



STUDIJŲ KOKYBĖS VERTINIMO CENTRAS

Vilniaus Gedimino technikos universiteto  
**STUDIJŲ PROGRAMOS ARCHITEKTŪROS ISTORIJA IR  
TEORIJA (621U95001)  
VERTINIMO IŠVADOS**

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**EVALUATION REPORT  
OF HISTORY AND THEORY OF ARCHITECTURE (621U95001)  
STUDY PROGRAMME**

at Vilnius Gediminas Technical University

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Išvados parengtos anglų kalba  
Report language - English

## DUOMENYS APIE ĮVERTINTĄ PROGRAMĄ

Studijų programos pavadinimas	<i>Architektūros istorija ir teorija</i>
Valstybinis kodas	621U95001
Studijų sritis	Humanitariniai mokslai
Studijų kryptis	Menotyra
Studijų programos rūšis	Universitetinės studijos
Studijų pakopa	antroi
Studijų forma (trukmė metais)	Nuolatinė (2)
Studijų programos apimtis kreditais	120
Suteikiamas laipsnis ir (ar) profesinė kvalifikacija	Architektūros istorijos ir teorijos magistras
Studijų programos įregistravimo data	2003

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## INFORMATION ON EVALUATED STUDY PROGRAMME

Title of the study programme	<i>History and Theory of Architecture</i>
State code	621U95001
Study area	Humanities
Study field	History and Theory of Arts
Type of the study programme	University studies
Study cycle	second
Study mode (length in years)	Full time (2)
Volume of the study programme in credits	120
Degree and (or) professional qualifications awarded	Master of History and Theory of Arts
Date of registration of the study programme	2003

Studijų kokybės vertinimo centras

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## I. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. *Background of the evaluation process*

The evaluation of on-going study programmes is based on the **Methodology for evaluation of Higher Education study programmes**, approved by Order No 1-01-162 of 20 December 2010 of the Director of the Centre for Quality Assessment in Higher Education (hereafter – SKVC).

The evaluation is intended to help higher education institutions to constantly improve their study programmes and to inform the public about the quality of studies.

The evaluation process consists of the main following stages: 1) *self-evaluation and self-evaluation report prepared by Higher Education Institution (hereafter - HEI)*; 2) *visit of the review team at the higher education institution*; 3) *production of the evaluation report by the review team and its publication*; 4) *follow-up activities*.

On the basis of external evaluation report of the study programme SKVC takes a decision to accredit study programme either for 6 years or for 3 years. If the programme evaluation is negative such a programme is not accredited.

The programme is **accredited for 6 years** if all evaluation areas are evaluated as “very good” (4 points) or “good” (3 points).

The programme is **accredited for 3 years** if none of the areas was evaluated as “unsatisfactory” (1 point) and at least one evaluation area was evaluated as “satisfactory” (2 points).

The programme is **not accredited** if at least one of evaluation areas was evaluated as "unsatisfactory" (1 point).

### 1.2. *General*

The Application documentation submitted by the HEI follows the outline recommended by the SKVC. Along with the self-evaluation report and annexes, the following additional documents have been provided by the HEI before, during and/or after the site-visit:

No.	Name of the document
1	Descriptions of Study subjects, supplemented
2	The evidence of the performed student surveys on taught subjects, submitted.

### **1.3. Background of the HEI/Faculty/Study field/ Additional information**

The start of the present-day Vilnius Gediminas Technical University (hereinafter –VGTU) goes back to 1956, when Vilnius Evening Division of the Evening Faculty of Kaunas Polytechnic Institute (hereinafter – KPI) was established. 1968 the Department of Urban Construction at KPI Vilnius Branch was established. 1969 KPI Vilnius Branch was restructured into Vilnius Civil Engineering Institute (hereinafter – VISI). 1971 the Faculty of Architecture at VISI started its activities. 1990 Vilnius Civil Engineering Institute became Vilnius Technical University (VTU). There were faculties of Architecture, Construction, Engineering Communications, Mechanics and Electronics. 1996 the Lithuanian Government adopted a resolution on awarding Vilnius Technical University the name of an ancient Grand Duke Gediminas and naming it Vilnius Gediminas Technical University.

Study programmes, Bachelor of Architecture and Master of Architecture - have been established in 1994, the scientific-character second-cycle study programme of the History and Theory of Architecture has been carried out in VGTU since 2003. These programmes have been accredited by SKVC decision in 2007, following the Report of the international Review team led by prof. Spyros Amourgis.

