



SUMMARY of EVALUATION REPORT

STUDY FIELD of ANTHROPOLOGY

AT VYTAUTAS MAGNUS UNIVERSITY

The study field and cycle are accredited for 7 years if all evaluation areas are evaluated as exceptional (5 points), very good (4 points) or good (3 points).

VI. SUMMARY

This is a programme that delivers a curriculum that manages both to maintain a link to the classical traditions of social anthropology and to renew its curricula in innovative and locally appropriate ways. It has developed in impressive and important ways since the last evaluation above all in the recruitment of new and impressively young staff. The continuing provision of teaching from international visiting faculty makes a great and distinctive contribution to the curriculum. This contributes to the fact that the curricula represents a very good feature of the programme.

Student support is also present in all kinds of ways. Students can access counselling in a variety of forms and the provision of information about these is well managed. Students are clearly satisfied with the services provided and give positive feedback about them. More generally the attention to student's contributions is well reflected in the way the University understands the importance of competences acquired in informal ways or externally (e.g. internationally) and provides the opportunity to count these as part of credits. We were also impressed by the way in which a small programme continues to exercise international appeal. From the website on the service for international students is outstanding.

We also noted that the longstanding tradition in this Study Programme of excellent communication with alumni and social partners continues. And we acknowledge that this is the result of great effort being invested in this area of activity. This is also reflected in the strong employability of graduates from the programme.

The teachers competences are based on strong scientific research expertise in the discipline, a broad range of teaching strategies and individual mentoring practice. The SA programme team is "pocket-sized", but has excellent staff with a wide range of relevant experience. Thanks to the employment of new, young people, this team is renewed, both in a personal and intellectual sense. A strongly international culture fosters teaching staff mobility which is also reflected in cyclical invitations of foreign professors (as well as admirable efforts to obtain the right to award graduates with a double diploma in the future).

The facilities are in conformity with national standards but a notable feature is the provision for handicapped students including step free access and other facilities for disabled staff. This represents a major improvement on the previous accommodation addition to the high quality of classrooms, social space for students is also taken care of, serving both to rest and prepare their own meals.

Finally, there are robust procedures in place for the effective and ongoing evaluation of teaching programmes. The mechanisms by which student feedback is incorporated into the programme is not just robust but of international standard.

In conclusion we would particularly like to thank all the staff of the Higher Education Institution HEI for their efforts in preparing a most comprehensive and impressive self-evaluation report as well as organising a rapid but intensive and successful site-visit during which they, their students, administrative staff and social partners/alumnae all engaged in serious discussions with the expert panel.

Expert panel chairperson signature:

Prof. dr. Michael Sinclair Stewart