



**MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND SPORT OF THE REPUBLIC
OF LITHUANIA**

**ORDER
ON APPROVAL OF THE DESCRIPTOR OF THE STUDY FIELD OF CLASSICAL
STUDIES**

2 December 2021 No. V-2164

Vilnius

In accordance with Paragraph 11 of Article 53 of the Law on Higher Education and Research of the Republic of Lithuania:

1. I approve the Descriptor of the Study Field of Classical Studies (enclosed).
2. I determine that the higher education institutions have to adjust their study programmes to the Descriptor of the Study Field of Cultural Studies approved by Clause 1 hereby until 01 September 2022.

Minister of Education, Science and Sport

Jurgita Šiugždienė

APPROVED
by Order No. V-2164 of the
Minister of
Education, Science and Sport of the
Republic
of Lithuania of 2 December 2021

DESCRIPTOR OF THE STUDY FIELD OF CLASSICAL STUDIES

CHAPTER I GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. The Descriptor of the Study Field of Classical Studies (hereinafter – Descriptor) regulates the special requirements for the study programmes in the study field of Classical Studies (N03) that belongs to the group of study fields of humanities (N). The Descriptor regulates the study field of Classical Studies in the scope not covered by the General Requirements for the Studies approved by Order No. V-1168 of the Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania of 30 December 2016 “On approval of the General Requirements for the Studies.”

2. The Descriptor is based on the British Quality Assurance Agency's (QAA) Descriptor of the Study Field of Classical Studies (*Subject Benchmark Statement for Classics and Ancient History*).

3. The Descriptor's requirements shall be applied to the university studies of the first cycle and second cycle conducted as full-time or part-time studies.

4. Upon completion of the studies in the field of Classical Studies, the bachelor's /master's degree in humanities that is in conformity with the sixth/seventh level of the Lithuanian Qualifications Framework and the European Qualifications Framework for lifelong learning, and first/second cycles of the Framework for Qualifications of the European Higher Education Area attested by the diploma of bachelor's/ master's degree and its supplement issued by the higher education institution are awarded.

5. Classical Studies can be carried out in two-field or interdisciplinary study programs together with fields in linguistics, literary studies, philosophy, history, archaeology, art history, and the history of religion.

6. There are no special requirements established in the Descriptor for the persons, who want to be admitted to the study programme of the first cycle.

7. It is recommended that the persons admitted to the second cycle studies in the field of Classical Studies be:

7.1. graduates of the first cycle university studies in the field of Classical Studies and have obtained a bachelor's degree in the humanities;

7.2. graduates of the first cycle university studies and the bridging studies of other study fields, the content and scope of which shall be established by the higher education institution.

8. The goals of the study field of Classical Studies is to provide classical humanities education based on knowledge of ancient culture and literature, their reception in Europe and Lithuania, knowledge of ancient history and political systems and their later tradition; to train specialists in classical languages (ancient Greek and Latin) necessary for the qualitative functioning of the state cultural and scientific system, who would be able to contribute to the creation and maintenance of political and cultural identity, critical evaluation of modern cultural and ideological processes, development of public intellectual debate according to the needs of employers in various areas.

CHAPTER II

CONCEPT AND SCOPE OF THE STUDY FIELD

9. The object of the Classical Studies is the languages of ancient Greek and Roman societies (ancient Greek and Latin), literature, religion, history, intellectual and material culture, as well as the shaping influence of this culture on European cultural development and its reception from the Middle Ages to modern times. Classical Studies may include studies of Latin and Greek literature and writing in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania (hereinafter - GDL), and studies of Byzantine culture.

10. Classical Studies cover a wide chronological scope of linguistic, cultural, and social processes (from the second millennium BC to the formation of Christianity and Late Antiquity) in the Mediterranean region, as well as the process of reception of classical culture and its ideas from the Middle Ages to the Modern Age.

11. Classical Studies are particularly distinguished by interdisciplinarity and apply the methods of various sciences (linguistics, literature, translation, philosophy, social sciences, arts, etc.) to the examination of problems in history of classical languages (ancient Greek and Latin), multilingual and multicultural traditions of ancient societies and their interactions with visual arts, comparative periods and genres of literature, and their reception.

