განათლების ხარისხის განვითარების ეროვნული ცენტრი
NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL QUALITY ENHANCEMENT

Accreditation Expert Group Report on Higher Education Programme

Doctoral Program in Social and Cultural Anthropology
University of Georgia

Date of Evaluation: September 9 and 11, 2019

Report Submission Date: November 12, 2019

Tbilisi
2019

HEI's Information Profile

Name of Institution Indicating its Organizational Legal Form	**University of Georgia LLC**
HEI's Identification Code	**205037137**
Type of Institution	**University**

Higher Education Programme Information Profile

Name of the Programme	**Social and Cultural Anthropology**
Level of Education	**Doctoral Program**
Qualification Granted Indicating Qualification Code	**PhD in Social and Cultural Anthropology 0314**
Language of Instruction	**Georgian**
Number of Credits	**180**
Programme Status (Authorized/ Accredited/New)	**Accredited**

Expert Panel Members

Chair (Name, Surname, University/organization/Country)	**Prof. Lorenzo Rook (Florence University, Italy)**
Member (Name, Surname, University/organization/Country)	**Prof. Konstantine Fitskhelauri**
Member (Name, Surname, University/organization/Country)	**Ms. Lana Bokuchava (Student expert)**

Accreditation Report Executive Summary

- **General information on the education programme**

The Doctoral Program in Social and Cultural Anthropology (School of Arts and Humanities) is aimed to prepare highly qualified specialists in modern interdisciplinary theories of anthropology (social and cultural), research methods and their practical application in real-world research. Doctors will be able i) to study and analyze ethno-social or ethno-religious events taking place in the society based on relevant anthropological knowledge, prepare appropriate recommendations based on the results obtained (if necessary) and thereby make the actual ethno-cultural processes relevant for the country predictable; ii) to promote the creation and implementation /development of new knowledge in the field of social and cultural anthropology by presenting diverse ethno-cultural heritage; iii) to plan and implement scientific projects on topical problems of social and cultural anthropology; iv) to prepare and lead University lectures / courses taking into account modern standards of teaching / assessment.

The Doctor of Anthropology (Cultural / Social) may be employed in scientific-research institutions, state and non-governmental organizations, whose field of work is ethno-cultural contextes (relations with ethnic minorities and development of ethnic policies, prevention of ethnic, cultural or religious conflicts, etc.) or carry out pedagogical activities in higher education institutions.

- **Brief overview of the accreditation site-visit**

The accreditation site-visit of the Expert Panel Members (together with NCEQE Representative and Specialist at Academic Programme Accreditation Division) took place on September 11, 2019 at the University of Georgia (UoG) the Expert Panel met:

- i) the UoG Administration representatives (Head of Quality Enhancement Department, and Vice-Rector; representatives of theQuality Enhancement Department; Director of School of Arts and Humanities);
- ii) the Self-Evaluation Team (Director of School of Arts and Humanities; Head of European Languages Department);
- iii) the head of quality assurance service;
- iv) the head of the programme;
- v) faculty members;
- vi) invited lecturers;

After visiting the UoG facilities (library, classrooms, offices, etc.) accompanied by the Director of School of Arts and Humanities, the Expert Panel members met:

- vii) employers and internship supervisors (Head of Anthropology Doctoral Program at TSU; Head of Culturology Doctoral program at TSU; Georgian National Museum, Vice-Director)
- viii) Students (PhD Student in the program in Social and Cultural Anthropology at UoG);
- ix) Alumni (a former PhD Student in the program in History atUoG).

The Expert Panel members then prepared the exit presentation and presented key findings to the Head of the programme, and representatives of UoG Quality Enhancement Department.

- **Summary of education programme's compliance with the standards**

In summary, on the total of 17 "accreditation standard points" the Doctoral Programme in Social and Cultural Anthropology at UoG complies with the standard requirements in 12 points, while is evaluated as "Substantially complies with standard requirements" in relation to 1 point, and "Partially complies with requirements" on points.

- **Summary of Recommendations**

The proposal complies with requirements in 12 of 17 "standard components" and no mandatory recommendations are suggested for these.

For the following points the Expert Panel members recommend to:

- i) 1.2 Programme Learning Outcomes – Involvement of the employer / potential employer is indistinct, failing to provide program flexibility and adapting to changing market demands.
- ii) 2.2 Educational Programme Structure and Content - The absence of Bachelor/Master degree programmes in Anthropology at UoG is considered a crucial vulnus responsible for the absence of

students enrolling the doctoral programme in Social and Cultural Anthropology. In order to maintain active the doctoral program would be mandatory to widen the educational program at UoG with the activation of a Master in Anthropology.

   iii)   <u>2.2 Educational Programme Structure and Content</u> - Increase the learning components of the programme (increasing the number of individual courses) in the discipline consistent with the programme (Social and Cultural Anthropology);

   iv)   <u>2.2 Educational Programme Structure and Content</u> - Specify in detail the stakeholders (outside the UoG) involved in the process of self-evaluation and programme design and their role.

