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Since its establishment in the 16th century, Vilnius University, as integral part of European science and culture, has embodied the concept of a classical university and the unity of studies and research.

The oldest and largest Lithuanian higher education institution, Vilnius University is an active participant in international scientific and academic activities and boasts many prominent scientists, professors and graduates. With the support of social partners, the University educates globally-minded specialists who successfully integrate in the modern European community.

Currently, the University has 12 faculties, 8 institutes, 3 university hospitals, 10 study and research centres, one of the richest libraries in Europe, the Astronomical Observatory, a botanical garden, a computer centre, St Johns' Church.

The number of students at the University comprises one-fifth of the total population of students in the country. One-fourth of the professors of higher education establishments of Lithuania work here.

The prestigious Vilnius University devotes special attention to the development of fundamental and applied sciences and the quality of studies. The University enjoys a unique academic atmosphere and academic freedom with the priority always given to intellect, wisdom and tolerance.

Vilnius University, which is celebrating its 425th anniversary, remains young, dynamic, progressive and open to the world, scientific values and variety of cultures.

Rector Benediktas Juodka

A Short History

Vilnius University, one of the oldest higher education establishments in Central and Eastern Europe, has for a long time been the only Lithuanian university and had a marked influence on the cultural life of the neighbouring states.

The history of the University is complex and diverse, intertwined with the history of the Lithuanian state and reflecting its most dramatic periods.

1570

The Jesuits, who came to Vilnius at the invitation of Bishop Valerianus Protasevicius, established a College and opened a library. The library was started with a collection of books donated by the King of Poland and Grand Duke of Lithuania, Sigismundus Augustus.

1579

On 1 April, King Stephanus Batoreus issued a Charter granting the College the privileges of a university, and on 30 October, Pope Gregory XIII announced a Papal Bull confirming the transformation of the College into a University.

Although far from European cultural centres, the University of Vilnius sufficed potential for developing progressive scientific ideas and could boast a number of distinguished professors and students. The poet and professor Mathias Casimirus Sarbievius, the laureate of Pope Urban VIII prize, became known throughout Europe, and the book by professor Martinus Smiglecius, "Logica" ("Logic"), gained recognition and was widely used in French and British universities.

1641

The Faculty of Law was established under the charter of the King Vladislaus IV and funded by the Lithuanian vice-chancellor Casimirus Leo Sapieha.

1753

The Astronomic Observatory was established, which was the fourth in the world and the oldest in Eastern Europe.

1773

After the abolition of the Jesuit Order, the University was put under the authority of the Education Commission, the prototype of the ministry of secular education in Europe. The teaching of natural sciences was reinforced.

1781

The University was granted the name of the Central School of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. The Faculty of Medicine was established.

1803

The University was named an Imperial University. It was authorized to manage one of six Russian education districts. At that time the University had a number of world-renowned scholars: the naturalist Georg Forster, who was also a famous traveller, member of the team of Captain Cook's second voyage around the world, professor Andrzej Sniadecki, the originator of physiology in Lithuania, the medics from Vienna-Johann Peter Frank and his son Joseph Frank (the former reformed the teaching of medicine and established a therapy clinics and the latter set up



the Vilnius Medicine Society, Medicine Institute and Vaccination and Maternity Institutes).

1832

Tsar Nicholas I ordered the university to be closed.

The name of Vilnius University was proclaimed by its graduates - writers and poets Adam Mickiewicz, Juliusz Slowacki, Jozef Ignacy Kraszewski and Antony Edward Odynec, historians Michal Balinski and Teodor Narbutt, orientologists Jozef Kowalewski and Jozef Senkowski, and geologist Ignacy Domeyko.

1918

After the proclamation of Lithuania's independence on 16 February, attempts were made to reopen the university. On 5 December 1918, the Lithuanian State Council approved the Statute of the University and announced a decision to re-establish the University in January 1919.

1919-1939

The Polish Stephen Bathory University functioned in Vilnius. One of its students was the future Nobel Prize winner, Czeslaw Milosz.

1939

Vilnius University renewed its activity when Faculties of Humanities and Law were transferred from Kaunas.

1940

After the Soviet annexation of Lithuania in

1940, Vilnius University was reorganized according to the model of higher education establishments of the Soviet Union.

1943

The Nazi invaders closed the University in 1943, and it resumed its work in the autumn of 1944.

1990

With the restoration of Lithuanian independence, the statute of the university was approved and the University regained its autonomy.





The architectural ensemble of Vilnius University

Vilnius University was established back in the 16th century under the jurisdiction of the Vilnius bishop in a block of Vilnius framed by four streets: Universiteto (formerly Vyskupų), Šv. Jono, Pilies and Skapo. The initiator of the Vilnius Jesuit College, Bishop Valerianus Protasevicius, bought a brick building for the college from the secretary of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, Mikalojus Jasinskis. In 1570, on establishment of the College and the Library, several more nearby buildings were bought and in 1571, the Jesuits were also given St John's Church. The ensemble was gradually expanding until it occupied the entire block of the Old town and many surrounding buildings.

In four centuries, the purpose, design and architectural forms of the university buildings often changed. Currently, the old architectural ensemble of the University is made up of 13 courtyards with 13 buildings which have several sections each as well as St John's Church and a belfry. The thirteenth Bursa courtyard and the buildings of the Faculty of Philosophy would be attached to the ensemble in 2004.

In 1985, Vilnius University was awarded the European gold medal for the preservation of old buildings. This was the second such medal awarded to a European university. Vilnius University is one of the few universities in Europe which has preserved the original purpose of its buildings since its establishment. The ensemble of Vilnius University will represent Lithuania in the Brussels park "Mini Europe" which displays the most famous buildings and other structures of cultural or historical value of the European Union member states.

The spectacular chambers and cozy courtyards of Vilnius University, the active student life and the aura of the past have always attracted many visitors. University teachers and students are proud of the buildings of the University, which are the witnesses of the honourable and rich past and surround the university with a special and unique atmosphere.

The old buildings comprise the faculties of History and Philology, the Institute of Foreign Languages, the Library and the Rector's office. Here, students from all faculties gather on 1 September to celebrate the start of a new academic year. Other faculties of the University are dispersed around the city: there are five campuses in Vilnius and one in Kaunas. In total, Vilnius University owns over 100 buildings in Vilnius, Kaunas and other Lithuanian towns.





Mission

The mission of Vilnius University is to create, accumulate and disseminate knowledge by ensuring continuity of authentic university culture distinguished by the atmosphere where old traditions and new ideas enrich each other.

Freedom of thought and diversity of opinions are the main values of the University community. A unity of research and studies is the core principle of the overall activity of the University.

