

A GUIDEBOOK FOR INTERNATIONAL PhD STUDENTS
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF RZESZÓW



NARODOWA AGENCJA WYMIANY AKADEMICKIEJ

POLISH NATIONAL AGENCY
FOR ACADEMIC EXCHANGE



STER
PROGRAMME

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Sources of information: University of Rzeszów website

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This guidebook is for international PhD applicants and students with what we consider most useful information and sound advice, to make your life and studying here easier.

Should you have any questions, you can contact us The Secretary's Office of Doctoral School at the University of Rzeszów at: tel. +48 17 872 1207, e-mail: szkoladoktorska@ur.edu.pl

You are welcome in Doctoral School at the University of Rzeszów

The guidebook was prepared as part of the Project 'UR an international PhD student' funded by the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange under the STER NAWA - internationalisation of doctoral schools (2023)

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About Doctoral School at the University of Rzeszów

The doctoral school is a new form of the doctoral education system in Poland, introduced on October 1, 2019 to the higher education system under the provisions of the Act - Law on Higher Education and Science (Journal of Laws of 2018, item 1668, as amended), the so-called Act 2.0. Education at the Doctoral School lasts from 6 to 8 semesters and prepares Ph.D. students to obtain a doctoral degree in scientific and artistic disciplines in which UR is entitled to award the doctoral degree. Education at the UR Doctoral School is based on the curriculum and the Individual Research Plan. Education at the UR Doctoral School enables doctoral students to achieve learning outcomes for the classification at the PQF 8 level. Education at the UR Doctoral School is in accordance with the principles of the European Charter for Researchers.

The Doctoral School of the University of Rzeszów was established in 2019 and it draws from the experience gained during years of conducting doctoral studies at the University of Rzeszów. The Doctoral School of the University of Rzeszów provides a creative and interdisciplinary approach to scientific research and a flexible programme, allowing every candidate to select courses according to their research interests.

During their studies, doctoral students participate in specialist courses (lectures, seminars, laboratories) and courses developing their scientific skills and methodological competences. Ph.D. students gain knowledge, skills and competences that will constitute the basis for their present and future research work. The Doctoral School also offers an interdisciplinary network of cooperation, creating conditions for comprehensive scientific development. The main goal of the Doctoral School of the University of Rzeszów is to prepare its PhD students for independent research of the highest quality and for teaching at an academic institution.

The Doctoral School at the University of Rzeszów is a place for those who wish to complete their PhD in one of the following scientific disciplines:

1. archaeology,
2. biotechnology,
3. economics and finance,
4. philosophy,
5. history,
6. information and communication technology,
7. materials engineering,
8. linguistics,
9. literary studies,
10. mathematics,
11. biological sciences,
12. physical sciences,
13. medical sciences,
14. political and administrative sciences,
15. physical culture science,
16. health sciences,
17. law,

18. sociology,
19. educational sciences,
20. agriculture and horticulture,
21. food and nutrition technology

and artistic disciplines:

1. music,
2. fine arts and art conservation.

Recruitment is an open competition. The Doctoral School admits candidates with the professional title of Master, Master of Science or equivalent, or graduates of first-cycle studies or students who have completed the third year of uniform Master's studies, if this is justified by the highest quality of their academic achievements.

Education at the UR Doctoral School is free of charge for everyone, including foreign doctoral students. Classes provided in the educational program are conducted from Monday to Friday, while in justified cases resulting from the specificity of the subject, classes may be held on other days of the week. The basic language of the educational program is Polish. For foreign doctoral students, it is possible to complete the entire cycle of education in English.

A doctoral student without a doctoral degree receives a doctoral scholarship. You can only be a PhD student in one doctoral school at a time.

Doctoral students receive scientific supervision, have access to modern infrastructure and the University's resources. An individual research plan is developed by a doctoral student in consultation with his or her supervisor within 12 months from the commencement of studies at the doctoral school, and its implementation is subject to mid-studies evaluation. In the individual research plan, the deadline for submitting the doctoral dissertation is set, which is tantamount to the completion of a given Ph.D. student's education. This period may be extended by a maximum of 2 years or suspended for the period of taking leave related to maternity leave.

Recruitment on general terms

Candidates may apply for admission to the UR Doctoral School by taking any of the following paths:

1. an open, international competition with financing for a doctoral scholarship from the subsidy of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education (admission limits will be determined by the regulation of the UR Rector). Recruitment is carried out on the basis of the admissions resolution;
2. scientific projects - on condition there is a possibility of financing a doctoral scholarship from financial resources of these projects, i.e. NCN grants, the program - Implementation doctorate, STER NAWA Program - the internationalization of doctoral schools etc.). More information can be found at the website <https://www.ur.edu.pl/pl/doktorant/szkola-doktorskadoktoral-school>

Guide for foreigners

Recruitment for the UR Doctoral School

All information about the admissions to the Doctoral School at the University of Rzeszów can be found at the website <https://www.ur.edu.pl/pl/doktorant/szkola-doktorskadoktoral-school>. Applications occur via the university's ICT system, which is opened during the time of submitting the applications. The same admissions conditions at the UR Doctoral School apply to Polish citizens and foreigners. Foreigners are obliged to undergo the admissions procedure according to the same rules as Polish citizens.

Visa for Poland

After receiving information about admission to the Doctoral School, PhD Students from non-EU countries receive the document confirming admission to the Doctoral School, to be used for their visa applications at the Polish Embassy in a given country.

Please note that the Embassy may require an original document (not in the form of scans) to be provided upon application.

To receive the document, request it by email to the Doctoral School Office, including a passport scan and your current correspondence address.

The document mentioned above is given in the form of:

- a scan is sent by email, usually within 1-2 business days after the application;
- original document is sent simultaneously by mail (if required by an embassy).

The final receipt time of the package depends on the destination address and can last up to two weeks.

Temporary Residence Permit

A foreigner planning to stay in Poland for more than 3 months can apply for a temporary residence permit. A temporary residence permit is issued for a maximum of 3 years. The period of validity of the permit may be shorter, however, if the basis for applying for this permit indicates that a shorter stay is justified.

A temporary residence permit shall not be extended (the act does not provide for a procedure for the extension of a temporary residence permit). If a foreigner wants to stay in Poland, they must apply for a new permit.

A foreigner should leave Poland before the expiry of the temporary residence permit, unless they have obtained another valid document allowing them to legally stay in Poland (e.g., another temporary residence permit,, permanent residence permit or long-term EU resident's residence permit).

The procedure of legalizing temporary stay occurs in a voivodeship office - in the department competent for foreigners. An application for a temporary residence permit should be submitted to the voivodeship office competent for the foreigner's place of stay, e.g., if the foreigner stays in Rzeszów, the application should be submitted to the Podkarpackie Voivodeship Office <https://rzeszow.uw.gov.pl/dla-klienta/cudzoziemcy/contact-en/>

Enrollment

A full set of documents needs to be presented to successfully enrol. To avoid problems with enrollment due to missing or incomplete documentation, we suggest that you prepare the required documents in advance, especially those which you cannot obtain in Poland. In most cases, it refers to apostille or legalisation of higher education diplomas.

Higher education diplomas obtained outside of Poland must be authenticated with apostille or legalised. This serves as the basis for acknowledging foreign documents as valid on the territory of Poland.

In case of documents issued in countries which are parties to the Hague Convention of 5 October 1961 (Dz.U. z 2005, r. nr 112, poz. 938), an apostille has to be obtained.

Legalization, similar to apostille, confirms the authenticity of a document issued in a country other than Poland. Documents must be legalized if obtaining an apostille is not possible because the country that issued the document is not a party to the Hague Convention mentioned above. If your country is not on the list, you need to contact the institution responsible in this country for legalizing the documents (to use them abroad). Usually it is the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the Ministry of Education and Science. After obtaining initial confirmation, the Polish consulate should be contacted to finalise the legalisation of the document.

The apostille or legalization must be delivered to the Doctoral School Office within a set deadline.

