

APPLICATION

Study field "Arts" for assessment

Study field	<i>Arts</i>
Title of the higher education institution	<i>Latvijas Kultūras akadēmija</i>
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Self-evaluation report

Study field "Arts"

Latvian Academy of Culture

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1. Information on the Higher Education Institution/College

1.1. Basic information on the higher education institution/ college and its strategic development fields,.

The Latvian Academy of Culture was founded on December 29, 1990 by the decision of the Latvian Council of Ministers and develops alongside the restored Latvian state, implementing an education model based on humanism, democracy, ethics, creativity, and innovation for the future. LAC is a higher education institution under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Culture, corresponding to the type of "Arts and Culture University"(About the types of state universities. CAbinet of Ministers order no. 655 in Riga on September 17, 2021 (Notes no. 61 § 34), available: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/326218-par-valsts-augstskolu-tipiem> (in Latvian)). In its activities, LAC aims to implement the role of higher education institutions (hereinafter referred to as HEIs) that has been actualized at the EU level - providing the central "knowledge square": education, research, innovation, and services to society, while giving special importance to the artistic creation component and its integration in higher education and research.

The development of the "Arts" study direction is based on three pillars of values: education, research and artistic creation, so the conditions for its development are shaped not only by the educational, research and development policies, but also by the cultural policy's strategic goals in a specific planning period. The LAC is a **unique** education institution with a focussed orientation towards a specific niche of education, research and artistic creativity. Its frame is formed by the cultural and creative ecosystem as a field of education and research, centred on the film, theatre and dance art. The uniqueness of the LAC as an arts and culture university is determined both by its mission and the singularity of its education programmes and research themes in the Latvian education and science space, as well as the interdisciplinarity in the approaches to education, research and artistic creativity. **Interdisciplinarity** in all dimensions - economic sectors, education programmes, science and arts branches – is considered a key innovation and development resource. The LAC has successfully developed the experience of scientific and creative activities in unique fields, creating significant unique competences and competitive differences in the market. These competences, experience and close cooperation ties are an important intangible asset and value that can be used in cooperation with other local and foreign partners.

In its prior activities the LAC together with its international cooperation partners has successfully executed projects funded by foreign financial instruments, thus creating the foundation for wider international collaboration in academic, research and artistic work. The current strategic development directions of the university are defined in the mid-term development planning document "The Development Strategy of the Latvian Academy of Culture 2023–2027" (available: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pLPD08ZbMWe7nRtVaSQQZhvTCJLxiaie/view>). They are expressed in the definitions of the Latvian Academy's of Culture strategic specialization, long-term goals, vision, mission, values, priorities, and main strategic direction and targets (see "The Development Strategy of the Latvian Academy of Culture 2023–2027") The long-term goal of the LAC is focused on the creation of an ecosystem of education, research and artistic creativity that ensures the sustainable development of Latvia as a nation-state based on culture and language, as well as the capacity and resilience of the people, communities and individuals. Accordingly, the LAC **strategic specialization** envisages the provision of such results of studies, research and creative work that allow for creating, developing, preserving and popularizing national cultural values, traditions and cultural heritage in the cultural space of Latvia, ensures openness to cultural diversity and

intercultural communication based on loyalty, contributes to the development of film and performing arts (theatre and dance) industries, audiovisual arts, creative and cultural industries sectors, including promoting the export potential of these industries and sectors. **Vision:** The LAC in 2027 – grounded in humanistic values, directed by excellence, having a unique profile of interdisciplinary higher education, research and artistic work, an internationally competitive culture and arts university, a nationally and globally significant part of the cultural and creative ecosystem. The LAC's **mission** is to provide internationally recognized excellence in arts and culture education, scientific activity and artistic creativity, providing highly qualified human resources for the cultural, artistic and creative sector. Enhance the resilience and sustainability of Latvia's cultural and arts education in the conditions of the transformation of the education system. Create an open and dynamic environment for learning, research and artistic work, conducive to the development of outstanding individuals in the cultural sphere, enriching Latvia's cultural environment and reinforcing the nation's self-confidence.

The described LAC strategic development directions ensure that all 10 study programmes - 4 bachelor, 4 master, and 2 doctoral, including joint study programmes, are implemented in the "Arts" study direction, therefore, emphasizing the key element of the specificity of cultural and creative sector activities - the artistic creation process. At the same time, the creative component of art is viewed in the context of a broader cultural and creative ecosystem through the study content and research. The scientific basis of the study programmes is fundamentally formed by humanities and arts sciences, several study programmes have an interdisciplinary approach, which is determined by the demand of the cultural and creative sector labour market. The interdisciplinarity of study programmes - cultural processes and organization management, cultural and artistic event (including theatre, dance, audiovisual arts) production, cultural heritage management and communication, cultural and creative entrepreneurship, cultural policy, cultural and art research, intercultural communication - and the labour market demand for theatre and film arts teachers make it necessary to consider the possibility of opening new study directions.

The development, licencing and accreditation of new education programmes, as well as constant renewing of the content of existing education programmes has so far allowed the LAC to maintain a stable number of students and graduates, notwithstanding the demographic trends and the demographic “pit-hole” in the review period. However the number of graduates every year is considerably influenced by the fact that on the BA level there are several sub-programmes where the students are not admitted every year (e.g. the sub-programmes for the study program “Arts” – “The art of the dramatic theatre actor”, “The directing art of the dramatic theatre”, “Drama and text studies”). In addition, the majority of students both study and work, and to stay employed, may have to interrupt studies. Moreover, during the restrictions of the Covid-19 pandemic students experienced a rapid decline of mental and physical health, which was one of the key reasons for dropping-out in the last years of the review period.

Table no. 1

The dynamics of the number of the LAC graduates from 2013 to 2022

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
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The students who received BA	99	102	99	96	80	95	98	70	125	126
The students that received MA	54	31	41	42	41	30	31	20	40	38
The students that received Ph.D	1	2	3	3	1	1			2	3
In total	154	135	143	141	122	126	129	90	167	167

The electronic link to The Development Strategy of the Latvian Academy of Culture 2023–2027 available: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pLPD08ZbMWe7nRtVaSQQZhvTCJLxiaie/view>

1.2. Description of the management structure of the higher education institution/ college, the main institutions involved in the decision-making process, their composition (percentage depending on the position, for instance, the academic staff, administrative staff members, students), and the powers of these institutions.

The organizational model and governance structure of the LAC is designed to ensure efficient operation by determining the institutional subordination of structural units, as well as their tasks for ensuring the operation of the university. Visualized LAC management structure in the appendix (see appendix 1.2.) In order for the LAC to operate in accordance with the principles of good governance, it ensures (1) staff participation and involvement in decision-making and adoption; (2) joint and coordinated search for solutions; (3) clear and continuous internal and external communication; (4) efficient and high-quality management of operational processes, including transparent process management, so that all parties can understand the processes and those responsible for them; (5) efficient and transparent use of resources (human, financial, technical resources).

The activity of the LAC is regulated by the Law on HEIs, the Law on Scientific Activities and other external and internal legal acts. The governing bodies and main decision-making bodies of the LAC are the LAC Satversme Assembly (hereinafter - the Constitutional Assembly), the LAC Council (hereinafter - the Council), the LAC Senate (hereinafter - the Senate), the LAC Rector (hereinafter - the Rector) and the LAC Academic Arbitration Court (hereinafter - the Academic Arbitration Court). The **Constitutional Assembly** is the academic, general staff and student representative body of the LAC, its 50 members are elected for three years in general elections. Of these, 30 are academic staff, 10 general staff and 10 student representatives. The Constitutional Assembly 1) approves the LAC Constitution and its amendments; 2) elects the rector; 3) can initiate the removal of the rector

from his position; 4) accepts the annual report prepared by the rector on the activity of the LAC; 5) elects members of the Senate from among the academic and general staff; 6) may recall the members of the Senate; 7) elects the Academic Arbitration Court. **The Council** is the LAC's highest decision-making collegial body, which is responsible for the LAC sustainable development, strategic and financial supervision, as well as ensuring the LAC operation in accordance with the goals set in its development strategy, protecting The LAC autonomy, as well as respecting the academic, scientific and artistic freedom of academic staff and students and promotes its implementation. The Council consists of five members, two of whom are nominated by the Senate; one the State President; two - the Cabinet of Ministers. **The Senate** is the highest academic decision-making body of the LAC, which is responsible for the excellence, development and compliance of the LAC education, research and artistic work with internationally recognized quality standards, protects and ensures the academic freedom of academic staff and students within the framework of LAC autonomy. The Senate has 20 members - senators, of which 15 are academic staff representatives, four - student representatives and one general staff representative. **The Rector** is the highest official of the LAC, who carries out the general administrative management of the LAC and represents the Academy without special authorization. **The Academic Arbitration Court** - examines submissions of academic staff and students regarding restrictions or violations of academic rights stipulated in the LAC Constitution, disputes between LAC officials, as well as heads of structural units who are in a subordinate relationship, as well as submissions on challenging administrative acts or actual actions and other issues that fall under within their competence in accordance with the Law on HEIs, and makes relevant decisions about them.

Effective management and supervision of operational tasks at the LAC is carried out by three vice-rectors: the vice-rector for academic work, the vice-rector for scientific work and the vice-rector for artistic creativity, as well as the Director. Study, science, artistic creation, administrative and economic structural units operate under the authority of the rector and the vice-rectors. Five departments work under the authority of the rector and in cooperation with the three vice-rectors. The departments have been established according to the current study content and programs: Department of Cultural Theory and History; Department of Cultural Sociology and Management; Department of Intercultural Communication and Foreign Languages; Department of Audio-visual Arts; Department of Stage Arts. The UNESCO Department of Intangible Cultural Heritage Policy and Law has been established with the aim of developing international academic and research cooperation in the field of intangible cultural heritage (ICH) policy and law research.

The scientific activity of the LAC is organized by the Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies, the purpose of which is to support, organize and coordinate scientific research activity at the LAC, to promote the process of research-based study and creative activity. The creative work of the LAC is supported by the Creative Activity Center and the National Film School. The main task of the Creative Activity Center is to connect the academic knowledge of the LAC students with creative practice. The goal of the National Film School is to implement modern academic and professional higher education study programs that meet international standards, as well as continuing education and professional development programs.

In addition, the organizational structure of the LAC includes - the Council of Advisors, which is the advisory body of the LAC, the Council of Study Programs - a collegial structural unit of the LAC with decision-making rights for the coordination and optimization of study work; Council of Science and Arts - a collegial institution of the LAC, which resolves issues related to both the LAC doctoral studies and the scientific and artistic creative activities of the academic staff; Ethics Commission - examines submissions of academic staff and students regarding non-compliance with the LAC Code of Ethics; The Council of Professors - when holding an open competition for the position of the LAC Professor or Associate Professor, evaluates the suitability of candidates for the position of professor

and associate professor; Scholarship commission - evaluates the eligibility of students for awarding a scholarship; Promotion Council - evaluation of scientific qualification work and awarding of scientific degree (Ph. D.); Students' self-government "Cits Skatu Punkts" - an elected, independent institution representing the rights and interests of students, which defends and represents the interests of students in matters of academic, material and cultural life.

The operation of the LAC is also ensured by several administrative structural units (departments): Department of Studies, Development Department, Finance and Accounting Department, Personnel Department, Communication Department, Department of Economy, as well as the Continuing Education Center, the purpose of which is the creation of a high-quality offer of lifelong learning programs in line with the strategic goals and tasks of the LAC and professionals working in the creative sector, interested in humanities, artistic and interdisciplinary further education programs.

The LAC structural units are also the LAC Riga Film Museum, the LAC Eduards Smiļģis Theater Museum, the LAC Latvian College of Culture, In the academic year of 2022/2023, the staff of the LAC consists of approximately 150 representatives of academic and administrative personnel (not counting the staff of the Latvian College of Culture of the LAC).

1.3. Description of the mechanism for the implementation of the quality policy and the procedures for the assurance of the quality of higher education. Description of the stakeholders involved in the development and improvement of the quality assurance system and their role in these processes.

In the management of the study direction "Arts", a modern, systematic, excellence-oriented quality improvement approach to study, research and artistic creativity work is implemented. LAC's quality policy is subordinate to LAC's vision, mission and strategic goals (see 1.1.). LAC Quality Policy (Available: [LAC quality policy.pdf - Google drive](#)) defines quality improvement techniques, quality assurance resources and responsible persons, risk management approaches, as well as common guiding principles. The heads of all LAC structural units and administrative departments, as well as students, graduates, employers and other representatives of the cultural and creative sector ecosystem participates in its development and implementation.

In the current planning period of the LAC's activities, the quality policy forms the framework for the implementation of the six lines of action of the Latvian Academy of Culture Strategy 2023-2027 (hereinafter referred to as the Strategy): 1) studies, 2) research, 3) artistic creativity, 4) connection with the cultural and creative ecosystems, 5) international competitiveness and 6) management optimization processes. The quality policy provides for the precise definition of the achievable goals, operational tasks and planned results of all six lines of action, the control of their achievement and the implementation of improvements.

The quality policy, in accordance with the internal regulatory enactments of LAC, is implemented in each structural unit of LAC, it is subordinated to the operational functions of these structural units and to the process maps fixed in the Quality Management Manual. Of particular importance is the Regulation "Procedures for the development, amendment and quality monitoring of study programmes" (available:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/10ipeb93x1aBfKfnUGvX3Xwdpm0ubelug/view> (Latvian only)). The quality policy implementation mechanism is characterized by specific processes of the quality management system (QMS), which are structured in LAC according to the four-step cycle "Plan - Do - Check - Act (PDCA)": in step 1, the goals and processes necessary to achieve them are

determined; in step 2, these processes are put into practice; in step 3, the results are reviewed, comparing the achievements with the goals; step 4 looks for necessary improvements by modifying the planning, implementation and review processes.

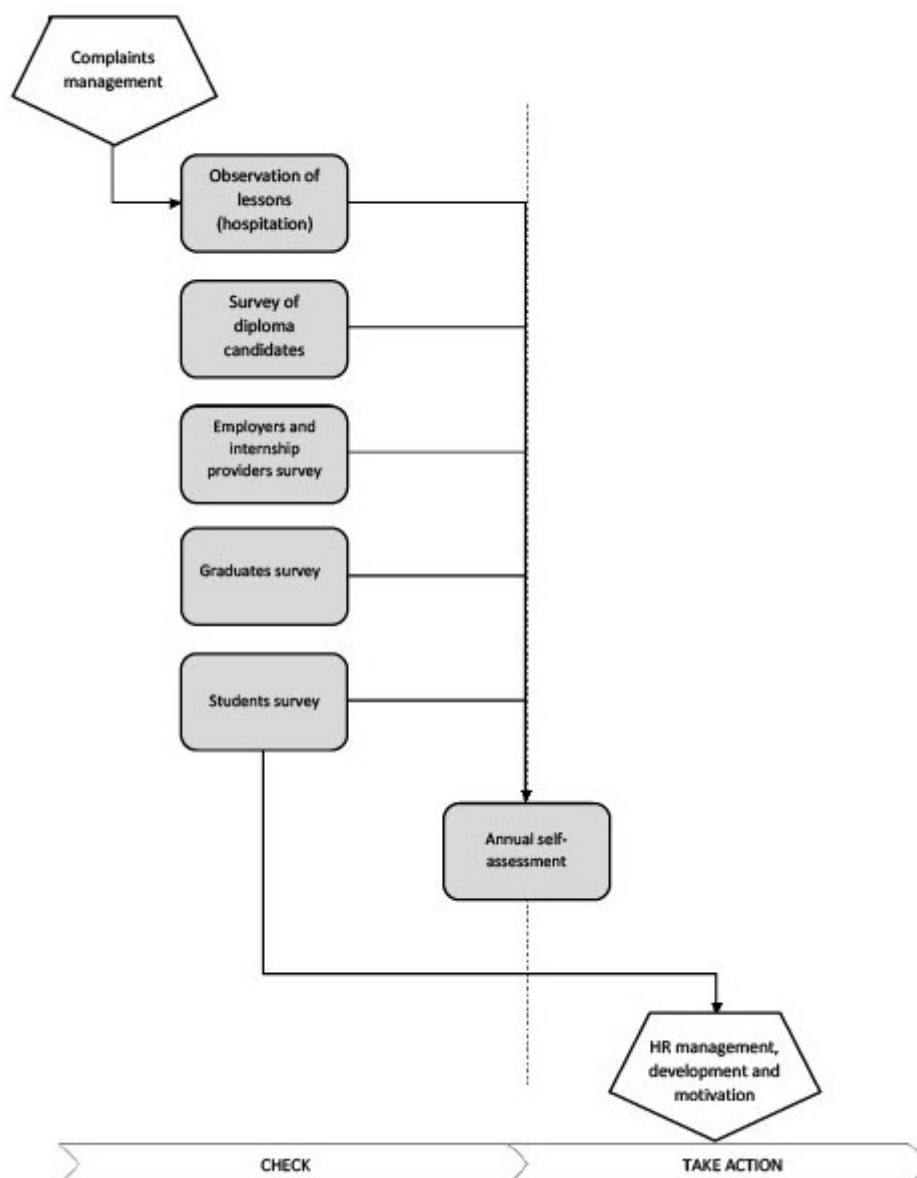
The first step, which covers operational planning, is implemented both by developing medium-term (5-7 years) development planning documents (strategy and action plan for the specific planning period) and by preparing annual planning of the study process, research, artistic creativity, financial management and personnel management documents. The operational goals of the study direction "Arts" are defined in the Strategy, the processes of achieving them are subordinated to the execution of the tasks of the Strategy and the achievement of the results defined in the Action Plan and their performance indicators. **The second step** describes the actions in the study process, research, artistic creativity and other dimensions of LAC's activities. This stage is governed by external and more than 36 internal laws and regulations governing the operation of LAC. **The third step** is characterized by the monitoring and control of the performance of the results, which takes place both at the beginning of the calendar year for the previous year and in the final evaluation of the strategy. For example, in 2022, an ex-post evaluation of the LAC Strategy 2015-2021 was carried out, and for the LAC Strategy 2023-2027, an interim evaluation of the Strategy is performed in the second half of 2025 in order to check the progress of the implementation of the Strategy and to diagnose key deliverables at risk of performance or attainment, as well as to make decisions about the management of these risks. An external final evaluation of the Strategy is planned for the first half of 2028, which includes the evaluation of the performance of all the activities, tasks, key deliverables and objectives. Quality management tools are adapted to the dimension of each field of the study direction – the study process, scientific research and artistic creativity, especially in the control stage, for example, a self-evaluation report of the study direction is prepared annually; in 2019, the self-assessment of scientific activity was prepared and submitted for the international assessment of scientific activity (2019) etc. In **the fourth step**, changes and improvements are proposed in the activities that hinder or do not contribute to the achievement of the planned results.