The University should distinguish itself by a broad spectrum of fundamental and applied research. It should seek to assume the leading position among other Lithuanian institutions in all research areas that are essential to the very nature of a comprehensive University and set itself the goal of international excellence in the interdisciplinary research. The University should be committed to the mission of opening the doors and providing universal education for the most talented young people from all districts of Lithuania and educating active and responsible specialists, who demonstrate the need to expand their knowledge and improve professionally and who are able to learn throughout their lifetime. The University should seek that the quality of all forms of studies conforms to the modern culture and technologies and pertains to the needs of the state and society.

Vision

- To position and distinguish itself in European research and education area by top level research, which should be sustained by University's research teams of international acclaim and new teams, as well as to ensure annually increasing involvement in European research and educational programmes;
- to ensure that the balanced development and interaction of research in humanities, social, physical, biomedical and technological sciences remains the most outstanding feature of the University, which essentially differentiates it from other Lithuanian establishments of higher education and research;
- to initiate and actively implement the projects of value for the economic development of the country, which would encourage effective co-operation of scientific and educational institutions with high technology companies and create favourable conditions and environment for innovations and entrepreneurship;
- to create a well-functioning quality assurance system which would guarantee effective monitoring of the existing study programmes and development of new programmes and which would encourage the implementation of advanced teaching methods and tools. The system should ensure that generic and specific competencies and skills of University graduates are in consistency with the needs and tendencies in the economy, culture and labour market of the country;



• to significantly expand non-consecutive, distance and other flexible study forms and methods and become the centre of continuous professional improvement and lifelong learning, which plays an important role in transition of the country toward knowledge-based society.

Studies at Vilnius University

Thanks to the academic traditions, which were formed during long centuries, Vilnius University has accumulated a wide experience in organizing studies and created the foundations of various study areas and fields based on the knowledge reflecting fundamental and latest scientific achievements. The university has also raised qualified teaching staff able to ensure the unity of studies and science.

Vilnius University offers undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate studies in humanities, social sciences, physical sciences, biomedicine and technologies.

The undergraduate studies usually last four years and graduates are awarded a bachelor's degree and, in certain areas, also a professional qualification. The graduate studies – Master-degree studies or professional studies – last from one and a half to two years. Graduates of Master studies are awarded a Master degree. Special professional studies are aimed at granting the students a high-level professional qualification.

Studies in the fields of law, medicine and odontology embrace both undergraduate and

graduate studies. The residence – postgraduate - studies enable the medicine and odontology graduates to acquire a higher qualification of a specialized medical doctor. The doctoral studies prepare researchers in various fields. These postgraduate studies last four years and end with the defence of a doctoral thesis.

Seeking to satisfy the need of society for life-long learning, Vilnius University is offering many different courses and programmes aimed at increasing the qualification or re-qualification of specialists as well as expanding the general or professional knowledge of citizens.

International students

Regular students

The University of Vilnius admits non-Lithuanian citizens to all study programmes of all three cycles and to all faculties. The international degree students are admitted through general admission procedure run by the Study Office. The language of instruction in all degree programmes is Lithuanian; therefore, one-year Lithuanian language courses are offered by the university before the regular studies begin.

The degree programmes offered at Vilnius University rest on a pattern leading to Bachelor's degree after four years of study (160 national or 240 ECTS credits) and Master's degree after another two years (80 national and 120 ECTS credits).





The postgraduate doctoral programmes are of individual character and require up to four years of combined course work, exams, and research as well as contribution to international publications.

The specific professional qualification is offered in medicine and law at Vilnius University. The studies leading to these degrees last five years in law and six years in medicine and put an emphasis on a considerable amount of practical work in the chosen field of specialisation.

A degree programme combines compulsory, optional, and elective subjects leading to a degree title which specifies the main subject studied. The percentage of compulsory, optional and elective subjects within each particular degree programme differs both from year to year of study as well as from faculty to faculty.

Exchange students

At present the university also offers about 200 courses in foreign languages for free movers and exchange students, who wish to spend a study period at the University. In these cases international students are invited to compose their study programme from the offered list according to their interests and the requirements leading to study period recognition at their home university.

The exchange students coming to Vilnius under the exchange programme or bilateral agreement are treated according to the programme or agreement conditions and, as a rule, are exempt from the tuition fees at Vilnius University. The free-movers are expected to cover tuition costs.

There are several different ways of arranging temporary stay at Vilnius University. The most common are:

- 1. Bilateral agreements signed by Vilnius University and a sending university on any level: institutional, faculty or departmental. The students may inquire about the options at the Office of International Relations of their universities.
- 2. SOCRATES/ERASMUS and /or TEMPUS programmes.
- 3. Cultural agreements concluded by Lithuanian authorities with the authorities of other countries to promote co-operation and cultural links. The cultural agreements are managed by Department of Science and Research under the Ministry of Education of Lithuania, nevertheless a letter of acceptance at a Lithuanian institution has to be submitted together with the application.

At the moment Lithuania enjoys cultural agreements with the following countries: Belarus, Denmark, Great Britain, Estonia, France, Latvia, Mexico, Poland, Czech Republic, China, Flanders, Switzerland, and Italy. Please, apply to your country's authorities in order to find more about the possibilities to study under bilateral agreements.





Academic calendar

The academic year consists of autumn and spring semesters. Both semesters are composed of 16 study weeks and four examination weeks.

The autumn semester starts on 1 September and finishes on 21 December. Winter session starts on 22 December and finishes 26 January.

The spring semester starts on 4 February and finishes on 2 June. Spring session starts on 3 June and finishes on 30 June.

The academic year is interrupted by some days for Christmas Holiday. Summer vacation starts on 1 July and finishes on 31 August. Most departments and the library operate throughout the summer vacation.

Admission procedures and deadlines for application

Visiting students

The students are advised to contact the coordinator at their home university first in order to get more detailed information as well as application forms of Vilnius University. The deadlines for the applications are:

Spring semester –15 November **Autumn semester – 15** June

For additional information and application forms are welcome to contact the Offices of the International Relations of the respective institutions of higher education or:

International Programmes and Relations Office

Vilnius University

Universiteto 3

LT-01513 Vilnius

Lithuania

Tel. (370-5) 268 70 49

Fax: (370-5) 268 70 69

E-mail: trs@cr.vu.lt http://trs.cr.vu.lt

Regular students

Please, note that application deadline and requirements differ from those for visiting students. If you wish to apply for regular studies, please, apply at least a year in advance:

Admissions Officer

Vilnius University

Universiteto 3

LT-01513 Vilnius

Lithuania

Tel. (370-5) 268 70 53

Fax: (370-5) 268 70 64

E-mail: ruta.syrovatskaja@cr.vu.lt

http://trs.cr.vu.lt



Research

Vilnius University boasts over 1,500 teaching and research staff including approx. 170 doctors habilitus, nearly 900 doctors and 600 doctoral students. In the recent five years, over 300 doctoral and 38 doctor habilitus theses were defended. Annually, University researchers publish approximately 30 monographs, 20-30 textbooks and teaching manuals and over 1,500 articles in Lithuanian, international and foreign research journals. The results of research at the University are presented at Lithuanian and international conferences.