Insurance

Ph.D. students receiving a doctoral scholarship are reported to the Social Insurance Institution (ZUS) and are subject to compulsory insurance: pension insurance, disability insurance, accident, insurance and voluntary medical insurance.

PhD students are exempt from health contribution if:

- the health contribution is covered by the current employer,
- they are employed on the basis of the contract of the mandate (and the health contribution is being paid within the contract),
- are self-employed.

PhD students are obligated to complete the statement for ZUS purposes (i.e., bank account, address, additional employment). The Ph.D. students have to update the information provided in the statement mentioned above. The update must be made within 7 days of the

change to the conditions stated in the previous declaration. The change should be stated in the document, signed and delivered immediately to the Doctoral School Office.

Occupational health examinations

While attending a programme during which PhD Students are exposed to harmful, noxious, or hazardous factors, the PhD Students have to, after enrollment, be referred for a medical examination by an occupational medicine.

Ph.D. students are required to provide a medical certificate to the Doctoral School Office within a set deadline. The occupational health examination is free of charge if performed in the indicated facility (the list will be given with a referral for medical examination). Please remember that it is possible to perform the above-mentioned tests in other medical facilities in the country, but it may be associated with additional fees.

PhD Students Accommodation

Ph.D. students can be accommodated in the Student Dormitories of the University of Rzeszów. More information can be found at the website <https://www.ur.edu.pl/en/student/accomodation>

Regular scholarships

Education at the Doctoral School is free. Each Ph.D. student, who does not hold a doctoral degree, receives a scholarship in the minimum amount set by law. The total period of receiving a doctoral scholarship at doctoral schools shall not exceed 4 years.

The scholarship is paid at the end of every month; first after commencement of education (signing the oath) at the Doctoral School. The doctoral scholarship is not taxed.

PhD students with a valid disability certificate receiving a doctoral scholarship increased by 30% in relation to the minimum amount of the regular one. To receive the increased doctoral scholarship, you should send a scan of your current disability certificate.

How to apply – application step by step

Step 1: Choosing your discipline

Choose the scientific or artistic discipline within which you wish to pursue your PhD. The UR Doctoral School recruits in 20 scientific disciplines and 2 artistic disciplines.

You can enter the admissions process for two or more disciplines. If you qualify for admission to more than one discipline, you will be required to choose only one discipline and resign from the others before commencing your education process.

You do not have to choose disciplines that are the same as the field of study that you have completed. Remember, however, that in the admissions procedure you must document at least one scientific or artistic achievement that fits into the discipline for which you are applying.

The UR Doctoral School does not charge a fee for the admissions procedure.

Step 2: Finding your future supervisor and defining the topic of your future dissertation

The UR Doctoral School offers candidates to pursue research topics through either:

- choosing one of the priority scientific or artistic topics proposed by the research staff of the UR institutes who will act as supervisors;
- submitting your own research topic that does not fit into the priority topics of the UR Doctoral School.

The research topic must be accompanied by:

- an opinion of an independent academic on the proposed topic;
- a description of the main assumptions of the research hypothesis.

Contact your potential doctoral dissertation supervisor and obtain his/her approval. Please note that:

- Your proposal indicating a potential doctoral dissertation supervisor together with a justification of the indicated proposal in relation to the initial assumptions of the planned scientific research or artistic activities that you intend to carry out during your training at the UR Doctoral School,
- acceptance of the potential doctoral dissertation supervisor to undertake scientific supervision.

are all documents required for electronic registration.

The supervisor may be a person with the degree of habilitated doctor or professor title.

Any academic teacher employed at the University of Rzeszów who has scientific or artistic achievements in the field of research of the candidate for a doctoral degree may act as his/her supervisor.

An academic teacher or a researcher employed outside the University of Rzeszów may also act as a supervisor on condition that the University of Rzeszów does not employ a person with scientific or artistic achievements in the field of research of the doctoral candidate.

Step 3: Developing a concept for a future dissertation under your supervisor

Please note that the list of required documents includes preliminary assumptions for the planned scientific research or artistic activity. Therefore:

- study the literature, define what interests you, what the aim of your research will be, what you want to achieve and what problem you intend to solve as a result of your dissertation;
- define research methods for verification of your dissertation objectives;
- draw up a preliminary timetable for your research, identify the stages and define the outcomes for them, by means of which you will measure the progress of your research.

This is also a topic you may be asked about during an interview.

Step 4: Opinion on the candidate

Your application documents must also include an opinion of an academic staff member holding a doctorate or a post-doctorate degree or a professor title on your academic work to date. The author of the opinion cannot be a person who runs a common household with the candidate or remains with the candidate in a relationship of kinship, affinity to the second degree or in a relation of adoption, custody or guardianship.

Step 5: Completing documents

Check the current document requirements and prepare an electronic version of the documents. There is no obligation to provide originals at the e-registration stage. Remember to upload scans of all required documents into the admissions system. If even one document is missing, your application will be rejected. If you have additional academic and artistic

achievements within the discipline you are applying for, please attach scans of documents confirming these achievements as well. The admissions committee may thus award you additional points.

Step 6: Admissions schedule

The admissions procedure is conducted according to the schedule. Remember to adhere to the specified deadlines.

Step 7: Be prepared for an interview

If you meet all the formal requirements, you will be invited for an interview. The interview may be conducted face-to-face or remotely. The interview will be conducted by the committee appropriate to the discipline for which you are applying. Each member of the committee has the right to ask you questions. The interview lasts approximately 30 minutes.

The interview is scored according to a scale of 0 - 40 points. A score of at least 20 points is considered a positive result of the interview. Please note that if you score less than 20 points in the interview, you will not be qualified for admission to the UR Doctoral School even if you score high in other recruitment criteria.

Detailed information about the interview can be found in the Assessment Criteria tab at our webpage <https://www.ur.edu.pl/pl/doktorant/szkola-doktorskadoktoral-school>

Step 8: Results

The results of the admissions procedure are public and will be available on the UR Doctoral School website. If you qualify for admission to the UR Doctoral School you will be required to provide original documents. Failure to submit documents within the specified time, or the submission of incomplete documents will result in a refusal of admission to the UR Doctoral School.

Recruitment of candidates with disabilities

A candidate with a recognised level of disability that prevents him/her from participating in the admissions process may benefit from the support offered by the UR Office for Persons with Disabilities (e.g. transport between UR buildings, sign language interpreter, personal assistant, etc.).

Framework curriculum at the Doctoral School run by the University of Rzeszów

No.	Subject	Format of classes	Form of credit/pass Method of verification of the outcome	Number of hours								ECT S	PQF		
				Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4					
				semester		semester		semester		semester					
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8				
1.	Ethics in science	Colloquia	Pass with a grade/ written assignment	10										1	P8S_WK 2 P8S_UW 3 P8S_KK1
2.	Copyright	Lecture	Pass with a grade/ written assignment		4									1	P8S_WK 2 P8S_UW 4 P8S_KR1
3.	Commercialization of scientific research	Colloquia	Pass with a grade/ written assignment		6									1	P8S_WK 3 P8S_UW 4 P8S_KO1 P8S_KO2 P8S_KO3 P8S_KK3
4.	Raising funds for research and managing research projects	Colloquia	Pass with a grade/ project		12									1	P8S_UW 1 P8S_UO1 P8S_UO 2 P8S_KK3
5.	Public speaking	Practical classes	Pass with a grade/ oral presentation			6								1	P8S_WG 1 P8S_UK1 P8S_UK3 P8S_UK4 P8S_UK5 P8S_UK6 P8S_KR1
6.	Creation of scientific texts	Practical classes	Pass with a grade/ written assignment			6								1	P8S_WG 2 P8S_UK2 P8S_UK6 P8S_KK1
7.	Scientific conference/ exhibition/presentation	Lectures	Pass/ /report including a summary of the presentation				15		15					2	P8S_WG 2 P8S_UK1 P8S_UK3 P8S_UK4 P8S_UK5 P8S_UK6 P8S_KR1
8.	Information sources and information management	Colloquia	Pass with a grade/ project			4								1	P8S_WG 3 P8S_WG 4 P8S_UW 2 P8S_UW 3 P8S_UK6 P8S_KK3
9.	Optional interdisciplinary	Colloquia Laboratory	Exam/			15		15		15				6	P8S_WG 1

