

**APPROVED** 

by the UL Senate 26.02.2024.

Decision No. 2-3/13

## REGULATION

# of Study Programmes of the University of Latvia

There are no amendments to this document.

#### **I General Terms**

- The Regulation of Study Programmes (henceforth Regulation) of the University of Latvia (henceforth – UL) determines the requirements for the development, implementation, and changes of UL study programmes to ensure a high-quality, competitive, modern offer of study programmes.
- 2. To study programmes, the structure and content of which are determined by the laws and regulations of the Republic of Latvia and upon completion of which the student obtains a professional qualification in a regulated profession, as well as for study programmes that UL implements jointly or in cooperation with Latvian or foreign higher education institutions or which the UL takes over from another higher education institution under the concluded agreements, this Regulation applies to the extent that it does not conflict with the laws and regulations of the Republic of Latvia and concluded agreements.
- 3. The council of the study field corresponding to the study programme is responsible for the quality of the study programme.
- 4. The regulations of UL are observed in the development and implementation of study programmes, as well as the requirements set out in the laws and regulations of the Republic of Latvia.

## **II General Requirements of the Study Programme**

5. The purpose of implementing the study programme is to provide an opportunity to obtain an internationally recognised academic or professional higher education, and to conduct

fundamental and applied research, including in the areas of strategic specialisation of UL, to promote the development of science, the national economy of Latvia, the growth of society, to cultivate the Latvian language and culture, to strengthen the interaction of different cultures, as well as the acquisition of transversal skills integrated into the study content.

- 6. Study programme should contain:
  - 6.1. mandatory part (part A) a part of the study programme that includes study courses the completion of which is mandatory for all students in the study programme;
  - 6.2. restricted elective part (part B) a part of the study programme that includes a set of study courses from which students choose study courses for a fixed amount of credit points;
  - 6.3. elective part (part C) a part of the study programme with a fixed amount of credit points, which is attributable to study courses that the student chooses and takes from the offer of free elective courses of UL or the same or higher-level study programme of UL following the procedure established at the UL, except in cases when the student has a justified reason to take certain study courses from lower-level study programmes or outside of UL\* by written endorsement of the study programme director:
    - 6.3.1. for the implementation of the research chosen by the student;
    - 6.3.2. for student mobility or participation in the activities of international cooperation initiatives;
    - 6.3.3. to take necessary courses if the study programme was switched;
    - 6.3.4. in other justified cases.
- 7. In the mandatory amount of study courses, without increasing the total volume of the study programme, the acquisition of state language for the foreign students should be included if studies in the UL are expected to be longer than six months or exceed 30 credit points\*\* (before the Autumn semester of 2024 20 credit points). Study courses may be included in part B of the study programme, ensuring it is mandatory for foreign students.
- 8. Study modules and subprograms can be included in study programmes of the UL:
  - 8.1. a study module is a combination of courses or parts of courses, which is determined by the study module description. The description includes the goal, tasks and learning outcomes of the study module, as well as indicates study courses or parts of courses included in the study module;

<sup>\*</sup> If the fee for taking free elective study courses outside of the UL exceeds the fee indicated in the UL study process price list of fee-based services, the student covers the difference.

<sup>\*\*</sup> A credit point of the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System.

- 8.2. subprogramme is a part of the study programme that has:
  - 8.2.1. goal, tasks, learning outcomes;
  - 8.2.2. fixed amount of the mandatory, restricted elective part and elective part;
  - 8.2.3. set admission requirements;
  - 8.2.4. indication of awarded degree or qualification.
- 9. UL study programmes can be implemented as full-time intramural studies, part-time intramural studies, part-time extramural studies, or distance learning. Implementation of a study programme as distance learning is determined by the regulations of implementation of distance learning studies in UL.
- 10. UL study programmes can be implemented in cooperation with a partner institution by concluding a cooperation agreement if the Study Programme Quality Assessment Commission (henceforth SP QAC) has supported or encouraged such cooperation.

### **III Academic Study Programmes**

- 11. In addition to the requirements specified in the laws and regulations of the Republic of Latvia:
  - 11.1. In the academic bachelor's study programme:
    - 11.1.1. academic or another internship in UL or outside of UL can be included;
    - 11.1.2. in the mandatory or restricted elective part in the amount of at least 6 credit points\*\*

      (before the Autumn semester of 2024 4 credit points) study courses or study modules are included that students take in English or another language of the European Union (henceforth EU) member state. This requirement does not apply to study programmes that are implemented in English or another language of an EU member state:
    - 11.1.3. restricted elective study modules or study courses with a total amount of up to 30 credit points\*\* (before the Autumn semester of 2024 20 credit points) can be acquired in related or connected UL study programmes with the written endorsement of the study programme director, which is then attached to the student's file.
  - 11.2. In the academic master's study programme:
    - 11.2.1. in the mandatory or restricted elective part in the amount of at least 6 credit points\*\*

