



STUDIJŲ KOKYBĖS VERTINIMO CENTRAS

VILNIAUS UNIVERSITETO
STUDIJŲ PROGRAMOS *ARCHEOLOGIJA*
(*valstybinis kodas – 612V40002*)
VERTINIMO IŠVADOS

EVALUATION REPORT
OF *ARCHAEOLOGY* (*state code - 612V40002*)
STUDY PROGRAMME
at VILNIUS UNIVERSITY

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DUOMENYS APIE ĮVERTINTĄ PROGRAMMĘ

Studijų programmeos pavadinimas	<i>Archeologija</i>
Valstybinis kodas	612V40002
Studijų sritis	Humanitarinių mokslų studijų sritis
Studijų kryptis	Archeologija
Studijų programmeos rūšis	Universitetinės studijos
Studijų pakopa	Pirmoji
Studijų forma (trukmė metais)	4 metai (nuolatinės)
Studijų programmeos apimtis kreditais	240 ECTS
Suteikiamas laipsnis ir (ar) profesinė kvalifikacija	Archeologijos bakalauras
Studijų programmeos įregistravimo data	1997 05 19 Švietimo ir mokslo ministro įsakymas Nr 565

INFORMATION ON EVALUATED STUDY PROGRAMME

Title of the study programme	<i>Archaeology</i>
State code	612V40002
Study area	Humanities
Study field	Archaeology
Type of the study programme	University studies
Study cycle	First cycle
Study mode (length in years)	4 years (full-time)
Volume of the study programme in credits	240 ECTS
Degree and (or) professional qualifications awarded	Bachelor of Archaeology
Date of registration of the study programme	1997 05 19, Minister of Education and Science, Nr. 565

Studijų kokybės vertinimo centras

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The Centre for Quality Assessment in Higher Education

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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	
2	
3	

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

Vilnius University is the oldest University in Lithuania, founded in 1579. The University implements the largest higher education programme in Lithuania, managing three-cycle studies in the area of humanitarian and social sciences, physics, biomedicine and technologies: there are over 60 BA degree and over 100 MA study programmes offered; PhD degree students can study nearly 30 areas of sciences, and residents – more than 50 residency study programmes.

Vilnius University includes 23 parent academic divisions at VU (faculties, institutes, centres). The Faculty of History (hereafter FH), has been established in 1968, continuing old traditions of history studies, which date back to 1783 when the first Department of History was founded at Vilnius University. The Faculty is managed by the Council and the Dean and consists of four departments: Archaeology, Theory of History and History of Culture, Modern History, and Ancient and Medieval History; the research group for Lithuanian Statutes and Lithuanian Metrica and the Centre for Stateless Cultures.

The Faculty of History provides three study programmes of the first cycle (Archaeology; History; History of Culture and Anthropology) and three study programmes of the second study cycle (Archaeology, History, Heritage Conservation), as well as the Doctoral study programme in the field of history, which is carried out in co-operation with the Institute of Lithuanian History. At the present time 14 people of the administrative staff, 47 lecturers (including 43 people with a degree of Doctor, 8 professors, 22 associate professors, 22 lecturers and one assistant), 14 research fellows (including 7 people with a degree of Doctor) work at FH. The number of students at the Faculty totals 936 (of the first and second cycle), and 30 students of the Doctoral programme, including 12 archaeologists.

The Archaeology Bachelor's Study Programme is implemented by the Faculty of History. In 2008 the External Assessment Expert Group carried out an assessment of the Programme; after this assessment the Programme was accredited without restrictions (17 August 2009).

In 2010 more than 20 percent of the Programme was upgraded, and the Programme was registered as a new Programme, including a specialisation in Bioarchaeology. The new Programme was approved by the VU Senate Commission on 21 December 2011. Since 2012/2013 students of the Bachelor's study programme in Archaeology study according to the new module study programme. The Programme was accredited until 1 July 2015 (Order No. SV 6-4 of the Director of the Study Quality Assessment Centre of 1 February 2012).

The Self Evaluation group has been approved by the Council of FH on 4th December 2013. It was composed by Prof. Dr. Albinas Kuncevičius (Head of the Self-Evaluation working team), Prof. Dr. Algimantas Merkevičius, Dr. Justina Poškienė, Prof. Dr. Gintautas Vėlius, Dalia Vitkauskaitė, Rėda Nemickienė, Renaldas Augustinavičius (Stakeholder), Laura Išganaitytė (student). The SER was finished by 20th December 2013.

1.4. The Review Team

The review team was completed according *Description of experts' recruitment*, approved by order No. 1-01-151 of Acting Director of the Centre for Quality Assessment in Higher Education. The Review Visit to HEI was conducted by the team on 23/09/2014.

