



Republika e Kosovës
Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo



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

PBHE “UNIVERSUM COLLEGE”

***PROGRAM: GENERAL LAW
LEVEL: BACHELOR (LLB)***

ACCREDITATION

REPORT OF THE EXPERT TEAM

April 2021, PRISTINA



Republika e Kosovës
Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo



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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Context

Date of site visit: 22nd of April, 2021

Expert Team (ET) members:

- *Prof. Dr. Goce Naumovski*

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) of the PHBE Universum College Program: General Law as of February 2021, (LLB Program)*
- *Law on Higher education in the Republic Kosovo*
- *National Qualifications Framework*
- *KAA`s Formal Policies, guidelines and regulations*
- *Course Syllabuses LLB Program*
- *Staff CVs (Full time, Part time, and Assistants)*
- *Annexes.*
- *Requested documents:*
 1. *Table with number of enrolled (admitted) undergraduate students in first year (per study programme) in the academic years: 2017/2018; 2018/2019; 2019/2020, 2020/2021*
 2. *Table with number of enrolled (admitted) graduate students (per MA programme) in the academic years: 2017/2018; 2018/2019; 2019/2020, 2020/2021*



2. Table with the number of total undergraduate and graduate students currently studying at the Universum College (per study program).

Criteria used for program evaluation:

- *Standards and performance indicators for external quality assurance; Re/accreditation of bachelor and master study programs, Accreditation Manual; July 2018*

1.2.Site visit schedule

2. Site Visit Program

22nd April

09:00 – 09:40	Meeting with the management of the faculty where the programme is integrated
09:45 – 10:25	Meeting with quality assurance representatives and administrative staff
10:25 – 11:15	Lunch break
11:15 – 12:15	Meeting with the heads of the study programme
12:20 – 13:00	Meeting with teaching staff
13:05 – 13:45	Meeting with employers of graduates
13:50 – 14:00	Internal meeting of KAA staff and experts
14:00 – 14:10	Closing meeting with the management of the faculty and program

No	Study programs	Experts	Responsible persons of study programs			
1	Law/LLB (Accreditation)	Prof. Dr. Goce Naumovski	Jetmire Zeqiri	Edib Abazi	Hebib Livoreka	Alban Maliqi



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

SER notes that Universum College was established in March 2004, in Prishtina, the capital city, and Ferizaj, the second largest and one of the most economically developed cities in Kosovo. Universum College thrives on providing high quality, accessible and affordable educational opportunities to a Kosovar and international student body through teaching excellence, lifelong learning, applied research and partnership building, thus, preparing students to be thoughtful, responsible and successful citizens who support the development of Kosovo and the region. Currently, Universum College offers four Bachelor level and two Master level programs: BA in Business and Management, BA in Political Science, BSc. in Computer Science, BA in English and MA in Management and MA in Diplomacy. In addition to the abovementioned programs, Universum College also offers two professional programs accredited by Pearson Plc. – Level 5 in Nursing and Level 5 in Integrated Design.

Universum College affirms the following objectives: To provide high quality, accessible and affordable educational opportunities to our students; To encourage personal and social development of students through activities outside the classroom; To provide students with an understanding and appreciation of world culture; To develop the College as a life-long learning centre; To continue development as the most internationalized HEI in Kosovo; To continue the development of dual-study programs with local and international companies; To foster applied research that is done in close partnership with the industry; and to Incorporate digital tools in teaching and student learning.

In terms of innovation and entrepreneurship, Universum College (UC) recognizes them as key drivers of development of our region and particularly of Kosovo. Due to the demographic composition, young population in Kosovo in an immense social capital for the economic development. The HEIs in Kosovo are responsible for developing the entrepreneurial skills that are necessary to foster innovation and contribute to the economic development of the country.

In terms of the design of the curricula, Universum College focuses on providing the most advanced teaching, learning and assessment methodologies that are contemporary and designed to enhance the student learning experience, while at the same time developing their



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necessary hard and soft skills that are necessary to find a job in the respective sector and become respected members of the Kosovo society.

2. PROGRAM EVALUATION

2.1. Mission, objectives and administration

The Mission of the proposed program is to provide a university training in the broad academic field of principles of law. As stated in the SER (p. 12), the program aims at equipping the students with theoretical and practical training that will professionally prepare them for a multitude of career options, locally, regionally, and internationally. Consequently, the program aims to offer course of study that develops analytical capacities as well as ability to examine and critically evaluate the complex law theories, legal systems, administrative decisions, policies, structures, legal systems managing. The program also offers some related courses that will further expand the knowledge of the student and enable them to contribute to EU legislation and affirmation of the country. Moreover, the program is intended to expose the importance of law as a field of analysing researching and addressing issues. It includes independent learning and research to a level that demands an integrated and critical approach to other related disciplines as well.

