**Curriculum**

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| **Program** | **Regional Geography and Recreational Resources** |
| **Degree awarded** | Master of Natural Sciences in Geography |
| **Faculty**  | Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences |
| **Program coordinator/coordinators** | Associated Professor Dali Mikautadze |
| **Length of the program (semester, ECTS)** | **Length of the program with credits:120 ( 4 semesters)** |
| **Language of the Program**  | Georgian |
| **Program development and renewal date of issue** | Accreditation Decision №66; 6.04.2012Academic Board protocol №17 ,25.05.2012Faculty Board protocol №3,16.05.2014Faculty Board protocol №12,15.06.2016University Academic Board decision №2 (15/16)22.09.2016Faculty Board protocol №1,11.09.2017University Academic Board decision №1 (17/18)15.09.2017 |
| **Program prerequisites:** |
| A person with a bachelor's degree or the student equal to this possision who has passed Unified Master’s Level, National and Specialty exams. |
| **Aim of the Program**  |
| Preparation of qualified specialists who will be able to perceive, analyze and predict the features of the processes in the geographical environment at the local and regional level for preserving, restoring and maintaining the environment; Also studying and analysis of geographical features of formation and functioning of tourist-recreational farms announced as one of the priority sectors of Georgia's economy.Conducting the field and research work, processing received materials by using the technologies of geoinformation systems .Theoretical and practical skills acquired within the program will increase employment prospects for the graduates. |
| **Learning outcomes (the map of competences)**The map of learning outcomes is given as an attached document ,see the Appendix 2) |
| **Knowledge and understanding:** | * Can conduct research for ensuring sustainable development of the natural environment;
* Recognizes the importance of correct and rational planning of regions for achieving the optimal boundaries of resources, including recreational use and the implementation of tourism firms and organizations by international standards;
* Is knowledgeable about the issues of space-time analysis and synthesis of the development of geossystems and GIS programs;
* Has a clear idea about environmental evolution, natural risks and management of natural processes.
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| **Applying knowledge:** | * Can Identify, understand, and realize the social, economic, political, geoecological processes and problems that have arisen as a result of the interaction between the environment and the public;
* Can present, research and outline the ways of solving relevant scientific and practical problems at global, regional and local levels;
* Reads and analyzes maps and other kinds of cartographic images; Uses the materials of remote probing and geographical information systems;
* Can define the principles of scientific research, critical thinking, geoecological prediction, sustainable regional development and accordingly makes decisions
* Can independently seek general geographical materials in field conditions, analyze, generalize and report the results.
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| **Making judgement** | * Is able to know-analyze the field of knowledge and master the profession;
* Can identify the problem, ask and make a reasonable decision.
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| **Communication skills:** | * Can Communicate in oral and written forms in native and foreign languages;
* Can manage and plan the time;
* Is able to communicate with modern information technologies;
* Can work in the group.
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| **Learning skills:** | * Can learn and refresh the knowledge continuously;
* Is able to accept, process, analyze and synthesize information from different sources;
* Can work independently.
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| **Values:** | After the completion of the educational program, the Master will develop: * Critical thinking and self-criticism;
* Values characteristic of professional activities in different situations;
* Ability to use a wide range of cognitive and practical skills independently;
