

FIELD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

“EARTH SCIENCES”

“MASTER OF SCIENCE” PROGRAM

“NATURAL AND HISTORICAL HERITAGE”

WITH PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION “GEOGRAPHER”

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| FIELD OF HIGHER EDUCATION: | 4. NATURAL SCIENCES, MATHEMATICS AND INFORMATICS |
| PROFESSIONAL AREA: | 4.4 EARTH SCIENCES |
| EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATION DEGREE: | MASTER’S DEGREE |
| PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: | MASTER IN NATURAL AND HISTORICAL HERITAGE |
| PERIOD OF EDUCATION: | 1 YEAR (2 SEMESTERS) |
| FORM OF EDUCATION: | FULL-TIME |

I. QUALIFICATION CHARACTERISTICS

1. Purpose and objectives of the Master's program

Master's program is aimed at profiling and enhance the training of graduates Bachelor degree in the specialties "Geography" and "History" and "Geography and History" in the implementation of natural and cultural heritage as a resource for tourism development and additional alternative employment. Four semester version of the Master's program provides extra wide-and interdisciplinary training for students who have acquired degree "Bachelor" in another specialty, which would be especially useful for graduates in "Tourism" for the acquisition of in-depth theoretical and practical knowledge in the field of natural and cultural heritage in order to practise tour operator activity.

2. Methods and tools for achieving the goals of program

Essential background ensuring achievement of the targets is highly qualified and lore, the rich teaching, research and practical experience of teachers, providing training in the master's program. Created over the years and is constantly expanding facilities, the availability of lecture and computer halls, modern licensed and specialized educational software, rich library fund, own collections ensures a high level of training in the program.

Teachers are using in their work traditional learning methods (lecture discussion, debate, associative method), methods of multimedia presentations, as well as situational and stimulation methods, e-learning methods and other modern interactive cognitive methods.

3. Scope and level of professional competences

Basic precondition for achieving educational goals is the structure and content of the curriculum. It was developed in two semesters for graduates of the specialties "Geography" and "History" and "Geography and History." For graduates from other specialties is developed synchronously four semester curriculum includes two additional semesters for the acquisition of fundamental knowledge related to specialized physical geography and historical issues, which is achieved by the corresponding compulsory lectures. Moreover, the curriculum allows, depending on the combination of elective courses in the last semester to achieve a more narrowly profiled specialization, ensuring successful adaptation to future masters of the conditions of dynamic labor market in Bulgaria. It is associated not only with theoretical knowledge but also the construction of

the presentation skills of the natural and historical heritage of Bulgaria and the compilation of relevant attractive tourist products.

The students obtain skills in development of different types of tourism - cognitive, ecological, alternative, country, cultural, pilgrimage, based on the conservation and management of natural and cultural heritage values, and skills for elaboration and implementation of relevant projects funded by various EU programs.

4. Areas of professional development

Extensive general and specialized culture that provides this training ensures students graduated it competitive position of the tourism market in Bulgaria, the emphasis in the development of which in recent years has shifted to visit sites of natural and cultural heritage. Graduate students will be able to operate as managers of tourist services related to the development and maintenance of new programs and tourist destinations, or as guides and animators of tourist services deliver specialized talks for single sites or routes of cognitive and environmental tourism. Thus expanding opportunities for alternative or complementary realization employment, which is particularly important for students from small towns in the regions, come with a significant, yet untapped potential for the development of various kinds of "friendly" tourism.

Graduate students can rely on the realization as scientists (geographers, historians) and university professors, experts in the state, regional and municipal administrations as specialists in the earth sciences, natural and social sciences, and specialists in administration policies in the field of rational use and protection of natural and cultural heritage as a precondition for sustainable regional development. In their careers, they may hold positions such as Head of recreation centers and cultural centers (museums, galleries, visitor centers in protected areas, etc.)

II. CURRICULUM

Field of Study: “Natural and Cultural Heritage”

Period of Study: 1 year (2 semesters)

| First Year | | | |
|--|-----------------|---|-----------------|
| First Semester | ECTS credits | Second Semester | ECTS credits |
| <u>Compulsory Courses</u> | | <u>Optional Courses</u> (1 course of each group) | |
| Geomorphological Phenomena | 5 | <u>I. Group</u> | 3 |
| Objects of Natural Heritage | 5 | 1) Protected areas in Bulgaria | |
| Application of GIS in Mapping the Sites of Natural and Historical Heritage | 5 | 2) Ecotourism in Bulgaria | |
| Ancient History and Culture of South-East Europe | 5 | 3) Biodiversity of Bulgaria | |
| Traveling man in the Balkans | 5 | <u>II. Group</u> | 3 |
| Comparative history | 5 | 1) Natural water bodies | |
| | | 2) Bulgarian toponymy | |
| | | 3) Management of natural heritage | |
| | | <u>III. Group</u> | 3 |
| | | 1) The Modern Museum in Europe – State and Problems | |
| | | 2) History of the local self-government | |
| | | 3) War History | |
| | | 4) Environmental History | |
| | | <u>IV. Group</u> | 3 |
| | | 1) Archives of Women and Minorities | |
| | | 2) Audiovisual Memory and Archives | |
| | | 3) Digital Presentation of Cultural and Historical Heritage | |
| | | 4) Project Management for Cultural and Historical Heritage | |
| | | <u>Training practice</u> "Natural and Historical Heritage of Bulgaria" | 3 |
| | | <u>MSc Thesis defence</u> | 15 |
| | Total 30 | | Total 30 |

III. Compulsory Courses

Title of the course:

“Geomorphological Phenomena”

ECTS credits: 5

Weekly workload: 3h lectures +1h exercises

Form of assessment: ongoing assessment and papers

Exam: written

Semester: I

Methodological guidance:

Department “Geography, Ecology and Environmental Protection”

Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Lecturer:

Assoc. Prof. Krasimir Stoyanov, PhD

Department “Geography, Ecology and Environmental Protection”

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Annotation:

The course "Geomorphological phenomena" have for an object to introduce master students to the peculiarities of the formation of characteristic morphological forms representing a tourist sites - rock formations, caves, couloirs, gorges, canyons and more. The course extends and enriches student's knowledge of the geology and geomorphology, acquired in the Bachelor degree of training and in the preparatory semester.