No	Subject	Format of classes	Form of credit/pass Method of verification of the outcome	Number of hours								ECT S	PQF
				Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4			
				semester		semester		semester		semester			
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
	subject (to be selected from a list)		written assignment										P8S_WG2 P8S_WG3 P8S_WK1 P8S_UW1 P8S_UW2 P8S_UW3 P8S_UK6 P8S_KK1
10.	OHS training	e-learning	Pass, solving a test	4									P8S_WG3
Monodisciplinary module (electives)													
1.	Doctoral Seminar/Journal Club (to be selected from a list)	Seminar	Pass with a grade /oral presentation	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	14	P8S_WG1 P8S_WG2 P8S_WG3 P8S_UW1 P8S_UW2 P8S_UW3 P8S_UK6 P8S_KK1 P8S_KK3
2.	Doctoral Laboratory	Laboratories/ Colloquia	Pass with a grade /report	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	24	P8S_WG1 P8S_WG2 P8S_WG3 P8S_WG4 P8S_UW1 P8S_UW2 P8S_UW3 P8S_KK1
3.	Optional specialist subject	Colloquia/ Laboratory	Exam/written assignment		15		15		15	15		8	P8S_WG1 P8S_WG2 P8S_WG3 P8S_WK1 P8S_UW1 P8S_UW2 P8S_UW3 P8S_UK6 P8S_KK3
4.	Workshops with an expert	Colloquia	Pass/report				5		5	5		3	P8S_WG2

No	Subject	Format of classes	Form of credit/pass Method of verification of the outcome	Number of hours								ECT S	PQF
				Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4			
				semester		semester		semester		semester			
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
												P8S_UW1 P8S_WK1 P8S_UU1 P8S_UU2 P8S_UU3 P8S_UK6 P8S_KK1 P8S_KK2 P8S_KK3	
Module regarding the teaching of classes at a higher education institution													
1.	The teaching of classes at a higher education institution	Colloquia	Pass with a grade /oral presentation	15								2	P8S_WG4 P8S_UU1 P8S_UU2 P8S_UU3 P8S_KK3
2.	Internship	Practice	Pass/ Class observation		15	15	15	15	15	15		12	P8S_WG4 P8S_UU1 P8S_UU2 P8S_UU3 P8S_KK3
3.	Modern specialist language/Polish for foreigners	Practical classes	Exam/ written assignment	15	15	15	15					8	P8S_WG3 P8S-UK1 P8S-UK5 P8S_KK3
	Total in the education cycle	712 hours		89	112	106	110	75	95	95	30	86	

1. A series of classes regarding teaching at a higher education institution.

- 1) Teaching at a higher education institution – a compulsory subject preparing the doctoral student for teaching classes to students. During the classes, the doctoral student develops assumptions for any subject of his/her choice dedicated to students of first or second cycle studies or uniform master's degree studies of a chosen field of study. During the classes, the doctoral student prepares complete teaching documentation for the preparation of his/her own teaching course (syllabus, practical classes instructions or a class plan);
- 2) Internships include individual teaching of classes or co-teaching with another academic teacher;
- 3) The annual length of internships does not exceed 60 hours;
- 4) The number of internships per semester may not be less than 15 hours, excluding semesters 1 and 8;
- 5) The doctoral student, having received the approval of the Director of the Doctoral School, may increase the number of internship hours in a given academic year;
- 6) Doctoral students during the 2nd semester of education may only co-teach classes a minimum of 15 hours;
- 7) Doctoral students, having completed their internships in a given semester, draw up an internship calendar with the signature of the subject coordinator or supervisor;
- 8) With the consent of the Dean of the College at which the doctoral student prepares his/her doctoral thesis, it is possible to include original subjects proposed and prepared independently by doctoral students, which may be included in the pool of subjects offered to first- or second-cycle

students or uniform master's degree studies taught in specific fields of study as the so-called electives/optional subjects.

2. Internationalization of the curriculum in order to provide doctoral students with the highest standards of scientific care and assistance with the performance of activities for his/her own development will be implemented through the following subjects:
 - 1) Workshops with an expert – the aim of the course is to enable doctoral students, being young scientists in Poland, to establish contacts and cooperation with experienced scientists with recognized scientific achievements from abroad. The expert should be a scientist employed outside of the University of Rzeszów, who holds at least a doctoral degree, and is distinguished by outstanding scientific or artistic achievements in the discipline. The selection of an expert for a given semester is the task of the doctoral student, who is assisted in the process by the supervisor. The selection of an expert is reviewed by the competent committee of the discipline in terms of the adequacy of his/her achievements to have classes with the doctoral student. If no suitable expert is found, the supervisor or the competent discipline committee proposes the candidacy of such a person, i.e. having appropriate scientific competence to conduct classes.
 - 2) The doctoral seminar in the "Journal Club" convention during the 3rd and 4th year of education takes place with the participation of a foreign specialist in the discipline in which the doctoral thesis is prepared. The candidacy of a specialist is proposed by the competent discipline committee on the basis of the adequacy of the specialist's achievements for the subject of the doctorate.
 - 3) Optional specialist subject – this subject is aimed at expanding specialist knowledge of the discipline and can be taught with the support of scientific staff from abroad. The candidacy of a specialist is proposed by the competent discipline committee on the basis of the adequacy of the specialist's achievements for the subject matter of the planned subject.
 - 4) A scientific conference (or an artistic/musical event) - during his/her education at the Doctoral School run by the University of Rzeszów, the doctoral student is obliged to actively participate in a minimum of two scientific conferences (or artistic/musical events), including one of an international scope (i.e. whose conference language is different than the Polish language) for a minimum of 15 hours. Participation in a conference (or an artistic/musical event) can be stationary or using remote communication tools. The supervisor bears responsibility for verifying the learning outcomes. The basis for receiving a passing grade is an abstract of the speech or a post-conference article and a report from the conference. One participation in the Conference or an artistic event or music event should take place by the end of the 4th semester.
3. Contact classes with the supervisor or assistant supervisor.
 - 1) The doctoral laboratory is a compulsory course in direct contact between the doctoral student and the supervisor or assistant supervisor. The format of classes is laboratory or conversational. The classes should deal with specialized methodology related to the research work conducted (they can be on the premises of UR units or outside of them, if required by the specificity of the research);
 - 2) The doctoral seminar in the "Journal Club" convention during the 1st and 2nd year of education is a compulsory course in direct contact between the doctoral student and his/her supervisor. During the classes, the doctoral student, with the active help of the supervisor, systematizes his/her current knowledge of the subject matter of the doctoral thesis and broadens his/her own knowledge, skills and social competences.
4. The optional interdisciplinary subject is designed to expand the interdisciplinary knowledge, skills and social competences of the doctoral student regarding the subject matter of the doctoral thesis. UR Institutes propose a list of a minimum of 4 suggested subjects in each academic year.
5. The optional specialist subject is designed to expand the interdisciplinary knowledge, skills and social competences of the doctoral student regarding the subject matter of the doctoral thesis. UR Institutes propose a list of a minimum of 4 suggested subjects in each academic year.

