



AGJENCIA E SIGURIMIT TË CILËSISË NË ARSIMIN E LARTË

EXTERNAL EVALUATION REPORT

**FOR SECOND CYCLE STUDY PROGRAM
“MASTER OF SCIENCE” IN “SPORT SCIENCES”
OF “SPORTS UNIVERSITY OF TIRANA”**

External Evaluation Group:

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March/2020

SUMMARY OF THE EXTERNAL EVALUATION

STUDY PROGRAM

The study program is offered by the Department of Sports Medicine, Faculty of Movement Sciences. It is licensed with Order of Minister of Education and Sport No. 683, dated 25.08.2010, in accordance with the Decision of the Council of Accreditation No. 78, dated 28.05.2010.

The program demonstrated a variety of backgrounds across its lectures and the program was developed in consultation with experts of other European Universities. As such the presented "Master of Science" layout is well equipped to teach Sport Sciences. Positively noted was the passion for the subject: "Sport Sciences" of the internal evaluation team, which is likely to positively influence outreach to the public and students. A better effort is needed by the institution regarding the formalization of the agreements. There is a lack of subjects in English language.

ORGANIZATION, MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

The program management was up to the rules defined by the Albanian government. There is a lack of regulations of the study program, this deriving by the non-approval yet of the HEI's Special Status by MESY. There is a mismatch of the numbers regarding the academic staff of the faculty. A limitation noticed was the lack of any regular continuous professional development for the lectures within the program, while lecture seem to have improved skills on their own (based on CV double check with HR). Positively was observed the good usage of the Erasmus+ and European funds to improve the facilities of the program.

TEACHING, LEARNING, EVALUATION AND COMPETENCES

In respect of teaching and learning, the program appears to underpin theoretical knowledge with practical labs, while the competences needed to achieve the "Master of Science" aim are given. The ability to learn and "play" with the knowledge is given by the facilities of the University in respect to sport grounds and other facilities. Surprisingly, students are not able to take books home for a given period and have to stay in the library when studying the needed information. No issues were observed in respect with the evaluation and assessment of competences.

HUMAN, FINANCIAL, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND LOGISTICS RESOURCES

Human, financial, infrastructure, and logistics resources appeared to be in order with the rule set by the Albanian government. The resources available to the program are limited compared to other European programs in terms of fitness or laboratory equipment. In respect to the logistics of the program, the program seems to have a clear flow of procedures in respect to grading, teaching and practice.

STUDENTS AND THEIR SUPPORT

Students reported to have enrolled into the program due to its high level of knowledge and reported that the University encouraged / supported research projects, introduced them to Erasmus+ and felt well supported. A better effort is needed by the Career and Alumni office as there are only a few students employed in accordance of their diploma. The number of papers presented by the academic staff is low.

STUDY PROGRAMS' QUALITY ASSURANCE

Multiple questionnaires were conducted by the quality assurance team. While findings were not shared with students, the program has made changes based on the findings.

DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTERNAL EVALUATION PROCESS;

The External Evaluation Report for the study program "Master of Science" in "Sport Sciences", was compiled by two experienced professors and experts of the field, Dr. Enkelejda Sinaj and Ph.D. Chris Richter, with the assistance of the QAAHE review manager.

The External Evaluation Group (EEG) considered all the documents included in the Self Evaluation File as well as the information gathered during the site visit to compile this evaluation report.

The External Evaluation Group visited the University on December 5th and 6th of 2019 and meet with representatives to further understand and question key staff members in respect to the submitted internal evaluation.

The evaluation process started with a meeting of the program heads. Discussed were collaborations, conferences presentations, papers published, external funding, ALUMNI program, encouragement of improvement made and continuous professional development.

The external evaluation team (we) then meet the internal evaluation team of the program. Discussed were the generation of the internal report, the University journal, valuable skills of students, real live practical experiences, improvements made.

After meeting the internal evaluation team, we meet with selected students. Discussed were: "how does the teaching compare to previous other university", research / publications, given career advice, practical work and thesis, internships, external supervision.

The fourth meeting was with program lectures. Discussed were: "how do they make sure that the students are though interdisciplinary", "how outreach is supported", "how they ensure real understanding" and "what they would improve in the program".

Subsequent meetings were with human recourses (HR), quality assurance (QA) and the External Relations, Project and IT (ER-IT). During these meetings we discussed: hiring process, processes takes after complaint and we checked one randomly selected CV of a lecturer with HR; questionnaires conducted and their findings as well as reports to students with (QA); and the project "Treavet", data storage and possible improvements with ER-IT.

The last step taken in the evaluation was a tour through the facilitates that are used within the program.

The EEG has also consulted the legal framework, law and bylaws in force for higher education in the Republic of Albania.

The EEG have also consulted with each other on all the findings and conclusions presented in this report and have jointly agreed on the evaluation of the standards. In order to give a more objective assessment of the fulfillment of standards, it has been a mathematical process as well as based on the importance of meeting each criterion to assure the quality of the study program.

The External Evaluation Draft Report is sent to the institution via AMS system and letter nr.36/11 Prot. on 18.03.2020. The institution responded via AMS system on 24.03.2020 stating that **have no comments** about the External Evaluation Draft Report, in this case the Draft Report becomes the External Evaluation Report.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, based on the MHSP Order no. 132 dated 09.03.2020, MESY Order no. 91 dated 09.03.2020 and MHSP order No. 190 dated 19.03.2020, the communication with the HEI for sending the External Evaluation Report was made only through the AMS system.

EVALUATION OF THE SECOND CYCLE STUDY PROGRAM

"MASTER OF SCIENCE" IN "SPORT SCIENCES"

I. STUDY PROGRAM PROVISION

Standard I.1			
The Higher Education Institution provides a "Master of science" / "Master of Arts" study program in accordance with its mission and objectives, aiming at maintaining national interests and values.			
Criteria	Evaluation of experts		
Criterion 1 The institution offers a "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study programs in compliance with national interests.	The Master of Science in "Sport Sciences" does not conflict with national interests and is designed to be compliant with the constitutional institution of the Republic of Albania (Ref. 4 SUT Statute)		
Criterion 2 The "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program aims to preserve and consolidate national academic and cultural values.	The EEG concludes that the MSc study program offered aims to prepare future professionals who will carry value as well as to contribute to the quality development of Higher Education. (Ref. 4 SUT Statute)		
Criterion 3 The study program is designed and delivered in accordance with the goals and mission of the institution and field of activity.	The MSc program prepares students to lead a career in sport sciences and is designed to give students a mastery of a complex field of study or professional area. The program is prepared in support of national interests and is in line with the goals and mission of the institution. (Ref. 4 SUT Statute)		
Criterion 4 The "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program is designed and offered in line with and promotes local and / or national economic development.	The promotion of local and economic development is rather limited due to rather small sport sector in Albania. Nevertheless, during the evaluation, the interviews, staff reported on the plan of lectures lead students' clinics or sport sciences program that should benefit the wider population to fight obesity and other age-related disease.		
Criterion 5 The "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program establishes a sustainable competences basis, necessary for in-depth third cycle studies, including in-depth professional and scientific training.	The program demonstrated study design based on the design of other established European institutions and consequently are able to build skills that are necessary for third cycle of studies, including in-depth professional and scientific training. (Ref. 5 Study program teaching plan and Syllabuses).		
Fulfillment of standard	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
			X

Standard I.2	
The MSc / MA study program is in line with the development strategy, statute and other regulatory acts of the Higher Education Institution and its academic fields.	
Criteria	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The institution clearly stipulates that the study program is	The SUT has designed a medium-term strategic development

designed and delivered in compliance with and in implementation of the institution's own development strategy.	plan for the period 2016-2020. The study program is in line with objectives and institution's development strategy and is designed in accordance with academic priorities, which are stated in the Statute. (Ref. 6 Senate Decision No. 8, dated 02.03.2017; Ref 4.SUT Statute).								
Criterion 2 The statute and the regulation of the institution clearly define its academic priorities and demonstrate that the study program is designed and delivered in accordance with and in implementation of the latter.	After considering the Self Evaluation Report and supporting evidences, the EEG concludes that the MSc is compliant to the Sports University of Tirana Strategic Development Plan. (Ref. 4 SUT Statute); Ref.6 The Strategic Development plan)								
Criterion 3 The designation, organization, structure and content of the study programs are provided in accordance with institution's areas and academic profiles.	The content of the study program is designed in line with the academic fields and directions of SUT. Based on the evaluation of the study program and random checks, EEG can confirm that designation, organization, structure and content of the study programs are provided in accordance with institution's areas and academic profiles. (Ref. 4 SUT Statute; Ref.6 The Strategic Development plan; Syllabuses)								
Criterion 4 The "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program is designed and developed in accordance with national development strategies, national interest and global development trends.	Based on the evaluation of the study program, the program is similar to other European sports MSc's and hence in accordance with national development strategies. Regarding global development trends, the program is lacking on novel / global arising needs. For example, an emerging need is the skill of data processing or statistical analysis. For example, the university holds on to the rather expensive SPSS software (statistical software), while it could easily switch to other open source / free software (R, python, jasp), which provide the same abilities as SPSS.								
Fulfillment of standard	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Partly met</th> <th>Substantially met</th> <th>Met</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>X</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Partly met	Substantially met	Met			X	
	Partly met	Substantially met	Met						
		X							

Standard I.3	
The "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program aims to meet the needs of the labor market and is provided in accordance with its requirements.	
Criteria	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program has set objectives for student training in that program, which include scientific competences, skills and professional competencies that students should acquire at the end of the study program, which characterize the profile of the program in accordance with the level of studies in which they are offered and	The MSc. Program has defined objectives regarding student training to prepare specialists in the field, while taking the economic development and labor market perspective in Albania into consideration. In order to achieve these objectives, the program envisages the acquisition of knowledge starting with the theoretical aspects followed by the practical aspects.

with the requirements of the labor market.	<i>(Ref. 8 SUT Rector document No. 392/1 dated 04/04/2017)</i>
Criterion 2 The institution conducts studies on the local and international labor market for the study program it provides before its opening, after students' graduation, and periodically. These studies should include data from formal communication with employers of the respective field of study, their needs and requirements, student employment opportunities, data on real employment of graduates and expected developments in the relevant sector.	The program was launched after a study by experts in the field of labor market. <i>(Ref. 9 Labour Market Research 2009 pp. 30 - 32 "Sport Science Curriculum in Albania and the Bologna Process" and Ref. 10 Periodic Labour Market Research -Department of Sports Medicine June 2019)</i> describes the analysis of the labor market conducted. The program also aims to stay in contact with former students to further understand the demands of the labor market, but as accepted by the institution itself in the self-evaluation report, the Alumni and Career Counseling office should play a bigger role in orientating students to this study program.
Criterion 3 The study program training objectives, structure and content, as well as study program expected learning outcomes guarantee the acquisition of knowledge, skills, and competences that respond to market needs and facilitate student employment.	The study program is provided by a wide range of lectures and therefore provides the students with the knowledge, skills, and competences that respond to market needs and facilitate student employment. During the interview we asked the students about the requirements and employment of their colleagues. They confirmed that, their knowledge and skills gained from the study program were in line with what was required in the workplaces where they worked in Albania.
Criterion 4 The study program is aligned with similar study programs provided by international institutions in order to facilitate study transfer or student employment in the international market in the future.	The program in line with other European universities and hence gives the ability to transfer students internationally. However, the university is lacking a language class to further increase this ability.
Criterion 5 The study program is drafted in accordance with the objectives set out in the EU legislation and directives on higher education and regulated professions, and it relies on the institution's long-standing experience and European countries best practices.	As mentioned above, the program demonstrated study design similar to the design of other established European institutions and is in line with other European universities.
Criterion 6 The "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program includes vocational training in professional practices in line with the study program purpose and objectives and international directives on regulated professions.	The organization and content of the study program is in compliance with its mission and has included the Professional practice which is realized during the second semester of the second year. <i>(Ref. 5: Teaching Plan)</i>
Criterion 7 In the "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program, teaching components, modules, subjects or the entire foreign language program should be included in order to attract foreign students, increase mobility 4 within the framework of scientific research and institution's internationalization.	The program is designed in Albanian language and there is no foreign language module.

