Introduction to The Academic Educational System in Ukrainian Higher Educational Institutions

This document is a Ukrainian Universities Consultancy publication that contains a short summary of academic studying system in Ukrainian higher educational institutions.

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Introduction

As a concerned parent or a prospective student, it is natural to explore the adopted educational system by the Ukrainian higher educational society and it is our duty to assist you in this matter.

Ukrainian Universities Consultancy has summarized this short introduction to the system of education in higher educational institutions. This guide will:

1. Introduce you to the languages used as medium of instruction in Ukraine’s universities and academies;
2. Explain the national evaluation system used in higher educational institutions of Ukraine;
3. Summarize the unique full attendance requirement.
1. Medium of instruction

The languages of instruction in higher educational institutions in Ukraine are:

- English.
- Ukrainian.
- Russian.

To enable students to join any English program in Ukrainian higher educational institutions, they must pass the conducted interview in English prior to finalizing their enrolment process. In our consultancy, we work with our students and prepare them to pass the interview. We are proud to point out that our record shows 100% success rate and surely intend to maintain flawless record.

The other two available languages of instruction are Ukrainian and Russian. Students are eligible to choose one of these mediums without preparatory upon meeting condition 1 if not than conditions 2.

The two conditions are:

1. **Provide an evidence** (accredited certificate) of sufficient knowledge of the chosen language (Russian or Ukrainian).
2. **Undergoing preparatory course**; during which he/she will study the language (Russian or Ukrainian) along some required subjects for the chosen speciality. For example: if the student's chosen speciality is medicine in Russian Language, he/she will study Russian Language alongside Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics during the preparatory course.

We always consult our students on the subject of language before the issuance of invitation letter.

2. Attendance

The academic system in Ukraine's higher educational institutions shares the same core with its peers in the rest of Europe. Student still have to attend classes, summarize lectures, work on given assignments, conduct laboratory work (where applicable) and interact with professors, teachers and fellow students.

However, class attendance is very important because it stands out as every student is required to score 100% attendance. Meaning they have to attend all classes and lectures in their yearly academic program. Even if a student skips part of the program in one subject, they'll be obligated to prepare the material of the missed classes and pass compensating classes, also known as doing “otrabotka” (Russian term) otherwise, they won’t be allowed to give tests and exams in the subject.
The main advantage of the 100% attendance requirement is that it makes sure that the student has at least the minimum accepted knowledge in any given part of a subject and not only depends on the tests and exams general evaluation.

3. The Evaluation System; “European Credit Transfer System (ECTS)”

- What is ECTS?

The system was established by the European community to meet the need of better cooperation between different universities throughout the European higher education area. It enhances student mobility between universities as well as improves the quality of student-exchange programs and contributes to the transfer of learning experiences between different academic institutions in Europe.

In simple words, students can freely transfer from one recognized European university to another, thanks to the fact that they all apply the same evaluation and credit.

Since 2004 and in compliance with the **Bologna Declaration (19th of June 1999)**, Ukraine has adopted the European Credit Transfer System and made it the core of its national evaluation system in higher educational institutions.

- How it works?

A credit (ECTS) is the value used to measure a student’s workload. This workload includes academic hours (lectures, seminar, practical classes, consulting classes, and tutorials), practice, tests, academic hours for student preparation and other forms of evaluative activities.

In accordance with the ECTS system, a student workload for one academic year is 60 credits. Each ECTS credit consists of 36 hours, irrespective of standard or qualification type and is used to facilitate transfer and progression throughout the European zone.

- Grading system

The grading scale is based on the class percentile of a student in a given assessment that is how they performed relative to other students in the same class.

The ECTS system initially divides students between pass and fail groups, and then assesses the performance of these two groups separately. Those obtaining passing grades are divided into five subgroups: the best 10% are awarded an A-grade, the next 25% a B-grade, the following 30% a C-grade, the following 25% a D-grade and the final 10% an E-grade.

Those who have not achieved a performance sufficient to allow a passing grade are divided into two subgroups: FX (Fail – some more work required before credit can be awarded) and F (Fail – considerable further work is required). This distinction allows differentiation
between those students who have been assessed as almost passing and those who have clearly lacked the required knowledge and skills.

- The following table summarizes **ECTS's grading system:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mark</th>
<th>Explanations</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
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<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<td>C</td>
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<td>30%</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FX</td>
<td><strong>FAIL</strong> Thorough and elaborate recurrence of the entire course is necessary.</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td><strong>Fail</strong> Elaborate recurrence of the course material is necessary in order to receive a passing credit.</td>
<td>-</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

We hope that you find the material of this publication useful and of some help to you. Additional information about studying in Ukraine can be found on our official web: [www.UkrainianUniversities.com](http://www.UkrainianUniversities.com).

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