Course content:

The course focuses on the study of the origin, age and contemporary condition of interesting natural objects - picturesque landforms - couloirs, canyons, caves, rock formations, attractive alpine landscape and more, which are the point of interest for recreation and tourism, sports and others.

There is considered the most popular and attractive landforms of the world, there is explained their origin and importance for the development of tourism.

An analysis of geomorphological research in Bulgaria, the situation of the country and its peculiarities in geological and geomorphological development has been made. A geomorphological division of the country has been proposed and the most famous and distinctive landforms in the country has been marked, which are object of tourist interest and of importance to the national economy.

The students acquire practical knowledge about the origin of many interesting landforms in the country. This can serve in their work as tour guides, tour operators, in development of hiking routes and more. Practical exercises include a visit to the tourist sites of national importance - Belogradchik Rocks, Melnik Pyramids, Stob Pyramids, Ritlite, Wonderful bridges and caves Ledenika, Magura, Devil's Throat, Yagodinska, Uhlovitsa and others.

Technology of teaching and evaluation:

Teaching is conducted through lectures, seminars and individual work. A modern interactive methods of teaching has been use, some of the practical exercises take place on the terrain.

The current control includes 1 written thesis / presentation and 1 semester test. Exam to be admitted only students who have received a minimum Satisfactory 3.00 from current control. The final evaluation reports the results of the ongoing assessment and the performance of the semester exam in the ratio 40:60.

Title of the course:
“Objects of Natural Heritage”

ECTS credits: 5

Weekly workload: 3h lectures +1h exercises

Form of assessment: ongoing assessment and papers

Exam: written

Semester: I

Methodological guidance:

Department “Geography, Ecology and Environmental Protection”

Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Lecturer:

Assoc. Prof. Ivan Drenovski, PhD

Department “Geography, Ecology and Environmental Protection”

E-mail: idri@swu.bg

Annotation:

Course "Objects of natural heritage" is one of the fundamental for the preparation of students in the Master program. It aims to give basic knowledge of the nature of the concept of conservation of the natural heritage and the history of the development of the system of natural heritage sites on a global and national level.

Course content:

Starting theoretical point is the concept of identification and promotion of the objects of natural and cultural heritage, formalized in the form of an internationally recognized document - the Convention on the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. As defined by the Convention to natural heritage sites refer outstanding physical, biological and geological formations, habitats of threatened species of animals and plants and areas with scientific, conservation or aesthetic value. To bring examples and descriptions of the sites included in the list of World Heritage as well as those that have national significance. The criteria and the requirements for these objects in terms of the development of cognitive and ecological tourism are discussed. The issues of legal regulation for the protection and use of objects of natural heritage are dealt with. Requirements and best practices in the management of these facilities are commented, in accordance with the principles of sustainable tourism development in order to preserve them, and attract more financial resources for obtaining maximum socio-economic benefits for the local population and economy.

Expected results:

Building competencies for evaluating objects, processes, events, to take decisions, substantiated presentation of landmarks. Appropriate behaviours and moral and aesthetic values for the protection of the environment are formed. This helps to increase the level of preparation of students to perform independent research on topical issues of the preservation of natural heritage, in order to achieve sustainable socio-economic development of the regions in the country.

Technology of teaching and evaluation:

Teaching is conducted through lectures, seminars and individual work. Teaching is based on modern interactive teaching methods - extensive use of multimedia forms, and e-learning platform. The current control includes 1 written thesis / presentation and 1 semester test. To the exam are admitted only students who have received a minimum Satisfactory 3.00 from current control. The final evaluation reports the results of the ongoing assessment and the performance of the semester exam in the ratio 40:60.

Title of the course:

“Application of GIS in Mapping the Sites of Natural and Historical Heritage”

ECTScredits: 5

Weekly workload: 3h lectures +1h exercises

Form for verification of knowledge: exam

Type of exam: written

Semester: I

Under methodical guidance of: Department of Geography and Ecology and Environmental Protection

Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Science

Lecturers:

Assoc prof. Penka Kastreva, PhD, Assist. Eng. Galina Bezinska

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Annotation:

The course aims to give the students in "Geography" deeper knowledge and skills in cartography, as well as to get acquainted to the increasing role of GIS in the field of planning, management and conservation of natural and cultural heritage. The lecture course complements the knowledge received in the basic course in GIS. The purpose of the exercises for the students is to use GIS systems for structuring the database, plotting cartographic content to learn interpolation algorithms when making cartographic modeling and generalization performing spatial (vector and raster) analyzes and other, cartographic research, analysis and procedures.

Course content:

Section I. Theoretical background: - GIS and the natural and cultural heritage: Two main topics are discussed. The first is related to the application of GIS and the remote sensing for mapping and modeling of natural conditions and resources. Key issues for geographical data and operations with them for mapping, assessment and analysis of natural objects are included. The second major theme is dedicated to GIS and its use in the historical research. Students learn about the primary data source for mapping of historic sites, the structuring of the data, the time in historical GIS, spatial analysis in historical GIS and others.

The methods used for mapping in recent years - remote sensing and techniques for digitizing existing maps also are discussed. The processing of the data is associated with more complex GIS operations - coordinate transformations, interpolation methods, three-dimensional models and more. Special attention is paid to the concept of geographic analysis and its relationship with the maps for presentation and analyzing of spatial and geographic information related to natural and historical objects.