* Ability to understand the environmental commitment;
* Positive attitude towards the norms and initiatives to create the safe environment for sustainable development.
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|  **Teaching methods** |
| Verbal, working on sources, writing, cartographic, demonstration, field work, group work, collaborative learning, analysis and synthesis methods. |
|  **Structure of the Program** |
| **The program covers 120 credits and includes:**Compulsory courses of University- 10 credits ( English language 1 and English language 2), optional courses ( 15 credits) and compulsory course of speciality ( 75 credits) ,from which 5 credits are provided for the course work (II semester) and 30 credits for master's work (IV semester). |
|  **Assessment System** |
| Credits can be obtained only after the student achieves the learning results planned according to the syllabus It is unacceptable to assess the results of the student's achievement only once on the basis of the final exam. The assessment of the work of the student should be done by a certain ratio:A) Interim assessment;B) Assessment of the final exam.Maximum assessment of the course is equal to 100 points.The final exam should not be evaluated more than 40 points.The student has the right to take the final exam, if his/her minimum competency in interm exam is no less than 18 points. Minimum margin of assessment received by the student on the final exam is no less than 15 points.Evaluation System includes: **A. Five Forms of Positive Assessment:**  (A) Excellent – 91-100 points  (B) very good – 81-90 points (C) good – 71-80 points (D) satisfactory – 61-70 points (E) sufficient – 51-60 points**B. Two Forms of Negative Assessment:** B.(FX) (Administrative Fail in Course for Grade/could not pass)– A student gets 41-50 points from maximum evaluation which means that s/he is required to work more for passing the exam, and that s/he is entitled to take a makeup exam only once through personal study;(F) (Academic Fail) – A student gets 0-40 points and less from maximum evaluation which means that the work done by him/her is not sufficient and s/he has to retake the course. The final assessments are made on the basis of summarizing the evaluation of intermediate and the final exam. According to educational component of educational program, in case of adoption of FX, a makeup exam will be appointed no less than 5 calendar days after the conclusion of the final exam results. The number of points received in the makeup final exam, is not added to the final assessment received by the student. According to the assessment 0-50 points received from the makeup final exam, in the final evaluation of the educational component, the student will be evaluated the F-0 score.Concrete criteria of assessments are defined into the corresponding syllabus of an academic course.Master's thesis /project should be assessed in the same or subsequent semester, where the student will complete the work. Master's thesis /project should be evaluated once (with final assessment). |
| **Employment opportunities** |
| In accordance with the qualifications obtained, the Masters can be employed in the study-research and scientific institutions of the relevant profile (School, college, higher education institutions), agronomics and cadastre, as well as in forestry departments, in the Systems of Protected Areas (WWF),Tourism Department, Travel Agencies and Companies, Recreational Systems, Environmental Services and Ministry of Natural Resources. |
| **Supportive resources** |
|  Implementation of master's program is based on the Department of Geography of Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences of Akaki Tsereteli State University. The members of the Department are involved in the execution of the program:* + 1. Associate Professor - Dali Mikautadze (Department Coordinator);
		2. Professor- Otar Chkheidze;
		3. Associate Professor - Abeli ​​Makharadze;
		4. Associate Professor - Ia Iashvili;
		5. Associate Professor - Tsitsino Davituliani;
		6. Associate Professor - Nana Bliadze;
		7. Associate Professor - Mzia Kubetsia;
		8. Invited specialist - Eldari Basiladze;
		9. Invited specialist - Pikria Jinjikhadze;
		10. Technical staff - Tsira Kipiani