The implementation of the changes based on the evaluation is described in more detail in section 2.3., but the most important of them are, for example, the creation of new study programmes based on the analysis of labor market demand. For example, several sub-programmes have been transformed into study programmes within the study direction (for example, academic bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Dance" licensed in 2015, academic bachelor's study programme "Audiovisual art" licensed in 2016, academic master's study programme "Audiovisual and Performing Art" licensed in 2018, academic master's study programme "Cultural Heritage Governance and Communication" licensed in 2020), facilitated by analysis of labour market demand, sector profession skills mapping, graduate survey data and other assessment data. Likewise, the integration of the internationalization component in the national and LAC level planning documents contributed to the creation of two international master's programmes. Each step of quality management has its own specific procedures (see the Quality Management System manual in the "Quality Management" section - <https://lka.edu.lv/en/academy/documents/>) but responsibility for their provision is delegated to a specific administration representative or structural unit. Thus, in 2014, a new position of Vice-Rector in research was created to strengthen the development of the scientific activity of LAC, and the position of Vice-Rector in artistic work was created for the management of artistic creation processes, which ensured a significant increase in the financial and personnel resources available for the implementation of scientific and artistic activity and an increase in the quality of operation. Also, for the efficiency of the mobilisation of development resources and investments, according to the recommendations by "International comparative evaluation of the management efficiency and study process modernization of the Latvian Academy of Culture and Latvian College of Culture" (see

<https://lka.edu.lv/lv/par-akademiju/attistiba/starptautisks-izvertejums/> (Latvian only)) Finance Department and Development Department have been established, the heads of which are responsible for monitoring the investments and results planned in the implementation of the Strategy. The Council of LAC also plays an important role in quality management processes (see Chapter 5 of LAC Strategy).

In order to achieve the goals and results of the programmes and to ensure continuous improvement, development and operational efficiency of the study direction "Arts" and its corresponding study programmes, special attention is paid to ensuring a student-centred study process. In order to achieve this goal, an important part of the procedure is the monitoring of the students and graduates' opinion and evaluation (see <https://www.lka.edu.lv/lv/par-akademiju/aptaujas/> (Latvian only)), which is carried out for each stage of the study process: survey of reflective students (future students), evaluation of study subjects and lecturers' work: survey of abiturients (future graduates), survey of graduates. The analysis of these and other data (for example, data from the monitoring of graduates' income and employment conducted by the Ministry of Education and Science, see <https://www.izm.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/prezente-jauna-absolventu-monitoringa-datus> (Latvian only), etc.) is used as a basis for the creation of new study programmes, changes in the study programme content, the creation of a new internship system and career development service model, raising the professional qualifications of lecturers, specifying the criteria for the composition of lecturers and personnel selection, etc. The data is regularly published on the LAC website, creating open and transparent communication. The Academy's website also serves as a feedback resource for evaluation results, informing prospective students, current students, potential employers, Academy staff and other interested parties about evaluation results. One of the main tasks of the Latvian Academy of Culture is to ensure that study programmes are implemented in such a way as to encourage students to actively participate in the formation of the study process, developing a student-centered study process. The management of the student complaints processing process can be seen in image no. 1.

Image no. 1



Various cyclical external quality assessments are also important in the quality management of the study direction (described in more detail in Strategy, chapter 2.1), which have contributed to a continuous, sustainable development-oriented quality management and implementation process of recommendations in various dimensions of the study direction.

1.4. Fill in the table on the compliance of the internal quality assurance system of the higher education institution/ college with the provisions of Section 5, Paragraph 2(1) of the Law on Higher Education Institutions by providing a justification for the given statement. In addition, it is also possible to refer to the respective chapter of the Self-Assessment Report, where the provided information serves as justification.

1.	The higher education institution/ college has established a policy and procedures for assuring the quality of higher education.	See point 1.3.
2.	A mechanism for the creation and internal approval of the study programmes of the higher education institution/ college, as well as the supervision of their performance and periodic inspection thereof, has been developed.	See point 2.2.2.
3.	The criteria, conditions, and procedures for the evaluation of students' results, which enable reassurance of the achievement of the intended learning outcomes, have been developed and made public.	See point 2.1.5.
4.	Internal procedures and mechanisms for assuring the qualifications of the academic staff and the work quality have been developed.	See point 2.3.6.
5.	The higher education institution/ college ensures the collection and analysis of the information on the study achievements of the students, employment of the graduates, satisfaction of the students with the study programme, efficiency of the work of the academic staff, the study funds available, and the disbursements thereof, as well as the key performance indicators of the higher education institution/ college.	<p>The information on the study achievements of the students see point 2.3.8.</p> <p>Employment of the graduates see point 3.1.3.</p> <p>Satisfaction of the students with the study programme see attachment 2.2.4.</p> <p>Efficiency of the work of the academic staff see point 2.3.6.</p> <p>The study funds available, and the disbursements thereof see point 3.3.3.</p> <p>Key performance indicators of the higher education institution/ college see points 1.1., 1.2., 1.3.</p>
6.	The higher education institution/ college shall ensure continuous improvement, development, and efficient performance of the study field whilst implementing their quality assurance systems.	See points 1.3., 2.2.1., 2.2.2., 2.2.3.

2.1. Management of the Study Field

2.1.1. Aims of the study field and their compliance with the scope of activities of the higher education institution/ college, the strategic development fields, as well as the development needs of the society and the national economy. The assessment of the interrelation of the study field and the study programmes included in it.

The scope of activity of LAC, according to the Cabinet of Ministers order no. 655 "On Types of Universities", is determined by LAC being one of the three universities of arts and culture in Latvia. Consequently - the overarching goal and common programme goals of the study direction "Arts" implemented by LAC are hierarchically subordinated to the operational goals of the university-type "universities of arts and culture" defined in the Law on Higher Education Institutions (see Article 3.2). At the same time, the development of the study direction is planned by taking into account the development priorities of education, science and cultural policy, the results of surveys of students, graduates and employers, initiatives and suggestions of academic and administrative staff, as well as recommendations of experts in the culture and arts sector, ensuring the continuity of education at all study levels and coherence of study programs and sub-programmes of LAC study direction "Arts" with programs of LAC Latvian College of Culture (hereinafter - LAC LCC) (Assessment of the competencies of students in higher education and the dynamics of their development during the study period. LR Ministry of Education and Science, 2021. Available: http://petijumi.mk.gov.lv/sites/default/files/title_file/Kompeten%C4%8Du%20nov%C4%93rt%C4%93%C5%A1anas%20instrumenta%20rokasgr%C4%84mata_Petijums_0.pdf (Latvian only)). In the medium-term planning document of LAC currently in force "The Development Strategy of the Latvian Academy of Culture for 2023 - 2027" (hereinafter referred to as "Strategy"), five development priorities and five strategic development directions are determined, which also determine the overarching goal of the study direction, common goals, study program and subprogram achievable results and other elements of the Study Direction. The set priorities are 1) the excellence of studies, research and artistic creation, 2) digital transformation, 3) the development of Tabakas fabrikas kvartāls as the study, research and artistic creativity infrastructure of LAC; 4) development and implementation of an effective cooperation model between LAC and LAC agency "Latvian College of Culture at the Latvian Academy of Culture "; 5) effective strategic communication. The Strategic Action Plan is structured in six directions of action: 1) quality of the study process; 2) excellence of scientific activity; 3) development of artistic creation; 4) connection with the cultural and creative ecosystem; 5) strengthening of international competitiveness; 6) streamlining and modernization of management.

The overarching goal of the LAC study direction "Arts" is to provide sustainable, successive, interdisciplinarity-based higher and post-graduate (doctoral) education in the field of culture, art and the creative sector; to prepare competitive professionals in the field of culture and art (theatre, dance and audiovisual arts); to closely integrate education, research and artistic creativity in the study process; to effectively integrate into the cultural, artistic and creative ecosystem of national and international scale.

Common goals of the study direction "Arts" (programmes):

1. To develop cultural education based on research and artistic creation, to provide high-quality, internationally recognized studies in culture and arts (theatre art, dance art and audiovisual art), as well as in the creative industries sector, providing full-cycle subsequent studies in bachelor's and master's level study programmes, as well as academic or professional doctoral study programmes.
2. To prepare specialists for the cultural and creative sector as a special part of the national

economy, specializing in the preparation of creative professionals in film, theatre and dance arts, management of art, culture and intercultural communication processes, culture and art research and heritage preservation, as well as in creative industries.

3. To ensure that the knowledge, skills, competence, and attitude acquired during studies meet the conditions of sustainable development of the cultural sector of Latvia, the requirements of the European Union's higher education space, values based on humanism and civic responsibility. Develop study programmes so that they form a solid foundation for lifelong learning and motivation for professional development.
4. To develop knowledge, skills and competences in arts and humanities, as well as interdisciplinary approaches, which in the long term allow to ensure the process of Latvian cultural and artistic creativity, the creation and inheritance of cultural values, promote cultural diversity and a dynamic cultural environment in general.
5. To develop such professional and general skills, as well as personality qualities in students, which promote value-based adaptability in a changing and crisis-affected cultural, artistic, political, economic, ecological environment. Promote the development of the characteristics of professional autonomy and entrepreneurship as a resource for competitiveness and successful career development.
6. To develop knowledge and research skills based on modern theoretical approaches, which can be effectively used in solving the problems and challenges of art developments, culture and the creative sector, to provide research and scientific expertise in the field of culture and art.
7. To purposefully develop digital skills and new technologies both in the study and research environment and in the creation of new cultural and artistic content; to create a favourable environment for the dissemination of technological and non-technological innovations in the fields of culture and art.
8. To integrate the dimension of internationalization in all stages and manifestations of the study process, promote the excellence and competitiveness of graduates not only locally, but also internationally, especially in the labour market of the cultural and creative ecosystem of the European Union.

The relevance of the study direction to the needs of society and economic development is justified by the special importance of culture and art, as well as creative industries, emphasized in Latvian and EU development planning documents, in strengthening the quality of society's life, sustainability and resilience, in the development of principles of humanistic-based societal values, in overcoming crises, in learning the changes of digital transformation and in the diffusion of innovations. "UNESCO Medium-Term Strategy for 2022-2029" emphasized the need to activate intercultural and interreligious dialogue, which is based on learning and understanding the history and memory of humankind and maintaining universal human values. The promotion of the diversity of cultural content and the expansion of opportunities for participation in culture are also emphasized. On the other hand, in the medium-term planning document of the Ministry of Culture, Cultural Policy Guidelines for 2022-2027 "Cultural State", it is indicated that the priority in higher education is to implement a competitive cultural and arts education process focused on human resources development, developing professional and academic doctoral study programmes, promoting artistic creation and research, as well as stimulating the internationalization of education and the relevance of cultural and creative industry needs. Likewise, the development of the programmes of the LAC study direction "Arts" is also related to the task set forth in the Guidelines to develop a wider availability of further education, professional qualification acquisition, professional development and retraining opportunities through the cooperation of universities, to continue to strengthen research in the fields of culture and arts, to conduct research on the history of Latvian art and culture, contemporary cultural and artistic processes, cultural consumption

trends, social and economic impact and sustainability of culture and other areas.

The study programmes are interconnected both horizontally - within one study level, and vertically - creating a succession between bachelor's, master's and doctoral level programmes, so that graduates with their knowledge, skills and competence could work in the labour market of the cultural and creative sector as creative professions that involve the work of artistic creation (actors, playwrights, film and theatre directors, contemporary dancers), as well as professions that lead, research, communicate, preserve heritage, attract audiences and perform other functions that maintain and support the process of artistic creation and culture as a whole.

2.1.2. SWOT analysis of the study field with regard to the set aims by providing explanations on how the higher education institution/ college expects to eliminate/improve weaknesses, prevent threats, and avail themselves of the given opportunities, etc. The assessment of the plan for the development of the study field for the next six years and the procedure of the elaboration thereof. In case there is no development plan elaborated or the aims/ objectives are set for a shorter period of time, information on the elaboration of the plan for the development of the study field for the next assessment period shall be provided.

The study direction development plan has been integrated into the LAC Strategy for 2023-2027 as the first direction of action "Quality of the study process". Its aim is to provide high-quality, internationally recognized studies in the fields of culture and art, creative industries, cultural heritage and cultural education; to develop excellence-oriented, competitive and internationally demanded education based on research and artistic creativity; to improve the study offer at the level of bachelor's, master's and doctoral study programmes; to prepare the human resources necessary for the state and the national economy in the fields of culture and creative industries (especially theatre, audiovisual arts, contemporary dance), cultural heritage and cultural contact; promote national and international cooperation for the improvement of study work. In order to achieve the goal of the course of action, six tasks have been set: 1) Ensure the excellence, competitiveness and internationalization of LAC study programmes; 2) Promote the development and regeneration of academic staff, ensuring professional development and good human resources management; 3) Promote cooperation with the cultural and creative sector, art and culture universities, other higher education institutions, as well as international and foreign institutions; 4) Study financing, management and monitoring, improvement of the study environment; 5) Ensure strategic and purposefully planned communication of study content, process and results; 6) Promote the digitization of the study process. The list of strengths and weaknesses, as well as opportunities and threats of achieving the set goals and tasks, is visualized in table no. 2.

Table no. 2.

