



DAUG

LLC Davit Aghmashenebeli University of Georgia

*Approved by: The
Quality Assurance Service*

Doctoral Educational Programme „Medicine”

Higher Education Cycle: Doctorate (III cycle:)

Wide field: Health and Welfare

Narrow field: Health

Detailed Field: Medicine

Language of instruction: Georgian

Qualification to be granted: PhD in Medicine

Duration of the studies 3

Head of the Program: Professor Tamaz Gvenetadze

Prerequisite of admission to the program:

A person holding a medical degree or an equivalent academic qualification, and who meets the eligibility criteria outlined in the "Medical Dissertation Council and Doctorate Regulation" of the Faculty of Medicine, is eligible to pursue doctoral studies in medicine.

In accordance with Article 50 of the Law of Georgia "On Higher Education," individuals who are graduates of foreign higher educational institutions may also be granted the right to pursue doctoral studies.

In addition to holding a medical degree or an equivalent academic qualification, individuals wishing to enroll in the program are required to: demonstrate proficiency in a foreign language (English), at least at the B2 level which can be confirmed either through an internal university examination or by presenting a certificate of language proficiency. A doctoral candidate is exempted from the language test or the requirement to present a relevant certificate if they provide documentation verifying their education conducted in a relevant foreign language, whether in Georgia or abroad (the authenticity of which must be confirmed by the NCEQE).

It is possible to continue studying in the program through mobility, in accordance with the regulations outlined by the current legislation of Georgia.

The prerequisite for enrolling an individual in the medical doctorate program is in compliance with the requirements outlined in the "Medicine Dissertation Council and Doctorate Regulations" of the Faculty of Medicine and successfully passing the selection competition.

The Aim of the Programme

The goal of the doctoral program in Medicine is to: to prepare highly skilled specialists in the field of medicine, equipped with knowledge rooted in the latest advancements in the field; acquired with systematic and critical understanding of the relevant domain; has the ability to independently plan and execute research and academic activities according to contemporary standards, taking responsibility and observing ethical norms, critically analyzing and evaluating research results, presenting and justifying them, synthesizing new ideas.

The goals of the program are in line with the University's mission, goals and strategic plan. It is public, accessible and shared by stakeholders involved in the development of the program.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and understanding, skills, responsibility and autonomy

1. demonstrates knowledge based on modern achievements on topical issues of medicine;
2. demonstrates knowledge of modern research and teaching methods;
3. formulates existing problems within the medical field and comprehensively comprehends them in a multidisciplinary and/or interdisciplinary context, employing systematic and critical approaches;
4. creates medical research designs, formulates research plans, and executes studies, with the resulting findings published in national and international peer-reviewed publications;
5. uses contemporary teaching methods in medical disciplines.
6. predicts and formulates recommendations based on the analysis, evaluation, and interpretation of medical research findings;
7. formulates conclusions derived from the comparison of teaching methods, evaluates their effectiveness, and determines their impact;
8. presents and provides justification for scientific research findings using modern presentation technologies, addressing professional audiences as well as the general public at local and international levels;
9. independently carries out research projects and development-oriented learning process;
10. takes responsibility and ethically conducts independent, original, and significant scientific research, critically evaluating the work conducted by others.

Map of program objectives and learning outcomes

Programme objectives	Programme Learning Outcomes
<i>to prepare highly skilled specialists in the field of medicine, equipped with knowledge rooted in the latest advancements in the field.</i>	Demonstrates knowledge of current medical issues based on modern advances
<i>to prepare highly skilled specialists in the field of medicine, equipped with knowledge rooted in the latest advancements in the field.</i>	Demonstrates knowledge in contemporary research and teaching methodologies.
To prepare competent specialists in medicine who possess knowledge founded on the most recent advancements in the field. Systematic and critical understanding of the relevant domain. acquired with systematic and critical understanding of the relevant domain;	formulates problems in the medical field and systematically and critically understands them in a multidisciplinary and/or interdisciplinary context
to prepare highly skilled specialists in the field of medicine, equipped with knowledge rooted in the latest advancements in the field; has the ability to independently plan and execute research and academic activities according to contemporary standards, taking responsibility and observing ethical norms, critically analyzing and evaluating research results, presenting <i>and justifying them, synthesizing new ideas.</i>	creates medical research designs, formulates research plans, and executes studies, with the resulting findings published in national and international peer-reviewed publications;

