



**NATIONAL CENTER FOR  
EDUCATIONAL QUALITY  
ENHANCEMENT**

## **Accreditation Expert Group Report on Higher Education Programme**

**“Architectural Studies”  
Doctoral studies  
LEPL - Georgian Technical University**

Evaluation Date(s) – 1<sup>st</sup> of September, 2023

Report Submission Date – 28<sup>th</sup> of December, 2023

Tbilisi

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### Information about a Higher Education Institution <sup>1</sup>

Name of Institution Indicating its Organizational Legal Form	Georgian Technical University, Legal Entity of Public Law
Identification Code of Institution	211 349 192
Type of the Institution	University

### Expert Panel Members

<b>Chair</b> (Name, Surname, HEI/Organisation, Country)	Professor Dana Arnold, Manchester School of Architecture, UK
<b>Member</b> (Name, Surname, HEI/Organisation, Country)	Ia Natsvlishvili, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Georgia
<b>Member</b> (Name, Surname, HEI/Organisation, Country)	Nino Tchogoshvili, Apolon Kutateladze Tbilisi State Academy of Art, Georgia.
<b>Member</b> (Name, Surname, HEI/Organisation, Country)	Dimitri Tsanava, Caucasus International University Student

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<sup>1</sup> In the case of joint education programme: Please indicate the HEIs that carry out the programme. The indication of an identification code and type of institution is not obligatory if a HEI is recognised in accordance with the legislation of a foreign country.

## I. Information on the education programme

Name of Higher Education Programme (in Georgian)	არქიტექტურათმცოდნეობა
Name of Higher Education Programme (in English)	Architectural Studies
Level of Higher Education	VIII level, Doctoral studies
Qualification to be Awarded <sup>2</sup>	Doctor of Art History and Theory
Name and Code of the Detailed Field	0213 Fine arts
Indication of the right to provide the teaching of subject/subjects/group of subjects of the relevant cycle of the general education <sup>3</sup>	
Language of Instruction	Georgian
Number of ECTS credits	45
Programme Status (Accredited/ Non-accredited/ Conditionally accredited/new/International accreditation) Indicating Relevant Decision (number, date)	Accredited. Decision of the Accreditation Council for educational programs # 551; 28.09.2012
Additional requirements for the programme admission (in the case of an art-creative and/or sports educational programme, passing a creative tour/internal competition, or in the case of another programme, specific requirements for admission to the programme/implementation of the programme)	Program admission prerequisites to the Program is: The Diploma of Master's degree or equivalent academic degree in art, architecture or related fields. The following are taking into account: scientific publications, participation in scientific conferences, other documents and materials related to teaching/research activities (certificates, recognitions, patents, etc.) Program applicant must submit: a research project, where the purpose and direction of the applicant's research will be shown; also, an international certificate confirming knowledge of the English language at the B2 level, or pass an exam at the GTU examination center. An applicant with a higher education in English is not required to present a certificate or pass an exam.

<sup>2</sup> In case of implementing a joint higher education programme with a higher education institution recognized in accordance with the legislation of a foreign country, if the title of the qualification to be awarded differs, it shall be indicated separately for each institution.

<sup>3</sup> In case of Integrated Bachelor's-Master's Teacher Training Educational Programme and Teacher Training Educational Programme

## II. Accreditation Report Executive Summary

- **General Information on Education Programme<sup>4</sup>**
  - Brief Review of the Educational Program
  - The doctoral programme in Architectural Studies received accreditation on 28 September 2012. This programme has been subject to constant analysis and scrutiny by a wide-ranging group including academic staff, students, and graduates in the faculty, as well as external stakeholders including employers, specialists in the field. The programme has also benefitted from feedback from overseas colleagues. This ongoing process of consultation has resulted in a number of modifications to the programme 2016-2021. These were
    - 19 May 2016 Resolution #2005 of the Academic Council of GTU Professor Maia Davitaia was assigned as the head of the modified program instead of Professor Nikoloz shavishvili.
    - 19 November 2017 Decree #2627 All syllabus codes were changed on the basis of the of the Academic Council of GTU.
    - 27 December 2017 Decree #2691 The system, forms, methods and criteria for assessing student knowledge were changed in all syllabuses. The number of one credit was determined by 25 hours instead of 27.
    - 2 April 2018 the programme and syllabuses were modified in accordance with the same resolution; description was added to the programme; contents of the special courses included in the programme were changed; main and supplementary literature were updated (resolution 01-05-04/95).
    - 26 February 2021 Resolution #01-05-04/30 of the Academic Council of GTU A record describing the scope of the programme by credits was corrected in the programme. In particular, was "Doctor of Arts / will be awarded in case of getting at least 180 credits of the educational program", became "Doctor of Arts / will be awarded in case of 60 credits of the educational component of the educational program and research component. Duration of study is not less than 3 years; description of the program, subject load, map of learning outcomes, curriculum have been changed (Resolution # 01-05-04/38 of the Academic Council of the GTU dated 12.04.2021).
  - This assessment focuses on the proposed developments to the Educational Programme in Architectural Studies emanating from Resolution N01-05-04/59 of the Academic Council of the GTU on 28 April 2023. The SER identifies the proposed changes and these are quoted below:
    1. The position of the head of the program changed-was an associate professor, became a professor;
    2. The qualification to be awarded changed-was a doctor of art studies, became a doctor of art history and theory;
    3. The volume of the program with credits was adjusted-it was 60 and became 45
    4. The prerequisites for admission to the program have been changed, in particular, the qualification of a master's degree in art, architecture or related fields or a diploma of an academic degree equal to it has become mandatory. Also proficiency in English at B2 level;
    5. Description of the program changed;
    6. The objective of the program was improved and more clearly formulated to clearly highlight the specific niche of the program
    7. Learning outcomes/competencies changed, to ensure compliance with the Order #69/N;
    8. Program structure and subject load changed by focusing on achieving defined learning outcomes
    9. The number of attached syllabuses changed-there were 4, became 9;

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<sup>4</sup> When providing general information related to the programme, it is appropriate to also present the quantitative data analysis of the educational programme.

10. In order to simplify the reading of the program, the descriptive part of the activities corresponding to the teaching-learning methods was taken from the program
11. The list of employment fields became diversified;
12. The descriptive part of the human and material resources necessary for the implementation of the program was corrected, in addition, the implementers were substituted to include highly qualified personnel in the program;
13. New training courses were added to the program: 1. Art historical research methods in terms of architecture; 2. Different look of current Georgian architecture; 3. Form on the plane-avant-garde; 4. Codes and signs in architecture; 5. The global reach of regionalism; 6. Assistant professor (Architectural Studies);
14. The existing 5-credit training course "academic writing and scientific research methods" was replaced with a 4-credit course "scientific communication techniques" ; while the credit of training course" teaching methods " changed, - there were 5 and became 6; The teaching method of the training course "architectural residue" changed -at the expense of the addition of the seminar, the content of the training course "end of ordinary city" (which is taken from the program) was also reflected in the content of the same course; Both thematic seminars, having no link to doctoral topic, have been taken from the program, at the expense of which the workload of the professor's assistant and research component has been strengthened.
15. Program attachments were developed.

- **Overview of the Accreditation Site Visit**

The accreditation site visit was held on 1 September 2023. It was attended in person by Professor Dr Ia Natsvlishvili, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Georgia, Professor Dr Nino Tchogoshvili, Apolon Kutateladze Tbilisi State Academy of Art, Georgia, and a student representative Dimitri Tsanava, Caucasus International University Student. The Panel Chair, Professor Dr Dana Arnold, Manchester School of Architecture, UK attended online. The site visit was conducted in Georgian with the Chair receiving a summary translation at the end of each of the scheduled meetings. The panel had agreed a series of questions arising from the SER to be explored with each of the groups represented in the meetings. There was a considerable amount of discussion arising from these questions. There was also a visit to the on-site facilities which the Chair was not able to attend, the other panel members reported to the Chair about the facilities at the panel meeting after the accreditation site visit had ended.

- **Brief Overview of Education Programme Compliance with the Standards**

The panel were impressed with the high quality of the programme and the proposed amendments to it and the dedication of the course team in writing the SER. The panel concluded that the programme complies with all the requirements for

- Standard 1, Education Programme, Objectives, Learning Outcomes,
- Standard 3 Student Achievements,
- Standard 4 Teaching Resources
- Standard 5 Teaching Quality Enhancement Opportunities.

The panel considered that the programme complies substantially with

- Standard 2 Teaching Methodology and Organisation, Adequacy of Evaluation

- **Recommendations**

The panel made the following recommendations

2.2 Supporting of scientific-research projects and enhancement of involving PHD students in scientific projects

2.2 Strengthening of internationalization; Involving doctoral students in international projects and exchanging programs, informing and motivating them.