<p>Criterion 8 For the "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program, the institution prepares stores and archives in English all the documentation and the activities developed.</p>	<p>The EEG has reviewed documents in English such as, syllabuses and the Regulation of the SUT. It is concluded that most of this documentation was provided for the accreditation process and as there are limitations on the provision of courses in English, it is not confirmed that the criterion is met.</p>		
<p>Fulfillment of standard</p>	<p>Partly met</p>	<p>Substantially met</p>	<p>Met</p>
		X	

<p>Standard I.4 The study program is in line with the academic field of the main / basic unit (department) responsible for the study program at the institution.</p>	
<p>Criteria</p>	<p>Evaluation of experts</p>
<p>Criterion 1 The institution demonstrates that it has the necessary experience, capabilities and resources in the academic field to provide a study program in that field.</p>	<p>The MSc study program is provided by Faculty of Movement Sciences. The faculty structure is well organized in accordance to Law 80/2015, divided into three departments with administrative and academic staff (full time and part time). For the academic year 2019-2020, there is a mismatch of the academic personnel numbers required for each department of this faculty, in the tables that HEI has submitted to QAAHE. But based on the fact that some departments do not have any active study program and based on the site visit EEG concludes that the institution has the academic and infrastructural resources and capacities needed for the MSc in "Sport Sciences".</p> <p><i>(Ref. 12 Appendix 1 ASCAL Tables, Tables No.1, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3; 2.1, 2.2, 2.3; 4; 5; 12; 16; 17; 18, staff involved in the study program and necessary infrastructure for it).</i></p>
<p>Criterion 2 The general and specific scope of the study program should be in line with the academic and research field of the main unit responsible for the study program, according to the classification / codification of the study programs based on the national and European guidelines and directives.</p>	<p>The scope of the MSc is compliant with the Faculty of Movement Sciences (in light of academic and research). There is a harmony between the scope of MSc study program and the academic and research field of the main unit.</p> <p><i>(Ref. 4 SUT Statute); Ref 7. HEI Regulation)</i></p>
<p>Criterion 3 The general and specific field of the study programs should be in line with the academic and research area of the main unit, responsible for the study programs, according to the classification / codification of study programs based on the national and European guidelines and directives. In the case of interdisciplinary programs, at least one of the cooperating units should ensure this compliance.</p>	<p>The MSc is in line with the academic and research area of the Department of Sports Medicine. The general and specific field of the study programs is in line with the academic and research area of the main unit, responsible for the study program.</p> <p><i>(Ref. 4 SUT Statute; Ref 7. HEI Regulation)</i></p>

Fulfillment of standard	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
			X

Standard I.5	
The Higher Education Institution ensures cooperation establishment with institutions, companies, third parties, local and / or foreign business actors with the view to deliver study programs, in the framework of vocational training, research and mobility.	
Criteria	Evaluation
<p>Criterion 1 The institution established effective internal cooperation relations for study programs design, supervision and maintenance of the by allocating tasks among units and staff, assigning respective responsibilities and the analyzing on an ongoing basis their work.</p>	<p>The institution has established an internal cooperation for the MSc in respect to design supervision and maintenance.</p> <p>The institution established effective internal cooperation relations for study program design. The department of Sports Medicine supervises the activity of MSc as responsible unit of the study program.</p> <p><i>(Ref. 4 SUT Statute; Ref 7. HEI Regulation)</i></p>
<p>Criterion 2 In the framework of students' learning and learning objectives achievement, the institution establishes cooperation relations with counterpart institutions at the national or international level with local and / or foreign business actors.</p>	<p>SUT corporate with institutions, public and private in Albania and abroad to keep in touch with the needs of the labor market and to reflect it to the study program.</p> <p>Based on <i>Ref. 6: The strategic plan for the development of the program</i>, this criterion is meet.</p>
<p>Criterion 3 With the view to deliver "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program the institution enters into special agreements with field institutions, research institutes, companies to enable professional training, clinical practice, or internships etc.</p>	<p>The faculty has signed an agreement with the Institute of Scientific Research in terms of within-institutional cooperation as well as with other field institutions (<i>Albanian Federation of Body building & Fitness, Faculty of Kinesiology in University of Zagreb, etc.; Ref. 14 List of SUT cooperation agreements with other institutions</i>) to be up to date with the latest developments in field. It is recommended a better utilization of these agreements in order to increase the numbers of academic staff participation in training and research activities as well as in internships.</p>
<p>Criterion 4 The institution establishes official relationships and cooperates with employers to carry out and supervise the training/internship, depending on the specific nature of study programs it offers.</p>	<p>It is concluded that the cooperation's with potential employers and institutions for training and internships are informal. It is recommended to establish official arrangements and to build up a mentoring system for this purpose.</p>
<p>Criterion 5 The institution guarantees co-operation with counterpart institutions or scientific research institutes to enable scientific research and staff and students' mobility.</p>	<p>The institution has experience in academic staff and student's mobility in Albania and abroad to ensure high-quality mobility activities with maximum impact on the students, SUT has signed an agreement for Erasmus+ program and is preparing the environment. SUT is open to all foreign students and teachers. However, the university is lacking a language class to further increase this ability.</p>

	(Ref. 14 List of SUT cooperation agreements with other institutions)		
Criterion 6 The unit responsible for study program drafts periodic analytical reports as regards benefits from the cooperation agreements with the view to deliver study programs.	The institutions has cooperation agreements as reflected in the Ref. 11 "Table of Mobility programs taking place within the framework of Erasmus+ - Erasmus agreements between institutions " and Ref. 12 Appendix 1 ASCAL Table, No.20, but there is no evidence of a report on the benefits and the effectiveness of these agreements for the institution.		
Fulfillment of standard		Partly met	Substantially met
			X

Standard I.6.			
The institution supports achievements in in-depth studies and research, which are then promoted and made public.			
Criteria	Evaluation of experts		
Criterion 1 The institution adopts a supportive policy on staff and students' scientific research activities results dissemination.	The EEG revealed that the SUT supports research for staff and students. This is supported by (Ref.6 Senate Decision No. 8, dated 02/03/20017; SUT 2016-2020 strategic plan, chapter 3.6, page 16) and (Ref.7, SUT Regulation article 18/1, and Ref. 4 SUT Statute Chapter 10, article 38).		
Criterion 2 The institution establishes a unit on scientific research results performance evaluation.	The institution evaluated the performance in respect to research as evident from Ref 7 SUT Regulation article 18/1, and Ref. 7 SUT Regulation, Art. 22, item 1; Ref. 4 SUT Statute, Art. 22. Vice Rector sets up working groups for monitoring and evaluating the quality of scientific research.		
Criterion 3 The institution pursues a policy for promoting scientific research results.	The SUT seems to support the scientific research within the program budget, as well as organizing, every two years, a conference, where staff, students, and other researchers present and promote their research work. (Ref. 15 Decision 231 12/12/2018 - "On the Reorganization of the JPAS Board" Scan a journal; http://ust.edu.al/open-call/)		
Criterion 4 The institution pursues a policy regarding protection of intellectual property as well as the best practices in publishing research.	As evident from SUT Code of Ethics and SUT Regulation of Ethics Council, the institution foresees a Senate decision on ethics in research and publishing of research activity.		
Criterion 5 The institution encourages students and novice researchers to personally engage in scientific research activities.	The institution encourages students and novice researchers to personally engage in scientific research activities based on interviews the students have the ability to use laboratories and attend the periodically organized conference.		
Fulfillment of standard		Partly met	Substantially met
			X

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Fulfillment of standards of Field I	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
		X	

II. STUDY PROGRAM ORGANIZATION, MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

Standard II.1	
The "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program is organized in accordance with national legal provisions and bylaws in force covering these study programs.	
Criteria	Evaluation of experts
<p>Criterion 1 The study program is organized into courses and modules evaluated in credits, in accordance with the applicable national legislation and according to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).</p>	<p>SUT offers study programs in accordance with legislation (<i>Law on Higher Education nr. 80/2015</i>) and guidelines coming from Ministry of Education Sport and Youth. The program is organized in modules assessed into ECTS and the subjects are grouped into five categories: A, B, C, D, E. The two years MSc is composed of 120 ECTS. The disciplines are organized in categories as follows: Category A: 12 / 120 ECTS, 10% (as required: 5-10%), Category B: 64 / 120 ECTS, 53.3% (as required: 50-60%), Category C: 20 / 120 ECTS, 16.6% (as required: 12-20%), Category D: 12 / 120 ECTS, 10% (as required: 10%), Category E: 12 / 120 ECTS, 10 % (as required: 10-15%). Based on <i>Ref. 5: Curriculum of study program and DCM no. 41 24/01/2018, amended</i>, this criterion is met.</p>
<p>Criterion 2 The "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program aims at equipping students with specific skills in a wide range of professions and specialties.</p>	<p>The MSc program provides modules with basic education knowledge and specific skills in a wide range of professions and specialties. (<i>Ref 38. Diploma Supplement</i>)</p>
<p>Criterion 3 The "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program provides advanced knowledge in a field of study or professional field, including critical understanding of the theories and field academic principles.</p>	<p>Into completion of MSc program students gain the necessary professional knowledge and competence in the labor market and create opportunities for specialization in-depth studies. (<i>Ref 6. Strategic plan for development</i>)</p>
<p>Criterion 4 The "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program helps students acquire advanced knowledge, skills and competences in a specific academic or professional field, necessary to solve complex and unpredictable problems in a specialized field of study or professional field.</p>	<p>The program offers students theoretical and practical courses, skills and competence in the field of sport sciences. The MSc study program prepares students for the employment in field of sport sciences. Based on conducted interviews this criterion is met.</p>
<p>Criterion 5 The study programs "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" contains all the components composing the study program design, as set forth by the legal and sub-legal acts.</p>	<p>The program is designed in accordance with the legal acts in force, (<i>DCM no.41/2018, Law in Higher Education no.80/2015</i>), in both technical elements and componential disciplines Based on conducted interviews and evidences <i>Ref. 21 SUT Senate Decision No. 12 dated 01/03/2019</i>, this criterion is met.</p>
<p>Criterion 6 The "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program has clearly</p>	<p>The categories A (basic subjects) and B (characterizing subjects) offers more than the minimum requested from</p>

defined practicum by grouping courses / modules according to specific categories and corresponding load on credits.	the legal act (<i>see DCM. No.41</i>). The normal loan on credits is 60 per year, divided in 30 ECTS per semester and normal duration of 15 weeks. Based on <i>Ref. 5 Study Program Plan and Curriculum</i> , this criterion is met.		
Criterion 7 The study program credits necessary for graduation and the research work in the framework of its development have been already determined.	The program has a credit scheme for the diploma thesis of 12 ECTS. Based on reference <i>Ref. 5 Study Program Plan and Curriculum</i> , this criterion is met.		
Fulfillment of standard	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
			X

Standard II.2	
The main / basic unit responsible for the study program meets the legal requirements and quality standards prescribed for these units.	
Criteria	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The main / basic unit responsible for the study program meets all legal requirements on evaluation and accreditation.	The program is delivered by the Faculty of Movement Sciences, this faculty is composed of 3 departments, the department of Sports Medicine, the department of Sport and the department of Social Sciences and Education, as mentioned above there is a mismatch of the academic staff number composing those departments for the academic year 2019-2020, as given in the Ref.12 table 1.2, the department of Sports Medicine results with 3 full time academic staff, the department of Sport, 5 academic staff and the department of Social Sciences and Education 6 academic staff. During the site visit this was explained by the HEI as a mistake in completing the tables. The correct number is 8 academic staff for the department of Sports Medicine, all of them full time staff, 24 academic staff for the department of Sport, 20 of them as full time and 4 as part time and 14 academic staff for the department of Social Sciences and Education, 13 of them full time and 1 part time. The basic unit responsible for the MSc study program fulfills the legal obligations for the number and level of qualification of the academic staff. The department for the academic year 2019-2020 results to have 8 full time academic staff of which, 1 Prof, 2 Prof As, 4 Dr, 1 Msc. (<i>Ref. 23 FMS Structure, Interviews during the site visit</i>)
Criterion 2 The main / basic unit responsible for the study program meets the legal and sub-legal requirements on academic organization and structure.	
Criterion 3 The main / local unit responsible for the study program meets the legal requirements on academic staff number and qualification the relations between full-time, part-time and visiting staff.	
Criterion 4 The main / basic unit responsible for the study program meets the legal and sub-legal requirements on academic organization and structure.	The department meets legal and sub-legal requirements on academic organization and respect the ratio between the full-time academic staff and part time academic staff. Based on <i>Ref. 12, Tabular data for academic staff in the Main Unit and study program, Table 6.1-3, Table 7</i> , this criterion is met.
Criterion 5 The main / basic unit responsible for the study program	The academic staff leading practices is sufficiently loaded in relation to the number of students.

encourages the academic staff to engage in of teaching, laboratory and clinical practice; research work and projects, etc.	The teaching workload comprises 88% of engaged staff (106 ECTS full time – FAS) and 11% of part-time staff (14 ECTS part time / contracted – PAS). Table 4.1. Based on <i>Ref.12 Appendix 1 Ascal Tables</i> , this criterion is met								
Criterion 6 The main / basic unit responsible for each study program appoints a person as the coordinator of the study programs, who is responsible for program progress and development and professional training in accordance with its objectives.	According to the HEI Regulation, as mentioned in the Internal Evaluation Report, the responsible of the department of Sports Medicine is appointed the program coordinator and he is responsible for the progress and development of the program and professional practices in accordance with its objectives. Based on <i>Ref. 24 Dean's decision No. 5, dated 09/10/2019</i> , and meetings held during the site visit, this criterion is met.								
Criterion 7 The Program Coordinator reports periodically to the Head of the Main / Basic Unit and documents any information related to the study programs.	The Program Coordinator reports periodically to the relevant authorities and review syllabus quality, approves diploma thesis, etc. Based on <i>Ref. 24 Dean's decision No. 5, dated 09/10/2019</i> , and meetings held during the site visit, this criterion is met.								
Fulfillment of standard	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="719 965 863 1025"></th> <th data-bbox="863 965 1046 1025">Partly met</th> <th data-bbox="1046 965 1291 1025">Substantially met</th> <th data-bbox="1291 965 1503 1025">Met</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="719 1025 863 1059"></td> <td data-bbox="863 1025 1046 1059"></td> <td data-bbox="1046 1025 1291 1059"></td> <td data-bbox="1291 1025 1503 1059">X</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Partly met	Substantially met	Met				X
	Partly met	Substantially met	Met						
			X						

Standard II.3	
The MSc / MA study program is detailed, structured and organized in accordance with the standards and objectives of the second cycle study program.	
Criteria	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The main / basic unit, responsible for the second cycle study program, has the necessary information on study program organization, structure and content.	The information on study program organization, structure and content is presented to the students by the department in the first week of their enrollment. Based on the site visit, the basic unit manages the documentation on the content of study program. The regulation of the study program is included in the regulation of the Faculty. Although it is recommended that the program should have a regulation on its own where the skills and the competences of the program are well determined.
Criterion 2 The study program is organized into courses, modules, professional training and practicum, in accordance with the applicable legal provisions.	The study program is organized into modules, which include even the professional practice that is in line with the applicable legal and sub-legal acts. Based on <i>Ref. 1 DCM No. 683 dated 25/08/2010; Ref.25 Law on higher education no. 9741 amended, Ref. DCM 41 dated 24/01/2018 and Ref. 21 SUT Senate Decision No. 12 dated 01/03/2019</i> , this criterion is met.
Criterion 3 The study program is organized into courses and modules evaluated with credits according to the national and European system, divided into academic years and semesters.	Subjects in the study program are organized in 13 modules evaluated with 120 ECTS. Based on <i>Ref. 7: HEI Regulation, Ref. 5 Study program and Teaching plan</i> , this criterion is met.

