

MASTER'S PROGRAM „ REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT“ INFO PACK

SPECIALTY: GEOGRAPHY

MASTER'S PROGRAM: REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

FOR EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION DEGREE: MASTER

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT, 4 semesters, 2 years

The training in the specialty in the educational qualification degree "Master" is two semesters with a total number of hours of 1125 hours, which corresponds to 120 ECTS credits in accordance with the state requirements.

The specialty is from Professional direction 4.4 Earth Sciences. The training is carried out and administered by the Department of GEEP. The professional field and in particular the Ministry of Regional Development is accredited until 2025. The department conducts training in Bachelor's and Master's degrees and Doctor's degree.

Students from all regions of the country and from other countries are trained. The training is carried out in Bulgarian language.

Training provides:

1. In-depth scientific-theoretical and specialized training in the specialty.
2. Assimilation of the basics of scientific researched and applied activity.
3. Conditions for educational mobility of students, including International comparability of acquired knowledge and skills.
4. Development of abilities for adaptation in the conditions of social, economic and technological changes.

The program provides an opportunity to develop skills for:

- independent interpretation of the acquired knowledge, connecting them with the application of facts, through critical perception, understanding and expression of theories and principles;
- mastery of methods and tools allowing to solve complex problems;
- application of logical thinking and showing innovation and creative approach in solving non-standard tasks.

The Master's program "Regional Development" provides stable theoretical and practical training and applies to specialists who have acquired the educational qualification degree "Bachelor" in PD 4.4. Earth Sciences and other professional directions (specialty "Geography and regional policy" «Ecology and Environmental protection» and «Pedagogy of teaching geography and history») and others.

The main prerequisite for achieving the educational goals is the structure and content of the curriculum. It is developed in 2 semesters and includes compulsory and elective courses.

The training in the obligatory lecture courses guarantees the students a profound profile specialization in the master's program - "Regional Development". The disciplines included in the curriculum of the specialty "Regional Development" allow the acquisition of the educational qualification degree "Master". Depending on the combination of elective courses, additional broad-profile and interdisciplinary training is achieved, ensuring the successful adaptation of the future masters in the conditions of accelerated social, economic and technological changes. The curriculum includes disciplines that enrich the training of geography specialists with the necessary special regional, social, economic, territorial, urban and managerial knowledge and skills and expand the range of areas where the graduates can work as good specialists.

The elective courses are related to specific areas of applied regional planning and management. They enrich and develop the competencies of the students geographers-regionalists for practical application of their knowledge.

Students graduate after developing and defending a thesis.

The master's program "Regional Development" prepares specialists for professional realization in all areas and activities related to regional development and regional policy.

The interdisciplinary nature of the specialty enables the graduates to develop in different areas of public life - in Bulgarian state and international institutions, non-governmental organizations and others.

Emphasis is placed on increasing professional competence and the formation of skills for making strategic and tactical management decisions; work on management business programs in the field of regional development; carrying out independent specialized research activity, as well as on the development of creative abilities for teaching and expert activity.

Graduates of the master's degree in geography, specialization "Regional Development" acquire knowledge and practical skills necessary for effective professional development:

- for the main regularities and tendencies in the regional development conditions of market economy;
- fundamental knowledge of the main areas of regional studies, spatial planning, urbanism and economics;
- knowledge and skills in the spirit of the European standards for realization of experts on the issues of the European regional policy and integration;
- knowledge and skills in the implementation of European Union regional policies and strategies;
- formation of abilities and attitudes for teamwork in various national and international institutions and non-governmental organizations.

The master's program "Regional Development" is a solid prerequisite for successful professional realization in all areas and activities related to regional development.

Areas of professional development are all units and institutions on regional development issues - on European regional development issues, on international relations and the country's foreign policy on these issues, both in the public and private sectors.

Graduates of the master's program "Regional Development" can work as:

- specialists, experts, advisors, civil servants and heads of units for management of regional development and regional policy in the central state bodies, at regional (district administration) and local (municipal) level;
- employees in the Ministry of Regional Development and public works;
- in the structures of ministries, municipalities and other bodies dealing with regional development;
- specialist analysts in the Bulgarian departments on regional development issues;
- researchers in scientific institutes and lecturers in higher education on the issues of sustainable regional development, management and implementation of regional policy, etc .;
- non-governmental, non-profit public organizations, chambers of commerce, as well as in representations of transnational corporations, foreign companies with mixed participation;
- Specialists in the departments of European integration and international activities of state institutions - in the field of regional development, in the development and management of projects at all levels.

CURRICULUM

Specialty: Geography - Regional Development

Code - 06.54_4.8.20

First year			
First semester	ECTS loans	Second semester	ECTS loans
Fundamentals of economic and social geography	4	Geography of the population and settlements	7
Geography of the production and service sphere	6	Political geography and geopolitics	6
Socio-economic geography of Bulgaria	6	Natural geography of Bulgaria	7
Landscape science	6	Geography of the countries Part II (European Union)	5
Geography of the countries Part I	4	Soilscience	5
Hydrology	4		
Total	30	Total	30
Second year			
Third semester	ECTS loans	Fourth semester	ECTS loans
Fundamentals of regional development	6	Environmentally friendly management of the territory	4
Regional analysis	6	Planning and regional policy	5
Application of Geographic Information Systems in Regional Studies	6	Regional development project management	3
Human resources development and management	6	Elective course 1 (from group II)	3
Elective course 1 (from group I)	3	Thesis defense	15
Elective course 2 (from group I)	3		
Total	30	Total	30
Elective courses Group I Students choose two disciplines		Elective courses Group II Students choose one discipline	
Spatial Planning	3	Organic agriculture and agricultural policy	3
Regional and settlement infrastructure	3	Development and management of problem areas	3
Rural and cross-border development	3	Innovation and regional development	3
Urban analysis	3	Non - governmental organizations and regional development	3

Regional and geoecological programs	3		
<i>Students choose two disciplines</i>	6	<i>Students choose one discipline</i>	3
Total		Total	
<i>Students choose one discipline</i>		9	
Total	30	Total	30

For the entire period of study - 120 credits (compulsory and elective courses)

ANNOTATIONS OF THE COURSES

COMPULSORY COURSES

FUNDAMENTALS OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL GEOGRAPHY

ECTS credits: 4

Form of knowledge assessment: exam

Semester: I

Methodical guide:

Department of Geography, Ecology and Environmental Protection

Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Lecturers:

Assoc prof. Emilia Patarchanova, Ph D

E-mail: emilia_patarchanova@swu.bg;

Phone: 0885 938005

Weekly hours: 2l + 1pu + r

Type of exam: written

Annotation

The lecture course "Fundamentals of Economic and Social Geography" is a mandatory discipline for students in the master's program "Regional Development". The theoretical course introduces students to the scientific and theoretical foundations of economic and social geography. He studies the essence and basic concepts of the discipline, its development and evolution in time and space. Introduces to the world of globalization and globalization.

Course content

The macrostructure of the lecture course includes three sections. The first traces the conceptual basis of economic geography and builds on the development of different localization schools. The second section is focused on the development of social geography - conceptual apparatus, evolution of ideas and upgrading of the economic base and new elements. The third section presents modern theories and concepts of economic and social geography, research methods, information resources and more.

