



Faculty of History



Two significant projects continue to be successfully implemented at the Faculty of History of Vilnius University: 'Past & Future Millet Foodways', conducted by Prof. Giedrė Motuzaitė Matuzevičiūtė Keen and funded by the European Research Council, and the activities of the (Post)Authoritarian Landscapes Research Centre, headed by Prof. Arūnas Streikus. Both of these projects are unique within the context of the University: the project of Giedrė Motuzaitė Matuzevičiūtė Keen stands out due to its exceptional ERC grant, while the (Post)Authoritarian Landscapes Research Centre project is distinguished by its innovativeness and multifaceted approach. The Faculty carries out the latter project together with colleagues from the Faculty of Philosophy and the Faculty of Chemistry and Geosciences. The Centre's researchers apply an interdisciplinary landscape perspective to explore the relationship between (post)authoritarian societies and the natural environment, highlighting the relevance of an eco-social approach to societal analysis.

This year, the Faculty took another step in consolidating itself as a significant centre for archaeological research. Assoc. Prof. Dr Justina Poškienė prepared and won the Research Council of Lithuania's call for proposals for the infrastructure renewal programme. This achievement will enable the launch of a new research direction at the Faculty in archaeological artefact material science.

Given the relevance of digital humanities, researchers from the Faculties of Philology and History submitted a joint proposal to the Research Council of Lithuania's call for updating the infrastructure needed for scientific research. The project won funding that will allow us to develop this important research area and integrate it into the University's study programmes. The proposal was prepared by Dr Ernesta Kazakėnaitė, a researcher at the Faculty of Philology, and Dr Sergii Gurbych, a postdoctoral trainee at the Faculty of History.

The Faculty's researchers – Assoc. Prof. Rūta Šermukšnytė, Dr Akvilė Naudžiūnienė, Dr Norbertas Černiauskas – and Faculty alumnus Dr Vytautas Volungevičius completed their work on preparing new general education history textbooks aligned with the updated national curriculum. This year, eight textbooks were prepared for Years 5, 6, 9, and 10, including one specifically designed for Lithuanian schools in North America.

Dr Viltė Janušauskaitė was recognised as the winner of the 'Women in Science' competition organised by the Academies of Sciences of the three Baltic States and the National Commissions for UNESCO.

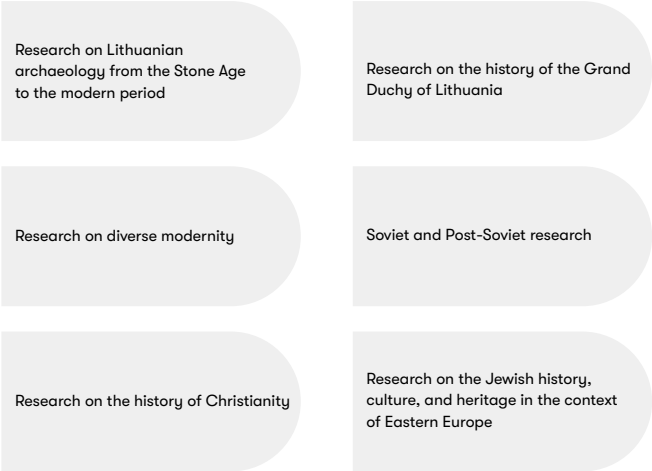
The President awarded Professor Marija Drėmaitė with the Cross of the Knight of the Order of the Lithuanian Grand Duke Gediminas for her research on modern Lithuanian architecture, culture, and heritage, and in recognition of her educational activities, for initiating and implementing international projects that have contributed significantly to Lithuania's visibility worldwide. Professor Jurgita Verbickienė was honoured for her long-standing and consistent scientific and expert work in researching, highlighting, and presenting Jewish history, culture, and heritage in Lithuania, as well as for developing and implementing approaches to integrating Jewish history into public and academic discourse.

Dr Tetiana Boriak was presented with the Rector's Science Award for her significant monograph on the oral history of Holodomor. This year, the University played an active role as a participant and organiser of the Lithuanian Season in France, largely thanks to the contributions of Rector Prof. Rimvydas Petrauskas, Pro-Rector Dr Artūras Vasiliauskas, and Prof. Marija Drėmaitė. One of the inaugural events was co-organised with Sorbonne University, where one of the two presentations, 'From the Last Medieval Kingdom to Modern Democracy: Lithuania's Road to Europe', was delivered by Prof. Rimvydas Petrauskas. An international conference, 'Lithuania and France: a Distant Neighbourhood – a Shared Experience', was hosted together with Sorbonne University and was attended by Lithuanian and French researchers. Our Faculty was represented by Prof. Marija Drėmaitė, Prof. Irena Vaišvilaitė, and Assoc. Prof. Loreta Skurvydaitė.