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<p>Criterion 4 The study program has a detailed syllabus, which incorporates the necessary information on the teaching workload, hours in / outside the auditorium, attendance / program follow-up and the knowledge assessment methods, etc.</p>	<p>The study program issue detailed information on the distribution of subjects and modules in semesters and the teaching load.</p> <p>The MSc study program contains: 3.6% practicum 7.4% laboratory classes 19% seminars 70% lectures – see <i>Table 13</i>.</p> <p>Based on <i>Ref. 5: HEI Regulation, and Curriculum change procedure</i>, this criterion is met.</p>		
<p>Criterion 5 The study program provides students with all the necessary information related to the general and specific criteria for admission, transfer and studies equivalence.</p>	<p>The regulation of the study program is included in the main acts of University regulation and Faculty regulation, while it is recommended to be a document on its own. The study program provides students for the transfer procedure from other institutions to SUT and vice versa. All necessary information relating to the general and specific criteria for transfer and equivalence of studies is reflected in the regulation.</p> <p>Based on <i>Ref. 4 Statute and Ref. 7 SUT Regulation</i>, this criterion is met.</p>		
<p>Criterion 6 The study program contains the necessary information on course programs (detailed syllabuses) for each subject, training, seminars or laboratory classes, as well as all the components of each program in and outside the auditorium in accordance with the approved formats.</p>	<p>The form and content of a syllabus vary widely by discipline, course and instructor. Syllabuses are well formatted and completed with the necessary components. These components of syllabi communicate to the students an accurate description of the course including the topics that will be covered, assignments and assessments students will be responsible for, as well as a clear source for policies and expectations. The Coordinator sets up a working group to evaluate the quality of the course syllabuses.</p> <p>Based on (<i>Ref 5. Teaching Plan and Syllabuses</i>) this criterion is met.</p>		
<p>Criterion 7 The content of the study program is subject to continuous improvement and update and at the beginning of each academic year the eventual changes are approved, and the complete file is archived in both Albanian and English.</p>	<p>To improve teaching outcomes the Institution at the end of the calendar year proposes to the Dean's office, eventual changes for the study program, to improve and update it for the next academic year. This process is done only in Albanian languages, references of archived files in English language doesn't exist. (<i>Ref 63. Annual Analysis of the Department</i>)</p>		
<p>Fulfillment of standard</p>	<p>Partly met</p>	<p>Substantially met</p>	<p>Met</p>
		<p>X</p>	

<p>Standard II.4 The structure and organization of the study program is in accordance with the training objectives, the qualification level based on the National and European Qualifications Framework, learning outcomes and competencies, and labor market requirements.</p>	
<p>Criteria</p>	<p>Evaluation of experts</p>
<p>Criterion 1 The workload of the "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program</p>	<p>The study program is structured in accordance with the</p>

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is structured in accordance with the applicable legal and sub-legal provisions.	applicable legal and sub-legal provisions. The two years MSc program is composed of 120 ECTS. Based on reference <i>Ref. 5 Teaching Plan and syllabuses</i> , this criterion is met.
Criterion 2 The designation, content of activities, division of courses and training enable and deepen knowledge and skills for further study and / or student employment.	All courses offered in this program help students to amplify knowledge and skills in the job market. Based on conducted interview with the students this criterion is met.
Criterion 3 The courses / modules, division into years and semesters, and credit and classes evaluation enable the achievement of study program academic objectives and the expected results of learning and scientific research.	The normal loan on credits is 60 ECTS per year, divided in 30 ECTS per semester and normal duration of 15 weeks. (<i>Ref. 5 Teaching Plan</i>)
Criterion 4 Study program design, subjects and their designation, credits, and theory vs. practice ratio is in line with the profile of the master program and approximated with similar international programs	The study program in form and content is approximated to both HEIs in Albania and international programs. Based on conducted interview this criterion is met.
Criterion 5 The division based on training activities and theory versus practice ratio enable teaching objectives achievement, transfer of studies, mobility and employment at the end of the study programs.	Based on the <i>Teaching plan and Syllabuses</i> , the students of this study program, gains a mix of knowledge between theoretical and practical. As shown in the syllabuses of Sportive Kinesiology, Contemporary applications in sport etc. The teaching plan of this program enables students to transfer credits and facilitates their mobility, but as accepted by the institution itself in the self-evaluation report, the institution should do a better effort in informing students about the credit transfer procedures.
Criterion 6 Syllabus (course / module programs) are updated continuously based on the required and recommended literature of the last 5 years.	Syllabuses of subjects are updated continuously and reviewed at the beginning of each semester by academic staff. Based on conducted interview this criterion is met.
Criterion 7 The content of the study program guarantees the acquisition of knowledge, skills and competences intended for the second cycle study program.	The MSc program is in line with the objectives of second cycle study program and guarantees the acquisition of knowledge, skills and competences intended for it. This program allows students to study the third cycle study program. Based on conducted interview this criterion is met.
Criterion 8 Study program content promotes further study opportunities and / or hiring of students in line with expectations and labor market demands.	Based on the <i>Teaching Plan and Syllabuses</i> the subjects of this study program enables students in achieving required competencies that are in line with the demands of the labor market.
Criterion 9 In order to improve the study program content and adjustment to labor market requirements, the responsible structures consult and take into account the proposals of partners from the labor market.	Based on the self-evaluation report and on the labor market report, there is no evidence to prove that the responsible structure, department has taken into consideration the proposal of partners for this study program.
Criterion 10 The combination of theoretical and scientific content assignments provides advanced knowledge for study, research, analysis and follow-up	Based on the student's interview and the subjects provided in the <i>Teaching plan</i> , it is confirmed that the knowledge achieved from those subjects allows students to further advance in the third cycle of study program.

of scientific activity in the third cycle study program.				
Fulfillment of standard		Partly met	Substantially met	Met
				X

Standard II.5

The academic staff covering the study program meet the quantitative standards and have the appropriate and special academic qualification in accordance with the program area in order to guarantee the teaching standards of the "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program.

Criteria	Evaluation of experts
<p>Criterion 1 The full-time and part-time academic staff engaged in study program delivery meet the applicable legal requirements.</p> <p>Criterion 2 The full-time and part-time academic staff engaged in delivering the "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" program have the appropriate academic qualification, at the required level to manage study program course modules.</p>	<p>Academic staff engaged in this study program has the appropriate level of academic qualification to lead the program, according to areas where they are specialized.</p> <p>During the academic year 2017-2018, the academic staff comprises 62.5% full-time staff (10 effective – FAS), 18.75% of part-time staff (3 contracted –PAS) and 18.75% (3 support teaching staff- STS).</p> <p>During the academic year 2018-2019, the academic staff comprises 74% full-time staff (20 effective – FAS), 15% of part-time staff (4 contracted –PAS) and 11% (3 support teaching staff- STS).</p> <p>During the academic year 2019-2020, the academic staff comprises 82% full-time staff (14 effective – FAS), 0% of part-time staff (0 contracted –PAS) and 18% (3 support teaching staff- STS). Table 1.3.</p> <p>During academic year 2018-2019 there are 20 FAS engaged: 9 Prof.Dr, 5 Prof.Asc, 6 Dr; and 4 PAS: 2 Prof.Asc, 2 Phd. Meanwhile during the academic year 2019-2020 there are 14 FAS engaged : 5 Prof Dr., 5 Prof Asc, 4 Phd.</p> <p>Based on the analysis above this criterion is met.</p> <p><i>(Ref. 12.Appendix 1 Tables of ASCAL, table 1; 1,1; 1,2)</i></p>
<p>Criterion 3 The general and specific academic and research field of academic staff covering the study program is in accordance with the study program, and its modules nature and specifications.</p>	<p>The academic staff possesses academic titles (Professor / Assistant Professor) and qualification (Doctor in Science / PhD) in accordance with the requirements for the study program, and its modules nature and specifications.</p> <p>Based on Staff CV, conducted interview this criterion is met.</p>
<p>Criterion 4 The institution, in cooperation and collaboration with other higher education institutions, as well as business representatives and companies provide sufficient, appropriate and qualified staff for students mentoring, counseling and supervision during practicum, diploma thesis and other specific activities, depending on study program nature.</p>	<p>The support teaching staff collaborates with public institutions and private companies, for accommodation of students in these institutions and delivery of practicum. Although a closer collaboration is needed with the business institutions regarding the field of sport sciences.</p>

Criterion 5 The institution provides and guarantees support teaching and scientific staff engagement for the delivery of laboratory classes and maintenance of laboratories and other teaching facilities, according to the specific study program nature.	The institution provides and guarantees support teaching and scientific staff engagement for the delivery of laboratory classes and maintenance of laboratories. There are 5 support teaching staff. Based on conducted interview this criterion is met.		
Fulfillment of standard		Partly met	Substantially met
			Met X

Standard II.6			
The Higher Education Institution encourages students and partners to participate in the study program continuous improvement and successful delivery in accordance with their objectives.			
Criteria	Evaluation of experts		
Criterion 1 In order to improve the study program content and adjustment to the labor market requirements, the responsible structures consult and take into account the proposals of collaborators and partners from the labor market.	To improve the study program and to fulfill the practice hours planned in the curricula, the Faculty maintains contacts with the partners of labor market. There is no evidence regarding the proposals of partners and collaborators in improving the study program according to the needs of the labor market.		
Criterion 2 The Institution encourages students and their relevant bodies to participate in discussions on study programs improvement Proposals are discussed and mirrored if they serve to study program improvement.	SUT includes students in discussions as part of improving the study program. Based on <i>Ref. 4 SUT Statute Article 30; Ref. 7 SUT Regulation article 81</i> , this criterion is met.		
Criterion 3 The institution maintains contact and is consults with graduate students in order to obtain their proposals for study program improvement.	The Faculty maintains communication with graduated students. They are considered a necessary source for suggestions in program review. Based on conducted interview this criterion is met.		
Criterion 4 In cooperation with public and non-public scientific research institutions, local government units, etc., the institution updates, adjusts and reorganizes special programs with a specific field of research.	There is no evidence of an adjustment or recognition of a special program with a specific field of research by the Institution.		
Fulfillment of standard		Partly met	Substantially met
			Met X

Standard II.7	
The study program guarantees guidance in the relevant field of study and research.	
Criteria	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The study program clearly defines the priorities and main academic and research objectives in line with the main objectives of the legal framework on higher education.	The MSc study program is in accordance with the main unit objectives. Based on <i>Ref. 6 SUT Strategic Development Plan 2016-2020</i> , this criterion is met.
Criterion 2 The main / basic unit promotes coordinates and manages teaching, research or cultural activities, by observing academic	SUT guarantee and respect academic freedom. Based on <i>Ref. 4 SUT Statutes Article 8, 21, 22; Ref. 7 SUT Regulation, article 20, 22</i> , this criterion is met.

staff academic freedom and the particular field of study.	
Criterion 3 The study program enables, encourages and motivates students to engage in studies, projects and research work.	Based on the <i>Appendix 2, Table 25</i> , results that the academic staff engages students in different projects and research work like, <i>The study on physic functional parameters of elite athletes</i> . But yet this evidence is in institutional level and there is no evidence if any of the students of this study program is involved.
Criterion 4 The study program focuses on drafting and implementing regional and national study and scientific policies.	Based on <i>Appendix 2, Table 25</i> , the students in institutional level are involved in scientific projects but there is no evidence of the involvement of students from this study program in national studies, scientific projects and in implementation of scientific policies.
Criterion 5 In order to carryout scientific and research activities, the main unit is financially supported by the higher education institution and manages the revenues from various activities.	The main unit is financially supported by the Higher Education Institution (HEI). Based on <i>Ref. 28: The approval of research activities of the academic staff and Senate Decision No. 25 dated 17.05.2019; Ref. 16 Decision No.23 dated 17.05.2019</i> , this criterion is met.
Fulfillment of standard	Partly met
	Substantially met
	Met
	X

