

#### AGJENCIA E SIGURIMIT TË CILËSISË NË ARSIMIN E LARTË

#### **EXTERNAL EVALUATION REPORT**

SECOND CYCLE JOINT INTEGRATED STUDY PROGRAM "MASTER OF SCIENCE" IN "ARCHITECTURE" WITH DOUBLE DEGREE OF "CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY "LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL"

External Evaluation Group:

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February/2021

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#### **DATA OF THE STUDY PROGRAM**

#### For second cycle joint integrated study program "MASTER OF SCIENCE" IN "ARCHITECTURE" with double degree.

Nr.					
1	Applying HEI:	"CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY "LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL" /UKZKM			
2	Main and Base Units offering the program:	The program is offered by the three departments of the Faculty of Applied Sciences:  Department of Architecture  Department of Architectural Sciences and Techniques  Research Centre for Mediterranean Architecture  Second cycle joint integrated study program "MASTER OF SCIENCE" in			
3	Program name:	Second cycle joint integrated study program "MASTER OF SCIENCE" in "ARCHITECTURE" with double degree JISP MSc in "Architecture"			
4	Opening act:	The study program was opened with 2 Orders of the Minister of Education and Sports:  - UMASR Nr. 247 dated 18.06.2015 (based on DAB No. 30 dated 27.03.2015).  - UMASR Nr. 335 dated 16.09.2015 for the opening of this program (based on DAB No. 30 dated 27.03.2015)			
5	Act of reorganisation:	-			
6	Diploma registration form:	-			
7	Preceding accreditation:	None (accredited for the first time in Albania) Italian accreditation of the "Architecture" study program, of Universidegli studi di Firenze (UNIFI), Nr. 0000400, date 13.06.2014			
8	Cycle of studies:	I+II			
9	Duration of the program:	5 Academic years			
10	Total ECTS:	300 credits			
11	Type of studies:	Full time			
12	Language:	Italian Language			
13	Program is offered in collaboration with other institutions:	YES, with the "Università degli studi di Firenze" - UNIFI			
13.1	Joint Degree:	-			
13.2	Double degree:	YES			
14	Level of the national qualification's framework:	Level 7			
15	Full time (PAE) / Part time (PAK) academic staff:	71 in total:  - 21 FTS from UNIZKM  - 48 FST from UNIFI  - 2 PTS  The coverage of the program, in the teaching load is 29.5% UNIZKM  / 68% UNIFI / 2.8% PTS			
16	Number of students in the first year (5 years):	65 in total: 19 (2015-2016), 14 (2016-2017), 13 (2017-2018), 8 (2018-2019), 11 (2019-2020)			
17	Other coments	To receive the double degree, students must have completed at least 2 semesters in years IV and V, at the partner University			

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#### GENERAL DATA FOR THE STUDY PROGRAM IN THE EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT **PROCESS**

The second cycle joint integrated study program "MASTER OF SCIENCE" in "ARCHITECTURE" with double degree. - JISP MSc in "Architecture", is offered by "CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY "LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL" - UKZKM, Faculty of Applied Sciences. The faculty is organized in the below base units, which are contributing to the program:

- Department of Architecture
- Department of Architectural Sciences and Techniques
- Research Centre for Mediterranean Architecture

The program was first licenced in 2015 with the following orders of the Minister of Education and Sports:

- UMASR Nr. 247 dated 18.06.2015 (based on DAB No. 30 dated 27.03.2015).
- UMASR Nr. 335 dated 16.09.2015 for the opening of this program (based on DAB No. 30 dated 27.03.2015)

The program is organised in full time studies, with a normal duration of 5 academic years, and with a total load of 300 ECTS. This corresponds to integrated studies of 1st and 2nd cycle and to Level 7 in the Albanian Framework of Qualification.

This is the first accreditation for the program, while the institutional accreditation has been issued in 2016 and is valid until 2023.

The program is offered in collaboration with "Universita degli studi di Firenze" - UNIFI, creating the possibility for students of having a double degree if they complete two semesters in the partner university (during the 4th and 5th year)

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#### DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTERNAL EVALUATION PROCESS

The external evaluation process is organized in fulfilment of the Law 80/2015 "On Higher Education and Scientific Research in the Higher Education Institutions in the Republic of Albania". The procedure follows the steps foreseen in the Manual of Accreditation 2017.

In order to make possible the external evaluation process of the Second Cycle Joint Integrated Study Program "MASTER OF SCIENCE" in "ARCHITECTURE", the procedure and regulations envisaged by the Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ASCAL) have been followed:

- 1. Designation of External Expert for the accreditation of the Joint Integrated Study Program "MASTER OF SCIENCE" in "ARCHITECTURE" at UKZKM, on 10 September 2020, and training on the conduction of the evaluation process.
- 2. Order for the determination of the experts who will participate in the external evaluation, for the accreditation process of the M.Sc. Architecture program (Nr. 59 on 22/09/2020) and Contract with the experts undersigned in the same date.
- 3. The Technic Coordinator (TC) for the external evaluation from ASCAL: ME. Renata Qatipi
- 4. Following the external experts' appointment within the Evaluation Group, a note (on 5/10/2020) was sent by ASCAL to UKZKM to set-out a two days in-site Visit.
- 5. The External Evaluation Group EEG, composed by PhD. Fabio Naselli and Dr. Gjergji Islami, together with Renata Qatipi, completed the visit in the institution in 15-16 October 2020. The visit was conducted respecting the protection measures against COVID19. The EEG visit was conducted according to the below agenda:

First day

15.10.2020

Meeting hour	Activity	Participants in the meeting
08.30-09.00	External Evaluation Team settles into the team meeting room and discusses about the site visit to the Institution	<ul> <li>External Evaluation Team (EET)</li> <li>Institutional Coordinator (IC)</li> <li>Technical Coordinator (TC) from ASCAL</li> </ul>
$09^{00} - 10^{30}$	Meeting with:  - Dean of the Faculty of Applied Sciences  - Head of the Department of Architecture	- Dean of the Faculty - Head of the Department
$10^{30} - 11^{30}$	Meeting with Self Evaluation Group of the study program  Members of Self Evaluation Team	
$11^{30} - 13^{00}$	Meeting with Academic Staff of the program	In this meeting participate members of the academic staff (full-time and part-time)
$13^{00} - 14^{00}$	Coffee break	
1400-1500	Meeting with Students	Students of study programs (from different academic years).
$15^{00} - 16^{00}$	Meeting with the curriculum and quality evaluation office	Representatives of the Office
1600	Final meeting of the first day	EET / IC / TC

Second day

16.10.2020

Meeting hour	Planned activity Participants in the m	
0830 - 0900	Short meeting of EET with IC (Discussion on points of the Agenda)	EET / IC / TC
0900 – 1000	0900 – 1000 Meeting with Statistic and Human Resources Office Representatives of the Offic	
1000 – 1100	Meeting with Carrier counselling office	Representatives of the Office
1100 – 1200	Staff Office	Representatives of the Office
1200 -1300	Meeting with Research and Training Projects office	Representatives of the Office
1300 - 1400	Tour in HEI environment (auditors, laboratories, library, and students' facilities, etc.)	EET / IC / TC

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During the Visit, a Minute was drafted that recorded the interviews with both the academic and administrative staff of the University, as well as the students of the study program.

- 6. The EEG also visited the infrastructure available at the university campus and requested supplementary document to be provided by UKZKM. 15 additional documents were provided through the AMS system in response to the EEG requests.
- 7. On 20/10/2020 the external experts started their work by checking the newly uploaded documents, in organising the direct information taken during the Visit (from the minute), and in filling the present EXTERNAL EVALUATION REPORT.
- 8. The external evaluation report is based on both Albanian and EU laws and directives, on official documents submitted by the HEI, on the minute transcribed during the meetings with staff and students and on some additional documents requested during it, as uploaded in the ASCAL system after the Visit (on 17/10 and on 20/10/2020).
- 9. On 02/12/2020 a first draft of the report was delivered to ASCAL (ME. Renata Qatipi) to be checked in the editing and contains. The feedback was given on 07/12/2020 and its findings were beneficial to carry out the final draft of it.
- 10. Based on the documentation provided in the internal evaluation file for the second cycle joint integrated study program "MASTER OF SCIENCE" in "ARCHITECTURE" with double degree, in the site visit conducted, and in the supplementary documents provided by UKZKM, the EEG prepared the following final report. The report is a conclusion of the expert's assessments, based on the State Standards and Criterions on Quality Assurance in Higher Education.
- 11. The delivery of the final draft of the EXTERNAL EVALUATION REPORT was carried out on 13/01/2021.

#### ABBREVIATIONS.

UKZKM: Catholic University "Our Lady of Good Counsel"

UNIFI: University of Florence

DIDA: Department of Architecture at UNIFI

HEI: Higher Education Institution (referred to UKZKM)

CCO: Career Counselling Office at UKZKM

**QAU**: Quality Assessment Unit at UKZKM

SEG: Self-Evaluation Group at UKZKM

FAS: Faculty of Applied Sciences at UKZKM

DA: Department of Architecture (responsible for the study program)

DSTA: Department of Sciences and Techniques of Architecture

RCMA: Research Center on Mediterranean Architecture

JISP "MSc": Joint Integrated Study Program "Master of Science" at UKZKM

MASR: Ministry of Higher Education of Sport and Youth of Albania

EU-HES: European Union' Higher Education Space

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#### EVALUATION, FOR THE SECOND CYCLE, JOINT INTEGRATED STUDY PROGRAM "MASTER OF SCIENCE" IN "ARCHITECTURE"

#### I. STUDY PROGRAM PROVISION

Standard I.1 The Higher Education Institution	provides a	"Master of Scienc	e" integrated
second cycle study program in accordance with	its mission	and objectives, ai	ming at
maintaining national interests and values.			

Criterions	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The Higher Education Institution offers a "Master of Science" integrated study program in compliance with national interests.	The JOINT INTEGRATED STUDY PROGRAM "MASTER OF SCIENCE" IN "ARCHITECTURE (hereinafter JISP MSc in "Architecture") complies with national interests. As well it complies with the UKZKM statute mission (Art. 2 – Mission) <sup>1</sup> , firstly licensed in 2004 (VKM Nr. 567, 27.08.2004) and finally accredited with VBA No. 112 dated 15.12.2017 (with the duration of 6 academic years, until 14.12.2023). The JISP MSc in "Architecture" was opened as last study program with the UKZKM Academic Senate Decision Nr. 335 on 16.09.2015, which was approved under two Orders (Nr. 247-18.06.2015, and Nr. 335-16.09.2015) from the MASR, it is offered with 300 ECTS, with a duration of 5 academic years, and it is conducted in Italian language <sup>2</sup> , at the end a dual university degree is issued.
	Together with national interests, it also aims to extend its offer in compliance with that specific international interest between Alania and Italy in terms of "European proximity relationships", as stated in the bilateral protocol between UKZKM & UNIFI <sup>3</sup> (undersigned on 20.06.2018). Indeed, it is offered in partnership with the UNIFI.
	Ref. 1: Statute of UKZKM.
	Ref. 2: The improved curriculum of JISP MSc in "Architecture" (from AY 2017-2018).
	Ref. 3: Cooperation Agreement between UKZKM and UNIFI.
Criterion 2 The "Master of Science" integrated study program aims to preserve and consolidate national academic and cultural values.	The Joint MSc in "Architecture" is mainly aimed to exploit the European culture within the national academic and cultural values. It is indeed aimed to enforce the preservation and the consolidation of National values also stressing into consideration the ongoing process of integration within the EU-HES. UNIFI, as the lead partner, is the guarantor of this process, as stated in the attached Cooperation Agreement between UKZKM and UNIFI (undersigned on 20.06.2018) <sup>1</sup> and which main aim is to train professionally capable specialists who can carry on the development process of the Country within a wider horizon.
	Furthermore, the national academic and cultural values are even preserved through a number of practical activities based on a few of agreements undersigned with public institutions and focused on the safeguard of local identities, heritages, and values, which aim is to connect students with the national context and its issues.

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Following, the list of partnerships and the subjects of those agreements in evidencing the attention onto the local heritage and national cultural values, as per documentations uploaded in the ASCAL System:

- The Collaboration Agreement with the Polytechnic University of Tirana, for educational and scientific exchanges (06/07/2006).
- The Memorandum of Cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the National Agency for Land Planning, as part of the Integrated Rural Development Program - "100+ Villages" Program (19/07/2018).
- The Collaboration Agreement with the Municipality of Tirana, in order to cooperate with the aim of granting the students of the Faculty of Applied Sciences (UCNSBC) to develop disciplinary and professional internships at the institution (17/02/2020).

Ref. 1: Cooperation Agreement between UKZKM and UNIFI.

Criterion 3 The "Master of Science" integrated study program is designed and delivered in accordance with the goals and mission of the institution and its field of activity.

The JISP MSc study program in "Architecture" is conceived and delivered following and in accordance with the Italian partner university' study program. It is built under the goals and mission of the UKZKM<sup>1</sup> and its fields of activity since its foundation. It has been furthermore highlighted in the UKZKM 2017-2027 Institutional Development Plan<sup>2</sup>.

Ref. 1: Statute of UKZKM.

Ref. 2: 2017-2027 Institutional Development Plan of UKZKM.

Criterion 4 The "Master of Science" integrated study program is designed and offered in line with and promotes local and/or national economic development.

The JISP MSc in "Architecture" is conceived in line with national economic development goals and it promotes both local and national development strategies. It is particularly focused into Albania-Italy exchanges of expertise and onto the UNIFI' curriculum fully adopted model<sup>1</sup>, as confirmed through the double-title recognition system. It has been updated since 2017-2018 A.Y.<sup>2</sup> to stress those aims in line with the UKZKM general mission<sup>3</sup> in promoting national development within the European arena.

Ref. 1: Cooperation Agreement between UKZKM and UNIFI.

Ref. 2: The improved curriculum of JISP MSc in "Architecture" (from AY 2017-2018).

Ref. 3: Statute of UKZKM, and 2017-2027 Institutional Development Plan of UKZKM.

Criterion 5 The "Master of Science" integrated study program establishes a sustainable competences basis, necessary for in-depth third cycle studies, including in depth professional and scientific training.

The analysis of the courses' syllabi<sup>1</sup>, their contents and the adopted literature, allow us in stating that JISP MSc in "Architecture" establishes the basis for sustainable competences in the architecture field. This is indispensable for further in-depth third-cycle studies, including in-depth professional and scientific training, which are not yet started at the FAS, because of its early stage from foundation, but which are planned within the 2017-2027 Institutional Development Plan of UKZKM<sup>2</sup>.

Ref. 1: Course' syllabi as uploaded in the ASCAL System.

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	Ref. 2: 2017-2027 Institutional Development Plan of UKZKM.			
Fulfilment of standard	North Avenue Par	tly met	Substantially met	Met
				X

#### Standard I.2

The "Master of Science" integrated study program is in line with the development strategy, statute and other regulatory acts of the Higher Education Institution and its academic fields.

#### Criterions

## **Criterion 1** The institution clearly stipulates that the integrated study program is designed and delivered in compliance with and in implementation of the institution's own development strategy.

#### **Evaluation of experts**

UKZKM states this JISP MSc in "Architecture" is fully in compliance with its development strategies as well as with the implementation of the current formative offer<sup>1</sup>.

Indeed, UKZKM, in harmony with the spirit of its Founders and in coherence with the needs of both economic, social, and cultural development, in both its foundation statute and its 2017-2027 development plan, has clearly stated that at the centre of its mission is the graduate and post-graduate qualitative education of new generations, in different professional fields, to train professionals capable from the professional point of view, who can carry on the development process of the country. It stated that "The Faculty aims to undertake initiatives in planning, design, broadening knowledge and bringing innovation to the Applied Sciences sector, while maintaining the following values: excellence, public debate, inclusion, collaboration, interdisciplinary experience."

The study programs planned to complete the undergraduate and postgraduate educational offer in the Architecture Area over the ten years will be as follows:

- Degree in Industrial Design and Technology Areas
- Master's Degree in Restoration of Cultural Heritage and Architecture Technology
- PhD in
- Restoration of the Cultural Heritage
- Conservation Design and New Functions
- Technology of Architecture, History of Architecture
- Restoration and Conservation of Cultural Heritage

Ref. 1: Statute of UKZKM, and 2017-2027 Institutional Development Plan of UKZKM.

Criterion 2 The statute and the regulation of the institution clearly define its academic priorities and demonstrate that the "Master of Science" integrated study program is designed and delivered

UKZKM aims to offer a JISP MSc in "Architecture" in following the European Directive and it is analogous to the program at the University of Florence. Both the UKZKM statute and the internal regulation of the FAS¹ clearly states at the Art. 1 that "the study program is designed and delivered in accordance with and in implementation of the latter; the Regulation of the Faculty of Applied Sciences follows both Law

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in accordance with and in implementation of the latter.

number 80/2015 -For higher education and scientific research at higher education institutions in the Republic of Albania- as well as the Statute and Regulations of the UKZKM."<sup>2</sup>.

Ref. 1: FAS internal regulation.

Ref. 2: UKZKM statute, and 2017-2027 Institutional 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.

Designation, organization, structure, and content of the JISP MSc in "Architecture" are provided in accordance with the UKZKM's areas of interest and in accordance with the foreseen academic profile of "Architect". It is evident within the previous already quoted documents (Standards I.1, criterions from 1 to 5) and even through the analysis of delivered study program curriculum<sup>1</sup> and syllabi<sup>2</sup>.

Ref. 1: The improved curriculum of JISP MSc in "Architecture" (from AY 2017-2018).

Ref. 2: Course' syllabi as uploaded in the ASCAL System.

**Criterion 4** The integrated study program is designed and developed in accordance with national development strategies, national interest, and global development trends.

The JISP MSc in "Architecture" is designed and developed in accordance with national development strategies and national interest according with the Law number 80/2015 "For higher education and scientific research at higher education institutions in the Republic of Albania". Moreover, because of its strong partnership with UNIFI, JISP MSc in "Architecture" also fulfils to European standards. (See as stated in the Standard I.1, criterions 1 and 2). The curriculum of the study program is organized into modules and credits based on the European credit transfer system (ECTS), known as the "Bologna Process".

However, staying within the global development trends, the adoption of the Italian language, despite its noticeable vantages in terms of knowledge transmission between the two countries and the acquirement of a distinctive Italian critical mindset in the specific field of Architecture, it might limit, in some ways, that "global" development trend assumption because of the limited range of worldwide adoption of Italian language out of EU<sup>2</sup>.

Ref. 1: The improved curriculum of JISP MSc in "Architecture" (from AY 2017-2018), and the Study program detailed syllabi.

Ref. 2: From the Self-evaluation Report – Standard I.3; "The program of the course is held in Italian, which favours the mobility of students to and from Italy but potentially also to other foreign countries."

Fulfilment of standard	Not ret (51	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
- Barrie Barrier and Control Spin			5.00	X

#### Standard I.3

The integrated study program aims to meet the needs of the labour market and is provided in accordance with its requirements.

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#### Criterions

Criterion 1 The integrated second cycle study program has set well-defined objectives for student training in that program, which include in-depth scientific knowledge, 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 with the requirements of the labour market.

