

Bachelor's Educational Program of International Relations

*Recent changes made to the program
are discussed at the session of the faculty council:*

Protocol No. 10-23, 16.10.2023

Approved by the decision of the Governing Board:

Resolution No. 32, 18.10.2023

Level of Higher Academic Education: (I level of higher academic education)

Instruction language: Georgian

Type of educational program: academic, basic

Detailed field name and code: 0312 Political Sciences and Fundamentals of Citizenship

Awarded qualification: Bachelor of International Relations

Duration of studying: 8 semesters

Educational program volume: 240 credits

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Relevance of Program

In the modern international system wrapped in a web of interdependence, it is impossible for states to cope with the challenges of national security and meet the requirements of economic well-being without international cooperation. In the conditions of ever-increasing political globalization, therefore, international relations appears as one of the most necessary and relevant educational programs, as its main subject of study is the nation-states and the international organizations through which they interact with each other. The mentioned one is especially relevant for a small country like Georgia, whose realization of national interests depends on foreign political decisions made in relation to powerful states, integration in international organizations or other types of international involvement. At the same time, the challenges facing the modern world are complex in nature and go beyond not only national, but also disciplinary boundaries, which additionally determines the relevance of international relations as a global thinking-oriented and interdisciplinary program.

Prerequisites for admission to the program

The following will be admitted to the bachelor's educational program of International Relations:

A person with a document confirming complete general education or equivalent, who will be entitled to study at a European university based on the ranking of the coefficients of points obtained in the unified national exams.

To enroll in the program, the entrant is obliged to pass the following subjects at the unified national exams:

- a) Georgian language and Literature (The entrant must pass the minimum competency limit;
- b) English language- minimum competence limit 51%;
- c) One of the following subjects: History/Mathematics/Civil Education/Geography (The entrant must pass the minimum competence limit established by Law). The number of seats for each subject should not be less than 10% of the seats announced on the program. The exact percentage distribution will be decided by the program head before the announcement of seats.

The ones will get the right to study on the program without passing the unified national exams as follows:

Persons who, on the basis of the Order No. 224/N of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia dated December 29, 2011, "On the approval of the procedure for submission and review of documents by entrants/candidates of master's degree /students with the right to study without passing unified national exams/general master's exams" have to enroll in the university without passing the unified national exams. The mentioned persons are obliged to confirm the B2 level of the Georgian language in accordance with the "Rule for determining the language competence for a student of European University".

The following will also be admitted to the program:

Students enrolled by the rule of mobility in accordance of Order №10/N of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia dated February 4, 2010 "On approval of the procedure and fees for transferring from a higher educational institution to another higher educational institution".

Goals of Program

- I. To prepare highly qualified international relations specialists with knowledge and skills corresponding to the requirements of the European educational space and the employment market, who will be able to work productively in policy-making, executive, analytical and representative positions.

- II. To develop students' holistic and multidisciplinary thinking, and "soft" and "hard" skills, which are important for analyzing, preventing, responding to, or managing the risks associated with the complex and multifaceted problems facing the international system.
- III. To support students to develop civic responsibility, general human and European values, or moral and ethical norms, which are necessary for a decent professional activity in the field of international relations.

Learning Outcomes

The consistent and full implementation of the goals set by the program ensures the achievement of the corresponding results of the first-level (Bachelor's degree) qualification describer of the higher education qualifications framework, namely:

Knowledge and Understanding

1. The student names the main subjects of International Law, describes the key international contractual and customary norms applicable among them, and explains their role in protecting and strengthening the international legal order;
2. The student formulates the basic principles of economics at the micro, macro and international levels and explains the relation of economic decisions to political, legal, social or ecological processes.
3. The student identifies state, regional or international security challenges, distinguishes their legal, political and economic nature and discusses ways to deal with them.
4. The student explains the key concepts, ideas or principles that define politics, compares political systems and regimes of different natures, and tells the history of the development of political theories and practices.
5. The student reviews international and regional integration processes of an intergovernmental or supranational nature, describes the foundations of foreign policy formation in large and small countries, and analyzes the interaction of domestic and foreign policies.

Skills

6. The student evaluates the international, European or domestic legal situation as a basis for carrying out a specific policy, or as a facilitating or hindering factor;
7. The student determines the economic expediency of domestic and foreign political decisions and predicts the ecological, social, political price of a number of economic calculations;

8. The student reflects ways to deal with the contemporary challenges of national, regional and international security and economic well-being using the studied concepts and theories;
9. The student foresees the behavior of states and discusses world state, regional and world politics from a multidisciplinary, comparative and historical perspective;
10. The student applies basic research, digital and academic writing skills, as well as English and a second foreign language of his/her choice from the working languages of the United Nations, to seek new information and to communicate orally and in writing.