Standard II.8	
The Higher Education Institution guarantee through the study program in-depth knowledge, studies and research work, as well as studies and research internationalization.	
Criteria	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The institution supports research groups and new scientific research projects and ensures cooperation with other research structures for achieving the study program research objectives.	Based on the self-evaluation report, the institution has supported the mobility of academic staff and students through the cooperation agreements signed with partner institutions. This was confirmed during the interviews.
Criterion 2 The Basic Unit engages in responding to scientific research and projects demands and engages academic staff and students in accomplishing these objectives.	The Institution supports the young researchers by enabling / supporting their students to present projects at national / international conferences. This was confirmed during the interviews.
Criterion 3 The basic unit organizes conferences or activities within the field of the study programs in order to assist staff and students in achieving their objectives.	The basic unit organizes conferences in corporation with local and foreign partners in order to assist staff and students in achieving their objectives – an example would be the ICSS conferences that was held on December 6 th to 7 th 2019.
Fulfillment of standard	Partly met
	Substantially met
	Met
	X

Fulfillment of standards of Field II	Partly met
	Substantially met
	Met
	X

III. TEACHING, LEARNING, EVALUATION AND COMPETENCES

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Standard III.1			
The Higher Education Institution pursues a clear policy to guarantee and promote the quality of teaching and develops special guidelines and directives designed for teaching methods development and monitoring.			
Criteria	Evaluation of experts		
Criterion 1 The institution drafts guidelines at the institutional level for the development and use of various and innovative teaching methods based on the field of study and subjects/ modules.	The institution drafts guidelines for the development and use of various and innovative teaching methods. Based on <i>Ref. 6 Institutional Development Strategic Plan 2016-2020</i> and <i>Ref 29. Student Handbook</i> , this criterion is met.		
Criterion 2 The responsible basic structures design monitoring mechanisms and periodically evaluate the academic staff teaching and innovative skills.	Based on the interviews with the students and academic staff results that SUT evaluates the academic staff through the student's questionnaires, which is done twice a year before each semester's exams, another instrument of academic staff evaluation is the template of academic performance.		
Criterion 3 The institution guarantees the students engagement in the teaching methods periodic assessment, competences assessment, including complaints addressal.	The institution guarantees the students engagement in the teaching methods periodic assessment. Based on <i>Ref. 7: Regulation of the SUT</i> , this criterion is met.		
Criterion 4 The responsible structures for teaching quality monitoring and assurance, make public the evaluation results.	The Unit of Internal Quality Assurance periodically evaluates the performance of the study program by conducting questionnaires with students and academic staff. Based on reference <i>IQAU Regulation, Art. 7</i> , this criterion is met.		
Criterion 5 The institution, through evaluation mechanisms and achieved results, promotes examples of best practices, as well as encourages and motivates the academic staff to further improve teaching.	The Unit of Internal Quality Assurance once a year evaluates teaching, research and administrative staff. Part of this process is the self-assessment form of academic staff performance. Based on reference <i>IQAU Regulation, Art. 1</i> , this criterion is met.		
Fulfillment of standard	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
			X

Standard III.2			
The institution guarantees the development of the teaching, learning, and professional and scientific training with the best methods and practices.			
Criteria	Evaluation of experts		
Criterion 1 The most common channels of teaching, learning process, and knowledge transfer are lectures, seminars, laboratory work, course assignments, projects, professional clinical practice, public lectures and any other models approved by the institution.	All channels of teaching, learning process, and knowledge transfer such as: lectures, seminars, laboratory work, course assignments, projects, professional clinical practice, public lectures and any other models, are included in the study program as specified by the legislation. Based on <i>Ref. 5: Study Program, Curriculum, Module Syllabus</i> and <i>Ref. 7: SUT Regulation</i> , this criterion is met.		

<p>Criterion 2 The academic staff must accept, observe and respond to students' diversity and needs, by providing various forms, methods and alternative teaching and learning opportunities, in accordance with the scope and nature of the study program in general, and the course modules in particular, and student feedback is encouraged in order to improve teaching practices.</p>	<p>The academic staff accepts, observe and respond to students' diversity and needs, by providing various forms, methods and alternative teaching and learning opportunities. Based on <i>Ref. 4: The Statute of HEI</i> and <i>Ref. 7: SUT Regulation</i>, this criterion is met.</p>			
<p>Criterion 3 The institution supports its academic staff to improve didactic competences, enables the use of diverse and flexible pedagogical methods, which are appropriate and consistent with the expected learning outcomes, teaching objectives and labor market demands.</p>	<p>To this end SUT supports academic staff to improve didactic competences, enables auditors and laboratories to use a variety and flexible pedagogical methods. Based on <i>Ref. Strategic Plan of FMS, item 2,5,6</i>, this criterion is met.</p>			
<p>Criterion 4 The academic staff engaged in teaching is competent in explaining knowledge and concepts, by using various teaching methods according to topics and profiles.</p>	<p>The academic staff engaged in the MSc is competent in explaining knowledge and concepts, by using various teaching methods according to topics and profile Based on <i>Ref. 7. SUT Regulation</i>, this criterion is met.</p>			
<p>Criterion 5 The institution periodically evaluates and improves teaching methods forms and methods, including students' participation in the process and reflecting their thoughts and suggestions.</p>	<p>Quality assessment of teaching is carried out through auditing and surveying. Although there was no evidence on including students suggestions and guarantying their participation in this process. Based on <i>Ref. 7: SUT Regulation</i> and interview with IQAU.</p>			
<p>Criterion 6 The academic staff uses interactive methods and discussion to make classes more appealing to students and encourage them to participate.</p>	<p>The academic staff uses interactive methods and discussion to make classes more attractive to students and encourage them to participate in class. Based on observations and subjects and modules syllabuses, this criterion is met.</p>			
<p>Criterion 7 Teaching forms and methods encourage the student's sense of autonomy, by providing teacher supervision and support and building a mutual respect relationship between them.</p>	<p>The SUT encourages a good relationship with teachers and students in the class. The academic staff encourages the student's sense of autonomy.</p>			
<p>Fulfillment of standard</p>		Partly met	Substantially met	Met X

<p>Standard III.3 The basic units guarantee the development of teaching, learning, and professional training, by making available all the necessary physical, didactic and logistic infrastructure to successfully carry out the teaching and scientific activity.</p>	
<p>Criteria</p>	<p>Evaluation of experts</p>
<p>Criterion 1 The teaching and scientific process is carried out in adequate and quality premises, which are clean and appropriately maintained.</p>	<p>Based on the viewing of the faculties, SUT infrastructure is composed of a quality environment in support of academic activities. The teaching process is organized in clean premises. Classes for the realization of the teaching process are sufficient. There is a need in improving the laboratory</p>

	facilities regarding this study program, in total SUT has 7 laboratories but as mentioned there is a need in improving the labs with a better and more modern technology.			
Criterion 2 The premises dedicated to the learning process are functional and equipped with the necessary logistics for a qualitative learning process and practicum.	Based on the viewing of the faculties, the facilities available for the learning process are spacious, but equipped with old tools and technology needed to deliver qualitative teaching in practice.			
Criterion 3 The academic staff and students use various IT systems, and consolidated IT infrastructure necessary for the learning process.	On the university web page students and academic staff have their own spaces to log in. The classes are equipped with computers and video projectors. The IT learning process takes place in the computer labs. Based on the viewing of the faculties, this can be confirmed.			
Criterion 4 The required and recommended literature, made available to students in the study program language (in hard copy or soft copy), guarantees the acquisition of knowledge required for the study program.	Students are provided with basic literature and academic guidance from the academic staff, both physical and electronic, which guarantees the acquisition of knowledge required for the study program. Based on the viewing of the faculties, this can be confirmed.			
Criterion 5 The library of the institution guarantees a sufficient number of recent publications in the main field of the study program and sufficient and comfortable reading premises for students during the learning process.	Students and academic staff have full access to the library. The library is well equipped with recent textbooks and literature related to the program. The literature is available in hard and soft copy. Based on the viewing of the faculties, this can be confirmed.			
Criterion 6 In terms of teaching and learning process, the academic staff and students have access to online libraries in similar fields to the study program.	The academic staff and students have access to online libraries in similar fields to the study program. The faculty has signed an agreement with Kinetic, which provides an e-books library accessible to students and academic staff. Based on the viewing of the faculties and interviews, this can be confirmed. However, students are not able to take books home for their studies.			
Criterion 7 The laboratory infrastructure necessary for lab classes, course assignments, diplomas and specific studies is continuously used by the students.	The laboratory infrastructure needed to carry out specific internships, course assignments and studies, is continuously used by students, but as mentioned above the laboratories need to be improved. Based on the interviews, this can be confirmed.			
Criterion 8 In terms of teaching, academic staff uses on-line platforms (e-learning) and supports and encourages academic staff and students to use them.	On the SUT website students and academic staff use online platforms in different subjects during the learning and teaching process. Based on the interviews, this can be confirmed.			
Criterion 9 The academic staff and students use internal communication systems to access electronic documents and their personal dedicated profile.	Students and academic staff use ESS3 online platform to access the electronic documents. Based on the interviews, this can be confirmed.			
Criterion 10 The academic staff guides students in the selecting their diploma thesis topics and assists and supports them during their development.	Academic staff guides students in the selection of diploma thesis, assists and supports with mentors their development. Based on the interviews, this can be confirmed.			
Fulfillment of standard	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Partly met</td> <td>Substantially met</td> <td>Met</td> </tr> </table>	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
Partly met	Substantially met	Met		

Standard III.4 The institution establishes special institutional structures, which raise the awareness on improving the study program teaching and learning quality.	
Criteria	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The institution establishes structures/ units at the institutional level to promote the continuous improvement of teaching and coordinate its activity with the main/ basic units in the framework of improving the quality of teaching.	Based on the interviews, there is no evidence of any continuous development plans for staff members. However, based in the control of CV's of staff, the examined staff members did seem to have continuously educated themselves – by completing courses with other international bodies.
Criterion 2 The main/ basic unit is responsible for teaching quality and raising the academic staff and students' awareness on the quality the study programs provides.	Duties and responsibilities are set forth in the statute and regulations of SUT. To determine the satisfaction with the quality of teaching the SUT performed previously questionnaires, which based on the conducted interviews demonstrated a 4 out 5 satisfaction across the students. <i>(Ref. 4 SUT Statute Article 21, Ref. 7 SUT Regulation article 20, item 4)</i>
Criterion 3 The structures and responsible units support the experimentation and development of innovative teaching methods.	Based on the interviews, there is no evidence for this. However, the MSc program has no resources for innovative teaching methods. <i>(Ref. 6 Institutional Development Strategic Plan 2016-2020 and Ref. 35 FMS Strategic Plan, item 3.4)</i>
Criterion 4 The academic and support staff are constantly qualified in the field of scientific research to assist in the further improvement of teaching.	The SUT supports the organization of conferences; lecturers' participation in important scientific conferences and activities at home and abroad as well as the qualification of lecturers who do not hold a certain academic title to pursue doctoral studies. <i>(Ref. Senate Decision No.25, dated. 17/05/2019 on "Approval of research projects")</i>
Criterion 5 The structures and units in charge continuously train academic staff to improve their teaching skills and implement new methods.	Based on the interviews, there is no evidence of any continuous development plans for staff members. However, based in the control of CV's of staff, the examined staff members did seem to have continuously educated themselves – by completing courses with other international bodies.
Criterion 6 The academic and support staff are responsible for implementing the study program and committed to improve teaching and implementing new methods.	Academic staff follows relevant guidelines and is committed to improve teaching performance by combining different teaching methods.