The scientific schools that were formed at Vilnius University, such as research of the Baltic languages, laser physics, semiconductor, ferroelectric and disordered solid state physics, research of biomolecular transformations, number theory and probability theory, cardiovascular surgery, new chemical compound synthesis and research, have created the basis for the development of new scientific fields and branches.

Scientific development and the expanding relations with global research centres have contributed to the variety of research at Vilnius University. The research achievements and integration of the recent decades have encouraged the emergence of new modern research branches such as bioethics, bio-information and behaviouristic systems, biomedicine optics and laser medicine, ecosystems and global changes, genomics and biotechnology and the variety, origin and phenotypic realization of the human

genome. Moreover, Vilnius University develops new technologies such as information society technologies, laser technologies, material crystal structure engineering and nanostructure technologies, semiconductor radiant technologies, etc.

The new trends in the development of the Lithuanian state and the prospect of integration into the European Union have opened wide prospects for the development of contemporary branches of social and humanitarian sciences: research of the communication in knowledgebased economy; citizens, governance and security in the conditions of globalization; society, community and personality: the change of the quality of life and values; gender studies; language and thought; oriental studies and comparative culturology, etc. The modern era presented new opportunities to develop the fields important for the Lithuanian culture and science such as the Lithuanian history, philosophy, literature and book science, to create the scientific basis for the Lithuanian legal reform and conduct research into the political thought, political systems and economic and social development in Lithuania.

The role and importance of Vilnius University is increasing together with the restructurization of the Lithuanian science. The University now embraces five state research institutes of Ecology, Experimental and Clinical Medicine, Immunology, Oncology and Theoretical Physics and Astronomy. Several hospitals - the Santariškės Clinics, the Žalgirio Clinics and the Children's Hospital - gained the status of Vilnius University hospitals. These changes have contributed to



expanding the possibilities of scientific research and its practical importance.

The researchers of Vilnius University are increasingly engaged in Lithuanian, EU, NATO and other international scientific programmes and conduct commissioned research work. The laser specialists of the University have joined the European Laser Network and have created a centre of excellence "Cebiola" together with the biochemistry specialists. The researchers of the material science established a "Selitec" centre of excellence and joined the programmes of the European Nuclear Research Centre, CERN. Many foreign researchers are using our research base, and the international conferences organized by the university attract many prominent scientific figures, e.g. Nobel prize winners physicists Klaus von Klitzing, Zhores Alfiorov, and chemists Ryoji Noyori and K.B. Sharpless.

University researchers have earned national and international acclaim. This is illustrated by their membership of the Lithuanian Science Academy, European Science and Art Academy and other international academic organizations, awards of honorary titles at foreign universities, participation in international congresses and programme committees and international prizes and grants. Since the restoration of Lithuanian independence in 1990, 27 research works of Vilnius University were awarded the most important scientific award of the state, the Lithuanian science prize, and 57 researchers became the winners of this prize.



Vilnius University, just as any other old European university, has developed a tradition of international relations and cooperation as well as student and teacher exchange. Since its establishment, the university has been inviting foreign professors and accepting international students from all the lands of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Western Europe.

The international relations of the University were developing and deteriorating following the pattern of the overall state's political and economic situation, but have never actually ceased.

Currently, international cooperation and international relations are witnessing an upswing. The number of bilateral agreements with foreign universities is growing, cooperation geography expanding and its nature changing. International cooperation has an impact on all spheres of University life embracing studies, research and administrator cooperation. The University also opens up for partners from abroad. It actively participates in projects of international organizations such as UNESCO, NATO and EUA and engages in EU education and scientific programmes SOCRATES, LEONARDO, EUREKA, COST and FRAMEWORK.



Today, the focus has shifted from the quantity of relations to their quality. In 1996, Vilnius University was the first in Lithuania to start implementing the ECTS – European credit transfer system. In 1998, the University offered the first courses in foreign languages to exchange students. In the academic year 2003/2004, the University plans to issue the first European diploma supplements. All such initiatives are aimed at facilitating student exchange.

Vilnius University is a signatory to the *Magna Carta* of European universities, member of the International University Association, European University Association, Baltic University Rectors' Conference, Utrecht Network and Baltic Sea Region University Network.

Vilnius University has signed 63 bilateral cooperation programmes.

In 1992-2000, it implemented 25 TEMPUS projects.

In 1993-2003 it implemented and participated in 7 NATO projects, 20 projects of FRAMEWORK 4, 15 projects of FRAMEWORK 5 and 5 COST projects.

Vilnius University owns:

- The UNESCO Department of International Relations;
- The UNESCO Associated Centre of Excellence:
- 2 departments, 1 module and 1 course funded under JEAN MONNET programme.

Under the SOCRATES/ERASMUS programme,

Vilnius University has signed over 150 bilateral agreements and is a member of 13 ERASMUS programme thematic networks.

Vilnius University takes part in 4 projects and coordinates 1 project of the SOCRATES/LINGUA programme. It also participates in 1 project of the SOCRATES/MINERVA programme.

Vilnius University is a contractor and coordinator of the 6th thematic network of the project "Quality Culture" conducted by the European University Association under the additional measures programme of SOCRATES in 2002-2003.

Under the LEONARDO DA VINCI project, Vilnius University is the coordinator of 2 pilot projects, 3 student mobility projects and 2 teacher mobility projects.

New initiatives



Visoriai Information Technology Park (VITP) is a non-profit organization established as a result of close cooperation between study and research institutions (Vilnius University, Vilnius Gediminas Technical University, Vilnius College and the

Mathematics and Informatics Institute), state institutions and information technology businesses. The park is set up in Visoriai, the concentration of many institutions and companies fostering the traditions of cooperation between research and business.

The main aim of the VITP is to develop a full-fledged structure which would create favourable conditions for the development of the priority spheres of information technologies (IT), establishment of new companies, development of new technologies and application and commercialization of scientific achievements. The computer classes in the park are used by the students of Vilnius universities to solve business case studies under the guidance of IT company managers. In 2003, the first company was established by the students trained at the VITP.

The VITP is an active participant in EU projects, raises funds for the development of innovative products and technologies and encourages international cooperation. The Visoriai IT park is a member of the international association of scientific parks IASP.



On 27 May 2003, the public agency Saulėtekio Slėnis (Sunrise Valley) was established by

Vilnius University, Vilnius Gediminas Technical University, Vilnius City Municipality, private companies AB Alna and UAB Bite GSM and UAB Ekspla, which represents a group of laser and photonics research and business institutions.