Teaching and assessment technology

The evaluation of the achieved results in the training process is in compliance with the requirements of Ordinance № 21 of the Ministry of Education and Science for application of a system for accumulation and transfer of credits. During the semester periodic control is performed by assigning term papers and / or papers, and / or by conducting tests. The final grade is formed by 40% of the grade of the current control and 60% of the grade of the semester

exam, according to the developed and accepted in the GEEEP department system for assessment of the knowledge, skills and competencies of the students. The training uses a computer, demonstration software, visual materials (boards and diagrams), some of which are developed as real regional strategies, plans and programs and projects.

GEOGRAPHY OF MANUFACTURING AND SERVICE SECTOR

ECTS credits: 6

Form of Assessment: exam

Semester: I

Departments involved:

Department of Geography, Ecology and Environmental Protection

FMNS

Lecturer:

Assoc. Prof. Emilia Patarchanova, PhD

e-mail: emilia_patarchanova@swu.bg

Phone: 0885 938005

Weekly workload: 4L +1E

Type of exam: written

Annotation

The course "Geography of manufacturing and service sector" is one of the main subjects in the training in the master's program "Regional Development". The aim of the course is to make the necessary conceptual and terminological apparatus to explain the scientific nature of the theory of localization of economic sectors, industries and businesses in the geographic space, to introduce the students with the regularities in the spatial organization of economic sectors and factors for their development, to explain the regional differences in the organization and localization of production and service activities in the world economy, to clarify the meaning of geographical studies of industrial sectors.

Course content

The lectures are structured in four sections. The first section explains the subject, objectives and methods of the course. Analyzed are the main categories and terms in the socio-economic geography related to production and service, the formation of the national and world economy, its structure, the social division of labor. The section ends with a presentation of the main localization theories and schools. The next three sections are devoted to each of the three sectors of the world economy. The basic industries are studied. Clarified is the importance and influence of different groups of factors on their contemporary development, considered is the sectoral and territorial structure, revealed are the characteristics and regional differences. Highlighted are the guidelines of development.

Teaching technology and assessment

The course includes lectures and practical exercises. The course is conducted on the basis of pre planning of each lecture, including an exposition, a summary and a discussion, as well as links between the previous and the new lecture and connections with other disciplines and other scientific fields. The process of teaching is connected with the use of visualizations - presentations, maps, graphics, print materials and more. During the exercises students learn to analyze statistical information, to visualize trends in demographic and socio-economic development. Discussed are the trends in territorial or historical development of certain industries and sectors to provoke students' thinking about innovative ideas. Students develop

and defend papers.

The examination procedure includes a written exam – on two themes from pre-defined conspectus corresponding to the content of the curriculum. The relative weight of the total test mark is 60%. The evaluation is carried out in six-point rating scale, according to the Higher Education Act and Ordinance № 21 of the Ministry / 30.09.2004. Credits are awarded only if the total mark is equal to or higher than Average 3 according to the system of accumulation and transfer of credits.

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY OF BULGARIA

ECTS credits: 6

Form of verification of knowledge: exam

Semester: I

Methodical guidance:

Department Geography, ecology and environmental protection

Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Lectors:

Dr. Vladimir Karadzhov

E-mail: karadzhov@swu.bg

phone: 0884 865619

**Weekly tuition hours: 4lectures+ seminary
exercises+1practical exercises+p**

Type of exam: written

Annotation

The course "Socio-economic geography of Bulgaria" is a mandatory discipline for students in the master's program "Regional Development". Its scientific and educational content is developed and applied in Bulgaria, which allows in the educational process to consider, explain and study the general and above all regional geopolitical, socio-economic and environmental problems of the country. In this sense, the course "Socio-economic geography of Bulgaria" is fundamental to the professional competence and practical skills of graduates of higher geographical education.

Course content

The course "Socio-economic geography of Bulgaria" aims to provide basic knowledge in this area to students and to provide scientific training and competence for their participation in regional research and development, as well as in management programs. The applied significance of the lecture course is to provide extended scientific training, culture and competence of the students, with which they could upgrade over time in this field. The practical exercises aim to consolidate the acquired knowledge and expand experimental knowledge and skills for work in modern practice and science.

Teaching and assessment technology

The training includes lectures and practical exercises. The lecture course is conducted on the basis of advance planning of each lecture, including presentation, summary and discussion, as well as links between the previous and the new lecture, links with other disciplines and scientific fields. The teaching process is related to the use of tools for illustration - presentations, maps, graphics, printed materials, etc. The practical exercises are related to the selection, ranking, processing and analysis of statistical information. Papers are developed and defended. Trends in the territorial or historical development of certain industries and branches are discussed, student thinking for innovative ideas is provoked.

The exam procedure includes a written exam - on two topics from a previously distributed syllabus, corresponding to the content of the curriculum. The relative weight of the

exam from the total grade is 60%. The assessment is performed according to the six-point assessment scale, according to the Higher Education Act and Ordinance № 21 of the Ministry of Education and Science / 30.09.2004.

LANDSCAPE KNOWLEDGE

ECTS credits: 6

Course hours per week: 4l+0se+1pe

Form of assessment: ongoing assessment and exam

Exam: written

Semester: I

Methodological guidance:

Department "Geography, Ecology and Environmental Protection"

Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Lecturer:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ivan Drenovski

Department "Geography, Ecology and Environmental Protection"

E-mail: idri@swu.bg

Annotation:

Course "Landscape knowledge" is designed to provide students with basic theoretical knowledge about the structure and functioning of the landscape sphere of the Earth and its constituting natural complexes - landscapes as an interconnected whole, as a result of the combination of all natural components in a given area. Acquired knowledge can be put in practical use in management of natural resources, assessment of environmental impact assessment (EIA), Territorial and Urban Landscape planning.

Course content

The information about the genetic order of occurrence and the hierarchy of natural components (factors) is given. Clarifies the nature, characteristics and differences between the main geographical regularities of the Earth - zonality and azonality. Particular attention is paid to the nature and direction of relationships between the different components as a prerequisite to follow the sequence of changes in the landscape and predict the expected changes. To provide basic knowledge about the sustainability of natural components and systems against various types of human activities as a prerequisite for evaluating and limiting the negative changes in the landscape and the manifestations and consequences of certain unfavourable processes in nature. Students get acquainted with the methods and principles of landscape classification and regionalization, as well as differences in the characteristics of the typology and individual (regional) units from different taxonomic rank. The genesis, structure, natural resources potential and the extent and trends of anthropogenic modification are discussed. During the practical exercises students build and improve skills to gather information from various sources for its analysis and synthesis, comparison and interpretation of teamwork.

Expected results

Building up of competencies for analysis of links between natural components and complexes, for characteristic of landscape types and individuals, for assessment of the landscape's potential and sustainability and evaluating the degree of anthropogenic stress and change. Increasing the students' theoretical knowledge and formation of skills for the preparation of landscape profiles, read the legend of the landscape maps, and to perform independent research on current issues of environmental protection, in order to achieve sustainable socio- economic region development in the country. 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.