2.3 Doctoral program should be added study courses covering current methodology corresponding to research and analysis of different branches of History and Theory of Visual Art.

4.1 Additional Academic or visiting staff with relevant qualification to teach study courses in Department of Art History, Visual Art and Theory must be involved in the program.

4.1 Enhancement of PHD Students integration in international scientific network.

5.3 The monitoring process of the program should ensure that doctoral students anonymously evaluate the implementation of the scientific-research component and scientific supervision.

- **Suggestions for Programme Development**

3.1 It is preferable for doctoral students to participate in exchange programs and use foreign scientific bases.

4.4 Renewal of technical base of the faculty

- **Brief Overview of the Best Practices (if applicable)<sup>5</sup>**

- **Information on Sharing or Not Sharing the Argumentative Position of the HEI**

The institution has submitted the argumentative position (letter #1760410, 25/12/2023) and shared the recommendations presented in the draft report of the accreditation expert group.

- **In case of re-accreditation, it is important to provide a brief overview of the achievements and/or the progress (if applicable)**

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<sup>5</sup> A practice that is exceptionally effective and that can serve as a benchmark or example for other educational programme/programmes.

### III. 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 HEI. Programme learning outcomes are assessed on a regular basis to improve the programme. The content and consistent structure of the programme ensure the achievement of the set goals and expected learning outcomes.

##### 1.1 Programme Objectives

Programme objectives consider the specificity of the field of study, level and educational programme, and define the set of knowledge, skills and competences a programme aims to develop in graduate students. They also illustrate the contribution of the programme to the development of the field and society.

#### Summary and Analysis of the Education Programme's Compliance with the Requirements of the Component of the Standard

The programme has three main objectives:

To train of high-level researchers in the field of art history and theory, focusing on Architectural Studies. The syllabus covers the development of World Architecture, the evolution and change of stylistic features, the peculiarities of architectural schools, national and regional trends, the creativity and methods of work of individual architects and artists; as well as architectural criticism, explanation and evaluation of modern works of architectural creativity.

To produce graduates with up-to-date knowledge of the development of the field of study, an awareness of the important issues as well as problems in Architectural Studies, and the ability to use this knowledge for in-depth and innovative research conducted according to the principles of academic integrity and professional ethics.

To equip graduates with relevant skills of academic / pedagogical activity to integrate with existing researchers of the field.

This is an ambitious new programme that builds on the strengths of existing doctoral programmes in the field of Art History. The programme of study and options offered are to be commended as they maximise the current PhD offering while at the same time enhancing this with well-thought through courses in Architectural Studies. It is to the credit of the course team that they can offer students the possibility of benefitting from a range of courses to develop their historical, theoretical, and professional skills, It is clear that graduates of this programme will be well equipped to enter the academy or undertake careers in related fields such as architectural heritage or other aspects of the architectural profession. The programme has been designed to be international in its outlook, which is also to be commended. Overall, this is an impressive new programme and the team should be congratulated on its careful design.

#### Evidences/Indicators

- Evidence for the objectives of the Doctoral educational program 'Architectural Studies' is demonstrated in
- Self-evaluation report provided by the Georgian Technical University
- Mission, vision and values of Georgian Technical University <https://gtu.ge/AboutStu/Mission.php>
- Strategic plan 2018-2024 for the development of LEPL Georgian Technical University [https://gtu.ge/pdf/Strategic\\_Plan\\_for\\_Development\\_of\\_gtu\\_2018-2024\\_01.pdf](https://gtu.ge/pdf/Strategic_Plan_for_Development_of_gtu_2018-2024_01.pdf)
- Development strategy 2022-2028 of the Georgian Technical University <https://gtu.ge/pdf/gtu-strategy.pdf>

- Rule for Planning, Elaboration, Evaluation and Development of Educational Program at Georgian Technical university (Resolution # 01-05-04/261 of the GTU Academic Council )
- Regulation of the faculty of architecture, urban planning and design (joint resolution # 01-05-17/05 of the Academic Council of the GTU and the representative council (Senate) da ted June 30, 2021
- Labor market analysis
- Results of inquiries of graduates and employers
- Field specialists ' feedback on the program
- Website of the faculty of architecture, urban planning and design <https://gtu.ge/Arch/#>

**Recommendations:**

- None

**Suggestions for the Programme Development**

- None

**Evaluation**

Please, evaluate the compliance of the programme with the component

Component	Complies with requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially complies with requirements	Does not comply with requirements
1.1 Programme Objectives	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**1.2 Programme Learning Outcomes**

- The learning outcomes of the programme are logically related to the programme objectives and the specifics of the study field.
- Programme learning outcomes describe knowledge, skills, and/or the responsibility and autonomy that students gain upon completion of the programme.

**Summary and Analysis of the Education Programme's Compliance with the Requirements of the Component of the Standard**

The documentation for this programme is complete and offered a detailed description of how it complies with the required standard. Importantly, the learning outcomes of the programme are consistent with its objectives. The outcomes address the specificities of architectural studies within the field of art history and theory and the Higher Education qualification framework level VIII. Overall, the documentation demonstrates how upon completion of the programme, students will have gained the appropriate knowledge and awareness, skills, responsibility and autonomy consistent with the objectives. The syllabi of the courses offered clearly show how the learning outcomes the programme will be met. This is evident in the topics covered, the methodologies that are taught and the problem-based learning and other innovative pedagogies employed by the course team. In addition there is an important international dimension to the material covered and the purview of the programme. Examples of how the programme meets the required standard in regard to the topics covered is seen in how the development of World Architecture, including stylistic change, the distinctiveness of architectural

schools, national and regional trends, the creativity and methods of work of individual architects and artists is explained. To do this the programme rightly employs innovative research methods to evaluate and critique modern works of architectural creativity with the knowledge based on the latest achievements in Architectural Studies. Importantly, the programme documentation demonstrates how the results of carried out scientific research to the public, in local and international forums, conferences, thematic discussions and peer-reviewed scientific publications will be encountered by the students. It is also clear that the students will acquire new knowledge and skills that will meet the needs of employers and other specialists working in this field. The courses in this programme will employ a range of teaching and learning methods which will also be of benefit to students. Students will learn how to draw conclusions and develop solutions to problems arising in relation to architecture, based on analytical and logical thinking in ways that are appropriate for this Standard. The programme is to be commended for addressing the most pressing problems and important issues in Architectural Studies and for the contribution it makes to the development of the field.

### Evidences/Indicators

- Evidence and indicators of the learning outcomes in relation to the programme objectives include:
- Self-evaluation report provided by the Georgian Technical University.
- The educational programme for the doctorate in 'Architectural Studies'
- The syllabi of the courses offered
- Order #69/N of the minister of Education Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia of 10 April 2019 'on the approval of the National Qualifications Framework and the Classifier of Fields of Study'.
- Field specialists' feedback on the program
- Results of inquiries of academic staff, employers, graduates and students

### Recommendations:

- None

### Suggestions for Programme Development

- None

### Evaluation

Please, evaluate the compliance of the programme with the component

Component	Complies with requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially complies with requirements	Does not comply with requirements
1.2 Programme Learning Outcomes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 1.3 Evaluation Mechanism of the Programme Learning Outcomes

- Evaluation mechanisms of the programme learning outcomes are defined; the programme learning outcomes evaluation cycle consists of defining, collecting and analyzing data necessary to measure learning outcomes;
- Programme learning outcomes assessment results are utilized for the improvement of the programme.

## **Summary and Analysis of the Education Programme's Compliance with the Requirements of the Component of the Standard**

Institution has in place a mechanism for assessing the learning outcome (LO) of the program. This mechanism defines the whole cycle for Program Learning Outcomes Evaluation. It uses both direct and indirect methods for the assessment of learning outcomes of the educational program. Indirect assessment of the learning outcomes are carried out with the involvement of stakeholders (academic staff, students, graduates, employers, field experts) by conducting surveys of interested parties throw using special questioners. Besides this, periodic assessment of the program is taking place by the Faculty Commission for faculty educational programs evaluation. This commission is composed of academic staff and students.

The Evaluation mechanisms of the program as a whole, of study component and of the research component (especially the procedure for the defense and assessment of the dissertation) are clearly defined and transparent. The syllabi of the individual courses include a very detailed and transparent overview of the outcomes of that specific course and link these expected outcomes to the evaluation mechanisms and the criteria for assessment.