SWOT analysis of LAC study direction "Arts"	
Strengths	Weaknesses

- Bachelor's, master's and doctoral level study programmes that provide opportunities for subsequent studies
- Sustained interest of new applicants in study programmes
- Dynamic connection with labour market needs and demand
- Interdisciplinarity and uniqueness of study programmes and research directions
- Student-centred approach and a high proportion of individual work and approach
- The academic staff consists of qualified personnel, a large proportion of industry professionals and outstanding personalities
- Opportunities for scientific and professional doctorate studies are provided, the council of professors and the doctoral council are functioning
- Excellence-oriented, nationally and internationally competitive scientific activity environment
- The practice of publishing scientific publications is developed
- The practice of artistic creativity, focused on excellence, closely related to the field of theatre, dance and film arts
- A close multi-level connection with the cultural and creative sector
- Development of continuing education programmes
- A creative, diverse, inclusive environment that fosters belonging
- Efficient and decentralized administrative systems focused on both student needs and project management.
- Development-oriented quality management policy
- Democratic communication between students and administrative, academic staff

- The number of budget places does not meet the demand, paid studies contribute to student dropout
- Lack of suitable facilities for ensuring modern study and artistic creation process
- The remuneration of academic and administrative staff is not competitive
- Insufficient link of development between LAC study programmes and the programmes of the LAC Latvian College of Culture
- The academic resource mobility potential is insufficiently used, small number of invited guest lecturers from foreign universities within the framework of *Erasmus* or other programmes.
- Teachers and students do not make sufficient use of the opportunities provided by the e-study environment

Opportunities

Threads

-
- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen cooperation between students of different programmes • Strengthening the development, academic and scientific qualifications of teaching staff • Continue cooperation with other Latvian universities, especially AAL and JVLMA • Involvement in the consortia of the "European Universities" initiative • Development of a network of mentors and alumni • New cooperation initiatives with foreign partners in studies, research and artistic creativity. • Creation of new study programmes, including international and joint ones • Systematic mapping of study results according to labour market demand • Development of qualitative doctoral studies • Development of partnership with the cultural and creative industry, as well as other representatives of the commercial sector | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demographic, security and economic crises in Latvia affect students' educational choices and the number of applicants • Strong support for STEM programmes at all levels of education can weaken resources for the development of humanities and arts programmes • Instability and barriers to strategic planning caused by the continuous reform process of the education system • Significant delay in LAC infrastructure development in Tabakas Fabrika quarter, Miera street 58a • The demand for learning new competencies created by digital transformation and the resulting financial, adaptive and psychological burden on academic (including students) and administrative staff • Disproportionate increase in base funding compared to growth needs • Declining student solvency • Increasing competition in the higher education system throughout the European Union. |
|--|--|

In the LAC Strategy for 2023-2027 Action Plan section "Quality of Study Direction", 40 actions are planned, which are aimed at maintaining strengths and improving weaknesses, as well as more effectively using opportunities and managing risks, which will allow to reduce threats. The most important of them are:

1. development of the educational offer by improving existing and developing new (including international as well as joint) study programmes according to changes in demand and strategic priorities of LAC;
2. improvement of the admission process, effective communication with applicants in order to attract well-prepared students and maintain a stable number of students (680 students);
3. the development of academic and professional doctoral studies and the creation of a doctoral school according to the principles of the new doctoral model;
4. development of interdisciplinary study offer, promoting cooperation between departments, other structural units and cooperation partners in the implementation of study programmes and study courses;
5. strengthening the capacity of academic staff (lecturers) and ensuring regeneration by activating motivational programmes and financial incentives for scientific activity;
6. ensure the attraction of foreign lecturers during the study programme implementation (excluding lecturers engaged within the framework of international mobility ERASMUS+);

7. improve good human resources management and the linking of academic performance results with the personnel remuneration system;
8. provide students with a diverse, industry-appropriate career growth service model, including mentor systems' development;
9. promote the integration and succession of LAC and LAC LCC study programmes by developing the LAC and LKA LCC consolidation plan and attracting funding for the implementation of the process (EUR 500,000 from the funding planned within the Recovery and Resilience Mechanism for internal consolidation activities);
10. promote the provision of state budget funding for all implemented study programmes by purposefully investing resources in fundraising activities;
11. implement study programmes quality improvement activities in accordance with the evaluation results;
12. improve the monitoring of early termination of studies and develop a strategy for reducing student dropout;
13. specify communication and marketing forms for different audiences, also attract foreign students
14. activate cooperation with policy makers in order to promote the attraction of funding for the construction of the 2nd stage of the Tabakas Fabrikas quarter at Miera Street 58a;
15. digitization of study content, integration of technologies in teaching, learning and assessment processes, etc. actions

The study direction development plan is attached in the appendix (see appendix 2.1.2).

2.1.3. The structure of the management of the study field and the relevant study programmes, and the analysis and assessment of the efficiency thereof, including the assessment of the role of the head of the study field and the heads of the study programmes, their responsibilities, and the cooperation with other heads of the study programmes, as well as the assessment of the support by the administrative and technical staff of the higher education institution/ college provided within the study field.

The study direction "Arts" is implemented at several levels - the level of LAC management, including the LAC council, constitutional assembly, Rector, advisory convention, Senate, and three Vice-Rectors (in academic, scientific, and creative artistic field); the administrative and support levels. Read more about the appropriate structure of the management of the corresponding study programme and its effectiveness in point 1.2.

Assessment of the role of the head of the study field and the heads of the study programmes, their responsibilities, and the cooperation with other heads of the study programmes:

The Vice-rector in academic work is the head of the study direction, evaluating the compliance of the study programme plan with normative documents. In cooperation with programme and sub-programme directors (if applicable) the responsibilities of Vice-rector include management of study programme's licensing and accreditation, as well as preparation and submission of changes in normative documents to the decision-making institutions of LAC. Every semester, the Vice-rector in academic work reviews the academic workload submitted by the departments for the respective semester and approves it if it complies with all the normative acts. To ensure the study process, the Vice-rector in academic work closely collaborates with the heads of LAC departments, programme

directors, sub-programme directors, and the Study Department, supervises the organization and conduct of final works, and organizes and conducts winter and summer exam sessions.

The study programme directors (fulfilling their duties as the heads of study programmes) are responsible for the implementation of the study programmes, the study process, evaluation and analysis of student achievements and other related aspects, and, in cooperation with the Communication Department, promote the study programme. The programme directors collaborate with the Study Department, the department heads, Vice-rectors, to prepare the necessary documentation for the implementation of the programme, and with the LAC Library to prepare the adequate documentation necessary for conducting the programme. Through daily cooperation with the administrative staff, the programme directors analyse the quality of study work, develop study schedules, and organize study process and final exams. The responsibilities and duties of study programme directors and sub-programme directors are determined by the LAC regulations "On study programme directors and sub-programme directors in Latvian Academy of Culture", available: https://drive.google.com/file/d/16oMStEtVb-HQjCNqLMm4_pXtRMoidP/view (Latvian only).

The assessment of the support by the administrative and technical staff of the higher education institution/ college provided within the study field:

The technical staff of the Latvian Academy of Culture ensures the technical equipment of the study rooms to implement the study process for the study direction "Arts". For the study programmes "Audiovisual Art ", "Contemporary Dance" and sub-programmes "Stage Acting" and "Theatre Directing", that require specific technical room and/or equipment for a qualitative implementation of the study process, the respective technical supervisors are involved, which provide the technical equipment (video cameras, microphones, lights, etc.) and inform the students about its use and storage. In addition to technical support, administrative support is provided within the study process, implemented by the Study Department, department heads and programme directors of the Latvian Academy of Culture, ensuring qualitative and timely flow of information, communicating about academic requirements, obligations and answering students' questions. Evaluating the administrative and technical staff and management efficiency and the quality of support provided, it can be concluded that it is well organized and can be positively evaluated.

A schematic representation of the management structure of the study direction is attached (see appendix 2.1.3.).

2.1.4. Description and assessment of the requirements and the system for the admission of students by specifying, inter alia, the regulatory framework of the admission procedures and requirements. The assessment of options for the students to have their study period, professional experience, and the previously acquired formal and non-formal education recognised within the study field by providing specific examples of the application of these procedures.

The admission process and procedure for students in the study direction "Arts" in LAC is specified in the admission rules for the respective academic year and study programme. The admission rules for bachelor's study programmes are confirmed by the Senate of LAC each year by December 1st and are published on the website of LAC. The admission rules are developed based on the Higher Education Law and regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers no. 846 of 10 October 2006 - "Regulations on the requirements, criteria and procedure for the admission to the study programmes" as well as taking into account the specific requirements and industry environment of

each study programme. Student admission for each study programme is organized once a year (in some cases, it is organized twice a year). Since 2020, the applicants for study programmes have applied for studies through the electronic platform created and adapted by the LAC (uznemsana.lka.edu.lv), which provides a convenient application process for the applicants. Applicants can also submit their applications in person by consulting with representatives of the LAC admission commission. This procedure is approved with the order of the Rector of LAC.

Admission in bachelor's study programmes

The admission process for study places in bachelor's study programmes is based on the results of the centralized exams (CE) in mathematics, Latvian language and foreign language, as well as specific exams related to the respective study programme or sub-programme, which are developed in accordance with the Higher Education Council.

Entrance exams and **additional requirements** (in certain cases) for participation in the admission process have been set for bachelor's study programmes. All entrance exams (each round) are evaluated on a 100-point system, in each round the applicant must receive no less than 40 points, otherwise it is not possible to participate in the next round and the admission process as a whole (see table no. 3).

Table no. 3

Entrance exams for bachelor study programmes

1.	Academic bachelor's programme "Creative Industries"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To participate in the competition for state-funded study places, the CE grade in mathematics must not be lower than 15 percent (after applying the comparison coefficient of exam levels). • To participate in the competition for study places, the CE rating in a foreign language (English, French, or German) must not be lower than 30 percent after applying the examination comparison coefficient.
2.	Academic bachelor's programme "Arts" sub-programmes "Culture and Arts Studies", "Sociology and Management of Culture", "Intercultural Relations"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admission test "Essay writing"; • To participate in the competition for study places, the CE rating in a foreign language (English, French, or German) must not be lower than 30 percent after applying the examination comparison coefficient.
3.	Academic bachelor's programme "Arts" sub-programme "Drama and Text Studies"	Text analysis written examination (Two parts)
4.	Academic bachelor's programme "Arts" sub-programmes "Stage Acting", "Theatre Directing"	Creative task (4 rounds)

5.	Academic bachelor's programme "Arts" sub-programme "Audiovisual Art"	Creative task (3 rounds)
6.	Academic bachelor's programme "Arts" sub-programme "Contemporary Dance"	Creative task (4 rounds)

In specific study programmes, the result of the CE or entrance examination is multiplied by a certain coefficient and summed up in the overall calculation in the ranking system.

Applicants who have obtained their secondary education before 2004, obtained their secondary education abroad, or who were exempt from secondary education state exams in accordance with legal acts, may be admitted to bachelor's study programmes at LAC in accordance with established procedures (refer to the "Admission Regulations for Academic Bachelor's Study Programs at Latvian Culture Academy for the 2023/2024 academic year" (hereafter - Regulations) sections 4.1., 4.2., 4.3.).

Admission in master's study programmes

Applicants who have obtained a bachelor's degree in the relevant field or have prior work experience in the industry are admitted in the master's study programmes. The applicants participate in the admission process with the results of their entrance assessments.

Results of the entrance assessments are the main criteria to obtain study places. The following entrance assessments are developed in admission process of master's study programmes (each round is rated in a 100-point scale) (see table no. 4).

Table no. 4

Entrance exams for master's study programmes

1.	Academic master's programme "Arts" sub-programme "Cultural Management" (hereinafter: master's programme "Cultural and Arts Management")	Interview
2.	Academic master's programme "Cultural Heritage Governance and Communication"	Interview
3.	Academic master's programme "Creative Industries and Growth Management"	Interview
4.	Academic master's programme "Audiovisual and Performing Art"	Creative task (3 rounds).

Admission in academic doctorate's study programme "Arts"

Admission process for study places in the academic doctorate's study programme takes place based on interviews, evaluation of scientific research (including the presentation of the chosen thesis topic, as well as the characterization of the theoretical basis of the research), and the results of the competition, which show the scientific capacity of the applicant, the ability to balance the plan with an appropriate form of presentation, the ability to independently judge and argue, and to be oriented in the fields of humanities and arts. Applicants take an entrance assessment "Interview and scientific research evaluation", which is rated on a 100-point system.

Admission in professional doctorate's study programme "Arts"

The admission process for study places in the joint professional doctorate's study programme "Arts" at the sub-programme of "Audiovisual Arts, Theatre and Contemporary Dance" is carried out based on interviews, evaluation of artistic creations and research work (including creative artistic project and related theoretical research), and overall evaluation of entrance assessment results that show the applicant's creative and research capacity, ability to balance the idea with the appropriate expression form, ability to independently judge and argue, and be oriented in the fields of audiovisual, theatre, and contemporary dance. Applicants take the entrance assessment "Interview" which is evaluated on a 100-point system.

Recognition of prior learning and experience

Recognition of prior formal and non-formal education is carried out in accordance with "Regulations on the Academic Recognition of Study Courses at the Latvian Academy of Culture" (approved by the Senate of the Latvian Academy of Culture meeting no. 9 on December 17, 2012, ruling no. 4) and "Regulations on the Recognition of Competences Acquired Outside of Formal Education or in Professional Experience and Study Results Achieved in Prior Education at the Latvian Academy of Culture" (approved by the Senate of the Latvian Academy of Culture meeting no. 3 on March 16, 2020, ruling no. 7)

The opportunity of recognizing study courses and prior professional experience, formal and non-formal education within the study direction is a convenient and relatively simple procedure for students. For recognition of study courses, the student submits an application with the necessary documentation regarding the completion of similar previous study courses, which is evaluated by the Study Programme Council of the Latvian Academy of Culture and a decision is made. With the increasing student mobility, the number of cases of prior academic recognition of courses exceeds 50 cases per study semester.

The recognition of professional experience is a straightforward and relatively simple process for students or interested applicant. They submit an application along with the necessary documentation to the Study Result Recognition Commission of LAC for evaluation and a decision is made. As LAC only implements academic study programmes, cases of recognizing prior professional experience are very rare (1-2 times per study semester).

Electronic links to the internal regulatory framework, which determines the procedure and requirements for student admission, as well as the regulatory framework that regulates recognition procedures:

- Admission requirements for academic bachelor's programmes at the Latvian Academy of Culture for the 2023/2024 academic year, available: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Awhe7Qd0EEbCuh0wXdV6GMGmwi-canns/view>
- Admission requirements for academic master's programmes at the Latvian Academy of Culture for the 2023/2024 academic year, available: https://drive.google.com/file/d/157FpscCVkVCRbOn_7qYJhM_y9YgRYL7Q/view
- Admission requirements for the academic doctorate's study programme "Arts" (51212) at the Latvian Academy of Culture for the 2023/2024 academic year, available: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1PyVz8eATcKPZcbFPPuBGObkS3b1khsOx/view?usp=sharing>
- Admission requirements for the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme "Arts" (51213) Sub-programme "Audiovisual Arts, Theatre and Contemporary Dance" in 2023, available: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EH8EueXbe-qW5Hr-d1sQFepime4goF2D/view>
- Regulations on the academic recognition of study courses at the Latvian Academy of Culture, available: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vWOE5H35GxdDp9sNaD8V0cB-7VFFVYpv/view>

- Regulation on recognition of competences acquired outside the formal education or obtained in professional experience and learning outcomes achieved in prior learning in the Latvian Academy of Culture, available: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Rb47Vgwnbt7UAqEE6dGxRZemOOsyOIAn/view>

In the attachment:

A document certifying that the higher education institution will provide students with opportunities to continue their education in another study programme or in another higher education institution/college if the implementation of the study programme is interrupted (see appendix 2.1.4.-1).

A document certifying that the university guarantees compensation for losses to students if the study programme is not accredited due to the university's action (action or inaction) or the license of the study programme is revoked and the student does not want to continue his studies in another study programme (see appendix 2.1.4.-2).

Standard model of the study contract (see appendix 2.1.4.-3).

2.1.5. Assessment of the methods and procedures for the evaluation of students' achievements, as well as the principles of their selection and the analysis of the compliance of the evaluation methods and procedures with the aims of the study programmes and the needs of the students.

Evaluation of academic achievement and study results is based on student-centred education principles, in accordance with the requirements set by the Academic Education Standard and the regulations of the Academy's study process. The study results are evaluated by two indicators: a qualitative evaluation in percentage and a final grade in the 10-point system, and a quantitative evaluation - the number of credit points in accordance with the scope of the study course. The achievements of study results are evaluated on a 10-point scale or with the evaluation of "passed" / "failed". The performance of students and study results are evaluated in practical lessons, seminars, tests, independent study works, discussions, workshops, skill development exercises, and other assessments. Assessment methods and procedures are applied to the specific study course and study programme. The evaluation of the students' performance takes place in the study courses, during the defence of internship, in the presentation and defence of course and final examinations.

The main principles of student performance evaluation are:

- *principle of mandatory assessment* - at the end of each course, a positive evaluation and a passing grade is mandatory;
- *principle of transparency and clarity of evaluation criteria* - (public accessibility of approved and established evaluation criteria in course descriptions, internship regulations, and student's rights to appeal received evaluations). The teaching staff explains study results and received evaluations by providing feedback to the students;
- *principle of diversity of assessment forms* - expressed in various forms: 1) the students are involved in the evaluation process during the study courses, for example, by evaluating each other's contributions in group assignments, reviewing group member's study works, etc., and 2) during the course, the teaching staff uses various evaluation forms, for example, by evaluating some study assignments with "passed", others with grades, etc.