### **1.4. The Review Team**

The review team was completed according *Description of experts' recruitment*, approved by order No 1-55 of 19 March 2007 of the Director of the Centre for Quality Assessment in Higher Education, as amended on 11 November 2011. The Review Visit to HEI was conducted by the team on 11-12<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

- 1. Prof. Andreas Wenger (team leader),**  
*University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland, Academy of Art and Design, Head of the Institute for Interior Design and Scenography, Switzerland*
- 2. Prof. dr. Bálint Bachmann,**  
*Dean, Faculty of Engineering and IT - University Pécs, Pollack Mihály, Hungary*
- 3. Prof. dr. Mart Kalm,**  
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- 4. Ass. Prof. dr. Marko Savic,**  
*Provost for QA & Development, ALHOSN University, UAE*
- 5. Ms. Ramunė Staševičiūtė,**  
*Architect-Project Manager and Owner of company PILIS. Associate Professor at Klaipėda University, Lithuania*
- 6. Mr. Gintautas Rimeikis,**  
*student of Lithuanian University of Education, Lithuania*

## II. PROGRAMME ANALYSIS

### 2.1. *Programme aims and learning outcomes*

The self-evaluation report (hereinafter – SER) properly addresses the programme aims although without justification relying on social needs or labour market analysis.

Full list of programme aims and outcomes is publicly accessible at the VGTU web-site: <http://www.vgtu.lt/studies/-study-programmes-full-range-/masters-degree-study-programmes/74214?pid=76676#Results>.

The name of the study programme, its learning outcomes, content and the qualification offered are mutually compatible and consistent with the type of studies. Programme aims and outcomes (SER, pp.4 - 5) are aligned with the LTQF / Level 7 descriptors.

The Remarks about programme learning outcomes are the following:

- A) The study programme outcomes are grouped in five categories, fully addressing the “Descriptor of Study Cycles” (Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania, 2011).
- B) The list of the offered outcomes is sufficient to prove that the study programme expectations are aligned with the LTQF / Level 7.
- C) Annex 1 of the SER, presenting the “Interface between study programme aims, learning results and study subjects”, is not fully synchronized with Annex 8 which offers “descriptions of Study Subjects” including specific course outcomes. There are several issues to be discussed:
  - As per submitted matrix (Annex 1), the course “Objects of contemporary culturology and mass media” does not address any of the programme outcomes. However, following the course descriptors (in Annex 8), course outcomes are aligned with several programme outcomes (e.g. N2, R2, So1).
  - “Archaeology and Architecture” course outcomes definitions are not designed in pro-active way thus unlikely to be assessed properly (e.g. “Essential knowledge.... is provided”).
  - “Architecture and Art Interaction” course outcomes definitions are not fully designed in pro-active way (e.g. basic knowledge is provided....).
  - The review team was unable to properly prepare for the site visit because the VGTU provided several missing course descriptions only by the end of the site visit.

## 2.2. *Curriculum design*

As per national legislation BA programmes in architecture last eight, and MA programmes in architecture in Lithuania last four semesters. Following the “Directive 2013/55/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 November 2013, amending Directive 2005/36/EC on the recognition of professional qualifications and Regulation (EU) No 1024/2012 on administrative cooperation through the Internal Market Information System (‘the IMI Regulation’), a total of at least five years of full-time study at a university or a comparable teaching institution, leading to successful completion of a university-level examination is claimed. The “Directive 2013/55/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 November 2013” provides two options to pursue the profession training programs:

- (a) a total of at least five years of full-time study at a university or a comparable teaching institution, leading to successful completion of a university-level examination; or
- (b) not less than four years of full-time study at a university or a comparable teaching institution leading to successful completion of a university-level examination, accompanied by a certificate attesting to the completion of two years of professional traineeship in accordance with paragraph 4.

By Faculty note, the second option is basically consistent with the current structure of the Architecture studies in VGTU, but is not given and it is not clear the manner in which the Faculty provides a certificate attesting to the completion of two years of professional traineeship in accordance with paragraph 4.

For the BA and MA programmes in Lithuania an expected change would have to affect the curriculum structure of one or both programmes in a near future.

The content of the research-character second-cycle study programme of the History and Theory of Architecture at VGTU corresponding to 120 credits (ECTS), i.e. 3200 hours, is evenly spread over a period of 4 semesters, 30 credits in each.