University defines two types of the target benchmarks for each learning outcome: Target level of the enrolled students (%) and Target level of student's grades/academic achievements (%). For each learning outcome above mentioned map indicates the links among Evaluation Indicators, Study Courses for Evaluation of Learning Outcome, Study Course Level of Development of Learning Outcome, and Evaluation Tools/specific activities for Learning Outcomes. The University developed the Program Objectives and Learning Outcomes Map that clearly presents how the program learning outcomes will be evaluated.

The evaluation of program learning outcome by using above mentioned methodology and comparison of the results with target benchmarks has not been carried out yet and it is planned in nearest future. At current moment program learning outcomes are assessed by using students' academic achievement/course grade and indirect methods of learning outcomes assessment. The members of the evaluation commission, together with the relevant department, discuss in detail the evaluation indicators of each course. The Evaluation Commission writes an evaluation report and some recommendations on changes to be made. Faculty Quality assurance office and The Faculty Council discusses the initiated issues and makes appropriate decisions about the necessary chances. At the final stage of the evaluation cycle, adequate changes are made in both educational program and, if it is necessary, target benchmarks are corrected. The whole above mentioned process ensures sufficient assessment results for further development of the program.

### **Evidences/Indicators**

- Educational program and syllabi
- Website of the quality assurance service of the Georgian Technical University <https://gtu.ge/quality/>
- Rules for planning, elaboration, evaluation and development of educational programs
- Regulation of quality assurance service
- Resolution # 01-05-04/261 of the GTU Academic Council of 23 September 2019 on "Approval of the Rule of Planning, Elaboration, Evaluation and Development of Educational Program at Georgian Technical university"
- Order on "establishment of commissions at the faculties and approval of their regulations" and relevant annexes: composition of the faculty commissions for evaluation of educational programs; regulations of the faculty Commission;
- Program learning outcomes assessment mechanism
- Statistical map of employment of graduates

- Labor market research methodology and analysis documents
- Minutes of the faculty council meetings and the educational programs evaluation commission
- Field specialists feedback on the program
- Results of surveys of academic staff, employers, alumni and students
- Results of interviews with representatives of university/faculty administration, head of program, academic staff, employers, alumni and students
- Additional documents provided by the University: Action Plan (2021-2023) of the Quality Assurance Office of the Faculty of Architecture, Urban Planning and Design
- Self-evaluation report provided by the Georgian Technical University.

#### Recommendations:

- Proposal (s), which should be considered by the HEI, the programme to meet the requirements of the standard

#### Suggestions for the Programme Development

- Non-binding suggestions for programme development

#### Evaluation

Please, evaluate the compliance of the programme with the component

Component	Complies with requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially complies with requirements	Does not comply with requirements
1.3 Evaluation Mechanism of the Programme Learning Outcomes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### 1.4. Structure and Content of Education Programme

- The Programme is designed according to HEI's methodology for planning, designing and developing of education programmes.
- The Programme structure is consistent and logical. The content and structure of the programme ensure the achievement of programme learning outcomes. The qualification to be granted is consistent with the content and learning outcomes of the programme.

#### Summary and Analysis of the Education Programme's Compliance with the Requirements of the Component of the Standard

The doctoral programme 'Architectural Studies' is drawn up according to the 'rules for planning, elaboration, evaluation and development of educational programs' in force at the Technical University of Georgia. In addition, field requirements, stakeholders' advice and recommendations, labour market needs and experience of overseas universities are taken into account including: Eugeniusz Geppert Academy of Art and Design in Wroclaw; The Pennsylvania State University; Universidad Iberoamericana; The University of British Columbia; Estonian

Academy of Arts. The engagement with external stakeholders and international institutions had been an important factor in the development of this programme.

The content, scope and complexity of the programme correspond to Level VIII. Its content provides preconditions for admission to the programme; it is compatible with the awarding qualification (Doctor of art history and theory) and serves to prepare high-level researchers in the field of Architectural Studies.

The educational program is created according to the legislation of Georgia and in accordance with the European credit transfer system ECTS, where 1 credit equals 25 hours, and implies both contact and independent hours of work.

The programme comprises a teaching component (45 credits) and a research component. The duration of the programme is not less than three years (six semesters). There are compulsory and optional training courses.

The tasks of the educational component are sectoral and methodological preparation of the doctoral student for the achievement of the goals of the doctoral programme. The educational component helps the doctoral student to successfully prepare for researching and writing their thesis, and conduct pedagogical and scientific activities in future. There is a good range of courses available and with careful guidance from the course team this will enable students to make informed choices about their pathway through the degree. The objective of the research component is to deepen the practical habits of independent conduct of scientific research, formation and development of professional research culture.

The student journey through this programme of study has been carefully structured by the course team. The first semester of training envisages: three compulsory training courses (15 credits) and one selective course (5 credits). The second semester of training envisages: three compulsory training courses (15 credits) and professor's assistantship (10 credits). Also from this semester, the doctoral student starts working on the research and, with the involvement of the supervisor, completes the first stage of the research component - research project/prospectus. Starting from the third semester, the doctoral student continues to work on the research and gradually completes: colloquium - 1, colloquium - 2, colloquium - 3, preliminary defence and completion of the thesis defence. The student will progress through each of these semesters to ensure their training as researchers and the development of knowledge within the field of study. The programme of study is structured to lead the student towards their final research project. After completed semesters one and two students will be equipped to conduct independent research at a level that is appropriate for Level VIII. Each of these components is mandatory and the execution of each stage is a prerequisite for the next one.

### **Evidences/Indicators**

- Self-evaluation report provided by the Georgian Technical University.
- Resolution # 01-05-04/261 of the GTU Academic Council of 23 September 2019 on "Approval of the Rule of Planning, Elaboration, Evaluation and Development of Educational Program at Georgian Technical university"
- Provision of doctoral studies at Georgian Technical University
- Training process management instruction at Georgian Technical University <https://gtu.ge/quality/Files/Pdf/sasc%20proccesis%20instruqc.pdf>
- Doctoral educational programme "Architectural Studies"
- Programme annexes: Program Learning Outcomes (Appendix 1) and Program Objectives and Learning Outcomes Map (Appendix 2)
- Syllabi of Training courses
- Faculty council protocols
- Document for comparisons with similar programmes overseas
- Field specialists ' feedback on the programme
- Results of inquiries of academic staff, employers, graduates and students

**Recommendations:**

- None

**Suggestions for the programme development**

- None

**Evaluation**

Please, evaluate the compliance of the programme with the component

Component	Complies with requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially complies with requirements	Does not comply with requirements
1.4 Structure and Content of Educational Programme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**1.5. Academic Course/Subject**

- The content of the academic course / subject and the number of credits ensure the achievement of the learning outcomes defined by this course / subject.
- The content and the learning outcomes of the academic course/subject of the main field of study ensure the achievement of the learning outcomes of the programme.
- The study materials indicated in the syllabus ensure the achievement of the learning outcomes of the programme.

**Summary and Analysis of the Education Programme's Compliance with the Requirements of the Component of the Standard**

The panel was satisfied that the academic content and the number of credits ensure that students will achieve the learning outcomes of each course of study of this programme ensure that students will achieve the learning outcomes of the programme as a whole. This is evident in the content and the number of credits of each course and how they correspond to the learning outcomes provided for the purpose of this course. The course team is to be congratulated on the careful course design as evident in the information contained in the learning outcomes map. The teaching staff have the good range of expertise that will ensure students benefit from high quality teaching across the range of courses. The panel also notes that the ratio between contact and independent hours determined for each training course course, the learning-teaching methods are adequate and take into account the specifics of the course. Consequently, students will benefite from a well-balanced, carefully constructed programme of studnt that allows them to pursue their interests and develop their skills as researchers. The facilities and study material to support learning e.g. library are appropriate for Level VIII.

The appropriateness of the course design, content and delivery will be monitored to ensure quality assurance and the panel noted this will also ensure the programme remains current and repsonds to the developing needs of students and the sector. This is evident the regular updatdng of the syllabus which will also ensure the the course contet aligns with current academic trends and thinking.

Evidence of how monitoiring and quality assurance will be conducted can be found in the following methods: At the end of each semester, the Faculty conducts an analysis of the students' academic performance, and the

findings inform course programme and development. The panel notes that to analyse academic performance, the University uses the student grading scale developed in the European credit transfer and accumulation system (ECTS), which coincides with the normal Gaussian distribution - 10%-25%-30%-25%-10%. This regular monitoring of student performance using a robust methodology will support the course team in ensuring the course complies with the appropriate standard and remains up to date in terms of content and delivery.