In all programmes, the evaluation is ensured to be fair, consistent, and requirements are discussed annually in department meetings. Students with challenges in completing the programme are offered individual solutions within their opportunities (for example, taking seminars or exams at a different time). However, there is no situation where a student can receive a satisfactory evaluation if minimum course requirements are not met. Students can view evaluations in the e-learning system and/or in the LAIS system.

Study course evaluation:

Teaching staff regularly assesses students' knowledge, skills and competencies in their course using the evaluation methods specified in the course description. The requirements for the assessments depend on the specific nature of each course and the organization of the study process in that course. The teaching staff is responsible for ensuring the public availability of the course evaluation criteria, while the programme director oversees it. The teaching staff is required to prepare, publish and regularly update the full course description in e-studies, as well as discuss the course plan, content, and requirements for independent or group work, deadlines, and evaluation conditions in the first lecture. This ensures that students are clearly informed about the evaluation principles, assessments, and other evaluation techniques to be used to evaluate what is expected of them and what criteria will be used.

Evaluation of study performance:

Evaluation criteria, conditions and procedures for student performance in courses are regulated by the "Regulations of the Academy on Examinations in Academic Bachelor's and Master's Study Programmes at the Latvian Academy of Culture" which is available: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VQO-ky9inAKysD1hmjj7Go-55NFCb97o/view>.

Internship evaluation:

The implementation and evaluation procedures of internship in study programmes are regulated by the "Statute on Internship of the Latvian Academy of Culture" which is available: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vVjh3PBMr6g20R1ynfra_emfKOzwS3Gw/view.

Evaluation of internship performance in some study programmes/sub-programmes is also governed by the approved internship regulations, which are confirmed by the responsible department for the implementation of the study programme or sub-programme and which describe the evaluation procedure of tasks performed in internship in detail. The results of the internship are evaluated either individually by the programme director or by a defence of the internship.

If the study programme includes defence of internship; students present their internship experience to receive a grade. The defence is public, with other students participating, and is evaluated by the programme director, department head, or head of specialization. The form of the internship assignment is a test or an exam.

Evaluation of course paper and State examination:

Assessment of course paper by students (in 2nd year) is evaluated by the paper's supervisor and programme students who are studying in the 4th year, or by the paper's supervisor and defence committee, for students who are studying in a 3-year programme. In the 3rd year, the paper is evaluated by an assessment committee established by the responsible department.

The bachelor's or master's Thesis is evaluated by the supervisor and reviewer, who provide their evaluations. There are also additional pre-defence and defence Commissions established in order to ensure the evaluation is conducted by more than one examiner.

Form of evaluation for course paper and bachelor's or master's Thesis is an exam.

The implementation and assessment procedures for course papers and final examination in study programmes are regulated by the following regulations:

- Regulation on course papers at the Latvian Academy of Culture, available: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gn4agHRZ2n5qlg8MfUj2GWRsuSB71GS4/view> (Latvian only)
- Guidelines for the development of course paper and bachelor's Thesis in the joint academic bachelor's study programme "Creative Industries" at the Latvian Academy of Culture and Riga Technical University, available: [https://lka.edu.lv/media/cms_page_media/1247/MN%20kursa%20un%20bakalaura%20darba%20izstradei%20\(03.10.2022\).pdf](https://lka.edu.lv/media/cms_page_media/1247/MN%20kursa%20un%20bakalaura%20darba%20izstradei%20(03.10.2022).pdf) (Latvian only)
- LAC Regulations about final examinations of bachelor and master studies, available: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/13XpjB6dU4IOQxI0Kdxgrgnz5d2TV1Aul?fbclid=IwAR3fk7NtT1dKPWFmLWhQ9Yuw20KYNIW3Gr88skzdcGM1yyqGVgLRYHg0GcU>
- Regulation on master's Thesis development for the joint academic master's study programme "Creative Industries and Growth Management" at the Latvian Academy of Culture and Riga Technical University, available: [https://lka.edu.lv/media/cms_page_media/1229/RIIM-MD-Nolikums-\(04.10.2021\).pdf](https://lka.edu.lv/media/cms_page_media/1229/RIIM-MD-Nolikums-(04.10.2021).pdf) (Latvian only)

2.1.6. Description and assessment of the academic integrity principles, the mechanisms for compliance with these principles, and the way in which the stakeholders are informed. Specify the plagiarism detection tools used by providing examples of the use of these tools and mechanisms.

The Constitution of LAC (point 20.3.7) states that the competence of the Senate of LAC is "to determine requirements and procedures related to academic integrity." Since 2005, the Code of Ethics approved by the Senate has been in force. Students and academic and general staff are familiar with and committed to complying with the principles set forth in the LAC Code of Ethics in order to promote the lawful and ethical behaviour of the academy's personnel in the interests of society. The principles of academic integrity must be observed by LAC students, academics and general staff in their studies and work: formal principles and fair and objective behaviour should be followed.

Code of Ethics available in English: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1yo4AB_dYN4Te9AzzsIVMceHZj5ivJAzb/view

Upon starting studies, each student signs a study agreement, committing to abide by the following principles during their studies: "In the course of completing the study programme, all individual assignments are to be completed independently, without plagiarism - the use of another author's published or unpublished work and its fragments, and indicating precise citation of the relevant author and/or work."

Students and employees, both during their studies and exams, must abide by the "Regulations on academic integrity at the Latvian Academy of Culture", which are approved by the LAC Senate. These rules are designed to strengthen academic culture and integrity within the LAC academic community, foster a shared understanding of academic integrity and related concepts, describe the possible violations of the principles of academic integrity commonly encountered in the academic

setting, and regulate the main procedures for their review.

Regulations available in English: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1l6gvsHKl7VZacHfzfH92Y2KVg2rUZH1N/view>

Academic integrity topics are also included in the following courses:

- Bachelor's study programme course - "Introduction in Studies and Career Development" (MākZ3D95);
- Bachelor's study programme course - "Introduction in Scientific Work" (MākZ4307, MākZ7272);
- Bachelor's study programme course - "Research Methods and Academic Writing" (MākZ3D81);
- Master's study programme course - "Research Methodology and Academic Writing" (MākZ4A33, MākZ4A34);
- Master's study programme course - "Research Design" (MākZ4A24);
- Master's study programme course - "Artistic Research and Academic Writing" (MākZ3F88).

The conditions of academic integrity are reminded to both students and academic staff before each examination session every semester. The Regulations of the Academy on Examinations describe various academic integrity violation situations (if during the course of test, individual work or interim examination, or in the final examination the student has used or uses unauthorized aids or commits plagiarism, etc.) and how to proceed regarding these situations. The annex of the Regulations contains the form "Report on Student's Academic Integrity Violation", which the teaching staff fills out if an academic integrity violation is detected.

The regulation is available in English: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VQO-ky9inAKysD1hmjj7Go-55NFCb97o/view>

During the development of course paper and final papers, students must become familiar with the "LAC Methodical Regulations for the development of term paper, bachelor's and master's thesis" (see:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/13XpjB6dU4lOQxl0Kdxgrgnz5d2TV1Aul?fbclid=IwAR3fk7NtT1dKPWFmLWhQ9Yuw20KYNIW3Gr88skzdcGM1yyqGVgLRyHg0GcU>)

Section IX of the Methodical Guidelines, "Regulations on Academic Integrity at the Latvian Academy of Culture" explains why strict requirements are imposed for academic integrity, upholding the highest standards of professionalism and accuracy, objectivity and truthfulness, moral and ethical principles, providing accurate information and accuracy in academic publications, as well as in communication and publicity events that shape the image of the academic environment. The guidelines contain detailed instructions for correct citation formatting. This process helps reducing the presence of plagiarism and points out any flaws in the student's work that need to be addressed. During the development of course paper and final Thesis, the work supervisor instructs students about the dangers of using plagiarism and the possible consequences. Procedures are taken to check for plagiarism and a plan of action is established if plagiarism is found.

- When submitting a course paper or Thesis, the student confirms that the work was developed independently with their signature on the documentary page of the work; precise bibliographical references and citations are given for all data, insights, and opinions compiled from works by other authors.
- Since 2020, LAC has been checking all Theses through the Unified Plagiarism Control System (VDPKS), which includes several colleges and universities in Latvia. LAC uses the system in collaboration with the University of Latvia. System is utilized to inspect all Theses after they are uploaded to the LAIS platform. The VDPKS regularly updates and expands its plagiarism

detection capabilities.

- Theses of students in the joint study programmes "Creative Industries" and "Creative Industries and Growth Management" are examined with plagiarism control systems from LAC and RTU

If the system detects plagiarism in the study work, further review of the student's work is organized in accordance with "Procedure for checking electronic versions of final theses in the Latvian Academy of Culture" (see <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/13XpjB6dU4lOQxl0Kdxgrgnz5d2TV1Aul?fbclid=IwAR3fk7NtT1dKPWFmLWhQ9Yuw20KYNIW3Gr88skzdcGM1yyqGVgLRYHg0GcU>)

- If plagiarism is detected in the study work, the student's expulsion from the institution is initiated,
- If it is determined that the text similarities qualify as unintentional plagiarism - unintentional non-reference to the works of other authors- or if the amount of text similarity is actually minor and does not affect the authenticity of the final work, the student may be given the opportunity to correct the identified deficiencies and resubmit the final revised version within three workdays.

Examples from several study programmes:

- In 2020, the "Cultural Management" subprogramme of the academic master's degree programme "Arts" had a study work that was found with 16% direct plagiarism. After a detailed examination of the work and a conversation with the supervisor, the designated expert concluded that, in addition to the aforementioned direct plagiarism, there was also indirect plagiarism - paraphrasing text without references. In total, 2/3 of the theoretical part of the master's thesis was considered plagiarism. The student was informed about this violation and asked for an explanation. The student submitted an explanation acknowledging the plagiarism. Based on the violation found, the student was expelled. The student re-enrolled in the program and completed a thesis with a different topic the following academic year.
- In 2022, thesis reviewer uncovered plagiarism in bachelor's thesis of a student in the bachelor's study programme "Creative Industries" - a translation of a work published abroad. Upon reviewing the report in RTU's unified plagiarism control system, it was seen that the system showed a 17% match with other works. The thesis was also checked in the LAC plagiarism control system, where there was no match. Upon reviewing the comparison of both works prepared by the reviewer, it was concluded that the principles of academic integrity have been violated in the thesis and there are signs of intentional plagiarism. The programme directors prepared a report on the detected plagiarism to the Vice-rector of academic work in LAC. After receiving the student's explanation, the student was not allowed to take the final exam. The student was given the opportunity to develop a new thesis and defend it in the next academic year.
- In 2022, the final study works of students in the bachelor's study programme "Creative Industries" were checked using RTU unified computerized plagiarism control system, revealing that in two of the study works, the plagiarism percentage exceeded 30%, while in one project it was close to the acceptable limit of 28%. The designated expert from LAC, after reviewing the information in of the works, concluded that the high percentage of similarities was a result of using various sources, none of which were used without references or in large quantities. However, the system showed significantly large portions of text from other sources, which were used in the thesis with the appropriate reference at the end. The expert prepared a report on the results of the examination and the student was given a warning and a reduced grade for the bachelor's thesis. In the other bachelor's thesis, the system indicated

a plagiarism percentage exceeding 30%, but the expert found that the high percentage of similarities was a result of using various sources, none of which were used without references or in large quantities

2.2. Efficiency of the Internal Quality Assurance System

2.2.1. Assessment of the efficiency of the internal quality assurance system within the study field by specifying the measures undertaken to achieve the aims and outcomes of the study programmes and to ensure continuous improvement, development, and efficient performance of the study field and the relevant study programmes.

The effectiveness of the internal quality assurance system of the study area is characterised by several quality management activities, but in particular, the fact that the *Deming cycle* is applied in the introduction and implementation of the quality system: Plan – Do – Check – Act. Achieving the goals and results of the study programmes, continuous improvement, development and operational efficiency of the study direction and corresponding study programmes are ensured by a purposeful and data-based planning process which is subordinated to daily activities, as well as a multi-level evaluation of the achieved results, the outcome of which are integrated into the planning of future activities, thus providing effective assessment feedback.

Quality Policy of the LAC ([Electronic link to the quality policy of the LAC](#)) defines quality improvement techniques, quality assurance resources and responsible, risk management approaches, as well as common basic principles. Managers, students, graduates, as well as employers and other representatives of the cultural and creative sector ecosystem participate in its development and implementation. Examples of specific activities that demonstrate the effectiveness of the quality management system (QMS) are associated with all steps of this system. The first step, which covers operational planning, is implemented by involving all academic (including students) and administrative staff to purposefully identify all problems and challenges in the current operation by using external and internal evaluation data accumulated in the previous planning period. For example, when developing the medium-term (5–7 years) development planning document “The Strategy of the LAC for 2023–2027”, a multi-stage consultation process was implemented with representatives of all structural units of the LAC and the Student Self-Government of the LAC. A total of 29 interviews, two focus groups and one brainstorming session were conducted for the purpose of assessing the current situation and identifying problems. 15 working group discussions were organised for the development of the action directions of the Action Plan of the Strategy of the LAC for 2023–2027 by delegating those responsible to formulating the tasks of each action direction. Such a “bottom-up” planning process ensures the representation of the interests of all involved parties in the planning of goals, tasks and activities. On the other hand, in the second stage of quality management, a bright indicator of the system’s effectiveness is multi-level measurements of the satisfaction and opinion of students and graduates. Students’ satisfaction with the quality of lecturers’ work within specific study courses, satisfaction with the study process as a whole (at the end of the last study semester), and graduates’ satisfaction with the importance of the education of the LAC in the labour market are measured. Students’ opinions are analysed at meetings of departments, the Council of Study Programmes and the councils of joint study programmes, lecturers are introduced to them and, in case of criticism, actions are requested to eliminate problems. Radical solutions have also been applied – replacement of the

lecturer or termination of employment. On the other hand, a regular study of the opinion of graduates allows us to establish the assessment of graduates about specific strengths and weaknesses of the graduated study programme, as well as to monitor the employment of graduates.

It is precisely the study of the opinions of graduates that has justified the introduction of many study quality improvements, for example, the creation of new bachelor study programmes, the creation of a new practice and career development model, the introduction of new study courses in existing study programmes, etc. On the other hand, the contract studies conducted by the LAC on the labour market of the cultural and creative sector and the conclusions obtained in them largely justified the initiative to develop the joint bachelor's study programme of the LAC and RTU "Creative Industries" and the joint master's study programme of the LAC and RTU "Creative Industries and Growth Management". The effectiveness of the quality management system is also characterised by monitoring and control activities that take place both at the beginning of the calendar year for the previous year and in the final evaluation of the strategy. For example, in 2022, an ex-post evaluation of the LAC strategy for 2015–2021 was carried out, but for the Strategy of the LAC for 2023–2027, an interim evaluation of the Strategy will be carried out in the second half of 2025, in order to check the progress of the Strategy's implementation and to diagnose the main deliverables that are at risk of execution or achievement, as well as to make decisions about the management of these risks. An external final evaluation of the Strategy is planned for the first half of 2028 which includes an evaluation of the planned activities, tasks, main results to be achieved and the performance of goals.

Different quality management tools have been adapted to each dimension of the field of study – the study process, scientific research work and artistic creative activities – especially in the monitoring and control phase, for example, the self-evaluation report of the field of study prepared annually, in 2019, the self-evaluation of scientific activity prepared and submitted for the international assessment of scientific activity (2019), etc. The effectiveness of quality management is characterised by a wide range of proposed changes and improvements in activities that hinder or do not contribute to the achievement of planned results. The implementation of the changes based on the evaluation is described in more detail in section 2.3, but the most important of them are, for example, the creation of new study programmes based on the analysis of the labour market demand or, on the contrary, closing of sub-programmes. For example, within the scope of study, several sub-programmes have been transformed into study programmes (for example, the academic bachelor's study programme "Art of Contemporary Dance" licensed in 2015, the academic bachelor's study programme "Audiovisual Art" licensed in 2016, the academic master's study programme licensed in 2018 "Audiovisual and Performing Art", the academic master's study programme "Cultural Heritage Management and Communication", licensed in 2020 and accredited in 2022), which was facilitated by the analysis of labour market demand, skill mapping of sector professions, graduate survey data and other evaluation data. Also, the integration of the internationalisation component in the planning documents of the national and the LAC level contributed to the creation of two international master's programmes.