	<i>(Ref. 6 SUT Strategic Development Plan, item 3.5)</i>		
Criterion 7 The academic staff test new teaching methods, analyze objectives/expectations and report periodically on results to the structures and units in charge.	Based on Strategic Development Plan, item 3.5, there are objectives set on the academic scientific research work but there is no evidence of testing new teaching methods.		
Criterion 8 The institution, in the framework of partnership and partners' involvement in the learning process, engages at various stages of the study program lecturers and researchers to share their ideas and methods on teaching and research.	Based on the interviews, there is much work being done on the outreach to external partners, while adjustments are made to accommodate the needs of external partners. <i>(Ref. 12. Appendix 1 ASCAL tables, table 2; 2.1, PAS)</i>		
Fulfillment of standard	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
		X	

Standard III.5			
The institution drafts regulations and special procedures on testing and assessing professional competences and skills and guarantees their implementation.			
Criteria	Evaluation of experts		
Criterion 1 The criteria and the testing and assessment method of professional competences and skills are defined in special regulations and is announced to the students.	Based on interviews with the students and academic staff, the professional skills gained and evaluation methods in this study program are defined in the SUT Regulation and Syllabuses, the students are informed about these methods at the beginning of each subject. <i>(Ref 7 SUT Regulation articles 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 61, 62, 63, 64, 68, 69, 70, 71, Syllabuses).</i>		
Criterion 2 At the beginning of each course / module students are informed on testing and assessment method of professional competences and research skills provided for in the course / module syllabus.	Based on the HEI regulation, at the beginning of each course students are informed on testing and assessment method of professional competences and research skills provided in the course. <i>(Ref. SUT Regulation, Art. 61; ECTS Excel Assessment Model; Appendix 1 Table 15, 15/1, 15/2)</i>		
Criterion 3 The testing and assessment method of professional competences and research skills is realized in various models and ways, providing students with the opportunity to demonstrate the acquired competences and knowledge.	The testing and assessment method of professional competences and research skills are realized as predicted in the SUT regulation. <i>(Ref. 7 SUT Regulation, Article 61; Ref. 12 Appendix 1 Table 15, 15/1, 15/2)</i>		
Fulfillment of standard	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
			X

Standard III.6	
The institution guarantees a fair and transparent evaluation based on each student's merits.	
Criteria	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The testing and assessment of professional competences and research skills is carried out throughout the entire academic year and is mirrored in the final assessment.	The testing and assessment of professional competences and research skills is carried out throughout the entire academic year to encourage studying throughout the year, to generate an objective assessment and to evaluate progress throughout. Any evaluation of the lecturer should be accompanied by the relevant comments. <i>(Ref. 7 SUT Regulation, Art. 6; Ref. 12 Appendix 1 Table 15, 15/1, 15/2)</i>
Criterion 2 The institution makes use of electronic testing and evaluation systems, which eliminate various forms of abuse and enhance transparency.	The institution does not provide electronic testing and evaluations. The elimination of forms of abuse and enhancing of transparency is assured by conducting tests with codification. <i>(Ref. SUT Regulation, article 50.52.54)</i>
Criterion 3 The final testing of professional competences and skills assessment is carried out by special commissions composed of at least 2 members, assigned and appointed by the main units, one of whom is the chairperson of the commission.	The final testing of professional competences and skills assessment is carried out by exam commissions, composed as the regulation requires. <i>(Ref. SUT Regulation, article 50.52.54)</i>
Criterion 4 The testing and assessment of written competences is anonymously conducted with codification and the institution provides a dedicated infrastructure monitored by the appropriate trained staff and / or security cameras.	The testing and assessment of written competences is anonymously and monitored mainly by the academic staff or occasionally by security cameras. <i>(Ref. SUT Regulation, article 50.52.54)</i>
Criterion 5 The assessment of competences and skills is accompanied by comments / feedback (if necessary) and includes recommendations for the learning process in order to help students improve in the future.	Based on <i>Ref. SUT Regulation, article 61, item 10 and Senate Decision No. 38, dated 09.10.2017, On an Amendment of SUT Regulation, 50/1, item 2</i> this criterion is met.
Criterion 6 The responsible units and academic staff avoid and do not tolerate plagiarism and cheating during exams and assignments.	All SUT staff and students have a responsibility to adhere the culture of learning with integrity. As mentioned by the institution itself there is a lack of a system or mechanism against plagiarism. <i>(Ref. SUT Regulation, Article 61, item 11)</i>
Criterion 7 The results of checking professional competences and skills are delivered in time, based on the stipulations in the relevant regulations.	The results of checking professional competences and skills are merit-based and delivered in time and with transparency. Based on <i>Ref. 7 SUT Regulation</i> this criterion is met.

Criterion 8 The institution guarantees students' right to be acquainted with the assessment procedure, and to request the assessment be reviewed in accordance with the regulations and evaluation procedures.	The institution guarantees students' right to be acquainted with the assessment procedure, and to request the assessment to be reviewed. Based on <i>Ref. 7 SUT Regulation</i> this criterion is met.		
Criterion 9 Any claim or complaint is reviewed by the evaluation commission and then by the ad-hoc commission. The pursued procedure must be transparent to the parties involved, documented and archived.	With a written request from the students, the head of department conducts verification and takes the necessary steps (if needed) Based on <i>Ref. 7 SUT Regulation</i> this criterion is met.		
Fulfillment of standard		Partly met	Substantially met
			Met X

Standard III.7	
Study program delivery guarantees students' creativity and practical skills enhancement, by simultaneously providing in-depth knowledge on professional and scientific competences.	
Criteria	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The study program is delivered in a way that guarantees the students' competences acquisition and develop professional and special skills development.	The study program combination of theory and practical classes assures students the necessary professional competences and skills. <i>(Ref 5 Teaching Plan and syllabuses)</i>
Criterion 2 The study program guarantees the development of specific skills in the field of information technology, including as well human, social, communication, and interaction (including foreign language) resources.	The inclusion in the MSc study program of subjects related to information technology, humanities, social sciences, ethics and communication, create the possibility of basic training in these areas. For example, the program covers biomedical knowledge, physical activity, social science, management and other subjects. <i>(Ref 5 Teaching Plan and syllabuses)</i>
Criterion 3 Student's competences and skills, presented in the study program and syllabi of each subject, are analyzed and reviewed at the end of the course.	In the study program and syllabus of each subject, student's competences and skills, are analysed and reviewed at the end of the course. Based on the conducted interviews this criterion is met.
Criterion 4 At the end of each course / module, the academic staff points out the most important issues and guides students throughout their implementation and final test.	Based on the interviews with students and academic staff, in the last week of the subjects class, the pedagogues informs students where to focus in the final exam evaluation.
Criterion 5 The academic staff (full time or visiting) delivers public lectures and workshops on new science and technology developments outside the study program.	Based on the internal evaluation report full-time or visiting academic staff hold open lectures.
Criterion 6 Teaching is carried out on a competences-basis in order to provide students the opportunity to develop their competences in labs and practicum.	Based on staff CV and syllabuses, results that the academic staff is competent on delivering their subjects although it is recommended a better effort by the institution in improving the labs technology in order to offer students better conditions in practice.

Criterion 7 The academic staff supports discussion and teamwork in interpreting and solving certain problems / issues.	The academic staff has the right to interact professionally in interpreting and solving certain problems. Based on the conducted interviews this criterion is met.								
Criterion 8 The academic staff creates a suitable climate for the development of innovative ideas, advanced and scientific studies, and support.	Based on the interviews with the students and the academic staff, results that the academic staff uses interactive teaching methods, different course works and involves students in scientific research projects.								
Criterion 9 The institution promotes the development of innovative ideas, students advanced research and scientific studies, by providing them with financial support.	Students are supported with scholarships when they meet the conditions set out in the regulation. Based on the conducted interviews this criterion is met.								
Criterion 10 The academic staff combines forms of teaching with partner institutions to enable and increase student mobility.	The academic staff combines forms of teaching with partner institutions to enable and increase student mobility. SUT has signed an agreement for Erasmus+ program. Based on the conducted interviews this criterion is met.								
Fulfillment of standard	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Partly met</th> <th>Substantially met</th> <th>Met</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>X</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Partly met	Substantially met	Met				X
	Partly met	Substantially met	Met						
			X						

Standard III.8	
The institution pursues a clear student graduation procedure in the study program and provides the students with the necessary documentation.	
Criteria	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The institution drafts a special procedure for the final exam or diploma defense before the graduation and publishes it.	Based on self evaluation file, the institution has drafted a specified procedure on student's final exam and diploma thesis defense. Based on <i>SUT Regulation</i> this criterion is met.
Criterion 2 The responsible structures and academic staff assist students by providing the necessary information, instructions and materials in the framework of final exam and diploma defense.	Based on the interviews with students, academic staff and self evaluation file results that the academic staff cannot lead more than 5 students on their diploma thesis. They support students with the necessary information about their diploma thesis.
Criterion 3 The special commission for the final exam administration is based on the testing of knowledge acquired during the last two academic years including all courses / modules based on their importance and specific importance.	Based on Curriculum of the study program, for this study program is applied a diploma thesis by the end of studies.
Criterion 4 The academic staff guides and assists students in selecting their diploma thesis topics.	The diploma thesis is an essential component of the Master courses. The academic staff guides and assists students in selecting their diploma thesis. Based on the conducted interviews this criterion is met.
Criterion 5 The institution assists students in carrying out measurements, analyzes, and tests in or outside institution premises, according to the specific objectives and	Mentors are assigned from the institution to assist students in carrying out measurements, analyze, and tests. Based on the conducted interviews this criterion is met.

scope of study.	
Criterion 6 Diploma Thesis Mentor assists the student in producing and processing the relevant results, as well as in drafting the thesis according to the approved instructions and guidelines. He guarantees the quality of the results and approves whether or not the work is complete and appropriate to be presented before the commission.	The mentors advise students to take part in their scientific activities and diploma thesis. They help students in drafting the thesis according to the approved instructions and guidelines. The mentors guarantee the quality of the results and approves whether or not the work is complete and appropriate to be presented before the commission. Based on <i>SUT Regulation</i> this criterion is met.
Criterion 7 At the end of the exam or diploma defense, the student is evaluated with a final grade.	Based on the <i>Teaching Plan</i> the students of this study program graduate with a diploma thesis defence which is evaluated by a final grade. (<i>Ref. 7 SUT Regulation, Article 64</i>).
Criterion 8 At the end of studies, the student is provided with a diploma and its supplement licensed by the ministry responsible for education.	After the completion of the full cycle of study the institution provides the students with the diploma and its supplement. (<i>Ref.38 Diploma Supplement</i>)
Criterion 9 At the end of the studies, a full official copy of the study program is made available to the student.	Based on <i>SUT Regulation</i> , the students who did meet the requirements of the program will be provided with the relevant diploma and certificate.
Criterion 10 The institution retains a copy of the students' documentation for an indefinite period of time and issues attestations to the student, on a case by-case basis, if required.	The institution archives the students' documentation. Based on the conducted interviews this criterion is met.
Fulfillment of standard	Not met
	Partly met
	Substantially met
	Met
	X

Fulfillment of standard of Field III	Not met
	Partly met
	Substantially met
	Met
	X

IV. HUMAN, FINANCIAL, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND LOGISTICS RESOURCES FOR STUDY PROGRAM DELIVERY

Standard IV.1	
The Higher Education Institution follows transparent legal procedures on recruiting, evaluating and selecting staff for the study program.	
Criteria	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The institution collects stores and updates each academic year the data of the personnel engaged in the study program. These data include the academic staff	The Human Resources office at the SUT maintains the documents for all academic staff. Based on <i>Ref. 39 - Dean Decision No. 55 date</i>

involved in the program and the person responsible for organizing the study program, workload and academic staff engagement in each academic semester and year, as well as the teaching and the scientific support staff.	09/10/2019 - <i>Study Program Coordinator</i> this criterion is met.			
Criterion 2 The institution drafts and implements procedures for academic staff recruitment, in accordance with the applicable legal basis and the institution's internal regulatory.	The procedures for recruiting academic staff are in accordance with the applicable legal basis and internal regulatory acts of the institution. The Human Resources office administers the procedure of filling the job vacancies. Based on <i>SUT Regulation, article 25, 26</i> this criterion is met.			
Criterion 3 The institution drafts special and specific procedures and criteria, for the of staff recruitment, which are part of regulatory acts and makes them public.	According to the needs of SUT, a job vacancy is announced and sent to "On the announcement of vacancies" at the Bulletin of Public Announcements. Announcements are also published on the SUT website. Recruitment criteria are proposed by the relevant department. Based on <i>SUT Regulation</i> this criterion is met.			
Criterion 4 The institution follows recruitment and evaluation procedures based on the announced general and specific criteria that ensure the selection of staff with the appropriate level of qualification and in accordance with the nature, structure, modules and the study program content.	Based on the interviews with the Human Resource Office, <i>SUT Regulation</i> and the self evaluation file, the recruitment procedures are based on specific and general criteria according to the needs of the departments and the specifics of the study programs.			
Fulfillment of standard	Not met	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
				X

Standard IV.2	
The Higher Education Institution is mainly responsible for the quality of staff who cover the study program and support for performing tasks efficiently and effectively.	
Criteria	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The institution is committed to provide the staff with the appropriate environment and equal opportunities for performing their tasks professionally.	The code of ethics at SUT rests on the principle of supporting and creating equal opportunities for all employees. Based on <i>SUT Regulation</i> this criterion is met.
Criterion 2 The institution is committed to provide staff who administers the study program with continuous training and further professional development.	Scientific activity in the university is planned and financially supported in accordance with laws and regulations in force. The Human Resources office and Archive follows the legal procedures of specializations, qualifications, postgraduate studies of teaching and research staff and preserves relevant documentation. Based on the conducted interviews this criterion is met.
Criterion 3 The institution organizes specific programs regarding innovative	Based on the conducted interviews no Continuing Professional Development plans are in place.

teaching methods and use of new technologies for academic and scientific research staff's further professional qualification.				
Criterion 4 The institution demonstrates an optimal employee commitment to meet second cycle study program objectives.	The institution demonstrates an optimal employee commitment to meet MSc's objective. Based on <i>Reference 12. Appendix 1 ASCAL Tables, table No. 6</i> , this criterion is met.			
Fulfillment of standard		Partly met	Substantially met	Met
			X	

