



CATALOGUE of EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Name of the Educational Programme	American Studies (delivered in English)																						
Programme Coordinator(s)	Tamar Shioshvili, Affiliated Professor, Doctor of Philology 2595005/06; 2595008; 593 50 41 06; tshioshvili@ibsu.edu.ge																						
Education Cycle	Doctorate (Third Cycle of Higher Education)																						
Language of Education	English																						
Type of the Programme	Academic																						
Credit Value of the Programme	180 ECTS																						
Awarded Qualification	Doctor of American Studies / ამერიკისმცოდნეობის დოქტორი																						
Programme Admission Precondition	<p>According to Georgian legislation the candidate for studying at this program should have a Master's degree or a degree equivalent to it. According to University regulations, the candidate should have the C1 level in English, which is certified by an international certificate of the corresponding level or education at an English-language Master's program. The candidate may also take a corresponding exam at IBSU. Also, according to University regulations, the candidate to the program has to submit a dissertation proposal, the correspondence of which to the program requirements is assessed by program coordinator and dissertation field board constituting at least 3 members.</p> <p>The assessment criteria for the dissertation proposal are:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Criteria</th> <th>Not reflected</th> <th>Unacceptable</th> <th>Acceptable, with major changes</th> <th>Acceptable, with minor changes</th> <th>Acceptable</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Title: neither too narrow, nor too wide; terms used adequately; sounds contemporary</td> <td>0</td> <td>1-3</td> <td>4-6</td> <td>7-9</td> <td>10-12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Significance and novelty: the topic is</td> <td>0</td> <td>1-3</td> <td>4-6</td> <td>7-9</td> <td>10-12</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>					Criteria	Not reflected	Unacceptable	Acceptable, with major changes	Acceptable, with minor changes	Acceptable	Title: neither too narrow, nor too wide; terms used adequately; sounds contemporary	0	1-3	4-6	7-9	10-12	Significance and novelty: the topic is	0	1-3	4-6	7-9	10-12
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CATALOGUE of EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

	contemporary , less studied; the potential of novelty and value is presented					
	Theoretical and practical value: it is presented how the research can impact the field	0	1-3	4-6	7-9	10-12
	Literature overview: presents main achievements and names; reference list includes at least 10 important titles	0	1-3	4-6	7-9	10-12
	Research questions / hypothesis are original and well-formulated	0	1-3	4-6	7-9	10-12
	Research methods are adequate to the topic and well defined	0	1-3	4-6	7-9	10-12
	Academic and clear language	0	1-3	4-6	7-9	10-12
	Interview / oral presentation *: reveals a good knowledge of the topic arguments	0	1-4	5-8	9-12	13-16

International Black Sea University LLC

2, 13th km., David Agmashenebeli Alley, Tbilisi, 0131, Georgia; Phone: +995 32 2595006; E-mail: contact@ibsu.edu.ge



CATALOGUE of EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

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<p>Purpose of the Programme</p>	<p>The aim of American Studies multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary program is to enable students to study and analyze various aspects of American society concerning multiculturalism, emigration, politics and literature; the unique specificity and interactive methods of this field enable students to establish analytical thinking and creative analysis about various contextual issues. The program aims to develop student’s thinking; speaking and writing skills which will help them to write a doctoral dissertation effectively and creatively; to develop respect toward social, ethical and moral values; communication and decision-making skills, sense of responsibility and ability of self-education;</p> <p>Create all the conditions for students’ academic and career development in the following organizations: higher educational institutions, historical museums, embassies, archives, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Parliament, Committee of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defense (Cultural Departments), non-governmental organizations which will implement the scientifically-based innovations.</p> <p>The program responds to the internalization requirements through 1) admitting students from the US and Europe; 2) since 2010 appointing American Professors as opponents or co-supervisor for the students. 3) Since 2017 appointing American co-supervisors for students; 4) American professors have been permanently invited to read the courses of the program: a) XX Century American Political History; b) XX Century American Literature.</p>												
<p>Learning Outcome</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>Knowledge and understanding</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student has the knowledge of American multiculturalism, Emigration, History, XX century American political history, XX century American literature; • Multiculturalism, Politics, Literary terms and theories, which enables him / her to work independently on educational literature – course books, monographs, articles published in international journals; • Student is aware of American Studies interdisciplinary field and its newest trends; • Student is aware of the ways to refresh his/her knowledge dealing with American Studies; • Student is aware of tolerance towards various ethnic groups which is a typical characteristic of the US democracy. </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Knowledge and understanding</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student has the knowledge of American multiculturalism, Emigration, History, XX century American political history, XX century American literature; • Multiculturalism, Politics, Literary terms and theories, which enables him / her to work independently on educational literature – course books, monographs, articles published in international journals; • Student is aware of American Studies interdisciplinary field and its newest trends; • Student is aware of the ways to refresh his/her knowledge dealing with American Studies; • Student is aware of tolerance towards various ethnic groups which is a typical characteristic of the US democracy. 										
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CATALOGUE of EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

	<p>Applying knowledge</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student has the capacity to select a contemporary research topic in the sphere of American Studies, according to the chosen topic to find and analyze the literature, to pose problem questions, to select adequate methods of research and to work out a hypothesis, and further to test it out; • Student can independently plan and carry out research from multidisciplinary subjects, present the obtained results for publication in international reviewed journals; • Student can prepare analytical conference articles concerning American multiculturalism, politics, and literature.
	<p>Making judgments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student can critically analyze and assess the read literature and information obtained from the mass-media concerning American Studies, is able to, based on the information obtained make decisions and solve problems; • Draw some parallels between the native and foreign cultures, find differences and similarities and make the appropriate conclusions; • Based on available methods of research, student can develop his/her own research platform (questionnaires, interview items, tests to assess knowledge); can plan and hold an experiment, as well as interpret its results.
	<p>Communication skills</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student can establish verbal and written communication concerning the latest trends of American Studies; • Student can establish his/her opinion and communicate with the representatives of other cultures; • Student can participate in scientific-professional debates, present his/her own scientific work at a conference and during the dissertation defense, can answer the questions of interested parties and correspond in written of professional issues; • Student can effectively bring his/her ideas to the listener's / reader's mind, present them by contemporary information technologies, using effective body language (mimics, gestures)
	<p>Learning skills</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doctorate student can efficiently plan his/her own studies, professional development, can carry it out and monitor it independently; • Doctorate student is ready to carry out various research (develop a project, publication, or conference paper).
	<p>Values</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect towards American and at the same time other cultures, traditions, and customs; • Tolerance towards various cultures and individual differences. Doctorate student can contribute to sharing principles of humanism and liberalism and develop innovative methods for their application.



CATALOGUE of EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Student Knowledge Evaluation System

The goal of evaluation is to determine student's education results qualitatively in relation to academic program goals and parameters.

Student may be assessed orally and/or in a written way. A student's knowledge and skills are assessed through 100 points grading system. It consists of midterm and final evaluations, sum of which makes up 100 points.

Grading system allows:

a) five types of positive grades:

- 1) (A) Excellent – 91-100 points of assessment;
- 2) (B) Very good – 81-90 points of maximal assessment;
- 3) (C) Good - 71-80 points of maximal assessment;
- 4) (D) Satisfactory - 61-70 points of maximal assessment;
- 5) (E) Enough - 51-60 points of maximal assessment;

b) two types of negative grades:

- 1) (FX) Fail – 41-50 points of maximal assessment, meaning that a student requires some more work before passing and is given a chance to sit an additional examination after independent work;
- 2) (F) Fail – 40 points and less of maximal assessment, meaning that the work of a student isn't acceptable and he/she has to study the subject anew.

For the midterm and final evaluations minimal passing grade is set. The final evaluation minimal passing grade must not exceed 60% of final evaluation grade.

Midterm and final evaluation grade distribution, their minimal competence levels and assessment criteria are described in the corresponding syllabus.

A credit can be awarded only after the attainment of learning outcomes, envisaged by the course syllabus and following requirements:

- a) Obtaining minimal competence levels set for midterm and final evaluations;
- b) Obtaining minimum 51 points out of 100 points of final grade.

A student is allowed to take an additional (make-up) exam in case he/she scored 41-50 points of final grade or minimum 51 points but did not obtain minimal competence level set for final evaluation.

Considering its specification, the format and the assessment criteria of mid-term and final evaluations can be determined in the specific module/course syllabus.

Evaluation of research component (Dissertation) is assessed by a jury during the defense. During the defense of the doctoral dissertation, the assessment takes place according to the following rubric:

	criteria	maximum points	actually, awarded points



CATALOGUE of EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

1	Significance	10	
2	Practical value of research	10	
3	Theoretical value of research	10	
4	Novelty	10	
5	Depth of the analysis of the topic and originality of conclusions	15	
6	Reliability of results (statistical treatment of experiment, logical argumentation)	5	
7	During the defense: presentation (logical argumentation, structure of the presentation, clear speech, presenting the basic ideas of the dissertation)	15	
8	During the defense adequately answering the questions, arguing one's viewpoint, using terminology appropriately	15	
9	During the presentation efficiently using the visual aids	10	
Total		100	

Assessment criteria # 1-6 is done according to dissertation and publications.

The assessment of dissertation finally is done with the following wording:

- a) Excellent (*summa cum laude*) – 91 points and over of maximum point – an excellent performance;
- b) Very good (*magna cum laude*) – 81-90 points of maximum point – a result exceeding given requirements in all aspects;
- c) Good (*cum laude*) – 71-80% of maximum point – a result exceeding given requirements;
- d) Average (*bene*) – 61-70 points of maximum point – a result satisfying given requirements in all aspects;
- e) Satisfactory (*rite*) – 51-60 points of maximum point – a result satisfying given requirements despite some mistakes;
- f) Unsatisfactory (*insufficient*) – 41-50 points of maximum point – a result not satisfying given requirements because of serious mistakes;
- g) Absolutely unsatisfactory (*sub omni canone*) – 40 points and less of maximum point – a result absolutely not satisfying given requirements.

The student is awarded the academic degree of doctor in case of obtaining any of the above mentioned grades considered by items from a) to e); in case of getting the grade



CATALOGUE of EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

	considered by item f) – the student has a right to present the rewritten doctoral thesis during the first year; and in case of getting the grade considered by item g) – the student has no right to present the same doctoral thesis.
Field of Employment	<p>Graduates of the program can work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Higher educational institutions as lecturers; scientific research institutions, historical museums, Archives, the Institute of Manuscripts; • Governmental organizations: Ministry of Foreign Affairs (American Department), Parliament, Committee of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defense (NADO Department, Cultural Departments). • American Embassy, American and other foreign organizations, non-governmental organizations.