



**ORDER
OF MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA**

ON APPROVAL OF THE DESCRIPTOR OF STUDY CYCLES

16 November, 2016 No. V-1012
Vilnius

In order to ensure implementation of the Law on Higher Education and Research of the Republic of Lithuania, article 53, paragraph 10:

1. I a p p r o v e the Descriptor of Study Cycles (attached).
2. I r e c o g n i z e the order of Minister of Education and Science of Republic of Lithuania of 21 November, 2011 No. V-2212 “On approval of the descriptor of study programmes” as no longer valid.
3. This order will come into force on 1 January, 2017.

Acting
Minister of Education and Science

Audronė Pitrenienė

APPROVED

By Order No. V-1012 of 16 November, 2016,
of the Minister of Education and Science of
the Republic of Lithuania

THE DESCRIPTOR OF STUDY CYCLES

1. The Descriptor of Study Cycles (hereinafter referred to as “Descriptor”) describes learning outcomes that are inherent to each study cycle. The Descriptor is a basis for classification, assessment and comparison for degrees awarded in Lithuanian higher education system and comparison of aforementioned degrees with qualification degrees awarded in other countries. The Descriptor was prepared in accordance with the Law of Education of the Republic of Lithuania, the Law on Higher Education and Research of the Republic of Lithuania, the Descriptor of Lithuanian Qualifications Framework of the Republic of Lithuania approved by the Decision No. 535 of 4 May, 2010, of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, and pursuant to the Recommendation of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April, 2008 on the establishment of the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning (OL 2008 C111, p. 1–7) (hereinafter referred to as “Recommendation”), and to the overarching framework of qualifications of the European Higher Education Area and cycle descriptors agreed by the ministers responsible for higher education in 45 European countries at their meeting in Bergen on 19 and 20 May, 2005 within the framework of the Bologna Process, and to the provisions of the Bologna Declaration on the European Higher Education Area signed on 19 June, 1999.

2. The Descriptor is intended:

- 2.1. to describe the main qualitative differences between different study cycles;
- 2.2. to interconnect qualification degrees awarded in Lithuanian education system with levels of Lithuanian qualifications framework and European qualifications frameworks, as well as the overarching framework of qualifications of European higher education Area;
- 2.3. to inform persons who are going to study or students, employers and people who prepare, implement and assess study programmes about requirements necessary for degree attainment and about possibilities of further learning and (or) work;

3. Learning outcomes of each study cycle are described in terms of the following structural parts: knowledge and its application, research skills, special abilities, social abilities and personal abilities. These structural parts are described in the Appendix 1 of the Descriptor. The Descriptors that are prepared in accordance to recommendations set by international thematic networks, learning outcomes can be described in accordance with the structural elements laid down by these networks.

4. The learning outcomes of the First cycle studies that are provided in Appendix 2 of this Descriptor are marked by Professional Bachelor’s, Bachelor’s degrees, which correspond to:

- 4.1. The sixth level of the Lithuanian Qualifications Framework in accordance with the Descriptor of the Lithuanian Qualifications Framework;
- 4.2. The sixth level of the European Qualifications Framework in accordance with the Appendix II of the Recommendation;

4.3. The first study cycle of the overarching framework of qualifications of the European Higher Education Area.

5. The learning outcomes of the Second cycle studies and integrated studies that are provided in Appendix 3 of this Descriptor are marked by Master's, Licentiate of Theology, which correspond to:

5.1. The seventh level of the Lithuanian Qualifications Framework in accordance with the Descriptor of the Lithuanian Qualifications Framework;

5.2. The seventh level of the European Qualifications Framework in accordance with the Appendix II of the Recommendation;

5.3. The second study cycle of the overarching framework of qualifications of the European Higher Education Area.

6. The learning outcomes of the Third cycle studies that are provided in Appendix 4 of this Descriptor are marked by the Doctor of Science degree and the Doctor of Arts degree, which correspond to:

6.1. The eighth level of the Lithuanian Qualifications Framework in accordance with the Descriptor of the Lithuanian Qualifications Framework;

6.2. The eighth level of the European Qualifications Framework in accordance with the Appendix II of the Recommendation;

6.3. The third study cycle of the overarching framework of qualifications of the European Higher Education Area.

**EXPLANATION
OF STRUCTURAL PARTS
OF DESCRIPTION OF LEARNING OUTCOMES OF EACH STUDY CYCLE**

Descriptor's parts	Description
Knowledge and its application	Knowledge and its application required in study and professional activity fields are described.
Research skills	Various abilities of work with data are described defining applied methods and techniques of data gathering and analysis necessary for solving activity related issues, for the implementation of applied and fundamental scientific research and for the development of innovation.
Special abilities	Abilities to use specific methodical, technical, organizational and other means for solving tasks related to professional activity and study field are described.
Social abilities	Abilities of communication and cooperation, and communication of knowledge, understanding and skills used in various situations related to professional activity and studies, and the level of assumed ethical and civil responsibility are described.
Personal abilities	Requirements for personal and professional development, and creativity, self-sufficiency and values are described.