The compulsory subjects account for 107 ECTS (42 of them is for preparation of Final thesis). 5 ECTS are given to “Optional subjects” and 8 ECTS to “General University subjects”. The number of subjects studied in each semester is not more than 5. In general, study programme meets legal requirements.

The presented content and methods of the subjects/modules are appropriate for the achievement of the intended learning outcomes, although they do reflect only partly the contemporary developments in the history and theory of architecture. The SER Annex 1 “Compliance of the Learning Outcomes with the Cycle of Studies“ provides a positive decision. Based on several

amendments implemented in the curriculum during the recent years (2007, 2011, 2014) it seems that the programme has not yet found its final form and it is still in the phase of evolution.

The expert review team (hereafter – ERT) found that the programme does not have a clear structure, it is too heterogeneous. It seems that there are two contradictory main focuses in the curriculum: Firstly, there are the studies of medieval and early modern architecture from the point of view of conservation and heritage protection and secondly the history, theory and criticism of modern and contemporary architecture. These are two quite different fields, which share only a small overlap. If VGTU plans to keep this programme it might make sense to consider in the future separating these study areas to two different programmes: 1) “Heritage studies” and 2) “Theory of architecture”, which could alternate annually.

In the curriculum the architectural theory is taught via different subjects that do not provide a coherent overview and understanding of this very important field, only occasional areas of theory are covered. It is surprising to the ERT that one of the possible approaches – semiotics – can enjoy a privileged position of an independent subject. The result of this inconsistency is palpable in the final thesis. Most of the theses works show an excellent empiric work on well-chosen study objects but quite often they lack of a broader interpretation based on contemporary theory like it is common in humanities nowadays.

The students are expected to choose the topic of their final thesis already at the beginning of the first semester. This is definitely too early because the whole professional field has not been opened up for them yet. It would be more proper to start with the topic in the beginning of the second study year.

Most of the students have a background in architecture, which means that they are taught to express themselves spatially and visually but not textually. Unfortunately, in the curriculum no linguistic subject taught by a philologist, where writing skills of students would have been developed, was found by the ERT. The teachers can definitely help in structuring the texts but they have neither skills nor time for editing students’ texts.

Although, the programme does not contain internship it is welcoming that some of the students have undertaken it for example at Volume (the Netherlands) and Monu (the Netherlands) – international professional cultural journals.

The study course descriptions based on the University standards seem over administrated: Credit calculations on a one-tenth scale are not adequate. Amendments B and C could be most useful for the communication of aims, outcomes and workload of each course. Only one example of the amendments was provided to the ERT during their site visit.



Due to the fact, that study course descriptions were neither available in the amendments of the self-evaluation nor were the documents handed out during the site visit on November 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> 2014 complete and some courses still only available in Lithuanian, the ERT was unable to fully evaluate the contents of the programme in Architecture History and Theory.

### **2.3. *Teaching staff***

The faculty is well equipped with teaching staff meeting the legal requirements.

The qualifications and the number of the teaching staff are mostly adequate to ensure the learning outcomes. Among 12 teachers there are 9 with doctoral degree. A majority of the teachers are architects or artists who produce texts beside their other professional activities and are not dedicated only to this. The programme which enables students to acquire second-cycle University education in the study area of Humanities and the degree of a “Master of History and Theory of Art” should be led by a historian or a theoretician for whom this is the main vocation.

History and Theory of Architecture as disciplines have internationally made a huge development during the last decades but the CVs’ of the faculty members do not show their participation in these processes. International contacts of teaching staff should be improved.

The teaching-staff is composed of teachers from different age and gender.

The University has set up strict requirements for research (artistic) and other professional activities for its academic staff. For elected staff architects a three months lasting internship at an architecture office is foreseen in a five years period to recover from teaching. Unfortunately, this privilege does not comprise the staff of theoretical subjects. There is no financial support for artistic activities for teachers but the work organisation in the University provides them with opportunities to participate in public architecture competitions. As incentive it is possible to apply for support for conference participation and/or for study trips.

The teaching-staff is active in research of architecture. There are strong traditions in the research and conservation of architectural monuments of earlier centuries in Lithuania but it is very welcoming to see that in the studies the recent past Soviet period have emerged also. As the faculty of architecture publishes the Journal of Architecture and Urbanism under the Taylor and Francis Group a very favourable platform for scholarly publishing is offered on the University.