Assoc. Prof. Dr Loreta Skurvydaitė, Dean

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

Areas of research interest

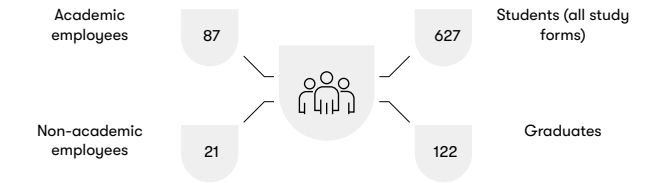


Study portfolio in 2024

	Bachelor studies	Master studies
Total number of programmes implemented	3	3
	Doctoral studies	
Number of science fields	1 (History and Archaeology)	

The figures for the study programmes are based on the data of 1 October.

Number of employees, students, and graduates in 2024

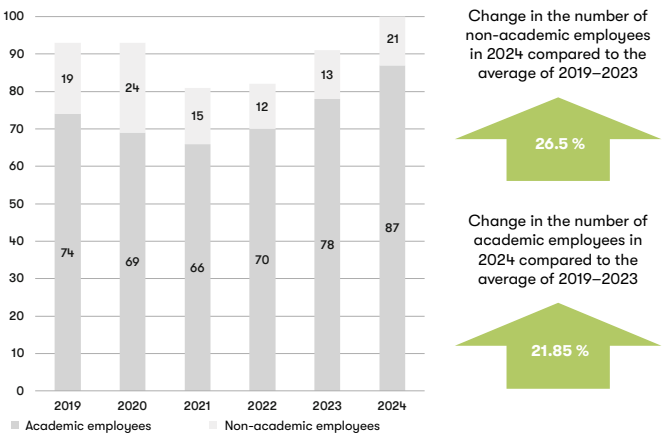


Number of foreign nationals employed in 2023–2024

	Academic employees	Non-academic employees	Total
2024	10	1	11
2023	4	0	4

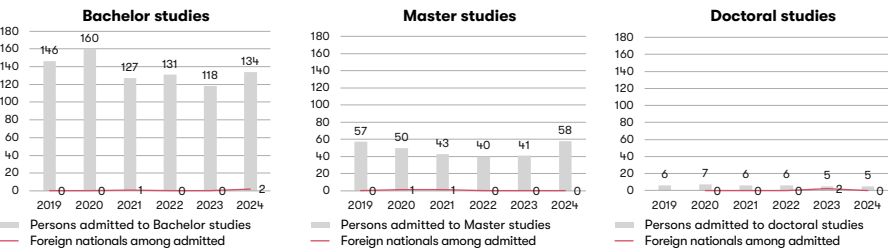
Based on the data of 31 December.

Changes in the number of employees, 2019–2024



Based on the data of 31 December.

Admissions to studies, 2019–2024

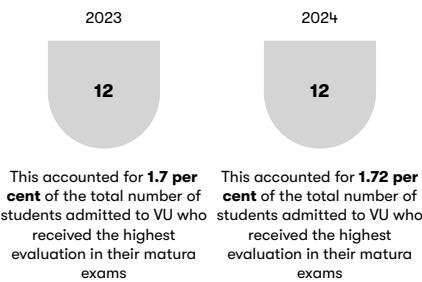


Change in the number of admitted persons by study cycle in 2024 compared to the average of 2019–2023



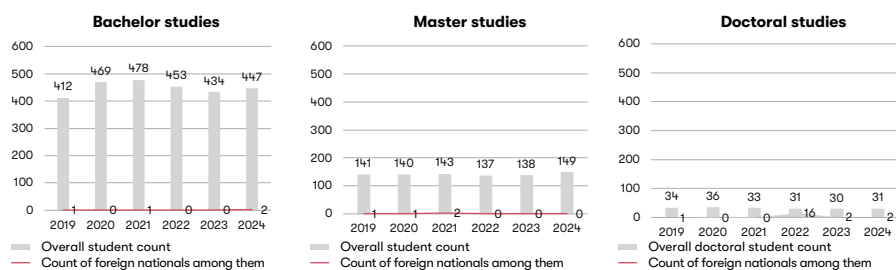
The first cycle and the second cycle indicators were calculated on the basis of the data of 1 October, and the third cycle indicators were calculated on the basis of the data of 31 December.