12. The uniqueness of the study programs in the field of Classical Studies is that they are based on the primary sources written in the original classical languages and they require a good knowledge of the ancient Greek and Latin languages and the literature and the cultural context created by them.

13. Study programs may focus on a specific time period or topic. Their nature can be synoptic, philological, historical. Accordingly, the field of Classical Studies may cover a wide scope of study programmes. They are:

13.1. study programmes based on studies of both classical languages - Latin and ancient Greek - and studies of literature created in those languages; other aspects of ancient culture are presented in the programme as complementary or optional subjects;

13.2. study programs based on the studies of one of the classical languages, writings created in it, its reception (and, respectively, Latin, Greek writings in the GDL, or Byzantine writings); another ancient language and its cultural texts are presented as supplementary or optional subjects;

13.3. study programmes based on the study of the interaction and reception of ancient Greek and Roman history, societies, ideas and culture; classical languages (or one language optionally) are studied to a lesser extent.

14. Graduates of Classical Studies can work in jobs that require knowledge of classical studies and classical humanities education, intercultural and broad humanitarian competencies in education, science, culture and other fields, as well as research and analytical activities in the public, non-governmental and private sectors.

CHAPTER 3

GENERAL AND SPECIAL LEARNING OUTCOMES

15. After graduating from the field of Classical Studies, graduates will be able to:

15.1. after completing their first cycle studies, graduates will be able to analyse a wide range of (linguistic, literary, philosophical, historical) primary sources in Latin and / or Ancient Greek, discuss issues relevant to society, based on interdisciplinary linguistics, literature, philosophy, history, other knowledge, to be active and conscious in a multicultural environment, will be ready to study further or pursue a professional career in various fields of research and development, where erudition, logical thinking, multicultural competence, creativity, ability to independently analyse, critically evaluate, interpret and synthesize information are important, to understand the importance of lifelong learning and ethical attitudes;

15.2. after completing the second cycle studies, graduates will be ready to continue their studies in doctoral studies, work independently in research and analytical work in science and studies and other institutions, using various methodological approaches and various bibliographic and electronic resources, will be able to analyse problems independently and critically, to work actively and consciously in a multicultural environment, to pursue a professional career in various fields of research and development, where erudition, logical thinking, multicultural competence, creativity, the ability to independently analyse, critically evaluate, interpret and synthesize renewable information, understand the importance of lifelong learning and ethical attitudes are important.

16. Upon completion of university studies in the field of Classical Studies of the first cycle, the following study outcome must be achieved:

16.1. knowledge, its application. The person:

16.1.1. knows ancient Greek and / or Latin to the extent specified in the programme; perceives language as a phenomenon, is able to analyse it;

16.1.2. is acquainted with and is able to use various primary sources in a broad sense (literature, philosophy, historical texts, art objects, manuscripts and records);

16.1.3. is able to analyse and interpret ancient literature as a phenomenon and its expression in later GDL, European, etc. traditions;

16.1.4. is well acquainted with linguistic, literary, cultural, social historical contexts of literature;

16.1.5. is able to use special electronic databases, dictionaries and other resources, has the necessary informatics and methodological skills as well as bibliographic search skills;

16.1.6. knows the basic linguistic, stylistic, rhetorical, philosophical, cultural concepts and terms, is able to apply various research methods;

16.2. ability to conduct research. The person:

16.2.1. is able to carry out linguistic or literary research, applying the acquired knowledge and skills in practice;

16.2.2. is able to analyse, interpret and evaluate scientific, cultural and social phenomena and problems;

16.2.3. is able to collect information in various databases and sources and systematize, classify and critically evaluate it;

16.2.4. applies the knowledge and theoretical insights accumulated in social, humanities and other sciences to the analysis of classical texts and cultural phenomena;

16.3. special abilities. The person:

16.3.1. is able to read, understand and translate texts written in ancient Greek and / or Latin;

16.3.2. is able to explain terms and cultural concepts derived from the ancient Greek and Latin languages;

16.3.3. is able to understand and explain the originality of classical culture;