Specific procedures suitable for each quality management step have been created (see the section "Quality management" of the Quality Management System manual – <https://lka.edu.lv/lv/par-akademiju/dokumenti/>)(Latvian only)), but the responsibility for ensuring them has been delegated to a specific representative of the administration or structural unit. Thus, in 2014, a new position of vice-rector of science was created to strengthen the development of the scientific activity of the LAC, and the position of vice-rector of artistic creativity was created for the management of artistic creation processes which ensured a significant increase in the financial and personnel resources available for the implementation of scientific and artistic activity and an

increase in the quality of operation. Likewise, for the attraction of development resources and the optimisation of investments, according to the recommendations of “International Comparative Evaluation of the Management Efficiency of the Latvian Academy of Culture and the Latvian College of Culture, and Modernisation of the Study Process” (see <https://lka.edu.lv/lv/par-akademiju/attistiba/starptautisks-izvertejums/> (Latvian only)), the Department of Finance and the Department of Development have been established, the heads of which are responsible for monitoring the investments and results planned in the implementation of the Strategy. The Council of the LAC also plays an essential role in the effectiveness of quality management processes (see Chapter 5 of the Strategy of the LAC).

2.2.2. Analysis and assessment of the system and the procedures for the development and review of the study programmes by providing specific examples of the review of the study programmes, the aims, and regularity, as well as the stakeholders and their responsibilities. If, during the reporting period, new study programmes have been developed within the study field, describe the procedures of their development (including the process of the approval of study programmes).

The process of developing and reviewing study programmes is regulated by several internal laws and regulations of the LAC, but the main one is the procedure for developing, amending and quality monitoring of study programmes at the Latvian Academy of Culture (available: [Apst_LKA studiju programmu izstradasanas un uzraudzisanas_kartiba_16.01.2023.pdf - Google disks](#) (Latvian only)), which defines the road map for developing new programmes.

The development and revision of new study programmes is an integral part of the quality management system of the LAC and the study direction “Arts”. The content of study programmes (study courses, study course description, amount of credit points, order of study courses) is reviewed annually, at the beginning of the planning of each next study year. Course lecturers, directors of study programmes and heads of sub-programmes, heads of departments, the management of the department of studies, the board of study programmes or the board of the specific joint study programme (if applicable) is involved in the review. Proposals in the development of new programmes are based on student satisfaction monitoring measurements, the demand of the cultural and creative sector, changes in the strategic priorities of education and science, as well as cultural policy, and also other current problems of society.

The general policy of the LAC in the previous planning period was purposefully aimed at aligning the existing study programmes with the specifics of cultural and creative sector employment models and labour market demand which manifested itself as the development of a new practice model at the LAC and the creation of new study programmes at the bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral study levels. The following study programmes have been created and licensed: (1) academic bachelor’s study programme “Audiovisual Art” by responding to the labour market demand of audio-visual art as a rapidly growing branch of creative industries; (2) the LAC and RTU **joint** academic bachelor’s study programme “Creative Industries” by responding to the demand for interdisciplinary skills in the creative industries sector; (3) academic master’s study programme “Audiovisual and Performing Art” by providing full-cycle educational opportunities in audio-visual and performing arts; (4) **international** academic master’s study programme “Cultural Heritage Management and Communication” by responding to the labour market demand of the heritage sector, including memory institutions; (5) **international joint** academic master’s study programme of the LAC and RTU “Creative Industries and Growth Management” by providing full-cycle

educational opportunities in creative industries; (6) the **joint professional doctoral study programme in arts "Arts"** of the JVL AoM, the LAC and the LAoA, within the framework of which the LAC implements the sub-programme "Audiovisual Art, Theatre and Contemporary Dance". The development of new study programmes at the master's level includes several additional quality management steps, namely, in-depth comparative analysis of other similar study programmes, visits to foreign partners, research of the opinions of labour market representatives, involvement of industry professionals in content development, etc. On the other hand, the creation of the professional doctoral study programme is a response to the specifics of the labour market demand of the cultural and creative sector, and initiates the implementation of a new type of professional doctoral programme in Latvia.

Table no. 5

Dynamics of the number of LAC study programmes from 2013 to 2022

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Number of bachelor's degree study programmes	1	1	2	3	4	4	4	4	4	4
Number of sub-programmes of bachelor's degree study programmes	9	9	8	8	8	7	7	6	6	6
Number of master's level study programmes	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	4	4	4
Number of sub-programmes of master's level study programmes	6	6	6	6	6	6	3	3	2	2
Number of doctoral level study programmes	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2

Although the development of bachelor's, master's, and doctoral study level programmes has its own specifics, the overall road map for their development can be generalised in the following stages:

1. Defining the rationale, idea, general concept, name, goal and main study results of the study programme, mobility of the authors of the idea and learning of international experience.
2. Discussing the design of the study programme with the LAC and industry representatives, clarifying the target audience.
3. Development and expertise of a study programme duration, planning, study courses, their descriptions.
4. Development and expertise of a study programme licensing documentation, licensing at the

Academic Information Centre – visit of experts and provision of an opinion, obtaining a license.

5. Communication of a study programme in Latvia and abroad, including development of study materials and placement in e-studies.
6. Student recruitment and admission.
7. Integration of the study program into the quality management system of the LAC.

The development, licensing and accreditation of new study programmes, as well as the continuous renewal of the content of already existing study programmes, have so far allowed the LAC to maintain a constant number of students and graduates, despite demographic trends and the demographic "hole" observed during the reporting period. However, the number of graduates of the LAC every year is greatly affected by the fact that, for example, at the bachelor's level, there are several sub-programmes in which students are not accepted every year (for example, in the sub-programmes "Art of Dramatic Theatre Acting", "Art of Dramatic Theatre Directing", "Drama and Textual Studies" of the academic bachelor's study programme "Arts"). In addition, most students combine studies with work and are sometimes forced to stop their studies in order to maintain their employment status. On the other hand, during the restrictions imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic, the state of physical and mental health of students deteriorated rapidly which was also one of the most important reasons for the discontinuation of studies in the last years of the reporting period.

2.2.3. Description of the procedures and/or systems according to which the students are expected to submit complaints and proposals (except for the surveys to be conducted among the students). Specify whether and how the students have access to the information on the possibilities to submit complaints and proposals and how the outcomes of the examination of the complaints and proposals and the improvements of the study field and the relevant study programmes are communicated by providing the respective examples.

Upon commencement of the studies, students shall be introduced to the units of the LAC, the head of the profiling department and the managers of the programme/sub-programme and shall be informed about persons that can help them solve any issues or problems that might occur. All contacts are also available on the LAC homepage: <https://lka.edu.lv/en/contact-details/contact-details/>

- Students can contact programme directors or sub-programme heads with problems or proposals regarding the study process. LAC accepts both oral and written submissions to the head of the department. At the end of the semester or academic year, programme directors or sub-programme heads, on their own initiative, meet with students in order to perform an evaluation of the content of the semester/academic year and study programme.
- The Student Association invites students to approach them in case of proposals or complaints regarding both the study process and practical problems/recommendations regarding access to studies and provision of facilities. The Student Association shall resolve the applications submitted or the complaints/proposals made orally in cooperation with the relevant departments of the LAC. Students' Association ensure the anonymity of respective students.
- Students have the opportunity to address their questions/objections orally or in written form to the Department of Studies, which addresses those questions/objections in collaboration with the respective departments and LAC leadership.
- Students have the opportunity to submit a written submission to the Rector of the LAC. The

application shall be registered in the Register of LAC applications and the rector delegates the head of the respective department for examination of the application. Unless stated otherwise in the application, the reply shall be given in a written form within 10 working days or, if the time limit has been extended but not more than 20 working days.

In the documents section there is information about procedures to submit proposals and complaints and how they are handled: https://drive.google.com/file/d/18o4FsXWTRIs_neH47aDaPJ947hnmwclU/view (Latvian only).

Appellation of Results

Applicants have the right to appeal the results by submitting a motivated complaint regarding procedural violations in the admissions process within two working days after notification of the decision and results. The Commission must examine the application within 2 working days and respond. It is possible to appeal the decision of the Admissions Commission on the complaint within three working days of its notification by submitting a complaint to the Rector of LAC. The decision taken by the Rector may be appealed in accordance with the procedures listed in the Administrative Procedure Law. The procedures for the submission and examination of such complaints are available in admission regulations of the respective academic year, which are published on the website of the LAC.

Students have the right to appeal the results obtained in the examination during the session, by submitting an appeal within 3 working days to the head of the department, who shall notify decision within 5 working days. Students may become acquainted with this procedure in the “Regulation on examinations in academic Bachelor's and Master's studies programmes at the Latvian Academy of Culture”, available: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VQO-ky9inAKysD1hmjj7Go-55NFCb97o/view>.

Students have the right to submit an appeal regarding violations in the final examination procedure (defending the Bachelor's or Master's Thesis) by submitting it to the Rector of LAC in a written form within 2 working days after defending the final work. Rector shall establish a Commission which shall examine the student's appeal within 5 days of the decision being taken and deliver a written opinion within two days of the decision being taken. Students may become acquainted with the procedures for the submission of appeals in regulation of the Latvian Academy of Culture regarding final examinations of Bachelor's and Master's study programmes, available: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/13XpjB6dU4IOQxl0Kdxgrgnz5d2TV1Aul>.

Students are introduced with these documents when starting their studies, providing information regarding the development of the final study work. The documents are publicly available on the LAC's website.

Examples:

- In the sub-programme of the academic Master's programme “Arts”, students submitted a written application to the rector of the LAC, the Vice-rector in academic work and the head of the department with a request not to continue the cooperation with a specific lecturer, mentioning several arguments. After receiving the application, it was decided to convene the Ethics Commission to examine the application and invite the respective lecturer for a conversation. As a result of the evaluation of the Commission, a decision was taken to terminate cooperation with the lecturer and not to assign lecturer to students as the head or reviewer of the final work, as well as not to include the final work of the Master in the Evaluation Commission.
- During the enrolment process, one of the potential students was not satisfied with the procedure that had taken place in the interview and underestimated the work of the Commission, so a letter was written to the LAC Vice-rector and participants of the Admissions

Examination Commission, expressing his claims against the procedure that had taken place and the scores obtained. A decision was taken for the candidate to do the interview with a different composition of the Commission. The candidate was informed in writing about the decision.

2.2.4. Provide information on the mechanism for collecting the statistical data, as developed by the higher education institution/ college. Specify the type of data to be collected, the regularity of collection, and the way the information is used to improve the study field. Describe the mechanism for obtaining and providing feedback, including with regard to the work with the students, graduates, and employers.

The Latvian Academy of Culture collects statistical data according to the request of the Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Culture, and the Central Statistical Bureau of Republic of Latvia. Each of the organisations requesting the information uses its own statistical data collection time frames and data collection systems. For example, the Ministry of Education has created the National Scientific Information System – a digital platform in which a diverse set of scientific and artistic creative activity results must be entered in different time periods for recording the results of scientific activity. These data are used in the calculation of science base and performance funding of the LoC which directly affects the amount of funding used in the management of the Study Direction. All data is analysed for quality control purposes.

The Latvian Academy of Culture evaluates each study course every semester by posting a course evaluation survey on the *Moodle* platform. A survey of graduates, entrants and applicants is conducted once a year, and a survey of potential employers is conducted every two years.

Course evaluation surveys are conducted during the session (in the months of January and June). Within the scope of the survey, the structure of the course, compliance with the sub-programme, the moderation of the amount of independent work, as well as the work of the lecturer are evaluated. Respondents have the opportunity to provide comments and suggestions for improving the course, as well as evaluate the work of the instructor. Instructors can familiarise themselves with the results of the survey on the *Moodle* platform, but so far technical solutions have not allowed the instructor to provide feedback, but improvements to the platform are planned. All survey data are downloaded and handed over to the heads of departments for evaluation. The results are evaluated at the department's meetings, the necessary improvements are discussed, praise is expressed and, if necessary, the results are submitted to the Council of Study Programmes for review.

The graduate survey is conducted every year, within the framework of the autumn semester. Within the framework of the survey, the study experience as a whole, the importance of practice in the career context is evaluated, information is provided about the future course of study and work, and the importance of the acquired education in the context of professional and personal growth is evaluated. The data is collected and sent to the rector, vice-rectors, heads of departments, heads of the Department of Studies and Development for review. The results are discussed in the Council of Study Programmes and published on the website of the Latvian Academy of Culture. Until now, graduates have not been provided with quality feedback, but within the framework of the new strategy of the Latvian Academy of Culture, the creation of an organisation of graduates is envisaged, which would help to provide feedback more successfully and maintain contact with the graduates network.

The **survey of candidates of finals** is conducted every year, in the spring semester. Within the scope of the survey, the previous educational experience is evaluated, the future study and career plans of the students are clarified, the evaluation of the elements characterising the study, teachers and administrative staff is provided, as well as recommendations for improving the study programme. The data is collected and sent to the rector, vice-rectors, heads of departments, heads of the Department of Studies and Development for review. The results are discussed in the Council of Study Programmes. Since the survey is conducted in the spring semester which coincides with the writing of the final theses, so far it has not been possible to successfully communicate the results with the applicants, but realising the importance of feedback, in order to maintain successful future communication, starting from the next year, it is planned to hold a final seminar which will be implemented by the head of each sub-programme with the aim of discussing the results of the survey and listening to the students.

The **survey of candidates** is conducted every year, during the summer months, together with the signing of study contracts. As part of the survey, it is determined how the students found out about study opportunities at the Latvian Academy of Culture, whether the obtained information about the studies was sufficient, what the main motivation of the students to study in the chosen sub-programme was and whether the application for studies was submitted only at the Latvian Academy of Culture or at other universities. The results are compiled and handed over to the Communication and Development Departments for evaluation, as well as discussed in the Council of Study Programmes. The results of this survey are not communicated to the students, as its purpose is to obtain information for the improvement of internal processes, for example, the Communication Department evaluates the effectiveness of marketing campaigns, analyses and evaluates how to communicate and attract students in the future, and the main competitors of the Latvian Academy of Culture are identified within the framework of the survey.

The survey of potential employers is conducted every third year. Museums and heritage conservation institutions, libraries, theatres, municipalities, cultural centres, dance studios, event management agencies, public relations agencies, film studios, television, universities, general education institutions, music and art schools, scientific research centres, research agencies, government institutions (including embassies), translation offices, travel agencies, publishing houses, magazines and literature portals, concert halls, radio, festivals and the music industry in general are identified as potential and accessible employers of the graduates of the LAC. Within the framework of the survey, potential employers provide information on what kind of cooperation they have formed with the Latvian Academy of Culture and its students/graduates, as well as evaluate the competence of students/graduates in various aspects. The results of the survey are considered by the Council of Study Programmes, and they are also actively used by the internship coordinator of the LAC who promotes the creation of new collaborations and the organic integration of the Academy's students into the labour market.

The information obtained based on the results of the surveys is strictly taken into account and the various aspects of the study process are improved, for example, due to the dissatisfaction of the students, cooperation with the guest lecturer is sometimes not continued, and during the semester, the lecturer was replaced in cases where several complaints were received from the students. Based on students' opinions, clarifications of topics in individual study courses, as well as clarifications of study course requirements have been made, semester planning has been changed, tasks assigned within the study course have been balanced and coordinated with tests in other study courses, for example, by creating balance and flexible change of priorities between theoretical and practical study courses. The creation of balance is particularly noticeable in the sub-programme "Drama and Text Studies", where in the original version there was too much emphasis on theoretical and cultural-historical courses, which, as a result of student suggestions, has now

been transformed in the direction of more practical courses by increasing the number of credit points and contact hours for courses such as “Specialisation: Dramaturgy”, “Fundamentals of Theatre Directing and Acting” and “Specialisation: Text Studies”, as well as introduced courses “Strategies of Text Creation in Contemporary Theatre” and “Theatre Theory and Practice: Collaborative Models”.

Survey reports of graduates, students (entrants) and employers, collected data from 2015 are added in the appendix (see appendix 2.2.4.).

2.2.5. Specify the websites (e.g., the homepage) on which the information on the study field and the relevant study programmes is published (in all languages in which the study programmes are implemented) by indicating the persons responsible for the compliance of the information available on the website with the information published in the official registers (State Education Information System (VIIS), E-platform).

Information about the study direction and corresponding study programmes is published and updated on the LAC website www.lka.edu.lv in Latvian and English. The responsible persons for ensuring the accuracy and compliance with official registers of the information available on the website are Dana Daugule, the head of the LAC Study Department, and Aija Melbārde, the public relations and marketing specialist from the LAC Communication Department. The person responsible for the information of LAC available in the official registers (VIIS and E-platform) is Dana Daugule, the head of the LAC Study Department. Websites where information is available can be seen in tables no. 6, 7, 8.