Technology of teaching and evaluation

Training is conducted through 60 hours of lectures, 15 hours practical training and 105 hours individual work. Teaching is based on modern interactive teaching methods - extensive use of multimedia forms, and e-learning platform. The current control includes assessment of prepared schematic map, one written thesis/presentation and one 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%.

GEOGRAPHY OF THE COUNTRIES - PART I

ECTS credits: 4

Course hours per week: 2l+0se+1pe

Form of assessment: ongoing assessment and exam

Exam: written

Semester: I

Methodological guidance:

Department "Geography, Ecology and Environmental Protection"

Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Lecturer:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ivan Drenovski

Department "Geography, Ecology and Environmental Protection"

E-mail: idri@swu.bg

Annotation

The course "Geography of countries Part I" is of the fundamental ones in the training in the master's program "Regional Development". It aims to give them the most extensive knowledge of the socio-political and socio-economic development of the countries of the world (excluding Europe). Characteristics of each country includes an assessment of environmental conditions and resources, detect specific population (number, structure, movement, ethnic and religious composition, spatial distribution) and the development of the settlement network, the characteristics of the economy (origin and development of economic sectors spatial location, forming a major economic regions, the development of international economic relations) .

Course content

During the lectures are given knowledge about the importance of natural- resource and demographic potential for the development of the economy of the country, tracing its chronological stages of this development. It reveals the geopolitical importance of each country in its region and its place in the world economy. In addition to the specific knowledge and skills students learn to apply the methods of comparison and spatial and temporal analysis in the characterization of the holding of different groups of countries. Emphasis is placed on the relationship between political development among regions and their economic prosperity. The formation, resources potential, cultural and religious characteristics, and the extent and trends of anthropogenic modification are discussed. The workshops students build and improve skills to gather information from various sources for its analysis and synthesis, comparison and interpretation of teamwork.

Expected results

Formation of competencies for analysis and evaluation of geography, natural- resource potential , demographics , characteristics of the holding of sectors and industries and making presentations to the parties. Increase the students' theoretical knowledge and build skills for conducting independent research on current issues of economic development and environmental protection in different countries and for their overall geographical feature in set algorithm. Education of moral and aesthetic values of ethnic and religious tolerance, respect for cultural diversity in the process of globalization is made.

Technology of teaching and evaluation

Training is conducted through 30 hours of lectures, 15 hours practical training and 75 hours individual work. Teaching is based on modern interactive teaching methods - extensive use of multimedia forms, and e-learning platform. The current control includes assessment of prepared schematic map, one written thesis / presentation and one semester test. Exam to be admitted only students who have received a minimum grade of 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%.

HYDROLOGY

ECTS credits: 4

Weekly hours: 4l + 2u

Form of assessment: ongoing assessment and exam

Type of exam: written

Semester: I

Methodical guide:

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

Lecturer:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Emil Gachev, PhD

e-mail: e_gachev@yahoo.co.uk

"Hydrology" is one of the main compulsory subjects for students in the master's program "Regional Development". It is studied in order to expand and deepen the knowledge about the nature of hydrological processes and their connections with other natural processes and phenomena; for the main methods and approaches in studying the quantitative and qualitative parameters for the different water bodies (rivers, lakes, seas and oceans), etc. In particular, attention is paid to the different origins of water and the peculiarities of their formation, the criteria and indicators for their classification, their genetic structure, the factors for the formation of river runoff and its distribution on the territory of the country, the runoff regime and its dynamics by months and seasons, the methods for measuring and determining the main characteristics of watercourses and their catchment areas.

Course content

Classification of waters and water bodies. Groundwater formation and regime. Classification and distribution. Structure and hydrographic characteristics of rivers and their catchment areas. Genetic structure of river flow. Factors and conditions for their formation.

Hydrometry. Basic concepts. Organization of hydrometric measurements. Measurement of water levels, velocity and other flow parameters.

Basic methods and tools

Main characteristics of the river outflow. Norm, module, drainage coefficients, etc. Intra-annual distribution of river runoff. Minimal outflow. Inflows and maximum outflow of rivers. Genesis. Frequency and duration. Temperature regime and water chemistry. Lakes. Dams. World Ocean.

Training and assessment technolog

The training in the discipline "Hydrology" is carried out by teaching 60 hours of lectures and 30 hours of practical exercises. The lecture material covers the main issues of the content of the studied discipline, as well as various visual aids - multimedia, educational videos, demonstration software, visual materials (boards and diagrams), some of which are developed as coursework for students. During the practical exercises there is an ongoing control of the acquired knowledge and skills. Students form their work on individual topics as course assignments, which are assessed and only with a positive assessment (at least an average of 3.25) are admitted to the exam. The training in the discipline ends with a written exam.

GEOGRAPHY OF THE POPULATION AND SETTLEMENTS

ECTS credits: 7

Form of verification of knowledge: exam

Semester: II

Methodical guidance:

Department Geography, ecology and environmental protection
Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Lectors:

Dr. Vladimir Karadzhov

E-mail: karadzhov@swu.bg

phone: 0884 865619

Weekly tuition hours: 4lectures+ seminary
exercises+1practical exercises+p

Type of exam: written

Annotation

The lecture course "Geography of Population and Settlements" is a mandatory discipline for students in the master's program "Regional Development". This lecture course introduces students to the scientific and theoretical foundations of demography and the philosophy of origin and development of settlements. The macrostructure of the lecture course includes two sections.

The first section is devoted to the geography of the population, focusing on basic terminological concepts, methods in demography, the laws of the population in different societies and the main characteristics and trends of population development by continents and individual countries.

The second section - geography of settlements, discusses topics with both methodological content and tracing the emergence of settlements, their evolution, the processes taking place in them, the settlement network and the latest requirements for their development, according to major international documents.

Course content

The course "Geography of Population and Settlements" aims to provide basic knowledge in this field to students and to provide scientific and practical training and competence for their

participation in regional research and forecasting, as well as in management programs of the territory / population and settlements. The laboratory exercises are aimed at consolidating the acquired knowledge and expanding experimental knowledge and skills for work in modern practice and science. **Assessment:** current assessment and written exam.

POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY AND GEOPOLITICS

ECTS credits: 6.

Weekly classes: 3L +1E

Form of Assessment: exam

Type of exam: written

Semester II

Methodical guidance:

Department of Geography, Ecology and Environmental Protection

FMNS

Lecturer:

Assoc. Prof. Emilia Patarchanova, PhD

e-mail: emilia_patarchanova@swu.bg

Annotation

The course "Political Geography and Geopolitics" is one of the compulsory subjects in the training of students in the master's program "Regional Development". The main aim of the course is to introduce students to the emergence and consolidation of political geography and geopolitics, as a scientific field in the system of geographical sciences; the stages through which it develops; the basic theories and geopolitical schools etc. Special attention is paid to the global and regional geopolitical patterns and their impact on contemporary international relations and the relationship between political geography, geopolitics, geostrategic and national security. It plays a key role in the formation of the political culture. It draws the attention of students to the practical application of scientific geopolitical analysis and forecasts.