   v)   <u>2.3 Course</u> - Increase the learning components of the programme (increasing the number of individual courses) in the discipline consistent with Social and Cultural Anthropology (the topic of the programme);

   vi)   <u>2.3 Course</u> - Uniform syllabi in structure and – especially – in recommended literature listing (making sure of literature availability in the UoG Library);

   vii)   <u>4.1 Human Resources</u> - The balance between academic staff and students is a crucial weakness of the programme (non-sustainability of the programme in this respect);

   viii)   <u>4.1 Human Resources</u> - Invited lecturers <u>from outside the UoG</u> would provide additional and more focused learning component in the specific field of the doctoral programme (Social and Cultural Anthropology).

   ix)   <u>4.3 Material Resources</u> - The core literature indicated in the programme syllabi must be available at the library

   x)   <u>4.3 Material Resources</u> - International electronic library database must be accessible by students and personnel

- **Summary of Suggestions**

For the following points the Expert Panel members suggest:

   i)   <u>5.1 Internal quality</u> - The university conducts student and lecturer satisfaction surveys on the basis of special questionnaires, however, the content of the questionnaires does not look like a single survey. This suggests that a centralized university quality assurance system needs to be revised

- **Summary of best practices (If Applicable)**

NOT APPLICABLE

- **In case of accredited programme, summary of significant accomplishments and/or progress**

Doctoral Program in Social and Cultural Anthropology underwent an accreditation process in 2014 (Programme accredited on December 24, 2014 with Decision # 295 Qualification Code 1105; Accreditation expires on December 21, 2019). During the process of preparation for re-accreditation, as a result of the work of the self-assessment group, the program was modified.

The Expert Panel members considers that given the quite unsuccessful trend of student enrollment in the last five years (1 student the first year, 0 students each of the following years) the Self Evaluation Report does not analyse with adequate attention the necessity of making the program more attractive.

During the interview, at a specific inquiring on this point by the Expert Panel members, the Head of the programme was not able to explain the details and rationale of the programme modification.

The most critical weakness of this programme is the balance between academic staff and students (only one in the past five years). For this reason, the Expert Panel raises substantial doubts on the real sustainability of the Doctoral Program in Social and Cultural Anthropology.

Compliance of the Programme with Accreditation Standards

1. Educational programme objectives, learning outcomes and their compliance with the programme

A programme has clearly established objectives and learning outcomes, which are logically connected to each other. Programme objectives are consistent with the mission, objectives and strategic plan of the institution. Programme learning outcomes are assessed on a regular basis in order to improve the programme.

1.1 Programme Objectives
Programme objectives define the set of knowledge, skills and competences the programme aims to develop in graduate students. They also illustrate the contribution to the development of the field and the society.
Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements o The aim of the program is to prepare a specialist with the qualifications and professional-practical skills necessary for modern standards and the market for research in the field of cultural and social anthropology. To achieve this goal, the curriculum is complemented with theoretical knowledge courses (academic writing for scientific publications, philosophy of science and qualitative research methods, e-learning management systems, text summarization and translation, etc.). o The programme objectives are consistent with the institution's mission (and in particular its s School of Arts and Humanities), clear, realistic, well-defined, focused on the employment market, and achievable. o The programme defines the set of knowledge, skills and competences the programme aims to develop in graduate students and illustrate the contribution of social and cultural anthropology to the development of the field and the society; o Programme objectives are public and accessible and are shared by the people involved in the programme.

Evidences/indicators
   o Mission of the University of Georgia;
   o Analysis of the results of the employer survey;
   o University website (the program is displayed);
   o Results of student and academic surveys.

Recommendations: o No mandatory recommendations are suggested on this point.
Suggestions for programme development: o NO SPECIFIC FURTHER SUGGESTIONS
Best Practices (if applicable): o NON APPLICABLE
In case of accredited programme, significant accomplishments and/or progress o No noticeable change on this point was made by the programme after previous accreditation.

Evaluation
   X Complies with requirements
   ☐ Substantially complies with requirements
   ☐ Partially complies with requirements
   ☐ Does not comply with requirements

1.2. Programme Learning Outcomes
- Programme learning outcomes describe knowledge, skills, and/or the sense of responsibility and autonomy, students gain upon completion of the programme;   - Programme learning outcomes assessment cycle consists of defining, collecting and analysing data;   - Programme learning outcomes assessment results are utilized for the improvement of the programme.
Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements   - After studying the program of cultural and social anthropology, research of PhD students, academic staff and employers it was found out: <ol type="i"> - The learning outcomes of the program in cultural and social anthropology are consistent with the objectives of the program and lead to the development of the basic knowledge and practical skills set out in the program;   - The learning outcomes of the cultural / social anthropology program correspond to the qualification of higher education - cultural / social anthropology degree, is realistic, measurable and achievable.   - The school director and the head of the department / program of the institution shall coordinate the involvement of the academic staff participating in the development of the program. In particular, the involvement of academic staff implies the principle of teamwork, which guarantees that the program does not only reflect the vision of its supervisor but also envisage the views of experienced academic staff;   - Involvement of the employer / potential employer is indistinct, failing to provide program flexibility and adapting to changing market demands.
Evidences/indicators   - Doctoral Program in Cultural / Social Anthropology;   - Mission of the University of Georgia;   - Analysis of the results of the employer survey;   - University website (the program is displayed);   - Results of interviews with students and academic staff.
Recommendations: Involvement of the employer / potential employer is indistinct, failing to provide program flexibility and adapting to changing market demands
Suggestions for programme development: NO SPECIFIC FURTHER SUGGESTIONS
Best Practices (if applicable):   NON APPLICABLE
In case of accredited programme, significant accomplishments and/or progress No noticeable change on this point was made by the programme after previous accreditation.
Evaluation ☐ Complies with requirements X Substantially complies with requirements ☐ Partially complies with requirements ☐ Does not comply with requirements