16.3.4. is able to argue and write academic texts in Lithuanian and at least one modern foreign language;

16.3.5. recognizes and is able to explain allusions of ancient literature, mythology and art motifs in contemporary literature and culture;

16.3.6. is able to apply the knowledge of ancient languages and classical culture to get to know other cultures and languages;

16.4. social abilities. The person:

16.4.1. is able to operate effectively in a multicultural environment, communicate and cooperate to achieve common goals;

16.4.2. is able to work effectively in a team, raise ideas and suggest ways to implement them;

16.4.3. is able to participate in a discussion, present his / her arguments correctly and listen to the opponent's opinion;

16.4.4. is able to apply the knowledge acquired during classical studies, popularizing science and developing the cultural self-awareness of the society;

16.5. personal abilities. The person:

16.5.1. is able to independently set learning goals, plan time, set priorities, improve their education and professional skills, understand the importance of lifelong learning;

16.5.2. is able to critically evaluate his/her activities, take into account the renewable needs of society;

16.5.3. is aware of moral responsibility for the impact of his/her activities and its results on society, is able to assume ethical, social responsibility.

17. Upon completion of university studies in the field of Classical Studies of the second cycle, the following study outcome must be achieved:

17.1. knowledge, its application. The person:

17.1.1. has and is able to apply the latest knowledge and methodologies in the field of Classical Studies, based on fundamental and / or applied research results;

17.1.2. is able to translate, analyse and interpret texts written in ancient Greek and / or Latin;

17.1.3. knows the historical, philosophical, cultural and literary context of Ancient Greece and Rome; analyses and critically evaluates its processes and influences in later European, GDL, etc. traditions;

17.1.4. is able to reasonably select and apply various theoretical and methodological approaches in scientific and practical activities;

17.1.5. is able to connect the knowledge of different epochs (Antiquity, Middle Ages, Renaissance and others) and apply it in scientific and social activities;

17.2. research skills. The person:

17.2.1. is able to find, systematize, classify, synthesize material and information required for studies and research;

17.2.2. is able to apply and link different knowledge of humanities, social sciences and other sciences;

17.2.3. is able to independently formulate a scientific problem, analyse it, interpret it, draw reasonable conclusions;

17.2.4. is able to independently organize and conduct research and lead it, write academic texts and prepare for doctoral studies;

17.3. special abilities. The person:

17.3.1. is able to translate, analyse and interpret texts in ancient Greek and / or Latin;

17.3.2. is able to elucidate and interpret the literary, cultural, historical context of texts in ancient Greek and / or Latin;

17.3.3. is able to explain and research the history, influences and reception of ancient literature and culture;

17.3.4. is able to use the databases of information data and sources required for the research of Classical Studies when conducting research;

17.3.5. is able to reasonably discuss and create scientific texts in the official and at least one foreign language;

17.3.6. is able to apply the available methodological and practical knowledge of ancient languages, classical culture and other sciences to scientific research, professional and social and cultural activities;

17.4. social abilities. The person:

17.4.1. is able to work effectively in a multicultural environment, solve interdisciplinary problems, communicate and collaborate;

17.4.2. is able to generate ideas, suggest ways to implement them, make conceptual decisions;

17.4.3. is able to convey the generalized information to specialists and the public in a clear and reasoned manner, to critically evaluate it, to adapt it to academic and public needs;

- 17.4.4. is able to apply the acquired knowledge in developing the cultural self-awareness and well-being of the society;
- 17.5. personal abilities. The person:
- 17.5.1. understands the importance of lifelong learning, is able to work independently, improve professional skills, apply the acquired knowledge in practice, creatively solve emerging problems;
- 17.5.2. is able to critically evaluate one's activities, adapt to changes and accept challenges;
- 17.5.3. is able to reflect, analyse and reflect on cultural and social phenomena and processes;
- 17.5.4. understands and takes responsibility for his/her activities, its impact on the development of society and culture, well-being and the environment.

CHAPTER IV TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT

18. The didactic concept of Classical Studies, designed to achieve the learning outcomes of a Classical Study programme, includes teaching, learning, and assessment. The teaching, learning and assessment strategy must be appropriate to the nature of Classical Studies; it must be clearly defined and described in the study programs of the Classical Study field.