Section II. Seminar lectures with student participation: Students present their vision for the creation of a future project for mapping and managing of the natural phenomena or historical sites. The end result is a presentation of the research topic of each student and discussion.

Teaching technology and assessment:

The lectures and exercises are conducted solely on the equipment basis of the Department „Geography Ecology and Environmental Protection”. To illustrate the lecture material are used: computer with video – projector, study videos, specialized software (ArcGIS), additional materials (tables, diagrams and maps), some of which have been developed as students’ course and diploma works.

A computer multimedia laboratory with licensed ArcGIS software is used for the practical exercises. Students who study with an individual plan independently develop the same tasks with free GIS software (QGIS). For the normal conduct of the seminars the students are divided into groups and each student has a separate computer.

The students are admitted to the exam with a minimal note of 3, which is formed as the average of all notes received during the semester. The final note is 40% of the periodic evaluation and 60% of the semester exam according to the department’s developed and adopted system for control of the students’ knowledge and skills.

Name of the course:

”Ancient History and Culture of South-East Europe”

ECTS credits: 5

Weekly classes: 3h lectures +1h exercises

Form to check their knowledge:

Type exam:

ongoing assessment and examination

written

Semester: 1st

Methodical guidance:

Department of *History*, Faculty of Law and History at South-West University-Blagoevgrad

Lecturer:

Prof. Dr.hist.sc. Kalin Porozhanov, Department of History

tel: 0889 630 410

E-mail: kalinsp@abv.bg, kalinsp@swu.bg;

Summary:

Ancient History and Culture of South-East Europe study classical and nonclassical antiquities presented by archeology, history, language and traditional culture relics of Greek and non-Greek cultures (and ethnicities).

Ancient History and Culture of South-East Europe research include ancient Greek civilization, but only focus on it rather seeks connections and relationships that it has with non-Greek palaeo-balkan cultures (ethnicity) and languages as mainly Thracian.

Chronologically Ancient History and Culture of South-East Europe covers the time from the appearance of the producing economy in the Neolithic in the 7th century BC till Slavicisation to the Balkans in the mid 1st mill.AD.

Aims of the course:

The aim of the course *Ancient History and Culture of the European South-East* is to familiarize students with the basic written, archaeological and linguistic sources of the history of cultures and ethnic groups in South-East Europe and the results of their study, which represent basic economic-cultural and socio-behavioral stereotype on which to develop the Balkan peoples and their history and culture until today.

Expected results:

1 To understand the basic sense of the *History and Culture of Ancient Greece* as early and crucial stage of European civilization and universal story that is unique exception, but with huge implications for the development of human thought and civilization.

2. Through *History and Culture of Ancient Thrace and the Thracians* to see and understand the earliest, highly conservative, archaic economic, cultural and socio-behavioral stereotypes of human behavior change being characteristic of this part of South-East Europe. To see the manifest and active political history of the Thracian ethnos in SE Europe and NW Anatolia, forming part of the typical characteristics of age story as part of the Ancient World. To understand the specifics of conservatism and antiquity of Thracian traditional folk culture, reached and entered the Middle Ages in the construction of the Bulgarian folk culture.

Forming the assessment:

Five (5) credits are 50 conditional units. Of these, 25 are raised from auditorium and 25 – from self-employment= independent work.

A. Auditorium.

1. Visiting lectures – 2.5 conditional units for 4.5 hours lectures, i.e. for 45 h.lectures. - max.25 cond. units;

B. Independent work.

1.Tests and test papers – till 5 cond.un. for 1 work (min. 1) 5 cond. units;

2. Papers and other developments – till 10 cond.un. for 1 work. (min.2) 20 cond.un.;

The text should be structured as follows: Introduction, sources, historiography, submit comments on the issue, presenting their opinions or to any student joins, a conclusion formed a list of bibliographic references.

Minimum credits required for admission to the examination is 25 cond.un.
When dialed 25 cond.units assessment of the current control is Average (3).
When dialed 35 cond.units assessment of the current control is Good (4).
When dialed 45 cond.units assessment of the current control is Very Good (5).
When dialed 50 cond. units assessment of the current control is Excellent (6).
With more than 50 cond. units dialed students are exempt from the exam.

All assessments are based on papers that are stored for a period determined by the Rules of educational activities and subject to review.

Students who do not score a minimum credit of 25 cond. units not allowed to take the exam at an ordinary session. They must present further developments after recruiting 25 cond. units be admitted to an examination of the correctional or liquidation session.

The exam is written. It includes 1st Part 10 + 2nd Part 14 = total of 24 questions.
A separate issue is the subpoint of the topic.
-for Average (3) required 12 correct answers;
-for Good (4) requires 16 correct answers;
-for Very Good (5) requires 20 correct answers;
-for Excellent (6) requires 24 correct answers.

The final evaluation report the results of monitoring and evaluation of the test in a 1:1 ratio in case each of at least 3 estimates. When evaluating Weak (2) correlation was not carried out.

Additional ways of teaching:

Used material from lectures, seminars, textbooks, including INTERNET.

Name of the course:
“Traveling man in the Balkans”

ECTS credits: 5

Weekly classes: 3h lectures +1h exercises

Form to check their knowledge:

Type exam:

ongoing assessment and examination

written

Semester: 1st

Methodical guidance:

Department of *History*, Faculty of Law and History at South-West University-Blagoevgrad

Lecturer:

Associated prof. Snezhana Rakova, Department of History

E-mail: rakovasn@yahoo.com

Annotation

The course consists of 45+15 academic hours auditorium divided into three main parts. The information is offered in seven major topics that follow the formation of ideas about nature, geography and population of the Balkans since the early Middle Ages until the Ottoman conquest - VI-XVI century.

