

**DAUGAVPILS UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES**

**LIEPĀJA UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND ARTS**

**VENTSPILS UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED
SCIENCES
FACULTY OF TRANSLATION STUDIES**

STUDY DIRECTION

**„LANGUAGE AND CULTURE STUDIES, NATIVE
LANGUAGE STUDIES AND LANGUAGE PROGRAMS”**

JOINT DOCTORAL STUDY PROGRAM

„LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE STUDIES”

Code: 51226

CHARACTERISTICS

Study direction is accredited until 18.05.2029 (DU)

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I. INFORMATION ON THE STUDY DIRECTION

The aim of the study direction "Language and Culture Studies, Native Language Studies and Language Programmes" is to prepare academic specialists in Latvian studies, Russian studies, English studies, Eastern European culture studies; specialists of the native language, literature and foreign languages (teachers, editors, specialists in e-text and advertising, press secretaries), intercultural relations specialists for Daugavpils, Latgale, Eastern Latvia and the country as a whole; international level scientists in linguistics, subprogrammes, and culture studies.

The aim and objectives of the study direction are related to the development strategy of Daugavpils University, which was approved at the meeting of the DU Faculty Council on 7th November 2016 and determines the implementation of study programmes of the DU study direction "Language and Culture Studies, Native Language Studies and Language Programmes". "Daugavpils University Development Strategy 2015-2020"¹ (based on Letter No. 4-10e/21/99 of the Ministry of Education and Science of 11.01.2021 "On Institution Development Strategies", implementation of nationally mutually agreed education and science policy and successful implementation of ongoing reforms, by decision of the DU Faculty Council (25 January 2021 DU Faculty Council meeting minutes No 1.) "Daugavpils University Development Strategy 2015-2020" has been extended until the implementation of a newly approved strategy (indicatively 2023)). The strategy puts special emphasis on the importance and role of the preparation of language, literature and cultural studies specialists for the development of the region and the country, as well as the coordination of the scientific research direction with the implementation of the academic programme.

Daugavpils University is the largest regional university in Latvia. It is located in Latgale – a border area where historically and nowadays there is a multilingual, multiethnic and multi-confessional population. This is an essential prerequisite for the DU humanities research, focusing specifically on the application of comparative and contrastive methodology at all research levels: identifying and systematizing text corpus, field research, expeditions, introducing traditional and innovative tools for knowledge transfer to the community. The mission of the DU study direction "Language and Culture Studies, Native Language Studies and Language Programmes" is to be the accumulator, and custodian of the local cultural and linguistic heritage, contributing to the development of global language, literature and cultural processes.

The regional studies, the study and learning of native and foreign languages, culture, literature and arts have an important function in ensuring the sustainable development of the Republic of Latvia. It increases the development potential of the country, creates and maintains informative educational material and technical provision, creates new knowledge and innovations, from a regional perspective, in a balanced way, attracts human resources, as well as promotes the socio-economic development of a less attractive territory of the country, creating preconditions for increasing the sustainability and competitiveness of both the region and the whole country. The mission of the study direction is to prepare specialists for work in a bilingual environment with representatives of minorities, to promote the official language in Daugavpils, where Latvian as a mother tongue is actually used by about 17 % of the population and is spoken by a small number of inhabitants in household communication; preparation of foreign languages and intercultural relations specialists for successful integration of Eastern Latvia and Latvia into the European

¹ Daugavpils University Development Strategy 2015-2020. Available: <https://du.lv/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/DU-Strategy-summary-1.pdf>

Union and the global economic and socio-political environment.

The direction not only addresses the linguistic factor in promoting the competitiveness of the inhabitants of the Republic of Latvia, but through the study of literature, culture and history, brings to a focus the segments of national and European identity in the characterization of the studied texts, historical data and cultural phenomena. Such an approach implies language and literature as components of material and spiritual culture, interdisciplinary study of classical and modern texts and context relations, interpreting sociocultural evidence represented in narratives in the context of social history.

The bachelor, master and doctoral study programmes of the DU study direction "Language and Culture Studies, Native Language Studies and Language Programmes" ensure the training of a wide range of specialists. The Bachelor study programmes "Language and Culture Studies" and "Eastern European Cultural Relations, Diaspora and Integration Processes" form a theoretical, research and practical basis for the selection of a future profession. At the master's level, students are offered the opportunity either to continue their academic studies in the Master study programme "Philology and Applied Linguistics", or to continue their studies in the professional Master study programme "Intercultural Relations", to acquire theoretical and practical knowledge in another field of communication. After both Master study programmes, it is possible to join the newly established doctoral study programme "Language and Literature Studies", which was developed as a modern interdisciplinary programme. The acquisition of the doctoral study programme ensures in-depth specialisation according to the selected research theme, taking into account the latest theoretical and methodological approaches, and results in the elaboration of an original independent thesis.

The mission of the study direction "Language and culture studies, native language studies and language programmes" is to function for accumulating, preserving, and maintaining the local cultural-historical and linguistic heritage, contributing to the development of global language, literature, and cultural processes. The joint doctoral study programme "Language and Literature Studies" is a logical highest stage of academic education, which is based on student competencies acquired at the respective levels of bachelor and Master study programmes. One of the most important performance indicators of the programme is the preparation of young scientists who will be able to fit into the global academic environment of the humanities. The basis of the JDSP subprogrammes are the main concepts defined in the study direction – linguistics, literary studies, cultural studies and translation studies as a current aspect of applied linguistics. All subprogrammes provide an opportunity to study the diversity of language, literature, and cultural processes: native language, foreign languages, languages in synchronic and diachronic perspectives, history of Latvian literature, literature of other nations, literary theory, comparative studies.

According to the approved consolidation plan, reducing the fragmentation of study programmes, after receiving the license for the joint doctoral study programme "Language and Literature Studies", the previously existing doctoral study programmes of DU, LiepU and VeUAS are closed, but existing students were re-registered in the new joint doctoral study programme, keeping their budget places.

II. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE STUDY PROGRAMME

1. Study programme characteristic parameters

1.1. Study programme parameters.

Table 1. Study programme parameters

1	Study programme name	"Language and literature studies"	
2	Study programme name in English	"Language and literature studies"	
3	Study programme code according to Latvian education classification	51226	
4	Study programme branch of science (applicable to doctoral study programmes)	<i>Humanities and art science</i>	
5	Study programme kind	<i>Joint doctoral study programme</i>	
6	Qualification level to obtain (NKI/EKI)	<i>8th</i>	
7	Study programme amount (CP, ECTS)	<i>3 years, 120 CP</i>	
8	Implementation form, kind, duration (in case of incomplete years, indicate months) and language		
	Full time on site	<i>3 years</i>	<i>Latvian and English</i>
9	Site of implementation	<i>Full-time on-site studies in Daugavpils DU Faculty of Humanities DU juridical address in Daugavpils, Vienības Street 13</i>	
10	Admission requirements	<i>Master's degree in humanitarian (linguistics and literary studies, translation studies, history, philosophy) or social (intercultural relations, social anthropology, social psychology, etc.) or equivalent 2nd level higher professional education in the relevant field; - examination (depending on the chosen sub-programme) in linguistics or literary studies or translation studies; - report on the research topic and discussions about it; - exam in a foreign language (English, German or French) - English language skills at least B2 level (for studies in English).</i>	
11	Degree to obtain, professional qualification or degree and professional qualification, specialization (if applicable)	<i>Doctoral degree (PhD) in humanities and art science</i>	

12	Study programme final examination	<i>Doctoral examination in specialization</i> <i>Doctoral examination in English</i>
13	Study programme director	<i>Dr. philol. prof. Maija Burima</i>

1.2. Study programme aim

The doctoral study programme is a transitional stage between studies and independent research work. The programme enables students to acquire knowledge and skills related to their chosen as well as other related scientific fields and their research methodology. One of the tasks of the doctoral programme is to prepare students for research-oriented work either at the university or in the broader public and to prepare them for the performance of various professional duties and roles.

