



Law, Social Sciences and Diplomacy

International Relations Doctorate Program

Curriculum
Program Name
International Relations
Highest Academic Level
Eighth Level – Doctorate
Name of Awarded Qualification
Doctor of International Relations
Language of Instruction
English
Program Volume
The International Relations Doctorate Program comprises educational and research components. The educational component can have no fewer than 30 and no more than 60 credits. The duration of the studies cannot be less than 3 years.
Program Goals
The goals of the International Relations Doctorate Program are: • Produce graduates in the scientific field who will be capable of conducting an in-depth and thorough systemic research; • Find ways to incorporate scientific research results into practice and put forward appropriate recommendations; • Write a high-quality work in the field of international relations, touching upon the challenges and novelties in the research and development of the matter; • To ensure the viability of the higher education system, promote the production of graduates equipped with the modern learning and teaching methodology.
Program Admission Prerequisites
In order to be admitted to the International Relations Doctorate Program, one must have a master's degree or an equivalent approved by Georgian legislation. Graduates of foreign universities may also be admitted to the doctorate program if satisfying the requirements of Article 50 of the Georgian legislation regarding Higher Education. A doctorate candidate is required to know the English language at least on “C1” level, which will be verified through a test. A student who has a relevant-level valid international language certificate and/or has proof of studying for at least one semester in their undergraduate, graduate or post-graduate degree in English is no longer required to take the test.

The admission procedure to the International Relations Doctorate Program is determined by the statement of the Doctorate and Dissertation Council of the Law, International Relations and Diplomacy School (Faculty).

Admission to the doctorate program is announced twice a year – for the fall and spring semesters.

Employment Options

A graduate of the International Relations Doctorate Program, based on the Georgian legislation, is allowed to hold academic positions in Higher Education Institutions and/or hold any position that requires a PhD.

Learning Outcomes

1. Extensive knowledge in the field of international relations, up to speed with the latest achievements in the field, which allows the student to broaden the existing knowledge and enables them to employ the innovative methods in multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary contexts.
2. Critical analysis of the changes, novelties and problems in the field of international relations.
3. Planning and implementing academic research while respecting the principles of academic integrity.
4. Create new research or analytic methods and/or approaches, which are oriented towards creating new knowledge (to the standards necessary for internationally referable publications)
5. Critical analysis, synthesis and evaluation of innovative, difficult and conflicting ideas and approaches, as a result of which (through a research and/or innovation), the student makes a correct and effective decision in order to solve these complex problems.
6. Give recommendations (proposals of normative character) for the sake of development in the field;
7. The ability to relay existing and new information coherently and in a substantiated to colleagues and wider audiences alike;
8. Implement research project and/or development-oriented events while conducting academic and/or professional activities in the international relations field, and respecting the principles of leadership, academic and/or professional integrity and demonstrating innovation and independence.

Delivery-learning Methods

☒ Lecture ☒ Seminar ☒ Practical Activities ☒ Supervision ☐ Learning via electronic methods
☐ Other

A professor may employ one or multiple methods listed above, or any other method deemed appropriate for the course and/or the task at hand. Specific methods for studying and learning can be found in the syllabus of the course.

Evaluation System

International Relations Doctorate Program educational component and its evaluation:

The educational component of the doctorate program aims to acquaint the student with the field and its methodology and assist them with the completion of their scientific paper and further academic activities.

The educational component of the doctorate program is divided into compulsory and elective elements. Throughout the first month following their admission, the student in coordination with their supervisor creates an individual study plan. The synopsis of the educational component and the evaluation system can be found in the syllabus and are presented to the student at the beginning of the semester.

#	Subject Code	Educational Component	Prerequisite	Possible Semester	ECTS Credits	Hours		
						Contact	Independent	Total
	Compulsory Educational Component 15 Credits							
1	IRD 01	Thematic Seminar I	N/A	1-2	15	32	343	375
	Accumulating 15 out of the offered 90 credits is required for the Elective Educational Component							
2	IRD 02	International Relations Research Methods	N/A	1-2	10	30	220	250
3	IRD 03	Assisting the Professor	N/A	1-2	10	64	186	250
4	IRD 04	Academic writing and scientific-research methods	N/A	1-2	10	51	199	250
5	LEC 01	Georgian A1 - I	B2	1	5	48	77	125
6	LEC 02	Georgian A1- II	LEC 01	2	5	48	77	125
7	IRD 05	Teaching Methods	N/A	1-2	10	24	226	250
8	IRD 06	Thematic Seminar II	N/A	2-3	15	32	343	375
9	IRD 07	Scientific/Research Project	N/A	1-6	15	92	283	375
10	IRD 08	Education Management and Commercialization	N/A	1-2	10	29	221	250

Academic Writing is compulsory for students who on their previous stages of education have not completed this course. Also, Assisting the Professor is compulsory for students, who do not have at least two years of experience in delivering lectures/seminars. (The completion of the Academic Writing course needs to be verified in the diploma via an attachment and/or a transcript. Pedagogic experience needs to be verified via a statement from the student's place of employment).

