



Republika e Kosovës
Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo



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

UBT College
FACULTY OF Political Science

MA Political Science

ACCREDITATION

REPORT OF THE EXPERT TEAM

April 25, 2021, Prishtina



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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Context

Date of site visit (online): April 19, 2021

Expert Team (ET) members:

- **Prof. Dr. Vlatko Cvrtila**
- **Artur Tventarnii**



Coordinators from Kosovo Accreditation Agency (KAA):

- Naim Gashi, Executive Director of KAA
- Shkelzen Gerxhaliu, Senior Officer for Evaluation and Monitoring
- Arianit Krasniqi, Senior Officer for Evaluation and Accreditation
- Leona Kovaci, Senior Officer for Evaluation and Monitoring
- Ilirjane Ademaj, Senior Officer for Evaluation and Monitoring

Sources of information for the Report:

- Self-Evaluation Report (SER) submitted by UBT College
- Information obtained during the online meetings;
- Meetings conducted with the management of the institution and program, quality assurance representatives and administrative, teaching staff, students, graduates, employers of graduates and external stakeholders;

Criteria used for program evaluation:

- KAA Accreditation Manual

1.2. Site visit schedule

19th April

09.00 – 09.40	Meeting with the management of the faculty where the programme is integrated (<i>no slide presentation is allowed, the meeting is intended as a free discussion</i>)
09.45 – 10:30	Meeting with quality assurance representatives and administrative staff
10.35 – 11.35	Meeting with the heads of the BA study programme
11.35 – 12.35	Meeting with the heads of the BA study programme
12:35 – 13:10	Lunch break (to be provided within the faculty premises)
13.10 – 13:50	Meeting with teaching staff
13.55 – 14.40	Meeting with students



- 14.45 – 15.25 Meeting with graduates
- 15.30 – 16.10 Meeting with employers of graduates
- 16.10 – 16.20 Internal meeting of KAA staff and experts
- 16:20 – 16:30 Closing meeting with the management of the faculty and program

No	Study programs	Experts	Responsible persons of study programs			
1	Political Sciences BA	Prof. Dr. Vlatko Cvrtila Artur Tventarnii	Alfred Marleku	Shqipe Mjekiqi	Ngadhnjim Brovina	Hajdi Xhixha
2	Political Sciences MA	Prof. Dr. Vlatko Cvrtila Artur Tventarnii	Artan Mustafa	Dritëro Arifi	Shpendim Oxha	



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

UBT College is a higher education institution that was established about twenty years ago. The description of the institution points out that "the philosophy of this institution has been aiming at offering education programs that are in compliance with national labour market demands and well-known international practices as well as competitive education programs inspired by the spirit of innovation." UBT offers a range of programs at undergraduate and graduate level. The programs are operated within the following departments: Management, Business and Economics; Computer Science and Engineering; Information Systems; Law; Political Science; Communication and Media, Civil Engineering and Infrastructure; Architecture and Spatial Planning, Food Science and Technology, BA Nursing, Integrated Design, Integrated Studies in Stomatology and Integrated Studies in Pharmacy. Currently, there are fifteen Faculties and the full-time academic staff are of about eight hundred and students by about ten thousand. UBT has been granted a five-star excellence recognition by EFQM (European Foundation for Quality Management).

According "Strategic Plan 2025" and SER UBT College is based on five strategic objectives:

1. Achieving academic excellence - higher excellent quality standards and consistent active learning approaches which offer authentic experience and an inspiring, learning environment based on high moral values.
2. Developing research, innovation and social responsibility – innovative ways for learners, companies and external clients to engage with enterprise support and applied research, thus creating new knowledge and new employment. The Faculty's research philosophy, hence the current BA Program, views the research as an integral part of the teaching and learning process. The academic staff will make assiduous efforts and make use of a teaching methodology that involves the students in research, either individually or jointly with them.
2. Creating a positive working and learning environment – high-quality and supportive working and learning environment for all the students (full-time, part-time, priority groups) and academic staff. As a supportive environment is indispensable for successful studies, the Faculty of Political Science will assure a high-quality supportive teaching and learning environment, such as induction and mentoring available to all students during their first year, coaching, counselling, career advice, international office and foreign languages support.