Standard IV.3				
The Higher Education Institution makes available the learning premises and the appropriate infrastructure for the delivery of study program teaching process and practical training, according to the nature and area of the study program.				
Criteria	Evaluation of experts			
Criterion 1 The institution provides sufficient and appropriate teaching facilities for the development of theoretical teaching activity, depending on the number of students and study groups, in accordance with the specific nature of the study program and respective modules.	The institution provides teaching facilities for the development of theoretical teaching activity, in accordance with the specific nature of the study program. Based on <i>Reference 12. Appendix 1 ASCAL Tables Tab.16</i> , this criterion is met.			
Criterion 2 Learning premises such as classrooms, labs, studios and the like are equipped with electronic and information technology devices that guarantee the realization of the theoretical and practical teaching process through the use of contemporary teaching methodology and technology.	The university offers learning environments, such as: classrooms, laboratories and other environments, which are recommended to be equipped with updated electronic and information technology tools that guarantee the realization of theoretical and practical learning process.			
Criterion 3 Laboratories, studios, ateliers or other premises, according to the specific nature of the program, shall contain the necessary equipment and tools to meet module requirements, theoretical and practical training, and the overall study program objectives.	SUT possess several facilities equipped with all the necessary teaching, research, administrative and service infrastructure. Based on the given tour this criterion is met.			
Criterion 4 The institution provides at least one information technology lab, equipped with advanced programs appropriate to the area of the study programs it provides.	Based on the tour of the facilities realized during the site visit, the institution has information 1 lab but is recommended to be equipped with better technology and information programs.			
Criterion 5 The institution guarantees, with its available capacities and / or in cooperation with other institutions and entities (certified through special partnership agreements) that the premises are sufficient, appropriate and dedicated for the development of professional training and other practical activities.	Based on the site visit tour and self evaluation file results that the institution has a number of partnership agreements on the realization of students professional practice hours and 7 labs but is recommended a better effort by the institution in increasing the number of agreements in order to offer students better laboratory and infrastructure conditions during their professional trainings.			
Fulfillment of standard		Partly met	Substantially met	Met

			X	
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Standard IV.4

The Higher Education Institution provides students with learning support premises, library, special learning premises and the necessary literature to support the learning process for the students of each study programs.

Criteria	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The institution makes available to students the resources library, thus guaranteeing students equal access to the study program.	The new library building is equipped with 12 computers and 48 reading places and provides access to the Internet. Based on the conducted interviews this criterion is met.
Criterion 2 The library should be equipped with the necessary literature such as: basic textbooks, recommended literature, both in Albanian and foreign languages, necessary and appropriate books or journals to cover all modules and courses according to each study programs.	The library is equipped with the necessary literature such as: basic textbooks, recommended literature, both in Albanian and foreign languages. Based on the given tour this criterion is met.
Criterion 3 The institution should enable the adequate conditions for students' equal access to the on-line library for each study program course.	SUT's library facilities provide unlimited internet access, full access to electronic book resources. Based on the given tour this criterion is met.
Criterion 4 The library should be equipped with computer programs and other technical equipment, enabling unrestricted use by all students.	Based on the site visit facilities tour, as mentioned above, results that the library has 12 computers and 48 reading places, but those computers serves mostly for the access to the internet or for different course assignments and are not equipped with computer programs or other technical equipments necessary for the study program.
Criterion 5 The institution should develop and implement a detailed plan for adding new items to the library and updating the existing fund in order to assist the students of each study programs.	Based on the self evaluation file, the documents required during the site visit and the interviews during the visit results that there is no evidence of a detailed plan about the updating and adding new items on library database. Based on Ref.32 there are no new books added to the library for the year 2019 but only newspapers.
Criterion 6 The library schedule (opening hours) should be in line with the teaching process schedule, but not limited to, and beyond, appropriate to students' number and needs, as well as its capacity.	SUT's Library is open throughout the official working hours. The library schedule also suits the teaching process schedules. Based on Institutional policies for disclosure of information, this criterion is met.
Fulfillment of standard	Partly met
	Substantially met
	X

Standard IV.5

The Higher Education Institution has an internal institutional management system, which is made available to the management, information and monitoring of academic, financial and administrative activity for the study program.

Criteria	Evaluation of experts
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Criterion 1 The institution has in place a management system for the management of all student-related information and activity from enrollment to the study programs up to graduation.	SUT students uses ESS3 management platform where they get informed about their academic process during the study program. Based on conducted interviews this criterion is met.			
Criterion 2 The internal management system manages the information, documentation and activities of, research staff, administrative staff and partners involved in the program implementation.	Based on the interviews with students and academic staff ESS3 management platform is a platform that helps students in accessing the basic and necessary documentation about their study program, but this platform does not offer information about partners involved in the implementation of the study program.			
Criterion 3 The management system provides dedicated access to information and documents for all study program staff and students.	ESS3 management system provides students access to the necessary information related to the study program Based on the conducted interview this criterion is met.			
Criterion 4 The management system has integrated platforms and modules that enable interactive communication and information exchange among staff and students.	In the ESS3 system, students find all the information about the exams; date, time of their administration and are notified about exam results by the registrar portal via a text message. Based on the conducted interview this criterion is met.			
Criterion 5 The management system guarantees real-time monitoring of academic and administrative activity and enables individual and real-time reporting to management and unit heads.	Management system includes: 1- The Dean, who directs and supervises all teaching-scientific work, at faculty and basic unit level. 2- Calls by the Dean to report and provide disciplinary action towards employees in accordance with SUT regulations and legal provisions in force. 3- Quality assessment of teaching, scientific research and any other tasks carried out by the basic units. 4- On-line integration of platforms with dedicated space for lecturers and students. 4- Administration and maintenance of the internal camera system server at SUT facilities under the supervision of the IT office. Based on the conducted interview this criterion is met.			
Criterion 6 Information related to the study program, academic staff, and the various events and activities is published in the website in at least two languages, one of which is Albanian.	Referring to the website of the university www.ust.edu.al , the information on study program regulation, composition of academic staff, teaching plan and other information related to the study program are not found. Based on the university official website there are some publications of activities organized by the HEI.			
Fulfillment of standard		Partly met	Substantially met	Met
			X	

Standard IV.6

The Higher Education Institution guarantees the necessary financial support for the implementation of the teaching / research process, study program progress and students' support.

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Criteria	Evaluation of experts			
Criterion 1 The institution drafts a financial report on the study program costs and the financial support plan required for the study program progress for at least one full cycle study program.	The financial report of the Master of Science study program consists of the expenses for covering academic staff payments, which makes up the major expense, and also expenses to cover payments of support teaching and administrative staff engaged for the duration of the MSc; operating expenses for didactic materials for the teaching process and infrastructure operation costs for the purpose of the study, and depreciation costs. Based on reference, <i>data from the annual institutional financial report</i> , this criterion is met.			
Criterion 2 A study program funding plan should include funding for human resources made available to the program implementation, operating costs for premises maintenance and teaching process support technologies, library and literature enrichment costs, and access to on-line libraries, financial obligations, national or international grants received and service contracts on the study program performance, and other items, according to its specific nature.	Based on self-evaluation file, there is no evidence of genuine funding plan, but there is only a given table (<i>Ref. 62 Financial Plan</i>), that includes only the several costs and incomes but it doesn't offer detailed panorama of the study program, financial obligations.			
Criterion 3 The institution conducts an annual audit, assesses and documents the financial situation and its financial effectiveness. The financial report contains a detailed financial statement of income deriving from tuition fees and other financial contributions for students or financial resources allocation.	SUT does not have an established audit unit, but it is audited on the basis of a specialized internal audit by the Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth on an annual basis. It is recommended that, given also the small number of students registered in this study program, the faculty to compile a report of the study program costs. Based on reference, <i>audit report of MESY</i> .			
Criterion 4 At the end of each full cycle study program, the institution documents the financial reports for the past three academic years and plans the special interventions and eventual diversification of the program funding to ensure its smooth performance and progress.	Over the last three years SUT budget has been sufficient and has guaranteed the progress and successful delivery of the study program. Based on reference <i>Appendix 4, Report of financial statement; annual report</i> , this criterion is met.			
Criterion 5 The institution must demonstrate that it guarantees financial sustainability throughout the development of the study program and has the necessary financial capacity to improve the financial situation and generate the necessary income in the future.	Based on the self-evaluation file <i>Ref. 61 Annual Report</i> , the latest financial report that is part of the self-evaluation file is compiled in the year 2018. The institution should draft financial reports specific for the study program, in order to measure its effectiveness.			
Fulfillment of standard		Partly met	Substantially met	Met
			X	

Fulfillment of standards of Field IV	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
		X	

V. STUDENTS AND THEIR SUPPORT

Standard V.1			
The Higher Education Institution drafts, follows and implements policies and procedures on students' admission, selection, progress, transfer, knowledge assessment and graduation in the study program.			
Criteria	Evaluation of experts		
Criterion 1 The institution develops and implements policies and procedures that cover the full academic cycle study program, from enrollment to university up to graduation, in accordance with applicable legislation and regulatory acts.	The institution develops and implements policies and procedures that cover the full academic cycle of study program, from enrollment to university up to graduation, in accordance with applicable legislation. (Ref. Law no. 80/2015, Article 83, "On Higher Education and Research in Higher Education Institutions in the Republic of Albania". Ref. 44 Senate Decision No. 11, "On the approval of full-time student admission quotas for study programs for the academic year 2019-2020." Ref.45 MESY order on foreign language level)		
Criterion 2 Policies and procedures from enrollment to graduation guarantee equality and equal rights to all study program applicants and students.	Based on reference, DCM no. 41 dated 24.01.2018, and Ref. 46 Senate Decision No. 15 dated 30.04.2017 this criterion is met.		
Criterion 3 Students' admission and selection criteria and procedure, progress throughout the study course, transfer, and recognition of previous or part-time studies, competence assessment and graduation are easily understandable and accessible to the public.	All student admission and selection criteria throughout the program of study, transfer procedure and prior study recognition are in accordance with SUT regulatory acts. Based on <i>SUT Regulation</i> this criterion is met.		
Criterion 4 The institution drafts and publishes at the beginning of each academic year the criteria for the selection of candidates to be admitted to the second cycle study program.	The institution drafts and publishes at the beginning of each academic year the criteria for the selection of candidates to be admitted to the second cycle study program. Based on <i>SUT Regulation</i> this criterion is met.		
Criterion 5 Prior to the beginning of each academic year, the Higher Education Institution instructs the public and interested parties on study program general and specific criteria and requirements.	Prior to the start of each academic year, the Dean Office at the faculty sets out general and specific admission criteria to the second cycle of studies and makes them transparent. Based on <i>SUT Regulation</i> this criterion is met.		
Fulfillment of standard		Partly met	Substantially met
			Met
			X

Standard V.2	
The Higher Education Institution makes available to the students of the study program detailed and comprehensive information on the academic progress, recognition, and knowledge assessment up to the studies completion and graduation.	
Criteria	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The institution provides full and detailed information on the criteria and procedures for students' academic progress	Based on <i>SUT's regulation</i> , the institution provides full and detailed information.

and transition from one academic year to the other.	From the conducted interview, after the exam is assessed by the lecture the grade of the exam is forwarded to the secretary, which records the grade in within a 'study book' and on a database.								
Criterion 2 The institution informs students about diploma recognition procedures and criteria regarding previous qualifications or part-time studies.	SUT regulation stipulates criteria and procedure for recognition of qualifications or partial studies. Based on <i>SUT Regulation</i> , this criterion is met.								
Criterion 3 The institution informs students about the criteria and procedures on knowledge and skills assessment during the study program.	The institution informs students about the criteria and procedures on knowledge and skills assessment during the study program. Based on <i>SUT Regulation</i> , this criterion is met.								
Criterion 4 The institution informs students about study program graduation criteria and procedures.	The institution informs students about study program graduation criteria and procedures. Based on <i>SUT Regulation</i> , this criterion is met.								
Criterion 5 Before the beginning of and throughout each academic year, the institution publishes special directives and organizes briefings to inform potential students and current students about the study program.	Based on reference, <i>FMS Leaflets, Papers on Staff engagement in information/open days. And Ref.48 FMS Guide</i> , this criterion is met.								
Fulfillment of standard	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Partly met</th> <th>Substantially met</th> <th>Met</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>X</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Partly met	Substantially met	Met				X
	Partly met	Substantially met	Met						
			X						