Number of admitted students who received the highest evaluation in their matura exams in 2023–2024



Based on the data of 1 October.

Number of students, 2019–2024

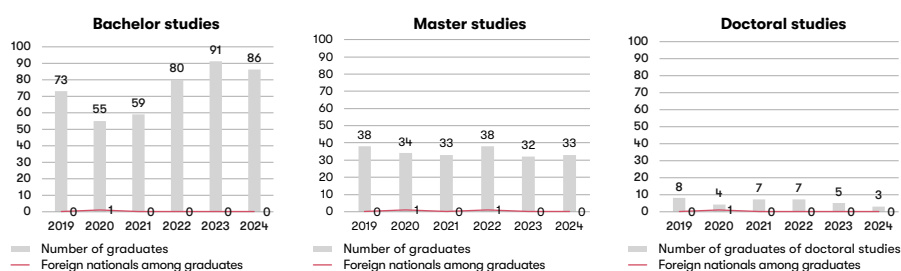


Change in the number of students by study cycle in 2024 compared to the average of 2019–2023



The first cycle and the second cycle indicators were calculated on the basis of the data of 1 October, and the third cycle indicators were calculated on the basis of the data of 31 December.

Number of graduates, 2019–2024

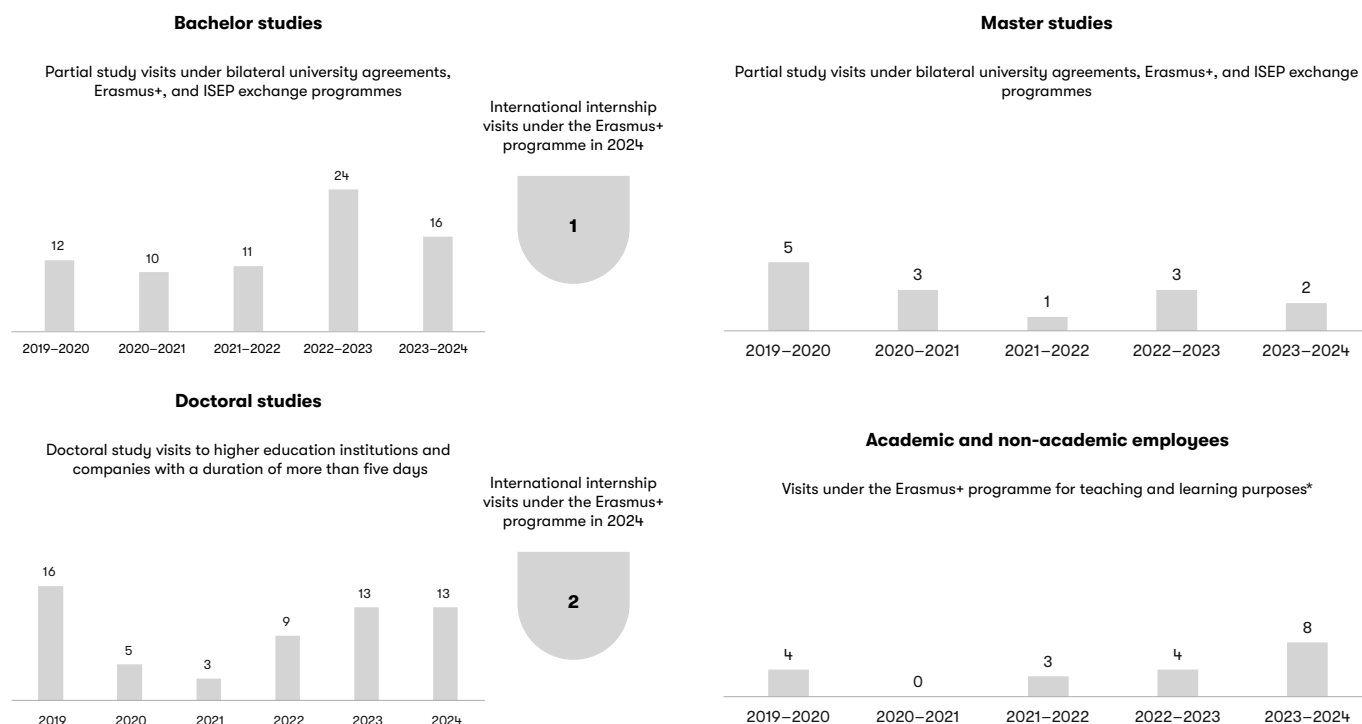


Change in the number of graduates by cycle in 2024 compared to the average of 2019–2023