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3. Maintaining and increasing internationalization and regional partnerships—encouraging new local and international higher education alliances and continued excellent performance compared to the international and regional efficiency and effectiveness benchmarks.

4. Partnering with the community – continuous strong links with industry, institutions and the society at large which is supported through mainstream funding, alternative incomes and volunteering activities for providing them service on institutional, staff and student basis.”

According to SER, MA program in Political Science this program “was designed by our staff, and approved by the Academic Council of the Faculty and the Quality Assurance Commission, to take a unique place in Kosovo’s Political Science education compared to existing programs. While maintaining a strong interest in knowledge of global politics and foreign policy, as many such programs everywhere do due to their importance for nations and societies, our program brings about new dimensions which we believe are relevant to Kosovo’s current and near future challenges, and would serve well professional interests of our students. From the subject matter perspective, these new dimensions include increasing the study focus on politics of development, quality of government as opposed to corruption and government failures, welfare state policies, gender, power conflicts, as well as attitudes and behaviour of relevant agencies from comparative, historical and other useful perspectives. These new dimensions will not only help to better understand nations, their leaders, relevant political conflicts, institutions, and national development trajectories from interdisciplinary theoretical approaches, but they would highlight their crucial role for Kosovo’s further democratization as well. From the pedagogical perspective, our program’s learning outcome and research-oriented pedagogical philosophy, with student participation in academic production and research being considered a concomitant goal with students’ successful graduation, will result with the graduation of skilful members of the national workforce and citizens of the global community.” Program has been designed “to create highly skilled professionals in terms of their ability to use advanced technology and methodology in the study of Political Science. Therefore, a central part of the first semester, as well as every course, will be in practice, methodology or empirical research-oriented work, thus making skill creation a central theme of the program.” The main focus of the program is aimed at strengthening the research and analytical knowledge and competencies of future students.



PROGRAM EVALUATION

1.4. Mission, objectives and administration

According to SER, mission of MA Political Science proposed program “is to provide excellence in learning, teaching, and research in the field of political science in a student-focused, research-oriented, as well as intellectually and academically exciting and productive environment. High quality education in political science is crucial for society’s democratic development: it produces critical citizens, trained professionals, visionary leaders who promote democratic values and processes, skilful decision makers able to design encompassing long-term development policies, courageous policymakers to implement often difficult and painful reforms, and researchers that increase local and global knowledge of political phenomena from interdisciplinary perspectives.”

The MA Political science program is according NQF Level 7 (master). According SER, “the main expected outcomes of the program are:

1. In-depth, updated knowledge concerning main references, arguments and insights in the Political Science literature;
2. Strong theoretically informed methodological skills in designing research proposals for research purposes and policy planning, analysis and evaluation. This includes trainings for collecting and analysing large data, training in various statistical packages (SPSS, STATA, R) for quantitative research, training for qualitative and mixed methods research, and training for advanced academic writing;
3. Critical abilities to analyze political and policy problems, and formulate policy options from an interdisciplinary perspective;
4. Application of research, analytical, evaluative, leadership and team-building skills and knowledge to address contemporary political problems;
5. Ability to present relevant findings, as well as to discuss and interpret their relevance in the context of contemporary debates, to generalise, receive feedback and provide constructive criticism of the work of colleagues;
6. Hands-on experience with politics or its study through internship and field trips and field research;
7. Ability to successfully conduct a publishable research projects (MA thesis), and place it either in UBT College outlets or international peer-reviewed journals.”



The study program is designed based on the NQF and EQF and follows all legal obligations in creating a sixth-level study program. The SER does not present the extent to which feedback from former students and employers is used in shaping learning outcomes, as well as in changes in the study program.