The doctorate program also comprises free credits, which the student, instead of the elective educational component, accumulates from programs within the Law, International Relations and Diplomacy School or any other program on the same academic level from Georgian-American University, other accredited Georgian universities, or accredited foreign universities recognized by the Georgian legislation.

Accumulating credits in the educational component means the student's active involvement in the academic process and is based on the constant evaluation of the received knowledge. The degree of achieving the results of studies is evaluated according to the evaluation system approved as per the order #3 issued by the Georgian minister of Education and Science on January 5, 2007, regarding the "credit system for the higher education programs."

The evaluation of the degree of achieving the results of the studies consists of intermediate and final evaluations, the sum of which is the final score – 100 points. These forms of evaluation contain components that evaluate student's knowledge/understanding and/or skills and/or independence/responsibility. (oral/written exams, oral/written quizzes, practical/theoretical activities, homework and etc.) The evaluation components unite the evaluation methods (tests, essays, presentations, etc) Evaluation methods are measured in evaluation criteria.

Each form and component of evaluation has a fraction of the total 100, details of which are stated in the syllabus. Each grade has a minimal competency threshold, which can also be applicable to the evaluation components. All this is detailed in the syllabus.

Credits are not given if only one form of evaluation is used. A doctorate student only receives a credit in case of a positive evaluation.

Doctorate Program Educational Component Evaluation System:

Five Types of Positive Evaluation

- (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.

Two Types of Negative Evaluation

- (FX) Didn't pass – 41-50 points, which means that the student needs more effort in order to pass and is given one more chance to take the exam.
- (F) Fail – 40 points or less, which means that the work done by the student is not enough and they have to retake the subject.

In case of an (FX) the retake exam will be scheduled no less than 5 days after the results for the primary exam have been announced.

International Relations Doctorate Program Scientific-Research Component and Its Evaluation:

A compulsory component of the International Relations Doctorate Program is the scientific-research paper – the dissertation, which must then be presented and defended.

A dissertation is the result of the student's independent scientific-research work, which reflects the results of a theoretical and/or empirical scientific research and/or finds solutions to relevant and existing scientific problems – it must be an original and novel scientific work which contributes to the development of the scientific field. The student works on their dissertation in the form of research and individual work.

The programs educational-research component is evaluated according to the evaluation system approved as per the order #3 issued by the Georgian minister of Education and Science on January 5, 2007, regarding the "credit system for the higher education programs."

The dissertation is evaluated within the same or the following semester, once the student is done working on it. The dissertation is graded with a single final score. The thesis defense takes place publicly and before the Dissertation Committee. The committee deliberates in a closed meeting. Each of the members evaluates the student with a 100-point system, and the details of the evaluation are confidential. The final score is the arithmetic mean of all scores. (The sum of the scores divided by the number of the committee members).

The dissertation is evaluated according to the following system:

Positive Evaluations

- Excellent (**summa cum laude**) - 91-100 points;
- Very Good (**magna cum laude**) - 81-90 points;
- Good (**cum laude**) – 71-80 points;
- Average (**bene**) – 61-70 points;
- Satisfactory (**rite**) - 51-60 points;

Negative Evaluations

- Insufficient (**insufficient**) – 41-50 points; the dissertation does not satisfy the requirements.

Totally insufficient (sub omni canone) – 40 points and under; the dissertation does not meet the requirements at all.

In the event of a positive evaluation, the doctorate student will be awarded the academic degree of a Doctor, a PhD.

In the event of an insufficient evaluation, the student will be given one year to work on improving their dissertation and present it at a later stage.

In case of a completely insufficient evaluation, the student will no longer have the right to present the same dissertation again.