The vision of the Sunrise Valley is to create a knowledge economy hub uniting modern universities, research institutes, top-level high-tech companies and fast-developing start ups.

The objectives of the valley is to create a modern environment for studies and research, professional improvement and business; pool promising and fast-developing high-tech companies; create new jobs; develop a favourable environment for the commercialization of scientific research and attract foreign and domestic investment for scientific research at universities.



The Vilnius University Career Centre was set up by the University in the Saulėtekis academic campus in November 2003. The initiative was supported by over 100 companies, institutions and organizations. The aims of the centre are to facilitate the career choice for the students and develop their abilities to adopt and implement career-related decisions, to introduce University graduates to potential employers and help the





University to understand and adapt to the fastchanging labour market.

The Career Centre offers lectures, seminars and consultations for students on professional career issues and holds seminars and consultations for employers. It also organizes meetings, interviews and career days, fairs and conferences with representatives of companies, institutions and organizations and accumulates information about employers, their requirements for graduates and employment opportunities.





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web site http://www.mb.vu.lt

Vilnius University library, which was set up in 1570, is the oldest library in the Baltic States. It was given a start by the collections of books donated by Vilnius bishop Valerianus Protasevicius and the King of Poland and Grand Duke of Lithuania, Sigismundus Augustus.

Currently, the library stores 5.3 million printed works. The division of rare publications

boasts over 178,000 titles of big scientific, cultural and historical value, which were published before 1800, and the largest collection of old Lithuanian books in the world. A valuable cartography fund, which includes maps drawn by the most prominent cartographers of the 16th-18th centuries, is also stored here.

The manuscript division has over 245,000 documents of 13th-21st centuries. The graphics room boasts more than 87,000 graphic works. Vilnius University library is a deposit library of United Nations Organization and its divisions. The library structure also includes the Museum of Adam Mickiewicz and the Museum of Science.

The library has nearly 26,500 readers and 15 faculty libraries whose funds are formed according to the faculty profile.

An electronic catalogue of Vilnius University library has been operative since 1993 and comprises over 530,000 entries. In the year 2000, the library installed special software ALEPH together with the libraries of other Lithuanian higher education establishments. Now, the main library processes are computerized.

The database of Vilnius University staff publications is currently under development (today, it includes over 12,000 bibliographic entries). The library subscribes to electronic databases EBSCO, Cambridge Journals Online, ProQuest, Science Direct, Springer LINK and Web of Science.

The historical halls of Smuglevicius and Lelevel and the White Hall as well as the exhibition of old books and manuscripts in the central university architectural ensemble attract large



flows of tourists: annually, the library receives over 7,500 visitors.



Representation and other student organisations

Vilnius University Students' Representation (VUSA) is an organisation uniting lively, smart and proactive students, and representing all the students of Vilnius University, defending their rights and interests inside and outside the University. Every student is welcome there – those with the ideas and wishes to implement them, and the ones looking for answers to important questions.

The activities of VUSA are very broad and diverse. The Representation is producing the biggest monthly for students in Lithuania Studentų Era (Students' Era), organising students leisure activities, taking care of students social and academic welfare.

The Debate Club, Photo and Film Club and Club of Young Businessmen of Lithuania are functioning under the wing of VUSA.

More information may be located at the web site www.vusa.lt

There are also several organisations in the University which unite students of one study field: the corporation of young political analysts RePublika, corporation of history students Tilia, association of Lithuanian students of medicine LiMSa, the union of law students ELSA Vilnius and the international association AIESEC of the students of economics.



Vilnius University is not just an institution of academic studies and the students are not only encouraged to learn and attend lectures. The University provides various opportunities for its students to dance, sing, act, take photographs, etc.

Music lovers have an exceptionally wide choice. There are two choirs – the women's choir Virgo and a mixed choir. The University also has a chamber music ensemble with old traditions and a long experience in touring. The choirs and the ensemble have been awarded in many international contests. The University also has a wind instrument orchestra Oktava for those of you with stronger lungs. Attached to Oktava is a choreography group. The folk dance traditions are fostered by the ensembles Ratilio and Jauni-

m lis as well as the University song and dance ensemble, which has visited the farthest corners of the world on its tours.

Those who want to act can choose from among the Courtyard Theatre, the physical-visual theatre of Andrius Pulkauninkas and the chamber theatre Minimum.



The ancient Romans said that a healthy mind lives in a healthy body. Vilnius University provides an opportunity for its students to be not only intelligent but also healthy.

The university owns three sports halls and a stadium. The Naktigonė sports hall is suitable for playing basketball and holding aerobics sessions; the Blue Hall invites the lovers of basketball, handball, table tennis, football and mountain tourism; and the hall in Čiurlionis Street offers facilities for playing basketball, volleyball and tennis as well as engaging in bodybuilding and aerobics.

The Health and Sports Centre organizes individual sessions of various sports, students' sports games and sports contests and participates in students' sports and tourism events not only in Lithuania but also abroad.

The enthusiasts of outdoor sports are invited

by the University Tourism Club to join it on trips on foot and biking and canoeing events as well as mountaineering and rock climbing.

Faculties, Institutes



Naugarduko g. 24, LT-03225 Vilnius,

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(a)

e-mail: chf@chf.vu.lt,

web site http://www.chf.vu.lt

Chemistry was first introduced as a subject in Vilnius University College of Physical Sciences at the end of the 18th century. In 1784, a member of the Royal Academy of Torino, Joseph Sartorius, was invited to teach chemistry and set up the Chemistry Department and the first chemistry laboratory. The Faculty of Chemistry was established in 1944.

Currently, the faculty has 5 departments: Department of Analytical Chemistry, Department of General and Inorganic Chemistry, Department of Organic Chemistry, Department of Physical Chemistry and Department of Polymer Chemistry. The faculty also runs the Laboratory of Liquid Crystals.

The main study programmes taught are chemistry and biochemistry. The Faculty offers two Master-degree study programmes and a special professional study programme on conservation of cultural values (developed together with the A. Gudynas Restoration Centre of the Lithuanian Art Museum).

The faculty cooperates with higher education establishments from Denmark, Sweden, Germany, France, the USA, Japan and other countries, the Lithuanian Association of Chemistry Industry, Vilnius Academy of Art and the A. Gudynas Restoration Centre of the Lithuanian Art Museum. The faculty is one of the founders of the association Eurachem-Lietuva, which is a member of the European Association of Analytical Chemistry, Eurachem. Together with the Lithuanian Science Academy, the faculty publishes successive series of scientific works *Chemija (Chemistry)*.



Faculty of Communication

Saulėtekio al. 9, LT-10222 Vilnius,



tel. (370 5) 236 61 00, fax (370 5) 236 61 04,



e-mail: kf@kf.vu.lt,



web site http://www.kf.vu.lt

The Faculty of Communications was set up in 1991. The faculty consists of 4 main academic divisions: Institute of Documentation and Book Science, Institute of Journalism, Department of Knowledge Management and Department of Library and Information Science.