Table no. 6

Information about the bachelor study programs corresponding to the field of study

1.	Bachelor's study programme "Creative Industries"	https://lka.edu.lv/en/studies/study-programmes/bachelor-studies/creative-industries/
2.	Bachelor's study programme "Arts"	https://lka.edu.lv/en/studies/study-programmes/bachelor-studies/
3.	Bachelor's study programme "Audiovisual Art"	https://lka.edu.lv/en/studies/study-programmes/bachelor-studies/audiovisual-art/

4.	Bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Dance"	https://lka.edu.lv/en/studies/study-programmes/bachelor-studies/contemporary-dance/
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Table no. 7

Information about the master's study programs corresponding to the field of study

1.	Master's study programme "Cultural and Arts Management " (before: master's study programme "Management of Culture ")	https://lka.edu.lv/en/studies/study-programmes/master-studies/management-of-culture/
2.	Master's study programme "Cultural Heritage Governance and Communication"	https://lka.edu.lv/en/studies/study-programmes/master-studies/cultural-heritage-governance-and-communication/
3.	Master's study programme "Creative Industries and Growth Management"	https://lka.edu.lv/en/studies/study-programmes/master-studies/creative-industries-and-growth-management/
4.	Master's study programme "Audiovisual and Performing Art"	https://lka.edu.lv/en/studies/study-programmes/master-studies/audiovisual-and-performing-arts/

Table no. 8

Information about doctoral study programs corresponding to the field of study

1.	Academic Doctoral Study Programme "Arts"	https://lka.edu.lv/en/studies/study-programmes/doctoral-studies/theory-of-culture/
2.	Professional Doctoral Study Programme "Arts" Sub-programme "Audiovisual Arts, Theatre and Contemporary Dance"	https://lka.edu.lv/en/studies/study-programmes/doctoral-studies/the-joint-professional-doctoral-study-programme-arts-sub-programme-audiovisual-arts-theatre-and-contemporary-dance/

2.3. Resources and Provision of the Study Field

2.3.1. Provide information on the system developed by the higher education institution/ college for determining and redistribution of the financial resources required for the implementation of the study field and the relevant study programmes. Provide data on the available funding for the scientific research and/or artistic creation activities, its sources and its use for the development of the study field.

LAC is an autonomous state-funded institution which, along with the other two Latvian institutions of higher education and scientific research in arts- Art Academy of Latvia and Latvian Academy of Music - manages higher education in all arts and culture sectors in Latvia.

The sources of financing of the study process include state-budget funding, performance-based funding, funding for implementing scientific activities, revenue from tuition fees, Erasmus+ projects, *Horizon Europe - European Projects*, *Nordplus* projects, projects of National Research Programme, and additional funding from approved projects by State Cultural Capital Foundation. The calculation of study programme costs is developed, taking into account the requirements set by the standards of the Latvian academic education, as well as state-budget funding, performance-based funding, and tuition fee revenue.

The scientific activity and research of LAC is financed from the base funding for scientific research of LAC, *Horizon Europe - European Projects* funding, projects of National Research Programme, and other research projects, which classify as own revenue. LAC accumulated 2 013 477 EUR for scientific activities in 2022, including 61 244 EUR for artistic projects from State Cultural Capital Foundation.

The Rector and the financial director, in cooperation with structural units, plan the budget of the institution and the necessary renovation, replacement or replenishment of material and technical resources. They also set priorities for promoting the development of LAC infrastructure, seeking optimal, efficient, and sustainable solutions. The budget expenditure is purposeful and rational.

The majority of funding for the bachelor, master and doctoral programmes in the humanities is provided by the funds of the state grants - accounting for 81% of total financing. Annually, the count of study places is planned to be assigned by the Ministry of Education and Science from state-budget funds and by the Senate of LAC from funds of physical and legal persons. In 2022, the available funding for all study programmes was 2 838 975 EUR, consisting of budget subsidies, performance funding, and revenue from tuition fees.

Table no. 9

Thematical Education Fields	State grant funding for the budget base		
	Bachelor	Master	PhD
"Arts"	4 607 EUR	6 796 EUR	14 006 EUR
"Music, Choreography"	5 737 EUR	X	X
"Audiovisual and Media Art" and "Design"	5 737 EUR	8 490 EUR	17 395 EUR

When conducting cost calculations, all necessary expenditure items for the programme are included, the average cost structure for all programmes is the following: 73% compensation for ECC 1000, 7% for ECC 2000 and other ECC constitutes 20%. Great attention is devoted to the optimization of study programme's implementation expenses, for example, by organizing flow lectures in courses taught by professors.

Table no. 10

<i>Programme</i>	<i>ECC 1000</i>	<i>ECC 2000</i>	<i>Other ECC</i>
Academic bachelor's study programme "Audiovisual Art (43213)	61%	10%	30%
Academic bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Dance" (43212)	72%	3%	25%
Academic bachelor's study programme "Arts" (43212)	79%	7%	14%
Academic master's study programme "Audiovisual and Performing Art" (45213)	62%	5%	33%
Academic master's study programme "Cultural Heritage Governance and Communication" (45217)	76%	11%	13%
Academic master's study programme "Cultural and Arts Management " (before: master's study programme "Management of Culture")	85%	6%	9%
Doctoral Study Programme "Arts" (51212)	85%	6%	8%
Joint academic bachelor's study programme "Creative Industries" (43217)	24%	16%	60%
Joint academic master's study programme "Creative Industries and Growth Management" (45217)	53%	8%	39%
The Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme "Arts" Sub-programme "Audiovisual Arts, Theatre and Contemporary Dance (51213)	67%	1%	32%
Programme Average	73%	7%	20%

All programmes are full time with in-class attendance and studies are conducted in Latvian, except for the joint academic master's study programme "Creative Industries and Growth Management" (45217), which, starting from 2022, is also implemented in English.

2.3.2. Provide information on the infrastructure and the material and technical provisions required for the implementation of the study field and the relevant study programmes. Specify whether the required provision is available to the higher education institution/college, available to the students, and the teaching staff.

The study, research and artistic creativity work of the Latvian Academy of Culture is organised mainly in three buildings – in Riga, Ludzas iela 24, Dzirnavu iela 46 (Theatre House "Zirgu pasts" of the LAC) and Elijas iela 17. Separate classes are held in the structural units of the LAC in the Eduard

Smilģis Theatre Museum of the LAC and in the Riga Cinema Museum of the LAC. In the following, the information will be provided on the functions and material and technical support of the three main buildings.

The total area of **the building of the LAC at Ludzas Street 24** is 2,200 m². The building has 19 auditoriums designed for the study process. All auditoriums are equipped with the necessary technical equipment which is regularly and systematically improved and developed by following the latest technologies. All auditoriums are suitable for remote/online lecture options. By attracting the financing of various projects, a fully equipped computer classroom with computerised workplaces and an interactive whiteboard have also been created, and internet connection is provided in the building for all auditoriums. At Ludzas Street 24, on the first floor, there is a hall with an area of 209 m² where the students of the bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Dance Art" are carrying out their activities. The hall is equipped with the necessary equipment that meets the requirements of contemporary dance classes. The building also houses the workplaces of the administrative staff of the LAC. All workplaces are equipped with computers and ergonomic chairs. Since the end of 2019, the administrative staff of the LAC can, if necessary, perform their work duties in remote mode, as the possibility to connect to all necessary databases has been provided, while at the same time ensuring maximum data protection.

The Theatre House "Zirgu pasts" of the LAC is located at Dzirnavu Street 46, its total area is 1500 m². Three halls for performing arts studies have been built in the building. The pride of the building is the Multifunctional Hall with a total area of 107 m². The hall is equipped with all the necessary audio and light equipment, video equipment has been purchased as a part of various projects, with the help of which it is possible to provide remote lessons. The hall can be transformed both for the needs of the study process and for theatre performances which are necessary when developing works of artistic creativity. The two smaller halls are used daily for student acting classes.

For the needs of the Department of Audiovisual Arts of the LAC and National Film School of the LAC (hereinafter – the NFS), the **premises at Elijas Street 17** with a total area of 1100 m² are rented. The premises are suitable for the audio-visual arts study process, as they are adapted to the requirements of the film industry. Two special filming pavilions have been built in the rented premises, as well as classrooms for both practical and theoretical classes. The premises are also adapted for editing work and storage of filming equipment. The contract for the lease of the premises at Elijas Street 17 has been concluded until 2024, when the State Joint-Stock Company "Valsts nekustamie īpašumi" (hereinafter – the VNĪ) plans to complete and put into operation the building at Miera Street 58a for the needs of the Audiovisual Department of the LAC and the NFS. A filming pavilion and all other necessary facilities for practical and theoretical classes will be constructed in this building/block.

The current infrastructure resource can be assessed as partially adequate. Infrastructure and study environment, in which the latest technological solutions are integrated, are decisive conditions for the development of any contemporary university, including the LAC. They allow a university to position itself as a valuable player in new partnerships, thus attracting more and more resources for the development of artistic creativity works, new international financial instruments for the study process, research, as well as for the development of new lifelong learning offers and other services. Completion of the 1st and 2nd stages of the construction of the Tobacco Factory block has a decisive role in the development of these resources. At the same time it would allow the development of the Tobacco Factory block as an important competence centre of Latvian and international scale in the development of creative industries.

The study programmes of the LAC which prepare creative professionals in the field of theatre,

contemporary dance and audio-visual arts provide for various specific infrastructure and room conditions: rooms for rehearsals and performances, filming rooms, assembly rooms, equipment and props warehouses, make-up rooms, showers and dressing rooms, etc. The building at Dzirnau Street 46 (Zirgu pasts) has its own limitations, for example, due to poor sound insulation, it is not possible to hold several parallel classes at the same time. In its turn, for the audio-visual art study process, premises are rented at Elijas Street 17 in Riga, and this is only a temporary solution. The building at 24 Ludza Street is heavily occupied. Improvements in the quality of the study environment are planned by fully implementing the transfer of the study process from Ludzas Street 24 to Miera Street 58a (Tobacco Factory block). For the operation of the LAC (according to the name of the current development project), the planned area in the Tobacco Factory block is almost twice as large – 8482 m² (about 11 m² per person). The move to the Tobacco Factory will also improve the university's internal integrity and more active cooperation between students and teaching staff of different disciplines, and will save time and resources when moving from one building to another. The LAC, as an interdisciplinary university of arts and culture, would potentially also provide the basis for the operation of the creative quarter of the Tobacco Factory. If, according to the plan, the Creative Industries Business Incubator, Cinema/Photo Art Museum will also be located in the block, the LAC will deepen the connection with the creative industries sector, as well as contribute to the building of the block as an attractive place for the residents of the Brasa area. Currently, the first stage of the construction project of the Tobacco block is taking place, which includes the construction of the Creative Industries Business Incubator and the buildings of the National Film School of the LAC. The construction of the teaching department of the LAC, the Cinema/Photo Museum and the department of the Contemporary Dance and Performing Arts of the LC, cinema hall and residence halls is planned as part of the 2nd stage of the project. In order for the LAC to be able to increase the number of students and reduce the premature termination of studies, develop the offer of study programmes, provide the necessary facilities for research growth and artistic creativity, modern infrastructure and an attractive environment, the completion of the 1st and 2nd stages of the construction of the Tobacco Factory block in the shortest possible time is crucial.

2.3.3. Provide information on the system and procedures for the improvement and purchase of the methodological and informative provision. Description and assessment of the availability of the library and the databases to the students (including in digital environment) and their compliance with the needs of the study field by specifying whether the opening times of the library are appropriate for the students, as well as the number/area of the premises, their suitability for individual studies and research work, the services provided by the library, the available literature for the implementation of the study field, the databases available for the students in the respective field, the statistical data on their use, the procedures for the replenishment of the library stock, as well as the procedures and possibilities for the subscription to the databases.

LAC Library (hereinafter - the Library) is an accredited library (Accreditation statement approved by the decision of the Latvian Library Council, December 10, 2020), its purpose - to create a collection according to the principles of a scientific library, which would provide the accredited bachelor, master and doctoral study programmes with the latest and retrospective scientific and reference literature, periodicals and fiction, as well as ensure successful foreign language learning and research work. The collection of the library consists of literature in cultural studies, cultural history, cultural anthropology, cultural and arts sociology, cultural economy, cultural management,

philosophy, theater, cinema, dance, visual arts, literature, creative industries, heritage, sociology, politics, dramaturgy, folklore, linguistics, research methodology, history, etc., as well as fiction - translations and original literature in various languages (Spanish, English, German, French, Italian, etc.). A large number of literature sources are available in English. The Library provides access to professional serial publications e.g. "Teātra Vēstnesis", "ADESSO" (for learning Italian). The resources of the library's information center are freely available to any LAC student and lecturer.

LAC regularly replenishes resources in the library, both by purchasing books and other publications, and by subscribing to databases of academic and scientific resources. The funding available to the library is EUR 5,000 per year. When assembling the collection, it is taken into consideration that the most important and necessary information resources for each accredited study programme - also in foreign languages - should be available in at least one copy. To ensure the availability of the necessary information for the study courses, the study literature, within the Library's limitations, is compiled in as great of a number as possible. A simple procedure has been developed on how lecturers can send a request to the library for the purchase of a certain book, which ensures the acquisition of the collection according to the current needs in the content of study courses. The compilation of the inventory is organized in cooperation with the academic staff - programme directors, sub-programme directors and lecturers submit requests with lists of information sources necessary for studies. Every year the collection is supplemented with around 100 new information sources. The inventory is regularly updated with donations from students, graduates, departments, teaching staff, etc. (in 2022 - with 540 donated copies). The compilation of the collection is somewhat limited by the fact that many of the required printed works (especially fiction) were published in the 20th century 60s-90s and they have not been reissued, therefore the Library is continuously looking for various possibilities to secure and increase its collection (through antique shops, cooperation with other libraries, donations, exchange).

LAC operates a video library located in the LAC National Film School (Elija Street 17, Riga), with more than 2,500 different films, video recordings, recordings of theater performances obtained from foreign universities of a similar profile, from the LAC Riga Cinema Museum, Latvian Television Film Library, Latvian For the Latvian State cinematographic and phonographic document archive and purchases of the National Archives structural unit. The video library also serves as an archive of LAC students' artistic creations. Students have access to the resources of LAC structural units - LAC Riga Cinema Museum and LAC Eduarda Smilgas Theater Museum - including museum collections. The Library also creates LAC Thesis database, which includes the bibliographic descriptions of LAC student's final thesis, is a part of the National Union Catalogue of Latvia and is renewed yearly with new records.

The Library subscribes to the EBSCO National Electronic Resources Package, that includes database resources: EBSCO Academic Search Complete + MasterFILE Premier, Health Source: Nursing/Academic Edition+Consumer Edition, Newspaper Source, ERIC, GreenFILE, LISTA, MEDLINE. Databases subscribed to by the Library are selected and approved by the Library Council, which is a collegial body that resolves issues related to the LAC Library. It consists of six representatives from LAC study programs and one representative each from the Student Council and the LAC Library. Databases are available from anywhere through Internet connection, a connection to the LAC network is not necessary. The Library also uses free trial databases, OPEN ACCESS databases (core.ac.uk, openresearchlibrary.org, ijsrp.org), as well as the digital resources of the National Library of Latvia corresponding within the study programme and sub-programme framework of the LAC study direction "Arts" .

The total area of the library premises is 214 m², of which storage rooms - 150 m², user service rooms - 50 m². Library's users have a subscription and a reading room with free access collection, 30 workstations, 5 of which are computerized, with Internet access, electronic catalogues and

databases. Wireless internet is also available. Users have access to a black-and-white printer, a colour printer, copying and scanning equipment (printing, scanning and copying is done according to the price list of paid services implemented by the decision of the LAC Senate). Using the subscription, information resources are issued for usage for a certain period. Library information system ALEPH with Cataloguing and Subscription modules is used for library work. The electronic catalogue of the Library, which reflects the Library's collection, is a part of the National Union Catalogue of Latvia, and the Library's subscribers are included in the unified database of readers. In December 2019, the electronic National Union Catalogue of Latvia, which also includes the LAC Library, was added to the virtual catalogue of the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (<https://kvk.bibliothek.kit.edu/index.html?kataloge>), which also represents the largest collection of Latvia's scientific libraries. Each of the Union Catalogue libraries regularly adds to the catalogue new data, processing newly arrived resources, as well as re-cataloguing (creating data on publications already in the library's collection that are not yet included in the electronic catalogue). The addition to the virtual catalogue of Karlsruhe Technologies is significant in that the co-catalogued data is of high quality, appropriate, and allows using library's collection information in an international environment. The Culture Information Systems Centre (CISC) collects information on the number of visits to the Union catalogue every year, including by country (last year, including Latvia, 50 countries with a total number of visits 74 376).