1. **Dr. Isabella Colpo (team leader)**, *University of Padua, University Museums Center, Curator of the Cultural Heritage of the University, Italy.*
2. **Ass. Prof. dr. Anatoly Kantorovich**, *Lomonosov University, Moscow, ass. professor, Russia.*
3. **Prof. Dr. Andrzej Buko**, *University of Warsaw & Polish Academy of Sciences, professor, Poland.*
4. **Dr. Povilas Blaževičius**, *National Museum Palace of the Grand Dukes of Lithuania, Lithuania.*
5. **Mr. Gintautas Rimeikis**, *student of Lithuanian University of Educational Sciences, study programme Educational Management and Leadership.*

II. PROGRAMME ANALYSIS

2.1. Programme aims and learning outcomes

The new BA programme has been prepared in accordance with the formal requirements. The Learning outcomes and Programme modules are presented in a clear manner and give an idea about new solutions. The aims programme and learning outcomes are based on the academic and professional requirements, public needs and (partly) of the present labour market. The name of the programme, its learning outcomes, content and the qualifications are compatible with each other. The Reviewers confirm, the Programme offers conditions for acquiring humanistic education of the first cycle.

The study subjects and/or modules are spread evenly. The content of the subjects and/or modules is consistent with the level of the BA studies and represent a good standard. Upon completion of the Programme, students should be sufficiently prepared for independent archaeological fieldwork, as well as continue studies in the frame of Master's Programme. The aim, learning outcomes and the study Programme are available on the VU website. Each year the Programme, its aim and learning outcomes are presented during events organized by Faculty of History.

The content of the modules, curriculum design and quality of its implementation are considered at the Archaeology Programme Committee. The learning outcomes of the Programme have been formed following The Description of General Requirements for Degree-Awarding First Cycle and Integrated Study Programmes of the Lithuanian Republic. Professional requirements set to archaeologists are defined in the international acts ratified by the Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania whose provisions are implemented in the above specified national legal acts.

Compliance of learning outcomes with international documents can be recognized as satisfactory. Another positive element is that the new Programme and the new Module System have been approved by teachers and students. This opinion corroborate our meetings with representatives of students and teachers.

However, the experts consider that there is a room for further improvements. It is worth underline that not all aspects of the Programme have been presented in a satisfactory manner. This has an impact on the possibility of specific assessments. The aim of the Programme is defined as "to train qualified specialists who have knowledge and understanding of the past (people and their heritage, cultural and biological aspects in a complex way) in the perspective of archaeological science, as well as have competences are carry out an investigation according to the requirements set by archaeological science ..." (SER, p. 8). It is to note, that similar goal can be attributed to MA and PhD studies. Presented on table 1 links between learning outcomes and Modules not always are clear. Only in the case Archaeobiology modules and learning outcomes can be regarded as satisfactory. This is different for archaeological studies. For example, in the SER is briefly mentioned that "the student is able to formulate problems for laboratory Investigations". But there is no data about the treatment of the archaeological mass materials (flints and ceramics), small finds (glass, metals) and, generally - archaeological evidence of the past. There is also no data concerning non-destructive methods in archeology (especially geophysical prospections), although the Department is equipped with five metal detectors. What are the rules for the use of these instruments - it would be worth it to know. The Reviewers draw also attention to not very clear definition of term *Historical Archaeology* which sense could be missing. *Medieval Archaeology* and *Historical Archaeology* in many places are treated as synonyms. Appears also *Lithuanian Medieval Archaeology* treated as *Historical Archaeology*.

As explained by the self evaluation team, all these aspects are deepened in the separate online publication “Modules and Themes of Archaeology and Bioarchaeology Study Program”, which includes information on treatment of archaeological mass material, data concerning non-destructive methods and others. However this publication is available only in Lithuanian language, so not fully evaluable by the Review team. Due to this lack of information it was rather difficult to comprehensively assess the usefulness and completeness of information.

2.2. Curriculum design

The curriculum design of BA studies meets legal requirements. The Study Programme plan is presented in *Annex 1*. Seeking to extend the possibilities of the first cycle graduates, the specialisation in Bioarchaeology has been formed in the Programme. The structure, the length of the Programme in credits complies with all the formal requirements set to the first cycle study regulated in the Description. The duration of the Programme is established on 4 years (8 semesters), its length in credits is 240 credits (one semester – 30 credits). Its analysis showed that the content of the subjects and modules are appropriate to the level of the BA studies.

Study subjects and modules are spread evenly. Their matter is consistent with the type and level of the studies. The first and the second years of the Programme are devoted to acquiring fundamental archaeological and general university education. The Programme of the first-second years is made up of general university study modules, modules of the speciality language and fundamental modules of the study field. Archaeological field research is integrated in each of these modules. During the third-fourth years of their studies (60 credits) students have several possibilities: to study further the deepening modules of the major programme, to choose the specialization in Bioarchaeology or to choose any studies of the minor field offered by the Faculty of History. Archaeological studies are completed with writing the *Bachelor's final thesis*. All of this is sufficient to ensure expected learning outcomes.