#### **Evaluation of experts**

The JISP MSc in "Architecture" has set well-defined objectives<sup>1,2</sup> for students training in the program, which include in-depth scientific knowledge, and skills and professional competencies that students should acquire at the end of the study program. These objectives characterize the profile of the program in accordance with the level of studies the HEI is offering (second cycle) and with both the current and the innovative requirements of the Albanian and European labour market in the fields of Architecture (Architecture design, Interior design, Urban planning, Restoration, Services, and Structural design). From the data of the market analysis of the architecture sector3, conducted by the Career Orientation Office, it can be deduced that in Albania the profession of the architect is still young and in a phase of strong development. Moreover, the Albanian state is careful to include the role of the architect in the development of some of the key professional sectors, such as tourism and urban planning, through targeted development studies and programs<sup>4</sup> or public assignments. The private sector is also growing and far from the saturation reached in other European countries, with hires in design and real estate firms.

Ref. 1: Study regulations of the study program 2018-2019 (at Second paragraph: "Qualifying educational objectives of the LM-4 category Integrated cycle Architecture (five-year) according to Ministerial Decree of 22 October 2004, n.270").

Ref. 2: FAS internal regulation (at TITLE III).

Ref. 3: Labour Market Study for Architects.

Ref. 4: Cooperation between AKPT and the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development for the "Integrated Program 100+ Villages", and the applicative workshop carried out in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture and the Cultural Monuments Institute on the restoration of the "Gates of Rahova" (for the latter one there is not any delivered doc, but it is listed within the Self-evaluation Report).

Criterion 2 The institution conducts studies on the local and international labour 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 Career Counselling Office unit at UKZKM conducted studies on the local and international labour market properly for the study program<sup>1</sup>. The developed Report included general internal market data, as well as data from direct formal communications with employers and labour associations, involved in the field of interest, focused on their needs and requirements, and expected developments in the student employment opportunities. Being at the starting point of the curriculum, data on real employment final and periodical checks, after FAS students' graduation, are currently unavailable. The models already adopted in others of the study programs at UKZKM (a template of it was showed during the Visit) might be useful as template for the next architecture Alumni surveys. Currently, the Career Counselling Office even started in listing a few of professional firms and institutional entities potentially interested in future hiring (no evidence was provided but we were informed during the Visit) and in drafting the indicators for the future survey<sup>2</sup>.

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CCO declared that they will try to maintain connections with Alumni in their finding of professional opportunities, as they already done for other study programs at UKZKM. Furthermore, they still personally inform students for available job offers by the use of Alumni template as a model for future graduates; they have predictable data that about 45-50% of students will use the double degree; and, finally, they are committed to an EU project to create a large network of graduates, with several other universities in the country<sup>3</sup>.

From the uploaded documents, it appears a few of the first internships at professional firms have already been completed from the last year students<sup>4</sup>.

Ref. 1: Labour Market Study for Architects.

Ref. 2: Career Counselling Office note (uploaded in the ASCAL system under experts' request).

Ref. 3: Minute of two-day visit.

Ref. 4: Requests for completed internship (uploaded in the ASCAL system after visit and under experts' request).

Criterion 3 The integrated 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 JISP MSc in "Architecture" objectives, structure, and content, as well as study program and courses syllabi, expected learning outcomes guarantee the acquisition of knowledge, skills, and competences that respond to market needs in the architecture field and facilitate student employment. It also enlarges the market to the Italian and European ones due to the gained double diploma. Indeed, the study program is fully compatible with and implementing art. 2 and art. 3 of the University Statute, which make clear the aims of the academic priorities of the University, and of the 2017-2027 Institutional Development Plan <sup>1</sup>.

This study program is aimed to enrich national professional values in the field of architecture, by the integration with European and Italian values, as also demonstrated by the results of the questionnaires submitted to the FAS' students<sup>2</sup>. The outputs of the internship activities at local professional studios<sup>3</sup> and the mandatory internship at UNIFI<sup>4</sup> amplify the response to the diverse characteristics and needs of the employment markets.

Ref. 1: UKZKM statute, and 2017-2027 Institutional Development Plan.

Ref. 2: Students' perception of learning activity.

Ref. 3: Requests for completed internship, Internal Regulation of Professional Practice, and Regulation of internship.

Ref. 4: FAS internal regulation, and Collaboration agreement with UNIFI.

**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 study program is fully aligned with the Italian study program, provided by the partner institution UNIFI<sup>1-3</sup>, to facilitate study transfer or student employment in the international market. Students, indeed, are leaded in testing the real market during (stages) and after their degree (hiring/professionals). Furthermore, based on the Cooperation Agreement the study programs must be maintain aligned each other, and considering

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UNIFI' study program in Architecture already got the accreditation from the Italian Ministry and the Certification of Quality<sup>4, 5</sup>, it might be considered as a guarantee of continuity in the study program structure. Even UKZKM is provided with a Quality Assessment Unit (QAU)<sup>6</sup>.

Ref. 1: Cooperation Agreement between UKZKM and UNIFI.

Ref. 2: Communication to the Minister about the modifications in the study curriculum no.476 of 12.10.2017.

Ref. 3: The improved curriculum of JISP MSc in "Architecture" (from AY 2017-2018), and the Study program' detailed syllabi.

Ref. 4: UNIFI Accreditation Decree on 2018-19.

Ref. 5: UNIFI Certification of Quality.

Ref. 6: Regulation of QAU.

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.

The JISP MSc in "Architecture" is drafted on the objectives set out in the EU legislation and directives (Bologna Process) on higher education and regulated professions, it relies on the institution's long-standing educational experience and on the partnership with UNIFI along with its best educational practices. The aims and objectives of UKZKM, in implementation of its development strategy<sup>1</sup>, is, indeed, to offer a JISP MSc in "Architecture" in compliance with European Directives in didactic and professional training and with the vision of the training of multidisciplinary professionals, as supported also by its full accordance to the UNIFI study program, which already fulfil that criteria2. As well as established in the UKZKM statute and regulation<sup>3</sup> and stated in the convention for the conferral of the double degree between the two universities<sup>4</sup>.

Ref. 1: 2017-2027 Institutional Development Plan.

Ref. 2: UNIFI Accreditation Decree on 2018-19.

Ref. 3: UKZKM statute.

Ref. 4: Cooperation Agreement between UKZKM and UNIFI.

Criterion 6 The integrated study program includes vocational training in professional practices in line with the study program purpose and objectives, and international directives on regulated professions.

The study program includes vocational training in professional practice, aligned with the study program purpose and objectives and with international directives on regulated professions. It is conceived following the European Directives<sup>1</sup> of didactic and professional training and with the vision of training multidisciplinary professionals, and this mainly thanks to the leading collaboration with the academic staff of UNIFI.

Internships at local professional firms have already be held<sup>2</sup>, while at the Municipality of Tirana it is expected to be done. These vocational trainings, which cover 6 ECTS of the total 300 ECTS<sup>3</sup>, are held under the supervision of a university tutor (currently the Department' and the study program' Coordinator). Together with the mandatory educational internship at UNIFI4 during the two semesters of students' mobility, want to demonstrate the filling of the match between education and profession.

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The internships tend to reflect the student's aims and they are activated once it has been stipulated in advance an agreement between the University and the host structure<sup>5</sup> (in the student guarantee and protection and for insurance coverage). The course satisfies the objective of training the professional figures of architect and urban planner, who can perform both the private profession and the public functions. Professional outputs of graduates are, therefore, in addition to the freelance profession, placement in Albanian, Italian, and European institutions and public bodies, professional studios and engineering companies.

Ref. 1: UNIFI Accreditation Decree on 2018-19.

Ref. 2: Request for completed internship at private firms, and Regulation of internship.

Ref. 3: The improved curriculum of JISP MSc in "Architecture" (from A.Y. 2017-2018).

Ref. 4: Cooperation Agreement between UKZKM and UNIFI.

Ref. 5: Collaboration Agreement with the Municipality of Tirana, in order to cooperate with the aim of granting the students of the Faculty of Applied Sciences (UKZKM) to develop disciplinary and professional internships at the institution (17/02/2020).

Criterion 7 In the integrated study program, teaching components, modules, subjects or the entire foreign language program should be included in order to attract foreign students, increase mobility within the framework of scientific research and institution's internationalization.

In the JISP MSc in "Architecture", the entire program is held in a unique foreign language<sup>1</sup>, the Italian language. It was decided to differentiate and to attract both local and foreigner (Italian speakers) students, to increase mobility within the framework of international scientific research, and to raise the Institution's international relationships into the Italian and European regions<sup>2</sup>. Therefore, the JISP MSc in "Architecture" is wholly comparable, in terms of contents, with those of the European Community countries. As demonstrated by the direct recognition from EU of the master diploma issued by UNIFI<sup>3</sup> and consequently by the UKZKM.

The teaching is carried out mainly by Italian professors with a few of Albanians<sup>4</sup>, all of them with an international professional experience, and with the aim in the guarantee of a quality didactic process and a high international level. For the achievement of the double degree, the Convention in force facilitates students in accessing the State Exam for practising the profession of Architect in the entire European area. The collaboration with the UNIFI academic staff is considered to be the strength of the UKZKM and FAS, whose goal is to make a difference in the local scenario, bringing the excellence of Italian approach. "We think that the fact this program is taught in Italian is not a problem but something to be appreciated. Italy can give and has given a lot in the field of architecture. Our job here is to bring Italian expertise and quality to Albanian architecture" and "We use the English language to explain terms but not to explain the essence of our work. It is an obstacle and therefore we are discussing it to develop the program in both languages" (from the meeting with academic staff during the Visit) <sup>5</sup>.

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However, in the UKZKM 2017-2027 Institutional Development Plan is stated that "One of the future challenges related to the implementation of the existing curricula is the organization of study courses in English. Some of the existing study programs, such as Medicine, will be conducted in both English and Italian, while some study programs with a limited number of students (Economics and Pharmacy) can only be conducted in English". Ref. 1: The improved curriculum of JISP MSc in "Architecture" (from AY 2017-2018). Ref. 2: Cooperation Agreement between UKZKM and UNIFI. Ref. 3: UNIFI Accreditation Decree on 2018-19. Ref. 4: Teaching staff list 2019-2020, and staff' CVs from the first to the fifth academic year. Ref. 5: Minute of two-days visit. The FAS prepares, stores and archives in both Italian and Albanian Criterion 8 For the integrated study program, the institution prepares, stores languages all the documentation on the activities developed within the and archives in English all the integrated study program. The responsible for its collection and storage is documentation and the activities the Study Program Coordinator, who archive documentation at its own developed. office and also send all of it to the Rector's office<sup>1</sup>. The English language is in use in the Institution's website, in the international agreements, and in a few of the documents attached to the present request for accreditation.

		X

Ref. 1: FAS internal regulation.

### Standard I.4 The integrated study program is in line with the academic field of the basic/main unit responsible for the study program at the institution.

Evaluation of experts

Surgical Sciences.

	Critchions	Dividuation of experts
demonstrates that it has the		Since September 2019, the UKZKM, consists of 4 faculties with 10 departments and 2 research centres <sup>1</sup> :
and fiel	necessary experience, capabilities, and resources in the academic field to provide a study program in that field.	1. Faculty of Applied Sciences, consisting of 2 departments and 1 center: Department of Architecture (responsible for the study program); Department of Architecture Sciences and Techniques; Research Center on Mediterranean Architecture.
		2. Faculty of Pharmacy, consisting of 3 departments: Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences; Department of Chemical - Pharmaceutical and Biomolecular Technologies; Department of Chemical-Technological and Pharmacological Evaluation of Drugs.
		3. Faculty of Medicine, consisting of 3 departments: Department of

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Fulfilment of standard

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Substantially met Me

4. Faculty of Economic, Political and Social Sciences, consisting of 2 departments and 1 center: Department of Economic Sciences and Entrepreneurship; Department of Bioeconomic Strategies in the European Union and the Balkans; Center for the Study of Economies of Countries in Transition.

This structure clearly demonstrates the HEI has the necessary experience, capabilities, and resources in the academic field to provide study programs in diverse fields.

Concerning the specific study program in architecture, both the main unit, the FAS, and the basic one responsible for the JISP MSc in "Architecture", the Department of Architecture, show to possess the necessary experience to carry out the study program, thanks to the expertise brought-in by the agreement of cooperation with UNIFI<sup>2</sup>. The DIDA at UNIFI, indeed, acts as a leading body in supporting the whole Faculty structure, academics, and capabilities. The necessary experience in the architecture field is, indeed, put in place mainly through UNIFI staff mobility (considering the total number of faculty and other staff), appointed, or confirmed year by year<sup>3</sup> in order to sustain the study program in the field of Architecture. As we were informed during the Visit from the HEI Administrator, indeed: "the professors are working full time at both faculties"4.

Since 23/09/2019, within the constituent structure of the FAS were established two departments plus one research centre, as per national law:

- Department of Architecture
- Department of Architectural Sciences and Techniques
- Research Center for Mediterranean Architecture

Department of Architecture (DA) is responsible for the study program),

UNIZKM effective Academic Staff at the faculty FTS level (21 lecturers) consists of:

- 1 Professor,
- 2 Associate Professors,
- 17 Doctor / PhD
- 1 MSc/ Scientific researcher

At the level of the responsible Department DA (7 lecturers) as FTS (Full Time staff):

- 1 Prof. As,
- 5 PHD
- 1 MSc. / Scientific researcher

These basic units are composed from seven staff members<sup>8</sup> that ensure, on yearly appointment, the possess of the numeric minimum prescribed requirements.

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Ref. 1: Resolution of the Academic Senate nr. 317 2 23.09.2019, and 2017-2027 Institutional Development Plan.

Ref. 2: Cooperation Agreement between UKZKM and UNIFI, and UNIFI' Architecture Study Program Quality Certificate.

Ref. 3: Teaching staff UNIFI 2019-2020.

Ref. 4: Minutes Visit UNIZKM (15-16 October 2020).

Ref. 5: Approvazione della struttura Dipartimentale della Facoltà nr.3864\_3 del 18 10 2019

Ref. 6: Decreto nr. 346 del 05 09 2019

Ref. 7: Tabella complessiva dello staff accademico

Ref. 8: Rector' Decision no.32 date 05.12.2019.

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.

Both the general and specific scope of the study program in Architecture are in line with the academic and research field of the main unit, the FTS, as proved in the document "Teaching staff UNIFI 2019-2020" dated 19/09/2019, according to the classification/codification of the study programs based on both the national and the European guidelines and directives (85/384/CE and 2005/36/CE).

In detail, the Academic Staff (yearly appointed for 2019-2020 A.Y.) at the faculty level (in total 21+48 PAE and 2 PAK)<sup>1</sup> consists of:

- 5 Full Professors,
- 19 Associate Professors,
- 47 PhDs/Lecturers

Ref. 1: Teaching staff 2019-2020.

Criterion 3 The general and specific field of the study programs should be in line with the academic and research area of the basic 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.

Both the general and specific field of the study programs are in line with the academic and research area of the basic unit responsible for the study the Department of Architecture, according programs, classification/codification of study programs based on the national and European guidelines and directives (85/384/CE and 2005/36/CE)1.

At the level of the responsible Department of Architecture (7 faculty) as PAE - yearly appointed (A.Y. 2019-2020)<sup>2</sup> they consist in:

- 1 Full Professor,
- 5 PhDs
- 1 M.Sc. (Department Coordinator and Study Program Coordinator)

Ref. 1: Didactic Regulation of Study Program in Architecture, and Teaching staff 2019-2020.

Ref. 2: Rector' Decision no.32 date 05.12.2019.

Fulfilment of standard	vot met	Substantially met	Met
		X	

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#### 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.

#### Criterions

# Criterion 1 The institution establishes effective internal cooperation relations for study programs design, supervision, and maintenance by allocating tasks among units and staff, assigning respective responsibilities and the analysing on an ongoing basis their work.

#### **Evaluation of experts**

The UKZKM establishes effective internal cooperation relations for the JISP MSc in "Architecture" design, supervision, management, and maintenance by allocating tasks among units and staff, assigning respective responsibilities, and analysing on an ongoing basis their work. According to the "FAS internal regulation", the "Didactic Regulation of Study Program in Architecture", and the "Regulation of the Teaching Secretariat", periodical meeting and communications are held to check the tasks, the responsibilities and to produce analytical report monthly and yearly based. As well it has been explained during the Visit<sup>1</sup>.

The adopted ICT advanced system helps in manage any of those activities allowing the HEI in on-time respond and manage any eventual criticisms, and an on-time exchange among staff members.

Ref. 1: Minutes of Visit at UNIZKM (15-16 October 2020).

Criterion 2 In the framework of students' learning and training objectives achievement, the institution establishes cooperation relations with counterpart institutions at the national or international level with local and/or foreign business actors.

To frame the students' learning and training objectives achievement within the study program in architecture, the HEI is engaged in an ongoing process to establish cooperation relations with local business actors<sup>1</sup>. Furthermore, it has already established cooperation relations with counterpart institutions at the national, such as the Ministries of Agriculture and Rural Development and of Cultural Heritage, the National Agency for Urban and Territorial Planning, and others, as well as at the international level, such as with the UNIFI, and the Italian Ministry of Foreigner Affairs. In order to differentiate and to enlarge those learning and training objectives for its students<sup>2</sup>.

Ref. 1: Request for completed internships at professional firms.

Ref. 2: Agreements with Albanian Ministries of Agriculture and Rural Development and of Cultural Heritage, the National Agency for Urban and Territorial Planning, the UNIFI, and the Italian Ministry of Foreigner Affairs.

Criterion 3 With the view to deliver the integrated study program, the institution enters into special agreements with field institutions, research institutes, 5 companies to enable professional training, clinical practice, or internships, etc.

As written above, the UNIZKM entered into bilateral agreements with national and international public institutions, it has also developed the strong partnership with UNIFI, with DIDA and with its architecture laboratories and research centers to enable professional training, internships, etc. at an international level<sup>1</sup>.

It is, furthermore, in the process of developing other special agreements with private companies for students' internships and professional training, as proved from the internships already conducted.

Ref. 1: Agreements with Albanian Ministries of Agriculture and Rural Development and of Cultural Heritage, the National Agency for Urban and

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Territorial Planning, the UNIFI, and the Italian Ministry of Foreigner Affairs.

Ref. 2: Request for completed internship at private firms.

**Criterion 4** The institution establishes official relationships and cooperates with employers to carry out and supervise the internship, depending on the specific nature of study programs it offers.

The UKZKM is aimed in establishing official relationships and cooperation with employers to carry on and to supervise the students' internships, related to the specific nature of the study program in Architecture. Currently, it is an ongoing process, due the initial stage of the JISP MSc in "Architecture" but, in the meantime, the first internships have been completed as showed from the "Request for completed internships at professional firms" managed by the study program' coordinator whom task is also to supervise the internships.

Ref. 1: Minutes of Visit, meeting with academic staff.

Criterion 5 The institution guarantees cooperation with counterpart institutions or scientific research institutes to enable scientific research and staff and students' mobility.