Course content

Structurally the topics are grouped into three sections. The first covers the development and the periodization of political geography and geopolitics. It is traced the evolution of the basic concepts, theories and schools associated with politic-geographical knowledge. It focuses on the more progressive scholars and the established by them directions, which have had a significant impact not only on the development of political geography, but also on the political culture and behavior of the mankind. The second section focuses on the emergence and development of the state in geographic space, types, functions and stability of state borders. It is justified on the geopolitical classification of the states in the world. Included are also themes about the problems of the geopolitical balance of the modern world, international organizations, the protection of national interests and national security of the state. The third section analyzes the politic-geographical and geopolitical term basic and key regions of the world.

Teaching technology and assessment

The course includes lectures and practical exercises. The course is conducted on the basis of pre planning of each lecture, including an exposition, a summary and a discussion, as well as links between the previous and the new lecture and connections with other disciplines and other scientific fields. The process of teaching is connected with the use of visualizations-presentations, maps, graphics, print materials and more. During the exercises students learn to

apply the algorithm for political and geographical analysis, to objectively assess the existing global and regional political and geographical structure of the world and to map studied processes and phenomena, etc. Discussed are geopolitical trends in the development of global community and individual regions. Students develop and defend papers.

The examination procedure includes a written exam – on two themes from pre-defined conspectus corresponding to the content of the curriculum. The relative weight of the total test mark is 60%. The evaluation is carried out in six-point rating scale, according to the Higher Education Act and Ordinance № 21 of the Ministry / 30.09.2004. Credits are awarded only if the total mark is equal to or higher than Average 3 according to the system of accumulation and transfer of credits.

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY OF BULGARIA

ECTS credits: 7

Course hours per week: 4l+0se+1pe

Form of assessment: ongoing assessment and exam

Exam: written

Semester: II

Methodological guidance:

Department “Geography, Ecology and Environmental Protection”

Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Lecturer:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ivan Drenovski

E-mail: idri@swu.bg

Annotation

Course "Physical Geography of Bulgaria" is one of the fundamental in the preparation of students from the specialty. It aims to provide basic knowledge about the history and formation factors, and specific characteristics of the components of the natural environment in Bulgaria - topography, climate, water, vegetation, animals, soils, and the peculiarities of their regional differentiation in the country.

Course content

Regularities of genesis, spatial distribution and characteristics of major morphostructures and forms of relief, climate elements in groundwater and surface water, soil, vegetation cover and wildlife in the country are explained, against the background of general geographic patterns occurring in European and global scale. Students get acquainted with the methods and principles of physical geography regionalization, and the individual characteristics of complex regional units of different taxonomic rank. Their genesis, structure, natural resources potential and the extent and trends of anthropogenic modification are interpreted. During practical works students build and improve their skills to gather information from various sources for its analysis and synthesis, comparison and interpretation, and for teamwork.

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

Training is conducted through 60 hours of lectures, 15 hours practical training and 135 hours individual work. Teaching is based on modern interactive teaching methods - extensive use of multimedia forms, and e-learning platform. The current control includes assessment of prepared schematic map, one written thesis / presentation and one 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%.

GEOGRAPHY OF THE COUNTRY - PART II (EUROPEAN UNION)

ECTS credits: 5

Form of Assessment: exam

Semester: II

Departments involved:

Department of Geography, Ecology and Environmental Protection
FMNS

Lecturer:

Assoc. Prof. Emilia Patarchanova, PhD

e-mail: emilia_patarchanova@swu.bg

Weekly classes: 2L +1E

Type of exam: written

Annotation

The course "Geography of countries - II (European Union)," is one of the main subjects in the training of students in the master's program "Regional Development". The aim of the course is to acquaint students with the greatest political and economic organization in Europe the European Union, its main institutions and policies. Studied are selected European countries by an approved algorithm, their resource potential, political and administrative structure, socio-economic development and regional structure.

Course content

Lectures are structured in two sections. The first examines the occurrence and stages of the EU enlargement, principles, the aims and mechanisms by which it operates. Special attention is paid to the institutions with coordinating and management functions in the EU, as well as geo-demographic and ethno-religious characteristic and structure of the EU countries. The issues and trends in the EU are highlighted, particularly those related to his recent enlargements. Evaluated is the importance of the common European policy as a significant stabilizing geopolitical factor.

The second part introduces students to European countries. Special attention is paid to regional differences in the level of socio-economic development between the countries, to the characteristics of natural conditions and resources of the demographic potential and polity. Analyzed is the effectiveness of measures and programs to overcome the internal regional differences between the EU member countries. Evaluated is the importance of the overall European economy in the world economy, and is made a comparison with other global economic centers and regions. The development trends are outlined.

Teaching technology and assessment

The course includes lectures and practical exercises. The course is conducted on the basis of pre planning of each lecture, including an exposition, a summary and a discussion, as well as

links between the previous and the new lecture and connections with other disciplines and other scientific fields. The process of teaching is connected with the use of visualizations presentations, maps, graphics, print materials and more. During the exercises students learn to analyze statistical information, to visualize trends in demographic and socio-economic development of the countries. Discussed are the trends in territorial or historical development of the countries and is predicted their future. Students develop and defend papers.

BASIS OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ECTS credits: 6

Hours per week: 3l+0se+0le+1pe+p

Form of knowledge evaluation: Examination

Examination type: written

Semester: III

Methodological guidance:

Chair: "Geography, Ecology and Environment Protection"

Faculty: Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Lecturers:

Assoc prof. Emilia Patarchanova, Ph D

E-mail: emilia_patarchanova@swu.bg;

Phone: 0885 938005

Annotation

The lecture course is a compulsory subject for the students from the Ministry of Regional Development. The main goal of the course is to acquaint students with the scientific and theoretical formulations of regional development. The macrostructure of the lecture course includes four sections. The applied significance of the lecture course "Fundamentals of Regional Development" consists in providing the scientific training and competence of the masters in analyzing, organizing the planning and the overall activity of the regional development, its management and solving the problems.

Course content

The first module is dedicated to the subject, tasks and main goals set for regional development and processes related to the development of economic, social and territorial changes. The second module brings together topics related to the regional development of Western European countries, regional planning systems, mechanisms, instruments and policies in EU countries, the various phases of development. A comparative review of regional development policies in Hungary, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Poland, Romania and Finland complements the knowledge of masters. The third module acquaints the masters with the various documents used in the field of regional development in the European Union. The fourth module has a methodological content. Through the presented topics and the acquired knowledge the students get acquainted with the more important methods for research and analysis of the regional development and the approaches for revealing the existing spatial differences in the socio-economic, political, territorial and cultural life of a certain territory.

Teaching and assessment technology

The evaluation of the achieved results in the training process is in compliance with the requirements of Ordinance № 21 of the Ministry of Education and Science for application of a system for accumulation and transfer of credits. During the semester periodic control is performed by assigning term papers and / or papers, and / or by conducting tests. The final

grade is formed by 40% of the grade of the current control and 60% of the grade of the semester exam, according to the developed and accepted in the GEEP department system for assessment of the knowledge, skills and competencies of the students. The training uses a computer, demonstration software, visual materials (boards and diagrams), some of which are developed as real regional strategies, plans and programs and projects. For the practical exercises the material and technical base of the department "GEEP", CCI-Blagoevgrad, as well as departments in the municipality of Blagoevgrad and Blagoevgrad district is used.

