

School of Business and Social Sciences

Master's Education Programme International Relations

The aim of the Master's programme in "International Relations" is to prepare a highly qualified specialist with master's degree in international relations who will be highly competitive in local and international educational space and labor market and will be able to understand and analyze international problems by using the innovative scientific methodologies and interdisciplinary approaches within the context of international researches. The Master's Programme is focused on teaching of theoretical disciplines and practical issues of international relations, as well as analyzing the current problematics taking into consideration the agenda of politics and social sciences.

The programme is designed to provide students both with specific knowledge of research methods in international relations, theoretical approaches to international politics and modern international political processes in order to prepare them on the one hand for practical occupation, and on the other hand let them continue their studies on doctoral programmes. The Master's Programme provides students with knowledge in separate directions of international relations. The programme allows students to expand scope of their theoretical perspective, develop and refine the ability to analyze and interpret international relations, and acquire independent research skills.

All above-mentioned will decide the preparation of professional MA in international relations with proper competences, who can fully realize his/her abilities in practical and public work and ensure the career promotion as a result of successful activities in the environment of growing competition in the field.

The Master's Programme in "International Relations" is oriented towards (the) development of knowledge and skills required for master's academic degree. Formation of the appropriate competences for master's degree happens through synthesis of different components provided by the programme.

According to the requirements of the market towards the Master of international relations in the Higher Education Qualifications Framework.

The Master's Programme in "International Relations" is designed to provide students with full overview of international relations as well as about the sub-disciplines of the field. Within the framework of the programme the student will deepen the theoretical knowledge obtained in the Bachelor's degree and develop practical skills that will enable him to work independently in the professional environment and academic field as well. The components of the programme are aimed at achieving the objectives and forming the master's competences as a result of learning. The sequence of formation of

competences to achieve, their evolution defines the content of the programme, its structure and it is reflected in the curriculum.

The sequential and high-quality implementation of Master's programme goals ensures the achievement of the appropriate learning results with relevant qualification for the second cycle (MA) of higher educational frame and qualifications descriptor of the appropriate level.

Learning Outcomes

The graduate has the broad knowledge of the sphere, which covers the critical understanding and analyzing the following complex issues:

- has a profound and systematic knowledge of the main peculiarities and institutions of the field of international relations, acknowledges the main principles, theories, and concepts of international relations, including some distinctive and/or new aspects;
- Recognizes key issues of modern international politics;
- Deeply understands and realizes the peculiarities of foreign policy of big states;
- Recognizes the peculiarities of Georgia's foreign Policy;
- Has a theoretical and practical knowledge of research methodology;
- Has an adequate knowledge of epistemology of social sciences;
- Has deep knowledge of new and innovative multidisciplinary approaches to studying political events and processes;
- Has deep and systematic knowledge of the main issues of international institutions. The ability to plan and implement decision making in the field of international relations, including critical situations;
- Has the ability to plan and implement the decision-making process, even in critical situations;
- Has a problem-solving oriented vision. Policy analysis and network analysis skills enable him/her to utilize those skills and knowledge both in governmental and non-governmental sectors and make significant contribution in the process of effective solutions of social problems.
- Can operate in the field of international relations by using not only the standard, but at the same time some distinguished/new methods and ethical norms;
- Can conduct research and/or practical work related to the field of international relations in accordance with predefined recommendations/instructions;
- Has the ability to use the theoretical and methodological knowledge of the policy in order to develop opinions and views on the present basis of professional, social and ethical standards;

- Has the ability to publicly present the clear argumentations and logical reasoning of the findings to professionals and non-professionals as well;
- Has the ability to formulate reasonable conclusion based on critical analysis and innovative synthesis of information and then giving the recommendations based on them;
- Has the Ability to understand the problems occurring in international relations broadly and formulation of the argumentative conclusions;
- Has the ability to formulate argumentative conclusions based on data collected and analyzed by using the modern research methods in political sciences.
- Has the ability to prove or reject hypothesis in the fundamental and empirical research process;
- has the ability to prove conclusions obtained from research in argumentative manner;
- Has the ability to prepare detailed written reports on ideas, current problems and solutions and give information to specialists and non-specialists in Georgian and English languages;
- Communication of its conclusions, arguments and research methods in academic and professional societies in Georgian and English Languages;
- Has the ability to conduct business correspondence, documentation in Georgian and English languages, and presentation of the organization's work and / or research the project independently by using the modern information and communication technologies;
- Has the ability to use modern information and communication technologies creatively;
- Has the ability to write letters and scientific articles about actual topics in the field of international relations
- Has the ability to determine consistent and multilateral assessment of their own learning process and further study needs.
- Adequately assesses its own learning process to understand how to improve the results;
- Has the ability to carry out the research process independently or with minimal guidance in future;
- Possesses adequate individual resources and competences to solve the research problem and has the ability to improve them;
- Is ready to permanent usage of the latest literature published in the field of study, in the process of learning and researching;
- Is tend to facilitate the accomplishment of individuals' rights and acting on the basis of justice regarding human rights, social and democratic values;
- Has the ability to participate in formation of values and seek to establish them;

- Has a valuable perception of practical improvement of international relations and is capable to be engaged in the process of democratic governance of civil society building on the basis of practical and or research activities.

Students' Knowledge Assessment System

The students' learning performance is assessed with 100-point (maximum 100 points) system and includes two types of assessment – midterm exam and final exam (maximum 40 points). The minimum grade of the midterm exam of the study course/component is 21 points. The minimum grade of the final exam is 50% of maximum points of final exam. It is not allowed to give credit with the use of only one form (midterm or final assessment). The final assessment (points) of the study course/component is the sum of the points of midterm and final exams.

The grading system allows:

Five types of positive assessment:

- (A) Excellent - 91-100 points of maximum grade;
- (B) Very good - 81-90 points of maximum grade;
- (C) Good - 71-80 points of maximum grade;
- (D) Satisfactory - 61-70 points of maximum grade;
- (E) Sufficient - 51-60 points of maximum grade.

Two types of negative assessment:

- (FX) Insufficient – 41-50 points means that a student needs more work to pass and is given the right to pass an additional exam with independent work;
- (F) Fail – 40 points or less means that the work carried out by a student is not enough and he/she has to learn the subject from the beginning.

In case of receiving FX in the study program component, the additional exam is appointed in no less than 5 days from the announcement of the final exam. In case of receiving F (fail), a student re-studies the course and passes the exam. This obligation does not apply to Master's thesis.

In case of receiving FX for the scientific-research component of Master's degree study program, a Master student is given the right to present a scientific-research component during the next semester, and in case of receiving F, a Master student loses the right to present the same scientific-research component.

The assessment components, methods and criteria are reflected in the syllabus of study courses. The information about the assessment system and components is available for students.

Practice: The mentioned study component is assessed with a Master student's practice report prepared and presented for the defence towards the Commission in consideration with the description of practice's supervisor and mentor. The practice report is assessed with the 100-point system based on the Master students' performance assessment system defined with the legislation. The maximum grade system is 100 points, and the minimum grade is 51 points. The practice report assessment is multiple and multi-component. The assessment is conducted by the practice's supervisor/mentor (minimum 21 points, maximum – 60 points) and the Commission (minimum 20 points, maximum – 40 points). The assessment criteria of practice report by a practice's supervisor/mentor and the assessment criteria of presentation by the Commission are given in the syllabus of Practice and are available for the Master's students.

Research Component-Master's Thesis: The Master's thesis is assessed at one time (final assessment) with maximum 100 points. The assessment rule and conditions of Master's thesis are given in the Regulation of Thesis Preparation and Defence, and are available for students of Master's degree.