Programme's Compliance with Standard

Standard	Complies with Requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially Complies with Requirements	Does not Comply with Requirements
Educational programme objectives, learning outcomes and their compliance with the programme	✓			

Standard	Complies with Requirements	Substantially complies with	Partially Complies with Requirements	Does not Comply with Requirements

2. Teaching methodology and organization, adequate evaluation of programme mastering

Programme admission preconditions, programme structure, content, teaching and learning methods, and student assessment ensure the achievement of programme objectives and intended learning outcomes.

2.1. Programme Admission Preconditions
Higher education institution has relevant, transparent, fair, public and accessible programme admission preconditions.
Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements ○ The preconditions for the admission to the program are: i) master's or equivalent academic degree in Humanities, Social and Behavioral, Interdisciplinary or Law Sciences; ii) English language knowledge at least B2 (Intermediate) level (International Certificate of English Proficiency; iii) present the concept of the research and pass the interview in a specialty (interview topics available at UoG website). ○ Programme admission preconditions take programme characteristics into consideration and ensure admission of the students with relevant knowledge, skills and competences for mastering the programme; ○ Prerequisites for admission to the program are transparent, full information about them is available on the University's website (www.ug.edu.ge), as well as on the basis of personal consultations with the Head of the Program.
Evidences/indicators ○ Programme admission preconditions (criteria and procedures) are clear and available at the University website (http://www.ug.edu.ge/public/programs); ○ Information publicity and methods of spreading information about programme admission preconditions, is adequate, as it is the University website; ○ Interviews on this point have been satisfying.
Recommendations: ○ The proposal comply with requirements of the standards on this point and no mandatory recommendations are suggested.
Suggestions for programme development: ○ NO SPECIFIC FURTHER SUGGESTIONS
Best Practices (if applicable): ○ NON APPLICABLE
In case of accredited programme, significant accomplishments and/or progress ○ No noticeable change on this point was made by the programme after previous accreditation.
Evaluation 　X Complies with requirements 　☐ Substantially complies with requirements 　☐ Partially complies with requirements 　☐ Does not comply with requirements

2.2 Educational Programme Structure and Content
Programme is designed according to HEI's methodology for planning, designing and developing of educational programmes. Programme content takes programme admission preconditions and programme learning outcomes into account. Programme structure is consistent and logical. Programme content and structure ensure the achievement of programme learning outcomes. Qualification to be granted is consistent with programme content and learning outcomes.

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements
- Programme is designed according to UoG's methodology for planning, designing and developing of educational programmes;   - Program content, volume and complexity corresponds to higher education level and takes into consideration admission preconditions;   - Programme content and structure is partially consistent with the qualification (only 10 ECTS are offered in the field of Anthropology: *ANTH 7210 Specialty Course in Anthropology*)   - Programme is structured in accordance with Georgian Legislation and European Credits Transfer System;   - UoG Bachelor degree programme in Anthropology has been withdrawn some years ago. The lack of a Bachelor degree programme at UoG is considered an important weak point in respect to the very low number of students (actually no students in the past four years) choosing the doctoral programme;   - Stakeholders outside the UoG (academic, scientific, invited staff, students, graduates, employers, etc.) involved in the process of self-evaluation are not specified indetail;   - Higher Education Institution ensures publicity and accessibility of programme related information

Evidences/indicators
- Expert panel members went through UoG's methodology for planning, designing and developing educational programmes; exhamined the Educational programme and Syllabi, as wll as the Curriculum map;   - No documentation certifying involvement of stakeholders in programme design processi savailable;   - Survey and Interview results were not clarifying the weak points (see recommendations).

Recommendations:
- The absence of Bachelor/Master degree programmes in Anthropology at UoG is considered a crucial vulnus responsible for the absence of students enrolling the doctoral programme in Social and Cultural Anthropology. In order to maintain active the doctoral program is mandatory to widen the educational program at UoG with the activation of a Master inAnthropology.   - Specify in detail the stakeholders (outside the UoG) involved in the process of self-evaluation and programme design and their role.

Suggestions for programme development:
NO SPECIFIC FURTHER SUGGESTIONS

Best Practices (if applicable):
NON APPLICABLE

In case of accredited programme, significant accomplishments and/or progress
UoG Bachelor degree programme in Anthropology has been withdrawn some years ago. The lack of a Bachelor degree programme at UoG is considered an important weak point in respect to the very low number of students (actually no students in the past four years) choosing thedoctoral programme.