The didactic and research concept of the study are presented through main elements, which is described in more detail in the "Teaching, Learning and Assessment Strategy" mentioned by the institution in the SER. The research concept provides general information on how research is conducted, but does not clarify the orientation of that research. The institution focuses with this program on strengthening students' research competencies, but does not explain how these competencies will be used during their studies. However, in this part of the SER it is not explained in more detail how the research concept of the institution is connected with the study program. In the topic "Research" you can find more information about the research intentions of the institution and the connection with the content of the study program, but only at a general manner.

Although the SER mentions regular revisions of documents and procedures important in the implementation of the program using different KPI's, after Panel discussion become obvious that revisions are conducted more related to re-accreditation requirements and less to the use of an internal quality assurance system and information collected on a semester and annual basis.

<i>Standard</i>	Compliance	
	Yes	No
<i>Standard 1.1.</i> The study program mission is in compliance with the overall mission statement of the institution.	X	
<i>Standard 1.2.</i> Relevant academic and professional advice is considered when defining the intended learning outcomes which are consistent with the National Qualifications Framework and the Framework for Qualifications of the European Higher Education Area.	X	
<i>Standard 1.3.</i> The study program has a well-defined overarching didactic and research concept.	X	
<i>Standard 1.4.</i> There are formal policies, guidelines and regulations dealing with recurring procedural or academic issues. These are made publicly available to all staff and students.	X	



<i>Standard 1.5.</i> All staff and students comply with the internal regulations relating to ethical conduct in research, teaching, assessment in all academic and administrative activities.	X	
<i>Standard 1.6.</i> All policies, regulations, terms of reference and statements of responsibility relating to the management and delivery of the program are reviewed at least once every two years and amended as required in the light of changing circumstances		X

Compliance level: Substantially compliant

ET recommendations:

- 1. Develop and present a research concept at the level of the institution and connect them with student's development of research skills.*

1.5. Quality management

A quality management system has been established and develop at the Faculty of Political Science and guarantees the implementation and enforcement of all necessary standards. All teachers in this study program participated in the preparation of SER. All teachers in this study program participated in the preparation of SER. In the implementation of the necessary standards in quality assurance of institutions, it shows developed capabilities, which was well developed by the cooperation with universities outside Kosovo.

A table with the main tools for achieving quality assurance with key performance indicators is presented in SER. According to that table, indicators are established that are used on an annual basis, and among them an annual survey with "alumni, industry and industrial / professional councils". In conversations with external stakeholders and staff, it was confirmed that such meetings are not held regularly on an annual basis, but as needed, and most often at the time of re-accreditation of the program. ET can understand that in dynamic academic practice it is not easy to apply all quality assurance tools, especially those involving activities with stakeholders outside the institution, but in the future more attention should be paid to this dimension of quality assurance as it will help the institution to strengthen internal quality system. In the further development of the quality assurance system, it is very important to have



regular contacts and developed cooperation with external stakeholders who are potential future employers of graduates.

The SER explains student feedback whereby students “at the end of every semester Faculty of Political Science organizes anonymized feedback questionnaires in every course and seminar”. Students are not informed on their feedback. The institution also conducts a “periodical feedback questionnaire” with alumni, as well as meetings with employers. From the panel discussion it can be concluded that the institution occasionally carries out these activities, but it seems that they are not adequately integrated into the internal quality assurance system. Since this is a new study program, the SER announces the regular use of these instruments as well as other activities that will support internal quality assurance.