The main study programmes on offer are Archives Studies, Library and Information Studies, Information Management, Business Information Management and Journalism. The faculty offers 7 Master-degree study programmes.

In cooperation with the Faculties of History and Economics and the Institute of International Relations and Political Sciences, the Faculty of Communication has initiated several inter-faculty study programmes. The faculty was one of the first in Lithuania to offer distance learning studies. The faculty hosts the Lithuanian Centre of Journalism, which is a lifelong learning education institution set up by the Open Society Fund - Lithuania.

The Faculty of Communication conducts research on knowledge-based society communication, book culture and the Lithuanian national bibliography. The faculty gives much attention to cooperation with the professionals of the field and international relations and constantly participates in international projects.

Annually, the faculty organizes seminars on book science, the Day of Information and seminars of Vaclovas Biržiška. The faculty publishes research publications *Knygotyra* (Book Science), Informacijos Mokslai (Information Science), Mokslotyra (Science Research) and Baltic Media Law Newsletter.







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tel. (370 5) 236 61 20, fax (370 5) 236 61 27,



e-mail: ef@ef.vu.lt,



web site http://www.ef.vu.lt

Economic disciplines were introduced at Vilnius University by Hieronim Strojnowski, who taught economic theory of physiocrats. In 1803, the first Department of Political Economy in the world was set up at Vilnius University. Today, the faculty includes 12 departments: Department of Finance and Credit, Department of Economic Informatics, Department of System Analysis of Economy, Department of Accounting, Department of Theoretical Economy, Department of Statistics, Department of Economics of Enterprises, Department of Management, Department of Economic Policy, Department of Marketing, Department of Quality Management and Trade and the Laboratory of Economic Informatics.

The main study programmes offered are economics, management and business administration and management information systems. The faculty offers 15 Master-degree study programmes.

The faculty cooperates with foreign universi-

ties and participates in international programmes and the activity of the EuroFaculty.

The Faculty of Economics also offers compensatory studies and additional courses of economics as well as management and business administration to those students who want to enter Master-degree studies of economics.

Teachers of the Faculty of Economics conduct research in the fields of management and economics and publish their works both in Lithuania and abroad. The faculty publishes successive series of scientific works Ekonomika (Economics). Commissioned by state institutions and the private sector, faculty's professors conduct applied research and expert evaluations and actively participate in designing the Lithuanian economic development and planning its strategies. They also perform analyses of institutional activity and functions, prepare draft laws and provide recommendations to state institutions.





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The first Department of History was established at Vilnius University in 1783. At the beginning of the 19th century, Vilnius History School was founded by J. Lelewel and I. Onacevicius. The Faculty of History was set up in 1968.

The faculty has four departments: Department of Archaeology, Department of History Theory and Culture History, Department of New History and Department of Ancient and Medieval History. There is also a centre for archaeological research and the Lithuanian statute and the Lithuanian register research group. In the autumn of 1999, the Centre for Stateless Cultures was set up as a joint project of the Faculty of History and the Open Society Foundation Lithuania. This is the first university division in the world, which researches stateless ethnic groups (Lithuanian Tatars, Karaites, Old Believers, Romany people and the Yiddish).

The main study programmes offered by the Faculty of History are archaeology, history, culture history and anthropology. There are 4 Master degree study programmes. The faculty also manages a school project on historical issues, which helps secondary school graduates prepare for the national examination of history. The faculty publishes successive series of scientific works *Lietuvos Istorijos Studijos (Lithuanian History Studies) and Archaeologia Lituana*.



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Faculty of Humanities in Kaunas is the only faculty of Vilnius University established in a different city other than the main campuses. The faculty was set up in 1964. Situated in one of the oldest parts of Kaunas, the faculty boasts magnificent architecture of the 16th-17th centuries.

Currently, the faculty comprises 8 departments: Department of Philosophy and Political Sciences, Department of Finance and Accounting, Department of German Philology, Department of Commerce, Department of Computer Science, Department of Lithuanian Philology, Department of Foreign Languages and Department of Business, Economics and Management. The faculty also comprises the Institute of Sociocultural Research.

The faculty offers full-time, evening and parttime studies. The main study programmes include full-time studies in Lithuanian philology and advertising, English philology, German philology,





English and Russian languages, management and business administration, business information, culture management, evening studies in management and business administration and part-time studies in economics. The faculty offers 11 Master-degree study programmes.

Since its establishment, the faculty has been focusing on three study areas - social sciences, humanities and physical sciences (computer science). This traditional interdisciplinary medium is the only of its kind among Lithuanian academic and research institutions. For this reason, the Institute of Sociocultural Studies was set up to unite the scientific potential of the faculty and focus on the research of humanities (language and mentality) and social sciences (business environment factors).

The faculty cooperates with many universities and other academic institutions of the Central and Eastern Europe, Scandinavia and America and participates in joint research projects, organizes conferences and publishes successive series of scientific works *Respectus Philologicus and Transformations in Business & Economics*.



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The Faculty of Law of Vilnius University is the first, the oldest and for a long time the only institution which prepared law specialists in Lithuania. It was established in 1641 under the privilege of V adys aus Wasa, the King of Poland and the Grand Duke of Lithuania. Between 1641 and 1832, the faculty's professors included famous scientists of that time such as H. Strojnowski, A.Olisarovius, A.Capelli, I.Danilavicius, I.Oldachowski, S.Malewski, J.Jaroszewicz, J.Lelewel and others. After different historical disturbances, the Faculty of Law was reopened in the autumn of 1944.

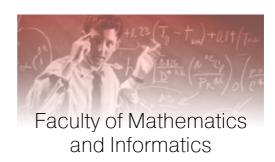
Currently, the faculty has 7 departments: Department of Constitutional and Administrative Law, Department of International and EU Law (operating together with the *Jean Monnet* EU Law Department), Department of Labour Law, Department of Theory and History of State and Law, Department of Civil Law and Civil Proceedings, Department of Penal Law and the Department of Criminology and Criminal Pro-

cedure. The faculty also embraces the centres of information law, German law, Polish law and Eastern European law. A school of French law will be set up soon.

The faculty offers the following full-time study specializations: criminal justice, labour law, finance and tax law, commercial law, criminology, private and social insurance, international law, law theory and history and public administration law. The faculty also offers part-time studies.

The Faculty of Law organizes thematic scientific conferences and publishes a successive series of scientific works *Teisė* (*Law*). The faculty staff actively participates in drafting Lithuanian laws and other legal acts, performs expert assessments and consults legislators on legal issues. Since 1999, the faculty has been operating a public agency Legal Clinics. Its aim is to implement a charge-free legal aid system in Lithuania and improve the study and traineeship programmes of the students of the Faculty of Law.