Doctoral studies provide knowledge about research methods and scientific theories, which doctoral students use and update in their doctoral theses. After completing their studies, doctoral students will be able to implement their own research projects, formulating relevant problems and questions, analyze, process, and systematize data, as well as compare them with previous scientific results.

The aim of the programme is to prepare professional scientists in the field of linguistics, literary studies and translation studies with high research potential, who, by developing original and topical research in the selected sub-programme of the study programme, create new knowledge and productively use an interdisciplinary approach, are competent to raise and solve the most important problems of modern literary studies, linguistics and translation studies developing and strengthening Latvia's scientific potential; more broadly, it means participation in the formation of the intellectual elite of Latvia and Europe, as well as the ability to influence the trend of development and priorities of the above-mentioned branches of science.

1.3. Study programme objectives

Objectives:

- to ensure the acquisition of high-quality knowledge about the current theoretical and methodological problems of modern literary studies, linguistics, and translation studies, including them in an interdisciplinary context
- to develop the skills and competence of doctoral students, which will give them the opportunity to implement independent projects and scientific research based on scientific ideas and methods, producing new knowledge and achieving results that meet the international standards of the branch of science;
- to provide qualified supervision for the scientific work of doctoral students, promoting the exchange of scientific work experience of the academic staff, creating the foundations for the existence and development of a sustainable scientific school;

- to provide doctoral students with the opportunity of presenting the results of their scientific research and theoretical insights at international scientific conferences and publish them in research publications;
- promote the understanding and competence of doctoral students in building their scientific and academic career, focusing on cooperation with potential employers and entrepreneurs;
- to involve doctoral students in the process of internationalization, offering diverse opportunities for cooperation and mobility in Latvia and worldwide.

1.4. Study outcomes to achieve

JDSP “Language and literature studies” corresponds with eighth level of EQF (CM regulations No. 322 *Regulations on Latvian education classification*²), that is the doctoral study level.

Knowledge

1. Know and understand the regularities and main paradigms of the linguistic and literary process, current scientific theories and insights, have a command of research methodology and modern research methods in the field of linguistics, literary studies, and translation studies and in the interface of various fields.
2. Understand the basic concepts of linguistics, literary studies, and translation studies, freely and productively operate with scientific terminology in Latvian, English and other languages related to the research; possess the specialized knowledge in the chosen research sphere in accordance with the specific sub-branch of science and the most important knowledge of the branches related to the research topic.
3. Understand the interdisciplinary relatedness of the humanities and social sciences as well as the economic and national economy context of the humanities.

Skills

4. Independently formulate and critically analyze the research problem and current issues, assess and choose or independently develop methods appropriate to scientific research and the methodological strategy of their own research, interpret the results in a broader context, thus contributing to expanding the boundaries of knowledge and/or opening new understanding to existing knowledge, its use in practice, implementing original research, part of which is represented in internationally cited publications
5. Make scientifically based decisions in solving research problems, critically evaluate their own and colleagues’ research, present and provide argumentation for their point of view, communicate about their field of scientific activity (their branch) with wide scientific circles and the society as a whole, involve in the implementation of internationally significant research projects, effectively cooperate with disciplinary and interdisciplinary research groups.

² CM regulations No. 322 *Regulations on Latvian education classification*. Available in Latvian: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/291524-noteikumi-par-latvijas-izglitiba-klasifikaciju>

6. Integrate the results of scientific research in study courses at the higher education institution, in advising the scientific works of students of various levels (bachelor, Master), in science transfer events.

Competence

7. Publicize the results of scientific research at national and international scientific conferences and seminars, publish the results of their research in internationally recognized editions, including internationally cited collections.
8. Independently improve their scientific qualification by learning about the current trends in linguistics, literary studies, and translation studies: offer innovative ideas for research projects, involve in the development of projects and their submission to relevant programs and funds, conduct research processes in organizations that require extensive research knowledge and skills, thus continuing to develop progress in the chosen research field in an academic and professional context.
9. Independently lead a scientific group, work group in the relevant sub-branch of science, organize their research activity in accordance with the scientist's code of ethics, strengthen and independently improve digital competence.

2. Study programme topicality

2.1. Programme development justification, compliance with the trends of the branch in Latvia, European Union and worldwide

The development trends of the field of humanities in Europe are focused on interdisciplinarity, integration of various thematically different research trends, application of sociological methodology, development of new methodologies. The task of the humanities is internationalization and practice-oriented professionalization.

In recent years, there has emerged a tendency to emphasize the priority of the STEM field in Latvia. From the point of view of foreign specialists, this trend is short-sighted. The humanities play an important role in ensuring the existence of a critically-thinking, educated, creativity-oriented society. The inability of a part of society to objectively perceive and evaluate the flow of information, willingness to trust unverified sources of information were vividly revealed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Compared to the situation of Latvia, professionals in humanities are in demand in Europe and worldwide, and all levels of academic programs in humanities fully compete with other directions.

The joint doctoral study programme "Language and Literature Studies" has been developed in accordance with the development trends of the branch in Europe and worldwide (as defined below), based on the investigation of the experience of universities of different countries (e.g. University of Verona (Italy), University of Helsinki (Finland), Charles University (Prague, Czech Republic), Vilnius University (Lithuania), etc.), the acceptance of the current trends of high level international conferences, as well as the positions of the conceptual report *On the introduction of a new doctoral studies model in Latvia* (CM order No. 345).

The main object of the study programme is language and literature studies, as well as the

synergy of language, literature, and culture studies. Such studies involve the use of different (both traditional and new as well as interdisciplinary) approaches. The content of the study courses of the doctoral study programme includes the most current trends in the branches. Linguistics and literary studies are characterized by the importance of the sociocultural context, hybrid genre research, cross-cultural, functional and applied aspects of languages, which is approved by the latest editions of scientific articles and conference materials. In translation science, in addition to the classical research fields, the use of technology in the practice of a translator and related research are gaining an increasing role. These trends are reflected in the study courses of the joint doctoral programme.

Currently implemented doctoral study programmes differ significantly not only in different countries, but also in different universities. The basic difference lies in the fact that in some universities there are study programmes in the form of lectures and seminars, while in other universities doctoral students work more independently according to a certain program, the meetings between doctoral students and the academic staff are mainly reduced to consultations. Finally, there are universities where the two mentioned types of preparation of doctoral students are combined, but contact classes are organized mainly as theoretical seminars on the problems of the research field chosen by the doctoral student.

Linguistics, literary studies, and translation studies are integrated into the content of the joint DSP “Language and Literature Studies” of DU, LiepU and VeUAS. This will reduce fragmentation as well as raise the quality of the doctoral programme, as in-depth knowledge in the humanities with specialization in the field of linguistics, literary studies, and translation studies will be provided, as well as the improvement of skills and competences will be promoted for the advancement of a research career in Latvia and abroad.

Comparing the joint DSP “Language and Literature Studies” of DU, LiepU and VeUAS with programmes abroad, it should be noted that similar study programs are also offered in Europe – integration of two or more branches or sub-branches is common, e.g. the directions of the DSP “Philology” of Vilnius University are linguistics, literary studies, translation studies; directions of DSP “Language Studies” of the University of Helsinki are linguistics and its sub-branches, while the study of literature is a part of another DSP (“Philosophy, Arts and Society”)

The joint doctoral study programme “Language and Literature Studies” of DU, LiepU and VeUAS is similar to the doctoral study programme “Philology” of Vilnius University, as it integrates the study of different languages in several sub-branches in both synchronic and diachronic aspect, also including literary studies and translation studies.