The UKZKM feeds cooperation with counterpart institutions and/or scientific research institutes to enable scientific research and to guarantee staff and students' mobility. As regards student mobility, indeed, the agreement with the UNIFI stated that a part of the course of study - two semesters - must be mandatorily carried out to the Academic Partner (DIDA at UNIFI), preferably between the fourth and fifth year. Reason for which the students of the last two years have carried out the mandatory semesters at UNIFI, as stated in the students' regulation<sup>1</sup>. Being a mandatory activity to fill the learning requirements in obtaining the MSc Diploma in Architecture, this mobility is financially supported by the HEI for all the students<sup>1</sup>.

The FAS is not part of the ERASMUS program and it conducts mobility thanks to the bilateral agreement UKZKM- UNIFI. Staff mobility is then essentially based on the commitments for teaching within the double program and it is addressed mainly to the DIDA staff. The Project and Research Office organizes activities to inform both students and professors about the various exchange opportunities, as well as help them complete the procedures<sup>2</sup>.

Ref. 1: Students Regulation, and Minutes Visit at UNIZKM (15-16 October 2020).

Ref. 2: Minutes of Visit, meeting with Project and Research Office.

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 unit responsible for the study program, the Department of Architecture, drafts one annual-based analytical report with regards the benefits from the cooperation agreements and, in particular, as regards to all the activities held by the Faculty of Architecture and its units (the two Departments and the Research Center) during the just ended academic year. It also stresses the issues and the weaknesses encountered in the conduction of the Academic Year (A.Y.). with the view to manage and to adapt the whole didactic process in delivering the study program for the following academic year.

Within the Department, the study program coordinator is the person in charge of preparing this report whose contents, and the statistical data that can be obtained from it might be of help to the responsible unit so that it

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	can draw up and update and the level of studimprovement of the quantum can be called a second can be called a seco	lent satisfaction.	All in the function of	of a constant
	Refs 1: a) FTS internal regulation, b) Study Program I in Architettura, and c) Regulations on human resord procedures.			
Fulfilment of standard	No.	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
				X

Standard I.6 The institution supports achieve promoted and made public.	rements in in-depth studies and research, which are then
Criterions	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The institution adopts a supportive policy on academic staff and students' scientific research activities results dissemination.	The UKZKM has just adopted (13/06/2019) through an Academic Senate Decision, the internal call for applications for funding of research projects and initiatives from the 2019 funds. It is the first supportive policy on academic staff and second/third-cycle student's scientific research activities, which also cover some needs in the dissemination of the results <sup>1</sup> . Indeed, until that decision, HEI merely collected and listed all the scientific staff's and students' products through its University Central Library.
Allidom salvom krupa, messoal	The way adopted, until now, to disseminate the scientific products, mainly at an internal level, was the Editorial Review "Pontes", a not-scientific journal founded to share information among the HEI' staff and students and outside.
	Ref. 1: Rector's letter on the approval of the call "Proposals for Research Projects", and the "Research Projects Form".
	Ref. 2: "Pontes Magazine" <a href="https://www.unizkm.al/posts/slug/rivista-pontes-descrizione/">https://www.unizkm.al/posts/slug/rivista-pontes-descrizione/</a>
Criterion 2 The institution establishes a unit on scientific research results performance evaluation.	Currently, UKZKM does not have an internal evaluation unit on scientific research results, performances, and qualitative evaluations. It has been reported as missing even in the Self-Evaluation Report and it is neither mentioned in the 2017-2027 Institutional Development Plan.
<b>Criterion 3</b> The institution pursues a policy for promoting scientific research results.	In terms of the pursued policies for promoting scientific research results, UKZKM acts by encouraging a researcher-centred individual action, also counting on the dubbing of the current research carried on by the UNIFI' researchers as an added value also for FAS <sup>1</sup> .
	Nevertheless, in 2019 a first "internal call for applications for funding of research projects and initiatives from the 2019 funds", has been launched from the HEI. Taking a watch at the application form for the internal "Research Projects", it is evident that the Institution has enter taken an initial policy in the promotion of scientific research and its results through the funding of equipment, scholarships, travels, publications <sup>2</sup> . Even if

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	currently limited, it is a good starting in policy for promoting scientific research results.	
	Ref. 1: from Self-Evaluation Report.	
	Ref. 2: Rector's letter on the approval of the call "Proposals for Research Projects", and the "Research Projects Form".	
<b>Criterion 4</b> The institution pursues a policy regarding protection of intellectual property, as well as the best practices in publishing research.	UKZKM does not pursue yet a policy regarding the protection of intellectual property, as well as it does not pursue a policy regarding the best practices in publishing research, which it is left in the individual initiative by the staff. Anyways, all the scientific staffs and students' products are collected and listed through the University Central Library.  Ref. 1: from Self-Evaluation Report.	
Criterion 5 The institution encourages students and novice researchers to personally engage in scientific research activities.	The HEI encourages novice researchers to personally engage in scientific research activities, nowadays also providing forms of concrete support by funding of research projects and initiatives, as wrote above in "Standard I.6 - Criterion 3", as well as declared in the Self-Evaluation Report. Anyways, it is a first supporting action, but which requires to be increased in the coming years.	
	Ref. 1: from Self-Evaluation Report.	
Fulfilment of standard	Not met Partly met Substantially met Met  X	

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

#### II. STUDY PROGRAM ORGANIZATION, MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

Standard II.1  The integrated study program is organized in accordance with national legal provisions and bylaws in force covering these study programs.		
Criterions	Evaluation of experts	
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).	The JISP MSc in "Architecture" was opened with the UKZKM Academic Senate Decision No.335 on 16.09.2015, as a joint study program between UKZKM and UNIFI <sup>1</sup> . It is offered with 300 ECTS, with normal foreseen duration five academic years, it is conducted in the Italian language, and in the end, a dual university degree is issued. The final obligation to obtain a diploma is settled with the thesis <sup>2</sup> .	
Control of the Contro	The JISP MSc in "Architecture" is organized into courses and modules evaluated in credit-hours. It is in accordance with the applicable both national and Italian legislation <sup>4</sup> , due to its joint degree international nature, and it is in accordance with the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS), where 1 ECTS corresponds to 8 hours of frontal lessons and 17 hours of individual study <sup>2</sup> .	

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Any of the academic year is divided into 2 periods of teaching activity, semesters, providing for an adequate distribution between the different classes of training activity<sup>2</sup>.

Reefs 1: a) Academic Senate Decision No.335 on 16.09.2015, and b) Cooperation Agreement between UKZKM and UNIFI.

Reefs 2: a) FAS internal regulation, b) Didactic Regulation of Study Program in Architecture, and c) Regulation of Master Thesis.

Ref. 3: Law 80/2015 on Higher Education and Scientific Research in the Republic of Albania.

Reefs 4: a) UNIFI' Italian Accreditation Decree on 2018-19 A.Y., and b) UNIFI' Architecture Study Program Quality Certificate.

Criterion 2 The integrated study program aims at equipping students with specific skills in a wide range of professions and specialties.

The full-time study program follows the educational model of the Master's Degree in Architecture (integrated cycle) which was activated at UNIFI since the 2012/13 Academic Year. In agreement with UNIFI, UKZKM has deemed it appropriate to make changes to the Study Plan<sup>1</sup>. Changes agreed in the framework of the collaboration agreement between the two universities.

The last updated integrated study program curriculum aims in equipping students with specific skills in the professional field of architecture through the development of its wide range of specialities, such as Restoration, Urban Planning, Landscape Design, Architectural Design, and territorial Conservation. The general setting out of the study curriculum allows the student matures and achieves skills and understanding abilities that allows him to include in his own education technical and scientific terms of architecture and to use specific expressions across a wide range of professional specialities in the field<sup>2</sup>.

Refs 1: a) The improved curriculum of JISP MSc in "Architecture" (from AY 2017-2018) and b) Course' syllabi, and the b) Study program detailed syllabi, as uploaded in the ASCAL System

Ref. 2: Didactic Regulation of Study Program in Architecture.

Criterion 3 The integrated study program provides advanced knowledge in a field of study or professional field, including critical understanding of the theories and field academic principles.

The integrated study program provides advanced knowledge in the field of Architecture studies, including a critical understanding of the theories and the main didactic concepts, principles, and terminology. In this context, the study program develops skills, abilities and advanced competencies in the areas related to restoration, planning, landscape design and the recovery and conservation of the territory<sup>1</sup>.

"The aim is to offer a Master's Degree in Architecture compliant with the European Directive similar to the Master's Degree in Architecture of the University of Florence as a basic condition of the double degree agreement between both universities."<sup>2</sup>.

Graduates in the single-cycle master's degree program in Architecture must:

- Know in-depth the history of architecture, construction, urban planning, architectural restoration, and other activities of the transformation of the environment and the territory relating to professions relating to

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- architecture, as defined by Directive 2005/36/EC and subsequent amendments.
- to know in depth the tools and forms of representation, to know the theoretical-scientific and methodological-operational elements of mathematics and other basic sciences to be able to use them to interpret and describe complex problems or those requiring an interdisciplinary approach;
- know in depth the theoretical, scientific, methodological, and operational aspects of architecture, construction, urban planning, and architectural restoration, in order to be able to use this knowledge to identify, formulate and solve, even in an innovative way, problems that are complex or that require an interdisciplinary approach;
- have knowledge in the field of business organization and business ethics and professional ethics;
- be able to use fluently, in written and oral form, at least one language of the European Union besides Italian, with reference also to the disciplinary lexicons.

Reefs 1: a) Course' syllabi, and the b) Study program detailed syllabi, as uploaded in the ASCAL System.

Ref. 2: Didactic Regulation of Study Program in Architecture.

Criterion 4 The integrated 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.

The JISP MSc in "Architecture" allows students to acquire advanced knowledge, skills, and competences - in the specific study and professional field of Architecture - necessary to solve complex and unpredictable problems in the specialized area of the architecture's field.

The improved teaching plan of the study courses and Didactic Regulation of Architecture Study Program clearly define the training activity for each subject, the class and the ECTS that can be obtained are specified<sup>2</sup>.

The main areas of employment and autonomy to which the master's degree program in Architecture is aimed are:

- design using the tools of architecture, town planning and architectural restoration and acquiring mastery of the tools relating to the constructive and economic feasibility of the designed work,
- the construction, transformation and modification of the physical environment and landscape, with full knowledge of the aesthetic, distributive, functional, structural, technical-constructive, managerial, economic, and environmental aspects and with critical attention to cultural changes and the needs expressed by society,
- the direction of the realization of works of architecture, urban planning, architectural restoration, and in general the transformation of the urban and landscape environment, coordinating, where necessary, other experts and operators.

In addition to freelance, graduates in architecture will be able to perform functions of high responsibility and management in public and private institutions and bodies, professional firms, and design companies, operating in the fields of construction and transformation of cities and the territory.

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To promote knowledge of the world of work, external activities such as internships and stages are planned between training activities.

Reefs 1: UKZKM Didactic Regulation of Architecture Study Program.

Reefs 4: a) UNIFI' Italian Accreditation Decree on 2018-19 A.Y., and b) UNIFI' Architecture Study Program Quality Certificate.

Criterion 5 The integrated study program contains all the components composing the study program design, as set forth by the legal and sub-legal acts.

The JISP MSc in "Architecture" contains all the components needed to the study program design, as set forth by the delivered legal and sub-legal acts.

As regards the achievement of the degree diploma, to be admitted to the discussion of the thesis, the student must have acquired all the credits in the remaining educational activities, which correspond to 300 ECTS, where 12 ECTS are attributed to the final exam (Master Thesis) and 6 ECTS to the Professional Internship<sup>2</sup>. Master thesis consists in an original work which may be articulated as an applied research path or as a design path, and concerns the defence, in front of a didactic commission, of a complex subject, previously agreed with the supervisor<sup>3</sup>.

The disciplinary courses develop training on the theoretical-scientific aspects of the disciplines that characterize the course of study, which are essential for solid basic training. Each course is attended by a maximum of 60 students. The laboratories, whose attendance is mandatory, develop training on the application and design aspects to ensure each student an adequate relationship with the teacher and tutors and the availability of spaces and equipment necessary for carrying out the application and design activity. Each laboratory is attended by a maximum of 60 students. The 6 ECTS internship is aimed at strengthening the ability to develop quality projects and organize the necessary multiple skills in a meta-professional context.

Ref. 2: The improved curriculum of JISP MSc in "Architecture" (from AY 2017-2018).

Reefs 3: a) Didactic Regulation of Study Program in Architecture, and b) Regulation of Master Thesis.

Criterion 6 The integrated study program has clearly defined practicum by grouping courses /modules according to specific categories and corresponding load on credits.

The last delivered updated integrated study program has more clearly defined the educational process by grouping courses /modules according to specific categories (Classes) and the corresponding load in ECTS.

ECTSs of each teaching discipline and formative activity are calculated considering the workload in the classroom, as well as the individual work to be performed by the student to fulfil all obligations provided in the course syllabus. 1 ECTS is calculated in 25 student working hours, which include classes in the auditorium (lectures, seminars, exercises, projects/ assignments, and other formative activities within the discipline), as well as the student individual working hours. The duration of the teaching hour is 50 minutes with a break of 10 min.

Concerning the specific training objectives of the program and the description of the training path, it is stated that:

The course has a normal duration of 5 years. The academic year is divided into 2 semesters, each dedicated to lectures, project application activities, individual study, tests, and exams. The study program offers a tutoring activity,

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organizing the reception and support activities for students, providing information on didactic issues and the functioning of the services. Faced with the assessment of an educational debt by the first-year students, the course promotes preparatory and supplementary activities aimed at filling this debt in the context of basic knowledge.

To graduate, the student must have acquired 300 credits, divided as follows: 278 ECTS awarded to disciplinary courses and laboratories - 92,67% -

6 ECTS assigned to internship activities - 2,00% -

4 ECTS assigned to the foreign language - 1,33% -

12 ECTS assigned to the final exam (Master's Thesis) - 4,00% -

Reefs: a) Didactic Regulation of Study Program in Architecture, and b) Regulation of Master Thesis.

**Criterion 7** The integrated study program credits necessary for graduation and the research work in the framework of its development have been already determined.

The study program's ECTS necessary for obtaining the joint Master Degree graduation, and the research work in the framework of its development have been already clearly stated in 300 ECTS, of which 12 ECTS must be gained by a Master Thesis and 6 ECTS by the Professional Internship. As it is shown in the below Table in further detail:

Tables of ECTS per Disciplinary field and its relative percentage:

#### A: Basic activities.

A. Das	sic activities.	
ECTS	Disciplinary field	%
8	Mathematical disciplines for architecture	2,66%
6	Physical-technical and plant engineering disciplines for	
	environmental architecture	2,00%
20	Historical disciplines for architecture	6,66%
22	Representation of architecture and environment	7,33%
56	Total Basic Activities	18,67%
B: Ch	aracterizing activities.	
ECTS	Disciplinary field	%
48	Architectural and urban design	16,00%
18	Theories and techniques for architectural restoration	6,00%
6	Representation of the architecture and environment	2,00%
20	Structural analysis and design for architecture	6,66%
26	Urban planning and territorial planning	8,66%
18	Technological disciplines for architecture and building produced	luction
		6,00%
6	Appraisal disciplines for architecture and town planning	2,00%
6	Economic, social, legal disciplines for architecture and	
	urban planning	2,00%
138	Total characterizing activities	49,33%
C: Re	lated or supplementary training activities.	
ECTS	Disciplinary field	%
6	Sanitary-Environmental Engineering	2,00%

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	6	Construction science	2,00%		
	6	Construction technologies	2,00%		
	14	Architecture technologies	4,66%		
	6	Architectural and urban composition	2,00%		
	6	Landscape Architecture	2,00%		
	6	Interior architecture and set-up	2,00%		
	12	Environmental technical physics	4,00%		
	6	Aesthetics	2,00%		
	6	Sociology of the Environment and the Territory	2,00%		
	74	Total related or supplementary training activities	24,67%		
	D: O	D: Other activities.			
	ECTS	Activity	%		
	12	Final test	4,00%		
	4	Knowledge of at least one foreign language	1,33%		
	6	Training and orientation internships	2,00%		
	22	<b>Total Other Assets</b>	7,33%		
	300	<b>Total Credits</b>	100,00%		
	Ref. 1	: Didactic Regulation of Study Program in Architecture.			
Fulfilment of standard		Partly met Substantially met	Met		
		CONT. 10. 10. 10. 10. 10. 10. 10. 10. 10. 10	X		

#### Standard II.2

The main/basic unit responsible for the study program meets the legal requirements and

quality standards prescrib	ed for these units.
Criterions	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The main/basic unit responsible for the study program meets all legal requirements on evaluation and accreditation.	The basic unit, the Departments of Architecture (DA), responsible for the study program meets, from its establishment on A.Y. 2019-2020 <sup>1</sup> , the minimum legal requirements on evaluation and accreditation, according with the Law 80/2015 on Higher Education and Scientific Research in the Republic of Albania.
	Indeed, teaching activity of the JISP MSc in "Architecture" study program has started, for the first time, in the 2015-2016 academic year <sup>2</sup> , with the establishment of the Faculty of Applied Sciences responsible of a single curriculum for the study program in "Architecture", strongly based on the Cooperation Agreement with UNIFI, and with 11 staff appointed from UNIFI for the First year of the study program. In the 2016-2017 A.Y. staff were doubled in 22, even coming from UNIFI, to cover also the second year. In the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 A.Y. the number of staff were again implemented from UNIFI, to hold the third year too, this time including also a first UKZKM staff for English languages for Architecture (removed as class in the 2018-2019 A.Y.) and two part-time professors from Polytechnic School of Tirana <sup>3</sup> .
	As set in the 2017-2027 UKZKM Institutional Development Plan. To meet all the legal obligations of Article 23, paragraph 2, of Law 80/2015 and to fulfil all legal requirements on university study program evaluation and

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accreditation, on 05/09/2019 with Rector's decree no. 32, the Faculty was structured in two Departments and a Research Center. The DA becomes, then, the responsible unit for the JISP MSc in "Architecture".

Further to the Rector's decree, no. 32 on 05/09/2019<sup>4</sup>, the DA was structured with 7 academic staff, of which 2 of them full-time employed at UKZKM and 5 considered as full-time employed at both UKZKM and UNIFI because of the study program international nature (in considering Article 4, paragraph 4, of Law 80/2015: "in the conditions of implementation of joint study programs with foreign institutes, higher education standards may be applied to standards other than state ones."<sup>5</sup>). In terms of academic qualification, at least three of staff fulfil the minimum requirements required by the Law.

Ref. 1: Academic Senate' Decision, dated 23.09.2019, on the approval of FAS Regulation and organization.

Ref. 2: MASR' Decree no.335 date 16/09/2015.

Ref. 3: Academic Staff yearly appointments from 2015-2016 to 2019-2020 A.Y., and Complemented Table of Academic Staff for the whole academic years.

Ref. 4: Rector' Decision no.32 date 05.09.2019.

Ref. 5: UKZKM note no. Prot. 16 date 18/01/2019.

Criterion 2 The main/basic unit responsible for the study program meets the legal and sub-legal requirements on academic organization and structure.

Criterion 4 The main/basic unit responsible for the study program meets the legal and sub-legal requirements on academic organization and structure.

In the 2019-2020 A.Y., both the main unit (FAS) and basic ones (DA-responsible for the study program, DSTA, and RCMA) meets the minimum numeric legal and sub-legal requirements on academic organization and structure, according with the Law 80/2015, Art.25, on Higher Education and Scientific Research in the Republic of Albania, as per Rector' Decision no.32 date 05.09.2019. The FAS, the basic unit responsible for the study program, the DA, as well as the two other basic units, DSTA and RCMA, meet the legal and sub-legal requirements on academic organization and structure.

From the data delivered for the last three Academic Years (2018-2021), we can check the following staff according with the Academic Position, also considering that in the A.Y. 2018-2019 there was not an articulation in Departments and then data are collected as FAS:

DA		
DA:	DSTA:	RCMA:
1	_	
-	1	1
5	6	6
1		-
7	7	7
	DA: 1 - 5 1 7	DA: DSTA:  1 -     1 5 6 1 - 7 7

Data are only for 2019-2020 because before the departments were not existed.

Ref: Approvazione della struttura Dipartimentale della Facoltà nr. 3864\_3 del 18\_10\_2019

Ref: Decreto nr. 346 del 05 09 2019

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Ref: Tabella complessiva dello staff accademico

However, the number of most of full-time staff at UKZKM results as full-time "shared" staff, yearly appointed from UNIFI at UKZKM. Indeed, as proved from the check of the concerned delivered documents "Teaching staff UNIFI 2019-2020", "Teaching staff UNIFI 2018-2019", "Teaching staff UNIFI 2017-2018", "Teaching staff UNIFI 2016-2017", and "Teaching staff UNIFI 2015-2016", and according with what we were informed about from the HEI Administrator during the Visit: "the professors are working full time at both faculties (i.e.: FAS at UKZKM and Faculty of Architecture and other Faculties at UNIFI)". Then, HEI considers the UNIFI' staff as full-time employees even if yearly appointed, as they say, according to the national law provisions of special issue of the international joint degree conduction<sup>2</sup>; while only one staff results as dedicated full-time, the Didactic Coordinator<sup>3</sup>, that might be controversial in a long-term sustainability of the JISP MSc in "Architecture" at UKZKM.

Ref. 1: Minutes of Visit, meeting with the UKZKM Administrator on behalf of HR staff.

Ref. 2: Law 80/2015 on Higher Education and Scientific Research in the Republic of Albania.

Ref. 3: Regulation on Human Resources Management Procedures of UKZKM, Minute for part-time Didactic Coordinator selection (2018), and Note N. 3/1 dated 21/01/2021.

Criterion 3 The main/basic unit responsible for the study program meets the legal requirements on academic staff number and qualification, the relations between full-time, parttime, and visiting staff.

The main/basic units, responsible for the study program, in the overall meet the legal requirements on academic staff number and qualification. In terms of relations between the full-time, the part-time and the visiting staff is evident there is a numerical disequilibrium among the three positions. In particular, the real full-time staff is composed of 21 of UKZKM full-time staff, while the other figures (48) are covered by UNIFI full-time staff yearly appointed by the Rector, according to the joint agreement between UKZKM and UNIFI.

Criterion 5 The main/basic unit responsible for the study program encourages the academic staff to engage in teaching, laboratory, and clinical practice; research work and projects, etc.

The FAS and the DA, responsible for the study program, both encourage the academic staff to engage in teaching, laboratory practice, research work and research projects, etc. Through, among others, the main agreement with UNIFI and its premises and labs, and a few of special agreements with local governmental institutes and ministries, which help in engaging students in professional and scientific practices.

- Cooperation Agreement with the UNIFI
- Collaboration Agreement with the Municipality of Tirana to develop disciplinary and professional internships at the institution
- Cooperation between AKPT and the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development for the "Integrated Program 100+ Villages"
- Applicative workshop carried out in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture and the Cultural Monuments Institute on the restoration of the "Gates of Rahova"

Ref.: Cooperation Agreements uploaded in the system.

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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.

The DA, responsible for the integrated study program, has appointed a person as the coordinator of the study program in Architecture, who is responsible for program progress and development and professional training under both Da and FAS objectives.

The Coordinator has, among his tasks, the monitoring, and the coordination of the teaching activity, he follows the internship of students and he is also their academic tutor, he maintains continuous communication with both students and professors. Indeed, the Coordinator collects opinions, complaints, and appraisals regarding the teaching process in general and single courses in particular, and he interacts with the respective lecturers for the necessary interventions. In detail he is responsible for:

- a) Draw up the design of the teaching calendar plan for the study program and present it to the Dean
- b) Draw up the teaching timetable, the exams and follow their application in close collaboration with the didactic secretariat
- c) Proposes the graduation commission of the students
- d) Propose to the Dean of the Faculty, after consulting with the department heads, the nominal and thematic list of the degree thesis of each related study course. This list includes the names of the students, the topics and type of the thesis, their supervisor and co-supervisor
- e) Is responsible for the structure of the curriculum of the relative degree program and its development in compliance with that of the partner university
- f) Propose to the Dean the commission of equivalence and recognition of degrees in cases of:
- Transfer of studies from other universities to the Catholic University
- Continuation of post-graduate studies
- g) Is responsible for the correct application of ECTS in the relevant course of study
- h) Propose to the Dean, after having consulted the managers of the department, the form of knowledge control for the subjects of the Study program

Therefore, students always have a reference figure throughout their studies. The figure of the Coordinator represents an important role of direction and orientation of the students, especially for freshmen. Finally, he is an active part in the realization of the objectives proposed by the Dean of the Faculty.

Refs 1: a) FAS internal regulation and b) Approval of the Departmental structure of the Faculty nr. 3864\_3 del 18\_10\_2019.

Refs 2: a) Regulation on Human Resources Management Procedures of UKZKM, b) the Minute for the Didactic Coordinator selection (2018), and c) Note N. 3/1 dated 21/01/2021.

Criterion 7 The Program Coordinator reports periodically to the head of the responsible unit and documents any According to the FAS internal Regulation and the Minute for the Didactic Coordinator selection, the Didactic Coordinator of the study program reports steadily to the head of the responsible unit, the DA, as well as to the Dean of the Faculty, any information related to the integrated study program in

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information related to the study programs.

Architecture. He organizes periodic meetings (at least monthly) with the Head of the DA, where he informs and documents him about everything relating to the courses of the Study Program. He is committed to follow up the whole process during any of the academic years and store all the documents, making them available for consultation.

Ref.s 1: a) FAS internal regulation, b) Regulation on Human Resources Management Procedures of UKZKM, c) the Minute for the Didactic Coordinator selection (2018), and d) Note N. 3/1 dated 21/01/2021.

Fulfilment of standard	Active	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
			X	

#### Standard II.3

Criterions

The integrated study program is detailed, informative, structured, and organized in accordance with the standards and objectives of the integrated second cycle study program.

#### Criterion 1 The main/basic unit. responsible for the integrated second cycle study program, has the necessary information on study program organization, structure, and content.

#### **Evaluation of experts**

The basic unit, the DA, responsible for the integrated second cycle study program, and the FAs have the necessary information on study program organization, structure, and content.

The full-time study program is organized in five years split in two semestral study cycles and it ends with the achievement of a double degree, in accordance with the collaboration agreement with the partner UNIFI. The DA offers the JISP MSc in "Architecture" organized and valued in ECTS.

The student obtains the right to take the exam for a subject when he has already fulfilled all the obligatory commitments relating to the same subject, as foreseen in the study program. In addition to the subjects and the master thesis, the educational program includes training internships, workshops, and seminars that students are obliged to follow.

All the needed info is also shared with the students in detail through the following documents: the FAS Regulation (TITLE III. STUDIES), the Didactic Regulation, the Students Regulation, the Regulation for Internship, and Regulation for Master thesis. As well as in the UKZKM IT System and its official website.

Ref.: JISP MSc in "Architecture" - Didactic Regulations, academic year 2018/2019.

Criterion 2 The integrated study program is organized into courses, modules, professional training, and practicum, in accordance with the applicable legal provisions.

In accordance with the applicable legal provisions in Albania, and even in EU, the JISP MSc in "Architecture" is organized into courses, modules, professional training, and practicum.

The first two years are mainly dedicated to basic training and then it continues with the more professionalizing three-year period, which contains labs organized in modules. This frame has been thought with the aim of providing both the theoretical and technical tools and to achieve an adequate design ability in the more specific fields of architectural and urban planning, construction of

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architecture, restoration of monuments, etc. Each course is attended by a maximum of 60 students. In detail:

In the first year, the student acquires 30 ECTS in the first semester of theoretical teaching (8 + 10 + 6 + 6), and 32 in the second, of which 12 for laboratory and 20 for teaching (8 + 8 + 4), for a total of 62 ECTS; in addition to the teaching of the Italian language in the first semester (for a total of 95 hours but outside the total of ECTS)

In the second year, the student acquires 26 ECTS in the first semester, of which 6 for laboratory and 20 for teaching (8+6+6), and 36 for the second, of which 24 for laboratories (12+12) and 12 for teaching (6+6), for a total of 62 ECTS.

In the third year, the student acquires 26 ECTS in the first semester, of which 20 in laboratories (18+8) and 6 in teaching, and 30 in the second, of which 18 in laboratories (12+6) and 12 in teaching (6+6), for a total of 56 ECTS.

At the fourth year, the student acquires 30 ECTS in the first semester, of which 18 in the laboratory divided into three modules (6+6+6) and 12 of courses (6+6), and 30 in the second, of which 18 in laboratory divided into three modules (6+6+6) and 12 of courses (6+6), for a total of 60 ECTS.

In the fifth and final year, the student acquires 24 ECTS in the first semester, 12 of which in the laboratory divided into two modules (6+6) and 12 of courses (6+6), and 36 in the second, divided into 18 ECTS of laboratory divided into three modules (6+6+6), 6 for the internship and 12 for the degree thesis, for a total of 60 ECTS

Furthermore, the didactic plan of the study program is homologous, both in form and content, to that offered by UNIFI, already accredited by the Italian Ministry of Education.

Ref.s: JISP MSc in "Architecture" - Didactic Regulations, academic year 2018/2019 and Didactic Program 2019-2020.

Criterion 3 The integrated study program is organized into courses and modules evaluated with credits according to the national and European system, divided into academic years and semesters.

The JISP MSc in "Architecture" is organized into courses, labs, and modules. It releases the double master's degree in architecture with a five-year-long program, ECTS based, split into two-semester per year and a final Master Thesis, according to both the national and European systems.

To be able to submit the Master's Thesis student must have obtained 288 ECTS, must have spent two semesters at the UNIFI, and must have completed the internship and professional practice.

Before concluding their studies, indeed, the students must carry out the internship, as established by the Study Program Regulations, and precisely after the students have passed all the exams of the first, second and third year and have passed the laboratories foreseen in the fourth year (216 ECTS).

Concerning the courses, as divided into different categories, they are:

#### Basic activity - 56 ECTS

Mathematical disciplines for architecture, 8 ECTS

Physical-technical disciplines and plant engineering for environmental architecture, 6 ECTS

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Historical disciplines for architecture, 20 ECTS

Representation of architecture and of the environment, 22 ECTS

#### **Characterizing activities - 138 ECTS**

Architectural and urban design, 48 ECTS

Theories and techniques for architectural restoration, 18 ECTS

Representation of architecture and the environment, 6 ECTS

Structural analysis and design for architecture, 20 ECTS

Urban planning and territorial planning, 26 ECTS

Technological disciplines for architecture and building production, 18 ECTS

Appraisal disciplines for architecture and urban planning, 6 ECTS

Economic, social, legal disciplines for architecture and urban planning, 6 ECTS

#### Supplementary educational activities - 74 ECTS

Sanitary-Environmental Engineering, 6 ECTS

Construction science, 6 ECTS

Construction technique, 6 ECTS

Architecture technology, 14 ECTS

Architectural and urban composition, 6 ECTS

Landscape Architecture, 6 ECTS

Interior architecture and set-up, 6 ECTS

Environmental technical physics, 12 ECTS

Aesthetics, 6 ECTS

Sociology of the Environment and the Territory, 6 ECTS

#### Other activities - 22 ECTS

Knowledge of a foreign language, 4 ECTS

Training and orientation internships, 6 ECTS

#### Final exam, 12 ECTS

Refs: JISP MSc in "Architecture" - Didactic Regulations, academic year 2018/2019 and Didactic Program 2019-2020.

Criterion 4 The integrated study program has a detailed syllabus, which incorporates the necessary information on the teaching workload, hours in/outside the auditorium, program attendance/follow-up and the knowledge assessment methods, etc.

The JISP MSc in "Architecture" has a detailed syllabus, which incorporates the necessary information on the teaching workload, hours in/outside the classroom, program attendance/follow-up and the knowledge assessment methods. It is drafted in accordance with the partner Italian university (UNIFI) homologous program, already approved by the Italian Ministry and EU.

The assessment of knowledge during the year is carried out of 30/30 grade and with a minimum grade of 18/30

For the attendance of students, the FAS has decided:

- For lectures the obligation is 75%
- For seminars, the obligation is 0%
- For practices/laboratories 0%

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- For Midterm exams 0%
- For Final exams 25%
- Total 100%

Ref.: didactic regulation and FAS internal regulation and Didactic Workload

Criterion 5 The integrated study program provides students with all the necessary information related to the general and specific criteria for admission, transfer and studies equivalence. The JISP MSc in "Architecture" provides students with all the necessary information related to the general and specific criteria for admission, transfer, and studies equivalence.

UKZKM organizes the submission of applications for admission and registration of candidates in the various study courses in accordance with the Decrees issued by MASR and the University's internal regulations for study rates for the current academic year.

The Rectorate organizes, directs, and monitors this process. The University announces the opening of the admission procedure for applications from candidates wishing to enrol in the first, second and third cycle study programs based on the admission criteria published by the Rectorate. With the transmission of the rankings of any candidates from MASR, the student makes the preliminary registration at the Admissions Office by delivering the following documentation:

- a) Certified copy of the secondary school diploma and the certificate of marks.
- b) Identification document.
- c) Completed form containing personal data.
- d) Fee for enrolment and participation in the admission competition, established by the University's internal regulations regarding the study rates for the current academic hook. The candidate who does not have the name in the rankings of candidates received from MASR cannot carry out preliminary enrolment.

Students who intend to enrol at the UKZKM participate in the admission test for the degree course in Architecture, which has a limited number, maximum number of admissions 30 freshmen.

Ref.: Regulations of the Didactic Secretariat for the Registration of Students and for the Compilation of the Base Register with Students Data.

Ref.: Format Admission Test for Architecture.

Criterion 6 The integrated study program contains the necessary information on course programs (detailed syllabi) 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.

The JISP MSc in "Architecture" contains the necessary information on course programs (detailed syllabi) for each subject, training, seminars, or laboratory classes, as well as all the components of each program in and outside the classroom, in accordance with the delivered approved syllabi.

The structure and the elements of syllabi are standardised and complete. Any syllabus is structured in the same number and quality of fields, so to be clear for students because of their common frames. The fields are 1) general information on the course (name of the course, lecturer, didactic load, year/semester, kind of course, lecturer' contacts, etc.), 2) summary of contains and learning objectives, 3) basic concepts, 4) list of arguments, 5) assessment modalities and attendance

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plus other more specific information when needed, 6) references, and 7) notes from the lecturer.

The general quality of their design appears as very good and very useful to the student in following all the requirement needed course by course. The standardization of the format is even useful in orienting the student during his learning process.

Regarding the general quality of teaching, below a scheme organized for Subjects/A.Y. and respective title/number of lecturer/s and co-lecturer/s.

#### First Year:

#### Fondamenti di Matematica

- Professor (0) + Ass. Professor (1) + Lecturer (0)

#### Disegno dell'architettura e Fondamenti di geometria descrittiva

- Professor (0) + Ass. Professor (2) + Lecturer (0)

#### Analisi del territorio e degli insediamenti

- Professor (0) + Ass. Professor (0) + Lecturer (1)

#### Grafica digitale

- Professor (0) + Ass. Professor (0) + Lecturer (1)

#### Storia dell'architettura I

- Professor (0) + Ass. Professor (0) + Lecturer (2)

#### Materiali ed elementi costruttivi dell'architettura

- Professor (1) + Ass. Professor (0) + Lecturer (1)

#### Laboratorio di progettazione dell'architettura I

- Professor (1) + Ass. Professor (0) + Lecturer (1)

#### Second Year:

#### Fondamenti di meccanica delle strutture

- Professor (0) + Ass. Professor (1) + Lecturer (1)

#### Laboratorio di rilievo dell'architettura

- Professor (0) + Ass. Professor (0) + Lecturer (1)

#### Fisica tecnica ambientale e impianti tecnici

- Professor (0) + Ass. Professor (0) + Lecturer (2)

#### Fondamenti di urbanistica

- Professor (0) + Ass. Professor (1) + Lecturer (1)

#### Storia dell'architettura II

- Professor (0) + Ass. Professor (1) + Lecturer (1)

#### Laboratorio di progettazione dell'architettura II

- Professor (0) + Ass. Professor (0) + Lecturer (2)

#### Laboratorio di tecnologia dell'architettura

- Professor (1) + Ass. Professor (0) + Lecturer (1)

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- Professor (0) + Ass. Professor (1) + Lecturer (0)

Third Year:

#### Caratteri costruttivi dell'edilizia storica

- Professor (0) + Ass. Professor (1) + Lecturer (0)

#### Laboratorio di urbanistica

- Professor (1) + Ass. Professor (0) + Lecturer (1)

#### Laboratorio di progettazione strutturale

- Professor (1) + Ass. Professor (0) + Lecturer (1)

#### Storia dell'architettura III

- Professor (0) + Ass. Professor (1) + Lecturer (1)

#### Energie rinnovabili e acustica negli edifici

- Professor (0) + Ass. Professor (1) + Lecturer (1)

#### Laboratorio di progettazione dell'architettura III

- Professor (0) + Ass. Professor (0) + Lecturer (2)

#### Laboratorio di restauro architettonico I

- Professor (0) + Ass. Professor (0) + Lecturer (1)

Fourth year:

#### Rilievo per il restauro

- Professor (0) + Ass. Professor (0) + Lecturer (1)

#### Estetica

- Professor (0) + Ass. Professor (1) + Lecturer (0)

#### Laboratorio di progettazione strutturale - 4 moduli

- Professor (0) + Ass. Professor (3) + Lecturer (2)

#### Laboratorio di architettura e città - 3 moduli

- Professor (0) + Ass. Professor (0) + Lecturer (3)

Fifth Year:

#### Architettura del paesaggio

- Professor (0) + Ass. Professor (1) + Lecturer (0)

#### Progetto di allestimento

- Professor (0) + Ass. Professor (0) + Lecturer (1)

#### Laboratorio di restauro architettonico II - 2 moduli

- Professor (0) + Ass. Professor (1) + Lecturer (1)

#### Laboratorio di architettura e ambiente - 3 moduli

- Professor (0) + Ass. Professor (3) + Lecturer (0)

Ref.s: Syllabi for all the courses offered, List of courses with lecturers and their qualifications, and Study Program Teaching Staff

Criterion 7 The content of the study program is subject to continuous improvement and

The JISP MSc in "Architecture" follows the training model of the Integrated Master's Degree Program in Architecture which was activated at UNIFI. The

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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. aim is to offer a Master's degree program in Architecture compliant with the European Directive 2005/36/EC and equal to the existing UNIFI Study program, as a condition for the conferral of the double degree by both partner universities. The Study program has as a regulatory reference in Italy the MIUR Decree no.270/2004 (Degree Class LM-4 Architecture, five-year) while in Albania it refers to the Law no.80/2015 on Higher Education and Scientific Research<sup>1</sup>.