6. A modern specialist language for doctoral students who are Polish citizens (either English or German - at least B2 level) is taught in two groups:
 - 1) for humanities, social sciences and the arts;
 - 2) for engineering and technology, medical and health sciences, agricultural sciences and natural sciences.
7. Specialist Polish language is a compulsory subject for doctoral students from abroad.
8. "Public speaking" classes are taught individually under the care of the supervisor and focus on discussing the principles of preparing a multimedia presentation and a conference poster. During the classes, the doctoral student prepares a public speech in a modern scientific language.
9. The methods of evaluating the curriculum and the progress of scientific work.
 - 1) Control over the doctoral student's curriculum and the individual research plan is exercised by the supervisor;
 - 2) The doctoral student submits a report for each year along with an opinion of the supervisor, which includes, particularly: a short summary of scientific or artistic activity (scientific or artistic progress and progress in work on the doctoral dissertation) and teaching activity of the doctoral student;
 - 3) Verification of the implementation of the curriculum is carried out by the Director of the Doctoral School;
 - 4) The Director of the Doctoral School evaluates the implementation of the curriculum and scientific research on the basis of: the opinion of the supervisor and the credits/passes for the subjects included in the curriculum schedule and individual reports of the doctoral student;
 - 5) The Director of the Doctoral School, at the request of the doctoral student, may transfer some of the duties related to the implementation of the doctoral student's curriculum to another date. He/she may also, at the request of the doctoral student with an opinion of the supervisor, make a decision to accept subjects not covered by the curriculum toward the performance of the student's duties (with an appropriate allocation of ECTS credits);
 - 6) Mid-term evaluation takes place in the mid-term of the education cycle specified in this curriculum, and in the case of education lasting 6 semesters – during the 4th semester. The procedure for the mid-term evaluation is specified in separate rules and regulations.
 - 7) When passing the classes, the following scale is used:
 - a) Very good (5,0)
 - b) Good plus (4,5)
 - c) Good (4,0)
 - d) Satisfactory plus (3,5)
 - e) Satisfactory (3,0)
 - f) Unsatisfactory/Failing grade (2,0)
 - g) Pass
 - h) Fail (nzał.)
 - 8) Receiving an unsatisfactory/failing grade or an entry "fail" results in failure to pass the subject.
10. The classes are taught by people with competences and experience allowing for the proper realization of classes confirmed by their previous scientific or artistic achievements. The classes, with the exception of a modern language/Polish, are taught by people who hold at least a doctoral degree. In addition, the Director of the Doctoral School may assign the teaching of classes to a specialist without the above-mentioned degree or title, provided that he/she has documented qualifications, i.e. certificates or relevant diplomas or other documents confirming qualifications in the subject matter of the subject/course, e.g. knowledge transfer, copyright specialist, etc.
11. The syllabus template in Polish and English is shown in Annex 1 and Annex 2 to this curriculum.
12. The classes may be taught using distance learning methods and techniques in a synchronous mode, however the number the classes cannot exceed 40% of the total number of ECTS credits specified in the curriculum.

Description of the intended learning outcomes at the Doctoral School run by the University of Rzeszów

Category of characteristics of learning outcomes	Descriptive category – aspects of fundamental importance	Description component code	PQF level 8
Knowledge: knows and understands	Scope and depth – completeness of cognitive perspective and dependencies	P8S_WG	1. To an extent that makes it possible to revise existing paradigms – global achievements, including theoretical foundations and general issues and selected detailed issues – specific to a given scientific or artistic discipline.
			2. Trends in development and the latest discoveries in a selected scientific discipline, current scientific achievements, including global achievements, regarding research in the area of a given discipline.
			3. The conceptual network of a given discipline (also in a foreign language) and related disciplines.
			4. Methodology of scientific research, including research planning principles and their implementation, making use of interdisciplinary research techniques and tools.
	Context – conditions, consequences	P8S_WK	1. Fundamental dilemmas of modern civilization.
			2. Ethical standards applicable to the researcher and academic teacher as well as the rules of intellectual property protection and copyright, including the rules of intellectual property resources management and legal and economic conditions of scientific activity.
Skills: he/she can	Use of knowledge – problems solved and tasks performed	P8S_UW	1. Use knowledge from various fields of science or the field of arts to creatively identify and innovatively solve complex problems or perform tasks of a research nature, particularly: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – define the purpose and subject of scientific research, formulate a research hypothesis, – develop research methods, techniques and tools and apply them in a creative manner, – draw conclusions on the basis of scientific research.
			2. use scientific literature to identify and solve research and innovation problems; can use the appropriate workshop to create new elements of these achievements.
			3. conduct a critical analysis and evaluation of scientific research results, expert activity and other creative works and their contribution to the development of knowledge.
			4. Transfer scientific activity results to the economic and social sphere.
	Communication – receiving and making statements, publicizing knowledge in the scientific community and using a foreign language	P8S_UK	1. Communicate on specialist topics to a degree that allows for active participation in the international scientific community.
			2. Write and prepare a scientific article or a scientific monograph for publication, including popular science publications related to his/her selected discipline in Polish and in a foreign language. Prepare and organize an individual, thematic exhibition, an artistic project - an artistic event and prepare a critical text appropriate to the form (self-commentary, main assumptions of the idea and concept of a given artistic undertaking), preparation and publication of documentation of the event: catalogue, artistic monograph, critical text.
			3. Organize or participate actively in scientific conferences.
			4. Initiate evidence-based scientific debate.
			5. Participate in scientific discourse.
			6. Use a foreign language at B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) to a degree that allows for participation in the international scientific and professional environment.
	Work organization – planning and teamwork	P8S_UO	1. Plan and carry out individual and team research projects, also in an international environment.
			2. Prepare an application for financing a scientific project.

Category of characteristics of learning outcomes	Descriptive category – aspects of fundamental importance	Description component code	PQF level 8
	Learning – planning one’s own development and the development of other people	P8S_UU	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Independently plan and systematically act for the benefit of his/her own development based on current interdisciplinary knowledge in order to expand and deepen competences and inspire the development of other people. 2. Plan classes or groups of classes and teach them using modern tools and methods. 3. Plan his/her development, update interdisciplinary knowledge on a systematic basis in order to expand and deepen his/her own competences and inspire other people to do so.
Social competence: he/she is ready to	Assessments – a critical approach	P8S_KK	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carry out a critical evaluation of achievements within a given scientific or artistic discipline. 2. Carry out a critical evaluation of his/her own contribution to the development of a given scientific or artistic discipline. 3. Recognize the importance of knowledge in solving cognitive and practical problems.
	Responsibility – fulfilling social obligations and acting for the public interest	P8S_KO	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fulfill the social duties of researchers and creators. 2. Initiate activities for the public interest. 3. Think and act in an entrepreneurial manner.
	Professional role – independence and the development of ethos	P8S_KR	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintain and develop the ethos of research and creative environments, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – conducting scientific activity in an independent manner, – respecting the principle of public property of scientific activity results, taking into account the principles of intellectual property protection.

Profile of the graduate

The graduate of the Doctoral School run by the University of Rzeszów is a person who:

- achieved the learning outcomes for qualifications at level 8 of the PQF;
- completed the qualification cycle of the Doctoral School run by the University of Rzeszów;
- completed an individual research plan;
- achieved a positive result of mid-term evaluation;
- has at least: 1 scientific article published in a scientific journal or in reviewed materials from an international conference or 1 scientific monograph or a chapter in such a monograph or an artistic work of significant importance in accordance with the provision of Article 186, section 1, item 3 of the Law on Higher Education and Science;
- submitted his/her doctoral dissertation.

The graduate of the Doctoral School run by the University of Rzeszów has current knowledge of the discipline in which he/she is educated; is able to use specialized terminology characteristic of a given discipline, including in a foreign language; knows research methodology, can plan and conduct scientific/artistic research and can use it in scientific activity, including: preparation and publication of scientific articles, organization of exhibitions, participation in exhibitions, competitions, artistic projects, preparation and presentation of scientific papers at national and international conferences. The person who graduated from the Doctoral School is aware of the need for cooperation at the regional, national and international levels, and is also prepared to transfer his/her research results to the economic and social sphere including culture and the arts. The graduate has the competence to prepare and conduct classes for students using modern methods and tools. The graduate of the Doctoral School has the necessary knowledge of obtaining funds for scientific research and the ability to prepare applications for research funding, as well as to settle research projects. The graduate of the Doctoral School is able to plan and implement individual and team research projects or creative projects, as well as has the ability to lead a research team in a responsible manner, including interdisciplinary and international teams. The graduate is also aware of the need to cooperate with the economic or social environment. The graduate is aware of the ethos of the scientific and creative environment. The graduate demonstrates knowledge of the existing ethical principles during the implementation of scientific works, as well as knowledge of legal regulations governing intellectual property protection. The graduate is aware of the active promotion of models of good conduct in the work environment and in other environments, as well as the improvement of quality and culture of cooperation.

Main research areas of scientific and artistic disciplines

Archaeology

- The eastern borderland of the Central European cultural province in prehistory;
- The Polish-Ruthenian Borderland. The formation of Central and Eastern Europe in comparative and diachronic perspective.

Biotechnology

Institute of Biotechnology conducts unique research activities within strategic goals in the following areas:

1. Development of new possibilities and therapeutic strategies based on modulation of molecular mechanisms in biological systems within medical biotechnology. Research involves search of natural and synthetic substances with therapeutic potential. Development of efficient delivery systems of active compounds to cancer and normal cells based on nano- and microfibers, capsules and magnetic nanomaterials. Studies of molecular therapeutic targets applicable in diagnostics, prevention, or treatment. Synthesis of biomaterials, formulations of cosmetic products, and strategies for removal of old normal and cancer cells.
2. Cell biology and yeast biotechnology in the field of metabolic engineering. Research includes cell biology and biotechnology of unconventional yeasts - methylotrophic (*Pichia pastoris*, *Ogataea polymorpha*) and flavinogenic (*Candida famata*). It includes development of technology, solutions, tools and procedures that improve yeast cells, especially unconventional ones treated as cellular factories for production of alcohols, vitamins, antibiotics, and other substances.
3. Use of biological systems in environmental protection within the scope of environmental biotechnology. Studies involve impact assessment through use of microorganisms on degradation of persistent pollutants i.e. pesticides and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). Isolation of microorganisms from soil for pollutants removal. Development and optimization of analytical techniques for pollution monitoring, evaluation of adults and children exposure to pesticide residues in food, use of aquatic microorganisms for detoxification of xenobiotics in the presence of nano- and microplastics, impact assessment of technological processes on the kinetics of xenobiotic degradation in plant products.

Economics and finance

Scientific research in the discipline of Economics and Finance is conducted at the Institute of Economics and Finance of the University of Rzeszów. They focus on current socio-economic issues related to the following priority research directions:

1. Conditions and ways of reducing economic and social inequalities.

2. Sustainable socio-economic development of regions, with particular emphasis on peripheral and cross-border regions.
3. Determinants of the development of enterprises in the conditions of globalization.
4. Organizational and marketing determinants of creating a value chain in the field of food products, including organic and functional foods.

The leading research issues include:

- a) scientific journals published at the Institute: "Social Inequality and Economic Growth" (ISSN 1898-5084) and "Transborder Economics" (ISSN: 2451-3229)
- b) obtained NCN grants (including "Environmental initiatives and factors of competitiveness of enterprises"; "Financial decisions of poor households from rural areas"), as well as national projects and projects implemented in international cooperation (including "Creation of operational groups regarding production and distribution of organic food in Podkarpacie"; "Social entrepreneurship and educational practice for young people"; "Changemakers' education for more Equality, Entrepreneurial spirit and Resilience").

The permanent foreign scientific partners of the Institute of Economics and Finance include academic centers from: the Czech Republic, Spain, Germany, Romania, Slovakia, Turkey, Ukraine, Hungary, Great Britain and China (Guangzhou, Beijing, Dongguan). The Institute is the first academic unit from Poland to be included in the Association of Economic Universities of South-East Europe (ASECU).

The Institute of Economics and Finance is also involved in creating network cooperation in the science-economy-institutional environment system. The units actively cooperating with IEiF include: Statistical Office in Rzeszów, Provincial Labor Office, Marshal's Office, Regional Chamber of Audit, Rzeszów Agency for Regional Development, Agency for Restructuring and Modernization of Agriculture, National Bank of Poland, Euroregion Carpathians, local governments, educational units and representatives of the business community.

Philosophy

Over the course of several decades of the existence of the Institute of Philosophy at the University of Rzeszów, its scientific activities have addressed issues related to the main philosophical subdisciplines (ontology, epistemology, ethics, aesthetics, axiology), with particular emphasis on research into the legacy of philosophical thought in Slavic countries. These research traditions remain important to the researchers currently working at the Institute. Nevertheless, the current research conducted at the Institute of Philosophy of the University of Rzeszów is focused on ethical, socio-cultural, historical-philosophical, and aesthetic-artistic issues. The priority research tasks include:

1. Human in the face of modern anthropological and ethical challenges
2. Studies in the History of Philosophy
3. Intercultural Relations
4. Social and Cultural Space of Creativeness

History

The Institute of History's research profile focuses primarily on studying the history of south-eastern Poland, especially the history of Galicia in the 19th century. In addition, our employees also focus on the cultural borders of south-eastern Poland, relations between ethnic and religious groups, the economic history of Poland in the 20th century, armed

conflicts, especially in the last century, the history of historiography and education, as well as the organization and functioning of the archival network in Poland. Additionally, the area of interest of the employees of the Institute of History is the history of Polish emigration and the functioning of the Polish diaspora in the world.

The main research areas include m.in.:

- social, cultural, economic and political history of the Polish-Ukrainian-Slovak border;
- history of Galicia 1772-1918;
- economic history of Poland in the 19th and 20th centuries;
- history of the Church in Poland;
- history of conflicts in the 20th century;
- history of historiography;
- ethnographic groups in Poland;
- cultural borders of south-eastern Poland;
- tourism potential of south-eastern Poland.

Information and communication technology

The research interests of UR employees conducting research in the discipline of technical Informatics and telecommunications concern the following areas:

- intelligent computations with particular emphasis on imprecision and incompleteness of information,
- development of methods of fuzzy set theory and rough set theory and their application in data mining systems,
- artificial intelligence methods to support decision-making processes in complex systems.
- applications of artificial intelligence in innovative technologies for industry,
- machine learning algorithms in vibration and sound control applications.

Materials engineering

At Institute of Materials Engineering, research is carried out in areas related to materials engineering, the mainstream of modern materials science, and related disciplines. The specificity of research focuses on the relation between the nanostructure, microstructure and properties of the materials used in various industrial sectors and in medicine.

The scientific activity of the employees is related to the testing of materials in terms of their physical, chemical, electrical, static and other properties. In addition to research on existing materials, the work is also carried out on obtaining new materials based on MBI and PVD methods.

Research topics at the IM Institute

- Modelling and control of selected mechatronic systems, - Lucyna Leniowska, PhD,DSc, Eng., Associate Prof.
- Semiconductor structures based on AIII-BV and AII-BVI compounds for applications in the detection of infrared radiation in a wide spectral range, - Michał Marchewka, PhD
- Advanced technology for the production of thin functional layers for the needs of energy, environmental protection and optoelectronics, - Grzegorz Wiesz, PhD, DSc

- Defects and paramagnetic centres in oxide materials and semiconductors and interdisciplinary research using the EPR method, -Ireneusz Stefaniuk, PhD, DSc, Associate Prof.
- Surface engineering - model and wear issues of surface treatment technology, - Rafał Reizer, PhD, DSc, Associate Prof.

Linguistics

Scholars in the Institute of Modern Languages conduct research in general, comparative, contrastive as well as cognitive and applied linguistics with focus placed on different languages. Diverse analyses are conducted to search for similarities and differences between language systems, to outline processes behind language rules and methods of teaching foreign languages. Research is also conducted in the theory and practice of translation between languages also in its communicative and intercultural perspective. Linguistic factors bordering on cultural issues of given language and culture communities are another focal point of analysis and research.

Literary studies

A discipline within the humanities, encompassing the history of literature, literary theory, the methodology of literary research, and literary criticism. It engages in the study of literature (poetry, prose, drama, border genres) from both a diachronic and synchronic perspective. It employs various research methods, including an analysis, interpretation, and evaluation of texts, examination of historical-literary phenomena and processes, and consideration of literary texts as products of imagination, means of expression, or literary representations of reality. It draws on the achievements of other humanities disciplines such as history, linguistics, philosophy, sociology, aesthetics, and cultural anthropology. Literary studies also treat literary texts as documents for investigating extraliterary phenomena, including the history and traditions of culture, national history, individual personalities, social phenomena, and more. Due to its close relationship with other disciplines, literary studies are of an interdisciplinary nature.

The Doctoral Program at the University of Rzeszów offers studies in literature within the broader context of the humanities. Preferred research topics include:

1. The study of literature and periodicals of the Old Polish and Polish Enlightenment periods, as well as genre types.
2. Polish literature of the 19th century, myths and national legends, as well as the issues and contexts of Polish language education.
3. The issues in history, theory, anthropology of literature and Polish culture of the 20th and 21st centuries as well as the research on media.
4. The issues and contexts of world literature and culture, as well as theoretical-literary and comparative literary issues (literature of English-speaking or Russian-speaking countries).

The detailed research topics may address various issues within the framework of the mentioned general problems, including interdisciplinary and comparative studies. Research can be conducted from a historical-literary and theoretical-literary perspective, using diverse methodologies.

Candidates should have specific research interests and research competencies enabling independent research, including the ability to analyze and interpret literary works and texts of culture, as well as knowledge in the field of literary history and socio-cultural contexts.

Mathematics

Main research areas in mathematics:

1. Functional analysis and its applications:
 - Theory of linear-topological spaces over non-Archimedean fields and the theory of linear operators on these spaces,
 - Properties of continuous functions on topological spaces,
 - Topology of infinite-dimensional manifolds;
2. Selected problems of Function Theory:
 - Geometric theory of analytical and harmonic functions,
 - Conformal mappings and their generalizations,
 - Analytic functions of several variables in mathematical physics;
3. Functional Equations:
 - Applications of functional equations and inequalities in decision analysis;
4. Theory of Differential Equations:
 - Nonlinear and initial boundary value problems for differential equations.

Biological sciences

The Institute of Biology is a monodisciplinary unit focusing on the field of biological sciences. In their research interests, our staff members adopt an interdisciplinary approach, complementing biology with veterinary sciences, chemistry, animal husbandry, and also delving into the intersection of mathematics, computer science, and physics. The Institute of Biology is not internally divided by structures, allowing senior researchers to form their own research teams and establish collaborations both within and outside the Institute as needed. The Institute of Biology employs 2 professors, 9 habilitated doctors (post-doctoral degree), and 12 doctors (PhD). The research policy is based on openness, transparency, flexibility, and internal and external collaboration.

The main research axes of the Institute are two areas:

1. Mechanisms regulating intracellular processes determining proliferation, lifespan, and redox homeostasis in the yeast model.
2. Anthropopression and biodiversity.

Additionally, the Institute of Biology staff is currently exploring the following areas of science:

1. Paleobiodiversity and evolution of insects, with a focus on crane flies from the Tipulomorpha group (Diptera, Nematocera).
2. Ethnobiology, phytochemistry, geobotany, and taxonomy of plants in Eurasia.
3. Hemoglobin substitutes.
4. Optimization of dopamine determination in various tissues.
5. Colocalization and distribution of neuroregulin in neurons in the pig gastrointestinal tract.
6. Spatial monitoring of environmental pollution in Podkarpacie in the context of anthropogenic transformations.
7. Biodiversity and functioning of terrestrial ecosystems.
8. The role of bioactive organic substances and their interactions in the plant-insect system.

9. Animal behaviour.

The Institute of Biology welcomes contact and collaboration from all young scientists who are interested in biology, understand its interdisciplinary potential, share the vision of a university with high ethical standards, and are open to collaboration with international centers.

Physical sciences

Research conducted in the discipline of physical sciences, at the Institute of Physics of the University of Rzeszów focuses on:

- condensed matter physics;
- optical, Raman, FT-VIS/UV, FTIR, LIF spectroscopies and their applications in medicine, environment, and materials;
- interdisciplinary issues related to physics, medicine, and biotechnology;
- high-energy physics;
- vibroacoustics;
- astrophysics.

Currently, the Institute of Physics carries out the following 4 strategic research tasks:

1. Application and development of infrared spectroscopy methods in medical diagnostics and modern imaging methods in biology and medicine
2. Production and testing of glassy and ceramic materials for infrared photonics, biomedical sensors and optoelectronic devices
3. Nanocomposite materials, antibacterial, antiviral, tribological wear-resistant coatings and with other biomedical properties
4. Fourier and laser UV/VIS/IR spectroscopy and molecular modeling in the studies on molecules important in space exploration, environmental protection, health care and high-tech industry.

Medical sciences

The foundation of the concept of doctoral education at the Doctoral School of the University of Rzeszów (SDUR) in the discipline of medical sciences and health sciences is the document known as the Salzburg Principles [Salzburg 2005], developed on the initiative of the European University Associations, widely adopted by the European academic community, which formulates 10 recommendations regarding the education of doctoral students. Five of these recommendations have the greatest impact on the SDUR activity profile within the discipline of medical and health sciences:

1. The basic element of doctoral training is the development of knowledge through the implementation of original scientific research.
2. The education of doctoral students should largely respond to the needs of the labor market, going beyond the academic environment.
3. The diversity of doctoral research programs and their implementation within multi-center cooperation are important.
4. Particular attention should be paid to innovative research methods.
5. Increasing the mobility of doctoral students should be promoted.

In accordance with these assumptions, we pursue the following research topics:

1. The use of non-invasive imaging methods and microbiome analysis.
2. Assessment of heart rate variability and the ability to slow sinus rhythm as indicators of parasympathetic activity in a population of patients with paroxysmal atrial fibrillation.
3. Assessment of perinatal outcomes in patients with pregnancies complicated by early-onset fetal growth restriction.
4. Application of infrared spectroscopy (FTIR) and Raman spectroscopy in dermatological diseases of the scalp.
5. The impact of normobaric hyperoxia on improving the well-being of patients with psoriasis.
6. Staging and attempting to determine the degree of malignancy of endometrial cancer using magnetic resonance imaging methods.
7. Application of infrared spectroscopy and Raman spectroscopy in the search for potential diagnostic and prognostic markers in the serum and bone marrow of pediatric patients with acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL).

As part of the education of doctoral students, we strive to conduct unique scientific research and update the research and development offer based on the needs of the socio-economic environment, in particular the needs of patients and entities providing health services.

Physical culture science

The Doctoral School at the University of Rzeszów prepares to conduct scientific research in the discipline of physical culture sciences, presenting, practical use and popularizing their results. The conducted scientific processes allow for the study of the conditions and effects of human physical activity in the context of physical fitness, physical development and maintaining health. Doctoral students can co-create basic and applied scientific knowledge related to physical education, sports, physical recreation and tourism, useful in the practice of professions such as: teacher, trainer and sports instructor, tourism and recreation specialist. The University of Rzeszów has many laboratories and workshops equipped with modern equipment enabling the implementation of specific scientific goals.

Four research topics are carried out within the discipline of physical culture science:

- Studies of martial arts in socio-cultural and interdisciplinary perspective – modern reception of traditional martial arts;
- Research on somatic structure, physical fitness, biomechanical, biochemical and epigenetic parameters during the training cycle of active populations from various sports groups;
- Computer modeling in health and sports training;
- Health behavior and body structure of school and university youth from the Carpathian Euroregion in correlation to health-oriented physical fitness.

Political and administrative sciences

- Social control in local government units as a form of civic engagement;
- Political systems in the era of systemic transformation. Theory vs. practice;
- Security policy. Local, regional and international dimensions.

