

*Discussed at the session of the faculty council:
Protocol No. 1-21, 06.08.2021
Approved by a resolution of the Governing Board:
Resolution No. 5, 16.08.2021*

*The last changes were discussed at the meeting of the faculty council:
Protocol No. 2-24, 21.02.2024
Approved by a resolution of the Governing Board:
Resolution No. 4, 23.02.2024*

Doctoral Educational Program **Economics**

Education level: Doctoral program (Level III of Higher Education)

Language of instruction: Georgian/ A doctoral student has the possibility to learn one course in English

Type of Educational Program: Academic

The title of detailed field and code: 0311 Economics

Qualification to be awarded: PhD in Economics

Duration of studies: 3 years, 6 semesters

Scope of the educational program: 60 ECTS

Head(s) of the educational program: Gocha Tutberidze, Doctor of Economics, Professor, Tel.: (+995) 599 10 00 36; E-mail: gocha.tutberidze@unik.edu.ge;

Co-head of the program: Tatyana Muravska, Doctor of Economics, Professor, Tel.: (+371) 29207753; E-mail: tatjana.muravska@unik.edu.ge; tatjana.muravska@rsu.lv

Prerequisite for admission to the program

For the admission to the program the following is required: A Master's degree or equivalent in Economics or Business Administration. The candidates with other academic degrees are required to have a master's degree or its equivalent and at least 5 years of experience working in a managerial position. (On equal terms, preference will be given to candidates who will have scientific publications on Economics or Business and who have participated in various scientific conferences and forums (Proof of participation in scientific conferences and collection of papers shall be submitted together with other documents)). The English language proficiency at B2 level is also a prerequisite for admission to the program, for which candidates must present an English-language bachelor's or master's degree diploma or an international certificate of English language proficiency, or pass an exam organized by the university. The exam will be held in accordance with the "Rules for Determining the Language Competence of a Student" at Kutaisi University. The minimum threshold for passing

the English language test is 80 points. Candidates who fail to pass this threshold lose the right to continue to participate in the competition.

Guidelines for determining the level of English language proficiency through an international certificate:

English language	CEFR B2
	IELTS exam – 5.5
	BEC exam and CELS exam – Vantage
	Cambridge exam – FCE
	TOEIC – 785
	TOEFL iBT – 72
	TOEFL ITP – 543

Applicants for enrollment in the doctoral program, together with the documents required to be submitted for registration, shall submit a doctoral research application signed by the potential supervisor (see Appendix 1 at the end of the document) which will be sent to the Temporary Commission for evaluation. The research application is assessed using a 5-point scale (see Appendix 2 at the end of the document for the principles of assessment and minimum thresholds). A person wishing to be enrolled in a doctoral program presents his / her research application to the Temporary Commission. The presentation is assessed using a 5-point scale (see Appendix 3 at the end of the document for the principles of assessment and minimum thresholds). The oral examination is evaluated by the Temporary Commission in accordance with pre-defined requirements, criteria and rubrics. Oral exam requirements, criteria and rubrics will be posted on the University website as soon as each admission is announced. The unified assessment for enrollment in the program consists of the sum of the application and presentation evaluation points.

Students enrolled in through mobility in accordance with the order №10 / n of February 4, 2010, issued by the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia "On Approval of the Procedure and Fee for Transfer from Higher Education Institution to Another Higher Education Institution" will also be admitted to the program.

The purpose of the program

The goal of the Doctoral program in Economics is to prepare a highly qualified scientific-researcher for an academic and business career who will be able to:

1. Apply knowledge of modern economic theories to understand and solve various economic problems, make assessments of economic policy, develop recommendations and make decisions;
2. Conduct an original research based on modern reliable economic data using analytical, mathematical and econometric skills, which implies the use of a rich set of modern economic data;
3. Prepare and publish an original economic research, which includes the dissertation, as well as the preparation of the scientific paper for reviewed scientific journals among recognized databases and submission of economic researches to conferences;
4. Transfer and spread the knowledge about economics within academic and non-academic careers.