Dissertation Evaluation Methods and Criteria:

Dissertation Committee Evaluation Methods and Criteria
Dissertation Written Grade – 70 Points
The relevance and innovativeness of the research topic – 7 points
The title and the structure of the dissertation – 3 points
Research stages – 3 points
Choosing adequate research methods – 7 points
The student's contribution to the development of the field/sub-divisions of the field – 5 points
Identifying a problem, critically analyzing it and clarifying the issue – 5 points
The validity/accuracy of the facts/data – 5 points
Innovative thinknig – 5 points
Newest national and foreign scientific literature – 4 points
The practical importance of the research – 7 points
Scientific recommendations and proposals – 6 points
Conclusions and results, solutions to the problems – 7 points
Academic Writing – 3 points
Proper formatting (citations, references) – 3 points.
Presentation – 20 points
Presentation Structure – 3 points
Demonstration of new/acquired knowledge with high degree of independence – 5 points
Relaying information in a coherent and substantiated/argumentative manner – 7 points
Considering the interests of the audience – 5 points
Scientific Dispute – 10 points
The student is independent and confident when participating in the dispute – 4 points
Substantiating the claims and arguments made during the dispute – 6 points
The evaluation of the presented requirements – 7 points:
• 7 - fully satisfies the requirements • 6 - strongly satisfies the requirements, with minor inconsistencies • 5 - mostly satisfies the requirements; there are some minor errors; • 4 - essentially satisfies the requirements; there are some significant errors; • 3 - partially satisfies the requirements; there are some crucial errors; • 2 – barely satisfies the requirements; • 1 – essentially does not satisfy the requirements; • 0 – does not satisfy the requirements at all;
The evaluation of the presented requirements - 6 points:

- **6 - fully satisfies the requirements;**
- **5 - strongly satisfies the requirements, with minor inconsistencies**
- **4 - mostly satisfies the requirements; there are some minor errors**
- **3 - essentially satisfies the requirements; there are some significant errors ;**
- **2 - partially satisfies the requirements; there are some crucial errors**
- **1 - barely satisfies the requirements**
- **0 - does not satisfy the requirements at all**

The evaluation of the presented requirements - 5 points:

- **5 - fully satisfies the requirements;**
- **4 - strongly satisfies the requirements, with minor inconsistencies**
- **3 - mostly satisfies the requirements; there are some minor errors**
- **2 - partially satisfies the requirements; there are some crucial errors**
- **1 - barely satisfies the requirements**
- **0 - does not satisfy the requirements at all**

The evaluation of the presented requirements - 4 points:

- **4 - fully satisfies the requirements;**
- **3 - strongly satisfies the requirements, with minor inconsistencies**
- **2 - mostly satisfies the requirements; there are some minor errors**
- **1 - partially satisfies the requirements; there are some crucial errors**
- **0 - does not satisfy the requirements at all**

The evaluation of the presented requirements - 3 points:

- **3 - fully satisfies the requirements;**
 - **2 - mostly satisfies the requirements; there are some minor errors**
 - **1 - partially satisfies the requirements; there are some crucial errors**
- 0 - does not satisfy the requirements at all**

The dissertation formatting regulations to be followed to be awarded the academic degree of a Doctor.

The dissertation paper must be no fewer than 30 000 words (240 000 characters without spaces) and no more than 45 000 words. (360 000 characters without spaces). A different page upper threshold may be set at the discretion of the dissertation committee.

The dissertation must be completed in English.

The dissertation must be completed on an A4 format paper (297x210mm) 80 g/m² density paper. In case a bigger sheet of paper is used (e.g for technological blueprints) any format can be used as long as these pages are not stapled with the primary text.

Left margins must be 40mm, other margins must be 25mm.

The primary body of the text must be completed in Sylfaen font in size 12. Titles and subtitles may be written in a larger font.

The pages must be numbered. The minimum font size for the page number is 10. Introductory pages, except for the title page, are numbered in the lower right corner with Arabic numerals.

The line spacing for the primary text is 1.5 For smaller sections (summaries, charts and drawings, resume, notes, references, etc) the line spacing is 1.

Every title and subtitle must be included in the table of contents. The font size for titles and subtitles must be larger than the primary body of the text. Every new chapter must begin from a new page, and subchapters must be continued on the same page.

The footnote section can be placed at the bottom of the page or at the end of the paper, with a font size of 10. The numeration in the footnote is done with Arabic numerals and is sequential.

The dissertation paper must consist of:

- A title page;
- A copyright page;
- Table of Contents;
- List of used abbreviations (if needed)
- Text body: the introduction, outcomes and their evaluation, conclusion;
- Footnotes(if the footnote is at the end of the paper);
- Bibliography or the list of referened literature;
- Attachments.

The title page – must include the University logo, the University and school names, dissertation title, the surname and name of the student and the text “Presented to achieve the academic degree of a Doctor _____,” “Tbilisi, 0160, Georgia.” The year of the presentation of the dissertation must also be included. The title page is number (1) but it is not indicated. The information presented on this page must be in Georgian and English languages.