### Evidences/Indicators

- Self-evaluation report provided by the Georgian Technical University.
- Doctoral educational program "Architectural Studies"
- Syllabi of training courses
- Program annex: Program learning outcomes map (Annex 1)
- List of staff for the Doctoral Programme 'Architectural Studies' (Annex 2)
- Evaluation-analysis of students' learning outcomes (protocol #4)
- Programme learning outcomes assessment mechanism
- Library catalogue <https://gtu.ge/Library/>

### Recommendations:

- Proposal (s), which should be considered by the HEI, the programme to meet the requirements of the standard

### Suggestions for the programme development

- Non-binding suggestions for programme development

### Evaluation

Please, evaluate the compliance of the programme with the component

Component	Complies with requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially complies with requirements	Does not comply with requirements
1.5. Academic Course/Subject	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Compliance of the Programme with the Standard

1. Educational objectives, learning programme outcomes and their compliance with the programme	Complies with requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Substantially complies with requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Partially complies with requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Does not comply with requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>

## 2. Methodology and Organisation of Teaching, Adequacy of Evaluation of Programme Mastering

Prerequisites for admission to the programme, teaching-learning methods and student assessment consider the specificity of the study field, level requirements, student needs, and ensure the achievement of the objectives and expected learning outcomes of the programme.

### 2.1 Programme Admission Preconditions

The HEI has relevant, transparent, fair, public and accessible programme admission preconditions and procedures that ensure the engagement of individuals with relevant knowledge and skills in the programme to achieve learning outcomes.

#### Summary and Analysis of the Education Programme's Compliance with the Requirements of the Component of the Standard

Enrollment on the Doctoral Studies Education Program is regulated by the Law of Georgia on Higher Education, Instruction about students mobility and contingent formation of Georgian Technical University and GTU Regulations Governing the degree of Doctor. Enrollment rules and conditions on Doctoral Studies are replaced on the web-site: <https://gtu.ge/Science/doctorantura.php>

An applicant with the Diploma of Master's degree or equivalent academic degree has right to enroll and study on Doctoral Studies if the prerequisites of the program admission is met. One of the Program admission obligatory prerequisites is meeting with the conditions of concrete education program of doctoral studies.

Additional requirements for admission on the Ph.D. program in Architecture is the following: The Diploma of Master's degree or equivalent academic degree in art, architecture or related fields. Scientific publications, participation in scientific conferences, other documents and materials related with teaching/research activities (certificates, recognitions, patents etc.) will be an asset. Applicant must also submit: a research project, where the purpose and direction of the research will be shown. An international certificate confirming knowledge of the English language at the B2 level, or pass an exam at the GTU examination center. Applicant with a higher education in abroad must submit the document confirming his higher education.

The format of interviewing an applicant (issues, evaluation criteria) is defined according to the Doctoral Studies education program, with the command of the Head of the University, on the basis of sentences offered by the faculty.

Rules and conditions of admission on Doctoral Studies are public and are available for any person concerned. It is replaced on the GTU web-site.

#### Evidences/Indicators

- PhD program in Architecture
- Self-evaluation Analysis
- LEPL- GTU Regulation of Doctoral Studies
- Web-site of Faculty of Architecture, Urban planning and Design - [https://gtu.ge/Arch/Educational\\_Program/doctorantura.php](https://gtu.ge/Arch/Educational_Program/doctorantura.php)
- Interview with the program manager

#### Recommendations:

- Proposal (s), which should be considered by the HEI, the programme to meet the requirements of the standard

### Suggestions for the programme development

- Non-binding suggestions for the programme development

### Evaluation

Please, evaluate the compliance of the programme with the component

Component	Complies with requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially complies with requirements	Does not comply with requirements
2.1 Programme Admission Preconditions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 2.2. The Development of Practical, Scientific/Research/Creative/Performing and Transferable Skills

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

### Summary and Analysis of the Education Programme's Compliance with the Requirements of the Component of the Standard

PhD program in Architecture trains the researcher in the sphere of Art History and Theory to the direction of Architectural studies, which has a wide range of knowledge of the World Architectural History and Theory as well as contemporary, national and regional tendencies and creative work of contemporary architects; is enabled to criticize and evaluate architectural processes, learn and analyze actual issues, survey innovative questions, make decisions supported by evidences, skills of academic/pedagogical work.

According to the GTU Ph.D. regulation, PhD student is obliged to publish three articles related to the main outcomes of the survey connected with the dissertation topic, among which at least one must be published in indexed scientific edition (Web of Science, Scopus, Google Scholar) or other scientific editions defined by the Doctoral Program. GTU administration promotes publishing of scientific articles of Ph.D. students in scientific-technical magazine of the faculty called "Current Problems of Architecture and Municipal Engineering" having been edited since 2011 and also in the quarterly magazine of the GTU.

The students participate in international scientific conferences held by the GTU. With the promotion of the faculty doctoral students take place in scientific-practical conferences. With the initiative of the faculty scientific conference is held twice in a year, which is dedicated to the themes actual for that moment. With the support of academic staff of the faculty a project for submitting in the contest organized by Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Georgia was prepared.

Compulsory Teaching Courses cover being assistant of a professor (Architectural Studies), which means preparing lecture topics with the manager, working on the topics and questionnaires for the interim assessment, assistance of the manager, giving several lectures.

During the interview with the program alumni it was noted that the employers were actively involved in program modification process. They talked about the importance and need of the program of Architectural Studies noting that the program has no analogue in Georgian Universities and the graduates are employed in basic museum sphere and in the direction of Architecture criticism. In their opinion, that's crucially important for the development of these disciplines.

The GTU has international exchanging programs among them Erasmus+ mobility programs in which different levels of students and academic staff are involved, though the students of PhD program in Architecture haven't taken part in such international projects and programs so far.

#### Evidences/Indicators

- PHD program in Architecture
- Self-evaluation report
- GTU Regulation of Doctoral Studies
- LEPL- Regulation of Doctoral Studies of Georgian Technical University
- Web-site of Faculty of Architecture, Urban planning and Design - [https://gtu.ge/Arch/Educational\\_Program/doctorantura.php](https://gtu.ge/Arch/Educational_Program/doctorantura.php)
- Outcomes of interviews with the program managers, academic staff, PHD students and alumni, employers and faculty administration
- Scientific-technical magazine of the faculty called "Current Problems of Architecture and Municipal Engineering"

#### Recommendations:

- Supporting of scientific-research projects and enhancement of involving PHD students in scientific projects
- Strengthening of internationalization; Involving doctoral students in international projects and exchanging programs, informing and motivating them.

#### Suggestions for the programme development

- Non-binding suggestions for the programme development

#### Evaluation

Please, evaluate the compliance of the programme with the component

Component	Complies with requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially complies with requirements	Does not comply with requirements
2.2.The Development of practical, scientific/research/creative/performing and transferable skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### 2.3. Teaching and Learning Methods

The programme is implemented by use student-oriented teaching and learning methods. Teaching and learning methods correspond to the level of education, course/subject content, learning outcomes, and ensure their achievement.

## **Summary and Analysis of the Education Programme's Compliance with the Requirements of the Component of the Standard**

Learning-teaching methods of education program presented for accreditation are student-oriented and is in compliance with the appropriate level of teaching, content and structure of the study courses and provides achievement of learning outcomes.

The structure of PhD Program in Architecture covers study and research components. Study component is 45 credits from which 40 credits comes to the obligatory study courses (Techniques of scientific communication; Teaching methods, precipitation of Architecture; research methods of Art studies related with Architecture; different kind of current Georgian Architecture; Being assistant of the professor (Architectural Studies) and as for five credits – optional (codes and signs in architecture; global condition of regionalism) form on a flat surface – avant-garde. According to the program, study component takes place in the first and second terms. Steps of the research component by the program are: project/prosperus. 3 colloquiums, pre-defense and then ending up of the dissertation and defending.

Keeping consecutiveness of research component is obligatory. Research component is assessed once on the stage of maintaining a thesis with the final assessment.

Teaching process is held in the format of lectures, seminars and practical and independent work. Methods used in teaching programs are suitable objectives and outcomes of study course and provides development of branch as well as transfer skills.

The following methods of teaching-learning are used:

1. Discussion/debates
2. Collaborative working
3. Case study
4. Working on project and its presentation
5. Demonstration
6. Writing work
7. Analysis
8. PBL
9. Brain storming
10. Induction;
11. Deduction;
12. Synthesis;
13. Simulative, role games;
14. Verbal or orally transmitted teaching
15. Explanation
16. Practice -oriented teaching

It's noteworthy, that qualification for the Ph.D. graduate in Architectural Studies program is the following - Doctor of Art History and Theory. Study courses with their content and teaching-learning methods basically includes history and theory of architecture which is logical and comprehensive referring name and aim of the program. Program admission prerequisites - The Diploma of Master's degree or equivalent academic degree in art, architecture or related fields is also considerable and it naturally means enrolling the applicant with appropriate knowledge. Although taking into account the qualification it's important the program have been added study courses which includes studying of different fields and analysis of visual art considering appropriate current methodology.