The faculty cooperates with Switzerland Comparative Law Institute in Lausanne, Max Plank Public and International Law Institute in Germany and other foreign universities.



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Mathematics was introduced on the curriculum of Vilnius University at the time of its establishment in 1579. Then, the Department of Mathematics was a part of the Faculty of Philosophy. Mathematics was separated from philosophy at the beginning of the 18th century. A separate Faculty of Mathematics and Mechanics was set up in 1965 (in 1978, the name was changed to the Faculty of Mathematics). In 1999, the faculty changed its name into the Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics.

Currently, the faculty has 10 departments: Department of Differential Equations and Numerical Mathematics, Department of Econometric Analysis, Department of Informatics, Department of Computer Science, Department of Didactics of Mathematics, Department of Mathematical Analysis, Department of Mathematical Statistics, Department of Mathematical Computer Scien-

ce, Department of Software Engineering and Department of Probability Theory and Number

The main study programmes offered are econometrics, finance and insurance mathematics, informatics, didactics of mathematics and informatics, mathematics and mathematics applications, software systems and statistics. The faculty offers 4 Master-degree study programmes and the possibility to acquire the professional qualification of a mathematics teacher. The research fields of postgraduate studies are informatics and mathematics.





Theory.

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The Faculty of Medicine of Vilnius University is the oldest higher educational establishment of medicine in Lithuania which was set up in 1781. The faculty is one of the largest ones in Vilnius University. At the beginning of the 19th century, the Faculty of Medicine became one of the most prominent institutions of medical rese-

arch and studies in Eastern Europe. Professors of the faculty included such world celebrities as L. Bojanus, J. Sniadecki and father and son Frank. The faculty is renowned for its educational premises and laboratories and has contributed to the establishment of some of the first European vaccination and maternity institutes.

Currently, the faculty comprises 5 departments, 2 institutes, 15 clinics with 45 centres and laboratories as well as a library.

The study fields of the faculty are medicine and stomatology (the latter are professional studies). The main study programmes are nursing, public health, kinezitherapy and ergotherapy. The faculty offers 3 Master-degree study programmes.

The Faculty of Medicine conducts research in the following areas: variety, origin and phenotypic realization of the human genome; human and public health, quality of life and environment: scientific and applied research; health of mother and child, physiological and social aspects and research in the trends of individual development; bioethics, health policy and application of new technologies; ethiopathogenesis, and fundamental and clinical research in diagnostics, treatment, rehabilitation and prevention of diseases.



Faculty of Natural Sciences



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Natural sciences have been taught at Vilnius University since its establishment. The first independent natural science unit was the Department of Natural History set up in 1781. At the same time, the university also established a Botanic Garden, one of the oldest in the then Lithuanian and Polish state. In the 19th century, the professors of the department included many famous scientists such as J.E. Gilibert, S. Jundzill, L. Bojanus, E. Eichwald and J.G. Forster. The year 1944 saw the establishment of the independent Faculty of Natural Sciences.

The faculty comprises 8 departments: Department of Plant Physiology and Microbiology, Department of General Geography, Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics, Department of Botany and Genetics, Department of Geology and Mineralogy, Department of Hydrogeology and Engineering Geology, Department of Hydrology and Climatology and Department of Zoology. The faculty also owns a Botanical Garden and the Centre of Cartography.

The main study programmes are ecological biology, geography, geology, hydrology and

climatology, hydrogeology and engineering geology, molecular biology and biophysics. The faculty offers 12 Master-degree study programmes and special professional studies in the fields of biology and geography teaching.

The faculty takes part in European Commission programmes, NATO projects, cooperates with foreign universities and publishes successive series of scientific works *Biologija* (*Biology*), *Geografija* (*Geography*) and *Geologija* (*Geology*).

The Botanical Garden is located in two sites (in the suburb of Kair nai and Vingis Park in Vilnius). It is the biggest such garden in Lithuania with the area of 199 ha. The garden boasts the richest collection of plants of over 9,000 names. The Botanical Garden conducts research and educational activity and aims at becoming the representative botanical garden of Lithuania.





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Philology studies were introduced at Vilnius Jesuit College back in 1570. Subjects taught included Latin, Greek and Hebrew languages, works of ancient authors, grammar, poetics and rhetoric. In 16th-17th centuries, the Jesuit academy could boast famous professors such as the developer of the Lithuanian writing, K. Sirvydas, professor and poet M. K. Sarbievius, rhetoric professor K. Wijuk - Koialovicius and others. At the end of the 19th century, apart from Latin and Greek languages, the faculty taught ancient mythology, art, science, epigraphy, chronology and numismatics. This faculty educated the fosterers of the Lithuanian national self-consciousness Simonas Daukantas and Simonas Stanevicius and the Polish Romanticist Adam Mickiewicz, who proclaimed the name of Lithuania in his works.

The Faculty of Philology was set up in 1968 and currently has 14 departments. The faculty also owns a computer centre with three computer rooms, 3 libraries, the laboratory of experimental phonetics and 12 specialized classrooms-centres of different study fields, e.g. the new Greek language, the Italian language, Canadian studies, Lithuanian literature, Lithuanian studies, Netherlands studies, Russian, Scandinavian, Turkish, Hungarian language studies and translation studies.

The main study programmes include English Philology, Classical Philology, Lithuanian Philology, Lithuanian Philology, Lithuanian Philology, Folish Philology as non-native language, French Philology, Russian Philology, Russian Philology as non native language, Slavonic Philology, Scandinavian Philology, German Philology and Lithuanian Philology and a Foreign Language. The faculty offers 12 Master-degree

study programmes and special professional studies.

The faculty organizes numerous international events: every five years it holds the Baltic congress, every two years - conferences of K. B ga and J. Kazlauskas and conferences of Slavonic and Germanic philology. The faculty publishes successive series of scientific works *Baltistica*, *Literatūra* (*Literature*) and *Kalbotyra* (*Language Science*).



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Philosophy was introduced at Vilnius University (the then Jesuit College) in 1571. The Faculty of Philosophy was established in 1579. Professors of the faculty included such prominent authorities of the European science as Marcin Smiglecki, Sigismundus Lauxminus, Mathias Casimirus Sarbievius and Albertus Wijuk - Koialovicius. However, in the 18th century the faculty was closed on the decision of the Education Commission. In the 19th century, only the Faculty of Moral and Political Sciences was active. In 1939, when Vilnius was reunited with the Lithuanian



mainland, Vilnius and Kaunas universities were reorganized and the Faculty of Humanities with the department of philosophy was transferred to Vilnius. After more than 200 years since it was closed in 1989, the Faculty of Philosophy was re-established at Vilnius University.