In the similar doctoral study programmes offered at the University of Helsinki, great emphasis is placed directly on the elaboration of the doctoral thesis (~ 200 ECTS / 130 CP), and students choose study courses (mainly in the format of seminars) taking into account the specifics of the topic of the doctoral thesis.

All the compared doctoral study programmes include a component of internationalization and research approbation, which corresponds to subsection 2.1 of the conceptual report *On the introduction of a new doctoral study model in Latvia*³.

Similar interdisciplinary programmes with integration of three branches or sub-branches are also implemented around Europe and beyond, e.g. the University of Verona (Italy) offers a

³ CM order No. 345 (25. 06. 2020., prot. No. 41 54. §) *About the conceptual report "On the introduction of a new doctoral study model in Latvia"*. Available in Latvian: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/315685-par-konceptualo-zinojumu-par-jauna-doktoranturas-modela-ieviesanu-latvija>

doctoral study programme “Philology, literature and performing arts; foreign literature, languages and linguistics”, the University of London (Great Britain) – “English literature, American literature, history of books, modern languages, digital humanities”.

Language and literature studies are the cornerstone of all sub-programmes, the basis for developing their specialization. These facts determine the selection of Vilnius University DSP “Philology” and Helsinki University DSP “Language Studies” and “Philosophy, Arts and Society” for a more detailed comparison. It reveals that the joint doctoral study programme of DU, LiepU and VeUAS offers a similar preparation to that in other European countries.

It should be emphasized that the field of humanities, and especially linguistics and literary studies, responds flexibly to the latest trends, maintaining both classical priorities (fields of philology) and engaging in the modern context (interdisciplinary approach, Digital Humanities).

The field of the doctoral study programme “Language and Literature Studies” is conceptually related to the priority segment of the state policy, namely culture. In Latvia’s most important policy documents (*Latvia’s sustainable development strategy until 2030*), culture is considered to be an essential basis for the existence and development of the country, which forms the national identity, promotes belonging to the country and participation, provides opportunities for individual development to residents and, as a result, also drives the country’s economic rise, also functioning as the basis of the country’s internal political stability and external security.

The field was established at DU 67 years ago. In accordance with the current trends of the field of science and education in the country and worldwide, departments and research centers with professorship and experts are created and restructured, ensuring the unity of the academic and research work.

DU’s niche in the scientific space of Latvia is the study of foreign literature in a cultural context. DU systemically studies the modern Latvian language in the functional aspect investigating Latvian-Slavic, Latvian-Germanic language contacts, the Latvian-Lithuanian languages in a contrastive aspect; scientific research and marking of the research field in Lithuanian studies have been carried out, interdisciplinary research of advertising texts is underway. Slavic and Russian studies are of special importance in the border cultural space, as the faculty’s researchers become intercultural mediators between the East and the West. Russian cultural studies, literary studies, and linguistics present the development of Russian cultural traditions in diaspora, synthesizing it with European experience. In the field of Russian studies, productive scientific relations with the USA are being developed, setting a new international level of research and cooperation. Judaic studies (defining the Jewish text in a semiotic aspect) are developing as a separate field. The priority of fundamental research in the field is outlining the place of Latvian literature in the context of world literary processes, emphasizing its regional and international aspects, the interaction of center-periphery, global-local, national and European identity. Comparative studies in anthropology are realized by choosing multi-segmental phenomena of domestic culture.

The research direction of humanities and arts determined in LiepU’s strategy is “Language, literature, culture in the cultural space of Kurzeme in Latvian, Baltic and North European cultural context” that includes the investigation of Kurzeme literary history, personalities, and creative process, current trends of Baltic literature in the interaction of traditions and innovations, as well as the study of Kurzeme subdialects in the context of the ethnolinguistic relations of the eastern coast of the Baltic Sea. When studying the functioning of modern languages in a multicultural environment, the connection between the linguistic content of language learning, educational processes, and linguistic attitudes is emphasized.

VeUAS's strategy in the direction of humanities and art science envisages the development of research in such areas as word and text in contrasting, contact, and translation, lexicography and terminology, translation and society. Based on the goal of science excellence and knowledge transfer in the national economy set in the VeUAS strategy, in addition to traditional humanities and art research topics, VeUAS also pays special attention to research focused on the development and application of modern digital tools.

The programme development strategy is part of the common development strategy of DU, LiepU, and VeUAS. The following medium-term objectives are set:

1) To expand scientific and creative activities of an international significance by more actively engaging in international research programs and projects.

2) To develop scientific excellence by developing and publishing internationally recognized interdisciplinary research.

3) To deepen the integration of scientific research in the study process, promoting the transfer of technology and the development of innovations, and promoting public understanding of science.

4) By developing research, promote the increase in the role of DU, LiepU, VeUAS as consolidators of science education regional institutions and driving forces of development and promote the recognition of these HEI in Latvia and worldwide.

Achieving the aforementioned goals requires:

- To ensure a unified and efficient operation of the organizational structure and to strengthen the quality management system.

- Continue to develop and improve modern, environmentally friendly infrastructure, safe and supportive work environment.

- Implement a reward and motivation system based on performance indicators at the individual level.

In the EU program *Horizon 2020*, language and literature research corresponds to the direction *Solving the problems of society*, potentially focusing on the sub-directions *Europe in a changing world – an inclusive, thinking, and innovative society* and *Public security*.

Humanities are also mentioned in the documents of the new, emerging program *Horizon Europe*. In the settings of this project, social sciences and humanities are to be included in such thematic clusters as *Culture, creativity, and inclusive society* and *Civil society security*.

Daugavpils University programme of humanities “Regional studies, literature, and art” received a high rating in the international science accreditation in 2020 – 4, which is above the national average, but the criterion “Development potential” received the highest rating – 5. The expert report emphasizes that the development potential is related to the possibility of attracting a larger number of foreign students for doctoral studies.

2.2. Programme content

The detailed content of JDSP “Language and Literary Studies” as revealed in the course descriptions was developed based on the aims, objectives, and achievable outcomes set in the programme, accepting the opinion and experience of the working group experts, regulatory documents, international research, recommendations of employers and professional organizations, survey results, the latest theoretical insights, as well as the implemented comparison with the offer of other higher education institutions abroad and the current trends in present-day education.

JDSP “Language and Literature Studies” has been developed following a student-centered approach, which was respected in formulating the study programme aim, objectives and defining the study outcomes.

JDSP “Language and Literature Studies” has been developed as an interdisciplinary programme that includes three sub-programmes: “Linguistics”, “Literary and Cultural Studies”, “Translation Studies”. The three sub-programmes will work both by focusing on the common specifics and cross-disciplinarity of the sphere, by developing specialized scientific competences, and by providing students an opportunity to familiarize with the basic elements of other specialization.

All sub-programmes provide for a common 16 CP mandatory amount of study courses, the possibility to choose other sub-programmes/specialization courses (5 CP), and a research part, which has a common structure for the whole programme, but which is content-wise coordinated with the research topic of each doctoral student.

The structure of JDSP “Language and Literature Studies” is subject to the Order of the CM No. 345 *On the conceptual report “On the implementation of a new doctorate model in Latvia”*⁴, which determines the distribution of CP for research work (~ 70% of time in full-time studies) and study course acquisition (~ 30% of time in full-time studies), accordingly, research – 84 CP, study courses – 36 CP.