Evaluation
☐ Complies with requirements ☐ Substantially complies with requirements X Partially complies with requirements ☐ Does not comply with requirements

2.3 Course
- Student learning outcomes of each compulsory course are in line with programme learning outcomes; Moreover, each course content and number of credits correspond to course learning outcomes;   - Teaching materials listed in syllabi are based on the core achievements in the field and ensure the achievement of intended programme learning outcomes.

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements
- Student learning outcomes of each compulsory course are partially in line with program learning outcomes (only 10 ECTS are offered in the field of Anthropology: *ANTH 7210 Specialty Course in Anthropology*)   - Syllabi clearly stipulates the objective, precondition, outcomes and teaching methods.   - Syllabi of subjects in some case do not list the recommended literature (e.g. *LANG 7217 Academic Writing for Scientific Publications*), or list an exceeding number of recommended literature (e.g. **36** references listed for *METH 7117 Contemporary Teaching*; **71** references listed for *ANTH 7210 Specialty Course in Anthropology*)   - The course content (theoretical and laboratory /practical part) corresponds with UoG requirements and ensure achievement of learning outcomes.   - Content of an individual education course, and numbers of allocated ECTU, correspond with the learning outcomes of the given education course.   - Contact and individual hours are allocated to each education course, which are adequate to the given materials and for attaining learning outcomes.   - Contact hours-independent hours ratio is defined in accordance with the course specifics, content, learning materials and education cycle.   - Achievement of education course' learning outcomes are evaluated according to the Criteria, defined in syllabi; Resources indicated in the syllabuses of the learning components not always are available in the University Library (see point 4.3)
Evidences/indicators
- Expert panel members went through UoG's Doctoral Program in Social and Cultural Anthropology and Syllabi of the components of learning module, as wll as the Programme Curriculum map.   - Survey and Interview results were not fully clarifying the weak points (see recommendations).
Recommendations:
- Increase the learning components of the programme (increasing the number of individual courses) in the discipline consistent with the programme (Social and Cultural Anthropology);   - Uniform syllabi in structure and – especially – in recommended literature listing (making sure of literature availability in the UoG Library)
Suggestions for programme development:
No specific further suggestions
Best Practices (if applicable):
NON APPLICABLE
In case of accredited programme, significant accomplishments and/or progress
The programme has been modified in particular differentiating in the curriculum module basic and elective subjects. Among the optional courses have been added two courses (MATH7010 Quantitative methods of research, and INFO7110 E-Learning Management Systems) offered by UoG professors from different faculties (Invited lecturers). This is considered a significant accomplishment albeit the core topic of the programme (anthropology) is still very marginal in the programme learning component (only 10 ECTS are offered in the field of Anthropology: *ANTH 7210 Specialty Course in Anthropology*)
Evaluation
☐ Complies with requirements ☐ Substantially complies with requirements X Partially complies with requirements ☐ Does not comply with requirements

2.4 The Development of practical, scientific/research/creative/performance and transferable skills
Programme ensures the development of students' practical, scientific/research/creative/performance and transferable skills and/or their involvement in research projects, in accordance with the programme learning outcomes.

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements
- The Doctoral Programme in Social and Cultural Anthropology ensures that students have opportunities to gain practical skills and/or are involved in scientific-research projects that correspond to the level of education and programme learning outcomes;   - Research activities of the doctoral student are supported by relevant units / services of the UoG, which provide PhD students' awareness on relevant scientific projects, international mobility opportunities and exchange programs in Georgia and abroad, as well as financial support for the international mobility   - In the framework of a practice component, and/or a scientific-research project, a student is supervised by the Head of the Doctoral programme, who is a qualified person in the field of Social and Cultural Anthropology;

Evidences/indicators
- The only one student enrolled in the past four years has been involved in scientific-research projects;   - The only one student enrolled in the past four years attended International scientific conferences.   - The only one student enrolled in the past four years completed a three-month research internship at the Max Planck Institute (Germany);   - Survey and Interview results were useful to clarifying this point.

Recommendations:
The proposal comply with requirements of the standards on this point and no mandatory recommendations are suggested.

Suggestions for programme development:
NO SPECIFIC FURTHER SUGGESTION

Best Practices (if applicable):
NON APPLICABLE

In case of accredited programme, significant accomplishments and/or progress
On this regard the programme was already complying with the requirements and no accomplishments were needed

Evaluation
X Complies with requirements ☐ Substantially complies with requirements ☐ Partially complies with requirements ☐ Does not comply with requirements

2.5 Teaching and learning methods
Program is implemented using student centered teaching and learning (SCL) methods. Teaching and learning methods correspond to the level of education, course content, student learning outcomes and ensure their achievement.
Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements
- The Doctoral Program of University of Georgia contains detailed explanation of Teaching methods for achieving of Learning outcomes.   - The learning process is student-oriented.   - Teaching and learning methods are flexible and is considering student's individual needs.   - The degree of individuality is created by the opportunity of having optional subjects, which students can select themselves according to their interest. The Doctoral Program is comprised in accordance of the European Credit Transfer System. Teaching methods are corresponding the level of education, Doctoral one.   - Doctoral student works on the research paper under the monitoring of the supervisor, who is the Head of Program. Student has an opportunity to take participation in local and international conferences, as well as the exchange programs.

