



DAUG

LLC Davit Aghmashenebeli University of Georgia

Approved by:

Decision No. 7 of the Academic Council on December 25, 2021.

Doctoral Program of Law

Doctoral Program of Law

Level of higher academic education: Doctorate (III level)

Wide field: 04 Business, Administration and Law, **Narrow Field:** 042 Law

Detailed Field: 0421 Law, **Language of instruction:**

Georgian

Qualification to be awarded: PhD in Law

Duration of the PhD study program 3 years; **Volume of the**

study component: 55 ECTS credits

The Head of the Programme: Professor Polikarpe (Temur) Moniava

Professor Giorgi Gogiashvili

Prerequisites for admission to the Doctoral program.

A person holding a Master of Laws or an equivalent academic degree, who meets the requirements set forth by the Law Faculty Dissertation Board and the Doctoral Regulations of Davit Agmashenebeli University of Georgia, has the right to enroll in the doctoral program.

According to Article 50 of the Law of Georgia "On Higher Education," graduates of foreign higher educational institutions are eligible to pursue a doctorate.

Applicants to the program are required:

- ✓ to have a Master of Laws degree or an equivalent academic qualification.
- ✓ They must also demonstrate proficiency in a foreign language (English) at least at the B2 level, which can be validated through either an internal university examination or a language proficiency certificate. A doctoral candidate may be exempt from the language requirement and certificate submission if they provide documentation verifying their education received in a relevant foreign language in Georgia or abroad. The authenticity of the documentation must be confirmed by the National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement.

Students can continue studies within the program through mobility according to the rules established by the current legislation of Georgia.

Enrollment in the doctoral program of law is contingent upon meeting the requirements outlined by the "Law Faculty Dissertation Council and Doctoral Regulations" and completing the selection process.

The doctoral program of Law aims to:

1. Prepare researchers equipped with modern research methods capable of conducting comprehensive research on challenges in the field of law, drawing on the latest advancements across various legal domains;
2. Generate new knowledge concerning challenges within the legal sphere, fostering systematic and critical comprehension of legal issues;

3. Develop recommendations for implementing correct and effective solutions in practice to address complex issues within the realms of science, legislation, and legal practice; present and justify new knowledge;
4. Equip individuals with teaching and research methodologies for academic pursuits;
5. Uphold the principles of professional integrity and ethical norms, while sharing responsibility for oneself and others, engaging in research and development- oriented activities guided by the latest advancements.

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding, skills, responsibility and autonomy

1. Demonstrates knowledge of current issues within a specific field of law, drawing on modern advancements;
2. Describes contemporary methods of teaching and research;
3. Identifies complex legal problems based on the specifics of the relevant field of law and presents their impact on public life, legal science, and practice;
4. Critically analyzes and evaluates new, complex, and contradictory trends and approaches in the field of law;
5. Formulates legal problems and demonstrates systematic and critical understanding, resulting in independent decision- making to solve complex issues;
6. Selects and applies relevant methods for scientific research and teaching in the field of law, facilitating critical understanding of innovations and problems within the field and the ways to solve them;
7. Develops significant scientific recommendations and legislative proposals for the advancement of a specific field of law and its practice;
8. Utilizes modern presentation technologies to communicate the results of scientific research (new knowledge) orally and in writing,

- to both professional audiences and the general public at local and international levels;
9. Plans, implements, and/or supervises research activities based on the latest advancements, adhering to principles of academic and professional integrity, as well as ethical norms, while independently conducting development-oriented endeavors.

The map of the program objectives and learning outcomes

| N | Programme objectives | Programme Learning Outcomes |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | To prepare researchers equipped with modern research methods capable of conducting comprehensive research on challenges in the field of law, drawing on the latest advancements across various legal domains. | <p>1. Demonstrates knowledge grounded in current achievements within a specific field of law;</p> <p>2. Describes contemporary methods of teaching and research;</p> <p>Selects and applies relevant methods for specific scientific research and teaching in the field of law, enabling critical understanding of innovations and issues within the field and facilitating their resolution.</p> |
| 2. | To generate new knowledge concerning challenges within the legal sphere, fostering systematic and critical comprehension of legal issues. | <p>3. Describes complex legal problems based on the specifics of the relevant field of law and presents their impact on public life, legal science, and practice;</p> |

| | | |
|-----------|--|---|
| | | <p>4. Critically analyzes and evaluates new, complex, and contradictory trends and approaches in the field of law;</p> <p>5. Formulates legal problems and demonstrates systematic and critical understanding, resulting in independent decision-making to solve complex problems.</p> |
| <p>3.</p> | <p>To develop recommendations for implementing correct and effective solutions in practice to address complex issues within the realms of science, legislation, and legal practice. This includes proficient presentation and justification of new knowledge.</p> <p>7. Develops significant scientific recommendations and legislative proposals for the advancement of a specific field of law and its practice;</p> | <p>5. Formulates legal problems and demonstrates systematic and critical understanding, resulting in independent decision-making to solve complex issues;</p> <p>8. Utilizes modern presentation technologies to communicate and justify the results of scientific research (new knowledge) orally and in writing, to both professional audiences and the general public at local and international levels.</p> |