Standard V.3	
The Higher Education Institution provides students with comprehensive and detailed information on training objectives, structure, organization, study program content, expected learning outcomes and employment opportunities.	
Criteria	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The students are thoroughly informed on study program design, organization and duration.	Students have the ability to inform themselves using a variety of web pages and the <i>SUT Regulation</i> . During the interview's students did mention that they informed themselves online about the program.
Criterion 2 The institution provides students with the necessary information and documentation on modules/course content and training activities.	Students have at their disposal all the necessary and essential information about the curriculum and syllabus of every subject. Based on the conducted interview this criterion is met.
Criterion 3 The institution informs students on employment opportunities as well as institutional support on career counseling and labor market.	Through the Alumni platform, students are informed about the employment offers and employment requirements. Based on the conducted interview this criterion is met.
Criterion 4 Students are provided with extensive and up-to-date information on the teaching process development and organization, logistics, infrastructure and services in order to accomplish it.	SUT provides students with detailed, updated information on the organization and development of the teaching process, the annual structure of the academic year, the respective timetables and halls, which are displayed on the notice board. Another way to get information is through social networks such as the SUT Facebook

	account and the university website. (www.ust.edu.al). Based on the conducted interview this criterion is met.
Criterion 5 Information about the study program is provided through the internal information management system and should be easily accessible even to distance students.	SUT students at the time of registration are provided with a matriculation number and personal account by the IT office, to gain access to the ESS3 platform, where they can manage all necessary information. Based on the conducted interview this criterion is met
Criterion 6 The internal management system manages the information, documentation and student learning activities.	All information about students from entry to graduation is available through the ESSE3 platform. Based on the conducted interview this criterion is met
Fulfillment of standard	Partly met
	Met X

Standard V.4	
The Higher Education Institution collects, manages, updates and maintains detailed information about the number of students attending the second cycle study program from their admission to university, as well as employment/career data through an internal IT management system.	
Criteria	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The institution produces annual statistics on the number of current and graduated students in each study program.	Based on reference 12. <i>Appendix 1, Table 21: Quality of students at admissions and graduation and Table 23: Data on students' graduation and employment</i> , this criterion is met. During the academic year 2017-2018 there were 13 graduated students. During the academic year 2018-2019 there were 11 graduated students.
Criterion 2 The institution produces annual statistics on the number of students enrolled to the second cycle study program, dropouts during or before the end of the program, or the successful completion of the academic year in which the study program is delivered.	In this study program for the period of 2016-2019, there are 24 students graduated of which only 3 of them are employed in accordance to their diploma. Based on <i>Appendix , Table 23</i> .
Criterion 3 The institution possesses data on the students' progress throughout the study program course from their admission up to their graduation.	SUT keeps records of every student's performance throughout the course of program development, from entry, graduation, and up to their grade point average. Based on the conducted interview this criterion is met.
Criterion 4 Student statistical data are managed through the internal information system and must be secured and easily accessible to authorized persons.	The ESSE 3 electronic platform serves to store, process and administer all data related to students and academic staff. Based on the conducted interview this criterion is met.
Criterion 5 The institution should develop periodic monitoring reports on incoming and exiting students' profile and quality, as well as their employment rate, along with appropriate measures to improve these indicators.	As mentioned above the institution keeps data on student's graduation and their employment, but only a few of them are employed in accordance to their diploma. There is no evidence of a report by the faculty or the department in determining the causes of student's low

	number employment, in accordance to their diploma.		
Fulfillment of standard	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
		X	

Standard V.5

The Higher Education Institution includes and engages students in decision-making and advisory bodies such as drafting, approving, reviewing and improving the study programs, teaching methods and the quality of provided resources and services.

Criteria	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The institution envisages students and their representatives' involvement and engagement in decision-making and advisory bodies, according to HEI legal and regulatory acts of the HEI.	The SUT and Faculty regulation emphasizes the right of students to be represented in the university's governing and decision-making bodies. <i>(Ref.7 Regulation, Article 89 item c; Ref. 52 Working Group of Statute ; Ref. 51 Working Group for setting up Faculty III; Ref. 49 Working Group of Regulation on ethics; Ref. 50 Working Group of SUT Regulation)</i>
Criterion 2 The institution should ensure that students and / or their representatives' involvement in decision-making, counseling or evaluation on the academic process be realistic, specific, productive and with easily verifiable and measurable results.	Participation of students is easily measurable. A measurable indicator is students' participation in the students' council, the evaluation working groups at university and faculty level, the Self-Evaluation Group GSB, the Senate, the Ethics Council. <i>(Ref.7 Regulation, Article 89 item; Ref. Law on HEI; Ref. 52 Working Group of Statute; Ref. 51 Working Group for setting up Faculty III; Ref. 49 Working Group of Regulation on ethics; Ref. 50 Working Group of SUT Regulation)</i>
Criterion 3 In designing and improving the study program, the institution should take into account the academic load of students in the study program and the provision of the student progress procedures throughout the program, including recognition of their full or partial study programs.	Based on the interviews with academic staff and students, SUT while designing and improving the study program, takes into account the academic load of students and the provision of the student progress procedures throughout the program. <i>(Ref, 7 SUT Regulation; On Transfers, Credit Recognition and Student Mobility Article 84; 87; 88)</i>
Criterion 4 The institution guarantees the students' involvement in drafting, reviewing and improving the study program on a regular basis and reflects their suggestions and contributions.	Student questionnaires that are realized twice a year before each exam season provide a measurable evaluation indicator of the quality of teaching and study program. Based on Student questionnaire, this criterion is met.
Criterion 5 Students are encouraged to give their input on equality and knowledge assessment and control transparency, including their right to appeal with the responsible body / unit / lecturer the result, assessment, and evaluation awarded.	The regulation of SUT and of the faculty emphasizes students' rights related to the application of all professional, scientific criteria related to teaching, research and assessment. Based on <i>SUT Regulation</i> , this criterion is met

Fulfillment of standard			
	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
			X

Standard V.6			
The academic staff engaged in the study program participates in research and scientific activities and motivates student participation and involvement in studies and projects.			
Criteria	Evaluation of experts		
Criterion 1 The academic staff participates in international conferences or scientific research activities.	Based on reference, <i>Appendix 1 ASCAL Tables. Tab no 19; 20</i> , and conducted interviews (low number of papers) this criterion is partly met.		
Criterion 2 The institution establishes partnership agreements with foreign higher education institutions and institutes, for the purpose of conducting joint studies, projects and research.	SUT has entered into partnership agreements for the purpose of conducting joint studies or projects and research. Based on reference, <i>list of cooperation agreements</i> , this criterion is met.		
Criterion 3 The academic staff motivates students to plan, write and publish scientific studies and papers.	Based on the interviews with the teaching staff, the students are supported and motivated in publishing papers and scientific studies, but the scientific research in the department is in low levels.		
Criterion 4 The institution supports academic staff and students' publications in international scientific journals.	There is a low number of publications conducted by the academic staff of the study program, the institutions should take measures in supporting more, the academic staff and students in publishing or participating in conferences related to the study program focus. (<i>Ref. 16 Decision no. 23, dated 17.05.2019 on the proposal to provide financial support for attending conferences in Albania and abroad; Ref. 19 Decision no.25, dated 17.05.2019 on approval or research projects of main units at SUT.</i>)		
Criterion 5 The institution and academic staff motivate and support students to engage in innovation studies and patents.	Based on the meeting with the teaching staff and students, there is no evidence of students engagement in innovations studies.		
Criterion 6 The academic staff provides the necessary assistance to carry out analyzes, study measurements and results processing within the scope of the study program.	Academic staff consistently provides students with the necessary assistance throughout their scientific-research work. Based on <i>SUT Regulation</i> , this criterion is met.		
Fulfillment of standard	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
	X		

Standard V.7			
The support of the Higher Education Institution furthers advanced studies and research.			
Criteria	Evaluation of experts		
Criterion 1 The institution pursues a cooperation policy with national scientific organizations and institutions, in order to increase study program staff and students' activities and mobility.	SUT, in collaboration and partnership with counterpart universities, aims at an institutional policy regarding the qualification of academic staff and students, assisting their mobility		

	<i>(Ref.14 List of cooperation agreements.; Ref. 12 Appendix 1 ASCAL Tables Table 5)</i>			
Criterion 2 The research methods implementation by academic staff and students ensures the students' preparation for the third cycle degree program.	In the MSc curriculum, subjects related to scientific research, research methodology, qualitative, quantitative research and SPSS statistical processing of study data make up a significant part of the curriculum. Based on conducted interviews this criterion is met.			
Criterion 3 The institution pursues a policy about involving new researchers in national and international research projects.	Based on the self-evaluation file documents and site visit meetings , there is no evidence of a policy in involving national and international research projects this is also, due to the low scientific research conducted in the department.			
Criterion 4 The institution pursues an integrated policy for national/international researchers.	SUT partnership agreements with foreign counterpart partner institutions aim to strengthen integration policies of academic staff and researchers with foreign counterparts in order to gain the best experiences, but it is recommended e further and more efficient collaboration in order to increase the scientific research capacities related to this study program.			
Criterion 5 The institution pursues a favorable policy for student mobility, by engaging them in international activities.	SUT encourages students to participate in various scientific and international activities <i>(Ref. Appendix 1 ASCAL Tables Table 20; Ref.14 List of cooperation agreements.)</i>			
Criterion 6 The institution invites research and teaching activities, academic staff and foreign students for different periods of time, in order to increase HEI/university international profile.	SUT as part of Erasmus programs enables students mobility but there are no foreign students invited due also to the language obstacle since SUT doesn't offer subjects in English language Meanwhile based on reference, <i>Appendix 1 ASCAL Tables Table 20 and Ref.14 List of cooperation agreements</i> , SUT invites research and teaching staff, personalities of the field also form other countries			
Fulfillment of standard		Partly met	Substantially met	Met
		X		

Standard V.8

The Higher Education Institution has special units and procedures for student admission, induction, counseling, complaints and issues management, as well as a problem-solving strategy which are easily accessible and usable by students.

Criteria	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The institution has a special units and procedures which ensure student information and assistance in accordance with the legal provisions and HEIs regulatory acts.	The institution is transparent with the students will all the necessary information regarding the university, fees, entry criteria, development strategy etc. <i>(Ref.53 Rectorate Decision No. 107, dated 15.11.2016; Ref. 54 Dean's Decision No. 4, dated 16.01.2017; Ref 55. Dean's Decision No. Prot 163 01/02/2017)</i>
Criterion 2 The institution has set up and	The students are incessantly provided with assistance about

introduced a special system for students' information, counseling, progress and assistance in matters related to the teaching process and study program.	the teaching process and study program.			
Criterion 3 The institution provides students with career counseling assistance. The Career Counseling Office / Unit welcomes students continuously and periodically, providing specific information and guidance in terms of completing the learning process, selection and induction regarding professional training in other institutions (internships), and also advises them on labor market.	The Career and Alumni Office provides students with information for completing the learning process and the possibility of employment. It is recommended a stronger involvement by the Career office in advising students about their employment opportunities, due to the small number of students that are employed in accordance with their diploma.			
Criterion 4 The Career Office / Unit follows-up students after graduation, by collecting, processing and storing data on the type and quality of study program student employment and makes them available to students and relevant bodies and authorities.	The Career and Alumni Office has detailed information on the graduated students and is keeping records of their employment and makes them available to students and relevant bodies and authorities. Ref: <i>Appendix 1, Table 23.</i>			
Fulfillment of standard		Partly met	Substantially met	Met
				X

Fulfillment of standards of Field V		Partly met	Substantially met	Met
			X	

VI. STUDY PROGRAMS' QUALITY ASSURANCE

Standard VI.1 The Higher Education Institution drafts and implements transparent policies and procedures on the study program quality assurance within the framework of internal quality assurance system.	
Criteria	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The institution has in place policies, structures and procedures for Internal Quality Assurance (IQA), in accordance with applicable legal and sublegal provisions and with institutional regulatory acts.	In accordance with the requirements of Albanian Legislation, the prevision of the Statute and the Regulation of SUT the IQAU has been established. <i>(Ref. 56 Decision No.9 dt. 02.03.2018 of the Board of Administration for establishing IQAU; Ref. 57 Senate Decision no.16 dated 27.02.2018 for establishing IQAU; Ref. 58 Regulation on the Organization and Operation of the SUT Internal Quality Assurance Unit, article 1.)</i>
Criterion 2 The institution has established and introduced the Internal Quality Assurance System and implements an institutional strategy for continuous quality improvement, including students and external partners and experts.	The Internal Quality Assurance Unit is responsible for the design of policies and procedures for the internal quality assurance, implementation and continuous improvement of the quality system in the institution. <i>(Ref. 58 Regulation on the Organization and Operation</i>

	<i>of the SUT Internal Quality Assurance Unit)</i>		
Criterion 3 The Institution uses the appropriate quality assurance instruments. External Quality Assurance in Higher Education is realized through external accreditation assessment processes, analytical and comparative evaluations, as well as other processes that promote and improve quality.	The SUT senate has approved the External Consultants and External Evaluation processes in order to improve the quality of teaching. <i>(Ref. 58 Regulation on the Organization and Operation of the SUT Internal Quality Assurance Unit, article 4 & 5; Ref 59. Annual analysis.)</i>		
Criterion 4 The Institution has drafted a clear policy and follows periodic procedures to ensure and improve the quality of the study program it provides, within the IQA framework. They aim to create a quality culture at the institutional level, the constituent units and all institutional internal actors.	The SUT has drafted a clear policy and follows periodic procedures to ensure and improve the quality of the study program it provides, within the IQA framework. <i>(Ref.30 Report on students focus groups of IQAU; Ref. 59 Analysis of students questionnaires of IQAU)</i>		
Fulfillment of standard	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
			X