Evidences/indicators
o Self evaluation report
o Interviews with Academic and Invited staff and student
o Doctoral Program
o Syllabi

Recommendations:
o No mandatory recommendations are suggested on this point.

Suggestions for programme development:
o NO SPECIFIC FURTHER SUGGESTIONS

Best Practices (if applicable):
o NON APPLICABLE

In case of accredited programme, significant accomplishments and/or progress
o No noticeable change on this point was made by the programme after previous accreditation.

Evaluation
X Complies with requirements
☐ Substantially complies with requirements
☐ Partially complies with requirements
☐ Does not comply with requirements

2.6. Student Evaluation
Student evaluation is conducted in accordance with established procedures. It is transparent and complies with existing legislation.

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements
o Students of the Doctoral Program of University of Georgia are evaluated during all the years of their studies. The credits calculation is shown by a transparent method according to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). The Doctoral program contains detailed explanation of the student's study process and assessment. It states, that doctoral work consists of Teaching (60 ECTS) and Research (120 ECTS) components. Teaching components includes basic (45 ECTS) and optional (15 ECTS) courses. Research Thesis (120 ECTS) is composed of several parts, assisting in monitoring of progress in research component of PhD student.

o It also contains the system of final assessment of dissertation work of the Doctoral student:
  A) Excellent (summa cum laude) – excellent dissertation; 91% and more;
  B) Very good (magna cum laude) – a result that exceeds the defined requirements in all aspects; 81-90%;
  C) Good (cum laude) – a result that exceeds the defined requirements; 71-80%;
  D) Medium (bene) - a result that meets all the defined requirements in all respects; 61-70%;
  E) Satisfactory (rite) – an outcome that, despite its deficiencies, still meets the defined requirements; 51-60%;
  F) Unsatisfactory (insufficient) - an outcome that does not meet the requirements due to significant deficiencies; 41-50%
  G) Absolutely unsatisfactory (sub omni canone) - a result that completely fails to meet the defined requirements. < 40%

o The precise evaluation of Doctoral student is also seen in Academic Component, particularly in different syllabi (e.g. Philosophy of Science (basic subject) and Learning Management Systems (optional subject)), with precise description of Midterm and Final Examinations, as well as prerequisites for the Final Examination. The evaluation is in accordance to the Teaching Methods and Learning Outcomes.
o The students have an opportunity of getting the feedback from the lecturers and supervisor(s) during consultations.

Evidences/indicators
o   Doctoral Program o   Syllabi of the Teaching Component o   Interview with student, Academic and Invited Staff o   Self-Evaluation Report
Recommendations: o   No mandatory recommendations are suggested on this point.
Suggestions for programme development: o   NO SPECIFIC FURTHER SUGGESTIONS
Best Practices (if applicable): o   NON APPLICABLE
In case of accredited programme, significant accomplishments and/or progress o   No noticeable change on this point was made by the programme after previous accreditation.

Evaluation
    X Complies with requirements
    ☐ Substantially complies with requirements
    ☐ Partially complies with requirements
    ☐ Does not comply with requirements

Programme's Compliance with Standard

Standard	Complies with Requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially Complies with Requirements	Does not Comply with Requirements
Teaching methodology and organization, adequate evaluation of programme mastering			✔	

3. Student achievements and individual work with them

HEI creates student-centered environment by providing students with relevant services; programme staff ensures students' familiarity with the named services, organizes various events and fosters students' involvement in local and/or international projects.

3.1. Student support services
Students receive appropriate consultations and support regarding the planning of learning process, improvement of academic achievement, employment and professional development.
Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements o In University of Georgia, students receive the appropriate information upon the planning of learning process, employment and professional development, from different sources: personal electronic database "myUG", as well as individual consultations with Head of the program and supervisor(s). o On the employment opportunities, the Career Services are providing the support to students. o In the framework of the program, the only student enrolled in the latest 5 years had the opportunity to participate in local and international projects, events, conferences and research fellowships; she also participated in an international exchange programme; o The workload of academic/scientific/invited/administrative/assisting staff includes hours for student advising (only one student in the latest five years).

Evidences/indicators
o Program
    o Self evaluation report
    o Interviews with student, academic staff, invited teachers, employers
    o UG web site

Recommendations: o No mandatory recommendations are suggested on this point.
Suggestions for programme development: o NO SPECIFIC FURTHER SUGGESTIONS
Best Practices (if applicable): o NON APPLICABLE
In case of accredited programme, significant accomplishments and/or progress o No noticeable change on this point was made by the programme after previous accreditation.