VG TU presents the CVs’ of their teaching staff in a proper way for natural sciences but in case of architecture the ISI Web of Science and other peer reviewed publications should not be privileged. In addition, the CVs’ structure is not open to the whole scope of teaching architects very important activities which are mainly oriented to local readers. To discover architects’ activities the ERT had to do extra work on Internet and in libraries or even in local bookshops. The

real contribution of the teaching staff to the professional field is much more substantial than shown in the CVs' presented by the VGTU.

#### **2.4. *Facilities and learning resources***

The evaluation of the facilities is based on the findings during the site visit, on the data of the current SER and the final report of the former accreditation from 2007.

Financial resources of VGTU and other Lithuanian HEIs compared to the budgets of Western European universities are poor. Standard price of first cycle (BA) full-time studies is 7638,00 Lt (2.300 €) and of second study cycle (MA) – 1105400 Lt (3.300€) according the data of the SER. The price for the Master studies in Humanities is 2116,54 € per year (7308 Lt). General cuts in state financing of higher education has been reported

The History and Theory of Architecture study programme is carried out in the same premises as Architecture BA and MA programmes, in the Palace of Architecture, VGTU's Architecture Complex, in the Old Town of Vilnius.

The total area devoted to the Architecture programmes makes up to 3,770 m<sup>2</sup> including 1,423 m<sup>2</sup> auditorium and 840 m<sup>2</sup> of the classroom areas. The Faculty of Architecture has 5 departments. The Department of Architecture is located in the premises of - 210m<sup>2</sup>; Department of Building Structures – 98m<sup>2</sup>; Department of Art – 167m<sup>2</sup>; Department of Fundamentals and Theory of Architecture – 144m<sup>2</sup>; Department of Urban Design – 122m<sup>2</sup>. 19 auditoria with 552 working places are used for lectures, practical classes and seminars. There are 2 auditoriums with 90 seats each, a computer classroom with 23 working places, 4 studios for art classes (one studio with 30 and three studios with 15 working places). The spatial structure of the historic building determines the Architecture Complex's interior. It contains spacious halls and corridors on the upper floors. Presently they are used also as exhibition halls. With a didactic purpose, best academic works of students are exhibited there – architectural designs, models, art works and temporary installations. This year the area of the Faculty of Architecture was extended by 250m<sup>2</sup> additional ancillary premises obtained after the reconstruction of the cellar of the Complex. In the nearest future, 2 additional cellars are planned to adjust for specialized modelling works (shaping machines, model painting).

The facilities provided by the Faculty are adequate for the Architecture study programme needs, both in terms of classrooms and laboratories, as well as computers. There are 2 auditoriums for design works and 10 multifunctional auditoriums (25 working places in ten, and 12 working places in 2 auditoriums). Eleven auditoriums are equipped with stationary monitors and multimedia projectors with audio speakers. Multifunctional auditoriums, design work auditori-

ums and art class studios have exhibition systems of academic projects and art works – with mobile partitions and sliding wall elements. Students may work in the model workshop equipped with polystyrene cutters, drilling, polishing and cutting machines and racks for keeping models for 32 working places. The university has plans to provide more equipment for painting, computerized fast prototyping, cutting, engraving and 3D printing equipment. There is an access to wireless Internet within the faculty space. The technical and aesthetic state of the classes is suitable. The teaching and learning equipment available for the MA programme is up to date. Students reported about the appropriate dormitories, even not many of them live there. There is a lack of space for students' independent work that makes group work inefficient. The spaces used by the students for model making are not accessible on weekends and at night. This underlines the necessity to improve the facilities further on.

The SER of VGTU declares that Master students who often are already employed and have a professional qualification, the postgraduate study can free their personality to realise one's creative ambitions. Unfortunately the SER of VGTU doesn't give sufficient information about the content of the subjects, since the description of it is missing in Annex 6. "due to limited information dissemination the descriptions of study subject (modular cards) are only in paper version of the SER".

The Faculty of Architecture provides competitions, workshops and other events on national and international level for students' practical development towards the profession. Possibilities for foreign experience are well promoted by VGTU, students are aware of the Erasmus+ programmes and are keen to participate. About 40 students per year attend Erasmus programmes.