Nevertheless our meeting with the students showed that not always topics of classes are different, despite their different titles what we recommend to update. Generally the content of the Programme reflects the latest achievements scientific and technical knowledge. Nevertheless lack of balance between theory and practice is noted. In particular this applies to the students archaeological fieldwork, which presently are restricted thematically, chronologically and spatially. We recommend the extension of the number possible sites to choice for students. Presently the Department leaves in this respect to the students free hand. Meetings with students and alumni have shown that during studies there is insufficient direct contact with the archaeological material (laboratories activities), with exception of Bioarchaeology. In the SER it is no references to archaeometry - strictly associated with the archaeological material from excavations.

As mentioned before, it is necessary to update foreign languages included in the programme. Particularly we recommend improve technical/professional English knowledge and include German. The latter should be considered as basic, next to the languages Lithuanian, Polish and Russian, for many publications concerning Balts archaeology.

The list of literature contains the leading publications for the teaching process. Nevertheless, there is a lack of references, for example, to the theory of the early states (state formation processes), as well as to important textbooks. For example, in the bibliography of module "History and Theory of Archaeology" (*Annex 2*) there is no some basic books, as E. Harris, *Principles of Archaeological Stratigraphy* New York-London 1989, (2nd ed.) or C. Renfrew, P.

Bahn, *Archaeology. Theories, Methods and Practice*, London, 1996 (3rd edition). Due to this fact, updating of literature is needed.

2.3. Teaching staff

The study Programme is provided by professional staff meeting legal requirements. The majority of lecturers are VU graduates who have defended their theses at VU. They can speak some foreign languages and comply with the qualification requirements set to their teaching position. The lecturers carry out scientific investigations and present them to the audience of students, scientists and others. The list of the lecturers of the Programme and their employment presented in *Annex 3* shows that 32 persons are engaged in carrying out the Study Programme. Most of them have academic degrees (4 Professors, 9 Assistant Professors and 10 PhD lecturers). The academic staff of the Programme complies fully with the requirements of Point 19 of the Description. The teaching staff is employed according to the legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania and the requirements valid in VU. The experts can confirm the qualifications of the teaching staff and that a number of teachers are adequate to ensure learning outcomes. As it is showed (*Annex 5*) 22 researchers are involved in the research projects, some of them they are on the international level. Ratio between the number of lecturers of the Programme and number of students ensure good quality of studies and direct cooperation between students and the lecturers. But further estimates in this regard may be incorrect due to the fact that these data refer only to the first and second year of study, and not their entire four-year cycle.

Most of the lecturers of the Programme are between 35 and 45 years old. Seven lecturers are between 46 and 55, four - are older than 55, three - are under 35. One only lecturer is 70 years old. Such structure of the lecturers' age ensures continuity and dynamics of the Programme.

The majority of teachers are recognized as specialists in their fields. Among them there are also specialists and scientists of the highest category acquired from other institutions. Consequently the implementation of new Programme is based on stable team of lecturers, which consists of lecturers of the Department of Archaeology and other Departments of Vilnius University, moreover, other VU faculties and other universities, museums, the Lithuanian Institute of History, and the institutions of the Heritage Conservation.

The VU creates conditions for the professional development of the teaching staff necessary for the provision of the Programme. However, some questions draw special attention. The teaching staff is involved in research directly related to the Study Programme being reviewed, particularly in applied scientific research. There is a lack of (except in cooperation with the University of Oslo) foreign projects involving researchers VU. It is an evident weakness regarding lecturers' activities, which should be eliminated in the coming years.

The same applies to the academic relationships of lecturers. The ratio between teachers who arrived and who departed as part of the academic Exchange Programme is similar. In the course of five years, five lecturers have arrived (one of them as many as three times). The majority of them come to deliver lectures as visiting lecturers. From the Department side three lecturers (eight trips in all) had gone to foreign university to give lectures according to the Erasmus Programme. International research cooperation started in 2013 and at present is limited to an agreement with the University of Oslo. What is surprising - is the lack of agreements with neighbouring countries such as Latvia, Estonia, Finland, Sweden, Poland, Russia, and Belorussia - which for archaeological research are very close because of common problems of the Finno-Balts and Slavic people. Considering these aspects, it is strongly recommended to increase the international relationships of the teachers, their wider participation to international meetings and

conferences and publications in well recognized international reviews. Moreover, they should be more active when applying to Mobility Programmes for local researchers and invited colleagues from abroad.

2.4. Facilities and learning resources

The Department of Archaeology, even too much spread, is situated in convenient and commodious premises, with and well-equipped workplaces suited to the lecturers' needs. Classrooms are assigned according to the demand, specificity of the module taught and the number of students. Only the specialization of Bioarchaeology is implemented in conjunction with the Department of Anatomy, Histology and Anthropology of the Faculty of Medicine. Similarly to others, is equipped with all tools necessary for a successful teaching and learning experience.