Health sciences

Within the scientific activities of the Institute of Health Sciences at the Medical College of the University of Rzeszów, research is conducted in the following areas: dietetics, physiotherapy, nursing, obstetrics, medical rescue, and public health. Scientific work in the field of health sciences focuses on the following priority topics:

1. Assessment of resting metabolism and body composition in children and adolescents from sports schools.
2. Validation of new tools for assessing the gait of individuals with brain damage.
3. Functional assessment and rehabilitation of individuals with hemiparesis after a stroke;
4. Evaluation of the frequency and determining factors of frailty syndrome in the elderly population in the Podkarpacie region - development of a prognostic-screening model.
5. Rehabilitation of the hand in individuals with hemiparesis after a stroke - implementation of a new, innovative device into rehabilitation, assessment of effects, and recommendations for clinical applications at the regional and national levels.
6. Gait and upper limb function retraining in individuals with hemiparesis after a stroke using biofeedback methods - assessment of effectiveness and development of rehabilitation programs recommended for clinical use at the regional and national levels.
7. Prospective observational study on the impact of body fitness and body composition on the quality of cardiopulmonary resuscitation in simulated conditions for adults.
8. Determination of the clinically relevant minimal difference for kinematic parameters of lower limb joints in individuals with brain damage - internationally scoped research.
9. Assessment of trends in the occurrence of excessive body weight and arterial hypertension in children and adolescents with intellectual disabilities in southeastern Poland, along with the validation of physical activity questionnaires for preschool and school-age children.

Law

Research activities in the discipline of legal sciences are conducted primarily in the field of dogmatic, general and historical legal sciences, in particular in the following issues:

1. Constitutional law, parliamentary and electoral law, and legal institutions and systems of human rights, constitutional courts, as well as comparative legal issues of the systems of modern states.
2. Public international law, in particular international criminal law and human rights law, international migration law and aviation and space law, as well as the international legal aspects of human organ transplantation.
3. Administrative law and administrative procedure, in particular related to local self-government, environmental protection and the uniformed services.
4. Substantive criminal law, economic criminal law and fiscal criminal law, and criminal procedural law in all modes, as well as penal sciences.
5. Substantive civil law, in particular the general part of civil law and family law, and civil procedure in all its forms, including mediation and information technology.
6. Finance law, in particular financial and legal issues relating to the functioning of public finance sector entities.
7. Individual and collective labour law, in particular trade union law, the issue of autonomous sources and the principles of collective dispute resolution.

8. commercial law, with particular emphasis on capital and civil partnerships.
9. business, energy and arbitration law.

The research area is related to the analysis of both current and proposed legal regulations.

10. historical-legal sciences, in particular political-legal doctrines, i.e. ideological foundations of modern constitutionalism, political-legal thought of Central and Eastern European countries, elite theory and revisionism and anti-communist doctrine. In addition, private Roman law and its traditions, legal theory and philosophy, especially with regard to the correlation between the theoretical and legal characterisation of legal principles and legal practice, especially jurisprudence, as well as legal history.

Sociology

Sociology is a science for people who are interested in social processes, their description, study, analysis, and interpretation. Within the discipline of sociological sciences, the Institute of Sociological Sciences at the University of Rzeszow offers candidates for future PhD:

- deepening knowledge of the processes taking place in the dynamically changing social reality,
- preparation in the field of contemporary sociological concepts and theories and their adaptation to research and analysis of contemporary social processes,
- broadening the methodological workshop, including the field of advanced methods and techniques of qualitative and quantitative research, allowing for free and reliable preparation of the research process,
- preparation for independent conduct of empirical research,
- knowledge in the interpretation of research results,
- acquisition of academic competencies, including: preparation for didactic work, knowledge transfer and popularization, raising funds for research, scientific communication, research popularization and career formation,
- classes taught by experienced researchers of social phenomena,
- substantive support in the preparation of the thesis.

The doctoral program in the discipline of sociological sciences includes various forms of classes and the implementation of an individual research plan under the guidance of a thesis advisor.

Educational sciences

- Image, problems and threats of the modern family;
- Disability study - interdisciplinary and multimedia study of disability;
- School - past, present, future - conditions of functioning;
- Mediatized society - mediators of change - challenges of media pedagogy;
- Pedagogical aspects of contemporary social transformations;
- Biological and social contexts of human behavior;
- Neurodiversity - social, educational and clinical contexts;
- Human psychological and educational development;
- Mental disorders and psychotherapy.

Agriculture and horticulture

The main research profile is focused on research related to the broadly understood topic of "impact of agriculture on the environment, yield and quality of plants under conditions of meteorological and climatic changes". We carry out research topics related to:

- The impact of climate change and diverse anthropopressure on biodiversity and the dynamics of ecological processes.
- The influence of agriculture on changes in the physical, chemical, and biological properties of selected soils and waters.
- The use of agricultural and forest ecosystems and their impact on the state of the environment and the possibilities of ecosystem services.
- The influence of genotype, methods of reproduction, growth regulators, and biostimulants on the properties and acclimatization abilities of selected species of woody plants.
- The influence of environmental conditions on the yield, cost, and energy consumption of selected species of cereal and legume plants and on the quality of the raw material.
- Optimization of plant production in various agro-environmental conditions.
- The impact of agriculture on selected groups of fauna.
- Diatoms (Bacillariophyta) of various types of habitats as indicators of environmental changes, including agricultural areas.

All research topics are related to the protection of the agricultural and natural environment and methods of maintaining a high level of agricultural production in line with EU requirements.

Food and nutrition technology

In the discipline of food technology and nutrition, numerous scientific studies are conducted to improve the quality, safety, and durability of food products, as well as to increase understanding of the impact of food on human health. These areas of research are dynamic and evolve with technological progress and the changing needs of society. Research in the field of food technology and nutrition aims not only to improve the quality of food products but also to develop new nutritional products with health-promoting effects. Established research teams conduct scientific research focused on the characterisation of biologically active substances found in food and the determination of their multidirectional biological activity, which is important from the point of view of the prevention of lifestyle diseases. Health food research focusses on identifying the positive effects of diet on human health, as well as looking for new ingredients or technologies that may contribute to improving health. Established research teams cooperate with economic units, carrying out many targeted studies to meet the needs of the economy. Recipes and technologies for new and innovative food products are developed on behalf of external entities. The most important directions of research in the field of food and nutrition technology are developed within the following priority research tasks:

- Assessment of food quality in terms of ensuring health safety;
- Study of the impact of environmental and technological factors in terms of obtained;
- Food quality;
- New-generation food design – bioactive food;
- Evaluation of the diet of various population groups.

Music

The thematic scope of the doctorate (Art; PhD) process includes music in a historical, aesthetic and analytical-interpretive perspective. An appropriate complement will also be the use of knowledge from the area of sub-disciplines of musicology: music psychology, music sociology, music pedagogy, as well as music therapy, with particular attention to their methodology. It is also possible to take up other subject areas, according to the interests and proposals of the students. A possible path for the preparation of a dissertation is also a recital with the description and analysis of realized compositions.

Research problems:

- Problems of preparation and interpretation of vocal, instrumental, vocal-instrumental works.
- External and internal determinants of creativity in the theoretical and practical paradigms
- of the arts, humanities and social sciences.
- Artistic and general music education at all levels of education in the context of identity studies and relations with existing systems in the world.
- Composer – performer – work – perceptor – social context as an object of study in art.
- Music in prevention and health.
- The artistic personality of the pianist towards the style, era and artistic message of the composer's work. The limits of artistic freedom.

Fine arts and art conservation

The research profile of the discipline of fine arts and art conservation at the Institute of Fine Arts of the University of Rzeszów primarily includes four key priority topics:

1. Artistic research of formal and expressive means and semantic relationships in a work of art in the context of their cultural and social impact and mutual relations with other fields of science: Study of impact of art (mainly painting) on culture and society, analysis of the relationship between form and content in art and its relations with other fields of science.
2. Graphic space as a form of free creative creation: Exploration of various graphic techniques, emphasizing the creative freedom and individual approach of an artist.
3. Research on graphic and multimedia imaging in public space: Analysis of the use of graphics and multimedia in public space, with emphasis on their role in the creation of urban space and social communication.
4. The function and significance of visual means of expression in design and shaping of the forms of a work of art: Research of influence of visual means on perception of a work of art, their role in design and importance in shaping of artistic forms.

The profile opens up a wide range of possibilities for interdisciplinary research, allowing for a deeper understanding of art in social, cultural and technological contexts.

In addition to these key areas, the research profile is extended to include spaces from individual projects carried out by academics, going beyond the priority topics. As a result, the Institute promotes interdisciplinary approach in fine arts, combining theory with artistic practice, and encourages to accomplish innovative projects of local and international importance.

