and the capacity to introduce evidence-based innovations and disseminate this knowledge within the educational sphere and beyond.</p>				
<p><b>Learning outcome</b></p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="800 919 1108 1162"> <p><b>Knowledge and Understanding</b></p> </td> <td data-bbox="1108 919 2045 1162"> <p>1. Knows theories, principles, and practices within the field of education sciences, empowering graduates to both extend this knowledge and apply innovative methodologies.</p> <p>2. Possesses a comprehensive understanding of research methodologies in education that equips graduates to author articles in peer-reviewed journals, undertake research projects, and complete dissertations.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="800 1162 1108 1360"> <p><b>Skills</b></p> </td> <td data-bbox="1108 1162 2045 1360"> <p>3. Designs and executes research endeavors in the field of educational sciences while upholding principles of academic integrity.</p> <p>4. Demonstrates proficiency in independent research by crafting tools like questionnaires, interview inquiries, or knowledge assessments tailored to the research focus, then conducting experiments within the education field. Applies</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p><b>Knowledge and Understanding</b></p>	<p>1. Knows theories, principles, and practices within the field of education sciences, empowering graduates to both extend this knowledge and apply innovative methodologies.</p> <p>2. Possesses a comprehensive understanding of research methodologies in education that equips graduates to author articles in peer-reviewed journals, undertake research projects, and complete dissertations.</p>	<p><b>Skills</b></p>	<p>3. Designs and executes research endeavors in the field of educational sciences while upholding principles of academic integrity.</p> <p>4. Demonstrates proficiency in independent research by crafting tools like questionnaires, interview inquiries, or knowledge assessments tailored to the research focus, then conducting experiments within the education field. Applies</p>
<p><b>Knowledge and Understanding</b></p>	<p>1. Knows theories, principles, and practices within the field of education sciences, empowering graduates to both extend this knowledge and apply innovative methodologies.</p> <p>2. Possesses a comprehensive understanding of research methodologies in education that equips graduates to author articles in peer-reviewed journals, undertake research projects, and complete dissertations.</p>				
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		<p>statistical analysis to interpret gathered data, aiming to produce innovative insights that meet the criteria for publication in internationally recognized refereed journals.</p> <p>5. Demonstrates proficiency in choosing a contemporary educational topic for research, be it an article, project, or dissertation. This involves sourcing literature that aligns with the topic's significance and caliber, conducting critical analysis, posing essential inquiries, selecting suitable research methodologies, crafting a hypothesis, and evaluating its soundness. Subsequently, the individual interprets statistical data, resolves identified issues and ultimately enhances the findings for publication in a respected international journal, along with disseminating them through presentations to colleagues and the wider community.</p> <p>6. Demonstrates the ability to innovate within the field of education, addressing complex challenges through innovative approaches and contributing to the generation of new knowledge.</p> <p>7. Achieves proficiency in articulating educational concepts with clarity and academic rigor, actively engaging in discussions with professionals both domestically and internationally, as well as with the broader society.</p>
	<p><b>Responsibility and Autonomy</b></p>	<p>8. Exhibits the capability to conduct or oversee research initiatives in education, drawing from the latest advancements in academic or professional settings. Alternatively, they can engage in professional development activities while adhering to principles of academic and professional integrity, showcasing originality and autonomy.</p>
<p><b>Evaluation Criteria</b></p>	<p>The goal of evaluation is to determine a student's education results qualitatively concerning academic program goals and parameters. Students may be assessed orally and in a written way. A student's knowledge and skills are assessed through a 100-point grading system. It consists of midterm and final evaluations, a sum of which makes up 100 points.</p> <p>The grading system allows:</p> <p>a) five types of positive grades:</p>	

(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;

b) two types of negative grades:

(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.

For the midterm and final evaluations minimal passing grade is set. The final evaluation's minimal passing grade must not exceed 60% of the final evaluation grade. Midterm and final evaluation grade distribution, minimal competence levels, and assessment criteria are described in the corresponding syllabus (50% for midterm and 50% for final). Credit can be awarded only after the attainment of learning outcomes, envisaged by the course syllabus and the following requirements (both have to be fulfilled):

a) Obtaining minimal competence levels set for midterm and final evaluations;

b) Obtaining a minimum of 51 points out of 100 points of the final grade.

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

#### **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) – 91 points 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;

	<p>c) Good (cum laude) – 71-80% of maximum point – a result exceeding given requirements;</p> <p>d) Medium (bene) – 61-70 points of maximum point – a result satisfying given requirements in all aspects;</p> <p>e) Satisfactory (rite) – 51-60 points of maximum point – a result satisfying given requirements despite some mistakes;</p> <p>f) Insufficient – 41-50 points of maximum point – a result not satisfying given requirements because of serious mistakes;</p> <p>g) Completely unsatisfactory (sub omni canone) – 40 points and less of maximum point – a result absolutely not satisfying given requirements.</p> <p>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.</p>
<b>Field of Employment:</b>	Program graduates have the opportunity to pursue careers in governmental and non-governmental educational institutions or engage in research within the field of education sciences. Additionally, they may seek employment as educators or administrators in higher education establishments.

#	Course / Module / Internship / Research Component	Status	Cre dit nu mber	Distribution of credits per courses and semesters						Distribution of Hours		
				I Year	II Year	III Year	IV Year	V Year	VI Year	Contact Hours	Indep enden	Total number of hours

				I Semester	II Semester	III Semester	IV Semester	V Semester	VI Semester	VII Semester	VIII Semester	IX Semester	X Semester	XI Semester	XII Semester	Lecture	Seminar / Group Work / Laboratory Work / Practical work	Midterm exam(s)	Final exam	Total number of contact hours		
	<b>Study component</b>	<b>Compulsory</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>21</b>																	
1	Advanced Research Methods	Compulsory	8	X												15	28	2	3	48	152	200
2	Didactics and Educational Psychology	Compulsory	7	X												8	20	2	2	32	143	175
3	Educational Sociology	Compulsory	7	X												14	14	2	2	32	143	175

4	Educational Technologies	Compulsory	7	X										15	13	2	2	32	143	175
5	Educational Philosophy and Reform	Compulsory	7		X									15	13	2	2	32	143	175
6	Seminar in Article and Dissertation Writing	Compulsory	7		x									0	28	2	2	32	143	175
7	Introducing Innovations in Learning and Teaching	Compulsory	7		x									14	14	2	3	33	142	175
	<b>Study component</b>	<b>Elective</b>	10		10															
1	Legal Regulation of Education	Elective	5		x									15	13	2	2	32	93	125
2	Curriculum, Syllabus and Course Design	Elective	5		x									14	14	2	2	32	93	125
3	Professor's Assistance	Elective	5		x									0	30	0	2	32	93	125

4	Applied Linguistics	Elective	5	x										15	13	2	2	32	93	125
5	Sociolinguistics	Elective	5	x										15	13	2	2	32	93	125
6	Academic Writing for Education Sciences	Elective	5	x										15	13	2	2	32	93	125
7	Higher Education Management and Administration	Elective	5	x										14	14	2	2	32	93	125
8	Leadership in Education	Elective	5	x										14	14	2	2	32	93	125
9	Teaching English for Specific Purposes	Elective	5	x										14	14	2	2	32	93	125



<b>Total</b>		<b>60</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>31</b>										<b>110</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>119</b> <b>5</b>	<b>1500</b>
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