DESCRIPTION OF LEARNING OUTCOMES OF THE FIRST STUDY CYCLE

Descriptor's parts	Description	
	Professional Bachelor	Bachelor
Knowledge and its application	Knowledge in professional activity providing practical knowledge of the activity field and based on the newest scientific evidence which can be used for determining and solving complex specific or abstract issues related to the activity field.	Integrated knowledge in professional activity and study field providing versatile theoretical knowledge of study field and professional activity based on the new fundamental and applied research results which can be used in extensive interdisciplinary fields of studies or professional activity.
Research skills	A graduate has the ability to gather and analyze data necessary for solving specific issues related to professional activity and innovation development.	A graduate has the ability to gather and analyse data necessary for solving substantial scientific and professional activity issues, and for cultural and artistic creation using scientific evidence and methods of fundamental and applied research.
Special abilities	A graduate has the ability to plan, organize, implement and assess practical activities in specific fields of professional activity by choosing technological, organizational and methodical means in an autonomous manner.	A graduate has the ability to plan, organize, implement and assess activities within the context of professions and studies by choosing complex technological, organizational and methodical means in an autonomous manner.
Social abilities	A graduate has the ability to communicate with professionals and other persons when solving tasks related to professional activity. They assume responsibility for the quality of their and subordinate employees' activity following the principles of professional ethics and citizenship. They have the ability to communicate the knowledge and comprehension of activity field to the learners.	A graduate has the ability to communicate with specialists and society when solving tasks related to professional activity or study field introducing accomplished work and its results. They assume responsibility for the quality and assessment of their and subordinate employees' activity following the principles of professional ethics and citizenship. They have the ability to communicate the knowledge and comprehension of study and activity field to specialists and other learners.
Personal abilities	Graduates have the ability to study in an autonomous manner in their professional activity field. They perceive moral responsibility for the impact of their activity and its results on public, economic and cultural development, wellbeing and environment.	Graduates have the ability to study in an autonomous manner in their professional activity and study field and plan the process of learning. They perceive moral responsibility for the impact of their activity and its results on public, economic and cultural development, wellbeing and environment.

DESCRIPTION OF LEARNING OUTCOMES OF THE SECOND STUDY CYCLE

Descriptor's parts	Description
Knowledge and its application	The newest knowledge in study or activity field based on fundamental or applied scientific research (research parts of art projects) which they are able to use when solving issues in new or unknown environment, performing scientific research or engaging in professional artistic activity, or developing innovation.
Research skills	Graduates have the ability to analyze, synthesize and assess research data necessary for studies, scientific (art) and professional activity and innovation development; they have the ability to integrate knowledge, manage complicated situations and make decisions when there is no comprehensive and well-defined information, and assess alternative solutions and possible impact on environment.
Special abilities	Graduates have the ability to use available knowledge and prepare new means (technical, methodical, informational and organizational/managerial) based on it necessary for scientific researches, studies, and implementation of cultural and artistic activity or innovation development.
Social abilities	Graduates have the ability to communicate summarized clear and reasoned information to specialists and other persons and evaluate it critically. They assume responsibility for the quality and assessment of his/her and subordinate employees' activity following the principles of professional ethics and citizenship. They assume responsibility for the improvement of their and subordinate employees' activity.
Personal abilities	Graduates have the ability to plan the process of learning in an autonomous manner and choose the direction of improvement in an autonomous manner, and study (learn) in an autonomous manner further. Graduates have the ability to use scientific research (artistic activity) data and has experience in research work and has skills of systemic and strategic thinking necessary for autonomous professional activity and scientific research work (artistic activity). They have the ability to make innovative decisions assessing possible public and ethical outcome of activity. They act perceiving moral responsibility for the impact of their activity and its results on public, economic and cultural development, wellbeing and environment.

DESCRIPTION OF LEARNING OUTCOMES OF THE THIRD STUDY CYCLE

Descriptor's parts	Description
Knowledge and its application	The newest systematic knowledge in the field of scientific research or artistic activity which they are able to use when creating new fundamental knowledge and ideas, and solving activity related tasks of the strategic nature.
Research skills	A graduate has the ability to offer, analyze, synthesize, systematize and assess critically new and complex ideas by searching for original scientific strategic solutions and strategic solutions of artistic activity and of having public significance, and by solving complex issues related to science, society and cultural development, professional activity or artistic activity. A graduate has the ability to plan and implement fundamental and applied scientific researches or culture and art projects of a large extent which expand the limits of knowledge significantly.
Special abilities	Graduates have the ability to create original means and instruments of scientific research, studies, cultural and artistic activity and innovation development pursuant to the newest knowledge provided by scientific research. They have the ability to do intellectual, artistic and creative work in an autonomous manner.
Social abilities	A graduate has the ability to communicate with peers, scientific society and society by communicating novelties of their activity field and prospects of further development and develop creative activity and culture, and encourage technical, public and cultural progress favourable to society development.
Personal abilities	Graduates have the ability to improve and plan further his/her and expert team prospects of studying. They assume responsibility to assess strategic solutions of their activity field critically and are able to react promptly to dynamic changes in society, economic, cultural and technological environment, and reveal and develop creative intellectual personal abilities.