Currently, the faculty comprises 8 departments: Department of General Psychology, Department of Education Science, Department of History of Philosophy and Logic, Department of Philosophy, Department of Clinical and Organizational Psychology, Department of Political Science, Department of Sociology and Department of Social Work. There are also 3 centres: Information Society Studies Centre, Social Studies Centre and Education Policy Centre, and 2 laboratories of special psychology and sociology.

The main study programmes include philosophy, sociology and social work. The faculty offers 10 Master-degree study programmes and special professional studies in social work. It also offers opportunities for life-long learning: supplementary studies of social work and modules of certification and qualification improvement for social workers.

The faculty provides a variety of services: it performs social, psychological, educational and demographic studies, personnel selection and in-house training, etc. The faculty publishes successive series of scientific works *Problemos (Problems)*, *Psichologija (Psychology) and Acta Paedagogica Vilnensia*.



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Physics has been taught at the University since its establishment. In the first years, it was considered to be a subject of natural philosophy. In 1753, an Astronomical Observatory was established at Vilnius University. In 1772, the Jesuit Academy started teaching experimental physics and set up a Physics Museum. After the reform of 1803, the imperial Vilnius University had 4 faculties, the Faculty of Physics and Mathematic Sciences being one of them.

Currently, the Faculty of Physics has 7 departments: those of Quantum Electronics, Laser Research Centre, Semiconductor Physics, Solid State Electronics, Theoretical Physics, Radiophysics and General Physics and Spectroscopy. The faculty also owns an Astronomical Observatory and 6 laboratories. The faculty hosts the European Union-sponsored research centres CEBIOLA and SELITECH, conducts EU 5th Framework Programme projects, two long-term projects of the NATO programme Science for Peace as





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well as joint research with dozens of foreign universities.

The main study programmes include astrophysics, physics and teaching of physics, computer physics, modern technology management, applied physics, telecommunications physics and electronics. The faculty offers 7 Master-degree study programmes.



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The Institute of Foreign Languages, which is an independent subdivision of Vilnius University, was established in 1999, although the tradition of teaching foreign languages at the University goes back to the early days of its existence. The Old Jesuit College set up in 1570 taught Latin, Greek and Hebrew as well as new European Languages - German, French and Russian. Teaching contemporary languages on a regular basis was commenced in 1801 when foreign languages were included into the curricula of

all faculties and taught as compulsory subjects.

During the recent decades, foreign language instruction was the responsibility of specially established foreign language departments at the Faculty of Philology, which now make up the Institute of Foreign Languages: Department of English for Physical and Biomedicine Sciences, Department of English for Humanities, Department of English for Social Sciences, Department of Romance Languages and Department of the German Language.

Currently, the institute teaches five foreign languages (English, German, French, Spanish and Italian) to as many as 6,000 students annually. The most popular choice is the English language, which is taught to 85 percent of students of all faculties.

The Institute of Foreign Languages helps to improve the qualification of the Lithuanian teachers by organizing two BA study programmes: *The English language and teaching* and *The German language and teaching*.

The Institute organizes evening language courses for society at large at different levels in all the five languages and has recently launched a new non-consecutive study programme in *Business English*, which is targeted at managers and employees of companies, organizations and firms.

The staff of the Institute is involved in the research of the structures (grammatical, lexical, semantic and stylistic) of the Germanic, Romance and Lithuanian languages, their integration into the teaching process and lexicographic practice. Some of the researchers analyse American,



English and German literature and cultures and their contacts with Lithuania.



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The Institute of International Relations and Political Sciences was established in 1992 on the initiative of Vilnius University and was funded by the Supreme Committee for the Liberation of Lithuania. In the first decade of activity, the institute became the main higher education establishment in Lithuania which prepares specialists of political sciences, international relations and public administration and conducts political science research.

The faculty comprises 4 departments: Department of International Relations (UNESCO), Department of European Studies (*Jean Monnet*), Department of Public Administration and Department of Comparative Politics. The institute also includes the European Documentation Centre,

the American Studies Centre and the Asian and African Studies Centre.

The main study programmes are international relations and diplomacy, European studies, comparative politics, public administration and European public administration.

The institute investigates the problems of Lithuanian and other countries' internal policy, management, international relations and foreign policy and diplomacy, organizes qualification improvement programmes for public servants and diplomats, and disseminates political science ideas to the specialists and society at large by organizing conferences, seminars and roundtable discussions.

The institute has implemented six NATO scientific research programme projects and 11 other projects on Lithuanian political culture, elections and foreign policy. The institute publishes a periodical of scientific works *Politologija*.

Institute of Material Science and Applied Research

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web site http://www.mtmi.vu.lt

The Applied Research Institute was set up in 1992 with the aim of pooling the potential of Vilnius University scientific and teaching staff for

applied research and experimental development and more effectively employing the available experimental base. In 1994, the Institute was reorganized into the Institute of Material Science and Applied Research (MTMI). It includes divisions of material science and nanotechnologies, semiconductor optoelectronics, biomedicine and information technologies, new material research and measurement technologies and a service group as well as a liquid crystal laboratory.

In close cooperation with other University departments, the Institute researches non-equilibrium phenomena in semiconductor crystals, nanometric and quantum structures, bio-formations and behaviouristic systems, works in the sphere of biomedical optics and nanophotonics, creates the material, surface and nanostructure non-depleting metrology, develops semiconductor radiant and information society technologies, constructs devices for controlling the natural environment and industrial processes and produces unique materials using exact organic synthesis methods.

The Institute employs approx. 30 researchers, among them 10 habilitated doctors and professors. They are supported by many students, who work as technicians and engineers.

The Institute conducts many research projects including the NATO project Science for Peace, CERN and Lithuanian high tech programmes. Together with the Semiconductor Physics Institute, the MTMI has set up an excellence centre SELITEC (Semiconductor materials and devises for light technologies) which is funded under the EU 5th Framework Programme. In 2003, the MTMI organized a NATO advanced research seminar in Lithuania.

The Institute maintains close contacts with partners in the USA, Germany, the UK, France, Italy, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Poland, the Czech Republic, Belgium, the Netherlands, Latvia, Estonia, Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Japan, Taiwan and Australia.

Study and Research Centres



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The Environmental Studies Centre was set up in 1995. The Centre initiates international projects in environmental studies and environment management, encourages cooperation of researchers from various faculties in investigating the complex problems of interaction between human and environmental factors and takes active part in



preparing and implementing study programmes in the area of ecology and environment management. The Centre implements two Master study programmes (ecology and environmental science and management). Apart from this, the Centre is in charge of the Bachelor-level studies of ecology at the Faculty of Natural Sciences.



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Vilnius University Gender Studies Centre the first of its kind in the Baltic States - was established in 1992. The centre contributes to the formation of the gender policy in Lithuania.