The content of the study program may be subject to improvement and update in agreement with UNIFI, indeed both partners have to approve every change to conferral the double title. Any eventual change is decided at the beginning of each academic year, and the last modification was done in September 2017 for the 2017-2018 A.Y.<sup>2</sup>. The complete files are archived in Albanian and Italian at both partners' headquarters. The use of the English language is limited to a few of document<sup>3</sup>.

Ref. 1: JISP MSc in "Architecture" - Didactic Regulations, academic year 2018/2019.

Ref. 2: Notification of the Ministry on Changes/improvements of the study plan no.476 dt. 12.10.2017

Ref. 3: Didactic Secretariat Regulation, and Regulations of the Didactic Secretariat for the Registration of Students and for the Compilation of the Base Register with Students Data.

Fulfilment of standard	Notinet with	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
				X

#### 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 labour market requirements.

Criterions	Evaluation of experts		
Criterion 1 The workload of the integrated study program is structured in accordance with the applicable.	The workload of the integrated study program is structured following the applicable legal and sub-legal provisions.		
in accordance with the applicable legal and sub-legal provisions.	The workload per hour, for all types of teaching forms is expressed as following:		
	- Learning lessons 960 teaching hours		
	- Seminars 40 teaching hours		
	- Projects/labs 1264 teaching hours		
	- Professional Practice 150 teaching hours		
	- Total 2.414 teaching hours		
	Ref.: didactic regulation and FAS internal regulation and Didactic Workload		
<b>Criterion 2</b> The designation, content of activities, division of courses and	The designation, content of activities, division of courses and practices enable and deepen knowledge and skills for further study and/or next		

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practices enable and deepen	student amplement Indeed FAC has planned to open a second avalactudy
knowledge and skills for further study and/or student employment.	student employment. Indeed, FAS has planned to open a second cycle study program once consolidated this first cycle in Architecture.
and/or student employment.	Ref.: HEI strategic development plan
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.	Courses and modules division into 5 years and 10 semesters, together with credit and classes evaluation, enable the achievement of study program academic objectives and the expected results of learning and scientific research.  As showed in above standard II.3, criterions 2 and 3.
Criterion 4 Study program structure, subjects and their designation, credits, and theory vs. practice ratio is in line with the profile of the "Master of	Study program structure, subjects and their designation, credits, and theory vs. practice ratio are in line with the profile of the "Master of Science" integrated study program.
Science" integrated study program and approximated with similar	From the teaching hours derived in criterion 1, the exact theory / practice ratio is as below:
international programs	Theory 1000 teaching hours = 41,40%
	Practice 1414 teaching hours = 58,60%
	Total 2414 teaching hours = 100%
	As already stated, it is the same developed and conducted at the homologous study program delivered by UNIFI and, for that reason, it is also recognized by other EU countries.
	Ref: approval of the study program in Italy and in EU
	Ref.: didactic regulation and FAS internal regulation and Didactic Workload
Criterion 5 The division based on training activities and theory versus practice ratio enable teaching	The division, based on training activities and theory versus practice ratio, fully enable teaching objectives achievement, transfer of studies, mobility, and employment at the end or during of the study program.
objectives achievement, transfer of studies, mobility, and employment at the end of the study programs.	As showed in above standard II.3, criterions 2 and 3, and in the standard II.4, criterion 4.
Criterion 6 Syllabi (course/module programs) are updated continuously based on the required and recommended literature of the last 5 years.	Syllabi (course/module programs) is expected to be continuously updated based on the required and recommended literature and architecture' field advancements of the last 5 years
Criterion 7 The content of the integrated study program guarantees the acquisition of knowledge, skills and competences intended for the integrated second cycle study program.	The content of the integrated study program guarantees the acquisition of knowledge, skills and competencies intended for an integrated second cycle study program, in order to release an MSc title.  As showed in above standard II.3.
Criterion 8 The integrated study program content promotes further study opportunities and/or students'	The integrated study program content aims to promote further study opportunities and/or students' employment in line with expectations and labour market demands, due to a continuous work of comparison with the real local needs.
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employment in line with expectations and labour market demands.	Due to the short time from the establishment of the study program (5 years) these aims and expectations cannot be verified yet.		
Criterion 9 In order to improve the integrated study program content and adjustment to labour market requirements, the responsible structures consult and take into account the proposals of partners from the labour market.	To improve ongoing the integrated study program content and adjustment to labour market requirements, the DA responsible structures constantly consult and consider the proposals of partners from the labour market.  Due to the short time from the establishment of the study program (5 years) these aims and expectations cannot be verified yet.		
Criterion 10 The combination of theoretical and scientific content assignments provides advanced knowledge for study, research, analysis, and follow-up of scientific activity in the third cycle study program.	Combination of both theoretical and scientific content assignments provides enough advanced knowledge for study, research, analysis, and the follow-up of scientific activity in the third cycle study programs.  Refer to the above standard II.3, criterions 2 and 3, and to the standard II.4, criterion 4.		
Fulfilment of standard	Partly met Substantially met X		

## Standard II.5

The academic and support 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 study program.

area in order to guarantee the teaching standards of the study program.					
Criterions	Evaluation of experts				
Criterion 1 The full-time and part- time academic staff engaged in study	The full-time and part-time academic staff engaged in study program delivery meet the applicable legal requirements.				program
program delivery meet the applicable legal requirements.	It is yearly appointed in the percentage of 90% from the UNIFI staff, as yearly certified by the Dean of Faculty and appointed by the Rector.				
	The residual 10% of the teaching staff is engaged as full-time from the HEI on yearly based. It is highlighted from lack of permanent (full-time) internal staff - directly employed from UKZKM - which in normal conditions should reach an upper percentage of the whole Faculty staff to get a more equilibrated and real reciprocal relationship.				
	Ref.: percentage and roles	of the instru	ctors		
Criterion 2 The full-time and part- time academic staff engaged in delivering the integrated study program have the appropriate academic qualification, at the required level to manage study program course modules.	The full-time and part-time academic staff, currently engaged in delivering the integrated study program, fully fulfils the appropriate academic qualifications, and at the required level to manage study program cours modules. Currently It comes mainly from the UNIFI according to the join degree agreement.  Details are given below:			cademic n course	
		2017-2018		8	
	Title/grade	UNIZ		UNIFI	
	Prof. Dr	Full time	Part time	Full time	
	Prof. Assoc.		2	8	
	Dr/PHD		1	10	

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	2018-2019			
Title/grade	UNI	UNIFI		
	Full time	Part time	Full time (*)	
Prof. Dr	-	<u>-</u>	13	
Prof. Assoc.	-	2	15	
Dr/PHD	1	-	11	
Msc/Researcher	-	-	8	

	2019-2020			
Title/grade	UNI	UNIZKM		
	Full time	Part time	Full time (*)	
Prof. Dr	1	-	4	
Prof. Assoc.	2	2	18	
Dr/PHD	17	-	16	
Msc/Researcher	1	-	12	

(\*) The list declared by UNIFI is available to the program. In those subjects that are covered by the professors of UNIZKM (first column) the professors from the University of Florence realize the lessons in cooperation and their completion.

Ref: Approvazione della struttura Dipartimentale della Facoltà nr. 3864 3 del 18 10 2019

Ref: Decreto nr. 346 del 05 09 2019

Ref: Tabella complessiva dello staff accademico

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.

Both the general and specific academic and research field of appointed academic staff covering the study program is in accordance with the study program, and its modules nature and specifications.

From the analysis of the delivered CVs, it is clear the very good quality of engaged staff members, both the part coming from UNIFI than the part provided from UNIZKM.

Ref.: delivered staff members' Cvs

Criterion 4 The institution, in cooperation and collaboration with other higher education institutions, as well as businesses and companies' representatives provide sufficient, appropriate and qualified staff for students mentoring, counselling and supervision during practicum, diploma thesis and other specific activities, depending on study program nature.

The UNIZKM provides sufficient and qualified staff for students tutoring, counselling and supervision during practicum, master thesis and other specific activities, in cooperation with UNIFI, as well as businesses' and companies' representatives related on the study program in architecture. Also consider the small number of students enrolled in the program.

The current ratio between number of full-time staff (69 in the 2019-20 A.Y.) and number of enrolled students (69 in the 2019-20 A.Y.) may be calculated in: 1/1.

Due to the small number of students currently enrolled, the ratio is absolutely in favour of them.

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 The UKZKM provides and guarantees support to both 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 in architecture.

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teaching facilities, according to the specific study program nature.	teaching facilities	From the Visit evidence, it results that number of classrooms, labs and other teaching facilities is enough (even due the small number of students) and all the facilities are in good condition of maintenance.  Ref.: minute of site visit		
Fulfilment of standard		Partly met	Substantially met	Met
				X

# Standard II.6

The Higher Education Institution encourages students and partners, and other networks and organizations to participate in the study program continuous improvement and successful delivery in accordance with their objectives.

Criterions	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 In order to improve the study program content and adjustment to the labour market requirements, the responsible structures consult and take into account the proposals of collaborators and partners from the labour market.	The FAS, the Departments and the other didactic structures, in touch with the Office for Labour Orientation at the HEI, consult and consider the proposals of collaborators and partners from the labour market to improve the study program contents and its adjustment to the labour market requirements.
Criterion 2 The institution encourages and includes students and their structures in discussion in the framework of study program improvement. Proposals are discussed and reflected should they contribute to the study program improvement.	The HEI encourages and includes students in discussions, in the framework of study program improvement through the program coordinator who act as interface with a continuous contact with the students. Proposals are discussed in meetings organized by the Course Coordinator, at least monthly, when needed also involving the Dean of Faculty, and the out-puts are reported to the faculty board if they contribute to the study program improvement.
	Currently, given the few number of students there are not students structures, and the coordinator is the main reference for them. In the following of the study program and with the rising of number of students, the FAS should encourage the foundation of students' structures (clubs, associations, etc.) as well as architecture students' representatives within both the HEI and FAS boards.
Criterion 3 The institution maintains contact and consults with graduate students in order to obtain their proposals for study program improvement.	The institution, through the Office for Labour Orientation, already maintains contact and consults with graduate students in other study programs. The same will be done once the firsts Diplomas in Architecture will be released, to monitoring their careers and to get their proposals for study program improvement
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.	The institution updates, and reorganize, constantly, special programs and activities linked with some of specific fields of research in architecture (Restoration, Urban Design, Architectural Design, etc.) in cooperation with public and non-public scientific research institutions (both national and international), local government units, etc., based on specific undersigned agreements.
	Refer to the Standard I.5, criterion 3.

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Criterion 5 In cooperation with professional networks, associations, orders (especially in the field of medicine) and public and non-public institutions, the institution updates and adjusts the study program in compliance with proposals and latest developments in different fields.

In cooperation with professional networks, associations, professional order and public and non-public institutions, the institution updates and adjusts the study program, in compliance with proposals and latest developments in the different fields of education in architecture, even in an international arena.

Indeed, as we learned during the Visit, from the meeting with professors at the university, both universities may propose updates in the program to adapt it to the demands of the labour market. This process needs to be agreed from both bodies and the last adaptation was in the 2017-2018 A.Y. with the current study program.

Ref. 1: The improved curriculum of JISP MSc in "Architecture" (from AY 2017-2018).

Fulfilment of standard	Not most and Partly met	Substantially met	Met
	A Control of the Cont		X

Standard II.7  The integrated study program guarantees guidance in the relevant field of study and research.		
Criterions	Evaluation of experts	
Criterion 1 The study program clearly defines the priorities and main academic and research objectives in	The study program clearly defines the priorities and main academic and research objectives in line with both the partner institutions' main objectives.	
line with the institution's main objectives.	Following with this aim, the UKZKM, by offering the Integrated Master's Degree course in "Architecture", prepares a professional figure of architect, the result of theoretical, scientific, and practical training over a five-year cycle. The figure of the architect is a figure that interconnects the various disciplines of the subject regarding the social, cultural historical, economic aspects with those of design, technology, urbanism and restoration. The future professional is equipped with the skills of analysing the city, the territory, the monuments, the historical heritage and the environment.	
	Ref.: didactic regulation and FAS internal regulation.	
Criterion 2 The main/basic unit promotes, coordinates, and manages teaching, research or cultural activities, by observing the academic freedom of the academic staff and the	Both the main (FAS) and the basic (DA) units promote, coordinate, and manage teaching, research, and cultural activities, by guarantee the ful academic freedom to the academic staff and within the field of study is architecture.	
freedom of the academic staff and the particular field of study.	The DA, responsible for the study program in Architecture, commits it staff in promoting and coordinating teaching and research activities, in full respect of academic freedom.	
	Ref.: FAS internal regulation.	
	Ref.: Study regulations of the study program 2018-2019.	
Criterion 3 The study program enables, encourages and motivates	Thanks to the number of agreements with university, public bodies an professional organizations, the study program enables, encourages, an motivates students to engage in studies, projects and research works.	
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students to engage in studies, projects As it is showed by the list of activities already held. and research work. Ref.: Cooperation between AKPT and the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development for the "Integrated Program 100+ Villages", and the applicative workshop carried out in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture and the Cultural Monuments Institute on the restoration of the "Gates of Rahova" (for the latter one there is not any delivered doc, but it is listed within the Self-evaluation Report). Criterion 4 The study program The study program focuses on drafting and implementing the regional and focuses on drafting and implementing national studies and scientific research. Indeed, the number of research regional and national study and activities already held, as noted above (Criterion 3) clearly shows the scientific policies. intense action in implementing those scientific policies at both the national and regional scales. The Study Program through the various agreements stipulated with different institutions involves students to engage in these projects. Indeed, many of the current students have also participated in projects of a national nature such as the "100+ Villages" Academy and others. Furthermore, the study program welcomes the proposals of the teachers and promotes the drafting of study and scientific policies, both regional and national. Ref.: Cooperation between AKPT and the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development for the "Integrated Program 100+ Villages", and the applicative workshop carried out in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture and the Cultural Monuments Institute on the restoration of the "Gates of Rahova" (for the latter one there is not any delivered doc, but it is listed within the Self-evaluation Report). Criterion 5 In order to carry out To carry out studies, scientific and research activities, the Department of study, scientific and research Architecture is financially supported by the HEI annually, through the activities, the basic unit is financially FAS that manages the business plan coming also from eventual other supported by the higher education activities. institution and manages the revenues from various activities. See the above Criterion 3. Fulfilment of standard Substantially met Partly 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. Criterions **Evaluation of experts** Criterion 1 The institution supports The institution, through the Research and Educational Projects Office, course groups and new scientific notices and supports course groups and new scientific research projects research projects and ensures and ensures cooperation with other research structures for achieving the cooperation with other research study program research objectives. It also supports all the phases for structures for achieving the study project applications. program research objectives.

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Fulfilment of standard	(So) and the Partiy met	Substantially met Met X
Criterion 3 The responsible unit organizes conferences or activities within the field of the study programs in order to assist staff and students in achieving their objectives.		
Criterion 2 The responsible unit engages in responding to demands for scientific research analyses, studies and projects, and engages the academic staff and students in accomplishing these objectives.	internal call for funding research? Ref.: Research Project form.  The FAS engages in responsanalyses, studies, and project students in accomplishing the	CKM has started in launching an annual rch projects under the staff application.  Iding to demands for scientific research ets, and engages the academic staff and ese objectives, also within and without of as conferences, site visits, workshops, and riterion 3.

Fulfilment of standards of	Not met diet	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
Field II				X

#### III. TEACHING, LEARNING, EVALUATION AND COMPETENCES

# Standard III.1

The Higher Education Institution pursues a clear policy to guarantee and promote the quality of teaching and develops special guidelines designed for teaching methods development and

monitoring.	
Criterions	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 UKZKM drafted 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 in Architecture, also supported by a strong interactive ICT system. This study program aims at optimizing the preparation through an extensive professional and scientific training of students in different fields of architecture. The study program also aims to use innovative methods on specific topics for each course.  To hold activities in the real context with the involvement of local actors as well as regional and national institutions is one of the innovative methods adopted by the FAS.

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Criterion 2 The responsible	See the above Standard I.7, Criterion 3.  The FAS also through its basic units and the focused offices at the HEI, designs
structures design monitoring mechanisms and periodically evaluate the academic staff teaching and innovative skills.	monitoring mechanisms and periodically evaluate the academic staff teaching and innovative skills, through e-questionnaires and periodical meetings with students.
	The main form of evaluation and verification of the progress of the academic activity and the administrative ones connected with the teaching activity is implemented through the process of students' evaluation. Students are then actively involved in the process also through the evaluation of their perceptions regarding both academic activity and logistical organization, by using online questionnaires. The submission of the questionnaire is mandatory to accede into the exams.
	The offices responsible for this activity are the Internal Quality Assessment Unit and the Statistics Office. These annually submit to the Rector and the Offices concerned a report on the results received by students.
	Another form of receiving student feedback is by holding monthly meetings with students. These meetings take place with students of all years and are organized by the Course Coordinator.
	Ref.: Perception pattern of students about didactic.
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, competencies assessment, including complaints managed by the study program coordinator.
	See above Criterion 2.
	Ref.: Perception pattern of students about didactic.
Criterion 4 The responsible structures for teaching quality monitoring and assurance, make public the evaluation results.	The structure responsible for teaching quality monitoring and assurance, the unit addressed to evaluate the performances - the internal Evaluation Unit - elaborate and send to the Rector the whole evaluations (in the form of both tables and SWOT analysis) for his further following up. The evaluation results are not made public.
	Ref.: Minutes of the Academic Senate of 23.09.2019 and of the Administration Council of HEI.
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 HEI, through evaluation mechanisms and achieved results, promotes personal recommendations to the staff members, as well as encourages and motivates the academic staff to further improve teaching.
Fulfilment of standard	Not met 3. Partly met Substantially met X

# Standard III.2

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	tining with the best methods and practices.  Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The most common channels of teaching, learning process, and knowledge transfer are lectures, seminars, laboratory work, course assignments/essays, projects, professional clinical practice, public lectures, and any other models approved by the institution.	The channels adopted of teaching, learning process, and knowledge transfer are mainly lecturing, seminars, laboratory works, in and out-of-the-classroom practices, site visits. Anyways, FAS support to any other models, as well as currently also through on-line activities, to improve the learning innovation. As it set by the UKZKM, also by taking into consideration students' suggestions.  Ref.: List of held seminars and workshops, and list of agreements for practical on-the-field learning activities (See the above Standard I.7, Criterion 3)
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.	The academic staff is able and ready to accept and respond to any eventual students' diversity and needs, by providing various forms, methods and alternative teaching and learning opportunities, such as online teaching, in accordance with the scope and nature of both the study program and the course modules.  Student feedback is constantly encouraged by the course coordinator and the Faculty Dean, to improve teaching and learning practices even taking care of students' diversity and special requests.  Ref.: Minute of the Visit (meeting with students), and Perception pattern of students about didactic.
Criterion 3 The institution supports its academic staff to improve didactic competences, enables the use of diverse and flexible pedagogical methods, which are 12 appropriate and consistent with the expected learning outcomes, teaching objectives and labour market demands.	The HEI supports its academic staff to improve didactic competences, enables the use of alternative, diverse and flexible pedagogical methods when are appropriate and consistent with the expected learning outcomes, teaching objectives or the labour market demands.
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.	The academic staff engaged in teaching, most of which comes from academic positions acquired at UNIFI, is fully competent in explaining knowledge and concepts related to the field of studies.  Staff uses more appropriate teaching methods according to topics and profiles of any of the courses released.
Criterion 5 The institution periodically evaluates and improves teaching methods forms and methods, including student's participation in the process and reflecting their thoughts and suggestions.	The Faculty periodically evaluates and improves teaching forms and methods. Student's participation in the process is encouraged and their thoughts and suggestions -through the Course Coordinator- are reflected in the annual evaluations and course improvement.  Ref.: Minutes of the Academic Senate of 23.09.2019 and of the Council of Administration (approval of annual evaluation report).
<b>zCriterion 6</b> The academic staff uses interactive methods and	Interactive methods and discussion are used to make classes more appealing to students and practical activities are promoted within Faculty's Labs and in practical activities hold in cooperation with external bodies.