Emphasis is placed on topics and issues that are within the scope of various historical disciplines: communication history, historical geography, cartography, imagology, ethnology and cultural Studies. The area in question centers of knowledge and communication links comprises not only the Balkans and Byzantium, but the Italian city-states and Asia Minor.

Priority of the course is the period of the High Middle Ages - XIV-XV centuries, when already built most of the modern states of the peninsula where the Balkans are closely related to other Central and Western European countries. The scope of the course focuses on the events and processes that are included in the common European history such as the Crusades, the relationship with the Italian commercial republics, the Ottoman invasion, development of cartography and more.

Main objectives set by the course:

- Form a basic understanding of the historical geography of the Balkans
- To develop basic concepts about the nature of the Balkan model of communications in the Middle Ages (VI-XV centuries)
- Build initial orientation to work with historical texts, and other sources of local languages
- Build initial orientation to work with cartographic and geographic descriptions

The course builds on the historical present students received discipline history of the old world and formed preparedness to tackle the later historical period.

Keywords: Balkan, Medieval Balkans, the Orthodox community, Byzantine civilization maps, portolans, pilgrimage.

**Name of the course:
“Comparative History”**

ECTS credits: 5

Weekly classes: 3h lectures +1h exercises

Form to check their knowledge:

Type exam: written

ongoing assessment and examination

Semester: 1st

Methodical guidance:

Department of *History*, Faculty of Law and History at South-West University-Blagoevgrad

Lecturer:

Associated prof. Ivan Petrov, Department of History

E-mail:

Annotation:

Comparative History studies the historical processes and the consequences of them nowadays. It reviews the division East and West that got deeper after XVIII century in the European history and culture. It studies the nationalistic phenomena and theories in the context of the common European history and various societies. It also reviews the *balkanization* and its integration in the European history, as well the wars from XVII – XX centuries and the demographic changes due to these wars.

Aims:

Students to be acknowledged with the transformations in the European society in the new times with comparing in time the conditions, the processes and the results of every movement, political philosophy, international program and state development.

Expected results:

After the course, students should be able freely to make parallel comparisons of processes, revolutions, wars and actions in the context of European and World history, to find similarities and specific differences and to be able to predict eventual historical repeats.

Technology of teaching and evaluation:

The training is based on the auditorium and individual (self-employment) involvement of students. Lectures within 45 lecture hours are organized in fifteen key themes with whose consistency and basic bibliography students are acquainted in advance. Teaching is based on traditional lecturing practice of humanitarian education in Bulgaria in combination with the use of multimedia presentations and educational films. Training includes familiarization with documents, records in the broadest sense of the word. Work on each topic ends with a discussion during which students can formulate questions and/or present their ideas and concepts upon the lecture topic.

Extracurricular work volume is 90 hours and is expressed in the preparation of syllabus, scientific analyzes, reports, papers, presentations and assignments (optional for students). The

themes and objectives for each task students perform a specific design in writing. The theme of the written development is determined by the teacher after discussion with the student.

The analysis results from individual interpretive work with a particular text or author in the program. The criteria which must comply analysis are:

- Knowledge of the factual and theoretical side of the research topic;
- Private view and clear strategy for analyses;
- Expression of creative interpretive attitude;
- Precise bibliographic references;
- Readiness to defend the student in the seminar discussion critical opinions of his analysis;
- Adequate degree of linguistic and historical culture.

All grades are based on written works. The final grade based on the results of the ongoing control and the grade from the test is in ratio 1:1, if each one of the grades is minimum 3 (in case when one of the grades is 2 there is no ratio and final grade).

IV. Optional Courses

Title of the course:

PROTECTED AREAS IN BULGARIA

ECTS credits: 3

Weekly workload: 2L + 1P

Form of knowledge evaluation: exam

Type of exam: written

Semester: II

Departments involved:

Department of "Geography, ecology and environmental protection"

Mathematic and Natural Sciences Faculty

Lecturers: Assoc. Prof. Konstantin Tyufekchiev, PhD

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E-mail: konstantinat@swu.bg

Abstract:

The course "Protected Areas in Bulgaria" is studied by the students in the Master program "Natural and Historical Heritage" in order to obtain basic knowledge of the conservation of natural areas and objects by placing them under a certain mode of protection (conservation). The course covers a relatively new scientific field which summarizes the foreign and national theory and practice in protecting the basic components of the natural environment (lithosphere, soil, water, air, flora and fauna).

Course content:

The course goes into the classification of the protected natural areas and objects (PNA), the nature conservation regimes, practiced in the world, and the structure of the PNA, objects of ecological tourism.

Detailed review of the protected natural areas and objects in Bulgaria, their conservation status, spatial distribution and landscape character is made.

Special attention is paid to the management of PNA in order to prepare students for practical work in the field of conservation of protected areas.

Teaching and assessment:

The course includes theoretical education, based on lectures on key topics of the content of the curriculum, combined with discussions on important topics of the course and practical exercises to specify the students' knowledge on a practical level. During the exercises it is worked with real objects, models and data of research using interactive teaching methods. Some of the themes are developed outdoor - in a natural environment, on the territory of protected

natural areas, where plant and animal species and other taxa of regional, national, European and global significance are distributed.

The teaching process is supported by the use of visual materials (panels, presentations, prints, software) and technical equipment (computer, multimedia, etc.).

Each student develops a paper for one or two protected areas, evaluating their importance in terms of biodiversity, and presents it in front of the other students, who are involved in the rating process. The mark is taken into account in the final evaluation of the student during the examination session.

During the semester the students do a test, and the examination is written. The final grade constitutes 40% of the continuous assessment process and 60% of the grade from the examination session.