The first cycle and the second cycle indicators were calculated on the basis of the data of 1 September, and the third cycle indicators were calculated on the basis of the data of 31 December.

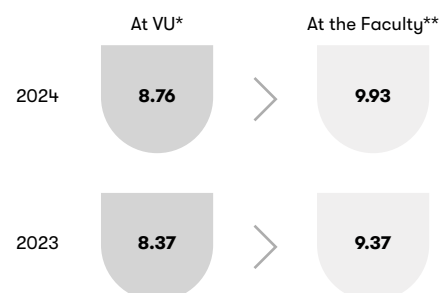
Mobility of students, doctoral students and employees, 2019–2024



Based on the data of 31 December.

*The statistics on employee mobility do not include secondments and work placements carried out under mobility forms and programmes other than Erasmus+.

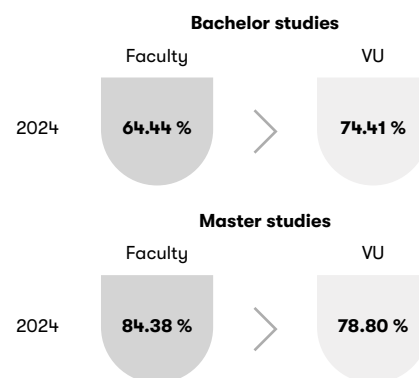
Student–faculty ratio, 2023–2024



* Calculated by dividing the total number of VU students in the first cycle, second cycle, integrated, and professional (pedagogy) studies on 1 October by the total number of VU teaching staff on 31 December.

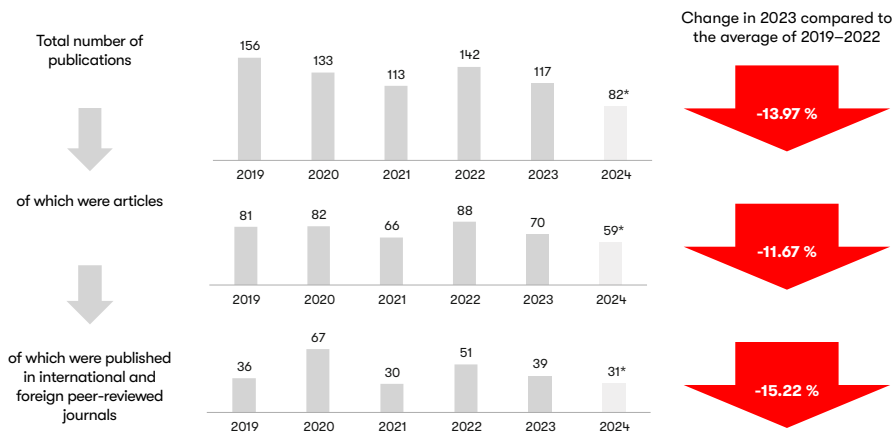
** Calculated by dividing the total number of Faculty students in the first cycle and second cycle on 1 October by the number of Faculty teaching staff on 31 December.

Graduate career success in 2024



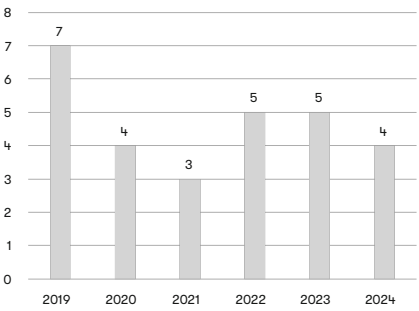
Target outcome → the level of highly qualified graduates and/or graduates continuing their studies in a higher cycle growing at least 1 per cent annually, but no lower than 60 per cent Based on the data of 1 October.

Number of publications, 2019–2024



* The publication figures for 2024 are based on the data of 10 February 2024 and are not exhaustive, as the registration of publications was still ongoing at that time. The publication figures for 2024 are not included in the calculations.