      (before the Autumn semester of 2024 4 credit points) (3 credit points\*\* in short master's study programmes (before the Autumn semester of 2024 2 credit points)) study courses or study modules are included that students take in English or another

- language of the EU member state. This requirement does not apply to study programmes that are implemented in English or another language of an EU member state.
- 11.2.2. restricted elective study modules or study courses with the written endorsement of the study programme director, which is attached to the student's file, can be acquired in related or connected UL study programmes, ensuring the acquisition of learning outcomes of the study programme, and observing these conditions:
  - 11.2.2.1. in the study programme, the volume of which is 120 credit points\*\* (before the Autumn semester of 2024 80 credit points), the amount of study courses acquired as such does not exceed 18 credit points\*\* (before the Autumn semester of 2024 12 credit points);
  - 11.2.2.2. in the study programme, the volume of which is less than 120 credit points\*\*

    (before the Autumn semester of 2024 less than 80 credit points), the amount of study courses acquired as such does not exceed 6 credit points\*\*

    (before the Autumn semester of 2024 4 credit points).
- 11.3. the requirements for doctoral study programmes at UL, in addition to those stipulated in these Regulations, are determined by the regulations of doctoral studies at UL.

#### **IV Professional Study Programmes**

- 12. UL implements short-cycle, first-, second- and third-cycle professional higher education study programmes.
- 13. Professional higher education study programmes are developed and implemented following the requirements stipulated in the regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers and occupational standards.
- 14. Studies in the residency study programme, in addition to what is determined in these Regulations, are determined by the regulation of UL residency.

## V Development, Changes and Closure of Study Programmes

15. Development of the study programme or its concept can be proposed by representatives of UL academic personnel and employees, UL collegial decision-making bodies, as well as UL cooperation partners and sectoral representatives.

- 16. The development of a study programme concept is endorsed by the head of the study field, dean of the faculty and vice-rector of the corresponding field. The development of an interdisciplinary study programme concept is endorsed by vice-rectors of corresponding fields.
- 17. A working group is formed from delegated representatives of the UL Administration, including the Academic Department, for the development of a study programme concept and licencing report, after the dean's proposal, it is approved by the instruction of the vice-rector.
- 18. The development of study programmes takes place in the following successive stages according to the procedure established by UL:
  - 18.1. formation and approval of a study programme development working group;
  - 18.2. development of a study programme concept, approval of it in the council of the study field, the faculty council and SP QAC;
  - 18.3. development of the study programme licencing report, approval of it in the council of the study field, the faculty council, SP QAC and the UL Senate;
  - 18.4. submission of the study programme licencing documents to the Academic Information Centre, receiving the licencing decision, starting the implementation of the study programme;
  - 18.5. preparation of documents for the inclusion of the study programme in the study field not later than one and a half years after receiving the licencing decision, endorsement by the Academic Department, approval of it in the council of the study field, the faculty council, SP QAC, and the UL Senate.
- 19. Changes to the study programme can be proposed by UL personnel, including students, UL cooperation partners, sectoral representatives, and the Academic Department. The changes are evaluated and, if necessary, in consultation with the Academic Department, are forwarded for approval to the council of the study field. If significant changes are to be made in the study programme following stipulations in the laws and regulations of the Republic of Latvia, they are approved by the council of the study field, SP QAC, and the UL Senate, and are submitted for approval in the Academic Information Centre.
- 20. The closure of the study programme can be initiated by the study programme director, the head of the study field, the council of the study field or SP QAC, if the study programme falls under one of the following conditions:
  - 20.1. the content of the study programme substantially duplicates the content of another UL study programme;

- 20.2. the study programme is reorganised into one or more subprogrammes of another study programme;
- 20.3. the number of students does not meet the minimum requirements for a long period of time;
- 20.4. the costs of the study programme do not meet the conditions of profitability and the possibilities of its realisation;
- 20.5. a significantly negative rating given to the programme as a result of the quality assessment; 20.6. in other justified cases.
- 21. The closure of the study programme is decided upon, by the rector's suggestion, by the UL Senate, previously evaluating and approving it in the council of the study field, the faculty council and SP QAC, ensuring that there are no students in the study programme to be closed.

## **VI Transitional Provisions**

- 22. With the coming into force of this Regulation, the following loses its force:
  - 22.1. Regulations on University of Latvia Study and Continuing Education Programmes, approved by the UL Senate on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2017 Decision No. 102;
  - 22.2. The UL Senate 27<sup>th</sup> December 2004 Decision No. 49 "On the Approval Procedure of the UL Study Programmes".