The **research** includes *Elaboration of the Doctoral Thesis* – 60 CP and *Internationalization and research approbation* – 24 CP. *Elaboration of the Doctoral Thesis* is the main task of a doctoral student, to which the entire research and study process is subject. The doctoral thesis is elaborated in line with the theoretical research. The beginning of the doctoral research process is the approval of the topic of the doctoral thesis, the joint work plan of the doctoral student and research adviser, which takes place at the meeting of the Doctoral Council in the first week of studies. The last year of studies is mostly devoted to concluding and defending (or submitting and defending) the Doctoral Thesis. The **Research** section of the programme is focused on the elaboration and approbation of the doctoral research.

Internationalization and research approbation are based on activities that will activate students’ inclusion in the international scientific process, as well as promote the recognition of the programme in other countries, with the aim of making the programme attractive and accessible to potential students outside of Latvia. Internationalization and research approbation include various types of activities (see Table 2), which are oriented to the identification, analysis and development of competencies of international experience of doctoral study programmes and scientific innovations, as well as providing the opportunity to pursue both an academic career and a career outside the academic environment. The content of internationalization includes balanced academic mobility, development of widely applicable skills (organization of conferences, project development, science communication), presentation of research results.

Table 2. The content of internationalization and research approbation

No.	Title	CP per 1 entity	Overall CP number
1.	Participation in a scientific research conference in partner HEI or research institution abroad	2+2+2	6 CP

⁴ CM order No. 345 (25.06. 2020., prot. No. 41 54. §). Available in Latvian: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/315685-par-konceptualo-zinojumu-par-jauna-doktoranturas-modela-ieviesanu-latvija>

2.	Participation in conference organization	1+1	2 CP
3.	Preparing publications (3 publications): - individual publication in international research conference paper collection/internationally reviewed edition	3+3+3	9 CP
4.	Elaboration of a research project idea		1 CP
5.	Internal mobility (teaching in partner HEI)	1+1	2 CP
6.	External mobility (visiting lecture in HEI abroad)		2 CP
7.	Business practicum		1 CP
8.	Terminology in foreign language (compiling glossary of terms used in the Doctoral Thesis)		1 CP

To achieve recognition, the programme structure envisages:

- to offer a wide range of research topics in the humanities;
- to support interdisciplinarity;
- to offer the opportunity to conduct research in English;
- to offer a Latvian language learning program for foreign students⁵.

Study course acquisition entails three parts: *Common interdisciplinary courses* (10 CP), *Doctoral colloquium* (6 CP), and *Subprogramme specialization courses* (20 CP).

In accordance with Act on HEI article 55,¹ three higher education institutions are involved in the study programme implementation, each HEI realizing 14 CP in the common part (above 10%). The common part entails **Doctoral colloquium** (6 CP; 2 CP for each partner), 6 CP from common interdisciplinary courses (2 CP for each partner), 5 CP compulsory choice course (respectively DU – **Prof. F. Fjodorov methodological school seminar**, LiepU – **Comparative and contrastive linguistics**, VeUAS – **Interdisciplinary aspects of translation theory and practice**) and 5 CP free choice course (respectively DU – **Interdisciplinary aspects of literature and culture**, LiepU – **Applied linguistics**, VeUAS – **Interdisciplinary aspects of translation theory and practice**). For the implementation of common study courses, remote study opportunities are used (depending on the situation and funding opportunities for mobility). Agreements are concluded between the higher education institutions concerning the remuneration of mutual visiting lecturers.

Common interdisciplinary courses are oriented towards acquisition of theoretical knowledge in the humanities in the context of other spheres (social sciences, IT, etc.). The course content grants the acquisition of modern theoretical knowledge and applicable skills as well as studies of academic/scientist's ethics.

Doctoral colloquium is aimed at promoting cooperation between doctoral students and scientific advisers, among doctoral students themselves and with the academic staff. The colloquium is intended as a three-part event based on a scientific discussion on the topics researched by doctoral students. The colloquium is organized as a mini-conference with

⁵ Paragraph 7 of Article 56 of the Law on HEI regulates the learning of the state language for foreign students. Available in Latvian: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/37967-augstskolu-likums>

presentation of various aspects of the topic, defence and extensive academic discussion with the participation of all doctoral students, research advisers and other academic staff

Subprogramme specialized courses entail three modules that will run parallelly in each subprogramme: *Compulsory specialization course* (10 CP), *Compulsory choice course* (5 CP), *Free choice course* (5 CP). Compulsory specialization course grants the methodological base necessary for the chosen specialization. Compulsory choice course is dedicated exactly to the methodological specificity of the JDSP “Language and literature studies”. The free choice course will be selected by doctoral students from their specialization or other specialization.

Subprogramme “Linguistics”

Compulsory specialization course – Diachronic and synchronic studies of the language system (10 CP),

Compulsory choice course – Comparative and contrastive linguistics (5 CP).

Subprogramme “Literary and culture studies”

Compulsory specialization course – Literary theory and culture process paradigms (10 CP),

Compulsory choice course – Professor F. Fjodorov methodological school seminar (5 CP).

Subprogramme “Translation studies”

Compulsory specialization course – Theoretical and applied aspects of translation studies, history of the discipline (10 CP),

Compulsory choice course – Interdisciplinary aspects of translation theory and practice (5 CP).

Study process in the JDSP “Language and literature studies” will proceed according to the approved curriculum (see Table 3 and appendix 1). The programme curriculum is developed taking into consideration the sequence of the acquisition of academic knowledge, continuity of study courses and their interrelatedness.

Table 3. Study programme curriculum

Course title	CP	Academic staff	Form of examination
Research – 84 CP			
Elaboration of doctoral thesis (60 CP)			
Internationalization and approbation of research (24 CP)			
Study course acquisition			
Common interdisciplinary courses (10 CP)			
Interdisciplinary aspects of the humanities	6	Dr. philol. prof. Maija Burima Dr. philol. assoc. prof. Sandra Meškova Dr. philol. prof. Anna Stankeviča Dr. paed. prof. Diāna Laiveniece Dr. philol. prof. Linda Lauze Dr. philol. doc. Agnese Dubova Dr. philol. prof. Jānis Sīlis	exam

		Dr. philol. assoc. prof. Guntars Dreijers Dr. philol. assoc. prof. Jānis Veckrācis Dr. philol. doc. Tatjana Soikova	
Social ontology: information and global processes	4	Dr. philol. prof. Maija Burima Dr. philol. prof. Elīna Vasiļjeva Dr. philol. assoc. prof. Sandra Meškova Dr. philol. prof. Anna Stankeviča Dr. paed. prof. Diāna Laiveniece Dr. philol. assoc. prof. Ieva Ozola Dr. philol. doc. Egita Proveja Dr. philol. assoc. prof. Guntars Dreijers	exam
Doctoral colloquium (6 CP)			
Subprogramme specialization courses (20 CP)			
Compulsory specialization course (10 CP)			
Literary theory and culture process paradigms	10	Dr. philol. prof. Maija Burima Dr. philol. prof. Elīna Vasiļjeva Dr. philol. prof. Anna Stankeviča Dr. philol. assoc. prof. Sandra Meškova Dr. philol. doc. Inna Dvorecka Dr. philol. doc. Rudīte Rinkeviča Dr. philol. doc. Jeļena Semeņeca Dr. philol. doc. Ingrīda Kupšāne	exam
Diachronic and synchronic studies of the language system	10	Dr. philol. prof. Linda Lauze Dr. habil. philol. prof. Dace Markus Dr. philol. assoc. prof. Anita Helviga Dr. philol. assoc. prof. Ieva Ozola Dr. philol. doc. Tatjana Stoikova Dr. philol. doc. Agnese Dubova Dr. philol. prof. Vilma Šaudiņa Dr. philol. doc. Elvīra Isajeva Dr. philol. doc. Gaļina Pitkeviča	exam
Theoretical and applied aspects of translation studies, history of the discipline	10	Dr. philol. prof. Jānis Sīlis Dr. philol. assoc. prof. Guntars Dreijers Dr. philol. doc. Egita Proveja Dr. philol. assoc. prof. Jānis Veckrācis	exam