On-site visit showed that facilities and learning resources, and the premises for studies are adequate both in their size and quality: in the newly renovated Faculty of History there are capacious classes with all the necessary equipment (projectors, audio equipment, magnetic boards etc.). One of the classes is equipped with 12-seat computer with GIS software, but students can also use their own PC as they are fully supplied software needed. Also the teaching and learning equipment (laboratory and computer equipment, consumables) are adequate to learning process.

The students BA have free access to the Faculty-based library, situated in the Faculty premises. The Faculty library subscribes archaeological periodicals acknowledged by the scholars. The articles published in international periodicals deal with a wide range of archaeological challenges related to different historic periods. During the Project implementation, required literature necessary for the revised Study Programme was acquired. In addition, the Faculty library boasts of the basic required reading, relevant for the applied specialization of Bioarchaeology. A good collection of books is kept in the Department of Archaeology. The students also have access to Vilnius University Library holdings and services, specifically to computer workstations installed here. Moreover, they have access to the electronic resources of Vilnius University Scientific Library.

The two established archaeological facilities are based in Kernavė and Dubingiai, in which students perform practical archaeological fieldwork (practice). In addition to the archaeological fieldwork, students perform training practice during archaeological expeditions organized by the varying stakeholders.

Some elements, however, requires improvements. As further improvement of the Programme, is recommended to bring together the different sections of the library, the teachers' studies and students' offices, so as to allow a better exchange of information's, ideas, experiences and communication. At the present most of them are spatially dispersed, making difficult perceive the Department as a cohesive unit within FH.

As a general - the library looks a bit small, as students can use only 30 work spaces at the FH library premises, part of which are computer equipped. Another observation relates to Bioarchaeology. At the present, this specialization is implemented in conjunction with the Department of Anatomy, Histology and Anthropology of the Faculty of Medicine. Lectures, exercise classes and seminars are held in classrooms of the Department of Anatomy, Histology and Anthropology, equipped with all the tools necessary for a successful teaching (learning) experience. All of this gives the opportunity of the teaching process, but only for a transitional

period. It should be noted, in fact the new specialization was established in the simplest possible way - so far is the agreement between the VU units. Thus, it can be treated as an added value to the Archaeology Department. In the same way can be build many other successive specializations. But in the longer term, such a strategy would be wrong, because it does not lead to the integration of new units within the Department. Therefore, it is recommended, in order as it is in other countries, that the new specialization will arise physically within the Archaeology Department. The Bioarchaeologists should be directly linked within the Department. Only through ongoing contacts with archaeologists (including fieldwork, consultations, seminars, etc.) they can become partners on a professional level of archaeologists.

Finally, except for Kernavė and Dubingiai, the choice of the archaeological sites for the applied practical activity totally depends from knowledges and relationships and preferences of the students, without a really scientific evaluation by the teachers. It is recommended to provide a list of accredited excavation sites, which can guarantee for students the high scientific level of practices on excavations. Such list should be each year available to students and allow them to choose fieldwork, according to their needs and specialization.

2.5. Study process and students' performance assessment

The Reviewers state, that the admission requirements are well-founded. The higher education institution ensures an adequate level of academic support. The VU Directorate for Studies is responsible for providing academic and social support to students. The administration of the FH provides relevant information for all those concerned. Students' admission to the first cycle studies, meets all rules and procedures approved by LAMA BPO (Association of Lithuanian Higher Education Institutions). All requirements can be found on internet, on official Vilnius University Website.

Competition in the New Programme, according SER data, is significant (in 2012 – 584, in 2013 – 688 applications received). In 2012, 45 students were admitted to BA studies: 23 st. – Stf, 22 st. – Not Stf. In 2013 were admitted 40 students: 21 st. – Stf, 19 – Not Stf. Therefore, the competitive average score is quite high: in 2012 – Stf - 18,45 points, Not Stf – 15,96 points; in 2013 – Stf – 18,40 points, Not Stf – 15,22. Reviewers meetings with students and graduates showed that students, who decided to study archaeology, are well motivated because of the new Programme. According SER data and meetings with students/graduates representatives it is clear that most of the students who has choice Not State funded studies, already received their BA.

The organisation of the study process ensures an adequate provision of the programme and the achievement of the learning outcomes. The Faculty of History is located in the old premises of Vilnius University, renovated in 2006–2008. During the renovation, a lift was installed for students with movement disability.

University has given opportunities to get various scholarships, taken from the State and University funds. There are 5 different kinds of scholarships, which could be given for BA students. According to SER, students who have great achievements in study field could get scholarships. During the meetings administration revealed, that 10% of the best students could get a scholarship, but the number of exhibitioners, depends on faculty funds. Also it is possibility to get a social scholarship, if the student matches all requirements, which are regulated by state. All information about scholarships is available on the website. Students have possibility to participate in Sport and Health Centre activities (individual and group activities), represent University in national and international sports competitions. They have also possibility be participants of cultural activities in VU Cultural Centre. Students also have possibility to

participate in psychological consultation and could get help to integrate within society, if they have problems with personal life.