Responsibility and Autonomy

11. The student recognizes European and general human values, such as human rights and basic freedoms, sustainable development, Rule of Law, democracy, and recognizes the importance of civil responsibility in terms of their protection;
12. The student recognizes the need to observe ethical and moral norms in international relations, and recognizes the importance of political, diplomatic and legal conflict resolution mechanisms for world peace.

Volume and Structure of Program

The bachelor's program is based on the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

1 credit includes 25 astronomical hours; A credit in a unit of time (hours) reflects the amount of contact and independent work required by the student to master the relevant study course of the program and to achieve the learning outcomes. Credit includes contact and independent work hours.

The duration of the program is 4 academic years or 8 semesters and includes 240 credits (in total 6000 hours); during the semester, the student must complete 30 credits (30 credits = 750 hours), and within the academic year - 60 credits, however, depending on the student's individual workload, the number of credits during the academic year may be less or more than 60, but not more than 75 credits.

Within the framework of mandatory and optional components of the main study area, the program provides the knowledge in the fields of Economics, International Law, Security, Political Philosophy and Foreign Policy in the context of International Relations, and also includes training courses focused on developing and deepening the specific professional knowledge and skills of the field. In particular:

8 compulsory study courses are united under the umbrella of foreign policy; In the direction of Political Philosophy, the program includes 7 mandatory study courses; Security issues are covered by 6 mandatory training courses; direction of International Law has 4 mandatory study courses, and direction of Economics – 3 mandatory study courses (8:7:6:4:3).

Optional training courses are offered in the following quantities: 7 optional training courses are united under the umbrella of foreign policy; In the direction of Political Philosophy, the program includes 4 optional courses; Security issues are also covered by 4 optional training courses; The direction of Economics has 5 optional courses, and the direction of International Law - 5 optional courses (7:4:4:5:5).The student is given the opportunity to decide for himself/herself whether to follow a balanced interdisciplinary approach or to deepen his/her knowledge in one of the specific above-mentioned directions, and within the framework of the mandatory component, the program is focused on creating an interdisciplinary basis for the student to understand international relations.

In addition, the program includes 1 compulsory study course in the form of research methods and 9 optional study courses that serve to develop individual professional skills.

As a free component, the program also includes compulsory training courses focused on the development of general, transferable skills, including foreign languages. The study of the English language starts from the B1 level and the knowledge is deepened including the B2 level. As a second foreign language, the student can choose any of the other 5 working languages of the United Nations and study from level A1 to B2 (including B1.2).

Within the framework of the free component, 10 free credits are programmatically allocated, within which the student is given the opportunity to choose study courses from any educational program of the relevant level operating in the university, observing the prerequisites for admission to them; The workload of the optional free component is also to ensure the flexibility of the program in the context of inter-university mobility and, if there is required, to support students to master the lower levels of English language knowledge (A1, A2),the teaching of which isn't contemplated in the standard case.

The classification of subjects in accordance of the study areas and the above-mentioned prioritization aims to add consistency to the program and bring it under a single logical framework, which minimizes the risk of confusing knowledge in different disciplines.

Chart #1: Orientation Map of Interdisciplinary Program of International Relations

<p>Topic: International Law</p> <p>Mandatory (4)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction to International Law 2. International Public Law 3. International Agreements 4. International Law of Human Rights 	<p>Topic: Economics</p> <p>Mandatory (3):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Principles of Economics: Microeconomics 2. Principles of Economics: Macroeconomics 3. International Political Economy
<p>Optional (5)</p>	<p>Optional (5):</p>

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Diplomatic and Consular Law 2. International Criminal Law 3. Modern State and Democracy 4. EULaw 5. Fundamentals of Jurisprudence 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Geoeconomy 2. Economy of the European Union 3. Post-communist economic transition 4. Green Economy 5. International economic relations
<p>Topic: Security</p> <p>Mandatory (6):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Theories of International Security 2. National Security Policy 3. Resolving international conflicts 4. European and Euro-Atlantic Security 5. Analysis of Georgia's conflicts 6. Production of Hybrid Warfare 	<p>Topic: political philosophy</p> <p>Mandatory (7):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. History of Political Opinion 2. Political Ideologies 3. Governance Systems 4. Theories of International Relations 5. Comparative Politics 6. Europeanization and Democratization 7. Public Policy
<p>Optionals (4):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Theories of War 2. Understanding of Military Operations 3. International Terrorism 4. Energy Security of Georgia 	<p><u>Optional(4):</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Party Politics 2. Political PR 3. Holocaust Narrative 4. Theories of European Integration
<p>Topic: Foreign Policy</p> <p>Mandatory (8):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction to International Relations 2. History of Diplomacy 3. International Organizations and Integration Processes 4. Stories of European Integration 5. Foreign Policy of Georgia 	<p>Topic: Professional Skills</p> <p>Mandatory (1)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research methods