		Ph. D. doc. Sigita Ignatjeva Dr. philol. assoc. prof. Sandra Meškova Dr. philol. doc. Ilze Oļehnoviča Dr. philol. doc. Irina Presņakova	
Compulsory choice course (5 CP)			
Professor F. Fjodorov methodological school seminar	5	Dr. philol. prof. Elīna Vasiļjeva Dr. philol. prof. M. Burima Dr. philol. prof. Anna Stankeviča Dr. philol. doc. Ingrīda Kupšāne Dr. philol. assoc. prof. Arkādijs Neminuščijs	exam
Comparative and contrastive linguistics	5	Dr. philol. prof. Linda Lauze Dr. habil. philol. prof. Dace Markus Dr. philol. assoc. prof. Ieva Ozola Dr. philol. doc. Tatjana Stoikova Dr. philol. doc. Agnese Dubova Dr. philol. prof. Vilma Šaudiņa Dr. philol. doc. Elvīra Isajeva Dr. philol. doc. Svetlana Polkovņikova Dr. philol. doc. Ilze Oļehnoviča Dr. philol. doc. Gaļina Pitkeviča	exam
Interdisciplinary aspects of translation theory and practice	5	Dr. philol. prof. Jānis Sīlis Dr. philol. assoc. prof. Guntars Dreijers Dr. philol. doc. Egita Proveja Dr. philol. assoc. prof. Jānis Veckrācis Dr. philol. doc. Jeļena Semeņeca Dr. philol. doc. Ilze Oļehnoviča Dr. philol. doc. Irina Presņakova	exam
Free choice course (5 CP)			
Interdisciplinary aspects of literature and culture	5	Dr. philol. prof. Maija Burima Dr. philol. prof. Elīna Vasiļjeva Dr. philol. assoc. prof. Sandra Meškova Dr. philol. prof. Anna Stankeviča Dr. philol. doc. Rudīte Rinkeviča Dr. philol. doc. Ingrīda Kupšāne	test with a grade
Applied linguistics	5	Dr. philol. senior res. Solvita Berra Dr. paed. prof. Diāna Laiveniece	test with a grade

		Dr. philol. prof. Linda Lauze Dr. philol. assoc. prof. Anita Helviga Dr. philol. prof. Vilma Šaudiņa Dr. philol. doc. Elvīra Isajeva Dr. philol. doc. Svetlana Polkovņikova Dr. philol. doc. Ilze Oļehnoviča	
Cultural and receptionist aspects of translation studies	5	Dr. philol. prof. Jānis Sīlis Dr. philol. assoc. prof. Guntars Dreijers Dr. philol. assoc. prof. Astra Skrābāne Dr. philol. doc. Egita Proveja Dr. philol. assoc. prof. Jānis Veckrācis Ph. D. doc. Sigita Ignatjeva Dr. philol. assoc. prof. Sandra Meškova Dr. philol. doc. Jeļena Semeņeca Dr. philol. doc. Svetlana Polkovņikova Dr. philol. doc. Irina Presņakova	test with a grade

If the student in the bachelor/Master study programme has not completed the study courses “Environmental protection” and “Civil protection”, the opportunity is provided to learn them as part of doctoral studies, each in the amount of 1 CP.

According to Article 56, Part Seven of the Act on Higher Education Institutions, "Basic Latvian language course" (2 CP) is included in the study plan for foreign students, if the studies in Latvia are planned for longer than six months or exceed 20 credit points.

The content of the studies is designed according to Cabinet of Ministers regulations no. 1001 (27. 12. 2005) *The procedure and criteria for awarding a doctoral degree (promotion)*⁶, as well as taking into account the conceptual report of the Ministry of Education and Science on the implementation of a new model of doctorate in Latvia, adopted in June 2020.

Matriculation takes place at each partner HEI, according to their procedures: DU *Admission Rules*⁷, which are approved annually by the DU Senate; LiepU operates a QPS, procedures have been developed that regulate the technical process of admission, the admission rules describe the mandatory and additional requirements for the applicant’s previously acquired education, as well as the entrance exams as defined in the study programmes. LiepU *Admission Rules for doctoral studies* are approved by the Senate for each academic year. The procedure for admission to

⁶ Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 1001 (27.12.2005., prot. No.77 2.§). *The procedure and criteria for awarding a scientific doctorate (promotion)*. Available in Latvian: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/124787-zinatniska-doktora-grada-pieskirsanas-promocijas-kartiba-un-kriteriji>

⁷ *Daugavpils University admission rules for full-time and part-time doctoral studies for 2023*. Available in Latvian: <https://du.lv/gribu-studet/uznemsana/>

Ventspils University of Applied Sciences is regulated by the VeUAS admission rules. The study process is organized in accordance with the VeUAS regulation on the procedure for organizing studies *Regulation on the study procedure at Ventspils University of Applied Sciences* and other regulatory regulations. Admission requirements and procedures are regulated by VeUAS regulations *Admission regulations and matriculation procedure at Ventspils University of Applied Sciences*. All admission results are confirmed by the VeUAS Admission Board.

The basic condition for matriculation in the doctoral study programme “Language and Literature Studies” is a Master's degree in humanitarian (linguistics and literary studies, translation studies, history, philosophy) or social (intercultural relations, social anthropology, social psychology, etc.) or equivalent 2nd level higher professional education in the relevant field;

- examination (depending on the chosen sub-programme) in linguistics or literary studies or translation studies;
- report on the research topic and discussions about it;
- exam in a foreign language (English, German or French)
- English language skills at least B2 level (for studies in English).

Matriculation process:

The entrance examination board, which is established on the recommendation of the programme directors, approved by the faculty council and confirmed by the order of the rector, examines the scientific research application (written paper) submitted by the applicant. In the entrance discussions, the examination board specifies the applicant's level of knowledge in linguistics/literature/translation studies, the relevant sub-branch and the command of foreign language, as well as the quality of the submitted scientific research application (written paper). The entrance examination board evaluates the entrance discussions and the submitted scientific research application (written paper) with marks. The decision on matriculation is made by the Admission Board.

The topics and scientific advisers of the doctoral theses are approved at the meeting of the programme council, taking into account the research orientation of the doctoral student, the specialization of the academic staff and indicators of scientific competence. The thesis may have an approved adviser and consultant who are experts in the relevant scientific fields. In some cases, a suitably qualified professional from another university may be invited as the research adviser of the doctoral thesis.

All JDSP students are provided with access to library funds and databases of partner HEIs.

2.3.List and justification of changes made to the study programme since the licensing of the study programme.

Changes have been made to matriculation rules and admission requirements, setting for foreign students a requirement of English language proficiency at least of B2 level, providing detailed information on entrance exam requirements. The information for all partner HEIs is indicated similarly.

Clarified information in the sample diploma, indicating the branch of science in which the doctoral degree is conferred.

The Council of the JDSP “Languages and Literature Studies” was created and

approved (DU Senate decision 6/3, 30.05.2023) (see appendix 2).

2.4. Statistical data on students in the study programme and analysis and assessment of their comparison with the planned number of students within the framework of the licensing procedure (when analyzing, distinguish different study forms, types, languages).

