

Summary overview of Architecture field study programmes

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The team consisted of professionals from various countries, representing different experience:

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Programmes are different depending on the university's traditions and teaching staff, regional culture.

Here below are the summaries of each programme review presented.

Klaipeda University Landscape Architecture BA

The Programme is dealing with a new profession which is introduced to Lithuania. In the past in continental Europe landscape design was done more often by people who studied Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry or Gardening and dealt with such issues, and other times Architects, Artists or others. The profession of Landscape Architecture wherever it has existed has undergone significant changes and today has assumed a more important role as a central profession dealing with the environment and ecologic issues for the human made environment as well as for the preservation of the natural one.

In this respect the University has the responsibility to **refine the curriculum using the best experiences of other countries by adapting and improving them**. The constraints of today with the economic crisis facing the EU limit the possibilities to experiment while also less and less students have the funds to study!

The university did not appear to present administrative problems, the faculty are willing and the facilities are improving so the university can play a useful role in Lithuania and perhaps generally in the Baltic area for training Landscape Architects for the future through a focused and tight curriculum.

Concluding the Team members would like to express that they understand the difficulties faced in building a new programme, and appreciate the efforts made until now which should continue improving it.

Klaipeda University Landscape Architecture MA

The analysis of the aims and learning outcomes in the report show clearly that the main problem is lack of clarity of the aims and direction of the programme. The effect of this generic problem results in the lack of apparent cohesiveness of the curriculum, through the offered courses and the variety of branching directions in other areas, whether it is humanities, architecture, building preservation or planning.

The positive point is the well meaning enthusiasm of the teaching faculty with the support of the University administration to create the programmes of Landscape Architecture, and the support it provided by making available facilities.

The previous evaluation report pointed clearly at the key problems regarding the aims and the curricula, being almost identical between Bachelors and Masters programmes, that were not visible to be followed up. Landscape Architecture combines technology and science knowledge and design skills to deal with the open environment surrounding buildings, the cityscapes and natural areas whether coastal or hinterland ones.

Vilnius Academy of Arts, Kaunas faculty, programme Architecture BA

The Department is taking time to adjust to the new role of an Academy of Art in the 21st Century from the dominance of fine arts to the development of applied arts and architecture. The synergy of related subject areas, with distinct role each, is the strength of a "thematic" university such as an Academy of Art. Changing perceptions of people takes time and the sooner a problem is recognized the easier will be the transition. Getting to study next to each others Fine Arts students and Applied arts and Architecture students they don't need all to go through the same path but by working parallel with each other they benefit by observing/ learning what each other are doing. When the above distinctions are accepted then the clarity of the aims of the Architecture programme and the curriculum will be easier and accordingly improved.

Vilnius Academy of Arts, programme Landscape Architecture MA

The main points listed in the report and the key points mentioned in the recommendations summarize the most important issues to be addressed, which are analyzed in the appropriate sections of this report and are basically curriculum adjustments and refinements according to prevailing international practices in educating architects.