SER also affirms diversity of backgrounds and learning environments (p.14). As explained, the curriculum is appropriate for: new secondary school graduates, professionals seeking to upgrade their skills and professionals from other fields seeking a change in careers. In targeting these groups UC plans to offer a range of scholarships opportunities is allocated for students whom have; Unfavourable socio-economic conditions, Students with disabilities, Discriminated marginalized groups, Members of institutions serving the country (Police, Military, Veterans), and other individual negotiable case

The Program and the HEI's missions are in the same line, targeting the need to work and develop youth as future employees. Moreover, it is notable from the mission that the Faculty is perceiving the students in the centre of their existing.



The expert's team was informed that the HEI has made a labor market's analysis when developing this program. Moreover, in the SER and during the site visit the management team has pointed out that their program is made based on European programs.

SER has outlined the lack of concrete instruments for measuring learning outcomes and limited assets for recruiting new student as one of the weaknesses in the SWOT analysis. Nevertheless, the management is expected to deal with this circumstance.

In addition, SER also reads that the curriculum is comparable to similar European programs and it enables students to qualify for the labour market needs, striving to enhance indirectly the quality of studies in the law field in Kosovo and beyond.

There are formal policies, guidelines and regulations dealing with recurring procedural or academic issues, as it can be concluded by the submitted documents; however, it is the expert's opinion that UC is lacking a certain number of specific full time academic staff for the specific study program. During the site visit, the management team has shared this concern with the expert team also.

UC is following the regulation on the Code of Ethics with specified measures and guidelines on the ethical behaviour that is developed on a University's level.

The expert acknowledges the management of the team for their honesty, awareness and strict dedication for fulfilling their mission and vision.

<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. From the aspect compliance with the overall mission of the institution, **management bodies could intensify efforts for enhanced cooperation** with the judiciary, prosecutors 'office, and other institutions and organisations, and enhance to the good practices established with the attorneys. In this context, **additional steps for the recognition of the institution within the Kosovo legal community should be taken**, such as exploring enhanced cooperation forms with the numerous organizations, such as the chamber of notaries, the business law community and other entities.*
- 2. In order to secure quality of the courses delivered, management bodies should consider hiring more full-time academic staff with PhD in legal sciences according to the pre-requisites of each course foreseen.*

2.2. Quality management

The expert would like to commend the Universum College for working hard on building and sustain quality assurance culture.

The quality assurance system is based on questionnaires for students, academic staff, and external stakeholders based on which reports with the results are made, and submitted to the management team aiming to serve as a basis for further improvements. As the expert learned



from the meeting with the quality assurance representatives, the Faculty is obtaining a self-assessment through questionnaires for the students.

As stated in the SER, the ongoing feedback from staff, students, and external stakeholders, including external examiners and strategic partners, and the consideration of the output from the institutional and programmatic reviews' self-evaluation processes and feedback have largely contributed to the development of the practice.

SER (p.17-19) explains the QA activities, namely the steps Universum College undertakes to ensure that the learning outcomes of the program have been achieved: Academic Program Internal Report, External Review of Program, Programmatic meetings between Academic Program staff, Quality Assurance Office, and Universum Administration, Program Response to Review and Action Plan, Student surveys administered at mid semester and the end of each semester, Students evaluation through dialogue/ focus groups, Statistics from the annual periodic review, Staff Evaluations/Assessments, Peer-to-peer evaluation, Enforce of recommendations from KAA accreditation reports.

Moreover, the stakeholders are involved in the quality assurance system through various other mechanisms such as participation in working groups, ad hoc committees, decision making structures, and levels of academic units. Finally, the results of the whole process for ensuring quality is being integrated into future work planning and processes within the faculty in accordance with the Development Plan as well as the Annual Work Plans, as reported in the SER.

During the visit, the expert has been provided with detailed explanation regarding the procedures of the quality evaluations. This particularly refers to the overview of quality issues for the overall program as well as of different components within it; the evaluations consider inputs, processes and outputs, with attention given to learning outcomes for students.

The faculty is obtaining detailed self-assessment reports, when compiling the self-assessment report on the accreditation process that occurs at least once every three years, as reported in the SER.