<i>Standard</i>	Compliance	
	Yes	No
<i>Standard 2.1.</i> All staff participate in self-evaluations and cooperate with reporting and improvement processes in their sphere of activity.	X	
<i>Standard 2.2.</i> Evaluation processes and planning for improvement are integrated into normal planning processes.	X	
<i>Standard 2.3.</i> Quality assurance processes deal with all aspects of program planning and delivery, including services and resources provided by other parts of the institution.	X	
<i>Standard 2.4.</i> Quality evaluations provide an overview of quality issues for the overall program as well as of different components within it; the evaluations consider inputs, processes and outputs, with particular attention given to learning outcomes for students	X	
<i>Standard 2.5.</i> Quality assurance processes ensure both that required standards are met and that there is continuing improvement in performance.	X	
<i>Standard 2.6.</i> Survey data is being collected from students, graduates and employers; the results of these evaluations are made publicly available.		X
<i>Standard 2.7.</i> Results of the internal quality assurance system are taken into account for further development of the study program. This includes evaluation results, investigation of the student workload, academic success and employment of graduates.	X	
<i>Standard 2.8.</i> The institution ensures that reports on the overall quality of the program are prepared periodically (eg. every three years) for consideration within the institution indicating its strengths and weaknesses.	X	
<i>Standard 2.9.</i> The quality assurance arrangements for the program are themselves regularly evaluated and improved.	X	



Compliance level: Substantially compliant

ET recommendations:

1. *Provide students with feedback after conducting a survey at the end of the semester.*
2. *Engage other stakeholders in evaluation of program and quality assurance system like public administration, business sector representatives, and former students on regular annual basis.*

1.6. Academic staff

Teaching staff at Faculty of Political Science have academic titles and proven track record of academic activities in the chosen specialist area. It is evident from SAR that academic staff is able to deliver high level student learning experience through inclusive, relevant programs and curricula while being professional and collaborative. Staff appointment and ranking is determined by educational, scientific, research and service criteria. In order to enhance the academic strengths of the Faculty overall, full-time and part-time academics have been provided with relevant training opportunities offering at the level of Universities.

In this study program all teachers are full-time employees. From the list of their selected published articles and books it is evident that in their research they mostly deal with research problems related to the subjects they teach. A review of the literature in the subjects shows that there is one teacher whose books are in the required literature. Teachers should be encouraged to use their scientific papers (books, chapters, scientific articles ...) in the teaching literature, and to prepare textbooks that will provide students with literature in the Albanian language.

Academic staff is involved in various quality assurance procedures. What is missing in full compliance with standards 3.8. are self-evaluation, peer and superiors' evaluations. The results of the evaluation are not made publicly available. The SER presents a list of international lectures that have been engaged in teaching through cooperation with other universities in the region and Europe, which is a good practice that should be continued because it brings many benefits to the institution, teachers and students.

<i>Standard</i>	Compliance	
	Yes	No
<i>Standard 3.1.</i> Candidates for employment are provided with full position descriptions and conditions of employment. To be presented in tabular form	X	



data about full time (FT) and part time (PT) academic/ artistic staff, such as: name, qualification, academic title, duration of official (valid) contract, workload for teaching, exams, consulting, administrative activities, research, etc. for the study program under evaluation.		
<i>Standard 3.2.</i> The teaching staff must comply with the legal requirements concerning the occupation of teaching positions included in the Administrative instruction on Accreditation.	X	
<i>Standard 3.3.</i> Academic staff do not cover, within an academic year, more than two teaching positions (one full-time, one part-time), regardless of the educational institution where they carry out their activity.	X	
<i>Standard 3.4.</i> At least 50% of the academic staff in the study program are full time employees, and account for at least 50% of the classes of the study program.	X	
<i>Standard 3.5.</i> For each student group (defined by the statute of the institution) and for every 60 ECTS credits in the study program, the institution has employed at least one full time staff with PhD title or equivalent title in the case of artistic/applied science institutions.	X	
<i>Standard 3.6.</i> Opportunities are provided for additional professional development of teaching staff, with special assistance given to any who are facing difficulties.	X	
<i>Standard 3.7.</i> The responsibilities of all teaching staff, especially full-time, include the engagement in the academic community, availability for consultations with students and community service.	X	
<i>Standard 3.8.</i> Academic staff evaluation is conducted regularly at least through self-evaluation, students, peer and superiors' evaluations, and occur on a formal basis at least once each year. The results of the evaluation are made publicly available.		X
<i>Standard 3.9.</i> Strategies for quality enhancement include improving the teaching strategies and quality of learning materials.	X	
<i>Standard 3.10.</i> Teachers retired at age limit or for other reasons lose the status of full-time teachers and are considered part-time teachers.	X	

Compliance level: Substantially compliant



ET recommendations:

1. *Extend the academic staff evaluation from only student evaluation, to other components (self-evaluation, superior, peer)*
2. *Pay more attention to teacher research plans and link them to the subjects they teach*

1.7. Educational process content

According to SER, proposed MA Political Science program has the following main objectives:

- To provide an encompassing study of political science for the post-graduate level
- To create excellent and useful skills
- To support individual choice and independence in education.