Title of the course:
"ECOTOURISM IN BULGARIA"

ECTS credits: 3

Weekly workload: 2L + 1P

Form of knowledge evaluation: exam

Type of exam: written

Semester: II

Departments involved:

Department of "Geography, ecology and environmental protection"

Mathematic and Natural Sciences Faculty

Lecturers: Assoc. Prof. Emiliya Patarchanova, PhD

Tel:

E-mail: emilia_patarchanova@swu.bg

Abstract:

Course "Ecotourism in Bulgaria" is a relatively new scientific discipline that attention is paid to the theoretical and practical problems of conservation as relevant in today's environment protection. Theoretical and historical background for the emergence and development of ecological tourism, Bulgarian legislation and international agreements on this kind of ecological tourism.

Course content:

Included are questions for the territories of ecological tourism in Bulgaria-protected areas, eco, protected areas and Natura 2000 national tourist sites, suitable for the practice of ecotourism. Special attention is paid to the impact of tourism on the environment component of the territories to practice ecological tourism and the tools used to manage them.

Course "Ecological Tourism in Bulgaria" was included in the curriculum of students in "Geography" degree "Master" in order to give them a basic knowledge of the nature of ecological tourism, ecological tourism areas, the impacts of tourism on their instruments and non-governmental organizations in the field of tourism.

Teaching and assessment:

The lectures are made as Power point presentations and are presented by means of a video projector. Most of the practical training is implemented in a laboratory, and the rest – in field conditions, and are usually connected with visits of natural habitats.

Students' knowledge and skills are evaluated on a six point system of marks.

Continuous assessment process of the acquired knowledge is carried out during the semester. The students prepare and present PowerPoint presentations for species from the Bulgarian flora and fauna, and work out a test on some of the themes from the course content. The preparation for and the work during the exercises are also assessed. If the grade from the Continuous assessment process is at least 3.00 the students are admitted to a written examination. The other students are given additional tasks.

The written examination includes the elaboration of two themes from the course content. The final grade constitutes 40% of the continuous assessment process and 60% of the grade from the examination session.

Title of the course:
“Biodiversity of Bulgaria”

ECTS credits: 3

Weekly workload: 2L +1 Pq

Form of knowledge evaluation: continuous assessment process + exam

Type of exam: written

Semester: II

Departments involved:

Department of “Geography, ecology and environmental protection”

Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Lecturers: Assoc. Prof. Lidia Sakelarieva, PhD

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Abstract:

"Biodiversity of Bulgaria" is an optional course in the Master program “Natural and Historical Heritage”. The aim of the course is to give good theoretical and practical education about the characteristics and conservation of the species, genetic and ecosystem diversity of Bulgaria.

Course content:

The course goes into the essence and significance of biodiversity – species, genetic and ecosystem. The fungus, plant and animal life of Bulgaria are studied – fungi, bryophytes, pteridophytes (ferns), seed plants – gymnosperms and angiosperms (flowering plants), invertebrate and vertebrate animals. The characteristics of Bulgarian flora and fauna, some natural habitats, included in the Red Data Book of the Republic of Bulgaria and in the Appendix 1 of the Biological Diversity Act, as well as the biodiversity of the wet lands and cities in Bulgaria are presented. Attention is given to the threats for the biological diversity and the development of the Bulgarian nature conservation legislation is traced back. The essence and significance of the Biological Diversity Act and the National strategy for the conservation of biological diversity are explained.

Teaching and assessment:

The lectures are made as Power point presentations and are presented by means of a video projector. Most of the practical training is implemented in a laboratory, and the rest – in field conditions, and are usually connected with visits of natural habitats.

Students’ knowledge and skills are evaluated on a six point system of marks.

Continuous assessment process of the acquired knowledge is carried out during the semester. The students prepare and present PowerPoint presentations for species from the Bulgarian flora and fauna, and work out a test on some of the themes from the course content. The preparation for and the work during the exercises are also assessed. If the grade from the Continuous assessment process is at least 3.00 the students are admitted to a written examination. The other students are given additional tasks.

The written examination includes the elaboration of two themes from the course content. The final grade constitutes 40% of the continuous assessment process and 60% of the grade from the examination session.

Title of the course:
“Natural Water Bodies”

ECTS credits: 3

Course hours per week: 2 + 1

Form of assessment: ongoing assessment and papers

Exam: written

Semester: II

Methodological guidance:

Department “Geography, Ecology and Environmental Protection
Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Lecturer:

Assoc. Prof. Emil Gachev, PhD

Department “Geography, Ecology and Environmental Protection

Тел:

E-mail: emil.gachev@swu.bg

Annotation:

The course “Natural water bodies” aims to provide students with detail knowledge of major seas, lakes and rivers of the world and most of all on the territory of the Balkan peninsula and Bulgaria, concerning their great importance as part of the natural heritage.

Course content:

The material is divided into four parts.

The first part is an introduction. It consists of a schematic description of the types of water bodies, and of the factors for their formation.

The second part introduces the students to the major water objects of the Earth: oceans, seas, large lakes and rivers, with their main characteristics.

The third part focuses on the water bodies in our region of the world. This is a detail review of seas, lakes, rivers, swamps and underground water basins in Bulgaria and on the Balkans.

The fourth, last part, contains information about the social and economic importance of the water bodies in the context of the present times, and about the perspectives for the future development and use of the water resources.

As Bulgaria has been progressively integrating in Europe, our material is not limited within national borders. A considerable attention is also paid to water bodies that are outside these borders, but have a serious impact on economic and social life in the country, such as for example the Aegean sea.

The discipline corresponds with the object and the subject of the discipline „Climatology and hydrology”, from the 1st preparatory semester of the M.Sc. programme and is in fact its continuation and further development.

Expected results:

The course will provide the students with general knowledge of the types, structure and functioning of natural water bodies of all kinds, and a detail knowledge of the main seas, rivers, lakes of Bulgaria and the Balkan peninsula.

Technology of teaching and evaluation:

Teaching is performed through lectures, practices and self preparation. Modern techniques are used to support the teaching process, such as the use of media platforms and interactive electronic education. Practices on the field are also provided in the course program, such as visits to natural water bodies: lakes, rivers.