General information about University of Rzeszów

Basic facts

The University of Rzeszów was established in 2001 and it is the largest institution of higher education in Podkarpackie Province. It was created out of three independent academic entities, namely: Pedagogical College, a branch of Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin (Law, Economics and Administration at Grunwaldzka street) and a branch of the Hugo Kołłątaj Academy of Agriculture in Kraków (Agriculture at Zalesie Campus). Due to that, the University does not have one campus, but its premises are scattered around the city, with two main campuses at Rejtana (Rejtana, Kopisto and Pigońia streets) and in Zalesie (Ćwiklińskiej and Zelwerowicza streets).

The University has a new structure since October 2019. It is headed by the Rector and divided into four Colleges: of Humanities, of Natural Sciences, of Social Sciences and of Medical Sciences, each headed by a Vice-Rector. Each College is divided into Institutes and has a Dean's Office for student affairs. Vice-Rector for Student Affairs and Education is responsible for coordination of educational processes and student affairs, including Erasmus + exchange programme.

Figures:

24 Institutes

Almost 70 degree programmes

Approximately 15 000 students, both full-time and part-time

About 150 doctoral students

Nearly 300 partners within Erasmus+ programme

Studying at the UR

Welcome Centre (Ao building, Pigońia 1, Rejtana Campus, room 264c)

It is a newly created office (to be officially open in December 2023), whose aim is to provide assistance to foreigners visiting our University as well as space for cultural integration. It is open Monday to Friday, 8.00-15.00. You can contact the office if you need any help or just want to talk 😊. Besides the office, there is a room for socialising or just having a rest in between classes, with some tea/coffee facilities. You are welcome there 😊

Contact: welcome@ur.edu.pl

Tel: [+48 725 750 705](tel:+48725750705)

The Secretary's Office of Doctoral School at the University of Rzeszów:

Contact: szkoladoktorska@ur.edu.pl

Tel. +48 17 872 1207

Academic year:

The academic year in Poland is divided into two semesters: winter and summer. Winter semester classes start on October 1 and last till the end of January. Then a two-week examination session starts, followed by a week break and then a week-long retake session. There is Christmas break usually between December 23 and January 2, but the exact number of days varies annually.

Summer semester begins in the last week of February and lasts till the third week of June. The exam session which follows lasts three weeks. The retake session is in September. There is a one-week Easter break.

Academic calendar for a given year can be found at:

<https://www.ur.edu.pl/en/student/academic-calendar>

Grading scale:

5 – A

4.5 – B

4 – C

3.5 – D

2 – F

Attending classes is obligatory, also for exchange students. If you skip more than two classes, you are likely to get in trouble and be asked to do some extra work for the classes skipped.

The requirements for each course are specified in the syllabus. The final grade is either an outcome of the tests and assignments from the whole course, or the result of the final test or exam.

Student accommodation:

There are 5 dorms offering accommodation to students: two ("Laura" and "Filon") in Cicha street, a 20-minute walk from Rejtana Campus, two ("Hilton" and "Merkury") in Zalesie Campus (convenient for students of Economics, Finances, and all degree programmes related to agriculture, food technology and environmental protection) and one ("Olimp") in Siemińskiego street, close to the city centre.

More information can be found at:

<https://www.ur.edu.pl/en/student/accomodation>

Bus "19" will take you from Zalesie to Rejtana. **Bus "O"** is the most convenient one for "Laura" and "Filon" dorms, one way it takes you to the city centre, the other – to the Rejtana Campus.

Library (Pigonia 8)

The main library of the University is located at Rejtana Campus, on Pigonia street. It is not a free access library; books have to be ordered online and collected on the spot. There are reading rooms where books which cannot be borrowed can be used. There are photocopiers on the premises. Computers on the ground floor are for the online catalogue only, but upstairs, in reading room ("Czytelnia") or scientific information room ("Informacja naukowa") there are computers which can be used for accessing the e-sources the UR subscribes to as well as e-books.

Website in English:

<https://bur.ur.edu.pl/en>

Student ID

When commencing your studies, you will receive an identity document confirming your student status – this is your student ID ("legitymacja studencka").

Please remember to have a valid identity document when collecting it – your personal ID or passport. Your **student ID entitles you to discounts** on public transport, as well as reduced admission to many cultural institutions and ticketed events.

eduroam

The eduroam service is available on campus, but the signal can be weak in some buildings. There is free wi-fi at the dorms.

Photocopying services

Photocopying points can be found at most of the buildings, usually marked "Ksero". Usually you can get a document printed there as well, if you bring it on a pendrive. One of such places is AroDruk in A1 building on Rejtana campus, on the ground floor, where you can communicate in English.

Office for Persons with Disabilities (BON – the acronym of the Polish name; Pigonia 6)

The Office provides support to UR students and employees with disabilities, but also to those who need psychological counselling. If you need psychological counselling, you can contact the office, it is possible to receive help in English.

Contact: bon@ur.edu.pl

Academic ombudsman

It is a person you can turn to in case of a conflict or a dispute that cannot be solved otherwise. Ombudsperson should be impartial and talking to them is confidential. Anybody can turn to them for support or advice – researchers, administrative staff, students, and doctoral students. Two of the ombudsman's most important tasks are to support everyone member of the academic community in resolving conflicts, disputes, and tensions amicably, and to promote high ethical standards in academic life.

Contact: ombuds@ur.edu.pl

Student ombudsman

It is a student representative, usually a law student, whose role is to ensure the observance of students' rights at the UR. You can turn to them in case of a problem connected with your course of studies.

Contact: rzecznikssur@urz.pl

Plenipotentiary for Equal Treatment

It is a person you can turn to if you are considering making a formal complaint of discrimination, i.e., any unfair treatment whose motive could be the characteristics of a given person (e.g., gender, age, disability, nationality, political beliefs, ethnicity, religion, psychosexual orientation, and others). Their duties include also handling cases concerning the protection of foreigners' rights.

Contact: biuro.rownosci@ur.edu.pl

“Pink boxes”

Recently, so-called "pink boxes" have been installed in university toilets (they can be found in the toilets designed for disabled people) to help provide access to free personal hygiene products needed during menstruation. The pink boxes contain free sanitary pads and tampons.

Doctoral Student Council of the University of Rzeszow

The Doctoral Student Council of the University of Rzeszow represents, integrates, and supports doctoral students on the path of scientific development. It conducts a dialogue with the university's authorities on the situation of young scientists and participates in the work of important bodies that shape the regulations of the UR. Its members pay special attention to the rights and equal treatment of all doctoral students. The Council cooperates with national and international organizations with similar goals. Delegates of the Council participate, among others, in the work of the National Representation of Doctoral Students.

As part of its activities, the UR Doctoral Student Council:

- uphold the rights of doctoral students;
- expresses the opinions of the doctoral student community on matters important to them;
- participates in the deliberations and activities of UR collegiate bodies;
- forms interdisciplinary project teams in the organization of events aimed at students, doctoral students and the local socio-economic environment;
- conducts internal work within the framework of, among others, the Legal Committee and the Promotion Committee;
- provides opinions on draft normative legal acts issued by the relevant UR bodies in matters concerning doctoral students;
- cooperates with the bodies of the University and its organizational units in activities aimed at improving the educational system, increasing the quality of studying and improving the material situation of doctoral students;
- strives to integrate the entire doctoral student community.

The activities of the UR Doctoral Student Council, also undertake initiatives in the Science Shop formula. These are initiatives that bring science and society closer together. An example of such a participatory stream of science creation was the interdisciplinary project "Healthy Senior", which won recognition in the ProDok 2023 Doctoral Environment Competition for the best organized event among doctoral self-councils in Poland.

Representatives of the UR Doctoral Student Council engage in charitable activities, advise, and assist doctoral students in solving their individual problems related to their studies, and join in preparing the setting for the most important ceremonies held at the University of Rzeszow and outside its walls.

Website:

<https://www.facebook.com/doktoranciur>

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