Teaching materials, such as textbooks, reference books and periodicals are adequate and are supplemented by on-line databases. The Specialized Architecture Reading Hall (a unit of VGTU library founded in 2003) offers 67 working places for its readers. It has 5 computers with internet access. In total the reading hall has 11,450 units of publications, 6,300 out of this number are books, 5,150 professional and scientific magazines (El CROQUIS, Detail, L'architecture d'aujourd'hui, A+U, Domus). 14 periodicals in the reading hall get continuously renewed with latest issues. VGTU Library offers the following electronic resources: databases of electronic magazines EBSCO Publishing (172); Emerald (32); Cambridge Journals Online (12); Oxford Journals Online (4); SAGE (43); Science Direct (217); Springer LINK (87); databases of electronic books E-brary (570); e-books on EBS Cohost (721); Springer LINK e-books (62); ebooks on Science Direct (32); databases of directories like Grove Art Online (Dictionary of visual and applied arts and architecture). The architecture collection of VGTU electronic book platform offers 27 electronic books. The VGTU storage media *dSPACE* contains 16 scientific electronic

resources. VGTU acquires publications recommended by the teachers for architectural studies from centralized funds. The foundations of the reading hall are annually renewed with 150 new copies per average.

Students use the Reading Hall at the Faculty building, the main Library of the University is too far for every day use. The architecture students most frequently use the Reading Hall of Architecture instead of VGTU central library because it provides a greater amount of sources related with discipline of architecture than in the stocks of the Central library of VGTU.

Concerning about the use of common university premises become traditional among students (lecture rooms are opened only at the time of scheduled lessons, there is no possibility to work for longer in the evening, to leave drawings and models in lecture rooms, the reading room is open only until 17:30. The Architecture Reading Hall now operates until 21:00. Such working arrangements came into effect on December 1, 2014. In students' opinion, these circumstances does not provide adequate atmosphere for art studies. The level of security and also the conditions of studies would improve if an electronic access-control system was installed.

This underlines the necessity to improve the facilities further on.

## **2.5. *Study process and students' performance assessment***

Students' admission to History and Theory of Architecture study programme meets all rules and procedures approved by VGTU Senate and the Government of the Republic of Lithuania. All admission rules can be found on the Internet. The admission requirements are easily found and publicly available.

Admission competitive point is counted by marks in BA diploma supplements. There are some requirements for applicants to this study programme. They have to be passed exams, during previous study years, e.g., Architecture and art history, philosophy, history, heritage protection and foreign language.

During the analysed period the numbers of admitted students to this study programme in different years are rather different. In the year 2009 15 students were admitted. During the next two years the amount of approved students was much smaller (in 2010 8 students, in 2011 just 6 students approved). In the year 2012 the admission "peak was the highest", 19 students were admitted. During last year's admission (2013) 10 students got the chance to study the study programme mentioned.

According to the SER, the average of competitive mark in two years is higher than 10: in 2009 and 2011. For the admission in other years the averages of competition points were: 2010 with 9,4, 2012 with 9,97 and 2013 with 9,54.

The students' assessment and study process is well explained: after each semester of every lectures, students should take an exam (to write a test, individual assessment with lecturer or discussion form exam, about new finding related with final thesis. Final thesis form – is descriptive and it should be defended after fourth semester for students. The assessment system of students' performance is clear, adequate and publicly available on VGTU's website and inner regulations. According to the given data, it seems that organisation of the study process ensures an adequate provision of the programme and the achievement of the learning outcomes. During the site – visit, students and graduates mentioned, that they are satisfied about study content, which are very useful for their professional skills, also faculty provides a lot of books and journals, related with this study programme.

Lectures for History and Theory of Architecture MA-students start from 16:20. It is out of balance for full-time studies and favours too much working. At least one working day a week is designated for independent work only. There is not enough time for proper reading all the literature listed in the course descriptions. If the students are allowed to work full time and studies are only in evenings then it contradicts with the elementary principles of full-time programme and looks more like just evening courses. Academic support for students is ensured. There are all opportunities to contact lecturers all the time needed and even to meet them for consulting outside lectures. Almost all important information can be found on the Internet and on VGTU's inner information system. The University has given the opportunity to participate in student mobility programmes to study abroad. The Faculty has agreements with 23 foreign universities, out of which students can choose their studies abroad. According to the given data just one student from this study programme in two years participated in a study exchange programme, what definitely is not enough.

The Faculty has foreign partners, cultural journals publishers in the Netherlands: Volume and Monu. During the analysed period three graduates performed an internship with these publishers.

Students of the study programme mentioned they have enough opportunities to publish their articles in national and international journals like Archiforma.

The University provides opportunities to get various scholarships. 10% of the best students could receive scholarships due to their study results. The Faculty tries to motivate all students. During the analysed period one student got a scholarship established by social partners and one student got a memorial scholarship.