One test and three drawing tasks (maps, climatogrammes) contribute to the mark during the term. Minimum requirements to get permission for attending the exam are: Overall term mark not less than 3.00, and test mark not less than 3.00. Final mark is calculated by summing 40% of term mark with 60% from the final exam.

Title of the course:
"Management of Natural Heritage"

ECTS credits: 3

Weekly classes: 2L +1 ex

Form of Assessment: continuous assessment and exam

Type of exam: written

Semester: II

Departments involved:

Department "Geography, ecology and environmental protection" (GEEP),
Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Lecturer:

Assoc. prof. Michail Michailov PhD, Department GEEP

phone:

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Abstract:

Course "Management of natural heritage" is an elective in the Master's program "Natural and historical heritage". It aims to give students a basic understanding of the legal framework, methods and tools to implement the management of the natural heritage.

Students acquire skills to analyze and evaluate the various management activities in relation to the use of natural resources and protection of the environment components including and as regards the clarification of the possible impacts on them as a natural heritage for future generations.

Course content:

The course "Management of natural heritage" includes basic issues:

- Peculiarities of climate resources, water resources, soils, land resources and bio resources as a basis for the definition of natural heritage;
- Requirements, regulations, structure and functions of the system for management of the natural heritage;
- Management of activities related to the different nature and environmental components;
- Public relations in the management of natural heritage.
- Linking strategies and programs for regional development and management of the natural heritage and its conservation.

Teaching and assessment:

Teaching is conducted through lectures, practical exercises and individual work with the application of modern interactive methods - extensive use of multimedia forms, specialized software and Internet.

Practical exercises aimed at developing practical skills in the activities related to natural heritage.

During the practical exercises it is performed ongoing control of the acquired knowledge and skills. Students shape their work on individual topics such as assignments that are evaluated and only a positive assessment (at least average 3.25) is examined.

The course ends with a written exam.

The final grade is based on the results of the course assignments and the semester examination (50/50%) as developed and adopted at the department "GEEP" system for monitoring and evaluation of students' knowledge.

Title of the course:

"The Modern Museum in Europe – State and Problems"

ECTS credits: 3

Number of classes per week: 2 lectures+1 seminars

Form of control of knowledge:

Type of examination: written

ongoing control and examination

Semester: II

Methodological guidance:

Department of History, Faculty of Law & History

Lecturer:

Ch. Assis. Prof. Dr. Miroslava Georgieva, Department of History

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Annotation:

This specialized course is bound by the qualification characteristics of the specialty and aims at the provision of a sound theoretical background and practice training in the field of modern museum activities based on the experience of European and Bulgarian museums. A part of the classes are conducted in a museum environment or at various sites (archaeological and historical), which will enable the students acquire knowledge of the status and problems related to the nowadays preservation, exposition and adaptation of cultural valuables, as well as gain certain practice skills.

Contents of Subject:

The course presents the development of museum as a cultural institute, the functions and basic types of museum activities. The stages of historical development of museums in European and Bulgaria are outlined. The largest European museums preserving and provoking the contemporaries' cultural memory are studied – Louvre, British Museum, Roman Civilization Museum in Rome, Hermitage, Prado, etc., as well as the museums in the Balkan states and Bulgaria. An important stress is put on the issues related to the current status and problems of museum work – preservation of cultural heritage (movable and immovable valuables), financing and necessary equipment, the role of museum as a catalyst of the development of cultural tourism, etc.

Technology of training and assessment:

Training is conducted through lectures and out-of-auditorium classes (independent work – preparation of papers, presentations, preparation for tests). Teaching is based on modern interactive teaching methods – wide use of multi media forms and direct involvement of students in the training process through classes conducted in a museum environment and on the site of immovable cultural valuables, whereby the students play an active part.

The final grade shall take into account the results from the ongoing control and the result from the examination in 1:1 ratio, provided that each of the grades is at least Satisfactory 3.

Title of the Course:**“History of the local self-government”**

ECTS credits: 3

Weekly classes: 2+1+0

Form of assessment: ongoing assessment and papers

Exam: written

Semester: II

Methodological guidance:

Department of History

Faculty of Law and History

Lecturers:

Ch. Assis. Prof. Milena Angelova, Ph.D.

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Annotation:

This course introduces students to the theory and history of the interaction between state and local governments and explores the development of municipal law and the historical practice of the various communities in other countries and in Bulgaria: metropolitan, urban, rural, etc.

Special attention is given to the development of various forms of cooperation between municipalities, the new European legislation on local government, and the opportunities for young people to participate in local government. Special attention is paid to past local government in the region of South-western Bulgaria and the history of the municipality of Blagoevgrad.

Course content:

Sources for the history and historiography of local government. Municipality and community. Historical development of municipalities and various theories The place of local government in the Turnovo Constitution of 1879. Development of municipal law until 1944. Development of municipal law and its features in a socialist state. Development of local government and municipal law since 1989. Status of the Capital. Relationship between State Administration and Local Government. Administrative territorial organization. Legal competencies of the bodies of local self-government. Local public services

Teaching and assessment:

The course ends with an exam. The course gives priority to practical and independent work of students, which is intended to be both individual and in work groups. Training takes the form of lectures. Required at the beginning of each lecture is a brief introduction, ensuring the necessary transience from one topic to another. In the process of familiarizing students with the new theme there is a discussion with them to achieve continuity between lectures and in order to help students to reach conclusions that will bring in new material. Power-Point presentations are employed, using the multimedia projector. One educational field research is done within the semester and a written work (course project / paper) is produced by students.

The results achieved in the set assignments, course project (paper) and the archival research are of major importance. The exam is held on the basis of a syllabus with specific questions and information about literature sources.