Standard VI.2	
The Higher Education Institution monitors and evaluates periodically through the special units the study program to ensure training objectives achievement and the intended learning outcomes.	
Criteria	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The institution establishes a special unit for monitoring, reviewing, and supervising the second cycle study program.	The institution establishes a special working group for monitoring and supervising the MSc study program and reports to the Rector's office. <i>(Ref. 24 Dean's Decisions on Program Coordination; Ref. 56 Administration Board Decision No.9 dt. 02.03.2018 on the establishment of the IQAU; Ref. 57 Senate Decision no.16 dated 27.02.2018 of the on the establishment of the IAU.)</i>
Criterion 2 The institution uses formal and documented processes and mechanisms for reviewing, approving and supervising the second cycle study program periodically.	Based on references <i>Regulation on the Organization and Operation of the SUT Internal Quality Assurance Unit, article 4 and Ref. Model student questionnaire of IQAU</i> , the SUT did introduce changes, whereby the revised material was within the boundaries set by the Low No.80/2015 on Higher Education and DCM No.41 (no more than 20% of the curriculum).
Criterion 3 The institution uses assessment methodology, measuring instruments and evaluation instruments for the study program progress and success.	Based on the interviews with students and IQAU staff, results that SUT uses different instruments in measuring the quality of the study program, like the students questionnaires and yearly staff academic performance <i>(Ref. 60 student's questionnaire analysis report of IQAU; Ref. 63, 64; 65 Annual analyses of Departments and Faculty)</i>
Criterion 4 The results of these assessments	Based on the interviews with IQAU and head of

are documented and put forward to the responsible and decision-making authorities for the study program.	<p>department the results of the assessments are forwarded from the IQAU to the Head of department and later on the head of department compiles and forwards a report to the Dean of the faculty.</p> <p><i>(Ref. 59 IQAU reports; Ref. 64 Annual analyses of Departments and Faculty)</i></p>			
<p>Criterion 5 The evaluation reports should include the expected results, the assessment results of and the measures taken to address the issues and the ongoing quality improvement.</p>	<p>The evaluation report is compiled at the end of the academic year and presents all the aggregated results for each main unit and base unit.</p> <p><i>(Ref. 59 IQAU periodic reports; Ref. 63 Annual department analysis)</i></p>			
<p>Fulfillment of standard</p>		Partly met	Substantially met	Met X

<p>Standard VI.3 The Higher Education Institution makes use of assessment procedures, methodologies, and instruments for the study program opening, development, and progress; graduation, entering the labor market as well as students' further studies.</p>	
<p>Criteria</p>	<p>Evaluation of experts</p>
<p>Criterion 1 The study program internal evaluation is periodically performed by the relevant internal quality assurance unit. The Higher Education Institution incorporates this information in the institutional self-assessment procedure within the accreditation and rating framework.</p>	<p>The Self-Evaluation reports of the MSc study program are reviewed by the council of professors.</p>
<p>Criterion 2 In order to carry out the assessment, the institution uses various appropriate and adequate methods and instruments, in line with the nature and features of the study program scope.</p>	<p>The institution uses different appropriate methods and instruments for the assessment process.</p> <p><i>(Ref. 68 Suggested theses topics / areas of study for the first and second cycle students; Ref. Senate decisions on the maintenance and enhancement of sports facilities; Ref. Senate decisions on the Action Plan for Fulfilling the Recommendations of the ASCAL Accreditation Board, item 4.)</i></p>
<p>Criterion 3 In the framework of evaluating study program performance and quality, the institution employs direct methods such as: quality assessment of teaching, didactics, curricula, learning outcomes; parallel assessment of student examinations or assignments, direct observations in the auditorium during exercises / practice, local or standardized tests, results achieved in inter-institutional or national tests such as state exam for regulated professions etc.</p>	<p>The institution uses a variety of methods for evaluation process such as quality assessment of teaching, didactics, curricula, learning outcomes; parallel assessment of student examinations or assignments, direct observations in the auditorium during practice, local or standardized tests, results achieved in inter-institutional or national tests such as state exam for regulated professions etc.</p> <p><i>(Ref. 63. Annual departmental analysis; Ref. 31 Course syllabus, Student Assessment Method; Ref. 7 SUT</i></p>

	<i>Regulation article 61)</i>			
Criterion 4 In the framework of study program quality and performance evaluation, the institution uses indirect assessment methods and instruments such as: students, graduates (alumni), and academic staff's surveys and interviews; academic and administrative assistance, employers and institutions that cooperate for the study program delivery and other parties involved in conducting the assessment of knowledge and competences acquired during this program.	Periodic reports from IQAU, external consultants and student surveys are parts of evaluating process. <i>(Ref. 60 IQAU student questionnaire; Ref. 59 Student questionnaire analysis)</i>			
Fulfillment of standard		Partly met	Substantially met	Met
				X

Standard VI.4	
The Higher Education Institution includes academic units, staff and students in the study program IQA process and informs interested parties on the results and the subsequent action plan.	
Criteria	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The institution should provide for and guarantee the involvement of internal and external actors, interested in ensuring and improving the study program in internal quality policies and procedures.	The institution has adjusted a plan whose mission is to guarantee the involvement of internal and external actors, interested in ensuring and improving the study program in internal quality policies and procedures. <i>(Ref. 34 Decision No. 7 dt.16.2017 "On the Establishment of the Internal Quality Assurance Unit at the Faculty of Motion Sciences")</i>
Criterion 2 The institution defines the specific responsibilities and tasks of main units, individuals, students and other parties engaged in the study program internal quality assurance and guarantees the responsible performance of these tasks.	Based on the <i>SUT Regulation</i> and <i>Ref 34</i> , the staff included in the process of quality assurance has clear tasks and responsibilities defined <i>(Ref. 34 Decision No. 7 dt.16.2017 "On the Establishment of the Internal Quality Assurance Unit at the Faculty of Motion Sciences")</i>
Criterion 3 During study program assessment and quality assurance it is important to guarantee the inclusion of the main unit responsible for the study program, academic staff, academic and administrative assistants and study program students.	IQAU interacts with basic units, main units and aims to raise the knowledge of academic staff and students pursuing the MSc. <i>(Ref. 34 Decision No. 7 dt.16.2017 "On the Establishment of the Internal Quality Assurance Unit at the Faculty of Motion Sciences")</i> .
Criterion 4 Internal actors' inclusion and engagement in the continuous assessment procedures should observe the academic integrity and avoid any kind of discrimination or inequality against staff and students.	Based on SER and self evaluation file results that SUT takes into consideration the academic integrity of the staff in determining the groups of internal evaluation procedures. Also SUT has provided quotas for the students with different abilities. <i>(Ref.22. Dean's decision No.52. dated 01/10/2019 "On the approval of ISG"; Ref.67 Designation of quota for</i>

	<i>students of a specific status; Ref. Senate decision on the meeting the recommendations of Accreditation board of ASCAL, paragraph 3.)</i>		
Criterion 5 Partners and / or external experts, who are related to the study program, or can provide valuable expertise and input about the program quality and improvement should actively participate in the assessment and internal quality assurance processes.	Partners, who are related to the study program, actively participate in the assessment and internal quality assurance processes. <i>(Ref. 14 List of co operational agreements of SUT; Ref. Senate Decision no.17 date 27.02.2018)</i>		
Fulfillment of standard	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
			X

Standards VI. 5	
Policies, processes and activities for the study program Internal Quality Assurance should be made public, transparent, and effective, with the view to establish an Internal Quality Assurance Culture.	
Criteria	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The policy, strategy, organization and activities within the framework of study program Internal Quality Assurance system are transparent and are made public to all students and parties concerned.	The publication of information about the policy, strategy, organization and activities within the framework of study program Internal Quality Assurance, at the SUT is done via electronic and printed means. <i>(Ref.4 SUT Statute; Ref.66 Open annual meeting of Rectorate)</i>
Criterion 2 The Higher Education Institution publishes the results of the study programs assessment, by observing the academic freedom and ethics, as well as the legislation on personal data.	SUT makes information on assessment results transparent by respecting the academic freedom and ethics, as well as the legislation on personal data. <i>(Ref.66 Open annual meeting of Senate; Ref. Meetings with students)</i>
Criterion 3 The assessment results should go along with an action plan designed to address and improve the identified weaknesses and issues.	IQAU has a work plan that takes into account the results of the assessments during the year. <i>(Ref. Rectorate - plan of measures; Ref. IQAU Work Plan and Reports; Ref. 33 Decision of Board on Establishment of IQAU)</i>
Criterion 4 The institution assesses and ensures activities' effectiveness and impact in the framework of monitoring and quality assessment, with the view to ensure the ongoing study program improvement.	SUT assesses and ensures activities' effectiveness and impact in the framework of monitoring and quality assessment. <i>(Ref. 65 Annual Analysis of the University financial transparency; Ref. 33 Decision of Board on Establishment of IQAU)</i>
Criterion 5 The institution organizes periodic activities with staff and students for their information and awareness raising on the long-term quality assurance and study	There is constant communication with academic staff and students for their information and awareness raising on the long-term quality assurance and study program improvement.

program improvement.	<i>(Ref. 30 Meeting with staff of each basic unit and students on financial transparency, Paper No. Prot.605, dated.5.4.2019; Ref. 65 Annual Analysis of the University.)</i>			
Fulfillment of standard		Partly met	Substantially met	Met
				X

Fulfillment of standards of Field VI		Partly met	Substantially met	Met
				X

Summary Conclusions of the External Evaluation Report, of the second cycle study program Master of Science in “Sport Sciences”, of the Higher Education Institution “Sports University of Tirana”

Strengths /Affirmations

1. The study program is organized in accordance to the law on “Higher Education and Scientific Research in Higher Education Institutions in the Republic of Albania” and by laws in force.
2. Strength of the program is the diversity of experts the program has – e.g. multi-disciplinary team.
3. The academic staff is competent, experienced and hold the necessary degree qualifications.
4. The institution has a unique and long term experience in Albania, in the field of Sport Sciences.

Weaknesses

1. Poor research experience / low research study output.
2. Limited laboratory and sporting facilities infrastructure.
3. Lack of a continuous development plan for academic staff members.
4. The cooperations with potential employers and institutions for training and internships are informal.
5. The lack of English language modules, which would increase the student’s mobility.
6. Lack of study program information such as composition of academic staff, teaching plan, study program regulation, on the web site of the institution.
7. Lack of a Report by the department in determining the causes of student’s low number employment, in accordance to their diploma.
8. Weak support of academic staff and student’s research activities such as publications and conferences by the institution.

Recommendations

1. It is recommended a greater effort by the academic staff in research activities and paper publications.

2. Based on the tour given, the laboratories and sporting facilities could be 'upgraded'. A possible solution to do so is to seek external funding. This could be done in collaboration with other universities, which would in turn also establish new partners. As such, the SUT might register themselves as potential partner in H2020 calls (<https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en>) or even seek to get a proposal in themselves. If funds would be secured, the SUT could invest in laboratories and sporting facilities as defined in the project proposal – many European universities have used such funds to purchase a motion capture system or similar.
3. The university should develop a continuous development plan for academic staff members in order to increase teaching quality and adapt innovative teaching methods.
4. The Faculty is recommended to establish official arrangements and to build up a mentoring system for student's practices or internships.
5. The introductions in the teaching plan of English language modules are recommended in order to increase student's mobility and to attract foreign students.
6. The institution should make public and transparent the information regarding this study program such as regulation, academic staff composition, teaching plan, syllabuses etc., on the web site.
7. The department should compile a report where are determined the causes of the low number of students employed in accordance to their diploma.
8. The institution should do a greater effort in supporting academic staff and student's research activities such as publications and conference participations. This should be changed – with good examples / raw models (researching lecture). The program should try to repeat landmark studies (high impact studies). This would allow the university to engage the students better and would allow them to participate in fascinating studies.
9. Given the low number of students in this study program, the Alumni and Career Counseling Office should play a bigger role in orientating potential students towards this study program.
10. Is recommended the institution to compile a report on the effectiveness and benefits of the cooperation agreements that have in focus the student's internships and practices.
11. Is recommended that the study program should have a Regulation on its own, where the skills, objectives and the competences of the program are well determined.

12. The institution should generate methods of introducing a system against plagiarism.
13. Regarding global development trends, the program is lacking on novel / global arising needs. For example, an emerging need is the skill of data processing or statistical analysis. For example, the university holds on to the rather expensive SPSS software (statistical software), while it could easily switch to other open source / free software (R, python, jasp), which provide the same abilities as SPSS.

The degree of fulfillment of the quality standards of the program

Field of Evaluation	The degree of fulfillment of the quality standards, for each field			
		Partly met	Substantially met	Met
I. STUDY PROGRAM "MASTER OF SCIENCE/ ARTS" PROVISION			X	
II. STUDY PROGRAM ORGANIZATION, MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION				X
III. TEACHING, LEARNING, EVALUATION AND COMPETENCES				X
IV. HUMAN, FINANCIAL, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND LOGISTICS RESOURCES FOR STUDY PROGRAM DELIVERY			X	
V. STUDENTS AND THEIR SUPPORT			X	
VI. STUDY PROGRAMS' QUALITY ASSURANCE				X
Total Fulfilment of standards			X	