The program designation is in line with the level of qualification achieved and determined by the National Qualifications Framework Level 7 (Master) and the Qualifications Framework of the European Higher Education Area.

From the learning outcomes and presented goals, it follows that the MA study program will be focused on the development of "strong theory-oriented methodological skills in designing research proposals for research purposes or policy planning, analysis and evaluation". In conversation with the program management, teachers and external stakeholders, it was emphasized that the program is aimed at developing research skills needed in the labor market in Kosovo. Given this, there seems to be too little content related to the development of these skills. The structure of the study program includes the subject "Advanced Research Methods in Political Science" which should provide students with mastery of research design skills and application of the necessary methods. Insight into the content of the course and comparison with the BA level course "Methodological Foundations for Political Science" can be seen similarity in the content and the proposed literature. It seems that students would not develop adequate skills of using advanced research methods, which could affect the quality of research for the final thesis. Comparing BA courses related to the development of student research skills, it was observed that students acquire skills in using data processing software, which is a strong point of the program. But to design research it is necessary to know using different qualitative and quantitative methods in research design, which should be developed at the MA level. In all BA and MA level syllabuses related to the development of research skills are not mentioned following: explanatory, descriptive, causal research, correlation and regressive analysis in political science, case studies, historical methods, ethnographic research methods, critical analysis methods, etc. Since they are not mentioned in the analyzed syllabuses, it is assumed



that the mentioned methods and approaches to research are not given too much attention. For this reason, it is recommended to have two courses from Advanced Methods at the MA level: Advanced Research Methods in Political Science I and II. In the course Advanced Research Methods in Political Science II, which may be in the third semester, students can acquire knowledge and skills from the previously mentioned methods and approaches, and work on research design for the final thesis. ET supports the institution's orientation towards the development of research competencies and believes that at the MA level these competencies can be better developed with one more subject from advanced methods in political science.

The study program also envisages an internship presented in the form of an internship. It is not clear from the syllabus how the practice will be conducted, nor later in the explanation of the practice. It is assumed that the practice will be carried out in the state administration, NGOs and research institutes. In modern education, connecting teaching content with practical work is becoming increasingly important with the aim of better preparing students for the labor market and their faster employment. For this reason, it is important to develop a good model of practice that will be linked to the learning outcomes at the level of the study program, and that will be simple, applicable and useful to students. It is recommended that the institution develop a more detailed model of practice that will be clear to students in terms of content and expectations.

<i>Standard</i>	Compliance	
	Yes	No
<i>Standard 4.1.</i> The study program is modelled on qualification objectives. These include subject-related and interdisciplinary aspects as well as the acquisition of disciplinary, methodological and generic skills and competencies. The aspects refer especially to academic or artistic competencies, to the capability of taking up adequate employment, contributing to the civil society and of developing the students' personality.	X	
<i>Standard 4.2.</i> The study program complies with the National Qualifications Framework and the Framework for Qualifications of the European Higher Education Area. The individual components of the program are combined in a way to best achieve the specified qualification objectives and provide for adequate forms of teaching and learning.	X	
<i>Standard 4.3.</i> The disciplines within the curriculum are provided in a logical flow and meet the definition and precise determination of the general and specific competencies, as well as the compatibility with the study programs and		X