The student assessment is well explained both for the individual exams and the final thesis. The assessment system of students' performance is clear, adequate and publicly available. During Reviewers meetings with administration, SER preparing group and social partners, it was explained, that students are participating in practices and mostly could get a job in it after studies. According to information, that was obtained during the meeting with alumni – teachers, they also help to find a job. During on-site visit it was noted that the canteen seems recently renewed and quality of services is rather high.

Despite many positive aspects mentioned above, there are still some issues that need adjustments. First of all, it should be noted significant loss of students BA programme. On 1 September 2012/2013, 45 students were admitted into the Programme, out of whom 28 students were studying on 1 December 2013. Thus, in total 17 students were excluded from the list of studies. Despite the variety of circumstances to explain the reasons for this observation, there is no doubt that this is not a good sign for the near future, given that it has completed two of the four years of the programme.

Concern is also quantitatively limited students' participation in scientific and applied scientific research. During the last summer, only six students from this course took part as volunteers in various archaeological research projects run by professional scholars. Some interviewed students took part (not actively, but only observing) in international and national archaeological conferences, seminars, presentations of monographs.

2.6. Programme management

The key role in Programme management plays Department of Archaeology, where direct communication between lecturers, students and stakeholders takes place. According to the Statute of Vilnius University, a Department is a branch subdivision, responsible for the activities of one or several closely related Study Programmes as well as the activities of fields of science or branches. In the Department of Archaeology, the main practical challenges of the Study Programme management are dealt with. Programme monitoring and quality supervision is conducted by the Archaeology Study Programme Committee. This Committee, together with the Department of Archaeology, formulates the Programme Aims and Learning Outcomes, is responsible for updating the modules, staff changes, practice organization and other strategic aspects of Programme implementation. The practical issues of implementing the Study Programme are coordinated on the level of the Faculty Dean's Office, the staff of which is responsible for preparing the study schedule, administering the sessions and maintaining continuous contact with the students and lecturers. Study organizational issues are also dealt with in the Faculty Council. Vice-Dean for Study Affairs is responsible for international cooperation and studies abroad, provides information on *study abroad* opportunities. Information about the studies abroad is published on the website of VU International Programme and Relations Department and FH webpage.

Analyses of structure of Programme management showed that decision-making responsibilities and monitoring of the implementation of the programme are clearly allocated and presented. Also information and data on the implementation of the programme are regularly collected and analysed. The FH has concluded agreements with more than 25 foreign universities, which can be chosen by the students in archaeology, depending on the specificity of the study Programme in question, knowledge of foreign language and individual preferences.

But there is no data how these opportunities will remain in the coming years, transferred into practice. It is also recommended review number of Students involved in the Study Committee. As showed interview, their quantity is presently too low. It is also to recommend, improve the presence of international teachers (visiting professors) in the Department.

The Reviewers consider as encouraging and very positive strong relationships between the Faculty and stakeholders (social partners) and their good level of cooperation. The staff of the Archaeology Department pursues cooperation with the institutions employing archaeologists. As it was stated, during the renewal of the Programme, the needs of these institutions were considered and their recommendations were taken into account. It is worth to define the needs for today and estimate preferences for the near future. Another important task for the next future is to achieve a balance between theory and practice. But the full evaluation in this matter is not possible now, because of too short-term duration of the Programme.

Generally, students have opportunities to participate in student mobility programmes. Most often, the students of BA Study Programme travel under the *Erasmus Exchange Programme* in the spring semester of the second course or in the third course. But the results achieved so far in this regard are limited. SER does not specify detailed data on the effectiveness of *Exchange Programmes*. But meetings with students and alumni indicate that the situation in this regard, as in the case of fieldwork discussed above is rather unsatisfactory. Therefore the recommendation that students apply for various international exchanges as *Erasmus, Leonardo Da Vinci*, etc, is essential. Moreover, it is recommended to suggest and facilitate them participation at fieldwork activities abroad.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Increase the international relationships of the Archaeology Department, particularly participation in international meetings, publications in international reviews, joint research projects and mobility programmes for researchers and students. Increase also the presence of visiting professors from other countries.
2. Integrate also physically Bioarchaeology within Archaeology Department.
3. Achieve the balance between theory and practice. It concerns particularly fieldwork activities and direct contact with the archaeological material (laboratory activities). The wider choice of archaeological sites for student's practices is needed and it is recommended a stronger monitoring activity by the teachers on the students' choice of excavation sites, so to ensure the high scientific level of the applied practical experience.
4. In order to improve work efficiency, exchange information, ideas and experiences, bring together different sections of the library, teachers' studies and students' offices.
5. Further improvements of shortcomings indicated in the report, relating to the the BA Programme are needed, such as improving languages and reviewing or updating some lists of recommended literature.