One of the main goals of the centre is to integrate gender studies in the common curriculum at Vilnius University. The centre offers optional courses. Together with the Department of Social Work of the Faculty of Philosophy, the Gender Studies Centre has developed a new Masterdegree study programme on gender studies and social work.

Since 2002, the centre has been organizing

international summer schools for secondary school teachers from Lithuania, Belarus and Kaliningrad Region. The aim of such schools is to introduce teachers to strategies and tactics of prevention of violence against children.

One of the fundamental strategies of the Gender Studies Centre is to maintain the ties between the academic world and society. The main areas of research include expression of gender equality in Lithuanian society, history of women, and women and science. Since 1999, the centre has been publishing a journal Baltic Gender Studies (before 2002, entitled *Feminizmas, Visuomenė, Kultūra (Feminism, Society, Culture)) and the Internet magazine Klėja*.

A. J. Greimas Centre of Semiotics

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This interdisciplinary centre was set up in 1992. The centre develops the methodology of humanities and social sciences on the basis of the semiotics school of A.J. Greimas, analyses cultural, social, political and other discourses, organizes seminars and lectures on literary theory, literary science methodology and semiotics as well as seminars on philosophy for students of various specializations.

The project "Expression of the body in the contemporary social discourse" was part of the international cooperation programme of J.E. Gilibert in 2003. Annually, the centre organizes an academic week in Druskininkai. Lecturers of the centre are from Vilnius University as well as visiting professors from other countries. The centre cooperates with Tartu, Moscow, Helsinki, Urbin, Paris and other universities. The centre offers a Master-degree study programme in semiotics.

International Centre of Knowledge Economy and Knowledge Management

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In 2003, the former Knowledge Management Institute of the Faculty of Communications of Vilnius University was reorganized into the International Centre of Knowledge Economy and Knowledge Management under the patronage of the United Nations.

The mission of the International Knowledge Centre is to become the hub of competence and innovations at Vilnius University engaged in the development and implementation of modern study programmes; to train specialists and perform strategic research that could make a significant impact on the advance of the Lithuanian knowledge economy and information society as well as to promote knowledge management as a field of studies and research.

The tasks of the centre are to develop, constantly update and implement study programmes which conform to international standards and trends, prepare interdisciplinary study programmes, continuous learning programmes of strategic management, information and communication management, and develop and implement the programmes of certification (standardization of qualification and recognition) of information and communication management professionals.

The centre takes care of the following Masterdegree programmes: information management, information systems management and international communication (full-time studies and distance learning).

Oriental Studies Centre

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web site http://www.oc.vu.lt

The Centre of Oriental Studies was set up in 1992. Its main task is to familiarize students with the cultures (language, religion, history, philosophy, art) of the Far and Middle East and Southern Asia. The centre teaches Arabic, Hindu, Japanese, Chinese, Korean, Pali, Persian (Farsi), Sanskrit, Turkish and Tibet languages. It also offers comparative Asian studies and study programmes of Japanology, Sinology and Indology. The centre prepares dictionaries and teaching aids and publishes a periodical *Acta Orientalia*.



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The Centre for Religious Studies and Research was established in 1992 as an interdisciplinary and interfaculty body of studies and scientific research. The aim of the centre is to foster and develop the Christian cultural tradition on the academic level, research the Lithuanian religious reality and encourage dialogue among religious and secular cultures.

Currently, the centre conducts a Masterdegree study programme in the field of religion, awards Master degrees in religion science and delivers public lectures to the students of Vilnius University and other universities.

Since 2001, the centre has been conducting a scientific project Religion and Culture. On an

annual basis, the centre holds conferences entitled Religion and Culture.

Vilnius Distance Education Study Centre

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Vilnius Distance Education Study Centre (VDESC), established in 1998, develops distance education (DE) courses, learning materials and training programmes using advanced technologies, supports writing, adaptation and improvement of DE courses and programmes, collects and disseminates information about events, projects and methods of distance education, maintains virtual learning environment (WebCT) for all professors of Vilnius university, together with World Bank through GDLN (Global Development Learning Network), designs and delivers courses, seminars, and other activities that cover the full range of development issues.

International **Business School**

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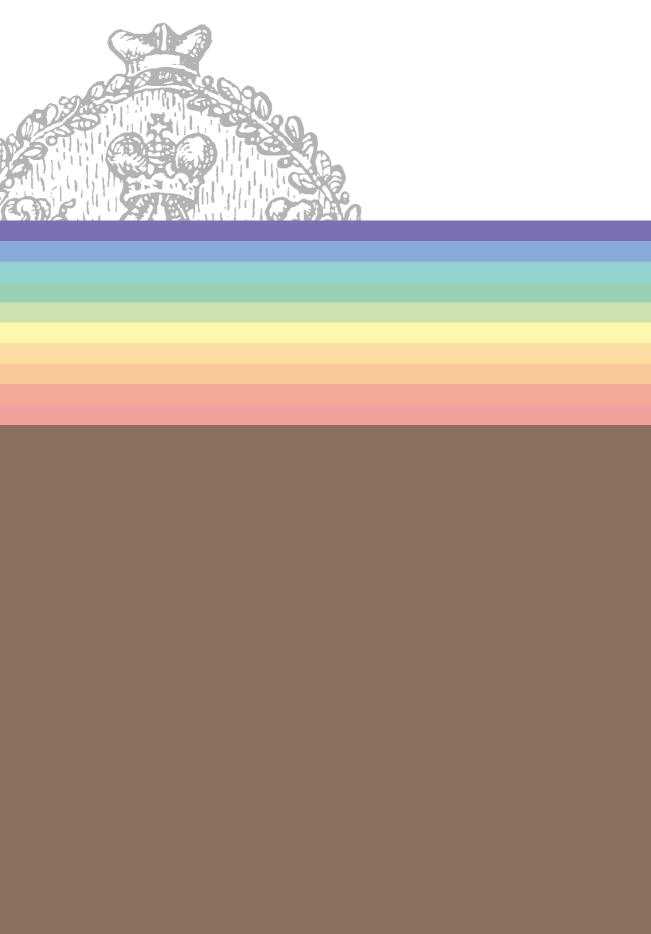
web site http://www.tvm.vu.lt

The International Business School is a structural division of Vilnius University, which in its 15 years of existence has become one of the largest higher education schools of its kind in Lithuania.

The main study programme is International Business. The school offers 2 Master-degree study programmes and special professional studies on international business as well as the programme of a preparatory semester for Masterdegree studies.

The school has an international Bachelordegree study group where the language of instruction is English. Beside Lithuanian students, the group includes students from similar higher education schools from other countries. A big part of the subjects in all study programmes is taught by visiting professors from foreign universities. The students of the school are provided opportunities to continue their studies in Finnish, German, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese and other universities.







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