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| 4. | To train personnel equipped with teaching and research methodologies for academic pursuits. | <p>2. Describes contemporary methods of teaching and research;</p> <p>6. Selects and applies relevant methods for specific scientific research and teaching in the field of law, enabling critical understanding of the innovations and issues within the field and facilitating their resolution.</p> |
| 5. | To engage in research and development-oriented activities guided by the latest advancements, while upholding the principles of professional integrity and ethical norms, and sharing responsibility for oneself and others. 9. | Following the principles of academic and professional integrity and ethical norms, plans, implements, and/or directs research based on the latest achievements, takes personal responsibility, and independently conducts development-oriented events. |

Program volume in credits

The duration of the doctoral program is three years, and the educational component consists of 55 credits, with each credit equivalent to 25 hours.

I. Learning component (55 credits)

a) Mandatory elements of a learning component:

50 credits

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Legal research methods | (5 credits) |
| 2. Modern Teaching Methods | (5 credits) |
| 3. Assisting a Professor | (10 credits) |
| 2. Doctoral Seminar I | (15 credits) |

3. Doctoral Seminar II (15 credits)

b) Elective elements of a learning component: 5 credits

4. Academic writing (5 credits)
5. Use of information and communication technologies in research and teaching (5 credits)
6. Science management - **(5 credits);**

**II. The research component of the program -
preparation and defense of a dissertation thesis.**

The acquisition of requisite knowledge and relevant competencies for the academic degree of Doctor of Law is founded upon the synthesis of educational and research components offered by the doctoral program, all directed towards attaining the objectives and outcomes outlined within the program.

The individual study plan of each doctoral student is formulated through consultation with their scientific supervisor(s) and in agreement with the program supervisors.

The sequence and progression in the development of attainable competencies define the content of the doctoral program (Appendix 1).

Teaching and Learning Methods

The doctoral program is implemented using student- centered teaching- learning methods that are consistent with the program content, and learning outcomes, and prepares a specialist with relevant knowledge, skills, responsibilities, and autonomy. The teaching- learning process employs the following methods: interactive lectures, group work, practical exercises, teaching with electronic resources, etc. Teaching- learning methods encompass a variety of activities: written and verbal tasks, individual and group- based; explanation, demonstration, presentation, discussion/debate, cooperative learning, problem- based learning, case study, brainstorming, analysis, synthesis, induction, deduction, action- based learning, etc. The selection and use of teaching- learning methods is aimed at

stimulating active student participation in the teaching component and developing and refining research skills in the research component.

Evaluation System

The evaluation of the achievement level of learning outcomes of student is performed by a 100 point (maximum 100 points) system. The evaluation of the learning component includes two forms - the midterm evaluation and final evaluation. Minimal competency threshold of the midterm evaluation is 31 points. The minimum competency threshold for the final exam is 50% of the maximum grade for the final exam. It shall be impermissible to assign a credit using only one form of evaluation (midterm or final evaluation). The final evaluation (points) of the academic course is the sum of the points obtained in the forms of midterm and final grades.

The information about the assessment system and its components is provided in the course or component syllabi, and it is accessible to PhD students. The learning component evaluation system of the doctoral education program allows:

Five types of positive evaluation:

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

Two types of negative assessments:

- (FX) Did not pass – 41-50 points, meaning that a student needs to work more for passing and is granted the right to sit an additional examination by means of an independent work;
- (F) Failed – 40 and fewer points of maximum evaluation, which means that the work done by the student is not enough and he/she has to retake the course.

The research component of the Doctoral Program includes preparation and defending a Dissertation. The thesis must be evaluated once (final evaluation), in the same or the next semester in which the student completes the work on it.

The defense of the dissertation is conducted in public at the session of the dissertation committee. The dissertation is considered successfully defended if the final assessment of the dissertation committee is 51 points or more. The final assessment of the thesis is not subject to appeal.

The following evaluation system is used in the case of dissertation evaluation:

| points | Assessment | |
|--------------|------------------------|---|
| 91-100 | summa cum laude | Excellent (a high- quality paper that significantly contributes to the advancement of its field) |
| 81-90 points | magna cum laude | Very good (the result that surpasses requirements and makes a significant contribution to the field's development) |
| 71-80 points | cum laude | Good (the result that exceeds set requirements and contributes to field development). |
| 61-70 points | Bene | Average (the result that meets basic requirements and contributes to field/subfield development and/or interdisciplinary fields). |
| 51-60 points | Rite | <i>Satisfactory (the result that meets requirements despite flaws; contributes somewhat to field development)</i> |
| 41-50 points | Insufficenter | Unsatisfactory (the paper does not meet requirements due to significant flaws) |
| 0-40 points | sub omni canone | Totally unsatisfactory (the paper that fails to meet requirements) |

If the thesis receives an 'unsatisfactory' grade (41- 50 points), the doctoral candidate is permitted to submit a revised thesis within one year.