curricula delivered in the EHEA. To be listed at least 7 learning outcomes for the study program under evaluation.		
<i>Standard 4.4.</i> The disciplines within the curriculum have analytical syllabuses which comprise at least the following: the discipline's objectives, the basic thematic content, learning outcomes, the distribution of classes, seminars and applicative activities, students' assessment system, the minimal bibliography, etc. The full course description/ syllabuses of each subject/ module should be attached only in electronic form to the self-assessment report for the study program under evaluation.	X	
<i>Standard 4.5.</i> If the language of instruction is other than Albanian, actions are taken to ensure that language skills of both students and academic staff are adequate for instruction in that language when students begin their studies. This may be done through language training prior to the commencement of the program.	X	
<i>Standard 4.6.</i> The student-teacher relationship is a partnership in which each assumes the responsibility of reaching the learning outcomes. Learning outcomes are explained and discussed with students from the perspective of their relevance to the students' development.	X	
<i>Standard 4.7.</i> Teaching strategies are fit for the different types of learning outcomes programs are intended to develop. Strategies of teaching and assessment set out in program and course specifications are followed with flexibility to meet the needs of different groups of students.	X	
<i>Standard 4.8.</i> Student assessment mechanisms are conducted fairly and objectively, are appropriate for the different forms of learning sought and are clearly communicated to students at the beginning of courses.	X	
<i>Standard 4.9.</i> Appropriate, valid and reliable mechanisms are used for verifying standards of student achievement. The standard of work required for different grades is consistent over time, comparable in courses offered within a program, and in comparison with other study programs at highly regarded institutions.	X	
<i>Standard 4.10.</i> Policies and procedures include actions to be taken in to dealing with situations where standards of student achievement are inadequate or KAA inconsistently assessed.	X	
<i>Standard 4.11.</i> If the study program includes practice stages, the intended student learning outcomes are clearly specified and effective processes are followed to ensure that those learning outcomes and the strategies to develop that learning are understood by students. The practice stages are allocated ETCS credits and the work of the students at the practical training organisations is monitored through activity reports; students during practice stages have assigned tutors among the academic staff in the study program.	X	



<i>Standard 4.12. In order to facilitate the practice stages, the higher education institution signs cooperation agreements, contracts or other documents with institutions/organisations/practical training units. *To be inserted the overview of the program (with all areas to be filled out).</i>		X
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Compliance level: Substantially compliant

ET recommendations:

- 1. Discuss recommendations related to the development of student research competencies with one more subjects related to advanced research methods.*
- 2. Develop and implement internship model which will be applicable and useful to students.*

1.8. Students

Since this is a new study program, ET did not have the opportunity to meet with MA students and check the fulfilment of the required standards, so for this reason no evaluation of this topic was done. Although it is a new study program, the Faculty has provided in SER information needed for conclusions about fulfilment of standards in that field based on existing experience at Faculty of Political Science. It is expected that the institution will apply the same practice to students who will study security studies.

Compliance level: Not applicable

1.9. Research

From the data presented in SER we can conclude that full-time employees publish papers in accordance with the rules of the UBT College and the regulations of the Republic of Kosovo. Most of the academic staff publications are published in international journals. Students used to be involved in research projects. The scientific research program largely depends on the available funds provided by the UBT College. The SER is accompanied by a table that clearly



shows the number of publications in significant scientific databases and research activities of teaching staff. The list of major teachers' publications shows that teachers research topics related to their subjects taught in the study of political science, Part of the full-time employees have completed their education outside Kosovo and bring international experience in the educational process and practice at the Faculty of Political Science. An analysis of the list of literature on the subjects revealed a very small number of textbooks and books written by teachers who teach particular subject, which may indicate that they do not include their research in the teaching process, or that their research is not related to the subjects they teach.

Teachers seem to conduct research more according to their interest than planned and research policies and plans of institution. The SER states that the institution supports and encourages teachers to participate in research, conferences, round tables and symposia. In conversations with teachers, it was confirmed that the procedure for obtaining funding for conferences is simple and fast.