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

ECTS credits: 6

Hours per week: 3l+0se+0le+1pe+p

Form of knowledge evaluation: Examination

Examination type: written

Semester: III

Methodological guidance:

Chair: "Geography, Ecology and Environment Protection"

Faculty: Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Lecturers:

Prof. Ph.D. Maria Shishmanova

E-mail: valkova_chich@swu.bg

Phone: +359 884 931 997

Annotation

The lecture course is a compulsory discipline for master students in the Regional Development Programme. The main goal of the course is to acquaint students with the scientific and theoretical formulations in regional development and regional analysis. The macrostructure of the lecture course includes three modules. Through the presented topics and the acquired knowledge the students get acquainted with the more important methods of regional development and the approaches for revealing the existing spatial differences in the socio-economic, political, territorial and cultural life of a certain territory. The applied significance of the lecture course "Regional Analysis" consists in providing the scientific training and competence of the masters in the analysis, preparation for the planning, organization of the planning and the overall activity of the regional development, its management and solving the problems.

Discipline content

The first module is dedicated to the subject, tasks and main goals, approaches and methods set and serving the regional development. It is dedicated to the most current problems of the regional economy such as: strengthening and structuring the regional economy in modern conditions; studying its spatial aspects of development, regularities, principles and factors for localization; determination of the economic, social and ecological efficiency of the territorial organization of production; the resource security of the territorial units, the protection and reproduction of the natural environment; analysis and assessment of the territorial concentration, specialization, diversification and multiplication of the production and management of the economy of the territorial units. The second module combines topics presenting economic-mathematical methods - regional forecasting, correlation analysis, graph theory, cluster analysis, intuitive-logical methods - heuristic methods in management, herringbone diagram, problem tree, morphological analysis, typological analysis of complex objects and etc. The third module focuses on strategic planning and methods for forecasting the

future. SWOT analysis, STEP analysis, Delphi method, Brainstorming method, scenario method, as well as modeling of economic and social processes, etc. are mainly studied.

Technology of education and grading

Grading the results shown in the course of education complies with the provisions of Regulation No. 21 of the Ministry of Education and Science from 30.09.2004 for applying the system for accumulation and transfer of credits. A periodical control is held in the semester by assigning course papers (K) and/ or papers (R) and/ or by solving tests (T). The final grade constitutes 50% of the periodical control grade and 50% of the grade from the semestrial examination according to developed and approved in GEEP Chair system of control and grading students' competence. For visualization of the lecture material taught is used a computer, software for demonstrations, pictorials (boards and schemes), parts of which are developed as real regional strategies, plans, programmes and projects. For the practical exercises is used the material-technological fund of GEEP Chair, and that of the Territorial and Village Structure Department of Blagoevgrad Municipality and Blagoevgrad Region by taking advantage of the freedom the archive gives for different analysis.

APPLICATION OF GIS IN THE REGIONAL RESEARCH

ECTS credits: 6

Weekly workload: 3л+0су+0лу+1пу

Form for verification of knowledge: exam

Type of exam: written

Semester: III

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

Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Science

Lecturers:

Assoc prof. Penka Kastreva, PhD

E-mail: penkakastreva@swu.bg

Annotation

The subject "Application of geographic information systems in the regional research" is studied by the students with a bachelor's degree in other professional fields and presents the general concepts of development and implementation of GIS. The lecture course complements the fundamental theoretical knowledge of the basic GIS course from the bachelor degree. The course aims to provide practical knowledge on the occurrence, the application and the increasing role of GIS in the regional planning and management of different territorial units. All knowledge is directly oriented to the systems of mapping, management, analysis and support in the decision making in the management of geographical sites and areas that have local or regional distribution. 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. Fundamentals of GIS and Computer Cartography: The lecture course includes topics from the basic course in Cartography and GIS, which deals with the mathematical basis of the map and related concepts of scale, coordinate systems, map projections and database structure in GIS. Section II. Theoretical background: The course includes fundamental topics for development and implementation of GIS related to the development of the regions in

Bulgaria. Different areas of application of GIS in planning the regions are considered (economic development and planning, demographic planning, social planning, environment, spatial planning, development and planning of infrastructure network). This lecture course emphasizes basically on the methods of the tridimensional objects and surfaces presentation. Of the utmost importance for geography students is the performance of the geographical analysis using GIS in the treatment of various problems in the management of economic life in the country. Section III. Seminar lectures with student participation: The students are placed in a real situation presenting their vision for the creation of a future project for GIS management of pre-defined territory and its implementation. 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 exercises the students are divided into groups and each student has a separate computer.

During the semester periodically the students are assigned individual tasks or tests. The tasks are fully related to digital work environment with specialized software for mapping and using of maps.

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.

DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

ECTS credits: 6

Form of verification of knowledge: exam

Semester: III

Methodical guidance:

Department Geography, ecology and environmental protection

Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Lectors:

Dr. Vladimir Karadzhov

E-mail: karadzhov@swu.bg

phone: 0884 865619

**Weekly tuition hours: 3lectures+ seminary
exercises+1practical exercises+p**

Type of exam: written

Annotation

The lecture course "Human Resources Development and Management" is an elective course for master's students majoring in "Geography". It acquaints students with the scientific-theoretical and practical formulations of the selection, management and evaluation and certification of human resources. importance for companies and municipalities at the present stage of economic development, so it is especially important for master students to get acquainted with the theoretical and practical formulations in human resource management. The

first section is devoted to an introduction to human resource management in the EU and in the Republic of Bulgaria. The second section brings together topics explaining human resource management and human resource management systems. The third section introduces the masters to topics from the practical aspect of human resource management.

Course content

1	Introduction to human resource management.
2	Human resources as an object of management.
3	Human resources and the ability to motivate.
4	Human capital in a changing economic environment
5	The human resources management system - structure, functions, perspectives.
6	Human resource Management
7	Human resources management in the company
8	Recruitment of human resources
9	Evaluation of the labor performance of human resources
10	Ongoing assessment and annual assessment (attestation)
11	Motivational theories - the foundation of management through motivation
12	Selection and orientation of human resources
13	Remuneration management in the business organization
14	Operational Program "Human Resources Development 2014-2020"
15	Dynamics in human resource management

Teaching and assessment technology

The evaluation of the achieved results in the training process is in compliance with the requirements of Ordinance № 21 of the Ministry of Education and Science of 30.09.2004 for application of a system for accumulation and transfer of credits. During the semester, periodic control is performed by assigning term papers (K), and / or papers (R), and / or by conducting tests (T). The final grade is formed by 40% of the grade of the periodic control and 60% of the grade of the semester exam, according to the system for control of the knowledge and skills of the students developed and accepted in the GEOOS department. Computer configurations, multimedia, as well as the book, electronic and periodical resources of the University Library of SWU "Neofit Rilski" are used to illustrate the taught lecture material.

SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT

ECTS credits: 4

Course hours per week: 21+0se+1pe

Form of assessment: ongoing assessment and exam

Exam: written

Semester: IV

Methodological guidance:

Department "Geography, Ecology and Environmental Protection"

Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Lecturer:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ivan Drenovski

Department "Geography, Ecology and Environmental Protection"

E-mail: idri@swu.bg

Annotation

Course „Sustainable land management” is studied by students in the master's program "Regional Development" in geography in order to gain knowledge about the principles and methods of applying the environmental approach in regional policy and management. The topic

is especially relevant in connection with the implementation of the strategic concept for sustainable development and the implementation in management practice of its main motto: "Think globally, act locally."