## 2.6. *Programme management*

Responsibilities for decisions and monitoring of the implementation of the programme are clearly allocated: Senate and Rector of VGTU, Dean's Office, Council of the Faculty of Architecture.

The specific profile of the MA study course in History and Theory of Art is hard to identify in the self-evaluation report provided by the SKVC. The study programme seems to follow the way, how architects understand educational concepts and study contents established in the Humanities.

In the study programme and at the faculty level a formal representative of students (the students' self-government) in organizational and with respect to questions of the study plan content seem to be poorly developed. Students representation in the University organization (Senate and Rector of VGTU, Faculty and Council of the Faculty of Architecture) should be formalized in the University's enactments and programme management structures.

In the self-evaluation report there was no evidence found, that a quality management system based on international standards was in operation. During the site visit on November 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> 2014 the ERT did find the proof that questionnaires regularly are provided to the students. Never the less, the surveys and/or their results are presently neither supported by teaching staff nor can students recognize any outcomes or applicable results of the surveys.

The mentioned most efficient forms of inquiries by informal means at the presentation of students' final works for the external evaluation at various contests are not a part of the objective quality management of international standards. Beyond quality maintenance aspect public presentations and the participation in national and international architecture competitions are most valuable.

Many cooperation activities with the country's city and district municipalities and other governmental or business institutions are mentioned to be maintained but are not evaluated in the quality maintenance activities. Many cooperation with professional cultural journals are mentioned to be maintained but are not evaluated in the quality maintenance activities as well.

### III. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Most of the content taught in this programme should be merged to the studies of architecture BA and MA programmes where theoretical component is insufficient and poorly connected to design tasks. After the European standard five-year programme for architecture will be implemented and theory will be in a contemporary way integrated there into this separate programme is not needed any more.
2. The ERT did not find a clear and coherent structure in the heterogeneous programme. Content and form of the MA studies in History and Theory of Architecture seem to be conceived more around the teachers profile involved in the programme than problem and learning outcome driven. If the VGTU plans to keep this programme it might make sense in the future to consider separating the programme into two different programmes: A. Heritage Studies and B. Theory of Architecture, which could alternate annually.
3. The programme which enables students to acquire second-cycle university education in the study area of Humanities and the degree of the Master of the History and Theory of Art should be led by a historian or a theoretician for whom this is the main vocation.
4. International contacts of teaching staff should be encouraged and more students are expected to participate in exchange programmes.
5. In the case of a full-time programme the students full-time employment should not be accepted. The ERT recommends to hold auditorial work during daytime and provide the students with the time for independent work.

#### **IV. SUMMARY**

Following the “Directive 2013/55/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 November 2013, amending Directive 2005/36/EC on the recognition of professional qualifications and Regulation (EU) No 1024/2012 on administrative cooperation through the Internal Market Information System (‘the IMI Regulation’), a total of at least five years of full-time study at a university or a comparable teaching institution, leading to successful completion of a university-level examination is claimed. For the BA and MA programmes in Lithuania a change of the overall duration of architecture programmes has to be expected in the years to come.

The ERT did not find a clear and coherent structure in the heterogeneous programme. Content and form of the MA studies in Architecture History and Theory seem to be conceived more around the teachers profile involved in the programme than problem and learning outcome driven.

If the VGTU plans to keep this programme it might make sense in the future to consider separating programme to two different programmes: A. Heritage studies and B. Theory of Architecture, which could alternate annually.

In the curriculum design architectural theory is taught via different subjects which do not provide coherent overview and understanding of this very important field, only occasional areas of theory are covered.

The final works of the semester combine illogical tasks like archaeology and exhibition design together.

The students are expected to choose the topic of final thesis too early.

Unfortunately, in the curriculum no linguistic subject taught by a philologist, where writing skills of students would have been developed, was found.

The teaching-staff is active in research of architecture and meets legal requirements. As the faculty of architecture publishes the Journal of Architecture and Urbanism under the Taylor and Francis Group there is a very favourable platform for scholarly publishing offered by the university.

The facilities provided by the Faculty is adequate for the Architecture History and Theory study programme needs, both in terms of classrooms and laboratories, as well as computers. The technical and aesthetic state of the classes is suitable. The teaching and learning equipment available for the MA programme is up to date.



Teaching materials, such as textbooks, reference books and periodicals are adequate and are supplemented by on-line databases. Selection of contemporary scholarly literature about history and theory of architecture needs improvement.