The availability of the Library services is ensured by coordinating the working hours with the study schedule. The Library is available to readers 5 days a week from 9:00 (on Tuesdays - from 8:00) to 18:00 (on Wednesdays - until 19:30), a total of 45.5 hours. Services are also provided via e-mail and telephone.

The cooperation agreement between LAC and the National Library of Latvia (NLL) stipulates that LAC students are offered rooms equipped according to modern requirements, as well as with hardware for professional computer graphics, photo processing, sound, audio file processing softwares in NLL's audio-visual reading room and sound recording studio. NLL also offers the latest books and movies.

2.3.4. Provide a description and assessment of information and communication technology solutions used in the study process (e.g., MOODLE). If the study programmes within the study field are implemented in distance learning, the tools specially adapted for this form of study must also be indicated.

The information and communication technology solutions of the LAC are used throughout the cycle of the study process – starting with admission, studies and ending with the submission of final papers. Digital solutions are also important for research and artistic creativity activities. Since the summer of 2020, the Academy has been using its authentic applicant registration system: uznemsana.lka.edu.lv. The applicant authorises himself in the admission system, adds the necessary documents, after processing the applicant's data, he is sent a confirmation message and access data to the study information system LAIS, where information about the competition is available. At the start of studies, each student of a bachelor's, master's or doctoral programme is assigned a username and password for access to the study information systems intended for students.

In the study process, the LAC uses the e-learning environment (Moodle) and the Latvian Higher Education Institutions Information System (LAIS), which ensures the full flow of information with

students, access to resources and information. In the LAIS, students have access to all information about the study process, as well as various services provided to students: electronic class schedules, final course evaluations, information on finances, regulatory study documents (internal regulatory acts), current information on study issues, internships and job offers, etc. In the LAIS, students can register for the optional courses of a semester. In the LAIS, graduates of the joint study programs of the LAC and RTU have access to an electronically signed diploma supplement which is stored at the LAIS even after graduating from the LAC.

The e-study environment, or *Moodle* platform, is used as a tool for organising the study process in each study course – posting various materials, completing tests and homework, posting assessments, etc. This environment is developed as the main communication environment for students and lecturers outside of contact classes. At the LAC e-studies are available 24 hours a day from any place with an internet connection. A mobile app of the e-study platform is also available. For those studying in the e-study environment, information about the study course is available in each course: course description and requirements for awarding credit points, its topics and achievable results. In each e-study course, the instructor can electronically register the student's attendance at lectures and classes, in addition, the attendance data also automatically appears in the e-graduation section, thereby obtaining a more convenient overview of the student's performance in the course. In addition, the e-studies environment includes the upcoming events calendar, the latest news and discussion forums, as well as study materials and all the latest information about what the teaching staff of the course wants to convey to the students – various tasks, sample tests, useful supplementary materials, etc. Most of the e-courses contain links to external information resources. In some courses in e-studies, teaching staff upload video recordings of their lectures for students who do not have the opportunity to participate in the class in person. Electronic tests for the successful completion of the study course are also available to the students of some courses on the e-study platform which allow not only quick and qualitative assessment of the students' knowledge, but also use as a tool that allows the student to learn the course material with the self-test method. For now, not all lecturers and not all students use the e-study environment equally actively, especially those whose pedagogical and study activities are related to the process of artistic creativity and individual work. The LAC has established an effective support system for lecturers in order to promote the reduction of barriers to the use of e-studies. One representative of the administration has delegated consulting functions in the use of e-studies, manuals and video tutorials are available to lecturers in the e-studies environment which explain how to use the Moodle platform, add resources, create an evaluation book, tests, etc.

During studies, the students of the LAC are provided with access to the online version of Microsoft Office together with the e-mail of the LAC for students Office 365 A1. E-mail addresses are created according to a uniform template – stud.apl.numurs@lka.edu.lv. Providing access to Microsoft Office allows you to use all the programs included in the Office 365 A1 package for free. The student has the opportunity to connect to his Office 365 profile from any device and anywhere.

In order to improve the implementation of information and communication technology solutions, several measures have been taken to streamline these processes. From November 2018 to June 2021, the European Social Fund project “Efficiency of Management of the Latvian Academy of Culture and the Latvian College of Culture and Modernisation of the Study Process” was implemented at the LAC (no. 8.2.3.0/018/A/020). During the implementation of the project in 2019–2020, the e-study environment of the LAC was significantly improved by enhancing the functionality of Moodle. Since September 2019, the LAC has been transferring study course materials in digital format using e-learning environment resources (Files, URLs, Pages) and adapting students' performance testing using Task, Test and Seminar activities. From December 2020 to June 2020, with the help of the project funding, the LAC subscribed to the services of the

Respondus company LockDown Browser and Respondus Monitor which ensured the fair conduct of examinations and tests in several study courses. The improved e-learning environment is used to strengthen the components of the students' self-directed learning in education – by developing self-assessment tests of current knowledge and using other self-assessment tools. Significant improvement of LAIS functions was also performed (for example, orders for term papers were created, a printout of the inter-university diploma supplement was prepared, the section “Student” was significantly improved, transitions between different sections were simplified, etc.); Training of the system administrator and lecturers has also taken place, an e-study platform specialist has been hired to provide daily support to lecturers in matters of using the e-study environment. Since 2020, in addition to the LAC e-learning environment user manual in PDF format, video tutorials for teachers on the use of resources and activities of the e-learning environment of the LAC have been developed. In 2020/2021 a solution for the centralised entry of grades and conclusion of test protocols in the e-learning environment was introduced. Programming works also have been carried out to improve the efficiency of the governance information system at the study department, accounting and personnel department of the LAC. As a result, the exchange of the LAIS data with the Horizon system used in accounting and personnel management was ensured, thus promoting a higher quality administration of the study process; as a significant contribution to improving the quality of studies, the LAC has joined the joint plagiarism control system which contributes to the improvement of academic honesty in the study environment in Latvia. Students have access to the Student Handbook which explains the study process.

Integrating information and communication technology solutions in improving the quality of a study direction is one of strategic priorities of the LAC (see the Strategy of the LAC for 2023–2027) which is expressed with the concept of “digital transformation”. The digital transformation affects all aspects of the activities of the LAC and the study direction “Arts” implemented by it, therefore the tasks related to digitisation are defined as a horizontal priority of the LAC and the study direction “Arts”.

2.3.5. Provide information on the procedures for attracting and/or employing the teaching staff (including the call for vacancies, employment, election procedure, etc.), and the assessment of their transparency.

At the Academy of Culture, the recruitment and employment of teaching staff is ensured in accordance with the external laws and regulations governing these processes (“Law on Higher Education Institutions”, “Law on Scientific Activity”, “Labour Law”, etc.) and the internal regulation of the LAC – the Regulation “On Academic Positions in the Latvian Academy of Culture” (see https://drive.google.com/file/d/1koZa85B9MdVM1JA4IgMwiZQpv1awel_V/view (Latvian only)), “Procedures for the Creation and Operation of the Council of Professors of the Latvian Academy of Culture” (see Appendix 2.3.5.) etc. According to the regulation, the academic staff of the Latvian Academy of Culture consists of professors, associate professors, assistant professors, lecturers, leading researchers; lecturers, as well as scientists – leading researchers, researchers, research assistants.

At the Latvian Academy of Culture, teaching staff are recruited through an open competition, the selection and election procedures are clear and consistent. The process of recruitment and evaluation of teaching staff is transparent and efficient. This is one of the prerequisites for a high quality of the study process. Recruitment of teaching staff takes place in several successive stages, where at each stage there is a specific responsible staff member involved, but in all stages the

Personnel Department is involved. Other persons involved may change depending on the structural unit where the vacancy is identified. There are six main steps in the selection process. The selection process begins when a position has become vacant in a specific structural unit of the LAC, or a need for a new position is identified and the need for staff recruitment is analysed. In this analysis, arguments related to ensuring the quality of studies, aspects of the academic career of the academic staff, and financial feasibility are evaluated. In the second stage, information about the vacancy is received by the Personnel Department which, in cooperation with the responsible structural unit, determines the position profile and develops a list of requirements and competencies necessary for the purpose of filling the position. In the third stage, an agreement is made on the method of recruitment and selection of candidates, a vacancy announcement is prepared and coordinated. In the fourth stage, the vacancy announcement is published in various sources – depending on the requirements and the vacancy status: on the website of the LAC, in the official publication “Latvijas Vēstnesis”, on the website of the State Employment Agency, as well as, if required by the vacancy requirements, the European Commission portal “Euraxess”. Information about the vacancy is also usually distributed on social media. In the fifth stage, candidate applications are accepted, compiled and evaluated. In respect to the applicants for academic positions, the application documentation, submitted recommendations, previous scientific activity are evaluated, interviews may be organised, as well as in some cases an open lecture or other type of lesson is organised in which students participate, which is prepared and led by the applicant for the position. In the sixth stage, a decision is made on the selection of a candidate: elections are held, the most suitable applicant is selected and a job offer is made to him or her.

Academic staff – lecturers, docents, leading researchers, researchers and research assistants at the Latvian Academy of Culture are elected to their positions by the Senate of the Latvian Academy of Culture. The personnel department submits the documents of applicants for the mentioned positions to the Senate of the LAC for the evaluation and election of the most suitable candidate. During the Senate session, senators examine and evaluate the documents submitted by the candidate for the position, discuss with the candidate his/her motivation to apply for a job at the Latvian Academy of Culture and his or her work experience. The senators listen to the recommendations of the head of the department, if any. The best and most suitable candidate is chosen and elected for a six-year term. The rector of the Academy concludes the employment contract with the elected candidate for a certain period of time – six years.

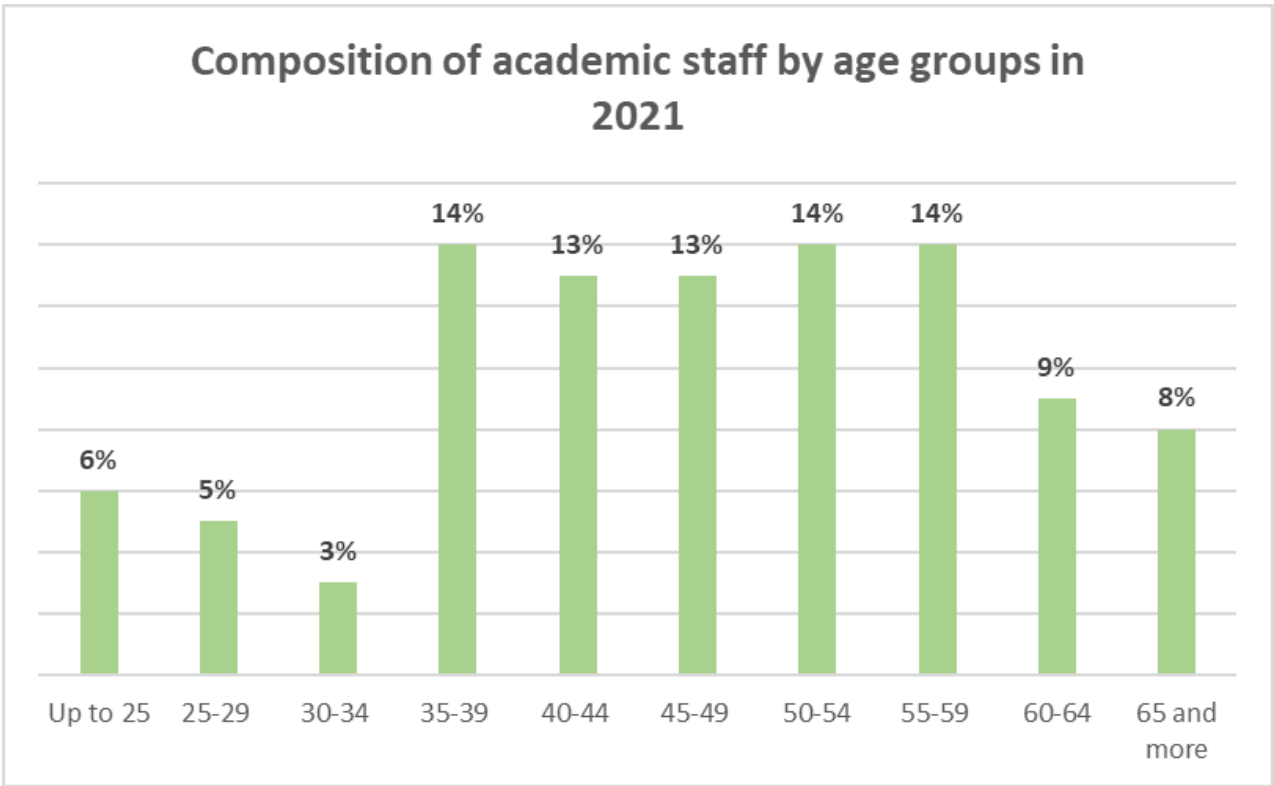
Academic staff – professors and associate professors at the Latvian Academy of Culture are elected by the Council of Professors of the “Art Science and Arts” branch. Documents submitted by an applicant for a vacant academic position for the position of a professor and/or associate professor are examined by the Council of Professors of the LAC which is made up of both professors from the LAC and from other Latvian and foreign universities in the relevant scientific field. Each member of the Council of Professors examines the candidate’s documents and provides his or her assessment. In the professional qualification of a professor and/or associate professor, scientific qualification, artistic creativity, pedagogical qualification and organisational activity are assessed. At the meeting of the Council of Professors, discussions are held with the candidate. The chairman of the Council of Professors conducts a summary of the evaluation of the candidate for the position, and the Council of Professors elects the most suitable candidate to the respective position for six years. The rector of the Academy concludes the employment contract with the elected candidate for a certain period of time – six years.

In cases where there is a vacant or temporarily vacant academic position in the Academy, the Senate of the Academy may decide not to announce a competition following the proposal of the vice-rector for academic work. In this case, the rector can hire a visiting professor, associate visiting professor, visiting associate professor, visiting lecturer or visiting assistant for a period of up to two

years. The rector of the Academy can conclude contracts with the retired academic staff for the performance of specific work or for the current academic year. In cases where a professor or associate professor has been elected to the relevant position for two consecutive terms, the employment contract is extended for an indefinite period after the Council of Professors evaluates the professional qualifications of the professor and/or associate professor. The employment contract for an indefinite period is concluded by the rector of the Academy.

In the personnel selection process, heads of structural units pay special attention to succession issues and the interaction of personnel of different generations. During the reporting period, it has been possible to improve the processes of retraining academic staff (see image no. 2 – the lecturers of the LAC are represented in various age groups by creating a numerical balance (approximately the same number of lecturers in the age group of 25–49 and 50–65 and over), the future task is to maintain this proportion by moving towards an increase in the number of lecturers in the age group of 25–34 years.

Image no. 2



Special importance is given to the scientific or artistic creative capacity of the staff, the ability to develop and improve the content of study programmes, as well as the competence to introduce innovative methods in study processes.

At the level of the study programme, the responsibility of the head of the study programme is to ensure compliance of the content of the study programme with internal and external regulatory enactments, labour market requirements, development trends of the industry and the needs of students, to analyse data that can provide the information on the factors affecting the result and quality of study programmes, and implement the necessary improvements in study programmes. Study programme quality indicators are measured at the level of study programmes which are directly linked to the remuneration of study programme managers. This aspect promotes taking responsibility and motivates study programme managers to achieve higher defined quality standards.

In order to improve the quality of studies and strive for excellence, the LAC works purposefully to

involve foreign lecturers in academic work, especially in master's and doctoral programmes. Due to the uncompetitive remuneration, this recruitment is based on the sources of ERASMUS+ programmes and other financial instruments (not LAC base funding) which do not always ensure the predictability of the lecturer's recruitment. The recruitment and employment processes of the teaching staff of the LAC are related to the common challenges of academic career development in Latvia: uncompetitive remuneration for full-time academic staff and the tiny hourly rate for guest lecturers, workload creation problems, non-transparent academic career system, etc. The most difficult to solve are the problems of the remuneration of teaching staff, including guest lecturers, because their causes are related to the limited base funding. The LAC sees the solution to these problems in the creation of a new regulatory framework for academic careers (see <https://www.izm.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/ieviesot-jaunu-akademiskas-karjeras-ietvaru-nodrosinas-profesionalo-izaugsmi-un-labu-cilvekesresursu-parvaldibu> (Latvian only)) which would allow radical improvement of the management of human resources in the academic environment. The new regulation should provide for a level of remuneration that corresponds to the level of remuneration established in the country for equivalent qualifications, competence and duties, ensuring competitive remuneration. The LAC also needs to make internal improvements in the remuneration policy for academic staff. They are related to the development of a policy of closer linking of workloads and remuneration in order to eliminate unequal distribution of workloads and to create a result-based motivation system for academic staff.