Given the information presented in the SER and the proposed literature in syllabi, it seems that the institution should pay more attention to research planning. Harmonization and bottom-up approach is good in the conditions of developed research capacities of the institution and teachers in a particular field. In that sense the institution should support and encourage teachers in the next five years to research that will result in the publication of books and scientific papers that can be used as literature in certain subjects where there is a lack of literature in Albanian.

<i>Standard</i>	Compliance	
	Yes	No
<i>Standard 6.1.</i> The study program has defined scientific/applied research objectives (on its own or as part of a research centre or interdisciplinary program), which are also reflected in the research development plan of the institution; sufficient financial, logistic and human resources are allocated for achieving the proposed research objectives.	X	
<i>Standard 6.2.</i> Expectations for teaching staff involvement in research and scholarly activities are clearly specified, and performance in relation to these expectations is considered in staff evaluation and promotion criteria.	X	
<i>Standard 6.3.</i> Clear policies are established for defining what is recognized as research, consistent with international standards and established norms in the field of study of the program.	X	
<i>Standard 6.4.</i> The academic staff has a proven track record of research results on the same topics as their teaching activity.		X
<i>Standard 6.5.</i> The academic and research staff publish their work in speciality magazines or publishing houses, scientific/applied/artistic products are	X	



presented at conferences, sessions, symposiums, seminars etc. and contracts, expertise, consultancy, conventions, etc. are provided to partners inside the country and/or abroad.		
<i>Standard 6.6.</i> Research is validated through: scientific and applied research publications, artistic products, technological transfer through consultancy centres, scientific parks and other structures for validation.	X	
<i>Standard 6.7.</i> Each academic staff member and researcher has produced at least an average of one scientific/applied research publication or artistic outcome/product per year for the past three years.	X	
<i>Standard 6.8.</i> Academic and research staff publish under the name of the institution in Kosovo they are affiliated to as full time staff.	X	
<i>Standard 6.9.</i> Academic staff are encouraged to include in their teaching information about their research and scholarly activities that are relevant to courses they teach, together with other significant research developments in the field.		X
<i>Standard 6.10.</i> Policies are established for ownership of intellectual property and clear procedures set out for commercialization of ideas developed by staff and students.	X	
<i>Standard 6.11.</i> Students are engaged in research projects and other activities.		X

Compliance level: Substantially compliant

ET recommendations:

- 1. Motivate academic staff to increase research production and connect their research with content of their subject they teach*
- 2. Motivate students to be more engaged in research projects.*

1.10. Infrastructure and resources

UBT and Faculty of Political Science has quite a modern and suitable infrastructure for the implementation of the MA program in Security Studies. UBT has a very resourceful library with literature from various fields of study and beyond. UBT also offers its students full access to libraries and electronic academic platforms such as J-store, EBSO, UBT Koha, Sage Journals, which provide students and staff the opportunity to be up-to-date with the recent developments regarding academic affairs. UBT facilities are spread to different locations as: Campus in Pristine, Innovation Campus in Lipjan including benches with total of 37132m2



dedicated to Amphitheaters, Laboratories, Classrooms, Studios, Library, Dental clinic, Clinical room, Advisory Center, Translation Room, Reading hall and offices.

It seems that at the moment the library does have an adequate number of required literatures in the field of Political Science. The list of literature on the subjects shows an adequate identification of the relevant literature, but there is still a lack of literature published in the last five years, especially in the Albanian language. In terms of infrastructure, the institution can provide students with adequate library space at the moment, but not the necessary literature to acquire the intended competencies. It is expected that the institution will provide students and teachers with relevant and recent literature in a short time. UBT infrastructure has been certified as meeting the minimum standards for special needs students.