19. The concept of lifelong learning must be implemented in the study process, and students must be prepared and encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning. The programme, its content and didactic system must motivate students to use all available resources and sources for their studies.

20. Academic and administrative staff must know and understand the didactic concept of the study programme, academic - to demonstrate, and administrative - to ensure competencies that enable to achieve the outcome of study programmes, to be able to construct composite study programme modules. In the study process it is necessary to rely on the results of research, to know the connections with other related fields of study and science, the possibilities of interdisciplinarity.

21. The didactic concept of teaching and study must include the flexible application of various study methods, the search for integrated didactic solutions, enabling the acquisition of a wide range of cognitive, interpersonal and practical skills and the acquisition of theoretical, social and personal skills as well as research skills. The choice of study methods must ensure the achievement of study results, which is based on sets of skills and abilities and their assessments. Study methods must be clearly defined, regularly reviewed and improved in the light of change, and available resources must be used efficiently and rationally.

22. The same study methods may be used in studies at different cycles, but the content, complexity or expression of the student's independence must be different. Taking into account these features, the scope of contact work must be planned in the study programmes. The scope of contact work must be in accordance with the legal norms established in the legal acts in force at that time. The tasks of independent work must correspond to the study results of the study programme, motivate students to rationally use students' and teachers' time and material resources (libraries, laboratories, equipment, etc.).

23. Active, student-centred learning methods that develop creativity, analytical and meta-cognition abilities (anticipating one's own (work) goals, selecting the right strategy to achieve those goals, monitoring one's progress and controlling task performance) and general abilities (communication, collaboration, effective communication of information, etc.) must be used:

23.1. The following methods for developing general competencies can be used: group discussions, debates, inclusive lectures, role-playing, group work, presentations, preparation and demonstrations of slides;

23.2. specific methods of the Classical Study field: study of sources, translation of a text from (into) Latin and / or Greek, commenting of a text, independent preparation of analytical works, reports.

24. Studies can be carried out both in traditional forms (lectures, seminars, practice) and, if possible, in non-traditional forms of learning (learning in a virtual environment, excursions, cinema, theatre, educational trips abroad, etc.).

25. Teaching and study must be supplemented by research work, application in practice and development of transferable skills, in the second cycle of studies - involvement in scientific activities (conferences, projects, scientific practices, etc.). The structure of the study programme and the chosen methods must lead from the general and specific concepts to their application, the ability to research and draw conclusions, preparation to the research work of the respective study subjects, performing the tasks of individual courses and applying the acquired knowledge during professional practice.

26. Classical Studies of both study cycles are completed with a publicly defended final work (project):

26.1. the bachelor's final work must be based on research and application of knowledge, revealing abilities corresponding to the goals of the programme and study outcome. In the final work (project) the graduate (of first cycle study programme) must show the level of knowledge and understanding, ability to analyse the chosen topic, evaluate other people's previous work in the field of Classical Studies, independently study and conduct research in the field of Classical Studies, describe their research work, clearly and reasonably formulate research conclusions and recommendations according to the requirements approved by the university;

26.2. the master 's final work must be based on independent applied research and application of knowledge, revealing abilities corresponding to the goals of the programme. In the final work, the master's level student must show the level of knowledge and understanding, ability to analyse the chosen topic, evaluate other people's previous work in the field of Classical Studies, independently study and conduct research, deliver the interpretation of research work, describe their research, clearly and reasonably formulate research conclusions and recommendations according to the research data obtained and requirements approved by the university;

26.3. the final work evaluation committee must consist of researchers, practitioners and representatives of social partners.

27. Practical training is part of the study programme, compulsory in the first cycle studies and recommended in the second cycle studies. The scope of the practical training (cognitive, educational, research) is not less than 15 credits, the purpose is to ensure the coherence of the knowledge and skills acquired during the theoretical studies with the practical activities in which the competencies acquired during the studies are consolidated, applied and improved. It is necessary to ensure proper organization of the practical training, which includes preparation and training of students, preparation of assignments, organization of supervisions or constant feedback, close contact with the supervisor of the practical training, listening to and evaluating reports, publicity of practical training results.