## Evidences/Indicators

- PhD Program in Architecture
- Self-evaluation Analysis
- Syllabi
- Results of interviews with academic staff of the program, PhD students and graduates, employers, faculty management.
- Methods and appropriate activities connected with Teaching-learning process.  
<https://gtu.ge/quality/Files/Pdf/scavlebis%20metodebi%20da%20aqtivobebi.pdf>

## Recommendations:

- Doctoral program should be added study courses covering current methodology corresponding to research and analysis of different branches of History and Theory of Visual Art.

## Suggestions for the programme development

- Non-binding suggestions for the programme development

## Evaluation

Please, evaluate the compliance of the programme with the component

Component	Complies with requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially complies with requirements	Does not comply with requirements
2.3. Teaching and learning methods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## 2.4. Student Evaluation

Student evaluation is conducted in accordance with the established procedures. It is transparent, reliable and complies with existing legislation.

## Summary and Analysis of the Education Programme's Compliance with the Requirements of the Component of the Standard

Technical University of Georgia has a transparent and fair evaluation system in accordance with the legislation of Georgia, which is based on the order N3 of the Minister of Education and Science of January 5, 2007, whereby students are given the opportunity to improve their level of academic achievement.

The system for evaluating the learning results of the educational component takes into account the specifics of the educational course, which takes into account special components, forms and methods, through which it is possible to determine to what extent the students have achieved the learning outcomes provided for by the educational program. The grading system is rigorous and accessible to students. Students have the opportunity to receive information about the assessment of knowledge directly from the head of the educational program and the teacher of the subject, as well as through the monitoring system of students' academic performance on

the website of the Technical University of Georgia, which is transparent and ensures the student's awareness of the achieved results.

Through the electronic portal "Electronic Source" during the semester, students have the opportunity to monitor the current evaluations received in all types of activities provided by the syllabus of the study course. The criterion by which the student is evaluated is given in the syllabus of the study course, which is communicated to the student on the very first day of the start of studies (at the lecture). As for the research component, it is evaluated once, at the stage of the defense of the thesis. But the student must go through several stages which are given and are mandatory: research project/prospectus, colloquium - 1, colloquium - 2, colloquium - 3, preliminary defense and thesis completion-defense - compliance with the order of performance is mandatory and the performance of each stage is a prerequisite for the next one. Students have the option to appeal the grade.

#### Evidences/Indicators

- Doctorate educational program "Architectural Studies"
- Syllabus of the training course
- Student survey results
- E-system for monitoring students' academic progress <https://vici.gtu.ge>

#### Recommendations:

- Proposal (s), which should be considered by the HEI, the programme to meet the requirements of the standard

#### Suggestions for the programme development

- Non-binding suggestions for programme development

#### Evaluation

Please, evaluate the compliance of the programme with the component

Component	Complies with requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially complies with requirements	Does not comply with requirements
2.4. Student evaluation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### Compliance with the programme standards

2. Methodology and Organisation of Teaching, Adequacy of Evaluation of Programme Mastering	Complies with requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Substantially complies with requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Partly complies with requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Does not comply with requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 3. Student Achievements, Individual Work with Them

The programme ensures the creation of a student-centered environment by providing students with relevant services; promotes maximum student awareness, implements a variety of activities and facilitates student involvement in local and/or international projects; proper quality of scientific guidance is provided for master's and doctoral students.

#### 3.1 Student Consulting and Support Services

Students receive consultation and support regarding the planning of learning process, improvement of academic achievement, and career development from the people involved in the programme and/or structural units of the HEI. A student has an opportunity to have a diverse learning process and receive relevant information and recommendations from those involved in the programme.

#### Summary and Analysis of the Education Programme's Compliance with the Requirements of the Component of the Standard

At the Technical University of Georgia, all conditions are created for doctoral students in order to have the most comfortable environment-conditions, to use the opportunity as much as possible and to deepen their knowledge in "architectural science". The entire faculty, career development service, and quality assurance service are fully involved in the improvement of the level of achievement of the educational process in the form of human resources. who advise students on various topical issues during the entire teaching period. They meet periodically during the semester, especially at the first stage of the beginning of the new academic year, and inform them of various types of information.

It is noteworthy that there is a special committee at the faculty that directly evaluates the educational program and the learning process, one of the members of the committee is a doctoral student. This is a good opportunity for the University to clearly see the actual issues that directly confront the student during the educational process provided by the program. Academic staff 2 days a week means consulting hours (2-2 hours), information about which is available on the website of the Faculty of Architecture, Urbanism and Design and on notice boards placed in a visible place. Students are surveyed periodically, and based on the received information, the faculty often takes into account the results of the survey, which is quite acceptable, since the interests of the students are taken into account.

Doctoral students have the opportunity to participate in exchange programs. Information confirming this was presented to the University and confirmed during the on-site visit. Nevertheless, students are somewhat reluctant to participate in exchange programs.

During the interview, various reasons were mentioned, but the desired faculty should provide the possibility of participating in the exchange programs of the doctoral student, because the student needs to use the exchange program for better implementation of the development and research component.

At the same time, students do not have information on various international scientific bases, they do not use foreign sources at all and rely only on local sources.

The institution offers students various types of student services, which are presented mainly in the form of: student services department, sports department, culture department.

#### Evidences/Indicators

- Doctorate educational program "Architectural Studies"
- Student information portal <https://studinfo.gtu.ge/>
- Student survey results
- Graduate survey results
- Memoranda of cooperation and promotion of employment of graduates
- GTU website <https://gtu.ge/>

### Recommendations:

- Proposal (s), which should be considered by the HEI, the programme to meet the requirements of the standard

### Suggestions for Programme Development

- It is preferable for doctoral students to participate in exchange programs and use foreign scientific bases.

### Evaluation

Please, evaluate the compliance of the programme with the component

Component	Complies with requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially complies with requirements	Does not comply with requirements
3.1 Student Consulting and Support Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 3.2. Master's and Doctoral Student Supervision

- A scientific supervisor provides proper support to master's and doctoral students to perform the scientific-research component successfully.
- Within master's and doctoral programmes, ration of students and supervisors enables to perform scientific supervision properly.

### Summary and Analysis of the Education Programme's Compliance with the Requirements of the Component of the Standard

In the very first semester of the start of studies, the doctoral candidate establishes a personal plan of the dissertation research project, which is led by the scientific supervisor, the process of drawing up the plan is based on mutual agreement, where the student's field of interest is completely protected and framed in the scientific framework. The scientific supervisor advises the doctoral student on various issues throughout the entire study process. As necessary, it provides the necessary material for research, supports the student in terms of participation in scientific conferences.

GTU has a clearly established mechanism for determining vacant places on the doctoral program. In accordance with the regulations of the doctoral program in force at the University.

Data related to the supervision of master's/ doctoral students	
Quantity of master/PhD theses	
Number of master's/doctoral students	
Ratio	

## Evidences/Indicators

- Regulations of the doctoral program of the Technical University of Georgia
- Student survey results
- Graduate survey results

## Recommendations:

- Proposal (s), which should be considered by the HEI, the programme to meet the requirements of the standard

## Suggestions for the programme development

- Non-binding suggestions for the programme development

## Evaluation

Please, evaluate the compliance of the programme with the component

Component	Complies with requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially complies with requirements	Does not comply with requirements
3.2. Master's and Doctoral Students Supervision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Compliance with the programme standards

3. Students Achievements, Individual Work with them	Complies with requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Substantially complies with requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Partly complies with requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Does not comply with requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>

## 4. Providing Teaching Resources

Human, material, information and financial resources of educational programme ensure sustainable, stable, efficient and effective functioning of the programme and the achievement of the defined objectives.

### 4.1 Human Resources

- Programme staff consists of qualified persons, who have necessary competences in order to help students to achieve the 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. Quantitative indicators related to academic/scientific/invited staff ensure programme sustainability.
- The Head of the Programme possesses necessary knowledge and experience required for programme elaboration, and also the appropriate competences in the field of study of the programme. 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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### **Summary and Analysis of the Education Programme's Compliance with the Requirements of the Component of the Standard**

Submitted documentation of GTU Architectural Studies, Urban Planning and Design Faculty of Architectural Studies confirms that academic staff is involved in the fulfillment of the program in the frame of Georgian Law and University Regulations.

Analysis of personal cases of academic staff involved in fulfillment of the Doctoral Educational program in Architecture confirmed that their qualification corresponds qualifying requirements, functions and current law. They have relevant knowledge of the field, professional knowledge and years-old educational, scientific-research experience and active international contacts. During last five years they have published works with relevant profile, monographs, work-books and scientific articles in local and international magazines. They have read reports in local and international conferences, participate in projects, exchanging programs and qualification-raising trainings. The GTU supports (in case of need) academic staff involved in the program among them managers of doctoral students in effective use of online/offline teaching-studying and evaluating methods.

In execution of the program besides the academic staff participate GTU Administration and other structural units. Academic staff has signed GTU affiliation agreement. Architectural Studies Program is carried out by 11 academic staff: 7 professors, 3 associated professor and 1 assistant professor. Currently the program has no an invited staff, though ordinal correlation of academic staff and PHD students (students with active status 11 and academic staff – 11) carries out academic and scientific-research process.

PHD Program in Architecture has a qualified manager who takes an active part in relative research and practical work carried out in the field for many years. He has an experience of working on syllabi and studies. He knows well specificity and challenges of the field. Alluding to the self-evaluation document and accreditation visit, taking an active part in working process of self-evaluation group was evident.

According to the analysis of personal cases of academic staff of the program basic part of academic staff pedagogical and scientific-research activity is connected with the field of Architecture History and Theory.

It's noteworthy, that during the interviews administrator of Service Quality of Architecture, Urbanism and Design faculty, subdean in scientific field and program administrator noted, as for the qualification, they had consulted with the employees of National Center For Educational Quality Enhancement.

Interviews with program students and alumni revealed that the students are provided with different kinds of consultations with program managers, academic staff and faculty administration. The interview also demonstrated that doctoral students were taking an active part in program modification process and their points of view and arguments were taken into consideration during the working process on the program.

Despite of the fact, that academic staff has active international contacts with the help of interview with doctoral level it became clear that they are less involved in international scientific-research projects and programs.

Number of the staff involved in the programme (including academic, scientific, and invited staff)	Number of Programme Staff	Including the staff with sectoral expertise <sup>6</sup>	Including the staff holding PhD degree in the sectoral direction <sup>7</sup>	Among them, the affiliated staff
Total number of academic staff	11	8	8	11
- Professor	7	5	5	7
- Associate Professor	3	3	3	3
- Assistant-Professor	1	1	1	1
- Assistant	-	-	-	-
Visiting Staff	-	-	-	-
Scientific Staff	-	-	-	-

### Evidences/Indicators

- PhD Program in Architecture
- Self-evaluation report
- Syllabi
- Personal cases of academic staff
- LEPL – GTU regulations - <https://gtu.ge/AboutStu/regulation.php>
- GTU regulation of educational program Planning, development, evaluation and development – N°01-05-04/261 APPX of resolution of 2019, September 23 of GTU Academic Council
- Scholarly articles for Employment regulation of academic staff
- Online Teaching portal - <https://elearning.gtu.ge/>
- Outcomes of interviews with program manager, academic staff, doctoral undergraduates and graduates, employers and faculty administration.

### Recommendations:

- Additional Academic or visiting staff with relevant qualification to teach study courses in Department of Art History, Visual Art and Theory must be involved in the program.
- Enhancement of PHD Students integration in international scientific network.

### Suggestions for Programme Development

- Non-binding suggestions for programme development

### Evaluation

Please, evaluate the compliance of the programme with the component

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<sup>6</sup> Staff implementing the relevant components of the main field of study

Component	Complies with requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially complies with requirements	Does not comply with requirements
4.1 Human Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### 4.2 Qualification of Supervisors of Master's and Doctoral Students

The Master's and Doctoral students have qualified supervisor/supervisors and, if necessary, co-supervisor/co-supervisors who have relevant scientific-research experience in the field of research.

#### Summary and Analysis of the Education Programme's Compliance with the Requirements of the Component of the Standard

LEPL – GTU Doctoral Degree regulation defines assessment rules of selecting and enrolling contingent, study, research and study and research components as well as the persons involved in this process and their rights and responsibilities. Faculty dean with agreement of a head of academic department submits suggestions to the faculty council about confirming a scientific supervisor for doctoral student. Doctoral undergraduate may also have a co-supervisor.

For now professors and associated professors are scientific supervisors of Doctoral Studies in Architecture. Interview with PhD undergraduates and graduates confirmed that they choose the doctoral topic with their supervisor. In the process student's interests are considered, they have a feedback with their supervisors. They think the general environment at the faculty is hard-working and friendly. Faculty administration, head of the program and PhD supervisors in the frame of their competence consult the students in relation with different issues, help them during the preparation of conference topics. By the interviews with PhD managers and students it became evident, that PhD students have qualified supervisors, who have a relevant scientific-research experience appropriate to the research topic (works, publications, projects etc.) Personal cases and research/practical work of the academic staff are additional confirmation of it.

Number of supervisors of Master's/Doctoral theses	Thesis supervisors	Including the supervisors holding PhD degree in the sectoral direction	Among them, the affiliated staff
Number of supervisors of Master's/Doctoral thesis	7	?	7
- Professor	?	?	?
- Associate Professor	?	?	?
- Assistant-Professor	-	-	-
Visiting personnel	-	-	-
Scientific Staff	-	-	-
Number of supervisors of Master's/Doctoral theses	Thesis supervisors	Including the supervisors holding PhD degree in the sectoral direction	Among them, the affiliated staff
Number of supervisors of Master's/Doctoral thesis	7	7	7
- Professor	4	4	4
- Associate Professor	1	1	1

- Assistant-Professor	-	-	-
Visiting personnel	1	1	1
Scientific Staff	-	-	-

### Evidences/Indicators

- Doctoral Studies Program of Architecture
- Self-evaluation report
- Personal cases of academic staff/PhD works
- LEPL – GTU Regulation of Doctoral Studies
- GTU regulation of educational program Planning, development, evaluation and development – №01-05-04/261 APPX of resolution of 2019, September 23 of GTU Academic Council
- LEPL - Provision of Dissertation Board at Georgian Technical University
- Outcomes of interviews with program manager, academic staff, PhD students, alumni and faculty administration

### Recommendations:

- Proposal (s), which should be considered by the HEI, the programme to meet the requirements of the standard

### Suggestions for the programme development

- Non-binding suggestions for programme development

### Evaluation

Please, evaluate the compliance of the programme with the component

Component	Complies with requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially complies with requirements	Does not comply with requirements
4.2 Qualification of Supervisors of Master's and Doctoral Students	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 4.3 Professional Development of Academic, Scientific and Invited Staff

- The HEI conducts the evaluation of programme staff and analyses evaluation results on a regular basis.
- The HEI fosters professional development of the academic, scientific and invited staff. Moreover, it fosters their scientific and research work.

### Summary and Analysis of the Education Programme's Compliance with the Requirements of the Component of the Standard

Evaluating mechanisms of studying, scientific and research work of academic and scientific staff working at the GTU Architecture, Design and Urban Planning faculty means using of certain methods and instruments. Evaluating and corresponding outcome of the noted work is used for professional development, encouraging and promoting of the staff.

Activities of professional development of the staff at the faculty of Architecture, Design and Urban Planning is determined by the rules and priorities defined for effective management of GTU personal resources. Evaluation of quality and correspondence to the programs of the work done by the academic staff is fulfilled by the GTU faculty commissions by whom appropriate conclusions are prepared with the assistance of quality services. Evaluation of the results of scientific and research work of the academic staff is conducted annually. Heads of corresponding departments and deputy deans provide getting ready of annual reports in the field of scientific and international relations with the help of the employees of relevant departments. The results of local and international scientific-research projects, their participation in conferences, forums and symposiums and also scientific publications and other scientific, research or expert works are represented in the reports. Editorial-publishing councils of studying and scientific literature also functions at the GTU.

Centre for Academic Staff Development functions at the GTU. Qualification raising trainings are held there to the various directions. The project has been implemented since 2017.

ERASMUS + CBHE PROJECT# 585760-EPP-1-2017-1-AM-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP – PRINTeL, Its main idea is “changes in the classroom: Promoting of innovative teaching and studying for improving students’ learning experience in the eastern partnership countries.

Public lectures, seminars, international conferences and many others of foreign and Georgian researchers are held at the faculty of Architecture, Design and Urban Planning. During the last few years qualification raising trainings were held, for example, cycle of online seminars called ABET – challenges and standards of accreditation, 03/2023; Training about standards and procedures of authorization, 03/2023; Training for faculty academic personnel – “Horizon Europe. Specific Programme Implamenting Horizon Europe & Eit”, 02/2023.