IV. EXAMPLES OF EXCELLENCE (GOOD PRACTICE)*

V. SUMMARY

At the present day the new Programme is well-designed and successfully running. The learning outcomes are clearly stated and based on European directives, according to Bologna Process. The subjects learning outcomes are analytically described and comply with the Programme. Another positive element is that the Programme and the new Module System have been approved both - by teachers and students. All of this creates suitable conditions for acquiring humanistic education of the first cycle. However, the Reviewers consider that regarding the provided information there is a room for further improvements in relation to the aims. It is worth underline that not all aspects of the Programme have been presented in a satisfactory manner. Particularly links between learning outcomes and Modules not always are clear. It is noted as well, lack of data (with exception of Bioarchaeology) about the analytical treatment of the archaeological materials.

The Curriculum Design complies well with the national legislation and the local regulations for the BA/MA Programmes. Seeking to extend the possibilities of the first cycle graduates, the specialisation in Bioarchaeology has been formed. The structure, the length of the Programme in credits complies with all the formal requirements set to the first cycle study programme regulated in the Description. All of this is sufficient to ensure expected learning outcomes. The content of the Programme reflects the latest achievements scientific and technical knowledge. It is worth to note that the employers are very satisfied of the skills acquired by the graduates. This could show that the Curriculum Design proposed is appropriate. Nevertheless not always topics of classes differ from one another, despite their different titles. The Reviewers noted also lack of balance between theory and practice. In particular this applies to students' archaeological fieldwork. It is necessary to update foreign languages included in the programme. Particularly Expert Team

recommends improve technical/professional English knowledge and include German. The list of the literature for some lectures should be updated.

The qualifications of the teaching staff and the number of teachers are adequate to ensure learning outcomes and their composition satisfies all legal requirements. The majority of the lecturers are recognized as specialists in their fields. Among the teachers there are also professionals of the highest category acquired from other institutions. Ratio between the number of lecturers and number of students ensure good quality of studies and direct cooperation. Structure of the lecturers' age ensures continuity and dynamics of the Programme. However, to some questions should be draw special attention. The Reviewers stated lack of (except in cooperation with the University of Oslo) foreign agreements involving researchers VU. The same applies to the academic exchange of lecturers of the Programme. Strongly recommended is increase the international relationships of the teachers, their wider participation to international meetings, as well marked presence in recognized international periodicals. Moreover, they should be much more active when applying to mobility programmes for local researchers and invited colleagues from abroad.

The admission requirements to the programme are analytically and clearly explained and well founded. The higher education institutions ensures an adequate level of academic support. The whole admission process applied is transparent and it ensures a high quality of entrant Bachelor graduates. The VU Directorate for Studies is responsible for providing academic and social support to students. The administration of the FH provides relevant information for all those concerned. Students' admission to the first cycle studies, meets all rules and procedures approved by Association of Lithuanian Higher Education Institutions. All requirements are available in internet, on the official Vilnius University website. During the on-site visit the evaluation Expert Team has verified that the learning facilities and laboratory equipment available are sufficient for the needs of the Programme. Also the teaching and learning equipment (laboratory and computer equipment, consumables) are adequate to learning process. The students BA have free access to the Faculty-based library, which subscribes archaeological periodicals acknowledged by the scholars. Some elements however, require improvements. It is recommended to bring together the different sections of the library, the teachers' studies and students' office, so as to allow a better exchange of information's, ideas, experiences and communication. As a general, the library looks a bit small. Another recommendation relate to Bioarchaeology which will arise physically within the Archaeology Department. It is also necessary to provide a wider list of accredited excavation sites, which can guarantee for students the high scientific level of the excavations.

The responsibilities for the implementation of the Programme are clearly described and appropriately allocated. Programme monitoring and quality supervision is conducted by the Archaeology Study Programme Committee. The Committee, together with the Department of Archaeology, formulates the Programme Aims and Learning Outcomes, is responsible for updating the modules, staff changes, practice organization and other strategic aspects of Programme implementation. The FH has concluded agreements with more than 25 foreign universities. But there is no data how these opportunities will remain in the coming years, transferred into practice. It is also recommended review of Students number in the Study Committee. The Reviewers consider as encouraging and very positive strong relationships between the Faculty and stakeholders (social partners) and their high level of cooperation. During the renewal of the Programme, the needs of these institutions were considered and their recommendations were taken into account. The important task for the next future is to achieve a balance between theory and practice.

VI. GENERAL ASSESSMENT

The study programme Archaeology (state code – 612V40002) at Vilnius 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	3
3.	Teaching staff	3
4.	Facilities and learning resources	3
5.	Study process and students' performance assessment	4
6.	Programme management	3
	Total:	19

*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: Team leader:	Dr. Isabella Colpo
Grupės nariai: Team members:	Ass. prof. dr. Anatoly Kantorovich
	Prof. dr. Andrzej Buko
	Dr. Povilas Blaževičius
	Gintautas Rimeikis

VILNIAUS UNIVERSITETO PIRMOSIOS PAKOPOS STUDIJŲ PROGRAMOS
ARCHEOLOGIJA (VALSTYBINIS KODAS – 612V40002) 2014-11-18 EKSPERTINIO
VERTINIMO IŠVADŲ NR. SV4-556 IŠRAŠAS

<...>

VI. APIBENDRINAMASIS ĮVERTINIMAS

Vilniaus universiteto studijų programa Archeologija (valstybinis kodas – 612V40002) vertinama teigiamai.

