

Criteria for the assessment and accreditation procedures of study programs at foreign higher education institutions

The following criteria of the AHPGS are implemented for the accreditation of study programs at foreign higher education institutions. These criteria are based on the “Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area” (ESG) established by the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA), and they have been developed in line with the standards of quality assurance applied in the higher education sector of the Federal Republic of Germany.

1. Aims and Implementation

The study program pursues specific qualification objectives. These objectives cover professional and extraprofessional/interdisciplinary aspects and particularly refer to the domain of academic competences, competences necessary for a qualified employment, skills of social commitment and personal development.

The learning outcomes of the program are defined. They correspond to the standards of qualifications attributed to the pursued academic degree (in accordance with the “Shared ‘Dublin’ Descriptions for Short Cycle, First Cycle, Second Cycle and Third Cycle Awards”).

The objectives of the study program have been developed in accordance with the overall strategy of the University.

The national legal requirements regulating the establishment of the study program have been observed.

The scope and the form of program-related national and international cooperation’s with various higher education institutions, companies and other organizations are described, and the significant agreements are recorded.

2. Structure of the Study Program

The study program aims at providing students with specialized and interdisciplinary knowledge as well as professional, methodological and general competences.

The study program has a modular structure that is closely linked to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS)¹ and a course-related examination system. Descriptions of the modules contain all necessary information, as required in the ECTS User’s Guide (particularly with regard to the details about learning content

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/education/tools/docs/ects-guide_en.pdf

and outcomes, methods of learning, prerequisites for the allocation of ECTS credits, workload).

The combination and the succession of the modules of the study program are consistent with the specified qualification objectives (described earlier).

It is assured that students receive the support and guidance they need for the organization and accomplishment of assignments and the learning process in general.

The arrangement of internships in the study program allows acquisition of ECTS credits. Provided that the program offers exchange mobility gaps, they will be integrated into students' curriculum.

Study programs with special profile requirements (for instance, dual, part-time, occupational or distance learning study programs) comply with particular aspects that are considered as appropriate and proportionate. These particular aspects are continuously observed in the study program.

3. Admission and Feasibility

The admission requirements and, if applied, student selection procedures are specified. They correspond to the standards of the study program.

Feasibility of the study program is guaranteed. The amount of student workload is appropriate.

Student support services, as well as specialized and general consultations, are provided by the University in a sufficient and appropriate manner.

As a whole, the organization of the education process ensures the successful implementation of the study program.

4. Examination system and und transparency

Examinations serve to determine whether the envisaged qualification objectives have been achieved. These examinations are focused on students' knowledge and competences. The requirements to students' performance in examinations are regulated and published. The frequency of examinations, as well as their organization, is appropriate.

The University guarantees that students with disabilities or chronic illnesses receive compensation with regard to time limits and formal requirements of the study process, as well as all final and course-related performance records.

Information concerning the study program, process of education, admission requirements and the compensation regulations for students with disabilities are documented and published.

5. Teaching staff and material equipment

Professionalism and the sufficient number of human resources assure the successful implementation of the study program. Qualifications of the teaching personnel correspond to the requirements of the study program. Recruitment and appointment of teaching positions are appropriate. Interdisciplinary links to other study programs are taken into consideration.

Measures for the professional and personal development of the teaching personnel are provided.

Qualitative and quantitative sufficiency of the equipment and space resources assures the successful implementation of the study program.

6. Quality assurance

The University has developed and documented a concept of quality assurance in education process, teaching and research, which serves as the basis for the quality-oriented development and implementation of the study program.

The results of the internal quality assurance management are applied for the continuous development of the study program. In doing so, the University takes into close consideration the quality evaluation results as well as the analyses of students' workload, their academic accomplishments and feedback from graduates.

7. Gender equality and equal opportunities

The University's actions on the provision of gender equality and promotion of equal opportunities for students with particular living circumstances are implemented in a transparent manner.