<i>Standard</i>	Compliance	
	Yes	No
Standard 2.1. All staff participate in self-evaluations and cooperate with reporting and improvement processes in their sphere of activity.	x	



Standard 2.2. Evaluation processes and planning for improvement are integrated into normal planning processes.	x	
Standard 2.3. Quality assurance processes deal with all aspects of program planning and delivery, including services and resources provided by other parts of the institution.	x	
Standard 2.4. 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	
Standard 2.5. Quality assurance processes ensure both that required standards are met and that there is continuing improvement in performance.	x	
Standard 2.6. Survey data is being collected from students, graduates and employers; the results of these evaluations are made publicly available.	x	
Standard 2.7. 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	
Standard 2.8. 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	
Standard 2.9. The quality assurance arrangements for the program are themselves regularly evaluated and improved.	x	

Compliance level: Substantially compliant

ET recommendations:

- 1. The expert team would like to recommend the Quality Assurance Office to augment the presence of the factors contributory to staff incentives progressions and outputs in the procedures and questionnaires of the quality evaluation procedure.*
- 2. The expert team also recommends continuation of the modernization of the Quality Assurance Office in terms of human resources and strengthening of the monitoring scheme.*

2.3. Academic staff

SER (p.27) presents a detailed academic staff table that includes the name, last name, professional qualification, academic title, duration of their contract, workload of teaching, exams, consulting and research.



The list of the staff is as follows:

NO.	NAME	LASTNAME	QUALIFICATION	ACADEMIC TITLE	DURATION OF VALID CONTRACT	TEACHING WORKLOAD	EXAMS WORKLOAD	CONSULTING WORKLOAD	ADMISN. WORKLOAD	RESEARCH WORKLOAD	EMPLOYMENT STATUS
1.	Edib	Abazi	PhD	Ass. Prof.	Long term	8+0	4	4	4	20	FT
2	Alban	Maliqi	PhD	Ass. Prof.	Long term	8+0	6	4	4	18	FT
3	Hebib	Livoreka	PhD	Ass. Prof.	Long term	8+0	6	4	4	20	FT
4	Jetmire	Zeqiri	PhD	Ass. Prof.	Long term	8+0	4	4	4	20	FT
5	Bilal	Lutfiu	PhD	Ass. Prof.	Long term	8+0	10	2	4	16	FT
6	Samet	Dalipi	PhD	Ass. Prof.	Long term	8+0	6	4	4	18	FT
7	Shaban	Feraj	MA	Lecturer	Long term	4+2	4	4	4	12	FT
8	Jusuf	Mustafai	PhD	Ass. Prof.	Long term	8+0	4	4	4	20	FT
9		Dervishaj	PhD.c	Lecturer	Long term	6+2	6	4	4	20	FT
10	Nazim	Haliti	MA	Lecturer	Long term	4+2	4	4	4	20	FT
11	Erdoan	Shipoli	PhD	Ass. Prof.	Long term	8+0	6	4	4	18	FT



12	Rrezarta	Reka	PhD	Ass. Prof.	Long term	8+0	4	4	4	12	FT
13	Hadis	Karatashi	MA	Lecturer	Long term	6+2	6	4	4	20	FT
14	Arlinda	Qehaja	MA	Lecturer	Long term	4+2	6	4	4	20	FT
15	Armend	Berisha	MA	Lecturer	Long term	6+0	4	4	4	20	FT
16	Kaltrina	Mazhiqi	MA	Tutor	Long term	4+2	4	4	4	20	FT
17	Uran	Rraci	MA	Lecturer	Long term	6+2	6	4	4	20	FT
18	Alejtin	Berisha	PhD	Lecturer	Long term	6+2	6	4	4	20	FT
19	Agim	Krasniqi	MA	Lecturer	Long term	6+2	6	4	4	20	PT

The expert's team has analysed the composition of the academic staff, their qualifications, including the field of specializations and particularly the area in which they have earned their Ph.D. degree. From the presented CVs it appears that from the full-time staff a low number of professors have Ph.D. in Legal Sciences while most of the lecturers are either holders or Ph.D. candidates in other areas /political science, international relations, management, security studies etc/.

Consequently, during the site visit the expert has clearly expressed the evident under representation of full-time staff with Ph.D. in Law degrees, as well as the tendency of professors with Ph.D. degrees in political sciences, management, and national security degrees to teach legal courses. This challenge should be addressed as soon as possible since it is an impediment in providing adequate quality in the delivery of legal courses in accordance with the standards. Future assessment should verify if this task has been realized in due course.