<i>Standard</i>	Compliance	
	Yes	No
<i>Standard 7.1.</i> The adequate long-term implementation of the study program is ensured in quantitative terms as regards premises, human resources and equipment. At the same time, it is guaranteed that qualitative aspects are also taken into account.	X	
<i>Standard 7.2.</i> There is a financial plan at the level of the study program that would demonstrate the sustainability of the study program for the next minimum three years.	X	
<i>Standard 7.3.</i> The higher education institution must demonstrate with adequate documents (property deeds, lease contracts, inventories, invoices etc.) that, for the study program submitted for evaluation it possesses the following, for the next at least three years: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) owned or rented spaces adequate for the educational process; b) owned or rented laboratories, with the adequate equipment for all the compulsory disciplines within the curriculum, wherever the analytical syllabus includes such activities; c) adequate software for the disciplines of study included in the curriculum, with utilisation licence; d) library equipped with reading rooms, group work rooms and its own book stock according to the disciplines included in the curricula. 	X	
<i>Standard 7.4.</i> The number of seats in the lecture rooms, seminar rooms and laboratories must be related to the study groups' size (series, groups, subgroups); the applicative activities for the speciality disciplines included in the curricula are carried out in laboratories equipped with IT equipment.	X	



<p><i>Standard 7.5.</i> The education institution’s libraries must ensure, for each of the study programs:</p> <p>a) a number of seats in the reading rooms corresponding to at least 10% of the total number of students in the study program;</p> <p>b) a number of seats in the group work rooms corresponding to at least 10% of the total number of students in the study program;</p> <p>c) their own book stock from Albanian and foreign speciality literature, enough to cover the disciplines within the curricula, out of which at least 50% should represent book titles or speciality courses of recognised publishers, from the last 10 years;</p> <p>d) a book stock within its own library with a sufficient number of books so as to cover the needs of all students in the cycle and year of study the respective discipline is provided for;</p> <p>e) a sufficient number of subscriptions to Albanian and foreign publications and periodicals, according to the stated mission.</p>		X
<p><i>Standard 7.6.</i> The infrastructure and facilities dedicated to the implementation of the program is adapted to students with special needs.</p>	X	

Compliance level: Substantially compliant

ET recommendations:

1. *Provide more textbook in Albanian language linked with core teaching subjects.*

2. OVERALL EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE ET

The evaluation team observed a strong proactive attitude from the programme development team regarding their engagement with the Panel during the evaluation procedures. The program development team showed a strong team spirit and sense of ownership. The institution and teachers have shown that they have extensive institutional and teaching experience in the field of political science, and that they will apply this to the implementation of the study program of security studies. After considering the provided documentation and discussing with the program development team, the accreditation team recommends the following:

Overall compliance:

Standard	Compliance level
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1. Mission, objectives and administration	Substantially compliant
2. Quality management	Substantially compliant
3. Academic staff	Substantially compliant
4. Educational process content	Substantially compliant
5. Students	Not applicable
6. Research	Substantially compliant
7. Infrastructure and resources	Substantially compliant
Overall compliance	Substantially compliant

The overall compliance is assessed by the experts at the level of **Substantially Compliant**.

The general impression is that there are important elements of quality assurance in the institution and that institution has considerable experiences in higher education which is guarantee that they will successfully implement quality assurance standards and use adequate tools for quality management.

Considering the recommendations, ET noticed that there is room for improvement in some areas. We suggest that the institution consider the recommendations related to the structure of the study program and individual subjects, and related to the research plans of teachers that should be connected to the subjects they teach. The institution has made great efforts to develop a SWOT analysis and we suggest that all these analyses be used for an internal discussion on improvement activities.

ET noted adequate capacities in faculty and department leadership and the teaching team to implement recommendations and changes in order to better meet the required standards. For these reasons, we believe that a period of three years is appropriate for the implementation of changes.

In conclusion, the Expert Team consider that the Master of Political Science program offered by UBT College is **substantially compliant** with the standards included in the KAA Accreditation Manual and, therefore, recommends to accredit the above study program for duration of **three years** with **50** students to be enrolled on the program.



Republika e Kosovës
Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo



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

Expert Team

Chair

Prof. Vlatko Cvrtila, PhD.

April 26, 2021

(Print Name)

(Signature)

(Date)

Member

ARTUR
TVENTARNII
10.05.2021
06:31:37 UTC

Artur Tventarnii

April 6, 2021

(Print Name)

(Signature)

(Date)