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding:

1. Describes economic theories and models in written and oral form;
2. Demonstrates knowledge of micro and macro theories, describes in depth the complexity of micro and macro theories, the contribution of traditional theories and the limitations in the development of economic science;

Skills:

3. Uses economic theories and models, as well as basic regression analysis, estimation and forecasting of problems in the economy, both at regional and national level;
4. Explains and evaluates key economic models based on a specific economic situation;

Responsibility and autonomy

5. Independently plans, implements and supervises innovative research;
6. Checks hypotheses, predicts and interprets the results of researches;
7. Adheres to the norms of scientific ethics and academic honesty in conducting research and respects the opinion of colleagues.

Program volume

The educational program is built on the basis of the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS), is focused on the doctoral student, and is based on the academic load of the doctoral student, which is necessary to achieve the goals and outcomes of the educational program. 1 credit includes 25 astronomical hours; A credit in a unit of time (hours) reflects the amount of work required by a doctoral 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 3 academic years (6 semesters). The volume of the educational component of the program is 60 (ECTS) credits. During the semester, the doctoral student must complete 30 credits (30 credits = 750 hours), and during the academic year - 60 credits, however, depending on the individual workload of the doctoral student, the number of credits during the academic year may be less than 60 or more, but not more than 75 credits.

The structure of the program

Out of 60 credits for the program, 54 credits are devoted to compulsory learning courses of Major field of studying, and 6 credits are devoted to optional courses of Major field of studying. The program also includes a research component: preparation and defense of a doctoral dissertation.

Learning component		ECTS
Compulsory courses of Major field of study (54 ECTS)		
1	Microeconomic analysis	6
2	Research methods in Economics	4
3	Econometrics	6
4	Modern methods of teaching	4
5	Methods of scientific writing	4
6	Seminar	6
7	Macroeconomic analysis	6
8	Monetary theory and policy	5
9	Public finance and fiscal policy	5
10	Game theory	4
11	Assisting of professor	4
Optional courses of Major field of studying (6 ECTS)		
12	Behavioral Economics	6
13	Labor Economics	6
14	Education Economics	6
15	Agrarian Economy	6
16	European regional and social policy	6
Total (ECTS)		60
Research component		
Preparation and defense of the doctoral dissertation		

The optional components of the program include learning courses aimed at enhancing the knowledge and skills related to the field, which the doctoral student can choose based on his / her learning / research interests - a total of 6 credits.

Student's knowledge assessment system

Assessment determines the relevance of doctoral student achievements to the specific outcomes of the program. Assessment of doctoral student's knowledge in the doctoral program in Economics is based on criteria that determine whether the student has the knowledge of the learning outcomes specified in the course.

The grading system used within the program is in accordance with the "Rules for Calculation of Higher Education Program Credits" approved by the Order N3 of January 5, 2007 of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia.

The level of achievement of the learning outcome is evaluated through assessment forms, mid-term assessment and final assessment, the sum of which is the final assessment. The maximum final grade of the learning course is 100 points. Student's knowledge assessment system includes: A) five types of positive assessment:

The evaluation system provides for:

a) Five types of positive assessment:

a.a) (A) Excellent - 91-100 points;

a.b) (B) very good – 81-90 points;

a.c) (C) Good – 71-80 points;

a.d) (D) Satisfactory - 61-70 points;

a.e) (E) Sufficient – 51-60 points.

b) two types of negative assessment:

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

b.b) (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 afresh.

In case of receiving a negative evaluation (FX) in the component of the educational program, the student has the right to take an additional exam. The student gets 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 interim assessment is divided into components. The content and distribution of the midterm assessment components is defined by the staff implementing the study course within the framework of the relevant syllabus.

A student will be admitted to the final exam if the minimum threshold of the intermediate assessment is exceeded. The final exam will be considered passed if the minimum threshold for the final exam is exceeded.

The following minimum competence threshold is defined for the midterm assessment and the final exam: 42% of the midterm assessment, 50%+1 of the final exam assessment. The staff implementing the study course, taking into account the specifics (of the study course), is authorized to define the minimum competence limit of intermediate and final assessments that differ from the prescribed (higher) than the established one, in accordance with the limits set by the current legislation of Georgia.

The credit will be considered as used if the sum of the points obtained based on the minimum threshold established for the intermediate assessment and the minimum threshold set in the final exam is obtained by summing up 51 points or more.

Field of employment

The Doctoral program in Economics is designed for prospective students who wish to prepare for a career in teaching and research in academic sphere, governmental agencies, research organizations, or commercial enterprises.