Title of the Course:
“War History”

ECTS credits: 3

Form of assessment: ongoing assessment and papers

Semester: II

Methodic Guidelines:

Faculty of Mathematics and Science

Lectors:

Assoc. Prof. Ivan Metodiev Petrov

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E-mail: ivan_m_petrov@yahoo.com

Weekly classes: 2+1+0

Exam: written

Annotation:

War History studies the outbreak, the stages and the results of the main wars in the history of mankind from early eras till nowadays. For that period we could talk about world history in the real sense of the definition. The discipline gives possibilities students to be acknowledged with the development of war powers through the centuries and to create an understanding of its development.

Syllabus:

Origin of war and armies. The wars in Ancient East. The wars in ancient Egypt, Assyria, Persia and China. The wars in Ancient Greece. War art of Athens and Sparta. Greek-Persian wars. Peloponnese war. Boeotia war. The rides of Alexander the Great. War art in Rome and Cartagena. Punic wars. Civil wars. Julius Caesar. The wars of the Roman Empire. The wars in V-X c. The wars of Byzantium in the period of V-VI c. Bulgarian war arts in VII-XI c. Arab's invasion in V-X c. The wars in the Frank's state in VI-X c.

The wars in X-XV centuries. Crusaders rides. The wars of the Second Bulgarian kingdom in XII-XIV centuries. The wars in XV-XVII c. The development of weapons in XV and XVI c. The wars in Western Europe in XV-XVI c. The reflection of the Nederland and the English revolutions upon the development of the military works. Swedish military hegemony in the first half of XVII c. The wars in XVIII c. The war for the Spanish heritage; the war for the Austrian heritage; Seven years war, Russian-Turkish wars, The war for the American independence, the wars of revolutionary France. French military hegemony during the reigned of Napoleon 1796-1815. The wars in the middle of XIX c. The Crimean war, the wars for unification of Germany and Italy. The civil war in the USA. Russian-Turkish liberation war, Serbian- Bulgarian war. First Imperialistic wars: Spanish-American war of 1898. British-Burks war of 1899-1902 and Russian-Japanese war of 1904-1905. Bulgaria in the wars for national unification 1912-1918. First Balkan war 1912-1913. Second Balkan war 1913, First World War 1914-1918. First World War 1914-1918. Second World War 1939-1945. The wars after 1945: Korean war 1950-1953; Vietnam wars 1946-1954, 1965-1975. Arabian-Israeli wars 1948, 1956, 1967, 1973, and 1982. Falkland Islands war of 1982. The war in Afghanistan 1979-1989. Gulf wars in 1991 and 2003.

Organization of the grading:

The education of the “**WAR HISTORY**” discipline is conducted through lectures. The students prepare 1 written thesis in accordance with the syllabus.

Title of the Course:
“Environmental History”

ECTS Credits: 3,0

Course Hours per Week: 2+1+0

Form of assessment: ongoing assessment and papers

Exam: written

Semester II

Methodological guidance:

Department of History,
Faculty for Law and History

Lecturer:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kristina Popova

Department of History

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Annotation:

Environmental history is multidisciplinary subject and branch of knowledge. Its aim is to study the history of the interaction between people and the environment, as well as the established social norms and regulations. Additional topics include the perception of landscape at different times and by different social groups (rural and urban, men and women, different regions) and the social and historical construct of the environment. The course aims to introduce the main theoretical approaches of environmental history. Students participate in practical work with historical sources: travel guides and travel descriptions, landscape images, illustrated postcards and albums. Special attention is paid to the history of gardens and their importance in cultural memory. The course also discusses the importance of modern communications on the perception of nature. Descriptions of mountains like Rhodope, Rila, and Stara Planina in travel guides or other literary sources show the political use of landscape images.

Content:

Theory about landscape and the perception of landscape; historical environmental history sources; images of nature in different religions. Historical forms of interaction between people and nature in Europe. Changes and trends in the perception of landscape during the Renaissance. The “birth” of photography and its relevance in establishing the concept of “beautiful nature”.

The “Garden” in European cultural tradition. The urbanization processes and the beginnings of tourism. Students’ travel and educational tourism.

Modern ideological use and misuse of nature. Ecological movements since the 1980’s in Bulgaria and their political importance.

Expected results:

The course will contribute towards the students’ analytical skills and perception of landscape as a social and cultural construct. In addition students will learn to work with different types of sources used in studying environmental history.

Evaluation Scheme:

The education process includes lectures and out-of-class studies by the students and requires the utilization of different resources. Student-initiated activities are encouraged.

Students will be evaluated through ongoing assessments and a final written exam. The ongoing assessment includes 2 papers and one test.

Students who have excellent grades during their ongoing assessment are not required to take the written exam.

Title of the Course:

“Archives of Women and Minorities”

ECTS: 3

Classes per week: Lectures -2 + 1

Assessment type: exam

Course coordinating department:

Law and History Faculty

Department of History

Lecturer(s):

Ch. Assis. Prof. Dr. Nurie Muratova

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Course outline

The lecture course aims at presenting to students the policies of memory and the policies of archiving the documents of the social groups marginalized by the dominating official memory. The course introduces to students the archive documents and massive documents concerning the political, social and cultural past of women and minorities to outline their cultural contributions.

The basic theoretical concepts about the history of women, the visibility of women and minorities in the public space and archives are introduced.

Aims:

1. To introduce to students the memory of women and minorities
2. To develop sensitivity and reflection on the historical values of the documental traces of marginalized social groups
3. To acquaint the students with the archive presence and accessibility of the documents related to history of women and minorities.