Studijų programos vertinimas balais pagal vertinamąsias sritis.

Eil. Nr.	Vertinimo sritis	Srities įvertinimas, balais*
1.	Programos tikslai ir numatomi studijų rezultatai	3
2.	Programos sandara	3
3.	Personalas	3
4.	Materialieji ištekliai	3
5.	Studijų eiga ir jos vertinimas	4
6.	Programos vadyba	3
	Iš viso:	19

* 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)

<...>

V. SANTRAUKA

Naujosios programos sandara yra gera, šiuo metu programa sėkmingai įgyvendinama. Numatomi studijų rezultatai aiškiai nurodyti ir pagrįsti Europos direktyvomis, kaip reikalaujama Bolonijos proceso dokumentuose. Numatomi studijų dalykų rezultatai apibūdinti analitiškai ir atitinka šią programą. Dar vienas teigiamas elementas yra tas, kad programai ir naujai modulių sistemai pritarė dėstytojai ir studentai. Visa tai sudaro palankias sąlygas pirmosios pakopos humanitariniam išsilavinimui įgyti. Tačiau ekspertai mano, kad, atsižvelgiant į pateiktą informaciją, dar būtų galima patobulinti tikslus. Verta pažymėti, kad ne visi su programa susiję aspektai tinkamai pateikti. Ne visi numatomi studijų rezultatai aiškiai susieti su moduliais. Atkreiptinas dėmesys į tai kad, išskyrus *Bioarcheologiją*, mažai pateikta duomenų apie analitinę archeologinės medžiagos apdorojimą.

Programos sandara atitinka nacionalinių teisės aktų reikalavimus ir vietos reglamentus, skirtus bakalauro / magistrantūros programoms. Siekiant išplėsti pirmosios pakopos absolventų galimybes, į programą įtraukta *Bioarcheologijos* specializacija. Programos sandara, jos apimtis kreditais atitinka visus oficialius Apraše („Laipsnį suteikiančių pirmosios pakopos ir vientisųjų studijų programų bendrųjų reikalavimų aprašas“) nustatytus pirmosios pakopos studijų programų reikalavimus. Viso to pakanka numatomiems studijų rezultatams užtikrinti. Programos turinyje atsispindi naujausi mokslo ir technikos pasiekimai. Reikėtų pažymėti, kad darbdavius labai tenkina šios programos absolventų gebėjimai. Tai rodo, kad programos sandara yra tinkama. Tačiau ne visų dalykų temos skiriasi, nors jų pavadinimai ir skirtingi. Ekspertai pastebėjo, kad nėra teorijos ir praktikos pusiausvyros. Tai ypač pasakytina apie studentų archeologinius tyrimus lauko sąlygomis. Būtina atnaujinti į programą įtrauktas užsienio kalbas. Ekspertų grupė rekomenduoja gerinti techninę ir profesinę anglų kalbą ir įtraukti vokiečių kalbą. Reikėtų atnaujinti kai kurioms paskaitoms skirtos literatūros sąrašus.

Dėstytojų kvalifikacija yra tinkama, o dėstytojų skaičius yra pakankamas numatomiems studijų rezultatams pasiekti; jų sudėtis atitinka visus teisės aktų reikalavimus. Daugelis dėstytojų yra pripažinti savo sričių specialistai. Tarp dėstytojų yra ir aukščiausios kategorijos profesionalų, pakviestų iš kitų institucijų. Dėstytojų ir studentų skaičiaus santykis užtikrina kokybiškas studijas ir tiesioginį bendradarbiavimą. Dėstytojų amžiaus struktūra užtikrina šios programos tęstinumą bei dinamiškumą. Tačiau reikėtų atkreipti dėmesį į kai kurias problemas. Ekspertai nurodė, kad, išskyrus bendradarbiavimą su Oslo universitetu, nesudaromos tarptautinės sutartys, kuriose dalyvautų VU mokslininkai. Trūkumai susiję ir su šios programos dėstytojų dalyvavimu akademinį mainų programose. Primygtinai rekomenduojama stiprinti tarptautinius dėstytojų ryšius, skatinti juos aktyviau dalyvauti tarptautiniuose susitikimuose, publikuoti darbus tarptautiniuose periodiniuose leidiniuose. Be to, jie turėtų dažniau teikti paraiškas dėl dalyvavimo vietos mokslininkams skirtose judumo programose ir kvieštis kolegas iš užsienio.