Evaluation
    X Complies with requirements
    ☐ Substantially complies with requirements
    ☐ Partially complies with requirements
    ☐ Does not comply with requirements

3.2. Master's and Doctoral Student supervision
Master's and Doctoral students have qualified thesis supervisors.
Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements o The only doctoral student enrolled in this program at the University of Georgia has a qualified supervisor, in case of necessity more than one, with the relevant scientific experience. The supervisor is the Head of the Program. o The Doctoral student is able to arrange consultations and meetings with supervisor via emails. o According to the interviews with University Representatives, as well as received, it was established that PhD student has qualified supervisor, who consults student on a regular basis and supports in conducting the research project; o Supervisor conducts consultations the only Doctoral student enrolled on a regular basis. o During the research process, supervisor advises student on the following topics: research design and project management, writing of thesis/scientific-research paper/dissertation, the process of integration in local and international scientific network, participation in local and international scientific events and presenting research findings, publishing scientific papers.

Evidences/indicators
o Program
    o Self-evaluation report
    o Interviews with Supervisor and Student

Recommendations: o No mandatory recommendations are suggested on this point.
Suggestions for programme development: o NO SPECIFIC FURTHER SUGGESTIONS
Best Practices (if applicable):   o NON APPLICABLE
In case of accredited programme, significant accomplishments and/or progress   o No noticeable change on this point was made by the programme after previous accreditation.

Evaluation
    X Complies with requirements
    ☐ Substantially complies with requirements
    ☐ Partially complies with requirements
    ☐ Does not comply with requirements

Programme's Compliance with Standard

Standard	Complies with Requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially Complies with Requirements	Does not Comply with Requirements
Student achievements and individual work with them	✔			

4. Providing teaching resources

Programme human, material, information and financial resources ensure programme sustainability, its effective and efficient functioning, and achievement of intended objectives.

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4.1 Human Resources

➢ Programme staff consists of qualified people who have necessary competences in order to help students achieve programme learning outcomes;

➢ The number and workload of programme academic/scientific and invited staff ensures the sustainable running of the educational process and also, proper execution of their research/creative/performance activities and other assigned duties. Balance between academic and invited staff ensures programme sustainability;

➢ The Head of the Programme possesses necessary knowledge and experience required for programme elaboration. He/she is personally involved in programme implementation;

➢ Programme students are provided with an adequate number of administrative and support staff of appropriate competence.

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Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements
- The Human resources (academic and administrative staff) required for implementation of the program are relevant to the specifics of the program and ensure the achievement of the program objective.
- Nine professors and associate professors are involved in the implementation of the program. Each of them has the appropriate academic degree and practical experience to successfully implement the program.
- Amount of academic and invited staff of the program and their workload ensure implementation of educational process determined by the educational program.
- With the purpose of ensuring the implementation of the program, employees with the relevant qualification are in service in different units of the UoG (University Educational Process Management Service, library, Quality Assurance Service etc.).
- The balance between academic staff and students is a crucial weakness of the programme (non sustainability of the programme in this respect).
- Invited lecturers from outside the UoG could provide additional and more focused learning component in the specific field of the doctoral programme (Social and Cultural Anthropology).

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Evidences/indicators
- <u>Balance between academic and invited staff</u>: adequate, ensuring programme sustainability. Invited lecturers (from UoG different faculties) are no fully involved apart from teaching process;
- <u>Balance between academic staff and students</u>: totally out of sustainability;
- <u>Support staff</u>: Programme has an adequate number of administrative and support staff of appropriate competence adequate and consistent with their function.
- <u>Qualification requirements</u>: The Head of the Programme possesses necessary knowledge and experience required for programme elaboration and management.
- <u>Submitted Job applications</u>: NOT Applicable.
- <u>Interview results</u>: adequate on this respect.

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Recommendations:
- The balance between academic staff and students is a crucial weakness of the programme (non sustainability of the programme in this respect);
- Invited lecturers from outside the UoG could provide additional and more focused learning component in the specific field of the doctoral programme (Social and Cultural Anthropology).

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Suggestions for programme development:
- NO SPECIFIC FURTHER SUGGESTIONS

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Best Practices (if applicable):
- NON APPLICABLE

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In case of accredited programme, significant accomplishments and/or progress
o The Programme has been improved by adding, among the optional learning components, courses in *Quantitativemethods of research*, and *E-Learning ManagementSystems*. These are important courses offered by UoG professors from different Faculties (Invited lecturers). This is considered a significant accomplishment albeit the core topic of the programme (Cultural and Social Anthropology) is still very marginal in the programme learning component and having invited lecturers from outside the UoG in specific topic of Cultural and Social Anthropology could surely strengthen the Learning component of the programme.

Evaluation
☐ Complies with requirements ☐ Substantially complies with requirements X Partially complies with requirements ☐ Does not comply with requirements

4.2 Professional development of academic, scientific and invited staff
➢ HEI conducts the evaluation of programme academic, scientific and invited staff and analysis evaluation results on a regular basis; ➢ HEI fosters professional development of the academic, scientific and invited staff. Moreover, it fosters their scientific and research work.