JDSP “Language and Literature Studies” at Daugavpils University has a total of 14 students: 3 students in the 1st year of studies, 5 students in the 2nd year of studies (3 – in the sub-programme “Literature and cultural studies”, 2 – in the sub-programme “Linguistics”); 6 students in the 3rd year of studies, all of them in the sub-programme “Literature and cultural studies”. Three doctoral students are foreign students from Ukraine, Italy, and Israel.

The study programme is implemented using various study forms, formal and informal education methods and methodological techniques, as well as e-studies for organizing students’ independent work. Various types of classes are used in the study programme – lectures (including interactive lectures led by experienced professionals, guest lectures by foreign professors), seminars, practical classes, and forms of work – consultations, individual and group work, discussions; in addition to the traditional ones, interactive forms of work are also practiced: field work classes, analysis of audio-visual materials, practical workshops, etc. Visuality in the acquisition of theoretical and practical knowledge is ensured by the use of modern technical means and digital solutions. Study methods are chosen according to the content and specificity of the study courses, the achievable study outcomes, as well as the organization of the study process. Much attention is paid to the independent work of doctoral students, which is focused on the elaboration of a doctoral thesis.

The studies are based on the student’s independence, at the same time granting the doctoral students guidance and support of the academic staff; the scope and content of the students’ independent work, as well as its evaluation methods, are specified in the description of each study course. Independent work of doctoral students includes diverse activities:

- source studies and preparation for seminar classes;
- participation in international scientific conferences;
- elaboration and presentation of projects, reports;
- collecting information, studying databases;
- attending exhibitions, seminars, and master classes.

JDSP “Language and Literature Studies” quality assurance is based on the following:

- analysis and evaluation of the content of the study programme, preparing a self-assessment report for the past academic year; the obtained data and conclusions will be examined at the meeting of the study direction council;
- comparison of the study programme content, academic and scientific work with similar study programmes implemented in other Latvian HEIs;
- analysis and control of the study process, which is carried out by following and analyzing the content of the study programme at the meetings of the study direction council and at the meetings of the responsible structural units, conducting surveys of doctoral students after completing each study course and clarifying the opinions of doctoral students on the quality of teaching, obtaining information about the attitudes of doctoral students and

graduates in surveys, analyzing formal and other types of programme acquisition indicators;

- strengthening the integration of the study process and research work, considering it to be an essential part of the quality assurance system;
- strategic planning of the study process, analyzing study programme weaknesses, risks, development opportunities and other related aspects.

To regulate the operation of the joint study programme, the council of the joint study programme has been established. The joint study programme in each of the parties is managed by the programme directors and the Programme Council. The council consists of ten representatives, including the programme director appointed by each party. The members of the Council are appointed by each party in accordance with the procedures established by it. Decisions will be taken collegially by the council. The joint programme council will determine the requirements for the implementation of the joint study programme.

2.5. Graduate employment perspectives

As concerns the labour market in the field of doctoral studies in the humanities, it is primarily focused towards the academic environment. Jobs are related to literary studies, linguistics, translation studies, cultural studies in HEIs in Latvia: the University of Latvia, Daugavpils University, Liepāja University, Rēzekne Academy of Technology, Latvian Academy of Culture, etc.; in scientific institutes (Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art and the Latvian Language Institute of the University of Latvia, Kurzeme Humanities Institute of Liepāja University); HEIs abroad, museums, and libraries. The aforementioned institutions are united by close and systematic cooperation with the structural units of DU, LiepU, and VeUAS in scientific projects, scientific conferences, preparation and implementation of science communication tools.

Graduates of the doctoral study programmes of DU are also employed in state administration institutions: 3 graduates work in municipal and regional administrations, 2 – in mass media institutions of national significance, 6 – in secondary and professional education institutions.

Some of the academic staff members and doctoral students involved in the current programmes cooperate with Latvian and international professional organizations in the field of linguistics, translation, terminology, publishing, and have also been the founders of these organizations and work on their boards (for example, the Association of Latvian Translators and Interpreters, the Association of Latvian Germanists, the Latvian Association of Applied Linguistics, Latvian Academy of Science Terminology Commission and sub-commissions).

The scientific environment in the field of humanities in Latvia is a unified mechanism where there is a constant process of exchange of current affairs among scientists. In addition, each HEI or institution provides its own research niche and is also based on a certain methodological system.

3. Resources and provision

3.1. Characteristics of the study base, scientific base (if applicable), information base (including library), material and technical base, and financial base of the study programme and assessment of their relevance

The joint doctoral study programme “Language and Literature Studies” will be implemented in cooperation among Daugavpils University, Liepāja University, and Ventspils University of Applied Science. In the implementation of the study programme, cooperation with several Latvian and foreign higher education and scientific institutions will be continued: University of Latvia, Rēzekne Academy of Technologies, Latvian Academy of Culture, Institute of Literature, Folklore, and Art of the University of Latvia, Institute of the Latvian Language of the University of Latvia, Artificial Intelligence Laboratory of the Institute of Mathematics and Informatics of the University of Latvia, Kurzeme Humanities Institute of Liepāja University, Vytautas Magnus University (Lithuania), Klaipėda University (Lithuania), Vilnius University (Lithuania), St. Cyril and St. Methodius University in Veliko Trnovo (Bulgaria), University College of Southeast Norway (Norway), Uppsala University (Sweden); museums and libraries (Latvian National Library, UL Academic Library, Latgale Central Library).

The above-mentioned institutions systematically and productively cooperate with the structural units of DU, LiepU and VeUAS in scientific projects, scientific conferences, development of science communication tools.

Cooperation for the implementation of the study programme will be provided by means of the following forms:

- lectures and seminars by visiting lecturers;
- mutual organizing of conferences and other scientific events;
- mobility of the academic staff and students;
- joint project elaboration and implementation;
- joint research.

The researchers of the Institute of Literature, Folklore, and Art of the University of Latvia will be involved in teaching the study courses of the joint doctoral study programme, the students of the doctoral study programme will participate in jointly implemented projects, which are facilitated by the successful experience of implementing the State Research Programme *Letonika* project *Culture and Identities in Latvia: Heritage and Contemporary Practice* by organizing Doctoral student summer schools and festivals.

Significant contribution to the international recognition and internationalization of the joint doctoral study programme “Language and literature studies” will be mobilities, practical placements and experience exchange visits of students and the academic staff. Cooperation in this sphere will continue with Vytautas Magnus University and Southeast Norway University College, with representatives of which several projects and scientific activities have been implemented.

DU students and graduates have the opportunity to receive a scholarship from Else Marie Tschermak’s Foundation to visit a selected foreign university, scientific institution, or summer school to conduct research, participate in science transfer activities and thus acquire new skills and improve competences necessary for studies and work.

Close cooperation with the Latvian Academy of Sciences, which regulates the scientific field in Latvia, plays an important role in the implementation of the joint doctoral study programme. The research activities of doctoral students will be carried out by working in the Academic Library of the University of Latvia, the Museum of Writing and Music, writers’ memorial museums and archives. The already established and productive cooperation with

publishing houses “Zinātne” and “Mansards” will be important in publishing the research materials of the academic staff and students of the joint doctoral study programme.

JDSP “Language and Literature Studies” will be implemented at the Faculty of Humanities of Daugavpils University (Vienības Street 13, Daugavpils) within the framework of the study direction “Language and Culture Studies, Native Language Studies and Language Programmes”.

A total of 8 professors, 7 associate professors, 14 assistant professors (docents), 1 leading researcher are involved in the implementation of the study programme, all of whom are elected staff of DU, LiepU, VeUAS. Visiting professors from Latvia and abroad will also be involved in the realization of studies.