6. International Energy Relations 7. Post-Soviet Policy 8. Analysis of Foreign Policy	
Optionals (7): 1. Regionalization Pprocesses in the South Caucasus 2. EU Institutions and Governance 3. American Foreign Policy 4. Foreign Policy of Russia 5. Foreign Policy of China 6. Politics of the Middle East and North African regions 7. Institutions and Development	Optionals(9): 1. Writing projects 2. Public speaking 3. Negotiations and Mediation 4. The Art of Debate 5. Advocacy and Lobbying 6. Strategic Planning 7. Social Media and Strategic Communication 8. Practice 9. Professional Career Development

The distribution of credits between the main field of study and free components of the educational program is as follows:

- The total volume of mandatory and optional components of the main study area is 181 credits, including:

- a) Mandatory component of the main field of study - 145 credits;

- b) Optional component of the main field of study - 36 credits;

- The total amount of mandatory and optional free components is 59 credits, including:

- a) Mandatory free component - 49 credits;

- b) Optional free component - 10 credits.

Assessment System of Student's Knowledge

The assessment of the student's knowledge in the bachelor's educational program of International Relations is based on criteria that determine whether the student possesses the learning outcomes defined by the program component.

The assessment system of a student's knowledge is in accordance with the "Rules for calculating credits for higher educational programs" approved by Order No. 3 of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia on January 5, 2007.

The level of achievement of the learning outcomes is assessed by mid-term assessment and final assessment, the sum of which is the final assessment. The maximum final grade of the training course is 100 points.

The evaluation system provides for:

a) Five types of positive assessment:

(A) Excellent - 91-100 points;

(B) very good – 81-90 points;

(C) Good – 71-80 points;

(D) Satisfactory - 61-70 points;

(E) Sufficient – 51-60 points.

b) Two types of negative assessment:

(FX) failed - 41-50 points, which means that the student needs more work to pass and is allowed to take the additional exam once with independent work;

(F) Failed – 40 points and less, which means that the work done by the student is not enough and he/she has to study the course/subject again.

In case of receiving a negative assessment (FX) in the component of the educational program, the student has the right to take an additional exam. The student obtains the right to take the additional exam even if he/she has scored 51 points or more in the final assessment, but has not passed the minimum competence limit defined for the final exam. An additional exam is scheduled at least 5 days after the announcement of the final exam results.

The number of points obtained in the final assessment is not added to the grade received by the student in the additional exam. The grade obtained on the additional exam is the final grade and is reflected in the final grade of the educational program component.

The mid-term assessment is divided into components. A mandatory component of the mid-term assessment is the mid-term exam, which is held in the 8th-9th week. Mid-term assessment refers to the total evaluation of students' work process during working group/practical work, mid-term exam and student's independent work, and final assessment - evaluation of the final exam. The methods of mid-term and final evaluations and their share are determined by the staff implementing the training course within the framework of the relevant syllabus. The syllabus also explains the evaluation criteria

for each component.

A student will be admitted to the final exam if the minimum limit of the mid-term assessment is exceeded. The final exam will be considered passed if the minimum limit for the final exam is exceeded. The following minimum competency limits are defined for the mid-term assessment and the final exam: 50% of the mid-term assessment, 50%+1 of the final exam assessment.

The credit will be considered as mastered whether the sum of the points obtained based on the minimum limit established for the mid-term assessment and the minimum limit established in the final exam is obtained by summing up 51 points or more.

The staff implementing the training course, taking into account the specificity of the training course, is authorized to define different (higher) minimum competency limits for mid-term and final assessments, in accordance with the requirements established by the current legislation of Georgia.

The staff implementing the training course, taking into account the goals, learning outcomes and specificity of the training course, is also authorized to determine the minimum competence limit in the evaluation method/methods. Whether there is a minimum competency limit in the assessment method/methods, credit will be granted by passing the minimum competency limit in each assessment method, passing the minimum competency limit in each assessment component (mid-term and final assessment) and obtaining at least 51 points as a result of summing the points obtained in the mid-term and final assessments in case.

Field of Employment

A graduate of the program of International Relations can work in the public, private or non-governmental sector on policy-making, executive, analytical and representative positions.

In the public sector, specialists of International Relations are mostly employed in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or in the departments of International Relations of any other ministry or state agency, as well as in intergovernmental regional and international organizations, in any of their agencies or institutions; In the private sector, the specialists of International Relations can be found mainly in transnational corporations and other organizations with an international profile, including educational and research organizations; And in the non-governmental sector, the specialists of International Relations are mainly employed by local, regional or international non-governmental organizations and analytical centers.