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements
o The UoG academic staff is regularly evaluated by both administration and as well as the doctoral students. The UoG School of Arts and Humanities has developed special questionnaires of doctoral student satisfaction within the doctoral program; o Promotion of professional development and scientific-research activities of academic, scientific and invited staff together with the school is conducted by a scientific-research institute, which includes Academic Staff Development and Scientific Projects Management Service and the edition of a scientific journal "Caucasus Journal of Social Sciences"; o The special point of the academic and invited staff contract at UoG obliges the staff to foster professional development along with their teaching activities and to prepare at least one scientific publication every year; o In order to encourage and facilitate the integration and promotion of academic staff in the international scientific space of the academic staff, the University has established a funding mechanism for scientific activities (participation in international scientific conferences, publications in peer-reviewed journals); o Annual Conference in Humanities is held annually at School of Arts and Humanities and is published the Collection of read reports, the School staff actively participates in international conferences and publishes articles in international journals. o Regular evaluation of academic and invited staff, as well as fostering their professional development as well as scientific and research work, is a good practice for the UoG itself but has no sense within the frame of a doctoral program that has no one new student enrolled within the past four years.

Evidences/indicators
o Recording only one student in the past four years, staff evaluation and staff (and doctoral students) satisfaction surveys (including the quality of research and teaching, international mobility data, etc.) are of little or even of no use in staff management and development; o Events for professional development of academic, scientific and invited staff (trainings, scientific missions, qualification courses, conferences, exchange local and/or international projects, which stand for the enhancing of professional and/or teaching skills) are organized, albeit the efforts of UoG in this respect seems not successful give the unattractiveness of the programme for new students (0 enrollments in the past four years).

Recommendations:
o No specific recommendation on this point.

Suggestions for programme development:
o   NO SPECIFIC FURTHER SUGGESTIONS

Best Practices (if applicable):
o   NON APPLICABLE

In case of accredited programme, significant accomplishments and/or progress
No noticeable change on this point was made by the programme after previous accreditation.

Evaluation
X Complies with requirements
☐ Substantially complies with requirements
☐ Partially complies with requirements
☐ Does not comply with requirements

4.3. Material Resources
Programme is provided by necessary infrastructure and technical equipment required for achieving programme learning outcomes.

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements
o   Programme is provided by: i) Library with an appropriate number of internet-connected workstations with access to international electronic library database (albeit it has not been possible to verify it during the site visit); and ii) laboratory equipped with modern language learning technology and software);
o   Library keeps almost all the core literature indicated in the syllabi as well as other teaching materials (including electronic resources). Library resources however resulted not adequate: i) Some of the core literature indicated in the programme Syllabi is available at the library as hard copies; ii) no access to international electronic library database during the site visit (this prevent ensuring the achievement of programme learning outcomes);
o   Material resources are accessible for students and staff;
o   Students are informed about the availability of the resources and know how to utilize them.

Evidences/indicators
o   During the survey, accreditation experts had the opportunity to verify the adequacy of infrastructure (laboratories), technical equipment, library resources, material and technical resources,
o   Library resources resulted not adequate: i) Some of the core literature indicated in the programme Syllabi is available at the library as hard copies; ii) no access to international electronic library database during the site visit;
o   Interview and survey were not fully satisfying on this point.

Recommendations:
o   The core literature indicated in the programme syllabi must be available at the library
o   International electronic library database must be accessible by students and personnel

Suggestions for programme development:
o   NO SPECIFIC FURTHER SUGGESTIONS

Best Practices (if applicable):
o   NON APPLICABLE

In case of accredited programme, significant accomplishments and/or progress
No noticeable change on this point was made by the programme after previous accreditation.

Evaluation
☐ Complies with requirements
☐ Substantially complies with requirements
X Partially complies with requirements
☐ Does not comply with requirements

4.4.Programme/faculty/school budget and programme financial sustainability
The allocation of financial resources stipulated in programme/faculty/school budget is economically feasible and corresponds to programme needs.

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements
   o Programme/faculty/school budget states the support from the UoG; the allocation of financial resources for the programme from higher education institution's budget is financially feasible;
   o According to UoG financial specific resources the programme is financially feasible.
   o Budget provides information on educational program financial support sources, both permanent and single.

Evidences/indicators
   o UoG Funding sources are adequate;
   o Programme and UoG budget provides support for student mobility;
   o Interview were fully satisfying on this point.

Recommendations: o No specific recommendation on this point
Suggestions for programme development: o NO SPECIFIC FURTHER SUGGESTIONS
Best Practices (if applicable):   o NON APPLICABLE
In case of accredited programme, significant accomplishments and/or progress No noticeable change on this point was made by the programme after previous accreditation.

Evaluation
     X Complies with requirements
     ☐ Substantially complies with requirements
     ☐ Partially complies with requirements
     ☐ Does not comply with requirements

Programme's Compliance with Standard

Standard	Complies with Requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially Complies with Requirements	Does not Comply with Requirements
Providing teaching resources			✔	

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5. Teaching quality enhancement opportunities

In order to enhance teaching quality, programme utilizes internal and external quality assurance services and also periodically conducts programme monitoring and programme review. Relevant data is collected, analysed and utilized for informed decision making and programme development on a regular basis.