<p>to prepare highly skilled specialists in the field of medicine, equipped with knowledge rooted in the latest advancements in the field; has the ability to independently plan and execute research and academic activities according to contemporary standards, taking responsibility and observing ethical norms, critically analyzing and evaluating research results, presenting and justifying them, synthesizing new ideas.</p>	<p>uses contemporary teaching methods in medical disciplines.</p>
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	<p>predicts and formulates recommendations based on the analysis, evaluation, and interpretation of medical research findings;</p> <p>Target Benchmarks</p>
y;	

<p>to prepare highly skilled specialists in the field of medicine, equipped with knowledge rooted in the latest advancements in the field; acquired with systematic and critical understanding of the relevant domain; has the ability to independently plan and execute research and academic activities according to contemporary standards, taking responsibility and observing ethical norms, critically analyzing and evaluating research results, presenting and justifying them, synthesizing new ideas.</p>	<p>Conducts research projects and development oriented learning process</p>

Program volume in credits

The duration of the doctoral program is at least 3 years and the educational component includes 50 credits (1 credit = 30 hours).

Programme Structure

The acquisition of knowledge, skills, responsibility, and autonomy requisite for the Doctor of Medicine degree is rooted in the integration of educational and research components within the doctoral program which are aimed at achieving the learning outcomes of the doctoral program. Academic and research components are consistent and logical.

Doctoral Program "Medicine"

I Learning component- 50 credits

Compulsory Components (40 credits)

- Research Methods - 5 credits
- Academic writing - 5 ECTS
- Modern methods of teaching - 5 credits
- Molecular medicine - 5 credits;
- Assistance to Professor- 5 credits
- Thematic seminar 10 credits
- Personalized Medicine 5 credits Elective components 10 credits

- Use of information and communication technologies in research and teaching 5 credits
- Science management - (5 ECTS);
- English (sectoral) language
- Morpho-functional fundamentals of pathological processes 5 credits (modern aspects)

II -Research component

- Preparation and Defense of a Dissertation

Note: If the doctoral student holds a position as an academic or visiting staff member at a higher educational institution and is engaged in conducting a training course, upon submission of appropriate documentation, they may be exempted from the training component, known as "Assistance to Professor" Credits required for the training component can be completed with optional training courses.

Teaching and Learning Methods

The medical program is implemented using student-centered teaching-learning methods that are consistent with the program content, learning outcomes, and provide training of a specialist with relevant knowledge, skills, responsibilities, and autonomy. The teaching and learning process uses such methods as:

a lecture, participation in a working group, practical work, teaching via electronic resources, etc. Teaching-learning methods encompass a range of activities, including written and verbal exercises, both individual and group work, explanation, demonstration, presentation, discussion/debate, problem-based learning, case studies, brainstorming, analysis, synthesis, action-oriented teaching, and practical work methodologies. The selection of teaching-learning methods is aimed at stimulating the active participation of students in the teaching component, and developing and perfecting research skills in the research component.

Evaluation System of Student's Knowledge

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.

Details regarding the assessment system and its components are outlined in the course or component syllabi, ensuring accessibility for 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;
- b) (F) Fail – 40 points and less of maximum evaluation,

The work performed by the student is not sufficient enough and and he/she has to retake the subject.

Research component of the Doctoral Program includes drafting and defending a Dissertation. Master's thesis may be defended once (through the final assessment) within the semester when the student finishes working on it or in the following semester. The dissertation will be considered defended if the final grade of the dissertation committee is 51% or more.