 During academic and scientific work, the master will be able to actively utilize the latest computerized GIS applications, on the basis of the existing fields of computers and the Internet the Master will be able to use literary and fund materials. Educational and scientific expeditions will be planned in the regions of Georgia. Different scientific and practical structures will be involved in the implementation of research components: universities,Department of statistics, tourism, weather monitoring and environmental protection, local self-government bodies, etc. |
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**Attached document 1**

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**Study schedule of 2017-2019 years**

**Program:Regional Geography and Recreational Resources**

**Degree awarded:Master of Natural Sciences in Geography**

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| № | Course | Contact hours in week | Credits | The number of hours | Lecture/Practical/Laboratory/Group work | Semester | Preconditions |
| Total | Contact | Independent | I | II | III | IV |
| Class hours | Midterm, final exams |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 1 | **Compulsory Courses** |
| 1.1 | Field related foreigh language -1 | 3 | 5 | 125 | 45 | 3 | 77 | 0/3/0/0 |  | 5 |  |  |  |
| 1.2 | Field related foreigh language -2 | 3 | 5 | 125 | 45 | 3 | 77 | 0/3/0/0 |  |  | 5 |  |  |
| 1.3 | Regional Geography of Georgia | 3 | 5 | 125 | 45 | 3 | 77 | 1/2/0/0 | 5 |  |  |  |  |
| 1.4 | Geomorphology of Georgia | 3 | 5 | 125 | 45 | 3 | 77 | 2/1/0/0 | 5 |  |  |  |  |
| 1.5 | Tourist-recreational resources | 3 | 5 | 125 | 45 | 3 | 77 | 2/1/0/0 | 5 |  |  |  |  |
| 1.6 | Basics of scientific writing | 3 | 5 | 125 | 45 | 3 | 77 | 1/0/0/2 | 5 |  |  |  |  |
| 1.7 | Planning and organization of tourist routes of Georgia | 3 | 5 | 125 | 45 | 3 | 77 | 1/2/0/0 | 5 |  |  |  |  |
| 1.8 | Regional Geography of Georgia II | 3 | 5 | 125 | 45 | 3 | 77 | 1/2/0/0 |  | 5 |  |  | 1.3 |
| 1.9 | Climate and climatic resources of Georgia I | 3 | 5 | 125 | 45 | 3 | 77 | 1/2/0/0 |  | 5 |  |  | 1.3 |
| 1.10 | Geoinformation Systems I | 3 | 5 | 125 | 45 | 3 | 77 | 2/1/0/0 |  | 5 |  |  |  |
| 1.11 | Climate and climatic resources of Georgia II | 3 | 5 | 125 | 45 | 3 | 77 | 2/1/0/0 |  |  | 5 |  | 1.3. |
| 1.12 | Geography of BSEC countries | 3 | 5 | 125 | 45 | 3 | 77 | 2/1/0/0 |  |  | 5 |  | [1.3], [1.8] |
| 1.13 | Applied Geoecology | 3 | 5 | 125 | 45 | 3 | 77 | 2/1/0/0 |  |  | 5 |  | [1.3], [1.8], [1.9] |
| 1.14 | Geoinformation Systems II | 3 | 5 | 125 | 45 | 3 | 77 | 2/1/0/0 |  |  | 5 |  |  |
| 1.15 | Course work |  | 5 | 125 | 15 | 2 | 108 |  |  | 5 |  |  |  |
| 1.16 | Master’s thesis |  | 30 | 750 | 70 | 5 | 675 |  |  |  |  | 30 |  |
|  | **Total:** |  | **105** | **2625** | **670** | **49** | **1906** |  | **25** | **25** | **25** | **30** |  |
| 2 | **Optional Courses I (5 ECTS)** |
| 2.1 | Socio-Cultural Dynamics of Georgia | 3 | 5 | 125 | 45 | 3 | 77 | 2/1/0/0 | 5 |  |  |  |  |
| 2.2 | Monuments of material culture of Georgia | 3 | 5 | 125 | 45 | 3 | 77 | 2/1/0/0 |  |  |  |  |
| 3 | **Optional Courses II (5 ECTS)** |
| 3.1 | Demography | 3 | 5 | 125 | 45 | 3 | 77 | 2/1/0/0 |  | 5 |  |  |  |
| 3.2 | Excursion planning | 3 | 5 | 125 | 45 | 3 | 77 | 2/1/0/0 |  |  |  | [1.3] |
| **4** | **Optonal Courses III(5 ECTS)** |
| 4.1 | Geography of resorts | 3 | 5 | 125 | 45 | 3 | 77 | 2/1/0/0 |  |  | 5 |  |  |  |  |
| 4.2 | Protected Areas of Georgia | 3 | **5** | **125** | 45 | 3 | 77 | 1/2/0/0 |  |  |  |  | [1.3],[1.8] |
|  | **Total:** | 9 | **15** | **375** | **126** | **9** | **240** |  | **5** | **5** | **5** |  |  |  |  |
|  | **Total:** |  | **120** | **3000** | **796** | **58** | **2146** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |