



Republika e Kosovës
Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo



Agjencia e Kosovës për Akreditim
Agencija Kosova za Akreditaciju
Kosovo Accreditation Agency

UNIVERSITY OF PRIZREN “UKSHIN HOTI”

CONSTITUTIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE LAW/LLB

ACCREDITATION

REPORT OF THE EXPERT TEAM

May 2019, Prishtina

1



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	2
1. INTRODUCTION	3
1.1. Context	3
1.2. Site visit schedule	4
1.3. A brief overview of the institution and program under evaluation.....	5
2. PROGRAM EVALUATION	5
2.1. Mission, objectives and administration	5
2.2. Quality management.....	7
2.3. Academic staff.....	7
2.4. Educational process content	8
2.5. Students	9
2.6. Research	10
2.7. Infrastructure and resources.....	10
3. OVERALL EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE ET	11



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Context

Date of site visit: 14th - 15th of May 2019

Expert Team (ET) members:

- Prof. Dr. Johannes Falterbaum, Duale Hochschule Baden-Württemberg (Germany)

Coordinators from Kosovo Accreditation Agency (KAA):

- Avni Gashi, Acting Director of KAA
- Shkelzen Gerxhaliu, Senior Officer for Evaluation and Monitoring
- Arianit Krasniqi, Senior Officer for Evaluation and Accreditation

Sources of information for the Report:

- Self-Evaluation Report (SER) submitted by University of Prizren “Ukshin Hoti”;
- Meetings conducted with the management of the program, teaching and administrative staff, students, graduates, external stakeholders and employers of graduates;
- Supplementary documents requested by the ET.

Criteria used for program evaluation:

- Standards and performance indicators for external quality assurance (Re/accreditation of bachelor and masters study programs) set in the Accreditation Manual
- National Qualifications Framework



1.2. Site visit schedule

14th May

- 19.45** Meeting at the Reception of the Hotel
- 20.00** Working dinner

15th May

- 07.30** Meeting at the reception of the hotel
- 09.00 – 10.30** Meeting with the management of the institution
- 10.40 – 11.50** Meeting with the quality assurance representatives and administrative services
- 12.00 – 13.00** Meeting with the heads of study programs
- 13.00 – 13.50** Lunch break
- 13.50 – 14.50** Visiting tour of the facilities and infrastructure
- 14.50 – 15.40** Meeting with teaching staff
- 15.50 – 16.40** Meeting with students
- 16.50 – 17.40** Meeting with graduates
- 17.50 – 18.40** Meeting with employers of graduates and external stakeholders
- 18.45 – 19.00** Internal meeting – Expert Team and KAA
- 19.00 – 19.15** Closing meeting with the management of the institution



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1.3. A brief overview of the institution and program under evaluation

The University of Prizren asked for accreditation of the law program Master of Constitutional and Administrative Law (LLB) planned to be established in the Faculty of Law of the university.

In the Faculty of Law is already established a general program Bachelor of Law. The University of Prizren asks at the same time for reaccreditation of this bachelor program.

This External Review Report bases on the Self-Evaluation Report of the University of Prizren 2019, the site visit of the External Experts 2019 Mai, 15 and additional documents send from the University Mai 23, 2019. The report was transferred as Draft Report to the University. The response of the Faculty of Law did not give a necessity to modify the report.

The documents of the projected Master program can be find in the Self-Evaluation Report at the end under the headline "Appendices (if available)" (!). The description comprises 13 pages (page 369-382) (!) including the Syllabuses of the courses of the program. Already the first impression shoes that this part of the Self-Evaluation report is not very well elaborated and presented.

2. PROGRAM EVALUATION

2.1. Mission, objectives and administration

About the mission and objectives is explicated (page 369): The Master Program in the constitutional and administrative direction offered by the Faculty of Law of University of Prizren aims at theoretical and practical formation of students, realized through the provision of knowledge and basic concepts of the field of study. The main areas of study included in this program are related to constitutional and administrative law. Scientific research is achieved through the organization of academic activities, national and international conferences and the publication of scientific articles in scientific journals.



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Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo



Agjencia e Kosovës për Akreditim
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Kosovo Accreditation Agency

The University of Prizren serves the region of Prizren and the country with recruiting, developing and educating students to be successful in the labor market in Kosovo and beyond. The University aims to develop competency skills through programs through the programs, in order to be equal and prepared with the knowledge and skills for their practical implementation.

The purpose of this field of study is to offer students the opportunity to acquire general legal knowledge which will serve them as a basis for further specialization in various fields in the legal and other fields, also to give students knowledge in general theoretical and practical justice and comprehension in its broadest sense.

The Master Program in the constitutional and administrative direction is concentrated on the fundamental issues in the government at internal levels and the protection of constitutional rights, and is compared - analyzed with other major and emerging democracies around the world.

These are very general statements given by the Faculty of Law without precise descriptions of the task of the concrete Master program. Particularly the mission of a Master Program of Law cannot be to “acquire general legal knowledge which will serve them as a basis for further specialization in various fields”. This would be the task for a Bachelor program.

Page 370 of the Self-Evaluation Report is written: “The study program aims to meet the needs of the labor market, in line with the strategic goals of national economic development”.

The Expert team has big doubts if there is indeed a request in the national labour market of the Republic of Kosovo for graduates of a Master in Constitutional and Administrative Law Program. It is indispensable to explain very concrete the need of this program before it can start. There is the impression that the Faculty of Law had ignored this important question although more than enough graduates Lawyers in the Republic of Kosovo and a big number offer of study programs of Master of Law level in the country.

As well the Expert Team has doubts if there is a big demand for experts of constitutional law. Of course this is an interesting and important subject. And only a small number of experts are need in the country. Perhaps it makes sense to accentuate more the administrative content of the program than the Constitutional and European Law.

For accreditation of a new Law Program in Master level it is indispensable to work out the concrete need in the Republic of Kosovo regarding the offer of other universities.



Regardless of this big lack it is unquestioned that for the reputation of the Faculty of Law it would be a big progress to offer a Master Program completing the offer of the Bachelor Program. So it seems to be realistic to realize this Master Program after working out the concrete need. Certainly the result will not be a demand for maximum 80 enrolled students each year as the Faculty of Law has proposed. It should be a significantly lower number.

Compliance level: Non-compliant

ET recommendations:

1. The Faculty of Law of the University of Prizren has not given reasonable reasons for a need of the planned Master Program of Law.
2. The Faculty of Law of the University of Prizren has to include in their reflection the concrete need of the labour market in the Republic of Kosovo and the offer of Master programs from other universities and colleges in the Republic of Kosovo.
3. The Faculty of Law of the University of Prizren has to give reasons for the expected number of students, significant under maximum 80 each year.

2.2. Quality management

As the study program is new and not started yet, the quality management concerning this program was not assessed.

2.3. Academic staff

According to the Self-Evaluation Report the Faculty of Law intends to employ nine professors in the master program. Four of them are already engaged as full-time professor in the accredited Bachelor Program. Four other stated professors don't appear in the content of curriculum (page 374 f) with a comprehensibly function.



The Faculty of Law has to clarify the tasks of the responsible professors. There is important to note that if professors of the Bachelor Program are engaged for the Master Program this would induce a lack concerning the academic staff of the Bachelor Program. But in the report for reaccreditation of the Bachelor Program the External Experts have observed that for the Bachelor Program is a need for more full-time professors (see report Bachelor Program)..

Compliance level: Substantially compliant

ET recommendations:

1. The Faculty of Law of the University of Prizren has to clarify the function of all in the program engaged professors.

2.4. Educational process content

The Self-Evaluation Report contains an insufficient syllabus and description of the courses. There is no description of the content of the courses and no information about suggested literature. Therefore it was regrettably not possible to discuss this topic with the academic staff.

As a result of the request by the Expert Team while the site visit the Faculty of Law send an complete list as additional document via e-mail form May 23, 2019.

Regarding this delayed submitted documents there are no obvious weaknesses concerning the content. The courses are well designed giving information about content of the lessons for each week and advised literature. Of course this should be united in on document.

In a later accreditation request it should be discussed if it would be better to offer more Administrative Law and less European and Constitutional Law regarding the need in the Republic of Kosovo.

The constitutional and administrative program has focused heavily on the clinical part that will be offered over the two semesters (pages 376). This is rather a new Master Pprogram that for many years has been identified as a major gap for all graduates of the Law Faculty. This is a very general issue from the fact that graduates of a master's program in law have very little or no practical skills gained after graduation and therefore have difficulties with employment. By accepting this problem, the Faculty of Law has adapted the new master curriculum for these



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Agencija Kosova za Akreditaciju
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needs by introducing subjects such as clinical subjects in the two semesters of this program. Constitutional and administrative clinics, administrative control etc. are considered the main additions to this program, compared to other subjects offered.

The purpose of this program is to give the practitioners permission to practice law enforcement. This valuable opportunity gives clinic students a market advantage because when they graduate take the title of the Master Program, they gain experience of the academic world. The aim for the students is to become effective clinical lawyers, judges and prosecutors, heads of state administration, central and non-central government.

Clinical experience will be complemented by a hands-on practical program that offers a wide array of practical learning opportunities. The practice program will be run by a coordinator who will be engaged within the Faculty of Law. In this way, the Faculty of Law has already signed a paper with relevant institutions to provide practical students with legal practitioners such as the Kosovo Chamber of Advocates, the Court, the Legal Aid Commission, the American Bar Association, the Government of Kosovo. These institutions are potential employers for law students after their graduation-after completing the Master program.

The calculation of 66 ECTS for the one year program seems not to be well calculated..

Compliance level: Substantially compliant

ET recommendations:

1. The Faculty of Law of University of Prizren has to recalculate the ECTS of the program.
2. The Law Faculty of University of Prizren has to work out a handbook containing the content and conditions of the courses.

2.5. Students

As the study program is new and not started yet, there are no students on it.



2.6. Research

In the Self-Evaluation Report we can find widely explanations about research activities of the Faculty of Law of the University of Prizren (page 277-378). This is a collection of claims and self-assessments. That's way the faculty was asked by the External Experts to work out a detailed report about concrete research activities of the Faculty of Law and to send this as additional document.

Via e-mail sent May 23, 2019 the External Expert received from the Faculty of Law a file called "Exact description of research activities". This document contents a very disorderly collection referring different homepages of activities of different congresses and associations. Partly are this reference homepages are out of order or absolutely not helpful. As well were information given by the faculty partly not translated in English language and literature proof is partly not telling the author.

This is not acceptable in context of the request for an accreditation of a Master of Law Program.

The Expert Team expect a concrete list saying the research activities of the teaching staff and as well concrete plan research activities with students can be realised in level of Master Program.

Compliance level: Non-compliant

ET recommendations:

1. The Faculty of Law of University of Prizren has to report seriously about the research activities and results of the academic staff.
2. The Faculty of Law of the University of Prizern has to present a worked out paper how to participate and promote research activities with students.

2.7. Infrastructure and resources

The Infrastructure and resources is in general a big weakness of academic programs in the Republic of Kosovo.



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Respecting this the facility conditions of the University of Prizren is acceptable and seems to be more developed in the next years.

The conditions of the library are – as in other Universities in Kosovo- insufficient. There are not enough books, particularly concerning kosovarien law. The electronic bibliotheca was at the day of the site visit mostly out of order. Regarding the planned grounding of a Master Program of Law the University should make progress.

Compliance level: Partially compliant

ET recommendations:

1. The Faculty of Law has to improve the conditions for learning (library and electronic systems) very much.

3. OVERALL EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE ET

In conclusion, the Expert Team considers that the study program Master Program of Constitutional and Administrative Law offered by Faculty of Law of the University of Prizren is at the moment Partially compliant with the standards included in the KAA Accreditation manual and, therefore, recommends not to accredit the study program..

Expert Team

Chair

Johannes Falterbaum	3.06.2019
_____ (Signature)	_____ (Date)