Course content

In addition to the fundamental theoretical ideas in the field of sustainable development, students get acquainted with the experience of a number of European countries in sustainable land management - the legislative framework, system and levels of government, coordination of activities, features and tools for combining environmental requirements, growth and social prosperity. Particular attention is paid to the various sectoral policies related to environmentally friendly management of the territory, regulations and tools for their implementation in our country. The methodology for compiling maps for functional zoning of the territory and the justification of measures for maintaining the required state of the natural environment are considered.

Technology of teaching and evaluation

The main form for checking and assessing students' knowledge is the written exam. Students' knowledge and skills are assessed on a six-point scale.

Ongoing control is applied to assess activities that assess the degree of mastery of the material, the acquired knowledge, skills and competencies during the training during the semester. It consists of a periodic examination of the knowledge acquired by students and their ability to acquire new knowledge. It is carried out on the basis of the work of the students during the exercises, the assignment and execution of course assignments and the solving of electronic tests. Students who have received a grade of at least 3.00 on the current control are admitted to a written exam. Students who are not admitted to the current control exam are assigned additional tasks.

The written exam consists of the development of a topic and a short presentation in the form of a summary of the course work prepared during the semester. The final grade (FG) is formed as the arithmetic mean of the current grade (CG) and the grade from the written exam (WE). It is calculated by the following formula: $FG = 0.4 \times CG + 0.6 \times WE$.

PLANNING AND REGIONAL POLICY

ECTS credits: 5

Hours per week: 31+0se+0le+1pe+p

Form of knowledge evaluation: Examination

Examination type: written

Semester: IV

Methodological guidance:

Chair: "Geography, Ecology and Environment Protection"

Faculty: Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Lecturers:

Assoc prof. Emilia Patarchanova, Ph D

E-mail: emilia_patarchanova@swu.bg;

Phone: 0885 938005

Annotation

The lecture course is a compulsory subject for the students studying at the Ministry of Regional Development. The main goal of the course is to acquaint students with the scientific

and theoretical formulations of regional policy and planning. The macrostructure of the lecture course includes three sections. The applied significance of the lecture course "Planning and Regional Policy" is to ensure the scientific training and competence of students in the management, organization and planning of regional development and policy of administrative-territorial units at different hierarchical levels.

Course content

The first module is dedicated to the subject, tasks and objectives of regional planning and policy, methodological aspects and programming. The second module brings together topics related to the main policies that take place within the EU. Emphasis is placed on the National Cohesion Policy Framework, the National Strategic Reference Framework and other strategic documents of regional development and policy in Bulgaria. The focus is also on the various operational programs and the complementarity between them. The third module is oriented to the need and essence of strategic planning, modeling of planning, purpose and scope of the strategic plan, the process of preparation of the strategy (Development Plan) and monitoring of their implementation. In this module students get acquainted and study in relative detail the content of the main problems in the planning and management of regional policy.

Technology of teaching and evaluation

The evaluation of the achieved results in the training process is in compliance with the requirements of Ordinance № 21 of the Ministry of Education and Science for application of a system for accumulation and transfer of credits. During the semester, periodic control is performed by assigning course assignments and / or papers, and / or by conducting tests. The final grade is formed by 40% of the grade from the current control and 60% from the grade of the semester exam. The training in the discipline uses various information resources, websites of institutions and organizations, strategic documents, regional strategies, plans and programs and projects. The material and technical base of the "GEEP" department is used for the practical exercises.

MANAGEMENT OF PROJECTS FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ECTS credits: 3

Form of knowledge evaluation: Examination

Semester: IV

Methodological guidance:

Chair: "Geography, Ecology and Environment Protection"

Faculty: Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Lecturers:

Prof. Ph D. Maria Shishmanova

Phone: +359 884 931 997

E-mail: valkova_chich@swu.bg

Hours per week: 2l+0se+0le+0pe+p

Examination type: written

Annotation

The lecture course is a compulsory discipline for master students in the Regional Development Programme. The main objective of the course is to make students familiar with the scientific and theoretical formulations of the management of projects for regional development. The macrostructure of the lecture course covers four modules.

The significance of lecture course Management of Projects for Regional Development as far as its application is concerned lies in providing scientific training and competence to master students for analyzing and organizing the planning of the overall performance of the management of a regional project.

Discipline content

The first module is dedicated to the projects and programmes, as well as the phases of the project cycle, the main principles, the form or structure of the projects and programmes. The second module combines topics explaining the logical frame, its matrix, approach and planning stages. The third module makes master students familiar with the overall formation of the logical frame. The fourth part presents the use of the logical frame for planning of complex interventions: interrelated logical frames.

Technology of education and grading

Grading the results shown in the course of education complies with the provisions of Regulation No. 21 of the Ministry of Education and Science from 30.09.2004 for applying the system for accumulation and transfer of credits. A periodical control is held in the semester by assigning course papers (K) and/ or papers (R) and/ or by solving tests (T). The final grade constitutes 50% of the periodical control grade and 50% of the grade from the semestrial examination according to developed and approved in GEEP Chair system of control and grading students' competence. For visualization of the lecture material taught is used a computer, software for demonstrations, pictorials (boards and schemes), parts of which are developed as real regional strategies, plans, programmes and projects. For the practical exercises is used the material-technological fund of GEEP Chair, and that of the Territorial and Village Structure Department of Blagoevgrad Municipality and Blagoevgrad Region by taking advantage of the freedom the archive gives for different analysis.

ELECTIVE COURSES

SPATIAL PLANNING

ECTS credits: 3

Weekly workload: 2Л+0су+0Лу+0Пл

Form for verification of knowledge: exam

Type of exam: written

Semester: III

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

Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Science

Lecturers:

Assoc prof. Penka Kastreva, PhD

E-mail: penkakastreva@swu.bg

Annotation

The subject "Spatial Planning" is studied by students graduating with a bachelor's degree in "Geography" and briefly presents spatial planning as a necessary modern basis for the proper development of urban and rural areas.

The aim of the lecture course is to give students the necessary minimum systematized knowledge and some creative guidelines in order to be able to participate according to their specialty in the complex process of planning and construction of the settlements and their adjacent territories.

Course content

Section I. Nature and tasks of the activity structure of the territories: The lecture material includes the most general characteristics of the settlements with the study of their elements outside the settlement territories. Given the specifics of the specialty, the general planning structure and zoning of the territories are considered.

Section II. Spatial planning of the settlement and out-of-settlement territory: The main types of plans and project materials for planning; spatial design and organization of the settlement and out-of-settlement territories are considered. Attention is paid to the technologies of making and implementing the plans.

Section III. Implementation and control of the development plans: Of great importance for the students - geographers is the knowledge of the normative base related to the development of the territory and the stages of acceptance, approval and amendment of the development plans.

In view of the specifics of the topics covered, the lecture material is supported by many examples from practice, including real projects.

Teaching technology and assessment

The lectures 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 some practical tasks. Students who study with an individual plan independently develop the same tasks with free GIS software (QGIS).