Training named “Electronic library. Basis of international resources. Making profile in Google Scholar” (since October 2022 and many others) is held with the support of leaders of Niko Muskhelishvili University Library of Georgian Technical University. The GTU promotes international mobility of academic and administrative personnel.

Academic staff of Ph.D. Educational Program of Architecture periodically gives public lectures at the leading foreign universities (Milan Technical University, Lisbon University and etc.)

### **Evidences/Indicators**

- Self-evaluation Report
- Interview with administration and academic staff
- Order about creating commissions at the faculties and confirming their regulation and corresponding appendix: Faculty commission members of evaluating educational programs; Regulation of faculty commission. (19.11.2019 № 01-09-10/273; 07.03.2023 №268941)  
<https://gtu.ge/pdf/brdzanebebi/2023/32568134.pdf>  
<https://gtu.ge/pdf/brdzanebebi/2023/Addon-1403-1.pdf>  
<https://gtu.ge/pdf/brdzanebebi/2023/Addon-1403-2.pdf>
- Personal cases of the staff.

International mobility of academic and administrative personnel: Experience and challenges in Georgian HEIs.

<http://erasmusplus.org.ge/files/publications/Research%20Projects/GEO/ICM%20Staff%20Mobility%20Study%202019.p>

**Recommendations:**

- Proposal (s), which should be considered by the HEI, the programme to meet the requirements of the standard

**Suggestions for the programme development**

- Non-binding suggestions for programme development

**Evaluation**

Please, evaluate the compliance of the programme with the component

Component	Complies with requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially complies with requirements	Does not comply with requirements
4.3 Professional development of academic, scientific and invited staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**4.4. Material Resources**

Programme is provided by necessary infrastructure, information resources relevant to the field of study and technical equipment required for achieving programme learning outcomes.

**Summary and Analysis of the Education Programme's Compliance with the Requirements of the Component of the Standard**

PhD Program in Architecture is provided with the relevant material resources necessary for achieving appropriate study outcomes considered by the PhD program.

Faculty of Architecture, Urban Planning and Design is situated in the C block of the GTU Building #1. (Total area is 3233,5 m2) The faculty has rooms equipped appropriately.

Library of the faculty is provided with relevant workbooks and methodical literature necessary for PhD program. There are most of the basic and supportive literature defined by the program syllabi. Graduates of educational program use a rich book fund and informational resources, most recent scientific editions, international online library bases. (Cambridge University Press (<https://www.cambridge.org/core>); Royal Society Publishing – journals (<https://royalsociety.org/journals/>); Bioone (<http://www.bioone.org/>); IMF eLibrary (<http://www.elibrary.imf.org/?redirect=true>); SAGE Journals (<http://www.eifl.net/publisher/sage-publications-ltd>); Edward Elgar Publishing (<http://eifl.net/publisher/edward-elgar-publishing>); Duke University Press (<https://www.dukeupress.edu/>). Special trainings are given to the students. The have access to the bases with the help of undergraduate's e-mail.

University provides use of online and offline teaching-learning /evaluating resources in educational process. During the interview with PhD students and graduates they noted, that renewal of the technical base and purchase of temporary apparatus (for example, photocopiers) is desirable.

#### Evidences/Indicators

- Doctoral Studies Program of Architecture
- Self-evaluation report
- Faculty library- <https://gtu.ge/Arch/Resources/library.php>
- GTU Central Scientific Technical Library
- Rules of using GTU Niko Muskhelishvili University Library and its branches - [https://gtu.ge/Library/Pdf/sarg\\_wes\\_2022.pdf](https://gtu.ge/Library/Pdf/sarg_wes_2022.pdf)
- Outcomes of interviews with a head of program, faculty administration, academic staff, PHD students and graduates.

#### Recommendations:

- Proposal (s), which should be considered by the HEI, the programme to meet the requirements of the standard

#### Suggestions for the programme development

- **Renewal of technical base of the faculty**

#### Evaluation

Please, evaluate the compliance of the programme with the component

Component	Complies with requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially complies with requirements	Does not comply with requirements
4.4 Material Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### 4.5 Programme/Faculty/School Budget and Programme Financial Sustainability

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

#### Summary and Analysis of the Education Programme's Compliance with the Requirements of the Component of the Standard

The financing of the programs is determined in the budget of the faculty of Architecture, Urban Planning and Design, which is approved by the Representative Council of the Georgian Technical University. The Budget of the Faculty does not provide specific information about the budget allotted to the program. Main source of income in faculty budget is the tuition fees paid by students. Based on the interview results, on the results of surveys of academic staff, employers, alumni and students and based on additional documents provided by the

University the expert panel is convinced that the program receives adequate financial support from the faculty and university budget, thus ensuring its long-term viability. This is confirmed by the budget of the program. Program expenses include: salaries of academic staff and freelancers; purchase of literature, printing and publishing expenses, representative expenses; other goods and services (expenses related to training, and internship; expenses for organizing sessions, conferences, congresses, seminars and other workshops; scientific expenses; expenses for the purchase of items and materials necessary for educational purposes and etc.

#### Evidences/Indicators

- Educational program and syllabi
- Budget of GTU <https://gtu.ge/AboutStu/stu-budget.php>
- Budget of the Faculty of Architecture, Urban Planning and Design for 2023
- Budget of doctoral educational program "Architectural Studies"
- Results of surveys of academic staff, employers, alumni and students
- Results of interviews with representatives of university/faculty administration, head of program, academic staff, employers, alumni and students
- Additional documents provided by the University: budgets of the Faculty of Architecture, Urban Planning and Design for 2021 and 2022
- Self-evaluation report provided by the Georgian Technical University.

#### Recommendations:

- Proposal (s), which should be considered by the HEI, the programme to meet the requirements of the standard

#### Suggestions for the programme development

- Non-binding suggestions for the programme development

#### Evaluation

Please, evaluate the compliance of the programme with the component

Component	Complies with requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially complies with requirements	Does not comply with requirements
4.5. Programme/ Faculty/School Budget and Programme Financial Sustainability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### Compliance with the programme standard

4. Providing Teaching Resources	Complies with requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Substantially complies with requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Partly complies with requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Does not comply with requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>

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## 5. Teaching Quality Enhancement Opportunities

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In order to enhance teaching quality, programme utilises 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.

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### 5.1 Internal Quality Evaluation

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Programme staff collaborates with internal quality assurance department(s)/staff available at the HEI when planning the process of programme quality assurance, developing assessment instruments, and implementing assessment process. Programme staff utilizes quality assurance results for programme improvement.

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#### **Summary and Analysis of the Education Programme's Compliance with the Requirements of the Component of the Standard**

Georgia Technical University uses internal quality assurance mechanisms that ensure continuous evaluation of the University's activities and available resources. The system functions in the context of the mission, policy, legal and other obligations of the University. Beside this in 2022 Georgian Technical University has obtained ISO 9001 certification. The quality assurance service of the faculty of architecture, urban planning and design periodically held informational and consultative meetings with the faculty staff to discuss the requirements of the authorization and accreditation processes, Georgian regulations of higher education, It also discussed the measures to be taken for the introduction of recommendations developed within the self-evaluation process of the program. Quality Assurance Office of the faculty supported and monitored the ongoing educational and scientific research process at the faculty.

According to the interviews with representatives of the university administration, academic personnel, students, graduates, and an employer, also according to the self-evaluation report presented by the University a special working group was created to conduct the self-evaluation of the doctoral educational program. The program director was a the leader of the working group, members of the working group were academic personnel, representatives of the administration and the Faculty's Quality Assurance Service, students, graduates, and employers. The tasks were assigned to each member of the group. According to the standards, the work to be performed was distributed among the members of the self-assessment group. The members of the self-assessment group met systematically at work meetings in order to clarify and analyze the information. The self-assessment report, the program, and the attached documentation were reviewed by the quality assurance service of the faculty for the purpose of agreement and submission to the quality assurance service of the University. The Quality Assurance Service of the University and the faculty provided consultation and assistance to the group members during the preparation of the self-assessment report and the attached documentation.

The quality assurance system is implemented in accordance with the principle of continuous improvement cycle - PDCA (planning-doing-checking-acting). The quality assurance service of the faculty of architecture, urban planning and design uses the following evaluation system in the context of internal quality evaluation: Educational Program Evaluation System; Educational Process Evaluation System; Staff Evaluation System; Program Development. Through this mechanism of the development of the program, a comprehensive analysis was carried out, including an analysis of the opinions and attitudes of stakeholders (employers, academic staff, students and graduates).