The courses of the *Compulsory part* of the programme will be taught by professors and associate professors, the youngest academic staff will assist in the seminars. Teaching staff are involved in the work of the sub-programmes according to their competence and specialization in the development and teaching of specific courses, which have been analyzed and planned in working groups of the academic staff members who are experts in the field.

The programme is implemented in cooperation with other structural units and support staff of all three HEIs.

DU, LiepU, and VeUAS have a developed e-study environment (Moodle), and as a result of providing direct communication (e-mail, consultations), methodological and scientific information is available in each study course.

DU academic staff systematically use the e-study environment *Moodle* (<https://estudijas.du.lv/>) and post in it various study materials: video recordings of lectures, seminars, and practical classes that provide a support for doctoral students’ independent work. Activating the e-study environment is an important step that ensures the full-fledged preparation of specialists.

Within the study courses it is also planned to send independent works and tests by e-mail or post them online to *Moodle*; students can receive evaluations and reviews of their works by e-mail, consultations in the e-environment, they have a possibility of using library and Internet resources. Thus, by integrating various modern IT solutions (e-mail, *Moodle*, *ZOOM*, *Skype*, *Microsoft Teams*, etc.), the programme will offer more flexible conditions for e-studies.

The e-study environment *Moodle* is synchronized with the DU information system *DUIS*, which facilitates students’ access to study courses created in the e-study environment without additional registration. The department of information and communication technologies regularly organizes professional updating courses for the academic staff *Creation of study courses in the e-study environment Moodle*, as well as provides individual consultations. Doctoral students can receive advisory support at the Student Service Center⁸ and faculty dean’s office.

In the e-learning environment Moodle, lecturers can also post their lectures in video format. The filming process of video lectures is carried out by the Multimedia Centre of the Department of Informatics and the Information and Communication Technologies Department. In the auditorium at DU, 1a Parādes Street, DU, modern equipment is available, which allows to create educational, informative and advertising video materials, as well as provides live webcasts of conferences. Video lectures are stored on the DU server and are available in the Moodle environment for each corresponding study course.

The Faculty of Humanities of DU provides the necessary methodological support for the implementation of the JDSP “Language and Literature Studies”. The information system *DUIS* operates at DU providing descriptions of all study courses, the timetable of classes, and the

⁸ *DU student service centre*. Available: <https://du.lv/par-mums/struktura/studejoso-servisa-centrs/>

doctoral students can follow their academic performance and individual orders related to the study process in their individual profiles.

Various materials (research paper collections, monographs, methodological instructions, teaching aids) are available in the faculty departments to support the development of doctoral theses. Lecture presentations, course descriptions and assignments, as well as various manuals and other informative materials are posted in the DU e-study environment *Moodle*. The availability of materials necessary for studies on the web ensures an efficient study process. In order to optimize the study process and increase its quality, a data processing base for sociological surveys has been created and is available for the use of students to obtain reference materials, supplement knowledge and for self-assessment.

The financial basis of the involved structural units of DU necessary for the implementation of study programmes, is provided from student fees and state budget funding for studies (subsidy). In order to facilitate the increase in the number of students, using a marketing and sales strategy, the university offers discounts on tuition fees and implements various promotions.

Study funding from the state budget is allocated every calendar year in accordance with CM regulations no. 994 of 12.12.2006, *Procedure in which universities and colleges are financed from state budget funds*⁹.

Study fees are covered from the funds of physical and/or legal persons. The amount of study fees, discounts, and payment procedures for each study year are determined and approved by the University Senate.

The financial base of studies of DU structural units is sufficient to ensure the study process in the study programmes implemented so far. The financial situation is regularly monitored by reviewing the costs of the study programmes, the compliance of the planned workload of the teaching staff with the actual amount of students and work. DU has the necessary equipment for the implementation of the joint study programme, hence the JDSP "Language and Literature Studies" can be implemented without immediate additional expenses for the purchase of equipment.

For the implementation of the direction "Language and Literature Studies", the material and technical basis of DU in three blocks is used – Vienibas Street 13, Parades Street 1, Parades Street 1a.

The study process is provided with the material reproduction techniques, audio and video equipment, and visual presentation techniques.

The library provides students with access to high-quality information corresponding to the field of study, offering the information resources in its collection for study and research purposes, as well as booking them from other libraries. DU library is open 9 hours a day, 45 hours a week. The Reading room is open on weekdays from 9 a.m. to 8.30 p.m., on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The bibliography and information sector is open on weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Books can also be transferred outside the library's working hours using book transfer equipment at the study blocks at Vienibas Street 13 and Parades Street 1.

The total area of the library premises is 1000 m², students have 2 reading rooms with free access to the collection, 2 subscriptions, Bibliography and information sector, 20 computers, 3 multifunctional equipment, 2 copiers, 2 printers, the internet, including access to wireless Internet.

The library offers the following services: handing out books at home; use of literature,

⁹ *Kārtība, kādā augstskolas un koledžas tiek finansētas no valsts budžeta līdzekļiem*. <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/149900-kartiba-kada-augstskolas-un-koledzas-tiek-finansetas-no-valsts-budzeta-lidzekliem>

databases, e-catalogues, etc. resources in reading rooms; electronic booking and reservation of books for home, extension of the term of use; use of computers and the Internet; remote use of EBSCO, ScienceDirect and Scopus databases; remote use of the final papers developed at DU; consultations on the search for information in e-catalogues and databases; interlibrary subscription services; training of students to work with e-catalogues and databases; copying, printing and scanning services.

In the section "Library" of the university's webpage there are available "Links" to e-resources, including a link to the National Library of Latvia (books, periodicals, and other e-resources), remotely available Doctoral theses, final papers using the DUIS password; in a section "Internet Resources", you can view the electronic catalogue, as should the publication has an e-version, it is added to the description of the publication. Those who have received passwords in the Library for using Cambridge Journals Online, EBSCO, ScienceDirect, Scopus and Web of Science databases can use them remotely.

The collection of the library is 267,655 copies, including 233,868 books and 20,322 periodicals (368 titles).

For the elaboration of doctoral theses, the computers available in the faculty and equipped with the relevant software (Cubasis, Sibelius, Sound Forge, Sonor, etc.) are offered.

Numerous databases are available to doctoral students:

- Cambridge University Press – humanities and social sciences;
- full electronic text database EBSCO Publishing (it includes 8 databases: Academic Search Elite, Business Source Premier, MasterFILE Premier, Newspaper Source, ERIC, Business Wire News, MEDLINE, Health Source – Consumer Edition, Agricola);
- Scopus database of bibliographical and citation information on multidisciplinary scientific publications of Elsevier Publishing House;
- multidisciplinary database Web of Science;
- Science Direct – Elsevier's database in the humanities and social sciences, which includes information about several thousand journals and books published by Elsevier. In DU there are around 2650 full texts of magazines, published mainly from 2002 to the latest issue of the magazine, as well as more than 350 e-books;
- Education and Culture – the e-newspaper contains information about everything that is important in education, providing informative support to academic staff and students, management and administration of higher education institutions;
- Letonika – a reference and translation system, the main purpose of which is to provide systematized, encyclopedic reference and translation information. Letonika offers to search for and work with information found in 11 encyclopedias and other reference resources, 13 dictionaries (translating, comprehensive, terminology), as well as in collections with 10,000 images, audio recordings and videos. The database also contains a library of Latvian literature with 200 full-text literary works and a repository of language support with supplementary materials for the Latvian language. Letonika.lv serves as a guide to Latvian culture, history, language, nature and literature;
- LETA – news and archive – offers an opportunity to quickly search for published news, photos, videos, press releases, articles from Latvian press publications, statistics and other information.