Copyright page – the standard original version of the dissertation must have the author’s original signature. Said page must contain the surname and name of the author, the title of the dissertation. It must also contain standard texts “as the author of the submitted work, I hereby declare that this submission is my own work and to the best of my knowledge it contains no materials previously published, accepted for publication or written by another person, or substantial proportions of material which have been accepted for the award of any other degree or diploma, except where due acknowledgement is made in the dissertation”.

The dissertation must include a table of contents. The line spacing must be 1; font size – 12. The interval between the paragraphs must be size 6-12. Page numbers must be placed near the right margin. It is permitted to fill the spaces between the title and the page number with the following symbols: “.”, “-“, “_”.

List of used abbreviations (if necessary) – if the dissertation contains abbreviations that are rare or scarcely encountered, the author is expected to provide their list alongside explanations to make the dissertation easier to understand.

Main text body – must be split into chapters and subchapters. It must contain an introduction, the results derived by the author and their analysis and a conclusion. The introduction must state the scientific innovativeness, relevance and the practical importance of the issue presented in the dissertation. The structure of the presentation of the results and their analysis depends heavily on the topic and is left to the author’s discretion. The conclusion must concisely summarize the outcomes of the research.

The bibliography goes at the end of the dissertation.

The following formats of referencing the employed literature must be used:

- Article – [Surname] [Initial.] [Initial]. Full title. Full name of the magazine or an abbreviation. Year, volume, [number,] pg. beginning-end.
- Book – [Surname] [Initial.] [Initial]. Full title. Place of publication: Publisher. Year, [volume,] pg.
- Information Global Network – Web-page title. Last accessed – day, month, year.

Attachments may contain charts, blueprints, diagrams and etc.

The dissertation must be submitted in a PDF format on a CD-ROM or a DVD-ROM disk drive. The author's name and the title of the dissertation must also be included.

Program Material-Technical Base

Doctorate students have unrestricted access to the university's infrastructure and its material-technical resources, and namely:

- Auditoriums equipped with necessary equipment, conference halls, academic and administrative personnel offices.
- Library equipped with books and modern information-communication technologies, where students have access to the compulsory literature and electronic resources required by the program syllabus.
- Existing research institutes wherein the students, under coordinator's supervision, have the opportunity to participate in projects and improve their research skills.

Program Financial Support

Program financial support derives from both the School's (faculty's) and the university's budgets.

The budget is oriented towards acquiring the material and technical resources necessary for the program to function properly and efficiently – supplying necessary literature, organizing scientific student conferences, printing and publishing manuals and auxiliary materials by the professors and teachers and etc.

Program Supervisor:

Petr Ocelik (Complete information of the supervisor, their qualifications and etc in the attached CV.)

Human Resources

The implementation of the doctorate program is ensured by an adequate human resource. The university's academic personnel and guest specialists, who have the necessary competency, degree and experience in the field of International Relations, actively partake in the program's implementation.

Davit Tevzadze	Professor
Giorgi Tavadze	Professor
Zaza Shatirishvili	Professor
Dina Aslamazishvili	Professor
Petr Ocelik	Associate Professor

Gela Tsaava	Associate Professor
Maia Orkodashvili	Associate Professor
Ketevan Khutsishvili	Guest Lecturer
Mikheil Gogatishvili	Guest Lecturer
Niko Melkadze	Guest Lecturer
Tamar Khuntsaria	Guest Lecturer
Manana Tabidze	Guest Lecturer

Study Results Map

Results	Courses
Extensive knowledge in the field of international relations, up to speed with the latest achievements in the field, which allows the student to broaden the existing knowledge and enables them to employ the innovative methods in multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary contexts.	Thematic Seminar Finalizing the research and defending the thesis
Critical analysis of the changes, novelties and problems in the field of international relations.	Thematic Seminar Finalizing the research and defending the thesis
Planning and implementing academic research while respecting the principles of academic integrity.	Thematic Seminar Finalizing the research and defending the thesis
Create new research or analytic methods and/or approaches, which are oriented towards creating new knowledge (to the standards necessary for internationally referable publications)	Thematic Seminar Finalizing the research and defending the thesis
Critical analysis, synthesis and evaluation of innovative, difficult and conflicting ideas and approaches, as a result of which (through a research and/or innovation), the student makes an correct and effective decision in order to solve these complex problems.	Thematic Seminar Finalizing the research and defending the thesis
Give scientific recommendations and proposals of normative character for the sake of development in the field;	Thematic Seminar Finalizing the research and defending the thesis
The ability to relay existing and new information coherently and in a substantiated to colleagues and wider audiences alike;	Thematic Seminar Finalizing the research and defending the thesis