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discussion to make classes more appealing to students.	Ref.: List of held seminars and works on-the-field learning activities (See the		
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.	Teaching forms and methods encour drive them in acquiring even further ability in reading and understanding issues related to the fields of designing support and building a mutual respect	grades of autonomy in the issues and in proble ng, by providing teacher s	self-improving em-solving new
Fulfilment of standard	No Sec. 2012 Parity met	Substantially met	Met
			X

#### Standard III.3 The responsible 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. Criterions **Evaluation of experts** Criterion 1 The teaching and The study program is carried out within adequate and quality premises, scientific process is carried out in which are renewed, clean and appropriately maintained and equipped to adequate and quality premises, hold both to teaching and to scientific process at a suitable level. which are clean and appropriately Classrooms, labs, study's room, and administrative offices are enough in maintained. relation to the current number of students and staff. Actually, there are no private offices for the didactic staff, which however can benefit from a common teacher's room. Ref.: Minute of the Visit at the University' premises, and Summary tables delivered. Criterion 2 The premises dedicated All the premises dedicated to the learning process are functional and well to the learning process are equipped with the necessary logistics to improve a qualitative learning functional and equipped with the process and practicum. All the classrooms have a Wi-Fi connection, digital necessary logistics for a qualitative projector, and pcs; they are equipped with any needed supplies (electricity, learning process and practicum. natural lighting, and ventilation, anti-burning facility, etc.) and they satisfy the minimum dimensional requirements related to the current number of users. Ref.: Minute of the Visit at the University' premises. Criterion 3 The academic staff and Both academic staff and students can benefit from a strong and advanced students use various IT systems, and IT system. HEI continuously invests in consolidating and updating campus' consolidated IT infrastructure IT infrastructures for the managing/learning /teaching process. Indeed, with necessary for the learning process. a number of dedicated rooms, staff and students can openly benefit from pcs, laptops, workstations, and other equipment to satisfy any educational needs in terms of IT equipment. The most common software for the study program in architecture is also provided by the institution. Ref.: Minute of the Visit at the University' premises. Criterion 4 The required and The required and recommended literature guarantees the acquisition of recommended literature, made basic knowledge required for the study program in Architecture. Students available to students in the study can benefit from both hard copy and soft copy of the books and other

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materials (master theses, research, reviews, and journals, etc.) available in program language (in hard copy or Italian, Albanian and in other foreign languages. It enough covers students' soft copy), guarantees the needs in studying within the Architecture program language (Italian). acquisition of knowledge required for the study program. Ref.: Minute of the Visit at the University' premises (Library). The UKZKM central library, with its dedicated section for architecture and Criterion 5 The library of the engineering, guarantees a sufficient range of recent publications in the main institution guarantees a sufficient fields of the architecture study program. Library upgrades constantly the number of recent publications in the number of books and other materials (currently more than 700 texts) also main field of the study program and taking from users' suggestions and requests. It also benefits from an IT sufficient and comfortable reading premises for students during the platform that allows users to accede online to its collections and services. learning process. In-the-Campus, it offers sufficient and comfortable reading premises for students during their studying process. Both the academic staff and students have access to online libraries in the Criterion 6 In terms of teaching field of studies and in parallel fields to the main study program. In terms of and learning process, the academic the teaching and learning process, it is adequate and updated. staff and students have access to online libraries in similar fields to the study program. There is a quite good laboratory infrastructure, necessary for lab classes of Criterion 7 The laboratory the study program, for course assignments, for diplomas and other specific infrastructure necessary for lab practical activities. It is unceasingly at the open disposal of both the students classes, course assignments, diplomas and specific studies is and the staff. continuously used by the students. The use of the HEI's online platform and tools for e-learning processes is Criterion 8 In terms of teaching, strongly supported and encouraged for academic staff and students to use academic staff uses online platforms it. Furthermore, a dedicated mobile App allows easy and fast access to any (e-learning) and supports and encourages academic staff and information 24hs. students to use them. Both academic and administrative staff and students use internal Criterion 9 The academic staff and communication systems (UniMS) to access electronic documents and their students use internal communication personal dedicated profiles. Most of the communications among diverse systems to access electronic users are carried on through it. The in-house management IT system (ERP) documents and their personal allows managing any activities (exams, students' curriculum, training and dedicated profile. stages, diplomas, etc.) online. Moreover, HEI central IT system stores all the documents related to the Faculty activities above the years and it is open to the free consultation. The academic staff orients and guides students in selecting their diploma Criterion 10 The academic staff thesis arguments and topics, it assists and supports students during their guides students in the selecting their independent studies development, also supporting the experimentations and diploma thesis topics, and assists the innovations in the field. and supports them during their development. Substantially met Met Fulfilment of standard X

# Standard III.4

The institution establishes special institutional structures, which raise the awareness on improving the study program teaching and learning quality.

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Criterions	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	In the framework of improving the quality of teaching, the institution has established appropriate structures/units at the institutional level to promote the continuous improvement of teaching and to coordinate its activity within the main unit, the Faculty.
with the main/basic units in the framework of improving the quality of teaching.	The Architecture Department, the Architecture Technical Sciences Department, and the Research Center on the Mediterranean Architecture, that cover the whole of scientific fields in architecture, provide in improving educational and research activities and provide to coordinate all of the activities with the FAS.
	Ref.: FAS internal regulation and didactic regulation.
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 provide.	Those, above mentioned, basic units, and mainly DA, are responsible for teaching quality and for raising the academic staff and students' awareness of the quality the study program provided. In terms of checking and improving the quality of education, they also fully take vantage from the international agreement with the Architecture Department at UNIFI, from which currently most of the teaching staff comes.
Criterion 3 The structures and responsible units support the experimentation and development of innovative teaching methods.	The basic structures and the responsible unit both support the experimentation and development of innovative teaching methods. The common interest of both UKZKM and UNIFI, match the interest in stressing the innovation end experimentation in teaching and learning.
	Ref.: Cooperation agreements.
Criterion 4 The academic and support staff are constantly qualified in the field of scientific research to assist in the further improvement of teaching.	Both the academic and the support staff (such as the study program coordinator) are precisely qualified in the field of scientific research so to assist and to support in the further improvement of teaching and education. They all got at least a PhD, and Coordinator is currently a PhD student in the field of Architecture.
	Ref.: Didactic staff CVs and Minute of the Visit.
Criterion 5 The structures and units in charge continuously train academic staff to improve their teaching skills and implement new methods.	The aim of both the main structure and the units is to provide study program with an independent internal staff in a medium time long period. For that reason, the whole academic and support staff oversee continuously train to improve teaching skills and to implement new methods in education and research.
HWASSER REPORTED TO THE PROPERTY OF	Ref.: Minute of the Visit.
Criterion 6 The academic and support staff are responsible for implementing the study program and committed to improve teaching and implementing new methods.	The academic and support staff are jointly responsible for implementing the study program and committed to improving teaching and implementing new methods. They check annually the going on of the study program, also taking suggestions from the student's requests and wishes, and propose any useful changes.
	Ref.: Minutes of the Academic Senate of 23.09.2019 (approval of annual report).
Criterion 7 The academic staff tests new teaching methods, analyses objectives/expectations and report	The academic and support staff tests new teaching methods and professional/didactic tools (such as new software or equipment), analyses
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objectives/expectations, proper and from students, also by the use of quality periodically on results to the structures and units in charge. questionnaires, and report annually (at the starting of each academic year) on results to the structures and units in charge. UKZKM in the framework of the partnership agreement with UNIFI and Criterion 8 The institution, in the framework of partnership and with other professional/institutional partners' involvement in the learning partners' involvement in the process, engages in the early of each year of the study program both Italian learning process, engages at various and Albanian lecturers and researchers to share rising ideas and methods stages of the study program on teaching and scientific research. Through even joint practical activities. lecturers and researchers to share their ideas and methods on teaching and scientific research. Substantially met Met Fulfilment of standard X

Criterions	Evaluation of experts		
Criterion 1 The criteria and the testing and assessment method of professional competences and skills are defined in special regulations and are announced to the students.	The criteria, the testing and assessment method of professional competences and skills are defined in special regulations and are announced to the students. The tools put in force to achieve this goal are the Didactic Regulation of the Study Program and the Master Thesis and Training Regulation where the skills and competencies verification are clearly defined. They act jointly with the Master Thesis defence to set out the professional ability in the field of architecture.		
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.	At the beginning of each academic year, students are informed by the course coordinator on testing and assessment methods of professional competences and research skills provided for in all the courses/modules syllabi. The syllabus is after stressed in its aim and goals by each of the responsible professor, course by course.  Ref.: Didactic regulation.		
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 is conducted in a mixed way. It is realized through various intermediate and final models for providing students with the opportunity to demonstrate step by step their acquired competencies and knowledge and their ability to sustain the final exams. Design labs activities are indispensable to achieve the expected results.		
Fulfilment of standard	Not met Substantially met	Met X	

#### Standard III.6

The institution guarantees a fair and transparent evaluation based on each student's merits.

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#### Criterions **Evaluation of experts** Criterion 1 The testing and As stated, the testing and assessment of professional competences and assessment of professional research skills are carried out throughout the entire academic year with competences and research skills is intermediate and final stages through various ways of testing, and finally, carried out throughout the entire it is mirrored in the final assessment. academic year and is mirrored in the GVJ, referring to syllabi, academic staff and students, concludes that the final assessment. assessment is semester, with components such as activation in seminars, midterm exam and course assignments, which constitute the continuous assessment at the rate of 75% of the total student assessment and the final assessment that is realized with the final exam in the amount of 25% of the total assessment. All components are reflected in the final evaluation. Ref.: Summary tables. Criterion 2 The institution makes The Terminal Server Exams' facility, developed by the institution, makes use of electronic testing and the use of electronic testing and evaluation systems as a routine for some evaluation systems, which eliminate of exams and tests, mainly in those courses with an e-product required. The various forms of abuse and enhance most of exams are conducted through written and orals exams (with clear transparency. Ref.) that through a "grid of progress evaluations" is able to reduce at minimum or eliminate, in certain of the cases, every form of abuse by enhancing transparency in the entire process of evaluation. Criterion 3 The final testing of The final testing of professional competences and skills assessment is professional competences and skills carried out by special commissions composed of at least two members, assessment is carried out by special assigned, and appointed by the FAS under the proposal from the study commissions composed of at least 2 program coordinator. members, assigned and appointed In detail, the first member is the professor in charge of the course, who is by the main units, one of whom is the chairperson of the commission. the chairperson of the commission, and the second can be either the co-incharge colleague of him, the course coordinator or another among the professors of the program. Ref.: regulation of Master's Thesis. Criterion 4 The testing and The testing and assessment of written competencies are anonymously assessment of written competences conducted through a codification process and an attached separate envelope is anonymously conducted with for the student's identification. codification and the institution The institution provides a dedicated infrastructure, monitored by the provides a dedicated infrastructure appropriately trained staff, and a regulation (since the current A.Y.) on the monitored by the appropriate trained conduct of exams. Students can participate in the correction/evaluation staff and/or security cameras. open stage. Ref.: regulation of Master's Thesis, and Didactic regulation. Criterion 5 The assessment of Being considered the assessment of professional knowledge, competences, professional knowledge, and skills as a priority, it is accompanied by comments/feedback and it competences and skills is includes recommendations for the learning process to help students accompanied by comments/ improve in the future. feedback (if necessary) and includes Ref.: Didactic regulation recommendations for the learning process in order to help students improve in the future.

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The whole evaluation process is an open process and responsible units, and Criterion 6 The responsible units academic staff avoid and do not tolerate plagiarism and cheating during and academic staff avoid and do not tolerate plagiarism and cheating exams and assignments. during exams and assignments. However, there are not expressed Ref. concerning a plagiarism check on the written materials as produced from the students in submissions. All the results of checking professional competencies and skills are merit-Criterion 7 The results of checking based and delivered in time, accordingly with a precise, articulated and set professional competences and skills are merit-based and delivered in timesheet framework, coordinator led, based on the stipulations in the time, based on the stipulations in the relevant regulations. relevant regulations. The HEI fully guarantees the students' right to be acquainted with the Criterion 8 The institution assessment procedure, to participate in that, and to request the assessment guarantees students' right to be acquainted with the assessment be reviewed, in accordance with the set regulations and evaluation procedure, and to request the procedures. Student's right may be practiced when it is related to: assessment be reviewed in he/she sustains the exam evaluation has not followed the rules set accordance with the regulations and he/she does not agree with the gained final grade evaluation procedures. Ref.: FAS internal regulation, and Didactic regulation. Any claim or complaint coming from the student is reviewed by the Criterion 9 Any claim or complaint evaluation commission, firstly, and then by an ad-hoc commission. The is reviewed by the evaluation evaluation commission is asked in answering to the student in writing. commission and then by the ad-hoc commission. The pursued procedure Whether the student is not fully satisfied, he/she can propose a claim to the must be transparent to the parties Dean of the Faculty, by three days from the publication of the result, who involved, documented and archived. will follow out it through a codified path until the final resolution. The pursued procedure should be transparent to the parties involved, documented through minutes, and finally archived as Ref. Within the selfassessment report, it is not clearly stated, indeed it is left in the "conditional tense". Ref.: FAS internal regulation, and Didactic regulation. Substantially met Partly met Fulfilment of standard X

#### Standard III.7

The integrated study program delivery guarantees students' creativity and practical skills enhancement, by simultaneously providing in depth knowledge on professional and scientific

competences.		
Criterions	Evaluation of experts	
Criterion 1 The study program is delivered in a way that guarantees the students' competences acquisition, and develops professional and special skills development.	The JISP MSc in "Architecture" is delivered along five years of learning and in a way that guarantees progress in the students' competencies basic acquisition (during the first two years) and to develop more focused and indepth professional and special skills (during the next three years).  Ref.: FAS internal regulation, and Didactic regulation.	
Criterion 2 The study program guarantees the development of specific skills in the field of information technology, including as well human, social,	The JISP MSc in "Architecture" supports the development of specific skills in the field of information technology, as well as human/social communication and interaction abilities through grouping in work-teams for most of the courses. The use of a foreign language is included (Italian)	
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communication, and interaction (including foreign language) resources.	as an additional resource because of the implementation of the agreement based on the study program.
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.	Student's competences and skills, presented in the study program and syllabi of each subject, are developed at the beginning of each years. They are analysed, and reviewed at the end of any courses in benefit for the improvement for the next A.Y.  Ref.: Minutes of the Academic Senate of 23.09.2019 and of the Administration Council.
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.	At the end of each course/module, the FAS, according with study coordinator reports, points out the most important issues and it guides students throughout their implementation for the final test.
Criterion 5 The academic staff (full time or visiting) delivers public lectures and seminars on new science and technology developments outside the study program.	The entire academic staff (full time, part-time or visiting) delivers yearly open lectures and public seminars on new science and technology developments outside the study program, often in partnership with national or local bodies.  Ref.: List of seminars and workshop held.
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.	Teaching is carried out on a competency-based process to provide students with the opportunity to develop their own competences in labs and practicum.  See above.
Criterion 7 The academic staff supports discussion and teamwork in interpreting and solving certain problems/issues.	Academic staff supports open discussion and stress the teamwork usefulness within the classroom in interpreting and solving certain problems/issues discipline related, through study coordinator task in manage the students-academics relationships.
Criterion 8 The academic staff creates a suitable climate for the development of innovative ideas, advanced and scientific studies, and support.	The academic staff is able and motivated to create a suitable and supportive climate for the development of innovative ideas, advanced and scientific studies among and with students. Even if this early stage of the program has not yet produced such kind of results, two actions have been carried out from the Faculty to enhance the students' advancements: Designing the Current City and Architecture Experiences.
	Ref.: minute of the Visit.
Criterion 9 The institution promotes the development of innovative ideas, students advanced research and scientific studies, by providing them with financial support.	The UKZKM promotes the development of innovative ideas, students advanced research and scientific studies, by providing them with some financial support to spend a short learning time at the UNIFI architecture department, as set in the cooperation agreement.
Criterion 10 The academic staff combines forms of teaching with partner institutions to enable and increase student mobility.	The academic staff merges form of teaching with partner institutions, from both Albania and Italy, to enable and increase student internal and external mobility. Some of those actions are financially supported by the HEI, as set in the cooperation agreement.

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Fulfilment of standard	fill Natural	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
				X

r student graduation procedure in the study program and necessary documentation.
Evaluation of experts
The institution drafted a special procedure for the final exam or diploma defence, for the coming first graduations, that has been published and transferred to the students. Furthermore, all staff is engaged in disseminating it as well as in supporting students in the whole process.
Ref.: Master's Thesis regulation.
The responsible structures, FAS and DA, and the whole academic and coordinating staff assist students by providing all the necessary information, instructions, and materials in the framework of the course's exams and of the diploma defence.  Ref.: Master's Thesis and Didactic regulations
A special commission for the final exam management, named from the
Rector, is based on the testing of knowledge acquired throughout the academic years and student's performances, including all courses/modules based on their importance and specific importance. This process is included in the final evaluation and in delivering the final grade of graduation.  Ref.: Master's Thesis and Didactic regulations.
The academic staff, in the persons of supervisor and co-supervisor, guides and assists students in selecting their diploma thesis topics and in developing it.
Ref.: Master's Thesis and Didactic regulations.
The institution, through the Faculty staff, assists students in carrying out measurements, analyses, and tests in or outside institution premises, according to the specific objectives and scope of study in producing the final work (Master's Thesis).
Supervisor and co-supervisor assist the student in producing and processing the relevant results, as well as in drafting the thesis according to the institution's instructions. They guarantee the quality of results and approve whether the work is complete and appropriate to be presented to the special commission.  Ref.: Master's Thesis and Didactic regulations.

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Criterion 7 At the end of the exam or diploma defense, the student is evaluated with a final grade.	At the end of the exam or diploma defence, the student is evaluated with a final grade based on the testing of knowledge acquired throughout the academic years and student's performances, including all courses/modules based on their importance and specific importance, and on the final evaluation of the thesis.		
	Ref.: Master's Thesis and Didactic regulations.		
Criterion 8 At the end of studies, the student is provided with a diploma and its supplement licensed by the ministry responsible for education.	At the end of studies, the student is delivered with a double diploma jointly with UNIFI and its supplement, the parchment, and all the student's docs. The Double Diploma is approved by both the Academic Senates (UNIFI and UKZKM) and it is transmitted to be licensed by the ministry responsible for higher education.		
	Ref.: Master's Thesis and Didactic regulations, Cooperation agreement.		
Criterion 9 At the end of the studies, a full official copy of the study program is made available to the student.	At the end of the studies, a full official copy of the study program is made available to the student as stored at the Didactic Secretary's office.  Ref.: Didactic Secretariat regulation.		
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 caseby case basis, if required.	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, under student's request.  Ref.: Didactic Secretariat regulation, and FAS internal regulation.		
Fulfilment of standard	Partly met Substantially met X		

Partly met	Substantially	Met the series
	met	
		X
ned	Partly met	

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

Standard IV.1 The Higher Education Instite evaluating and selecting staff	cution pursues transparent legal procedures on recruiting, If for the study program.
Criterions	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The institution collects, stores and updates each academic year the data of the staff	UKZKM keeps records of the staff contributing to the program, including academic staff, the program coordinator and the support staff. The documentation related to the engagement of the staff and their workload are

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engaged in the study program
These data include the academic
staff 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.

available in the department and faculty documentation, and in the human resources office. Supplementary documentation has been provided on request of the EEG. The documentation consulted during the site visit results to be well-structured and updated.

(Ref: Doc. File 27, 27.1, 27.2, 27.3, 27.4, 28) (Ref: Doc. Supplementary 2)

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 recruitment procedures are in accordance with the institutional regulations and the applicable laws.

Most of the academic staff contributing in the program is part of the Department of Architecture in the University of Florence, and thus, the selection of staff is based in the academic agreement between the two universities. (Ref: Doc. File 14, 46) (Ref: Doc. Supplementary 14)

Criterion 3 The institution drafts special and specific procedures and criteria, for the staff recruitment, which are part of regulatory acts and makes them public.

UKZKM is calling for vacancies for the part of staff that is not covered by the University of Florence. These positions are related mainly to scientific courses, or courses related to the Albanian context (such as Math and Legislation). The calls are published on the web, and accessible to all. The selection is carried by an ad-hoc group mandated by the Rector. An example of a call was provided upon request to the EEG (Ref: Doc. Supplementary 14)

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.

The selection criteria applied by the university are related to the qualifications of the candidate and to their experience in the specific fields. Generally the decision of the ad-hoc group is based on the evaluation of the documentation (CV and relevant Ref.s) submitted by the candidate and on interviews. (Ref: Doc. File 46) (Ref: Doc. Supplementary 14)

Fulfilment of standard

Not met (224 - 122)	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.

### **Criterions**

#### **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 university offers appropriate infrastructure for the staff to perform the program related activity. Based on the site visit, the quality of the physical space results to be very good and most of the spaces have been renovated lately. The buildings related to the program, are easily accessible and guarantee the use from people with disabilities or with special needs. They comply with the hygienic and fire safety regulations (Ref: Doc. File 34, 35).

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Criterion 2 The institution is committed to provide staff who administers the study program with continuous training and further professional development.

The JISP responsible students ar most of the year and the In addition specialists, etc. assist to prereting in

The JISP MSc in "Architecture" has a full-time coordinator, that is responsible for the daily activity, and that keeps continuous contacts with students and academic staff. This position has a key role, considering that most of the academic staff is traveling from Italy to Albania several times a year and their presence in the institution is not permanent (Ref: Doc. File 46). In addition, administrative staff such as secretaries, human resources specialists, statistics specialists, financial administrator, maintenance staff, etc. assist the program activities on regular bases. The above listed staff are operating in university scale.

Criterion 3 The institution organizes specific programs regarding innovative teaching methods and use of new technologies for academic and scientific research staff's further professional qualification.

A continuous effort to improve the teaching methods can be noticed. Lately, the need to adapt to the pandemic situation caused by COVID 19 has created opportunities for a different approach to teaching. Online teaching platforms, and auditoriums equipped with the necessary technology for hybrid teaching are the result of the latest efforts in the university. These rooms have been visited during the site visit by the EEG.

Considering that the majority of the academic staff is coming from the University of Florence, the qualification of the staff is mainly supported by the home institution. Nevertheless UKZKM, provides Ref. for offering support to the staff, mainly in participating in activities related to their research or professional qualification.

Criterion 4 The institution demonstrates an optimal employee commitment to meet integrated study program objectives.

Based on the information collected during the site visit (meeting with the staff and students), there is a positive feedback on the staff commitment. Although the presence of most of the academic staff is not permanent, the program needs seem to be fulfilled by the contribution of the coordinator and the administrative staff. The recently created departments will have to offer a daily support to the program activities and objectives.

Fulfilment 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.

according to the nature and area of the study program.		
Criterions	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 university campus offers sufficient interior and exterior spaces for normal academic and social activities. The small number of students facilitates the organization of the teaching activity and the use of spaces, classrooms and other auxiliary infrastructure. Although the main infrastructure is qualitative, still, the university lacks specific laboratories related to the program content. (Ref: Doc. File 48, 48.1)	
Criterion 2 Learning premises such as classrooms, labs, studios and the like are equipped with	As noticed during the site visit, classrooms and studios are well equipped with the necessary equipment, technology and furniture. Most of the spaces	

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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. used by the program are renovated recently and fulfill the needs for the routine academic activity.

There is lecture rooms equipped with technology for hybrid teaching (partially in class and partially online), and drawing/design studios equipped with drawing tables and working areas.

Criterion 3 Laboratories, studios, ateliers or other premises, according to the specific nature of the study program, shall contain the necessary equipment and tools to meet module requirements, theoretical and practical training, and the overall study program objectives.

As noticed during the site visit, classrooms, lecture rooms and studios are suitable for the activities of the program. Increasing the number of laboratories should become an objective for the coming years. Laboratories will be necessary to support not only the teaching activity, but the research as well. Possible laboratories to be provided could be: survey lab, model making, materials lab/library, art/drawing/photography laboratory, environmental lab, engineering lab, digital production lab etc.

Criterion 4 The institution provides at least an information technology lab, equipped with advanced programs appropriate to the nature of the study program it provides.

Based on the information collected during the site visit, a technology lab is available in the university with 48 computers. The library offers access to computers also. Three workstations running CAD programs are available for architecture students.

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.

The university has an active approach in improving and enlarging the existing infrastructure. New buildings are added to the campus (building for the faculty of medicine under construction), and renovation works are continuously ongoing (Ref: Doc. File 7). The partnership with the University of Florence has offered support in laboratory equipment (that can be transported) or in physical research infrastructure (in Italy) when needed.

Fulfilment of standard

Not met Partly met Substantially met X

X

#### 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.

Criterions	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The institution makes available to students the resources library, thus guaranteeing students equal access to the study program.	UKZKM has a central library available to all students and academic staff. The catalog related to the discipline of architecture is composed of about 700 books and magazines and is continuously being enriched (Ref: Doc. File 36).
Criterion 2 The library should be equipped with the necessary literature such as: basic textbooks, recommended literature, both in	Most of the literature in the library is recommended from the professors, thus is directly related to their courses, and help students in their daily studying.

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Albanian and foreign languages, The literature is mainly offered in Italian and English language, but Albanian necessary and appropriate books literature is available also (Ref: Doc. File 36). or journals to cover all modules The titles offered are well selected and cover the content of the main modules and courses according to each and courses. A continuous enrichment of the collection would help also in study programs. creating a research library that could support the recently created research center. Criterion 3 The institution should The library content is easily reachable through the "biblioweb" platform, enable the adequate conditions for where the collection of the library can be consulted in distance, and where all students' equal access to the students can equally use and access the information (Ref: online library for each study https://biblioweb.unizkm.edu.al/). program course. Criterion 4 The library should be As noticed during the site visit, the library space is equipped with computers equipped with computer programs that are mainly used for fast research and simple processes. All the and other technical equipment, reading/working area is equipped with network access and WIFI for the use enabling unrestricted use by all of laptops which are the most preferred working tool for architecture students. students. Criterion 5 The institution should There is a continuous activity in enriching the collection of the library. develop and implement a detailed Nevertheless, this activity seems to be more a bottom up process, rather than plan for adding new items to the an institutional plan for expanding the library. Yet, the library staff appears library and updating the existing to be really active and interested in improving the library offer both in terms fund in order to assist the students of literature and services. of each study programs. Criterion 6 The library schedule The opening hours of the library are suitable for the academic activity, with (opening hours) should be in line a daily duration till 20.00. The library is also available for few hours on with the teaching process Saturday. A differentiated operating schedule is recommended to be applied schedule, but not limited to, and during the exam period. beyond, appropriate to students number and needs, as well as its The capacity of the reading room seems to be proportional to the number of capacity. students in the university, and offers the needed comfort both in dimensional and qualitative aspects. Data on the frequency of use of the library were provided to the EEG on demand (Ref: Doc. Supplementary 8). Fulfilment of standard Substantially met Partly 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.

Criterions	Evaluation of experts
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.	The secretary is responsible about the management of all the information related to students and their performance from enrollment until graduation (Ref: Doc. File 43, 52). Further data are stored from the structures responsible about statistics, alumni and career.

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	The data are managed through the UniMS, an internal system which allows digitalization of the necessary records related to the student.	
Criterion 2 The internal management system manages the information, documentation and activities of academic staff, academic assisting staff, administrative staff and partners	In addition to UniMS, a management system ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) allows to keep records on the academic and administrative staff, and supplementary data about the program of study. Attached to this system there are five modules: the Student Portal, Teacher Portal, Admission Portal, Library Portal and Real Time Classroom	
involved in the program implementation.	(Ref: <a href="https://portal.unizkm.al/#/">https://portal.unizkm.al/#/</a> and https://admissions.unizkm.al/#/auth/signin).	
Criterion 3 The management system provides dedicated access to information and documents for all study program staff and students.	The above mentioned systems and modules are useful both to the administration and students, and part of the services can be accessed through the university website.	
Criterion 4 The management system has integrated platforms and modules that enable interactive communication and information exchange among staff and students.	The modules mentioned in Criterion 2 of this section enable communication and information exchange for students, teaching staff and administration.	
Criterion 5 The management system guarantees real-time monitoring of academic and administrative activity and enables individual and real-time reporting to governing bodies and unit heads.	Based on the site visit (meeting with the responsible on statistics), the statistics and data stored in the systems used by UKZKM are conceived in accordance to the national practices, standards and indicators foreseen by the Albanian legislation, and are easy to be used for the periodical communication with other institutions or government bodies.	
Criterion 6 Information related to the study program, academic staff, and the various activities is published in the website in at least two languages, one of which is Albanian.	The necessary information related to the program is published in the university web unizkm.al in three languages; Albanian, Italian and English (Ref: <a href="https://www.unizkm.al/study/course/corso-di-laurea-magistrale-in-architettura/">https://www.unizkm.al/study/course/corso-di-laurea-magistrale-in-architettura/</a> ).	
Fulfilment of standard	Plot 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.		
Criterions	Evaluation of experts	
Criterion 1 The Higher Education 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.	Based on the site visit (meeting with the administrator), UKZKM prepares financial analysis and reports for the programs of study offered in the university. This is a periodical administrative process which takes account of the operational, administrative and personnel costs.	
Criterion 2 A study program funding plan should include funding	Costs of the study program are relatively high, considering the engagement of foreign professors, the mobility expenses and scholarships offered. Most	

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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 online libraries, financial obligations, national or international grants received and service contracts on the study program performance, and other items, according to its specific nature.

of the costs of infrastructure are shared with the other programs that UKZKM offers. There is no Ref. of national or international grants received or services and contracts provided that could result in balancing the costs of the program.

Criterion 3 The Higher Education 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.

The periodical internal and external audits are dealing with the general financial data of the institution.

The audit presents the overall picture that should be further analyzed in detail to get data on the specific study programs.

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.

The documentation of the financial reports is a periodical process which is carried out by the administrative structures of the university. Further, the analysis is discussed with the academic authorities in order to evaluate the possibilities for development of the program. Based on these analysis, as mentioned during the site visit, UKZKM is planning to offer in the near future a program of study in Restoration of the Heritage and a Doctoral program.

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.

UKZKM has a stable demand for the JISP MSc in "Architecture". Considering that the income for the program is based on the tuitions the financial stability seems to be guaranteed for the coming years. An objective for the future could be the diversification of income sources, which will allow the reduction of tuitions without affecting the academic quality.

Fulfilment of standard	Not prets the transfer	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
				X

Fulfilment of standards of	ciol met	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
Field IV				X

#### V. STUDENTS AND THEIR SUPPORT

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# Standard V.1

The Higher Education Institution drafts, follows and implements policies and procedures on students admission, selection, progress, transfer, recognition, knowledge assessment and

graduation in the study program.		
Criterions	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	The program is structured according to the national legislation on higher education. The policies and procedures followed by the institution guarantee the normal path for students; from admission till graduation (Ref: Doc. File 1, 2, 7, 8, 9).  Enrollment in the first year: The admission procedures is conducted in 3 rounds according to the deadlines set in the calendar published by the structures of the	
legislation and regulatory acts.	Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth.	
	Candidates must have a high school diploma or equivalent.	
	The grade average criteria for admission to first cycle study programs and integrated second cycle study programs in the academic year 2020-2021, is 6.5.	
	The evaluation of candidates is done according to the following criteria:	
	<ul> <li>Written test in Italian language, on general knowledge, evaluating the candidate's knowledge and language level - 30 points;</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Overall high school grade point average (average of the DCM also including State Matura exams) -30 points.</li> </ul>	
	(Ref: Doc. File 49)	
Criterion 2 Policies and procedures from enrollment to graduation guarantee equality and equal rights to all study program applicants and students.	The admission procedure is opened to all students that have completed the high school studies in Albania (or equivalent) and that prove to know Italian language, with no discrimination or unequal selection policies other than merit (Ref: Doc. File 49).	
	The candidates enter an admission test which is necessary to be passed prior to admission. In case the number of candidates is more than the planned number of students, the candidates with a higher test score get admitted. A model of the admission test was requested by the EEG and was made available by the university (Ref: Doc. File Supplementary 6, 6.1).	
	Policies of fair and equal opportunities for all are applied during all the program duration, till graduation. Although being a catholic university, there is no religious content or discrimination related to students.	
Criterion 3 Students' 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.	The admission criteria and procedure are available online in the university web site (Ref: <a href="https://www.unizkm.al/categories/study-admissions/posts/">https://www.unizkm.al/categories/study-admissions/posts/</a> ). This section offers differentiated information for Albanian candidates, EU citizens, and foreign non EU citizens. The information is relevant or first year admissions, transfer students and students who apply for a second program.	
Criterion 4 The institution drafts and publishes at the beginning of each academic year	The admission criteria for the 5 years integrated Master program in Architecture are available online and accessible to the prospective students. The criteria are in accordance with the national legislation. The admission	

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the criteria for the selection of calendar follows the indications provided every year from MASR. The call for candidates to be admitted to the applications of the academic year 2020-2021 is provided by the institution, integrated study program. The describing the admission criteria and procedures (Ref: Doc. File 49). institution cooperates with structures established in compliance with State Matura, and pursuant to relevant law and instructions. Criterion 5 Prior to the Other ways of information are available directly at UKZKM by contacting the beginning of each academic administrative staff or the program coordinator, who is directly responsible for year, the institution instructs the the daily activity of the program. public and interested parties on In order to inform and orient the public, UKZKM organizes the Open Days at study program general and the beginning of the academic year. The 2020 Open Day was organized online specific criteria and requirements. on May 23d due to COVID19 (Ref: https://www.unizkm.al/posts/slug/te-dashur-maturante-ju-ftojme-neaktivitetin-open-days-online/?highlight=open%20day) Criterion 6 The institution No special admission criteria and positions were identified for candidates with drafts and publishes at the disabilities or belonging to minorities and marginalized groups. beginning of each academic year special criteria for the selection of candidates with disabilities, minorities and marginalized groups. Criterion 7 The institution The admission criteria for foreign students are available online and fulfill the drafts and publishes at the national legislation requirements. The criteria are given for two categories of beginning of each academic year students: EU and non EU students the criteria for the selection of (Ref: https://www.unizkm.al/categories/study-admissions/posts/). candidates from other countries. In addition to Albanian candidates, the foreign candidates must have their high school diploma recognized by the Albanian authorities. Criterion 8 The institution The scholarship schemes offered by UKZKM is merit based, while no drafts policies of economic scholarships for groups in need were identified. aid/scholarships for groups in need. Fulfilment of standard Partly met Substantially met Met

#### 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.

Criterions	Evaluation of experts
Criterion 1 The institution provides full and detailed information on the criteria and procedures for students'	A detailed information on the criteria and procedures for the academic progress of students is provided on the university website

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academic progress and transition from one academic year to the other.	(Ref: https://www.unizkm.al/study/course/corso-di-laurea-magistrale-in-architettura/). Nevertheless, having a limited number a students and a dedicated program coordinator, the students have easy access to regulations and information.
Criterion 2 The institution informs students about diploma recognition procedures and criteria regarding previous qualifications or part-time studies.	Information about diploma recognition and criteria regarding previous studies are accessible in the university website (Ref: <a href="https://www.unizkm.al/posts/slug/transferimi-i-studimeve-1/">https://www.unizkm.al/posts/slug/transferimi-i-studimeve-1/</a> and <a href="https://www.unizkm.al/posts/slug/program-i-dyte-studimi-1/">https://www.unizkm.al/posts/slug/program-i-dyte-studimi-1/</a> ). Further assistance is offered by the administrative staff and the program coordinator.
Criterion 3 The institution informs students about the criteria and procedures on knowledge and skills assessment during the study program.	Information about skill assessment are offered to students through the course syllabus and are also communicated through the academic staff of each course (Ref: Doc. File 26, 26.1-26.41).
Criterion 4 The Higher Education Institution informs students about study program graduation criteria and procedures.	Information about the graduation criteria are offered by the administrative staff and the program coordinator. Though, the first generation of students has not yet graduated.
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.	In order to inform and orient the public, UKZKM organizes the Open Days at the beginning of the academic year. In 2020, the Open Day has been organized online  (Ref: https://www.unizkm.al/posts/slug/te-dashur-maturante-ju-ftojme-ne-aktivitetin-open-days-online/?highlight=open%20day)
Fulfilment of standard	Prot met Carlo Partly met Substantially 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.		
Criterions	Evaluation of experts	
Criterion 1 The students are thoroughly informed on study program design, organization and duration.	During the meeting with students, it was noticed that they had a good degree of information about the program and its organization.	
Criterion 2 The institution provides students with the necessary information and documentation on modules/course content and training activities.	The regular meetings with the academic coordinator serve to provide students with all the relevant information about courses and other program activities.  Most of the basic information is also accessible through the online student portal (https://portal.unizkm.al/#/)	

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Criterion 3 The institution informs students on employment opportunities, as well as institutional support on career counseling and labor market.	The career office offers support and information related to the possibilities of employment, through the university network. The office has prepared also a base study of the work market for architects (Ref: Doc. File 10). Yet, the system offered by the university has to be consolidated and proven to be efficient.
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.	As noticed in the site visit (meeting with students), the regular meetings with the academic coordinator serve to provide students with all the relevant information about courses and other program activities. Considering the small number of students, this results to be an efficient way of communication.
Criterion 5 Information about the study program is provided through the internal information management system and should be easily accessible even to distance students.	Most of the basic information is also accessible through the online student portal. This portal (UniMS) can be accessed in distance through unique user names and passwords, which enable the login to a personalized student page (Ref: <a href="https://portal.unizkm.al/#/">https://portal.unizkm.al/#/</a> ).
Criterion 6 The internal management system manages the information, documentation and student learning activities.	The information and documentation are kept both on hard copy and electronically, benefiting of the online platforms used by the university. The student records are kept in registers which are kept by the Secretary office (Ref: Doc. File 43).
	A management system ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) allows to keep records and it is connected to five modules: the Student Portal, Teacher Portal, Admission Portal, Library Portal and Real Time Classroom.
Fulfilment of standard	Partly met Substantially met X

#### Standard V.4

The Higher Education Institution collects, manages, updates and maintains detailed information about the number of students attending the integrated study program from their admission to university graduation, as well as their employment data through an internal IT management

Evaluation of experts
UKZKM has a statistics office which deals with general and specific statistics. The career office is following the graduated students (still no graduations for this program). The EEG has been provided upon request an information on the operation of the career office (Ref: Doc. Supplementary 15).
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Criterion 2 The institution produces annual statistics on the number of students enrolled to the integrated study program, dropouts during or before the end of the program, or the unsuccessful completion of the academic year in which the study program is delivered.

The secretary and the statistics office keep record of all the data related to the number of students and their performance. These data are available to the departments and can be used for quality related analysis.

As provided by the university, the number of students in each academic year, from the beginning of the program is:

Academic	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>d</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>
Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year
2015-2016	19	-	-	10 0 <b>02</b> 100 0	-
2016-2017	14	18			-
2017- 2018	13	11	18	-	-
2018- 2019	8	11	13	17	-
2019- 2020	11	8	15	12	16
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Criterion 3 The institution possesses data on the students' progress throughout the study program course from their admission up to their graduation.

The full records for each student are documented in the Registers kept by the Secretary. The format of registers is presented in the documentation submitted by UKZKM (Ref: Doc. File 53, 53.1).

Criterion 4 Student's statistical data are managed through the internal information system and must be secured and easily accessible to authorized persons.

As described during the site visit (meeting with the responsible on statistics), real time statistics are offered through the UniMS system, where different information can be extracted. Such information can be related to the number of students, study plans, evaluation questionnaires etc.

Criterion 5 The institution should develop periodic analytical reports on incoming and exiting students' profile and quality, as well as their employment rate, along with appropriate measures to improve these indicators.

Periodic analysis is made regarding the quality of incoming and existing students. Nevertheless, these analysis and the actions taken to improve the indicators are not documented in a report form in Department or in Faculty.

Fulfilment of standard	Not over a 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.

Criterions	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.	The students are part of the university structures and they chose their representatives as foreseen by the law and the statute of the UKZKM (Ref: Doc. File 8, 54)  These position are related to the Academic Senate and to the Quality Evaluation Commission.

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Criterion 2 The institution should In addition to the official representatives, the students have the possibility ensure that students and/or their to express directly their opinion and evaluation through questionnaires representatives' involvement in related to the courses, teachers and infrastructure (Ref: Doc. File 32) decision-making, counseling or evaluation on the academic process be realistic, specific, productive and with easily verifiable and measurable results. Criterion 3 In designing and The program load (Ref: Doc. File 23) is comparable with similar programs improving the study program, the with reference to western European practices. It is to be considered that in institution should take into account general, programs in Architecture have a workload higher than other the academic load of students in the programs, related directly to their specific nature, based on projects and study program and the provision of design studios. the student progress procedures throughout the program, including Another issue to be faced is that the program is divided into modules recognition of their full or partial according to the availability of the Italian academic staff, which can study programs. sometimes create increased workload and difficulty for the students. Criterion 4 The institution No substantial changes have been made to the program, and the references guarantees the students' remain related to the program at the University of Florence. As noticed involvement in drafting, reviewing during the site visit (meeting with students and the coordinator), the and improving the study program on academic coordinator is collecting the student's feedback and transmitting a regular basis and reflects their it to the academic staff. suggestions and contributions. Criterion 5 Students are Referring to the practices of UKZKM the students have the right to appeal encouraged to give their input on the evaluations (Ref: Doc. File 40) but no cases were identified for such equality and knowledge assessment practice. and control transparency, including their right to appeal with the responsible body/unit/lecturer the

Fulfilment of standard

Not men and a Partly met Substantially met X

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. Criterions **Evaluation of experts** Criterion 1 The academic staff The academic staff of the JISP MSc in "Architecture" is actively involved participates in international in research activity, mainly related to the research activities organized or conferences or scientific research supported by the University of Florence. The research center created activities. recently in the Faculty has to become an independent research unit with a predefined agenda. Criterion 2 The institution The ongoing collaboration with the University of Florence is focused both establishes partnership agreements in teaching and research, and proves to be the main support of the program with foreign higher education in terms of quality institutions and institutes, for the (Ref: Doc. File 13, 14, 15).

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Fulfilment of standard	performance.  Partly met Substantially met Met X
Criterion 6 The academic staff provides the necessary assistance to carry out analyses, study measurements and results processing within the scope of the study program.	As noted in the site visit (meeting with students), the academic staff is providing the needed assistance to students during the courses, and especially during thesis preparation. However, the periodic presence of the academic staff can be considered as a barrier in a harmonious staff-student performance.
Criterion 5 The institution and academic staff motivate and support students to engage in innovation studies and patents.	Students of UKZKM have participated in interesting studies and research activities such as the 100+ Villages Academy, supported by academic staff (Ref: Doc. File 20).
Criterion 4 The institution supports academic staff and students' publications in international scientific journals.	There is no Ref. of the support of staff or student work. Though, the academic staff, supported by the University of Florence, is regularly publishing in the FU Press journals or in other international journals.
Criterion 3 The academic staff motivates students to plan, write and publish scientific studies and papers.	During the thesis research, students are encouraged to publish papers and the result of their work. Though, considering that this is the first generation of students, there are no specific results.
purpose of conducting joint studies, projects and research.	

Standard V.7 The support of the Higher Education Institution furthers advanced studies and research.		
Criterions Criterions	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.	UKZKM is collaborating with several national and international institutions, aiming to establish active collaborations that could influence the overall quality of the program and the specific activities and motilities. Still the main partner remains the University of Florence that is supporting most of the program related activities (Ref: Doc. File 11, 12, 13, 14, 15) (Ref: Doc. Supplementary 13)	
Criterion 2 The research methods implementation by academic staff and students ensures the students' preparation for the third cycle degree program.	The course content and methods applied by the academic staff (Ref: Doc. File 23, 26, 26.1-26.41) refer to the experience of the University of Florence, which leads to doctoral studies after the completion of a five year integrated program in Architecture. Also referring to the Albanian legislation and practice, such content is suitable to prepare students to follow the third cycle studies.	
Criterion 3 The institution pursues a policy about involving new researchers in national and international research projects.	There is no clear Ref. of such attempt although, part of the staff are young aged and active in their research fields. Two research projects where students and academic staff have participated result to have been carried out during the 19-20 academic year (100+ Villages and 3d Past) (Ref: Doc. File 20).	
<b>Criterion 4</b> The institution pursues an integrated policy for national/international researchers.	Most of the contribution to research is coming from the academic staff of the University of Florence. Still, a fully operative research center, has been recently approved, and is expected to be operational in the near future (Ref: Doc. File 17).	

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<b>Criterion 5</b> The institution pursues a favorable policy for student mobility, by engaging them in international activities.	There exists a mobility practice of students towards the University of Florence, for limited periods. More efforts could be done to profit from Erasmus+ programs in order to intensify the student mobility and the geographical options for the students.
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.	The international profile is constantly present through the Italian academic staff participating regularly to the teaching activities. Still, more collaborations could bring face to face different international experiences which would be very useful for the students.
Fulfilment of standard	Partly met Substantially met Met
	X

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.		
Criterions Criterion 1 The institution has	<b>Evaluation of experts</b> UKZKM is informing students mainly through the Secretary and the	
special units and procedures which ensure student information and assistance in accordance with the HEI legal provisions and regulatory acts.	Academic Coordinator. They maintain a close contact with the student, and provide most of the information needed (Ref: Doc. File 9, 43)	
Criterion 2 The institution has set up and introduced a special system for student information, counseling, progress and assistance in matters related to the teaching process and study program.	The academic coordinator has periodic meetings with the students and orients them for further support. The career office and the academic staff offer additional support, related to the professional advancement or to the single courses (Ref: Doc. File 9) (Ref: Doc. Supplementary 15).	
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.	UKZKM has a career office which seems to be focused more in keeping records of the graduates and promoting professional networking (Ref: Doc. Supplementary 15). Still the specific impact of this office is not yet noticeable in the integrated Master program in Architecture.	
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 GRADUA project (in which UKZKM is participating) and the database of the career office, demonstrate a good practice in data collecting and processing related to student's career (Ref: <a href="https://www.graduaproject.com/">https://www.graduaproject.com/</a> ).	

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Fulfilment of standard	Newsystem of Partly met	Substantially met	Met
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Fulfilment of standards of	Substantially met Met
Field V	X

#### STUDY PROGRAMS' QUALITY ASSURANCE VI.

# Standard VI.1

The Higher Education Institution drafts and implements transparent policies and procedures

Criterions	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 sub-legal provisions and with institutional regulatory acts.	The internal quality assurance is followed by the Quality Evaluation Unit which is approved by the Rector, and has a four year mandate. The structure of the committee includes an external member. This Unit is operating in university scale, while the Department and the Faculty levels are responsible for the continuous monitoring of the program's quality (Ref: Doc. File 56).
	The institutional accreditation refers to the Decision of the Accreditation Board No. 112, date 15.12.2017 and is valid for 6 years, until 14.12.2023.
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 Quality Evaluation Unit and the statistics office collect and analyze data which are sent to the Rector for further action. In fact there is no clear mechanism about the measures taken for the specific problems, and apparently a formal follow up process is missing. Although the quality system is established, a further development where the Faculty and Department levels are actively involved would be recommended.
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.	UKZKM uses all available instruments for quality assurance. Other than the accreditation, a periodic internal assessment is carried by the Quality Evaluation Unit. Base for such evaluation is the student questionnaire related to the courses and the academic staff. This is an annual survey which is compulsory to be filled by the students (Ref: Doc. File 31, 31.1, 32).
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 followed practices are efficient in quality improvement and enable the creation of a quality culture within the university. However considering architecture as a discipline with particular needs, a program specific procedure complementary to the general quality evaluation practices could result more effective.

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the institutional level, the constituent units and all institutional internal actors.			
Fulfilment of standard	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
			X

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The Higher Education Institution monitors and evaluates periodically the study program through the special units, in order to ensure training objectives achievement and the intended learning outcomes.

learning outcomes.					
Criterions	Evaluation of experts				
Criterion 1 The institution establishes a special unit for monitoring, reviewing, and supervising the integrated second cycle study program.	The program coordinator, together with the Department and Facustructures are responsible for directly monitoring the program in terms quality (Ref: Doc. File 9).				
Criterion 2 The institution uses formal and documented processes and mechanisms for reviewing, approving and supervising the integrated second cycle study program periodically.	The reports of the Quality Evaluation Unit and the results of the stude questionnaires are the documents produced and analyzed periodically the university (Ref: Doc. File 32).				
Criterion 3 The institution uses assessment methodology, measuring instruments and evaluation instruments for the study program progress and success.	The questionnaire prepared for the student survey consists of question related to the individual courses and to the individual academic staff (Re Doc. File 31, 31.1). This enables to collect relevant data which can later to interpreted and analyzed for each of the program's components. Further mechanisms and instruments can be developed in order to obtain action plans dedicated to the quality assurance of the specific program of Architecture.				
Criterion 4 The results of these assessments are documented and put forward to the responsible and decision-making authorities for the study program.	The periodical assessments are provided to the Rector and to the Senate where an overall analysis is conducted (Ref: Doc. File 56). At the moment, no specific role is assigned to the Faculty level where conclusions should be made and specific actions taken.				
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.	The report prepared by the Quality Evaluation Unit gives a SWOT analysi and recommendations related to the findings. However, there is no Ref. of proper actions taken because of the report's suggestions or findings.				
Fulfilment of standard	Partly met Substantially met X				

#### Standard VI.3

The Higher Education Institution makes use of assessment procedures, methodologies, and measuring instruments for the study program opening, development, and progress, graduation, entering the labor market, as well as students' further studies.

Criterions

**Evaluation of experts** 

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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.

In the JISP MSc in "Architecture", the student survey is conducted annually. These are the principal data collected for the self-assessment (Ref: Doc. File 31, 31.1, 32). Other data are obtained mainly through the feedback provided by program coordinators, which are in close contact with the students and with the academic staff. All the information is provided to the Quality Evaluation Unit which is responsible to carry out the analysis in university scale.

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.

The assessment procedure is unique for the university, and does not provide specific measures for the program in architecture (Ref: Doc. File 31, 31.1, 32). While such methodology helps the collection and elaboration of data, a specific survey (or specific indicators) could help understanding particulars related to the integrated program Master in Architecture.

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 interinstitutional or national tests such as state exam for regulated professions, etc.

The different evaluation methods mentioned in Criterion 3 are available in the university. Nevertheless, there is no predefined methodology / protocol for the assessments, most of which are conducted by program coordinators.

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.

The indirect assessment methods are available, and are based on the student survey (Ref: Doc. File 31, 31.1, 32) and the work done by the career office (Ref: Doc. Supplementary 15). The diversification of such methods can provide more accurate results by including different perspectives.

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Not met Wat	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.

Criterions

**Evaluation of experts** 

**Criterion 1** The institution should provide for and guarantee the involvement of internal and external actors, interested in

An external member is part of the Quality Evaluation Unit as defined by the regulation of this unit (Ref: Doc. File 56).

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ensuring and improving the study program in internal quality policies and procedures.	Students and staff are indirectly involved in the quality policies and procedures by being part or subject of the evaluations.				
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.	assurance (Ref: Doc. File 9). The role of the departments (included the research center) is expected to be more active in the future.				
Criterion 3 During study program assessment and quality assurance it is important to guarantee the inclusion of the main and basic unit responsible for the study program, academic staff, academic and administrative assistants and study program students.	Considering that the Faculty and the Departments responsible about the program are recently formed (Ref: Doc. File 17), their role is still not very active in quality related processes. However, the engagement of full time academic staff would help in controlling the quality of the program through well-defined mechanisms.				
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.	From what can be noticed (in the site visit and overall view of the documentation), all practices at UKZKM, including quality assessment, do not promote or involve discrimination and inequality towards staff and students.				
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.	Considering the Italian academic staff, coming from the University of Florence, and their periodical contribution, valuable expertise and inputs are continuously provided on the program's quality.				
Fulfilment of standard	Substantially 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.

Criterions	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.	There is a continuous communication with the student through the periodical meetings with the program coordinator. All relevant information that is not provided through the web or available through other mediums, is offered through the direct contact between staff and students.
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.	The assessment results are not published on the web or in any other form that is easily accessible.

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Criterion 3 The assessment results should go along with an action plan designed to address and improve the identified weaknesses and issues.	There is no proper action plan related to the quality report. Nevertheless, the observations of the report are considered by the Senate and the Rector for further decision-making (Ref: Doc. File 56).			
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.	There is a continuous effort to improve the performance of the program, based on the experience created during the last 5 years. Moreover, to help the Faculty grow and improve, there is an ambition to offer a doctoral course and a professional master in the near future (Ref: Doc. File 7).			
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 program improvement.	Although specific activities as cited in Criterion 5 are not identified, there is a continuous contact between students and staff, which is favoured by the small number of students. The periodical meetings with the program coordinator help in sharing information and raising awareness related to the program's quality.			
Fulfilment of standard	Notinee Partly met Substantially met Met X			

Fulfilment of standards of Field	Notinet 1990	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
VI				X

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# SUMMARY CONCLUSIONS OF THE EXTERNAL EVALUATION REPORT, FOR "MASTER OF SCIENCE" INTEGRATED SECOND CYCLE STUDY PROGRAM IN "ARCHITECTURE", OF THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY "LADY OF GOOD COUNCEL"

#### Strengths /Affirmations

- 1. The general quality of the study program framework is high, it is based on the contribution of highly qualified academic staff with international experience.
- 2. The program gets academic and institutional support from the Department of Architecture at the UNIFI.
- 3. The double degree agreement enables students to be easily employed and integrated in the European market.
- 4. The main infrastructure in UKZKM is qualitative and fulfilling the academic requirements.
- 5. The small number of students enables efficient communication, coordination, and administration of the program.
- 6. IT system is effective, and it well supports the institution management at any levels.

#### Weaknesses

- 1. UKZKM does not provide special admission criteria for disabled students or students belonging to minorities and marginalized groups. No policies of economic aid were identified for the groups in need. (Refer to Standard V.1, Criterion 6, 8).
- 2. The results on quality in teaching and learning, as well as the results of the periodical quality assessments of the program, are not easily accessible and neither made public (refer to Standard III.1 and to Standard VI.5, Criterion 2).
- 3. The UKZKM full-time staff (in Albania) is too low compared to the total number of the academic staff. (refer to Standard I.4, Criterion 1-3, and Standard II.5, Criterion 1-5)
- 4. The scientific research is not enough supported, and it cannot stay merely at the individual responsibility. (refer to Standard I.6, Criterion 1-5)

#### Recommendations

- 1. It is suggested to provide a more solid support in laboratories that assist the program's activities. Possible labs could be: survey lab, model making, materials lab/library, art/drawing/photography laboratory, environmental lab, engineering lab, digital production lab etc. (refer to Standard IV.3).
- 2. The internal quality assurance system could further improve in the future (refer to Standard VI.1, Criterion 2), by directly involving the Department and Faculty levels and creating a follow up process/procedure (refer to Standard VI.5, Criterion 3) for all the indicators that require improvement.
- 3. The number of UKZKM full-time staff (in Albania) must be raised to guarantee a real reciprocity between the two partner Universities. It is recommended to amplify the Faculty of Applied Arts autonomy to avoid a failure of the study program in case of changes in the current conditions of partnership, and in the light of a more long-term sustainability of the project.

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- 4. The internal support to the scientific research must be implemented and sustained (refer to Standard I.6, Criterion 1-5), as well as the recently created research centre must become active and its planned activity should be supported by the university every academic year.
- 5. The plagiarism check must be mandatory at least in the case of Master's Thesis (refer to Standard III.6, Criterion 6).
- 6. The transparency in all the steps of the students' complaints process must be raised (refer to Standard III.6, Criterion 8, 9).
- 7. The use of Italian language might limit the global development trend. It is recommended to consider the adoption of English language in the future.
- 8. UKZKM should plan the possibility of future enlargement to avoid leaks in case of rising number of both enrolled students and appointed new staff.

#### The degree of fulfilment of the quality standards of the program

Field of Evaluation	The degree of fulfilment of the quality standards, for each field			
A love of D variation	Kwing	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

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