Supplementation of the library collection and subscription to databases takes place at the request of faculty lecturers. Applications for the purchase of books are regularly reviewed and

approved by the Budget Committee of DU, thus implementing the mechanism for the purchase of the latest publications in the DU library. The library does not digitize the collection, but the final papers of DU students are uploaded to the library's information system. The library regularly informs faculties about the latest literature, about database trials and subscription opportunities, so that faculty lecturers and students can get acquainted with new offers. Current interdisciplinary scientific editions for the needs of JDSP "Language and literature studies" are available in the library.

In 2015, DU concluded the project on improving the quality of Daugavpils University study programmes and ensuring environmental accessibility, which was co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERAF). Within the framework of the project, the modernisation and adaptation of DU infrastructure for persons with special needs was implemented, thus improving the accessibility of the environment for persons with functional disorders (movement, vision and hearing impairments). Study classrooms are accessible to people in wheelchairs – elevators and a lift are installed, thresholds have been removed, the width of the door adjusted. Information is available for visually impaired people – projection devices are installed; sound amplifying equipment fitted; nurseries have been created for young parents - students – nappy-changing and baby feeding facilities, and a playroom – for entertaining students' children during classes. In 2016, in the nomination Education for All DU was awarded the Apeiron's Award, which was awarded by this organization after active monitoring of environmental accessibility throughout Latvia.

Doctoral students can use various DU rooms: computer class, tutorial theatres, assembly rooms, library rooms for literature analysis, preparation of independent and research works, phonographs, as well as specially equipped premises for conferences, study and extra-curricular activities. Lecturers and students can receive medical support in the DU Health Room, where first aid in case of various illnesses is provided by a physician's assistant (paramedic).

3.2. Analysis of changes in the academic staff composition and qualification in the reporting period and assessment of these changes (impact on the study quality, conditions of implementation, and compliance with the requirements of regulatory acts).

No changes. Information on the composition of teaching staff involved in the implementation of the study program see in appendix 3. For information on the mobility of teaching staff involved in the implementation of the study program during the reporting period, see appendix 4.

3.3. In the case of Master's or doctoral study programmes, indicate and provide justification whether the awarding of degrees is based on the achievements and findings of the relevant field of science or artistic creativity.

Within the framework of the study programme, new practical and theoretical courses have been elaborated, which are focused on student-centered learning, development of skills and competence and include interdisciplinary aspects. Taking into account the new trends in the development of doctoral studies in Latvia, a new section "Internationalization and research approbation" was developed. Both the study courses and the section "Internationalization and

research approbation” function in close synergy with current trends in linguistics and literary studies. Studies are based on research. Doctoral students represent the results of their research at conferences of various levels, publish scientific articles, including in internationally cited publications, approve their scientific findings in internal and external mobility, delivering lectures on their research topic.

4. Implementation of the recommendations received in the licensing of the study program

4.1. Assessment of the fulfilment of the implementation plan of the recommendations given by study program licensing experts and the impact of the given recommendations on the quality of studies or the improvement of processes in the study program

Short-term recommendations

1. In the matriculation regulations, in addition to the information about the required previous education and entrance exams, a requirement must be set for foreign students of English language proficiency at least of B2 level. More detailed information on the requirements and parts of the entrance exam must be provided in the rules of admission, making sure that the information is provided similarly for all partner HEIs.

Changes have been made in matriculation regulations and admission requirements, setting for foreign students a requirement of English language proficiency at least of B2 level providing more detailed information on entrance exam requirements (see appendix 5). Information is provided similarly for all partner HEIs.

2. Submit a detailed sample of the diploma, indicating the specific degree to be awarded (see appendix 6).

Specified information in the diploma sample indicating the branch of science wherein the doctoral degree is obtained.

3. Submit information on the calculation of study programme costs, the required amount of funding and the required number of students to ensure a high quality study process.

Submitted information on the costs of the study programme, necessary financing and the number of students necessary to secure high quality study process.

4. Make technical clarifications in acknowledgements of the loss compensation for students, if the study programme is not accredited due to the action (action or inaction) of the HEI or college or the license of the study programme is revoked and the student does not want to continue studies in another study programme.

Technical clarifications are made in acknowledgements of the loss compensation for students, if the study programme is not accredited due to the action (action or inaction) of the HEI or college or the license of the study programme is revoked and the student does not want to

continue studies in another study programme.

5. Sign a new written agreement among DU, LiepU and VeUAS about elaboration and implementation of a joint doctoral study programme, as the agreement was concluded at the time of study programme development in 2020 for a joint doctoral study programme “Philology”, but the name of the programme is “Language and Literature Studies”.

New written agreement was concluded among DU, LiepU and VeUAS about elaboration and implementation of a joint doctoral study programme “Language and Literature Studies” (see appendix 7).

Long-term recommendations

1. Produce the comparison of the study programme to the University of Latvia (UL) doctoral study programme “Language and culture studies”, granting the uniqueness of the study programme under assessment.

DU, LiepU and VeUAS representative communicate about comparing the JDSP “Language and literature studies” to UL doctoral study programme “Language and culture studies”. Comparison will be produced during the programme approbation withing the project.

2. Specify and strengthen the aspect of interdisciplinarity in the study programme, as well as clarify the interconnection of subprogrammes and modules.

DU, LiepU and VeUAS representative communicate about interdisciplinarity aspects in the study programme as well as about the interrelatedness of modules and subprogrammes.

3. Update study course descriptions:
 - envisaging, where this has not been done and, if applicable, specific requirements for obtaining credit points, indicating the proportion of mid-term tests and exam/test evaluation, the organization of independent work, as well as update the sources of compulsory and supplementary literature
 - it is necessary to review the indicated prior knowledge, ensuring that they meet the admission requirements and study level;
 - indicate only the in-site form of studies, provide for the remote form of studies if it is not possible to realize the in-site form.

DU, LiepU and VeUAS representative started communication about the updating of study course descriptions. Descriptions of study courses will be improved by the end of 2023.

4. Facilitate publications of the academic staff involved in the JDSP in research journals or conference paper collections in editions indexed in SCOPUS and Web of Science Core Collection or included in database ERIH+.

JDSP council will elaborate the scientific guidelines of the programme envisaging definite initiatives for facilitating elaboration and publication of indexed scientific publications (also joint).

5. In due time renew the rights of an expert and/or obtain the rights of an LCS expert in order to ensure the necessary number of LCS experts in the implementation of the JDSP in the long term.

At the time of licensing, nine lecturers involved in the implementation of JDSP had the right of LCS expert in the humanities and arts sciences in the field of linguistics and literary studies. At the moment, 11 lecturers involved in the implementation of the program have the right of LCS expert in the humanities and arts sciences in the field of linguistics and literary studies:

Maija Burima (DU, 05.05.2024.)

Elvīra Isajeva (DU, 07.09.2025.)

Ingrīda Kupšāne (DU, 03.11.2024.)

Sandra Meškova (DU, 06.10.2024.)

Elīna Vasiļjeva (DU, 02.11.2025.)

Agnese Dubova (LiepU, 30.06.2024.)

Dīāna Laiveniece (LiepU, 01.03.2026.)

Linda Lauze (LiepU, 04.01.2026.)

Dace Markus (LiepU, 06.04.2025.)

Ieva Ozola (LiepU, 01.02.2026.)

Tatjana Stoikova (VeA, 07.10.2023.)

Data from <https://sciencelatvia.lv/#/pub/eksperti/list> (available in Latvian).

See the report on the implementation of the recommendations in appendix 8.