In the case of a dissertation, the following assessment system is used:

points	Assessment	
91-100 points	summa cum laude	Excellent (an excellent paper that makes a significant contribution to the development of the field)
81-90 points	magna cum laude	Very good (the result that exceeds all of the set requirements; notable contribution to the development of the field)
71-80 points	cum laude	Good (a result that exceeds the set requirements) (a result that exceeds the set requirements; contributes to the development of the field)
61-70 points	Bene	Average (the result that meets the requirements; contributes to the development of the field/subfield and/or interdisciplinary field)
51-60 points	Rite	Satisfactory (the result that, despite the flaws, still meets the requirements) The result, despite flaws, still meets the set requirements; makes some contribution to the development of the field)
41-50 points	Insufficenter	Unsatisfactory (a paper that does not meet the requirements due to significant deficiencies in it).
0-40 points	sub omni canone	completely unsatisfactory (a paper which does not meet the requirements at all.

f) If the dissertation gets "not satisfactory" (41-50 points) evaluation, a PHD student shall have a

right to present a re-designed dissertation work during an year.
In case of "totally unsatisfactory" (less than 41 points)

evaluation, a student is deprived to present the same dissertation work again. To assess progress in the doctoral study process, the doctoral candidate submits a report on the research component's performance to the sectoral commission of the Medical Dissertation Council every semester. The dissertation evaluation criteria and point grading are detailed in the Medical Dissertation Council of the Faculty of Medicine and Doctoral Regulations. Comprehensive information regarding the assessment system and its components is accessible to doctoral students.

Areas of employment:

A graduate of the "Medicine" doctoral program - Doctor of Medicine can be employed: in medical-diagnostic, scientific-research and higher educational institutions.

Material support for the implementation of the doctoral program

The program is provided with library, material and information-technological resources, which ensure the achievement of the goals and outcomes of the program. Namely: Library resource, study space equipped with appropriate inventory and computer equipment including necessary software. 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 printed and electronic carrier fund is renewable in the wake of current developments in the field and ensures the achievement of learning outcomes through the curriculum and the implementation of research activities; International electronic library databases are available to students and staff. Namely: ELSEVIER (Scopus; Science Direct; Scival Funding(Funding Institutional), Cambridge Journals Online (<https://www.cambridge.org/core>); e-Duke Journals Scholarly Collection (<https://www.dukeupress.edu/>); Edward Elgar Publishing Journals and Development Studies e-books (<https://www.elgaronline.com/page/70/journals>); New England Journal of Medicine (<http://www.nejm.org/>); Royal Society Journals Collection (<https://royalsociety.org/journals/>);

SAGE Premier (<https://us.sagepub.com/en-us/nam/sage-premier>) which allow access to the latest scientific data to achieve the program's learning outcomes. To facilitate research activities, the university has established affiliations with clinics such as "Geohospitals" LLC and "Israel-Georgia Medical Research Clinic Helsikor" LLC. Additionally, memorandums of cooperation have been signed with esteemed institutions including the National Academy of Sciences of Georgia, Alexander Natishvili Institute of Human Morphology, and Ivane Beritashvili Experimental Biomedicine Center. Collaborations extend to clinical and diagnostic centers, as well as to foreign universities such as UNIVERSITY "ST.KLIMENT OHRIDSKI" in BITOLA (Republic of North Macedonia), KASTAMUNO UNIVERSITY in Turkey, and others.

Provision of human resources for the implementation of the doctoral program

Implementation of an doctoral program is ensured by highly qualified staff. The components of the educational program are led by the academic and invited staff of the University, who have the appropriate competence necessary to produce the learning outcomes - the academic degree of Doctor (or equivalent), experience in research activities, etc.

Financial support for the implementation of the program

The budget of the Faculty of Medicine provides support for the doctoral program. The faculty budget includes remuneration for staff implementing the program, renewal of the book fund and study materials, financing of scientific research (including internal grants, conferences, etc.), financing of student initiatives and other activities. Allocating the financial resources provided by the faculty budget for the program is economically achievable

The Head of the Programme:

Professor Tamaz Gvenetadze

N	Study Component	prerequisite	Credits	Hours	Distribution of hours					Semesters						
					Contact hours				Independent work hours	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	
					Lecture	group work/ practical work and midterm Exam	final exam	Contact hours								
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	
Obligatory educational components - 40 credits																
1.	Modern Teaching Methods	-	5.	125	15.	30	2.	47	78.	x						
2.	Research Methods	-	5.	150	15.	30	2.	47	103.	x						
3.	Academic Writing	-	5.	125	14.	16	2.	32	93.	x						
4.	Molecular medicine	-	5.	150	16.	29	2.	47	103.	x						
5.	Assisting a Professor	1.	5.	150							x					
6.	Sectoral seminar	2.	10.	300	-	-	-	19	281.		x					
7.	Personalized Medicine	-	5.	150	16.	29	2.	47	103.		x					
Elective learning components - 10 credits																
8.	English (sectoral) language	-	5.	150	-	45	2.	47	103.	x						
9.	Use of Informational and Communication Technologies in research and teaching	-	5.	125	-	30	2.	32	93.	x						
10.	Science Management	-	5.	125	15.	30	2.	47	78.	x						
11.	Morpho-functional bases of pathological processes	-	5.	150	16.	29	2.	47	103.	x						
Research component																

12	Preparation and Defense of a Dissertation					x

Staff implementing the educational component of the doctoral program

Name, surname	Academic Position	Affiliation	Study course
Nino Megrelishvili	Professor	Affiliated	
Davit Ghviniashvili	Professor	Affiliated	Personalized Medicine
Iamze Taboridze	Professor	Affiliated	
Iamze Taboridze	Professor	Affiliated	Research Methods
Rusudan Kavtiashvili	Professor	Affiliated	English (sectoral) language:
Nana Tevzadze	Professor		Molecular medicine
Inga Kokaia	Associate Professor		English (sectoral) language
Marina Brelidze	Visiting Personnel		Informational technologies use in Teaching and Research
Khatia Shevardnadze	Associate Professor		Academic Writing
Irine Manizhashvili-Shavliashvili	Associate Professor		
Sophio Uchaneishvili	Associate professor	Affiliated	Science Management
Noe Jorbenadze	Visiting Personnel		Morpho-functional bases of pathological processes (modern aspects)
Maia Memarnishvili	Visiting Personnel		Modern teaching methods

Educational course / component	Learning outcomes									
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
Research Methods		1.2 .		1.2.		1.2 .		1.2 .		1.2.
Academic Writing				1.2.		1.2 .		1.2 .	1.2 .	1.2.
Modern Teaching Methods		1.2 .			1.2 .		1.2.		1.2 .	
Molecular medicine	1.2.			1.2.		1.2 .		1.2 .		
Personalized Medicine	1.2.		1.2 .			1.2 .		1.2 .	1.2 .	1.2.
Assisting a Professor		3.			3.		3.		3.	
Sectoral Seminar	2.	2.	2.	2.				2.	2.	2.
Dissertation Work	3.	3.	3.	3.		3.		3.	3.	3.

Target Benchmarks

N	Learning Outcome	Assessment Composition	Assessment Criteria	Target benchmark
1.	Demonstrates knowledge of current medical issues based on modern advances	Dissertation Work	1. Topicality and Content 2. Novelty of the work 3. Reliability of data	81-90% of maximum grade
2.	Demonstrates knowledge in contemporary research and teaching methodologies.	Dissertation; Assisting a Professor	1. Depth of analysis and research quality; 2. Academic writing style 3. indication	81-90% of maximum grade
3.	formulates problems in the medical field and systematically and critically understands them in a multidisciplinary and/or interdisciplinary context	Dissertation Work	1. Name of the work 2. Topicality and Content 3. Depth of analysis and research quality 4. Novelty of the work 5. Reliability of data	81-90% of maximum grade
4.	creates medical research designs, formulates research plans, and executes studies, findings of which are published in national and international peer-reviewed publications;	Dissertation Work	1. Name of the work 2. Structure 3. Topicality and Content 4. Reliability of data 5. Academic writing	81-90% of maximum grade

			style	
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			6. referencing	
5.				maximum 75 points 85%
6.	methods for further development;	Thesis Exam	and research; system;	maximum 81 points 90%
8.			1.	
9.			2.	

			3. 4. 5.	
10.			1. 2. 3. 4.	