The students' assessment and study process is well explained both for the individual exams and the final thesis students. The assessment system of students' performance is clear, adequate and publicly available on VGTU website and inner regulations.

An eye should be kept on the possibility to coordinate studies with working activities. The VGTU Master of the History and Theory of Art studies with 120 credits are declared as full time. Combining MA studies with working activities are not in accordance with the disposition of full time studies. Lectures starting at the earliest at 16:20 are in contradiction to full time studies.

The specific profile of the MA study course in History and Theory of Art is hard to identify in the self-evaluation report provided by the SKVC. The study programme seems to follow the way, how architects understand educational concepts and study contents established in the Humanities.

## V. GENERAL ASSESSMENT

The study programme *History and Theory of Architecture* (state code – 621U95001) at Vilnius Gediminas Technical University is given **positive** evaluation.

*Study programme assessment in points by evaluation areas.*

No.	Evaluation Area	Evaluation of an area in points*
1.	Programme aims and learning outcomes	3
2.	Curriculum design	2
3.	Teaching staff	3
4.	Facilities and learning resources	4
5.	Study process and students' performance assessment	3
6.	Programme management	2
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>17</b>

\*1 (unsatisfactory) - there are essential shortcomings that must be eliminated;

2 (satisfactory) - meets the established minimum requirements, needs improvement;

3 (good) - the field develops systematically, has distinctive features;

4 (very good) - the field is exceptionally good.

Grupės vadovas: Prof. Andreas Wenger  
Team leader:

Grupės nariai: Prof. dr. Bálint Bachmann  
Team members:

Prof. dr. Mart Kalm

Assoc. Prof. Marco Savic

Ramunė Staševičiūtė

Gintautas Rimeikis

**VILNIAUS GEDIMINO TECHNIKOS UNIVERSITETO ANTROSIOS PAKOPOS STU-  
DIJŲ PROGRAMOS ARCHITEKTŪROS ISTORIJA IR TEORIJA  
(VALSTYBINIS KODAS – 621U95001)  
2015-01-27 EKSPERTINIO VERTINIMO IŠVADŲ NR. SV4-23 IŠRAŠAS**

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**VI. APIBENDRINAMASIS ĮVERTINIMAS**

Vilniaus Gedimino technikos universiteto studijų programa *Architektūros istorija ir teorija* (valstybinis kodas – 621U95001) vertinama **teigiamai**.

<b>Eil. Nr.</b>	<b>Vertinimo sritis</b>	<b>Srities įverti- nimas, balais*</b>
1.	Programos tikslai ir numatomi studijų rezultatai	3
2.	Programos sandara	2
3.	Personalas	3
4.	Materialieji ištekliai	4
5.	Studijų eiga ir jos vertinimas	3
6.	Programos vadyba	2
	<b>Iš viso:</b>	<b>17</b>

\* 1 - Nepatenkinamai (yra esminių trūkumų, kuriuos būtina pašalinti)

2 - Patenkinamai (tenkina minimalius reikalavimus, reikia tobulinti)

3 - Gerai (sistemiškai plėtojama sritis, turi savitų bruožų)

4 - Labai gerai (sritis yra išskirtinė)

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**V. SANTRAUKA**

Pagal 2013 m. lapkričio 20 d. Europos Parlamento ir Tarybos direktyvą 2013/55/ES, kuria iš dalies keičiama Direktyva 2005/36/EB dėl profesinių kvalifikacijų pripažinimo, ir Reglamentą (ES) Nr. 1024/2012 dėl administracinio bendradarbiavimo per Vidaus rinkos informacijos sistemą (IMI reglamentas) būtinos bent penkerių metų studijos pagal nuolatinio mokymo programą universitete arba lygiavertėje mokymo institucijoje, kurios užbaigiamos sėkmingai išlaikius universiteto lygio egzaminus. Ateityje architektūros bakalauro ir magistro studijų programų bendra trukmė Lietuvoje turėtų keistis.

EG nuomone, šios nevienalytės programos struktūra neaiški ir nenuosekli. Susidaro vaizdas, kad magistro studijų programos *Architektūros istorija ir teorija* turinys ir forma labiau orientuoti į programą vykdančius dėstytojus, o ne į problemą ir studijų rezultatus.