Implement a research project and/or development-oriented events while conducting academic and/or professional activities in the international relations field, and respecting the principles of leadership, academic and/or professional integrity and demonstrating innovation and independence.	Thematic Seminar Finalizing the research and defending the thesis
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Goals and Outcomes Map

Produce graduates in the scientific field who will be capable of conducting an in-depth and thorough systemic research	Extensive knowledge in the field of international relations, up to speed with the latest achievements in the field, which allows the student to broaden the existing knowledge and enables them to employ the innovative methods in multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary contexts.; Planning and implementing academic research while respecting the principles of academic integrity.
Find ways to incorporate scientific research results into practice and put forward appropriate recommendations	Critical analysis, synthesis and evaluation of innovative, difficult and conflicting ideas and approaches, as a result of which (through a research and/or innovation), the student makes an correct and effective decision in order to solve these complex problems. Put forward scientific recommendations and proposals of normative character for the sake of development in the field; Implement research project and/or development-oriented events while conducting academic and/or professional activities in the international relations field, and respecting the principles of leadership, academic and/or professional integrity and demonstrating innovation and independence.
Write a high-quality work in the field of international relations, touching upon the challenges and novelties in the research and development of the matter	Critical analysis of the changes, novelties and problems in the field of international relations. Planning and implementing academic research while respecting the principles of academic integrity. Create new research or analytic methods and/or approaches, which are oriented towards creating new knowledge (to the standards necessary for internationally referable publications)
To ensure the viability of the higher education system, promote the production of graduates equipped with the modern learning and teaching methodology.	The ability to relay existing and new information coherently and in a substantiated to colleagues and wider audiences alike;

	Implement research project and/or development-oriented events while conducting academic and/or professional activities in the international relations field, and respecting the principles of leadership, academic and/or professional integrity and demonstrating innovation and independence.
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Goals of and Result Evaluation

1. Extensive knowledge in the field of international relations, up to speed with the latest achievements in the field, which allows the student to broaden the existing knowledge and enables them to employ the innovative methods in multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary contexts.

2. Critical analysis of the changes, novelties and problems in the field of international relations.

Targets

- The relevance and innovativeness of the research topic;
- The student's contribution to the development of the field/sub-divisions of the field;
- Newest national and foreign scientific literature;
- Identifying a problem, critically analyzing it and clarifying the issue;
- Innovative thinking;

3. Planning and implementing academic research while respecting the principles of academic integrity.

Targets

- Title and structure of the research topic
- Research stages;
- Conclusions and results, solutions to the problems;
- Academic Writing;
- Proper formatting (citations, references);

4. Create new research or analytic methods and/or approaches, which are oriented towards creating new knowledge (to the standards necessary for internationally referable publications)

Targets

- The relevance and innovativeness of the research topic;
- The student's contribution to the development of the field/sub-divisions of the field;
- Critical analysis of the problem;
- Choosing adequate research methods;
- Innovative thinking;

5. Critical analysis, synthesis and evaluation of innovative, difficult and conflicting ideas and approaches, as a result of which (through a research and/or innovation), the student makes an correct and effective decision in order to solve these complex problems.

Targets

- The student's contribution to the development of the field/sub-divisions of the field;
- Critical analysis of the problem;

- Innovative thinking;
- Conclusions and results, solutions to the problems
- The completeness of the proof (solution) to the hypothesis;

6. Give scientific recommendations and proposals of normative character for the sake of development in the field;

Targets

- The student's contribution to the development of the field/sub-divisions of the field;
- Scientific recommendations and proposal;
- Practical importance of the research;
- Conclusions and results, solutions to the problems;
- The completeness of the proof (solution) to the hypothesis;

7. The ability to relay existing and new information coherently and in a substantiated to colleagues and wider audiences alike;

Targets

- Presentation structure;
- Demonstration of new/acquired knowledge with high degree of independence;
- Relaying information in a coherent and substantiated/argumentative manner;
- Considering the interests of the audience while delivering the presentation;
- Substantiating the claims and arguments made during the dispute;
- The student is independent and confident when participating in the dispute;

8. Implement research project and/or development-oriented events while conducting academic and/or professional activities in the international relations field, and respecting the principles of leadership, academic and/or professional integrity and demonstrating innovation and independence.

Targets

- The relevance and innovativeness of the research topic;
- The student's contribution to the development of the field/sub-divisions of the field
- Academic Writing
- Critical analysis of the problem;
- Innovative thinking;
- The student is independent and confident when participating in the dispute