During the semester periodically the students are assigned individual tasks or tests. The tasks are fully related to digital work environment with specialized software for mapping and using of maps.

The students are admitted to the exam with a minimal grade of 3 which is formed as the average of all grades received during the semester. The final grade 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.

REGIONAL AND URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE

ECTS credits: 3

Hours per week: 2l+0se+0le+0pe+p

Form of knowledge evaluation: Examination

Examination type: written

Semester: III

Methodological guidance:

Chair: “Geography, Ecology and Environment Protection”

Faculty: Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Lecturers:

Assoc prof. Emilia Patarchanova, Ph D

E-mail: emilia_patarchanova@swu.bg;

Phone: 0885 938005

Annotation

The lecture course is an elective course for students studying at the Ministry of Regional Development. The main goal of the course is to acquaint students with the scientific and

theoretical formulations of the regional and settlement infrastructure and their practical application and significance. The macrostructure of the lecture course includes three sections. The applied significance of the lecture course "Regional and urban infrastructure" consists in providing the scientific preparation and competence of the masters in the analysis, organization, planning of the overall activity of the management of the regional and settlement infrastructure.

Course content

The first module is dedicated to the economic nature, content and scope of infrastructure, classification, types, methodological tools for research and analysis of infrastructure, management and efficiency. The second module brings together topics explaining the infrastructure of urban planning and development. The third module introduces the masters to the overall construction of technical, social, market, recreational and production and environmental infrastructure.

Teaching technology and assessment

The evaluation of the achieved results in the training process is in compliance with the normative requirements of the Ministry of Education and Science and the application of a system for accumulation and transfer of credits. During the semester periodic control is performed by assigning term papers and / or papers, and / or by conducting tests. The final grade is formed by 50% of the grade of the periodic control and 50% of the grade of the semester exam, according to the system for control of the knowledge and skills of the students developed and accepted in the GEEP department.

A computer, demonstration software, regional strategies, plans and programs are used to illustrate the taught lecture material.

For the practical exercises the material and technical base of the department "GEEP" is used, as well as the department "Territorial and settlement structure" of the municipality of Blagoevgrad and Blagoevgrad district with the possibilities of the archive for various analyzes.

DEVELOPING RURAL AND BORDER AREAS

ECTS credits: 3

Form of knowledge evaluation: Examination

Semester: III

Methodological guidance:

Chair: "Geography, Ecology and Environment Protection"

Faculty: Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Lecturers:

Assoc prof. Emilia Patarchanova, Ph D

E-mail: emilia_patarchanova@swu.bg;

Phone: 0885 938005

Hours per week: 2l+0se+0le+0pe+p

Examination type: written

Annotation

The course is relatively new, and attention is paid to the theoretical and practical issues related to planning, development and management of regions purposeful support. It builds on the knowledge and skills of the undergraduate degree and specialization ensures future masters in regional studies, management and planning of rural and border areas.

Graduates of this course students will be able to describe and analyze the existing hierarchy in the spatial organization of regional planning for the needs of rural and border areas. Offer an alternative for solving the problems described in the municipal development plans in

their regional area. Work in teams to create competitive options on specific topics or subject. Create text and cartographical product management bodies of the public administration and business. Provide estimates for different areas of regional development by offering competitive solutions variant.

Course content

Lectures are structured in two sections. The first is devoted to the rural areas. Topics acquaint students with the nature, characteristics and nuances of the term in the rural areas, historically and in territorial terms. In theoretical terms are considered sets of indices, indicators and criteria for the classification of rural areas. Attention is paid to national characteristics of these areas in different EU countries. Some of the topics are orientated toward the common agricultural policy (CAP) development policy (RDP), and regional policy. Emphasis on their impact on rural development. Students learn basic programming documents governing such policies. The experience of other countries in the EU CAP, Rural Development (RDP) and Regional Policy.

The second section is devoted to the problems of border areas. Traces the history of the emergence and strengthening their policies and practices of EU importance for European integration. Emphasis is on the basic characteristics and measures of cross-border cooperation. Studied the programs of EU cross-border cooperation and integrated development. Summarizes is Bulgarian and European theory and practice related to the development and management of cross-border regions and processes, focusing on the experience of leading European countries this process.

Teaching and assessment and Measurement

To illustrate the lectures taught using computer multimedia demonstration software program documents of EU regional strategies, plans and programs. Use the equipment of the department "GEEP" as regional, provincial and municipal departments and NGOs involved in the development of their respective areas.

The examination process includes a written examination - one topic from each section in a pre-defined syllabus corresponding to the content of the curriculum. The relative weight of the total test score is 60%. The assessment is carried out in six-point scale; under HEA and Ordinance № 21 of the Ministry / 30.09.2004. Credits are awarded only if the total score is equal to or higher than the average of 3, under the system of accumulation and transfer of credits. During the semester students undertake a periodic review by the award of assignments (K) and / or abstracts (R). The final grade is based on 40% of the assessment of periodic checks and 60% of the assessment of semester examination.

URBANIZATION ANALYSIS

ECTS credits: 3

Form of knowledge evaluation: Examination

Semester: III

Methodological guidance:

Chair: "Geography, Ecology and Environment Protection"

Faculty: Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Lecturers:

Prof. Ph.D. Maria Shishmanova

E-mail: valkova_chich@swu.bg

Phone: +359 884 931 997

Hours per week: 2l+0se+0le+0pe+p

Examination type: written

Annotation

The lecture course is a compulsory discipline for master students in the Regional Development Programme. The main objective of the course is to make students familiar with the scientific and theoretical formulations of the organization of villages and the analysis of their spatial structure. The macrostructure of the lecture course covers three modules.

The significance of lecture course Urbanization Analysis as far as its application is concerned lies in providing scientific training and competence to master students for analyzing and organizing the planning of the overall performance of a village from a different category, its management and the solving of its urbanization problems.

Discipline content

The first module is dedicated to the subject, tasks and main objectives before the village development and other aspects such as stability of processes arising in the course of growth, projecting and application of the regulatory standards. The second module combines topics explaining the localization performance of the inhabitation structure, greening, cultural and historic legacy, sport and recreation, social service, technical infrastructure and facilities, organization of residential areas, central town parts at environmentally friendly regulation of the village environment. The third module makes master students familiar with the organization and sizing of the outside village territory as well – agricultural, forest, disturbed territories and territories occupied by the technical infrastructure.

Technology of education and grading

Grading the results shown in the course of education complies with the provisions of Regulation No. 21 of the Ministry of Education and Science from 30.09.2004 for applying the system for accumulation and transfer of credits. A periodical control is held in the semester by assigning course papers (K) and/ or papers (R) and/ or by solving tests (T). The final grade constitutes 50% of the periodical control grade and 50% of the grade from the semestrial examination according to developed and approved in GEEP Chair system of control and grading students' competence. For visualization of the lecture material taught is used a computer, overhead projector, software for demonstrations, pictorials (boards and schemes), parts of which are developed as real regional strategies, plans, programmes and projects.

For the practical exercises is used the material-technological fund of GEEP Chair, and that of the Territorial and Village Structure Department of Blagoevgrad Municipality and Blagoevgrad Region by taking advantage of the freedom the archive gives for different analysis.

DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF PROBLEM AREAS

ECTS credits: 3

Form of knowledge evaluation: Examination

Semester: IV

Methodological guidance:

Chair: "Geography, Ecology and Environment Protection"

Faculty: Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Lecturers:

Assoc prof. Emilia Patarchanova, Ph D

E-mail: emilia_patarchanova@swu.bg;

Phone: 0885 938005

Hours per week: 2l+0se+0le+0pe+p

Examination type: written

Annotation

The course upgrades the knowledge and skills of the bachelor's degree, providing specialization of future masters in regional research of problem areas, emphasizing the management and forecasting of the most important socio-economic processes of public life.

Problem zoning is a specific method that will find increasing application in the practice of regional development of Bulgaria at all levels. It is an element of modern regional policy and its scientific provision. Foreign experience is used, especially regional socio-economic research with a problem orientation in the EU countries. Problematic regional schemes common to the European Union are considered, and attention is paid to the national peculiarities and policies in the individual countries of the European Union.

Course content

In general, the topic is divided into three sections. The first is theoretical and basically acquaints students with the nature, principles and approaches of problem zoning. The second thematic section is focused on learning about the experience of development policy of these informal territorial communities in the European Union. In the final section, students examine in more detail the Bulgarian heritage, get acquainted with the modern theoretical basis and practical solutions related to problem zoning in Bulgaria. In general, the topic is divided into three sections. The first is theoretical and basically acquaints students with the nature, principles and approaches of problem zoning. The second thematic section is focused on learning about the experience of development policy of these informal territorial communities in the European Union. In the final section, students examine in more detail the Bulgarian heritage, get acquainted with the modern theoretical basis and practical solutions related to problem zoning in Bulgaria.

Central place in the course is given to socially significant socio-economic problems and their regional study in our country. The products of the regional policy and planning for the development and management of the country and the regions in the past and today are mastered. The processes of planning, development and management of the regions of the different territorial levels (from the NUTS classification) and especially the regions for targeted impact - species, territorial scope, content characteristics are considered in detail.

Teaching and assessment technology

The training in the discipline is carried out according to the current curriculum of the master's program. The lecture course is conducted on the basis of advance planning of each lecture, which includes: topic, connections between the previous and the new lecture, connections with other disciplinary areas, introduction, plan, presentation, discussion and summary. During the semester, periodic control is performed by assigning a paper or presentation. Also included is solving a test that corresponds to the curriculum of the discipline. Evaluation criterion is the degree of performance of the tasks (abstract, presentation, test) taking into account: the levels of competence, analytical, understanding.

INNOVATIONS AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ECTS credits: 3

Form of verification of knowledge: exam

Semester: IV

Methodical guidance:

**Weekly tuition hours: 3lectures+ seminary
exercises+1practical exercises+p**

Type of exam: written

Department Geography, ecology and environmental protection
Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Lectors:

Dr. Vladimir Karadzhov
E-mail: karadzhov@swu.bg
phone: 0884 865619

Annotation

The lecture course is an elective discipline for master students in major Geography. The main objective of the course is to make students familiar with the scientific, theoretical and practical formulations of the innovations and transfer of technologies in the development of the regional policy. The macrostructure of the lecture course covers three parts.

The significance of lecture course Innovations and Regional Development as far as its application is concerned lies in providing scientific training and competence to master students for analyzing and organizing the planning of the overall implementation and management of innovations and transfer of technologies.

Discipline content

The first module is dedicated to the economic nature, content and scope of innovations in the European Union and in the Republic of Bulgaria. The second module combines topics explaining the transfer and application of new technologies, the cooperation between the scientific-technological sector and the business, the measures for realization of the innovation strategy on a regional level, the financial and non-financial instruments, as well as the competitive power of Bulgarian enterprises. The third module makes master students familiar with the improvement of competence and the innovations for growth, the poorly developed regions and the innovations, the project funding, subsidization for a scientific and technological project and subsidies for small and medium-sized enterprises, as well as the stages for realization of the financial scheme of an innovation project.

Technology of education and grading

Grading the results shown in the course of education complies with the provisions of Regulation No. 21 of the Ministry of Education and Science from 30.09.2004 for applying the system for accumulation and transfer of credits. A periodical control is held in the semester by assigning course papers (K) and/ or papers (R) and/ or by solving tests (T). The final grade constitutes 40% of the periodical control grade and 60% of the grade from the semestrial examination according to developed and approved in GEEP Chair system of control and grading students' competence. For visualization of the lecture material taught is used a computer, overhead projector, software for demonstrations, pictorials (boards and schemes), parts of which are developed as real regional strategies, plans, programmes and projects. For the practical exercises is used the material-technological fund of GEEP Chair, and that of the Territorial and Village Structure Department of Blagoevgrad Municipality and Blagoevgrad Region by taking advantage of the freedom the archive gives for different analysis.

NONs-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ECTS credits: 3

Form of knowledge evaluation: Examination

Semester: IV

Hours per week: 2l+0se+0le+0pe+p

Examination type: written

Methodological guidance:**Chair:** "Geography, Ecology and Environment Protection"**Faculty:** Mathematics and Natural Sciences**Lecturer:****Assistant** Gergana Nikolova Ph D

Phone: 0886216230

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Annotation

The lecture course is an elective course for master's students majoring in "Geography". The main purpose of the course is to acquaint students with the nature and conditions of NGO in relation to the regional policy for regional development. The lecture course includes four sections. The significance of lecture course Non-Governmental Organizations and Regional Development as far as its application is concerned lies in providing scientific training and competence to master students in the course of the studying the important interrelation between the development of civil sector as a factor for democratic development of regions in accordance with the settlement of population problems nowadays.

Discipline content

The first module explains the role and significance of NGO. An important place in the content conception occupies the argumentation of the component "civil sector" in the regional development as an example for a democratic image of the society nowadays.

The second module covers the structural model of NGO functions within the context of the regional development. Getting acquainted with the Law on Non-Profit Legal Entities and NGOs.

The third module makes master students familiar with NGO types. The stress is placed on the differences between the civil organizations according to the nature of performance, the people working on short-term problems of rights defending according to the regional scope, etc. The objective is to show the practical and applicable character of NGO in the concrete development of regions by accounting for their resource potential.

The fourth module follows the interactive relations between NGO and the contemporary requirements for regional development. The requirements for development of the civil sector in accordance with the contemporary information technologies and marketing conceptions based on NGO's objective are discussed in details.

Technology of education and grading

Grading the results shown in the course of education complies with the provisions of Regulation No. 21 of the Ministry of Education and Science from 30.09.2004 for applying the system for accumulation and transfer of credits. A periodical control is held in the semester by assigning course papers (K) and/ or papers (R) and/ or by solving tests (T). The final grade constitutes 40% of the periodical control grade and 60% of the grade from the semestrial examination according to developed and approved in GEEP Chair system of control and grading students' competence. For visualization of the lecture material taught is used a computer, overhead projector, software for demonstrations, pictorials (boards and schemes), parts of which are developed as real regional strategies, plans, programmes and projects.

For the practical exercises is used the material-technological fund of GEEP Chair, and that of the Territorial and Village Structure Department of Blagoevgrad Municipality and Blagoevgrad Region by taking advantage of the freedom the archive gives for different analysis.