Policy of memory. Policy of archiving. The gender concept. Gender researches. The international experience in the field of women’s and minorities’ archives. The archive presence of the history of women in the Bulgarian archives. State institutions dealing with problems of women during different periods. Archive funds of girls’ monasteries. Documents about the participation of women in the elections and institutions. Archive documents about the women in the power and in the opposition: women in the social work. Documents concerning the history of the minority groups in Bulgaria. Funds of Ministries, Administrations, Municipal government. Archive funds of minority organizations and political parties. The specifics of the personal archive funds, presence and characteristic of the documents. Personal documents of women and

minorities: autobiographies, memoirs, diaries, letters, photos, and other visual sources. Electronic data base in the archives, ways of using. Alternative collections and ways of avoiding the marginalization of women and minorities concerning the collection, storing, organization and digitalization of their documents.

Technology of teaching and assessment

The lectures present to students new knowledge, generalization and revision; analysis of individual tasks, preparation of individual and collective projects. The students should develop by themselves an individual or collective project and present it to the audience. They should attend regularly the lectures and should manage the individual tasks.

Title of the Course:

“Audiovisual Memory and Archives”

ECTS credits: 3.0

Weekly classes: 2 +1 +0

Form of Assessment: current tests and essays

Type of exam: written

Semester: II

Methodical guidance:

Department of History

Faculty of Law and History

Lecturer:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mariana Piskova,

Department of History

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Annotation:

In the information society creation, preservation and dissemination of information in visual and audio form prevails over this in traditional and written forms. The course is presenting the audiovisual documents created not only by the technology of the 19th century and the archives in which they are preserved, but the possibilities for their storage and use through the modern computer technology. In its entirety the course builds an idea of the theoretical and practical aspects of audiovisual documents' archiving. As part of the training visits to the specialized archives of Television, Radio, National Film Archive have been provided.

Content:

The course presents the Bulgarian model and the foreign systems of audiovisual documents' archiving. Specific characteristics are revealed that determine a different archival status of these documents by comparison with the traditional written paper documents. The normative and methodological requirements and procedures for accessing, organizing and use of audiovisual documents into the state archives and specialized institutions are determined. The conditions for access to documents in various archives are compared. The differences among audiovisual documents are presented in comparative plan, justifying the need for different methodological approaches, means and conditions for their storage, handling and use. Special attention is given to institutions which are storing and making available for use audiovisual documents - state archives, specialized institutions, museums, libraries, etc.

Organization of the education and assessment:

Training is done through lectures and individual work. During the sessions a variety of visual and interactive learning materials have been used (film records, photo sources, sound recordings in electronic form and in classic version), which are supporting the full mastery of content by students. The initiatives and activities of students are promoted.

During the training the students are assessed continuously in their theoretical preparation, as well as in the comparative analysis of traditional and non-traditional documents and methodological rules for handling, storage and particularities of their access and use.

Continuous assessment includes 2 assignments, 1 test. Students are exempt from examination under honors in current assessment.

Title of the Course:

“Digital Presentation of Cultural and Historical Heritage”

ECTS: 3

Classes per week: Lectures -2+1

Assessment type: exam

Course type: elective

Course coordinating department:

Law and History Faculty

Department of History

Lecturer(s):

Ch. Assis. Prof. Dr. Nurie Muratova

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Course outline

The lecture course acquaints the students with the possibilities for access to the world virtual archive, library and museum materials. The basic means is the world information Internet. The course aims at both the introduction of new knowledge about the basic archive, library and museum resources in Internet and at developing skills for publishing in the information net. As a result of the studies the students are expected to manage working with specialized program products for publishing information in Internet. They will be also acquainted with the possibilities for digital technologies for digitalization and popularization of the cultural heritage.

Aims:

1. To introduce to students the electronic resources of the world museums, archives and libraries.
2. The students to master the mechanisms of bibliography search.
3. To give a possibility to students to master the basic multimedia technologies for digital presentation of the cultural heritage.

History archives and the presentation of the document content. The possibility for multimedia presentation of archive documents. Types of systems for managing data base. The processing of visual documents. Virtual museum. The world museums and their policies of presentation. The presentation of audio and video materials. The system of managing library information. Full-text presentation of archive documents and bibliography materials. The periodicals and their on-line archives.

Technology of teaching and assessment

The lectures introduce new knowledge, generalization and revision; presenting and analyzing of individual tasks – preparation of individual and collective projects. The students are expected to develop, present and defend projects. The students should attend regularly the lectures and to implement the individual and collective tasks.

Title of the Course:

“Project Management for Cultural and Historical Heritage”

ECTS: 3

Classes per week: Lectures -2+1

Assessment type: exam

Course type: elective

Course coordinating department:

Law and History Faculty

Department of History

Lecturer(s):

Ch. Assis. Prof. Dr. Nurie Muratova

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Course outline

The course provides the students with basic programs, funding and historical research projects, historical focus, and develop practical ones. It aims at acquiring skills to develop research, educational and social projects. Through knowledge of financial institutions and the programs they offer, as well as knowledge of specific development projects will expand students' vision for future research work and will prepare them to work in public institutions and NGOs.

Aims:

1. The course objective is to provide students with competencies that broaden their prospects for development.
2. Establish practical skills to develop research, educational and social projects.
3. To acquaint them with the basic mechanisms of project funding research and funding institutions.

Course content:

Basic concepts. Project program. Types of programs. Donor programs. Specificity of "design" language. Major funding programs porekti to preserve cultural heritage. Donor programs, funding educational activities. Projects for schools and universities. Working with forms. General and special conditions. Working with an online-based documentation. Drafting. Components of the project. Emergence of the concept, motivation, planning. Project development, financial planning, assessment and self-assessment, assessment of risks. Rules for management, monitoring and evaluation of projects. An assessment of the implementation of project tasks.

Technology of teaching and assessment

The lectures introduce new knowledge, generalization and revision; presenting and analyzing of individual tasks – preparation of individual and collective projects. The students are expected to develop, present and defend projects. The students should attend regularly the lectures and to implement the individual and collective tasks.