If the thesis is assessed as 'completely unsatisfactory' (scoring less than 41 points) due to fundamental flaws, the doctoral student forfeits the right to resubmit the same thesis.

To monitor the progress of doctoral studies, students submit a research component performance report to the sectoral committee of the Dissertation Council every semester.

Criteria for evaluating dissertations and grading points are outlined in the regulations of the Faculty of Law and Doctorate Dissertation Council. Detailed information about the assessment system and its components is accessible to doctoral students.

Areas of employment:

An individual holding a Doctor of Law degree is qualified to engage in various legal activities and assume relevant positions. A Doctor of Law has the right to pursue academic roles within higher educational institutions and scientific institutions. Further requirements may be specified by the legislation and statutes of the respective higher education or scientific institution.

Material resource for the program implementation:

The doctoral educational program in law is supported by a range of library, material, and information- technological resources designed to facilitate the attainment of program goals and outcomes. Namely: a library, well- equipped study auditoriums, conference halls, simulated courtrooms, forensic laboratories, computer centers, and workspaces for academic and administrative staff.

The library contains mandatory literature and other study materials (including on the electronic carriers) defined by the syllabus of the training courses. The library's collection of print and electronic media is regularly updated to reflect current developments in the field, thereby supporting the attainment of learning outcomes outlined in the doctoral program and facilitating scientific research activities. Additionally, systematized normative acts and international electronic library databases are accessible to students and staff through the Legislative Herald of Georgia website (www.matsne.gov.ge).

Namely: Cambridge Journals Online (<https://www.cambridge.org/core>); Edward Elgar Publishing Journals and Development Studies e- books (<https://www.elgaronline.com/page/70/journals>), EBSCO Legal Collection, Heinonline [https://home.heinonline.org/content/Legal- Classics/](https://home.heinonline.org/content/Legal-Classics/), which provides access to the latest scientific data, facilitating the achievement of learning outcomes outlined in the program. The university verifies scientific research projects and papers using an anti-plagiarism system.

Human resource for the program implementation:

Implementation of the doctoral educational program is ensured by highly qualified staff. The components offered by the educational program are overseen by the university's academic and invited staff, possessing the requisite competence necessary for the development of learning outcomes. These staff members hold doctoral (or equivalent) academic degrees and possess experience in scientific research activities.

Financial support for the implementation of the doctoral program

The budget allocates support for the doctoral program. It encompasses remuneration for staff involved in program implementation, updates to the library's collection and teaching materials, funding for scientific research (including internal grants and conferences), support for student initiatives, and other related activities.

Head of the program - Professor Polikarpe Moniava

Head of the program - Professor Giorgi Gogiashvili

Curriculum

| N | Educational course / component | Prerequisites | ECTS Credit | Contact Hours | Independent | Term |
|--|--|-------------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|------|
| <i>Mandatory academic courses / components - 50 credits</i> | | | | | | |
| 1. | Legal research methods | Without prerequisites | 5. | 47 . | 78. | I |
| 2. | Modern Teaching Methods | Without prerequisites | 5. | 47 . | 78. | I |
| 3. | Doctoral Seminar I | Without prerequisites | 15. | 19 . | 356. | I |
| 4. | Doctoral Seminar II | Doctoral Seminar I | 15. | 19 . | 356. | II |
| 5. | Assisting a Professor | Modern Teaching Methods | 10. | | | II |
| <i>Elective education courses/component (5)</i> | | | | | | |
| 6 | Academic Writing | No Preconditions | 5. | 47 . | 78. | I-II |
| 7. | Use of information and communication technologies in research and teaching | Without prerequisites | 5. | 32 . | 93. | I-II |
| 8. | Science Management | Without prerequisites | 5. | 47 . | 78. | I-II |

Note: The academic writing training course is compulsory for doctoral students who have not previously completed it during their teaching in the master's program.

| Component | Learning Outcome | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------|-------|----|----|----|------|----|----|----------|
| | 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. | 5. | 6 | 7. | 8. | 9. |
| Legal research methods | | 1. | | | | 1. | | | 1. |
| Modern Teaching Methods | | 1,2,3 | | | | 1.2. | | | 1.2 . |
| Assisting a Professor | | | | | | 3. | | | 3. |
| Doctoral Seminar I | 1. | 1. | 1. | 1. | 1. | 1. | 1. | 1. | 1. |
| Doctoral Seminar II | 2. | 2. | 2. | 2. | 2. | 2. | 2. | 2. | 2. |
| Preparation and Defense of a Dissertation | 3. | 3. | 3. | 3. | 3. | 3. | 3. | 3. | 3. |