Priėmimo į šią programą reikalavimai yra išsamiai paaiškinti ir pagrįsti. Aukštosios mokyklos užtikrina tinkamą akademinės paramos lygį. Apskritai taikoma priėmimo procedūra yra skaidri ir užtikrina aukštą stojančiųjų ir bakalauro laipsnį įgijusių absolventų lygį. VU Studijų direkcija yra atsakinga už akademinės ir socialinės pagalbos studentams teikimą. Istorijos fakulteto administracija suteikia reikalingą informaciją visiems, kuriems jos reikia. Studentų priėmimas į pirmosios pakopos studijas atitinka visas Lietuvos aukštųjų mokyklų asociacijos patvirtintas taisykles ir procedūras. Visi reikalavimai pateikti internete, oficialioje Vilniaus universiteto svetainėje. Per vizitą ekspertų grupė įsitikino, kad materialieji ištekliai yra pakankami šiai programai įgyvendinti. Studijoms skirta įranga (laboratorinė, kompiuterinė, reikmenys) yra tinkama ir jos pakanka. Bakalauro studijų studentai turi galimybę naudotis fakulteto biblioteka, kuri prenumeruoja mokslininkų pripažintus periodinius archeologijos žurnalus. Tačiau kai ką dar reikia tobulinti. Rekomenduojama sujungti įvairius bibliotekos padalinius, visus dėstytojų kabinetus (darbo ir metodinius) ir studentų darbo vietas, kad dėstytojams būtų lengviau tarpusavyje ir su studentais keistis informacija, idėjomis ir patirtimi. Biblioteka šiek tiek mažoka. Kita rekomendacija susijusi su fiziniu bioarcheologijos specializacijai reikalingų patalpų integravimu VU istorijos fakultete. Dar reikėtų išplėsti akredituotą kasinėjimo vietų sąrašą – tai užtikrintų aukštą mokslinį studentų kasinėjimų lygį.

Atsakomybė už šios programos įgyvendinimą yra aiškiai apibūdinta ir tinkamai paskirstyta. Programos stebėseną ir kokybės priežiūrą atlieka Archeologijos studijų programos komitetas. Jis kartu su Archeologijos katedra formuluoja programos tikslus ir numatomus studijų rezultatus, yra atsakingas už modulių atnaujinimą, darbuotojų kaitą, praktikos organizavimą ir kitus strateginius šios programos įgyvendinimo klausimus. Istorijos fakultetas yra sudaręs sutartis su daugiau kaip 25 užsienio universitetais. Tačiau nėra informacijos apie tai, kaip šios galimybės bus išsaugotos ateityje. Dar rekomenduojama persvarstyti studentų Studijų komitete skaičių.

Ekspertai labai vertina glaudžius Fakulteto ir socialinių dalininkų (socialinių partnerių) ryšius ir aukšto lygio bendradarbiavimą. Atnaujinant šią programą buvo apsvarstyti šių institucijų poreikiai, atsižvelgta į jų rekomendacijas. Artimiausioje ateityje svarbu pasiekti teorijos ir praktikos pusiausvyrą.

<...>

III. REKOMENDACIJOS

1. Stiprinti tarptautinius Archeologijos katedros ryšius, ypač skatinti dalyvavimą tarptautiniuose susitikimuose, bendruose mokslinių tyrimų projektuose ir mokslininkų bei studentų judumo programose, skelbti publikacijas tarptautiniuose leidiniuose, taip pat kviestis daugiau kitų šalių dėstytojų.
2. Fiziškai integruoti (infrastruktūros perspektyva) bioarcheologijos specializacijai reikalingas patalpas VU istorijos fakultete.
3. Siekti teorijos ir praktikos pusiausvyros. Tai ypač taikytina lauko tyrimams ir tiesioginiam kontaktui su archeologine medžiaga (laboratorinė veikla). Studentams turėtų būti užtikrintas didesnis archeologinių vietų pasirinkimas; rekomenduojama, kad dėstytojai labiau kontroliuotų, kokias kasinėjimo vietas studentai pasirenka, kad būtų užtikrintas aukštas mokslinis taikomosios praktinės patirties lygis.
4. Siekiant padidinti darbo efektyvumą, palengvinti keitimąsi informacija, idėjomis ir patirtimi, reikėtų sujungti skirtingus bibliotekos skyrius, visus dėstytojų (darbo ir metodinius) kabinetus ir studentų darbo vietas.
5. Reikia toliau taisyti išvadose nurodytus bakalauro programos trūkumus, pavyzdžiui, tobulinti kalbą ir patikslinti arba atnaujinti kai kuriuos rekomenduojamos literatūros sąrašus.

Paslaugos teikėjas patvirtina, jog yra susipažinęs su Lietuvos Respublikos baudžiamojo kodekso¹ 235 straipsnio, numatančio atsakomybę už melagingą ar žinomai neteisingai atliktą vertimą, reikalavimais.

¹ Žin., 2002, Nr.37-1341.