5.1 Internal quality
Programme staff collaborates with internal quality assurance service(s) available at the higher education institution when planning the process of programme quality assurance, creating assessment instruments, and analysing assessment results. Programme staff utilizes quality assurance results for programme improvement.
Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements o The staff involved in the program collaborates with the University Quality Assurance Service in the process of planning and evaluating the program's quality assessment and uses the results to improve the program. The program is assessed at the end of each semester by means of a student survey and an analysis of program progress by program academic staff. Monitoring of the program progress is carried out on a daily basis by different departments of the university. o The university conducts an analysis of students' academic performance, assessing the degree of complexity of the program. Besides, the persons involved in the program are in constant communication with the employer. Based on the information they receive the individual courses of the program are being aligned with labor market requirements. o The university conducts student and lecturer satisfaction surveys on the basis of special questionnaires, however, the content of the questionnaires does not look like a single survey. This suggests that a centralized university quality assurance system needs to be revised.
Evidences/indicators o Provision on continuous quality improvement. o Student and academic staff satisfaction survey; o Labor market research; o A self-assessment report;
Recommendations: o No mandatory recommendations are suggested on this point.
Suggestions for programme development: o The university conducts student and lecturer satisfaction surveys on the basis of special questionnaires, however, the content of the questionnaires does not look like a single survey. This suggests that a centralized university quality assurance system needs to be revised
Best Practices (if applicable): o NON APPLICABLE
In case of accredited programme, significant accomplishments and/or progress No noticeable change on this point was made by the programme after previous accreditation.
Evaluation X Complies with requirements ☐ Substantially complies with requirements ☐ Partially complies with requirements ☐ Does not comply with requirements

5.2 External quality
Programme utilizes the results of external quality assurance on a regular basis.
Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements   o External quality assessment mechanisms at the university level are the authorization and accreditation process. As long as the internal monitoring mechanism of the program is maintained at the university and its modification / improvement is regularly performed after accreditation of the program, re-accreditation is a means of validating the accumulated changes.
Evidences/indicators   o   Provision on continuous quality improvement.
Recommendations: o   No mandatory recommendations are suggested on this point.
Suggestions for programme development: o   NO SPECIFIC FURTHER SUGGESTIONS
Best Practices (if applicable):   o   NON APPLICABLE
In case of accredited programme, significant accomplishments and/or progress   No noticeable change on this point was made by the programme after previous accreditation.

Evaluation
    X Complies with requirements
    ☐ Substantially complies with requirements
    ☐ Partially complies with requirements
    ☐ Does not comply with requirements

5.3. Programme monitoring and periodic review
Programme monitoring and periodic review is conducted with the involvement of academic, scientific, invited, administrative staff, students, graduates, employers and other stakeholders through systematically collecting and analysing information. Assessment results are utilized for programme improvement.

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements
    o   The most active form of monitoring and evaluating educational programs at the University of Georgia is polling of interested parties, gathering and summarizing opinions of academic and invited staff, students, alumni, employers, scientific and administrative staff. Research materials are collected and analyzed and the results are used for making changes to programs.
    o   The subject of quantitative analysis at the university is the students' academic performance (grades), enrollments, mobility, course graduation, employment indicators. Identifying the causes and, if necessary, formulating recommendations is carried out by outlining trends, analyzing and making conclusions.

Evidences/indicators
    o   Provision on continuous quality improvement.
    o   Student and academic staff satisfaction survey;

Recommendations: o   No mandatory recommendations are suggested on this point.
Suggestions for programme development: o   NO SPECIFIC FURTHER SUGGESTIONS
Best Practices (if applicable):   o   NON APPLICABLE
In case of accredited programme, significant accomplishments and/or progress   No noticeable change on this point was made by the programme after previous accreditation.

Programme's Compliance with Standard

Standard	Complies with Requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially Complies with Requirements	Does not Comply with Requirements
Teaching quality enhancement opportunities	✓			

Enclosed Documentation (If Applicable): None

HEI's Name: University of Georgia

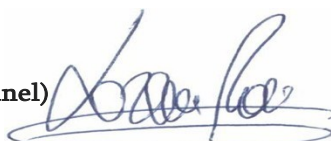**Higher Education Programme Name:** Doctoral programme in Social and Cultural Anthropology

Number of Pages of the Report: 23

Programme's Compliance with the Standard

Standard	Complies with Requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially Complies with Requirements	Does not Comply with Requirements
1. Programme objectives are clearly defined and achievable; they are consistent with the mission of the HEI and take into consideration labour market demands	✓			
2. Teaching methodology and organization, adequate evaluation of programme mastering			✓	
3. Student achievements and individual work with them	✓			
4. Providing teaching resources			✓	
5. Teaching quality enhancement opportunities	✓			

Expert Panel Chair's

Prof. Lorenzo Rook (Chair of the Panel)

Expert Panel Members'

Prof. Konstantine Fitskhelauri _____

Ms. Lana Bokuchava (Student expert) _

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