

Doctoral programme: Physical geography

Professional profile: 4.4. Earth Science

Scientific profile: Geography

Faculty: FMNS

Department: „Geography, Ecology and Environmental Protection“

Accreditation: until 2019.

Brief annotation:

To elaborate a doctoral dissertation is a scientific task or original scientific research, aimed to solve scientific problems either fundamental or applicable. It comprises original contribution in theory or application, thus demonstrating that the author possesses in-depth professional knowledge in the respective field of science, and is able to conduct his/her own scientific research.

The teaching program for doctoral students in Physical geography provides academic mentorship and facilities for the fulfillment of scientific, application and development tasks. It contributes to study the research methodology of the respective field of science, along with the universal methods for analysis, professional maturity for conducting own research and teaching; development of skills and habits to use means of the present-day information and communication technologies in the science and teaching.

Competences of the program graduates:

Graduated doctoral students are capable of conducting their own, original scientific studies which require fundamental base of knowledge. They possess in-depth knowledge in the professional field of Earth sciences, have competences to use modern research techniques; have the necessary competences for teaching in secondary schools, high schools and universities, can lead or attend research consortia that work on research projects, related for instance to the framework agreements of the EU, NATO, National research agencies, etc.; they are able to develop and propose methods and technologies for research in Physical geography, to work as experts, attend scientific councils, seminars, conferences etc.

Teaching plan:

Teaching of doctoral students is concordant with the doctorant's Individual plan, accepted by the Faculty council. The plan is created by the doctorant with the assistance of the mentor, in accordance to the specifics of the doctoral program. The individual plan determines and regulates the number, names and the extent of the fundamental and specializing teaching courses; the exams and the deadlines to be passed; the time frames for individual work and learning; the participation in seminars, conferences and other public performances; the steps and related deadlines for the development of the dissertation. Ranking is based on the six-grade system.

Example of a list of specializing courses:

- Classifications and regioning in Physical geography – Assoc. Prof. Ivan Drenovski
- Human induced changes in the environment – Assoc. Prof. Ivan Drenovski
- Quaternary geomorphology and Paleogeography – Assoc. Prof. Krasimir Stoyanov
- Global climate change – Assoc. Prof. Krasimir Stoyanov
- Hydrology of river catchments – Assoc. Prof. Mihail Mihailov
- Soil science (soil geography) – Assoc. Prof. Boyko Kolev
- Biogeography – Assoc. Prof. Konstantin Tyufekchiev

- Cryology and glaciology – Assist. Prof. Emil Gachev

Compulsory courses:

- English or other foreign language
- Project management

Graduation:

Pass of exams from the Individual teaching plan

Defense of doctoral dissertation in accordance with legal requirements.