The academic staff has outlined that there are available funds by the university for development of academic activities (Publications, Trainings, Seminars and Workshops, Development Projects, Conferences).



<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 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.	x	
<i>Standard 3.2.</i> The teaching staff must comply with the legal requirements concerning the occupation of teaching position included in the Administrative instruction on Accreditation.	Partially	
<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: Partially compliant

ET recommendations:

1. It would be beneficial to hire full time staff at the positions of professors in the following areas that will contribute for accomplishing standards for teaching and research within the



institution: Criminal Law, Civil Law (Property Law, Law of Obligations, Family Law, Inheritance Law), Roman Law, History of Law, Intellectual Property Law (Industrial Property Law, Copyright and Related Rights).

2.Early-stage researchers (ESR), including lecturers and assistant lectures should be encouraged to specialize in private law disciplines in order to achieve appropriate balance of staff with diverse legal backgrounds.

3.The areas of criminal law , civil law and historical legal sciences staff should be enhanced in terms of further development. Encouraging ESR in this field through development of opportunities should be provided.

4. In particular, Criminal and Civil Procedure courses should also rely on professors with PhD in these respective fields. Enhancing the inclusion of jurisprudence practitioners from the relevant institutions as part-time academic staff is also advised.

5.Adoption of an appropriate strategy for future employment in terms of providing balance of specialized academic staff from all legal disciplines, having in mind the gender balance as well.

2.4. Educational process content

According to the SER data (p.130-137) the curriculum includes compulsory and elective courses. Starting from the second year, each semester students will have to choose an elective course apart from the mandatory courses they have based on the overviews indicated below. By choosing an elective course student will complete a required 30 ECTS credits requirement per semester.

The concept of the courses is as follows:



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Year – I (First), Semester – I (First)

Nr.	Course Title	M/E	ECTS	L	E	Lecturer
1.	Introduction to law	M	7	3	1	Prof. Alban Maliqi
2.	Constitutional law	M	7	3	1	Prof. Edib Abazi
3.	Human Rights	M	6	3	1	Prof. Bilal Lutfiu
4.	English language I	M	5	2	1	Prof. Ereza Mehmeti, Prof. Visar Zeka

5.	Academic Writing	M	5	2	1	Prof. Rrezearta Reka, Qendresa Kukaj, Hadis Karratashi,
6.	Study Skills	M	2	0	2	Prof. Florina Lutfiu
			32	13	5	

Year – I (First), Semester – II (Second)

Nr.	Course Title	M/E	ECTS	L	E	Lecturer
1.	Parliamentary Law and Practice	M	7	2	1	Prof. Edib Abazi
2.	Research Methodology	M	7	2	1	Prof. Qendresa Kukaj
3.	Economics	M	6	2	1	Prof. Uran Rraci
4.	English Language II	M	5	2	1	Prof. Ereza Mehmeti, Prof. Visar Zeka
5.	Elective Courses (choose one): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sociology of Law • Intercultural Competence • Organizational Communication • German 	E	5			Varies



			30	10	5	
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Year – II (Second), Semester – III (Third)

Nr.	Course Title	M/E	ECTS	L	E	Lecturer
1.	Administrative Law	M	7	3	1	Prof. Bilal Lutfiu
2.	Civil Law	M	6	2	1	Prof. Hebib Livoreka
3.	Criminal Law	M	6	2	1	Prof. Edib Abazi
4.	International Organizations	M	6	2	1	Prof. Rrezearta Reka
5.	Elective Course (Choose one) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public Administration• EU Integration• Organizational Behaviour	E	5	2	1	Varies
			30	11	5	

Year – II (Second), Semester – IV (Fourth)



Nr.	Course Title	M/E	ECTS	L	E	Lecturer
1.	Civil Procedure	M	7	3	1	Prof. Alban Maliqi
2.	Criminal Procedure	M	7	2	1	Prof. Bilal Lutfiu
3.	Family Law	M	6	2	1	Prof. Hebib Livoreka Prof. Valdrin Dervishaj
4.	International Public Law	M	5	2	1	Prof. Jetmire Zeqiri
5.	Elective Course: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Diplomatic Law• Human Resource Management• Marketing for Lawyers	E	5	2	1	Varies
			30	11	5	

Year – III (Third), Semester– V (Fifth)

Nr.	Course Title	M/E	ECTS	L	E	Lecturer
1.	Inheritance Law	M	6	2	1	Prof. Bilal Lutfiu



2.	Intenational private law	M	6	2	1	Prof. Alban Maliqi
3.	EU Law	M	6	2	1	Prof. Jetmire Zeqiri
4.	Commercial Law	M	6	2	1	Prof. Armend Mehmeti Prof. Valdrin Dervishaj
5.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Criminalistics• Judicial clinic• Leadership and Negotiation	E	6	2	1	Varies
			30	11	5	

Year – III (Third), Semester– VI (Sixth)

Nr.	Course Title	M/E	ECTS	L	E	Lecturer
1.	Labour and Social Welfare Law	M	6	2	1	Prof. Edib Abazi Prof. Valdrin Dervishaj,



2.	Law of Obligations	M	7	3	1	Prof. Hebib Livoreka
3.	Environmental Law	M	5	2	1	Prof. Bilal Lutfiu
4.	Kosovo's Judicial System	M	6	2	1	Prof. Armend Mehmeti
5.	Elective Courses: Students can choose one of the following elective courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criminalistics • Judicial clinic 	E	6	2	1	Varies
			30	11	5	

Year – IV (Four), Semester – VII (Seven)

Nr.	Course Title	M/E	ECTS	L	E	Lecturer
1.	International Relations Theories	M	6	2	1	Prof. Samet Dalipi
2.	Arbitration	M	6	2	1	Prof. Alban Maliqi
3.	Banking Law	M	6	2	1	Prof. Jetmire



4.	Career Orientation & Internship	M	8	2	2	Prof. Alejtin Berisha, Prof. Hadis Karatashi
5	Choose one elective: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free Legal Professions • Terrorism • Insurance Law 	M	4	2	1	Varies
			30	10	6	

Year – IV (Four), Semester – VIII (Eight)

Nr.	Course Title	M/E	ECTS	L	E	Lecturer
1.	Contractual Law	M	7	3	1	Prof. Hebib Livoreka, Prof. Bilal Lutfiu
2.	Criminal Law – Special Topics	M	7	3	1	Prof. Jetmire
3.	Finance and Financial Law	M	6	2	1	Prof. Edib Abazi,
4.	International Humanitarian Law	M	5	2	1	Prof. Samet Dalipi



5.	Elective Courses: Students choose one of the elective courses <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consumer Protection• Intellectual Property		5	2	1	Varies
			30	12	5	

It is the expert view that the program could be improved in order to be fully comparable to similar European programs and in order to students to qualify for the labour market needs, striving to enhance indirectly the quality of studies in the law field in Kosovo and beyond.

The non-legal disciplines and the courses for skills are well developed. Links with the interdisciplinarity research activities are especially valuable in this sense.

The analysis of the content of the courses, the approach of the syllabi and the interviews with the academic staff have designated the following discrepancies that could appear due to fragmentation and/or overlapping of the content or emerging from other circumstances:

- It seems that the concept in the structure of the civil law component is not consistent since it hesitates between the Pandect and Intuitional systematic approach. Furthermore, it lacks clearly developed pillars of civil law. Following examples of such discrepancies are evident: Contractual Law /Law of Obligations (overlaps) as compulsory compared to Tort Law absence.
- Lack of “Roman Law” and “History of Law” compulsory courses in the 1st Year might affect the acquirement of general theoretical knowledge of the civil law system.
- Presence of some professors that teach political sciences and legal sciences.
- There is a predominance of public law /political science/international law and non-legal disciplines within the compulsory courses. This reflects the academic backgrounds of the majority of the academic staff, particularly their Ph.D. fields and it leaves an impression that the curriculum design was influenced by this criterion, rather than the typical legal approach for undergraduate (LLB) programs.



<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.	Partial	
<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 curricula delivered in the EHEA. To be listed at least 7 learning outcomes for the study program under evaluation.	Partial	
<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.	Partial	
<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	Not related	Not related
<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 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.</i> In order to facilitate the practice stages, the higher education institution signs cooperation agreements, contracts or other documents with institutions/organisations/practical training units.	x	

Compliance level: Partially compliant

ET recommendations:

1.Regarding the above discrepancies the institution should consider redesign of the curriculum through following a more comprehensive model in the civil law part. Also, introducing a compulsory course on Roman Law is advised, as well as a course on History of Law/Legal Tradition. These changes would correspond to the nature of the Kosovo legal system (pertinent to the Continental/Civil Law legal family).

2.Having in mind the relevant EU reports that outline the raising awareness of the protection of industrial property rights and copyright and related rights,¹it would be valuable to design and implement a compulsory course on Intellectual Property Law.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/default/files/kosovo_report_2020.pdf#page=77&zoom=100,90,992



3.A compulsory course on Information (and Communication) Technology Law/Cyber Law would be highly appreciated concerning the importance of the application of traditional legal principles in the digital environment, particularly concerning the challenges imposed by the latest developments characterized by legal activities.

4.The expert encourages future enhancement of training in statistical methods and their application in legal disciplines (preferably multivariate statistical methods) (having in mind the overall capacity of UC.

5.Given the potentials of the academic staff and the labour market needs, there is a solid basis for enhancing legal clinic forms and regional moot court activities, possibly through the support of the applicative/donor projects as well as stronger links with the judiciary/bar association.

6.Improving of the regulations is advised in terms of providing a more balanced distribution of LL.B candidates among supervisors (mentors) and topics of their final thesis, with emphasis on allocating mentorship by early stage researchers (ESR).

7.The LLB programme management and the University/Law Faculty top level management could consider including additional innovative elements in the syllabi, such as in the case of sports law, transitional justice, fight against corruption, protection of copyright and industrial property rights, counterfeiting, economic/financial crime, particularly through internships of students and regional Southeast European initiatives.

2.5. Students

The admission of students is organized in accordance with the rules and procedures applied at UC level, as highlighted in the SER. According to the SER (p.138), UC employs a clear and formally adopted procedure of students' requirement for this respective study program. Since this program is offered in bachelor level, the requested admission documents and processes are clear and made publicly available through webpage and other communication channels. In p.138, line 6, SER notes "political science" program, instead of "law", regarding admitting of students. SER provides clear picture for admission, career offices, associations, appeal procedures, alumni, extracurricular activities.

The specificity regarding law students and their perspective in the specific labor market for the legal profession in terms of judiciary, law offices and other stakeholders could be intrinsically developed.



The Regulation on the organization of studies cover detailed explanation for the process of enrollment and the overall organization of the LLB study program, such as the process and conditions of enrollment, the examination, assessment processes, and other regulative details in order to assure the quality of the LLB studies.

According to the additional requested documents, specifically the requested *tables with a number of students for the last four years* (see below):

Dept.	Academic Years				Total
	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	
Political Sciences	197	198	197	199	791
Business and Management	397	398	396	397	1588
Computer Science	255	257	257	259	1028
English Language	60	60	60	/	180
Master in Management	97	98	98	100	393
Master in Diplomacy	/	/	50	50	100
Total	1006	1011	1058	1005	4080

The target group that can attend this program covers applicant that have successfully obtained a high school diploma verified in Kosovo or successful completion of primary and secondary school abroad with at least 12 years of education, certified by the relevant degrees.

Students that would obtain a bachelor's degree in law though the proposed program, and according to the Law on Higher Education, as well as by following the program rules would acquire 242 ECTS.

<i>Standard</i>	Compliance
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	Yes	No
<i>Standard 5.1.</i> There is a clear and formally adopted admission procedure at institutional level that the study program respects when organizing students' recruitment. Admission requirements are consistently and fairly applied for all students.	x	
<i>Standard 5.2.</i> All students enrolled in the study program possess a high school graduation diploma or other equivalent document of study, according to MEST requirements.	x	
<i>Standard 5.3.</i> The study groups are dimensioned so as to ensure an effective and interactive teaching and learning process.	x	
<i>Standard 5.4.</i> Feedback to students on their performance and results of assessments is given promptly and accompanied by mechanisms for assistance if needed.	x	
<i>Standard 5.5.</i> The results obtained by the students throughout the study cycles are certified by the academic record.	x	
<i>Standard 5.6.</i> Flexible treatment of students in special situations is ensured with respect to deadlines and formal requirements in the program and to all examinations.	x	
<i>Standard 5.7.</i> Records of student completion rates are kept for all courses and for the program as a whole and included among quality indicators.	x	
<i>Standard 5.8.</i> Effective procedures are being used to ensure that work submitted by students is original.	x	
<i>Standard 5.9.</i> Students' rights and obligations are made publicly available, promoted to all those concerned and enforced equitably; these will include the right to academic appeals.	x	
<i>Standard 5.10.</i> The students' transfer between higher education institutions, faculties and study programs is clearly regulated in formal internal documents.	x	
<i>Standard 5.11.</i> Academic staff is available at sufficient scheduled times for consultation and advice to students. Adequate tutorial assistance is provided to ensure understanding and ability to apply learning.	x	

Compliance level: Substantially compliant

ET recommendations:

1. *Concrete measures for the perspective of students to for practical work/internships through realization of cooperation agreements with the Bar and judiciary should be enhanced.*



2. *The graduates and employers are highly satisfied by the respective program. UC should include them more frequently in the program, call them as presenters, student`s motivators, and even as ambassador of the respective program. This should not only include NGOs and attorneys but all stakeholders that could recruit law students.*

2.6. Research

As stated in p. 165 of the SER, Universum is not a research-intensive institution but it sees itself as a teaching institution with well-developed taught degrees. UC considers that this does not mean that research takes a second place, but rather it reflects the current strengths of the institution and illustrates how we use applied research in order to strengthen our study programs by keeping their curriculum up to date with the most recent developments of respective industries.

SER in the SWOT analysis for the research part outlines the following weakness related to institutional operations: Funding; Currently, low number of designated research staff (academic and administrative) for the program; Infrastructure/office space needs to increase; m. Time allocation amongst staff for academic/teaching and research; Lack of national monitoring tools, such as software and databases for publications in “fake” journals.

It is the expert`s opinion that the presence of Research Methodology and similar Courses provide a solid basis for students in their future profession.

SER (p.166-169) provides a clear picture of the research possibilities as well as the current and past realized projects related to the law program.

During the interviews conducted within the site visit, the professors have reiterated the support by the UC for their initiatives in research projects, as well as the publication of the research results in relevant national and international scientific publications.

The expert`s team was informed that the rules for providing research financial support on the level of the UC is clear, consistent, unbiased and thus provides equal opportunities for both professors and early-stage researchers.



The inclusive approach for students to take part in the research project was also underlined, as a way for promotion of teamwork.

<i>Standard</i>	Compliance	
	Yes	No
Standard 6.1. 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	
Standard 6.3. 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	
Standard 6.5. The academic and research staff publish their work in speciality magazines or publishing houses, scientific/applied/artistic products are presented at conferences, sessions, symposiums, seminars etc. and contracts, expertise, consultancy, conventions, etc. are provided to partners inside the country and/or abroad.	x	
Standard 6.6. Research is validated through: scientific and applied research publications, artistic products, technological transfer through consultancy centres, scientific parks and other structures for validation.	x	
Standard 6.7. 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 6.8.</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	



Standard 6.9. Policies are established for ownership of intellectual property and clear procedures set out for commercialization of ideas developed by staff and students.	x	
Standard 6.10. Students are engaged in research projects and other activities	x	

Compliance level: Substantially compliant

ET recommendations:

1. *Enhancing research projects initiatives in legal areas where law studies would contribute for application of scientific results in the society of Kosovo, such as, transitional justice, juvenile delinquency, sports crime, counterfeiting and intellectual property piracy, cybercrime etc.*
2. *Intensification of access to on-line legal data bases for staff and students /additional subscriptions to online libraries/.*
3. *Boost interdisciplinary research with other university departments in terms of application of quantitative statistical methods (particularly multivariate) as an indispensable tool for empirical jurisprudence.*
4. *Explore the possibilities for additional stimulus for staff to apply for the independent research grant and funds from the external funding, donors and projects.*
5. *Additional regional projects are an indispensable tool for the development of the program and UC in general.*
6. *Enhance interdisciplinary research with other university departments /specially business and management and computer sciences/.*
7. *Stimulate staff and students to apply for the independent research grant and funds from the external funding, donors and projects.*
8. *Explore the possibilities for financing of research projects by the business sector, particularly in legal and economic aspects of technology and innovation.*

2.7. Infrastructure and resources

According to the SER (p173), Universum College continuously invests in increasing its capacities and facilities. For the law program, UC is sought to create spaces students need to practice, research, engage, learn, and succeed. Key features include active learning classrooms



with built-in information technology, inviting nooks and crannies for individual or group study sessions. It is evident that UC owns sufficient space for the delivery of the program. Spaces available are fully complying with the requirements stated in the standard.

UC has a spacious central library in the campus. The library is computerized with rich collection of latest reference books, journals, periodicals, newspapers, magazines and e-journals in Albanian and English.

SER has also provided a comprehensive list of inventories of the equipment including action plan for the library, investments, and clear description of the campus premises.

It is unnotedly clear that UC is fully compliant with the standards regarding the infrastructure and resources.

<i>Standard</i>	<i>Compliance</i>	
	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: 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 utilization license; 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 specialty disciplines included in the curricula are carried out in laboratories equipped with IT equipment	x	
<i>Standard 7.5.</i> The education institution's libraries must ensure, for each of the study programs: a) a number of seats in the reading rooms corresponding to at least 10% of the total number of students in the study program; 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; c) their own book stock from Albanian and foreign specialty literature, enough to cover the disciplines within the curricula, out of which at least 50% should represent book titles or specialty courses of recognized publishers, from the last 10 years; 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; e) a sufficient number of subscriptions to Albanian and foreign publications and periodicals, according to the stated mission.	x	
<i>Standard 7.6.</i> The infrastructure and facilities dedicated to the implementation of the program is adapted to students with special needs.	x	

Compliance level: Fully compliant

ET recommendations:

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3. OVERALL EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE ET

The overall evaluation of the 7 standards of the study program that is subject of re-accreditation looks like:

Standard	Compliance level
1.Mission, objectives and administration	Substantially compliant
2.Quality management	Substantially compliant
3.Academic staff	Partially compliant
4.Educational process content	Partially compliant



5.Students	Substantially compliant
6.Research	Substantially compliant
7.Infrastructure and resources	Fully compliant
Overall compliance	Substantially compliant

The overall evaluation of the standards of the study program that is subject of re-accreditation includes the following:

The expert has a highly positive impression from the site visit to UC during the process of accreditation of the bachelor's in law (LLB). Due to the pandemic caused by the Covid-19, the site visit was organized through the digital tools. However, we must commend UC for organizing the site visit and all meetings very smoothly. The expert would like to thank all participants, that were part of the meetings during the site visit, for their honest approach and for providing the needed information for the study program.

In general, the expert would like to thank the management, the academic staff, and the graduates and their employers for their willingness and hard work-oriented into improving the quality of the study program and for conducting serious and sustainable steps for development of quality culture on HEI and program level.

It is highly appreciated that the management team is aware of the challenges and issues with which they are facing. What is more important is that they are exploring different ways to solve and overcome the current challenges.

There are certain components that should be strengthened, so that Universum College can achieve a greater level of quality and to achieve its vision and mission and the LLB program to be in the same line with the latest tendencies in the LL. B curricula.

First, the academic staff should include more private law/civil law professors and early-stage researchers as a prerequisite for balanced composition of all legal disciplines courses delivered, fully compatible with the legal system and labour market needs of Kosovo. In this context, it would be beneficial to hire additional full-time professors with PhD in law and expertise in core legal disciplines, as well as visiting professors in emerging legal disciplines.



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Second, concerning educational content, enhancing introductory legal courses (Roman Law, History of Law research, the initiatives for stimulations and increase of interdisciplinary projects (particularly with joint efforts of the judiciary, the bar association, the business community) should be enhanced.

Third, the educational process content should be more consistent with the key features of the legal system of Kosovo. Hence, private law courses could be upgraded in order to be well-matched with the standard LLB studies curricula in the country, as well as to provide mobility for students and recognition of their LLB achievements and to provide efficacious response to the labour market needs, specially by the judiciary.

Fourth, graduates and employers are the greatest promoters of the LLB programme. The expert`s team was acquainted with representatives of NGO`s and attorneys of law as part of the College network. However, stronger links with the Bar association and the judiciary (courts, prosecutors` offices) and other stakeholders would be useful for the perspectives of the graduates, as well as the realization of the extracurricular activities.

Fifth, concerning research, augmenting regional cooperation, incentives for staff, interdisciplinary approach, and enhanced initiatives for projects in areas valuable for Kosovo are advised, including but not limited to: transitional justice, prevention of discrimination, intellectual property, economic crime, sports law, data protection and legal argumentation.

It is crucial for the subsequent assessments of the LL.B. program to be verified if the institution has addressed the challenges regarding the standards concerning the academic staff and the educational process content (S.3 & S.4).

In conclusion, the Expert Team considers that the study program *General Law LLB* offered by the UNIVERSUM COLLEGE is *substantially compliant* with the standards included in the *KAA Accreditation manual* and, therefore, recommends to *accredit* the study program for a duration of *3 years* with a number of *100* students to be enrolled in the program.



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4. APPENDICES (if available): N/A

Expert Team

Chair

Prof. Dr. Goce Naumovski

30.04.2021

(Signature)

(Print Name)

(Date)