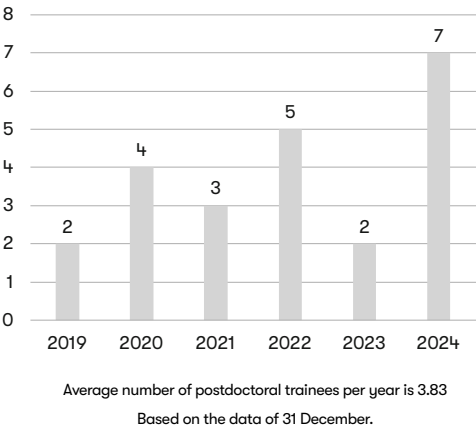
Successfully defended dissertations, 2019–2024



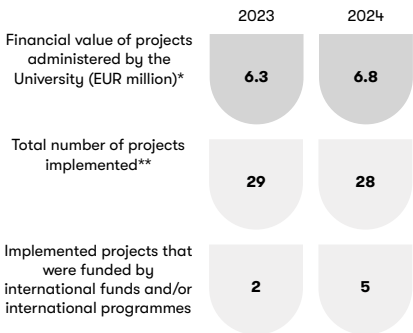
The total number of successfully defended dissertations during the period of 2019–2024 is 28

Based on the data of 31 December.

Number of postdoctoral trainees at the University, 2019–2024



Projects, 2023–2024



* The value of projects implemented in a given year is presented.

** The total number of projects include projects whose activities were in the implementation phase during the given year. In the case of internal partnership at VU, i.e. when several faculties participated in one project, the project was accounted only once and assigned only to the unit that owned the project.

Key projects in 2024

Past & Future Millet Foodways

The value of the project amounts to EUR 1,999,489. The project is funded by the European Commission under the Horizon Europe programme (European Research Council grant, Project No. 101087964). Project manager – Prof. Dr Giedrė Motuzaitė Matuzevičiūtė Keen.

Tarpkryptinių mokslinių tyrimų centras „(Post) autoritariniai kraštovaizdžiai“ (The ‘(Post)Authoritarian Landscapes’ Interdisciplinary Research Centre)

The value of the project amounts to EUR 2,514,360. The project is funded by the Ministry of Education Science and Sport/Research Council of Lithuania under the programme ‘Universiteto ekselencijos iniciatyva’ (‘University Excellence Initiative’) (Project No. S-A-UEI-23-12). Project manager – Prof. Dr Arūnas Streikus. The project is implemented by the Faculties of History, Philosophy, and Chemistry and Geosciences.

Archyvinų dokumentų hebrajų ir jidiš kalbomis apdorojimas pasitelkiant kompiuterį (Computer Assisted Processing of Archival Documents in Hebrew and Yiddish Languages)

The value of the project amounts to EUR 158,616.45. The project is funded by the Recovery and Resilience Facility Plan ‘Naujos kartos Lietuva’ (‘Lithuania of a New Generation’) (Project No. 10-036-T-0005). Project manager – Researcher Dr Sergii Gurbych (fellowship supervisor – Prof. Dr Jurgita Verbickienė).

Europos gyventojų nuskurdimas XVIII amžiaus pabaigoje – XX amžiaus pradžioje: priežastys, procesas ir poveikis visuomenėms (Pauperization of Europe's Population in the Late 18th – Early 20th Century: Reasons, Process and Impact to Societies)

The value of the project amounts to EUR 142,776.45. The project is funded by the Recovery and Resilience Facility Plan ‘Naujos kartos Lietuva’ (‘Lithuania of a New Generation’) (Project No. 10-036-T-0006). Project manager – Researcher Dr Kseniya Tserashkova (fellowship supervisor – Prof. Dr Jurgita Verbickienė).

Šeima modernėjančioje Vidurio ir Rytų Europoje. Istoriniai duomenimis pagrįsta perspektyva (Family in Modernising East-Central Europe. A Historical Data-Driven Perspective)

The value of the project amounts to EUR 158,616.45. The project is funded by the Recovery and Resilience Facility Plan ‘Naujos kartos Lietuva’ (‘Lithuania of a New Generation’) (Project No. 10-036-T-0007). Project manager – Researcher Dr Tomasz Marian Jankowski (fellowship supervisor – prof. Dr Jurgita Verbickienė).