Jei VGTU planuoja toliau vykdyti šią programą, būtų protinga apsvarstyti galimybę ją išskirti į dvi kasmet pakaitomis vykdomas programas: A. *Paveldo studijos* ir B. *Architektūros teorija*.

Programos sandaroje projektavimo architektūros teorija dėstoma per įvairius dalykus, bet nuosekli šios itin svarbios srities apžvalga ir supratimas nesuteikiami, nagrinėjamos tik atskiros teorijos dalys.

Semestro baigiamieji darbai apima nelogiškas užduotis, pavyzdžiui, archeologiją ir parodų dizainą kartu.

Studentai per anksti turi pasirinkti baigiamojo darbo temą.

Deja, programoje nėra dalyko, kurį dėstyty filologas ir kuris ugdytų studentų rašymo įgūdžius.

Dėstytojai aktyviai dalyvauja architektūros moksliniuose tyrimuose ir atitinka teisinius reikalavimus. Architektūros fakultetas leidžia „Taylor and Francis“ grupės žurnalą *Architektūra ir urbanistika*, o tai reiškia, kad universitetas suteikia puikią galimybę skelbti mokslinius darbus.

Fakulteto patalpos (tiek auditorijos ir laboratorijos, tiek kompiuteriai) atitinka studijų programos *Architektūros istorija ir teorija* poreikius. Patalpų techninė ir estetinė būklė tinkama. Mokymo ir mokymosi įranga, kurią galima naudoti vykdant magistro programą, atnaujinta.

Mokymo medžiaga, pavyzdžiui, vadovėliai, žinynai ir periodiniai leidiniai, tinkami, juos papildoma internetu prieinamos duomenų bazėse. Tačiau reikia gerinti šiuolaikinės mokslinės literatūros apie architektūros istoriją ir teoriją atranką.

Studentų pasiekimų vertinimas, studijų eiga ir atskirus egzaminus laikantiems, ir baigiamuosius darbus rengiantiems studentams išaiškinti gerai. Studentų pasiekimų vertinimo sistema yra aiški, tinkama ir viešai skelbiama VGTU interneto svetainėje ir vidaus taisyklėse.

Reikėtų geriau koordinuoti galimybę studijas derinti su darbu. VGTU magistro studijų programa *Architektūros istorija ir teorija*, kuriai skiriama 120 kreditų, yra nuolatinės studijos. Nuolatinėse studijose suderinti magistro studijų su darbu neįmanoma. Paskaitų pradžia (anksčiausiai 16.20 val.) prieštarauja nuolatinėms studijoms logikai.

Konkretų magistro studijų programos *Architektūros istorija ir teorija* profilį savianalizės suvestinėje, kurią pateikė SKVC, išskirti sunku. Susidaro įspūdis, kad studijų programa vykdoma pagal tai, kaip architektai supranta švietimo koncepcijas ir studijų turinį humanitarinėje srityje.

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### III. REKOMENDACIJOS

1. Dauguma šioje programoje dėstomų dalykų turėtų būti įtraukti į architektūros bakalauro ir magistro studijų programas, kuriose teorinė dalis šiuo metu nepakankama ir prastai susieta su dizaino (projektavimo) užduotimis. Kai pagal Europos standartą bus įgyvendinama penkerių metų architektūros studijų programa ir šiuolaikiškai įtraukta teorija, šios atskiros programos nebereikės.
2. EG nuomone, šios nevienalytės programos struktūra neaiški ir nenuosekli. Susidaro vaizdas, kad magistro studijų programos *Architektūros istorija ir teorija* turinys ir forma labiau orientuoti į programą vykdančius dėstytojus, o ne į problemą ir studijų rezultatus. Jei VGTU planuoja toliau vykdyti šią programą, ateityje ją reikėtų išskirti į dvi kasmet pakaitomis vykdomas programas: A. *Paveldo studijos* ir B. *Architektūros teorija*.
3. Programą, kurioje studentai įgyja antrosios pakopos aukštąjį universitetinį išsilavinimą humanitarinių studijų srityje ir istorijos ir teorijos meno magistro laipsnį, turėtų dėstyti istorikai arba teoretikai, kuriems ši sritis yra pagrindinė.
4. Būtina skatinti dėstytojus megzti tarptautinius ryšius. Mainų programose turėtų dalyvauti daugiau studentų.
5. Į nuolatinėms studijoms programą neturėtų būti priimami visu etatu dirbantys studentai. EG rekomenduoja auditorinę veiklą organizuoti dieną ir studentams skirti laiko savarankiškam darbui.

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