28. Practical training can be organized according to the fields of activity (Latin and / or ancient Greek language teaching, publishing, translation, scientific, etc.) so that students can become acquainted with the application of the knowledge acquired during classical studies in their work activities and develop relevant professional competencies under the supervision of a practical training supervisor. Practical training in the field of Classical Studies may be organized in general education and higher education institutions, publishing houses, libraries, research institutes, archives, museums and other institutions.

29. The procedure and strategy for the assessment of study achievements must be established in the documents of the higher education institutions. Based on it, individual procedures for the assessment of study subjects or modules of individual programmes must be established, indicating how and in what ways and methods the implementation of goals of the study programme

(study subject) will be assessed in comparison with the defined goals. The forms and type of assessment shall also be indicated.

30. The strategy and criteria for the assessment of the study achievements of the students of the study programme in the field of Classical Studies must be related to the study outcome; the assessment system must help to achieve goals set in the study programme in the field of Classical Studies, promote students' motivation and independent learning. Assessment must be based on the following principles: validity (assessment must measure the level of achievement of study outcome), reliability, clarity (assessment system must be informative, understandable to assessors and assesseees), usefulness (assessment must be positively assessed by the assesseees themselves and contribute to the implementation of study programme goals and achievement of study outcome), impartiality (assessment must be objective and independent of the change of assessor, assessment methods must be equally suitable for all assesseees). When establishing the assessment procedure, the higher education institution must ensure the right of the teacher to choose the most appropriate assessment methods.

31. Assessment methods in the field of Classical Studies should cover both the level of knowledge and skills, allow students to demonstrate special and general abilities, understanding and knowledge, and the application of assessment methods should promote students' independence and creativity. Students must be given the opportunity to participate in decisions about the methods and criteria for the assessment of study achievements, the number and scope of tasks.

32. The following methods of assessment of study achievements are applicable: essay, assessment of written works, text translation, oral and / or written text analysis, literature review, oral presentation, preparation and presentation of slides, term paper, colloquium, test, oral or written exam. When assessing students' ability to use information technology, attention is paid to their ability to perform data analysis and use databases.

33. Feedback between all participants in the study process provides an opportunity to constantly research and reflect on the effectiveness of cooperation in the study process (in the classroom and on the place of practice) and to anticipate the perspective of study improvement. Aiming to ensure quality and continuity of studies, contact learning of student, effective feedback that is achieved through various forms of feedback including the opportunity for student's self-assessment of the outcome achieved, is extremely important.

CHAPTER V

REQUIREMENTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF STUDY PROGRAMMES

34. A higher education institution organizing study programmes in the field of Classical Studies must have sufficient academic, administrative and study support staff, material, methodological and information resources for their implementation.

35. Academic staff is assessed on the basis of scientific, pedagogical and practical experience: participation in research, application of advanced study methods, experience in the international scientific and pedagogical area, ability to communicate in foreign languages, participation in conferences, professional development programmes and traineeships, recognition in professional, scientific communities, professional insight, personal interest in students' study matters, ability to advise students on study plans, professional careers and criteria for assessing the knowledge and abilities of the study programme. Each higher education institution provides for the minimum qualification requirements for teaching positions for the study programme of the respective cycle, which cannot conflict with existing legislation.

36. The premises where the study is carried out must meet the requirements of hygiene and occupational safety and be sufficient. Auditoriums must be equipped with visualization equipment, and large auditoriums must be equipped with sound equipment. Premises adapted for group work must be provided for the development of students' communication skills and the formation of teamwork skills.

37. Academic support for students is provided in the following ways:

37.1. the administration must ensure that students have access to the necessary consultations;

37.2. academic and administrative staff must encourage, motivate and oblige students to engage in academic and research activities;

37.3. career counselling, psychological or other necessary assistance must be provided;

37.4. it should be endeavoured at assuring suitable teaching and learning conditions for the students with special needs;

37.5. conditions must be created for students to organize cultural events on the premises of the higher school, to establish student organizations or clubs and to participate in their activities.