#### **Evidences/Indicators**

- Educational program and syllabi
- Website of the quality assurance service of the Georgian Technical University <https://gtu.ge/quality/>
- Rules for planning, elaboration, evaluation and development of educational programs
- Regulation of quality assurance service of Georgian Technical University <https://gtu.ge/quality/About-Us/Statue.php>
- Resolution # 01-05-04/261 of the GTU Academic Council of 23 September 2019 on "Approval of the Rule of Planning, Elaboration, Evaluation and Development of Educational Program at Georgian Technical university"
- Internal quality assurance mechanisms approved by Resolution #01-05-04/108 of GTU academic council of 17 April 2018
- Order on "establishment of commissions at the faculties and approval of their regulations" and relevant annexes: composition of the faculty commissions for evaluation of educational programs; regulations of the faculty Commission;
- Program learning outcomes assessment mechanism
- Statistical map of employment of graduates
- Labor market research methodology and analysis documents
- Minutes of the educational programs evaluation commission
- Minutes of the meeting of the Department of Foundations and Theory of Architecture and visual Arts
- Field specialists feedback on the program
- Analysis documents for the educational program
- comparison with similar programs of foreign universities
- Results of surveys of academic staff, employers, alumni and students
- Results of interviews with representatives of university/faculty administration, head of program, academic staff, employers, alumni and students
- Additional documents provided by the University: Minutes of the faculty council meetings; report of the educational programs evaluation commission; Action Plan (2021-2023) of the Quality Assurance Office of the Faculty of Architecture, Urban Planning and Design; Rectors orders with regard of study process schedules for 2020-2022 academic years
- Self-evaluation report provided by the Georgian Technical University.

#### Recommendations:

- Proposal (s), which should be considered by the HEI, the programme to meet the requirements of the standard

#### Suggestions for the programme development

- Non-binding suggestions for the programme development

#### Evaluation

Please, evaluate the compliance of the programme with the component

Component	Complies with requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially complies with requirements	Does not comply with requirements
5.1 Internal quality evaluation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## 5.2 External Quality Evaluation

Programme utilises the results of external quality assurance on a regular basis.

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### **Summary and Analysis of the Education Programme's Compliance with the Requirements of the Component of the Standard**

In 2012 the doctoral educational program was granted accreditation by the Accreditation Council of Educational Programs. The recommendations and advices by the accreditation expert group as well as by the Accreditation Council of Educational Programs were fully taken into account at various stages of the modification of the program.

The educational program has been repeatedly discussed with various experts in the field. The presented educational program was positively evaluated by three local and one foreign field specialists: a) by the chairman of Association of Architects of Georgia, head of Architecture and Interior Design Department of Architect School of Arts and Humanities of the Georgian University; b) by the director of the City Institute Georgia; c) by the director of NNLE "Engineering Idea"; c) professor of the International Academy of Architecture (Malta).

### **Evidences/Indicators**

- Educational program and syllabi
- Website of the quality assurance service of the Georgian Technical University <https://gtu.ge/quality/>
- Rules for planning, elaboration, evaluation and development of educational programs
- Regulation of quality assurance service of Georgian Technical University <https://gtu.ge/quality/About-Us/Statue.php>
- Resolution # 01-05-04/261 of the GTU Academic Council of 23 September 2019 on "Approval of the Rule of Planning, Elaboration, Evaluation and Development of Educational Program at Georgian Technical university"
- Internal quality assurance mechanisms approved by Resolution #01-05-04/108 of GTU academic council of 17 April 2018
- Labor market research methodology and analysis documents
- Decision #551 of the council for accreditation of educational programs (28.09.2012) <https://eqe.ge/ka/decisions/4400/show>
- Evaluations of the field specialists
- Results of surveys of employers and alumni
- Results of interviews with employers and alumni
- Self-evaluation report provided by the Georgian Technical University.

### **Recommendations:**

- Proposal (s), which should be considered by the HEI, the programme to meet the requirements of the standard

### **Suggestions for the programme development**

- Non-binding suggestions for the programme development

## Evaluation

Please, evaluate the compliance of the programme with the component

Component	Complies with requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially complies with requirements	Does not comply with requirements
5.2. External Quality Evaluation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 5.3 Programme Monitoring and Periodic Review

Programme monitoring and periodic evaluation is conducted with the involvement of academic, scientific, invited, administrative, supporting staff, students, graduates, employers and other stakeholders through systematic data collection, study and analysis. Evaluation results are applied for the programme improvement.

#### Summary and Analysis of the Education Programme's Compliance with the Requirements of the Component of the Standard

Program monitoring and periodic evaluation is conducted by the quality assurance service of the University and the faculty of Architecture, Urban Planning and Design. The process of monitoring and evaluating the quality of an educational program involves all parties. Periodic evaluation is carried out by systematic collection, processing, and analysis of information with the participation of academic, administrative, and support staff, students, graduates, employers, and other interested parties. Based on the analysis of the evaluation results, the program is modified. Academic and invited staff, employers, specialized specialists, students, graduates were involved in the evaluation process. Evaluations were carried out both at meetings and through questionnaires. To evaluate the program, the information received was processed, analyzed. The self-assessment group of the educational program participated in assessing the quality of the educational program and in the process of preparing for accreditation.

The faculty commission for evaluation of educational program was created by the special order of the Rector of the University. The commission is consist of academic personnel and students. The commission assesses the educational process and discusses it with the University Quality Assurance Service. Evaluation of educational programs conducted by the faculty commission, includes: evaluation of the norms established for the development of the educational program including: periodic evaluations (internal, external) of the program structure, content, teaching/learning and assessment methods; evaluation of learning outcomes, internationalization of the program, professional development of the staff implementing the program, existing demand for the program, employment rate of graduates of the program, student services, compatibility of the program with labor market requirements, comparison of the program with analog programs of local and foreign universities; evaluation of competitiveness of the program, financial and academic sustainability and the necessary resources for the successful implementation of the program.

**At the end of each core study course, students anonymously evaluate (through questionnaires) the instructor. Although this anonymous survey evaluates mainly the teaching component of the doctoral program, the questionnaire does not include questions that give the opportunity to doctoral students to evaluate the implementation of the scientific-research component, as well as scientific supervision anonymously. It is necessary to conduct a special survey of doctoral students in order to ensure anonymous evaluation of the implementation of the scientific-research component and scientific supervision.**

## Evidences/Indicators

- Educational program and syllabi
- Website of the quality assurance service of the Georgian Technical University <https://gtu.ge/quality/>
- Rules for planning, elaboration, evaluation and development of educational programs
- Regulation of quality assurance service of Georgian Technical University <https://gtu.ge/quality/About-Us/Statue.php>
- Resolution # 01-05-04/261 of the GTU Academic Council of 23 September 2019 on "Approval of the Rule of Planning, Elaboration, Evaluation and Development of Educational Program at Georgian Technical university"
- Internal quality assurance mechanisms approved by Resolution #01-05-04/108 of GTU academic council of 17 April 2018
- Order on "establishment of commissions at the faculties and approval of their regulations" and relevant annexes: composition of the faculty commissions for evaluation of educational programs; regulations of the faculty Commission;
- Program learning outcomes assessment mechanism
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- Additional documents provided by the University: Minutes of the faculty council meetings; report of the educational programs evaluation commission; Action Plan (2021-2023) of the Quality Assurance Office of the Faculty of Architecture, Urban Planning and Design; Rectors orders with regard of study process schedules for 2020-2022 academic years
- Self-evaluation report provided by the Georgian Technical University.

## Recommendations:

- **The monitoring process of the program should ensure that doctoral students anonymously evaluate the implementation of the scientific-research component and scientific supervision.**

## Suggestions for the programme development

- Non-binding suggestions for the programme development

## Evaluation

Please, evaluate the compliance of the programme with the component

Component	Complies with requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially complies with requirements	Does not comply with requirements
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5.3. Programme monitoring and periodic review





Compliance with the programme standards

5. Teaching Quality Enhancement Opportunities	Complies with requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Substantially complies with requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Partially complies with requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Does not comply with requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>

Attached documentation (if applicable):

Name of the Higher Education Institution: Georgian Technical University

Name of Higher Education Programme, Level: Architectural Studies (Ph.D), VIII

Compliance with the Programme Standards

Evaluation Standards	Complies with requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially complies with requirements	Does not comply with requirements
1. Education Programme Objectives, Learning Outcomes and their Compliance with the Programme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Teaching Methodology and Organisation, Adequacy Evaluation of Programme Mastering	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Student Achievements, Individual Work with them	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Providing Teaching Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Teaching Quality Enhancement Opportunities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Signatures:

Chair of Accreditation Expert Panel

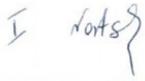
Full name, signature



Dana Arnold

Accreditation Expert Panel Members

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