2.3.6. Specify whether there are common procedures for ensuring the qualification of the academic staff members and the work quality in place and provide the respective assessment thereof. Specify the options for all teaching staff members to improve their qualifications (including the information on the involvement of the teaching staff in different activities, the incentives for their involvement, etc.). Provide the respective examples and specify the way the added value of the possibilities used for the implementation of the study process and the improvement of the study quality is evaluated.

The evaluation of the qualification and quality of work of the academic staff of the LAC is based on the activity of teaching staff in three groups of indicators, namely according to the three dimensions of the activity of the LAC – study work, scientific research activity and artistic creative activity. The evaluation takes place 1) cyclically – before the election to the academic post and at the end of the election period; 2) annually. In cyclic evaluation, the evaluation criteria depend on the academic position. The qualifications of associate professors and professors are assessed according to the criteria set out in the "Form of the Latvian Academy of Culture for the evaluation of the qualifications of an applicant for the position of professor or associate professor or an existing professor or associate professor" (see form https://drive.google.com/file/d/1koZa85B9MdVM1JA4IgMwiZQpv1awel_V/view?fbclid=IwAR1Mg49O49S5TYFqX0qwWgHKFheNUC6U3XBuffbNqHK1zdtCwE8Du5YB0HE (Latvian only)). On the other hand, the annual assessment of teaching staff takes place on the basis of the three mentioned dimensions of activity: firstly, work with students is evaluated at the beginning of each study year, based on the student and graduate surveys described in Section 2.2.4 by involving the heads of structural units, the management of the Department of Studies and vice-rectors in the assessment; secondly, the evaluation takes place at the beginning of the calendar year (January 31) when each faculty member submits an "Individual report of the staff of the Latvian Academy of Culture on the activities of scientific and artistic creativity" (see appendix 2.3.6. (Latvian only)) by involving the

vice-rector in academic work, the vice-rector in scientific work and the vice-rector in artistic creativity in the evaluation. In individual reports, lecturers provide detailed information on the results of scientific and artistic creativity, some information of which (e.g. scientific publications published in editions indexed in SCOPUS and Web of Science databases, peer-reviewed monographs, etc.) serve as the basis for the work of the teaching staff for counting hours on the load sheet in the next study year, as well as for awarding cash prizes for the most significant results of scientific activity. For more details on the assessment of the quality of work of the teaching staff, see the regulation "On the amount of work of academic staff, determination of salary, evaluation of work performance and material stimulation at the Latvian Academy of Culture" (see section V https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IR1K2qciSoh3PawzL_aULzRCVlayVPKV/view (Latvian only)). Doctoral studies, which are actively used by the new generation of lecturers, play an important role in raising the qualifications of academic staff. Also, the excellence of scientific and artistic activity of the LAC which strengthens the reputation of the LAC, plays a big role in attracting the resources of qualified teaching staff, as well as the academic doctoral study programme "Arts" and the sub-programme "Audiovisual Art, Theatre and Contemporary Dance" of the joint professional doctoral study programme in arts "Arts" of the LAC which provides the qualification and career development base for both the existing teaching staff and potential teaching staff.

Such an arrangement for ensuring the qualification and work quality of academic staff can be assessed as sufficiently effective, however, the low remuneration of academic staff creates relatively low competition for individual, especially lower academic positions, which weakens the role of qualification and work quality assessment in promoting growth and development.

The career paths of the academic staff at the Latvian Academy of Culture are different, but often it is the graduates of various study programmes of the LAC who choose to build an academic career at the LAC, including returning to their alma mater after master's or doctoral studies at prestigious foreign universities (see CV of Assoc. Prof. Liene Ozoliņa, Iveta Kešāne etc.). Many representatives of the academic staff (especially professionals of cultural and creative industries) have started their careers at the LAC as guest lecturers and only after achieving high indicators of pedagogical, scientific and creative work have they gone on to run for elections for a vacant position.

The LAC systematically attracts funding to ensure various opportunities for the qualification improvement for both the academic and general personnel – in foreign countries and in Latvia. Improving qualifications and exchanging experience abroad takes place mainly using Erasmus+ mobility opportunities. In order to promote the improvement and development of the academic staff, seminars are regularly held for teaching staff on the opportunities to go to foreign universities for exchange of experience within the framework of Erasmus+ mobility. Other professional qualification improvement and experience exchange programmes available in foreign countries are also used, e.g. in the spring of 2022, the assistant professor and head of the Department of Audiovisual Arts of the LAC, Dainis Juraga, participated in Latvian faculty studies at the University of Buffalo (USA) for four months as a part of the project "Support for the international cooperation projects in research and innovation of the RTU" (1.1.1.5/18/I/008) which was implemented with the aim of transferring the experience of the US universities to Latvian higher education. During the training, D. Juraga gained knowledge about the methods of teaching subjects in the era of opportunities provided by technology, experience in organising lessons for large groups of students (100+ students), as well as personal experience in group work and scientific communication. After returning, D. Juraga actively participated in the assessment of digitisation maturity of the LAC and the working group of the LAC for the development of the Digitisation Transformation Plan/Digitisation Road Map of the LAC.

The Further Education Centre and Development Department of the LAC offer targeted qualification improvement opportunities for academic and general staff in Latvia. Academic staff are given the

opportunity to attend courses and seminars organised by the Continuing Education Centre, as well as to attend various optional courses and learn foreign languages within the study courses of the Intercultural and Foreign Languages Department of the LAC. For example, Assoc. Prof. E. Veinberga and Professor O. Žitluhina have actively used the opportunity to learn Chinese. O. Žitluhina has used the acquired knowledge to organise cooperation with China for the development of the contemporary dance industry in Latvia. The scientific research and books written by the academic staff are used in the implementation of the study process. Several academic staff trainings have taken place with the help of structural fund funding. Also, under the leadership of the Development Department, the staff has improved their knowledge of English, trainings have been held in improving and using digital skills. Leaders of the LAC have received leadership training. The academic staff was provided with the opportunity to supplement theoretical knowledge with its practical application to entrepreneurs. Within the framework of project no. 8.2.2.0/18/A/018, "Development of academic staff of the Latvian Academy of Culture – investment in the quality of studies", financed by the ESF, training was held for the academic and scientific staff of the LAC in such matters which are crucially important for strengthening the quality of studies: (1) SIA Skrivanek Baltic provided English language training in the amount of 144 academic hours in 2019/2020; (2) SIA TRIVIUMS' training in 2021 provided the curriculum "Digital Skills" in the amount of 64 academic hours; (3) in 2021, the associations of persons SIA PEER and SIA ODA provided the curriculum "Leadership Skills" in the amount of 58 academic hours. In total, 61 representatives of academic and scientific staff participated in training and internship activities within the framework of the project.

The LAC considers the exchange of experience of the academic staff of the LAC and professionals from the cultural and creative sector a particularly valuable way of strengthening professional qualifications. Thus, for example, 7 entrepreneurs – SIA Studija Lokomotive, SIA Mistrus Media, SIA Neputns, SIA Arkogints, SIA Pandora media, SIA Vidzemes televīzija, SIA TNS Latvia, within the framework of the abovementioned ESF project, in 2021 and 2022 provided an opportunity for the academic and/or scientific staff of the LAC to do internships and supplement theoretical knowledge with their practical application. During the 100-hour internship with the businessmen of the industry, the cooperation of the academic staff of the LAC with representatives of the industry was promoted, the staff's competence and knowledge about the operation of the industry and a deeper understanding of the specific issues of the industry were enhanced, thus promoting a closer connection of the LAC with the national economy.

In order to promote the professional development of the academic staff, the LAC promotes and supports the use of academic leave for scientific research or scientific activity outside their workplace, as well as a three-month study leave for the preparation of a doctoral dissertation. For example, in 2020 Assoc. Prof. Z. Daudziņa used a six-month academic leave to conduct scientific research which resulted in obtaining a doctorate degree in 2022 and the publication of the book "Actors' speech in Latvian theatre in the 21st century". In turn, as a result of her academic leave, Assoc. Prof. I. Roga, wrote the book "Trejādības" which is currently in the process of publication.

Professional development activities significantly improve the professional qualification of academic staff, this is also confirmed by evaluations of work results.

2.3.7. Provide information on the number of the teaching staff members involved in the implementation of the relevant study programmes of the study field, as well as the analysis and assessment of the academic, administrative (if applicable) and research workload.

The academic staff of the LAC and the study direction “Arts” consists of 75 employees. Of these, 14 professors, 12 associate professors, 19 assistant professors, 22 lecturers are employed in elected positions. 36 scientists have been elected to the Institute of Culture and Arts of the LAC, of which 9 are leading researchers, 10 are researchers and 17 are research assistants. Of the academic staff (professors, associate professors, assistant professors and lecturers), 16 have also been elected as leading researchers, researchers or research assistants and are also employed as scientists. Of the entire academic staff of the LAC, 36 (48%) employees have a doctorate degree, while 13 (15%) are nationally and internationally recognised artists (see image no. 3). Since 2013, 38 lecturers, 42 assistant professors, 19 associate professors, 28 professors, 8 leading researchers, 10 researchers, 23 research assistants have been elected or re-elected at the Latvian Academy of Culture.

Most of the teaching staff of the Latvian Academy of Culture work full-time. Based on Regulation of the Cabinet of the Republic of Latvia, Regulations Regarding Remuneration of Teachers (<https://likumi.lv/ta/id/283667-pedagogu-darba-samaksas-noteikumi> (Latvian only)) and in accordance with the regulations of the LAC “On the scope of work of academic staff determination of salary, work performance and material stimulation at the Latvian Academy of Culture” ([Apst_Akad_personala_darba_apjoms_groz_19.04.2021.pdf - Google drive](#) (Latvian only)), the minimum amount of academic work is set at 720 hours per year. The workload of the teaching staff consists of study work, methodical work, scientific and artistic creative work, and organisational work. A system of indicators has been developed for each of the types of work – with a recommendation of how many hours each activity constitutes in the workload. The workload accounting is constantly being improved, but still, due to limited funding, not all activities are included in the workload accounting (for example, developing a new study course, developing and supplementing the course description, preparing for classes, etc.)

Since the establishment of the Latvian Academy of Culture in 1990, the number of academic staff (teaching staff) has not grown rapidly, but guest lecturers have been hired in varying numbers. The number of elected academic staff increased by 2 academic staff positions on average per year. The situation is different with the number of scientists. Since its foundation, but especially rapidly since 2014, scientific activity has developed in the Latvian Academy of Culture. In the Institute of Culture and Arts of the LAC (the Scientific Research Centre until February 2022), employment in terms of PLE has grown from 3 PLE in 2015 to 17 PLE in 2021. This has been facilitated by the targeted work on attracting research and development funding (in 2013, the funding of scientific activities of the LAC was EUR 10,401.00, but in 2022, EUR 377,797.00 were allocated to scientific research activities), which also promoted employment opportunities in science.

The development policy of the LAC is aimed at promoting internationalisation which is also reflected in the development of the quality of the study field, including the attraction of foreign lecturers. Using various financial instruments, foreign lecturers have been attracted to the LAC in recent years which on average make up 5% of the academic staff of the LAC per year. Lecturers from foreign universities, recruited within the framework of the Erasmus+ programme, play a significant role in the improvement of academic work. Since 2013, 300 foreign lecturers have led lectures and master classes at the LAC as a part of the Erasmus+ programme.

In order to enrich the content of the study programmes of the field of study and to ensure the integration of practice-based knowledge and artistic creative experience in it, academic personnel from the cultural and creative sector, namely industry professionals, are actively recruited for the implementation of study courses. In the 2021/2022 study year, 71 guest lecturers were recruited.

When evaluating the distribution of the teaching staff’s workload and the workload formation policy,

it should be noted that the LAC has determined the following desired amount of hours in the workload:

1. lectures, seminars, practical work, individual lessons – no less than 256 hours per year;
2. management and examination of consultations, management and examination of student internships, independent works (assignments), management and review of coursework and final theses, acceptance of examinations, work in entrance examinations, pre-defence and assessment of coursework, commissions of special final examinations and final examinations – no more than 280 hours per year;
3. methodological work (development of study course, development of methodological materials, development of teaching aids, preparation of study programmes for licensing and accreditation) – no more than 180 hours per year;
4. scientific research and/or creative artistic work (publications, participation in conferences, scientific research, creative works, work in the scientific and artistic council) – not less than 40 hours per year;
5. organisational work – not less than 20 hours per year.

The amount of scientific research work is significantly greater for teaching staff who are also elected to the IACS as scientists.

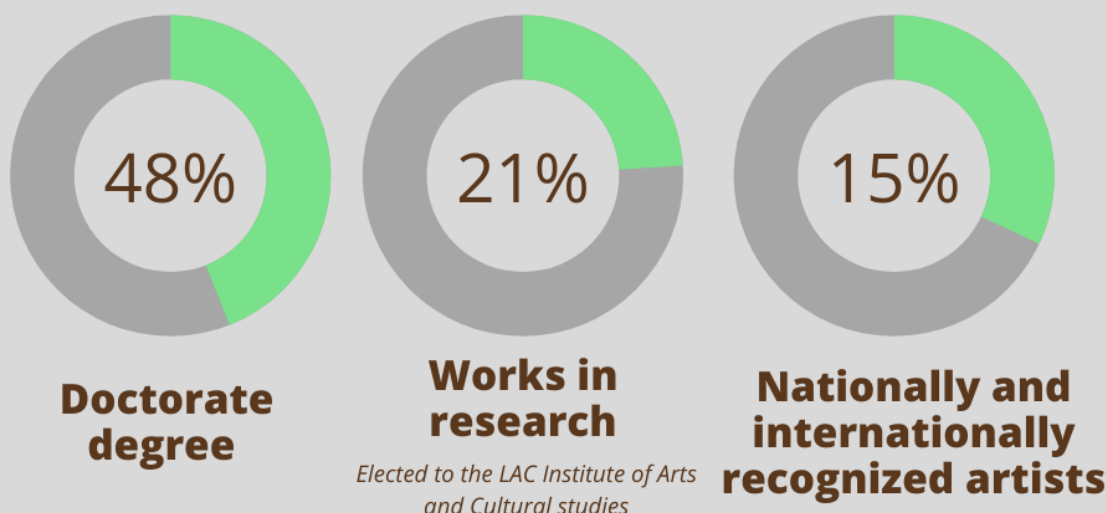
Analysing and evaluating the distribution of the academic, administrative (if applicable) and research workload of teaching staff, it was found that it is unevenly distributed among the academic staff. A particularly large amount of hours (significantly exceeding the minimum set of 720 hours per year) is characteristic of those employees who are equally actively employed in academic, administrative and research work. At the same time, there is a certain number of teaching staff members who are only employed for a minimum (or close to) number of hours. As the most effective solution to the disproportionate workload, the workload redistribution strategy is currently being used, by including the lectures, seminars and practical classes of the overloaded staff in the workload of the less overloaded staff (if the academic qualification of the staff allows it).

In order to improve the personnel management policy of the LAC, several tasks are set as priorities, including: 1) to work purposefully on salary differentiation and improved financial management policy in order to ensure a fairer remuneration system based on results and investment in the future, as well as to promote the professional development of academic staff and the improvement of the quality of the field of studies, 2) to plan the differentiation of the workload distribution proportion for professors and other academic staff; 3) to purposefully increase the composition of the academic staff with nationally and internationally recognised artists, reaching 20% of the academic staff of the LAC (in accordance with the requirements of Section 3 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions).

Image no. 3

Academic staff

The academic staff of LAC study direction "Arts" consists of 75 employees. Of the academic staff (professors, associate professors, assistant professors and lecturers), 21% have been elected as leading researchers, researchers or research assistants, 48% of the academic staff have a doctorate degree, and 15% are nationally and internationally recognized artists .



In the attachment:

Table with basic information about the teaching staff involved in the implementation of the study direction (see appendix 2.3.7.-1).

Teaching staff biographies (see Appendix 2.3.7.-2).

Certificate of the rector of the university regarding the teaching staff's knowledge of the national language (see appendix 2.3.7.-3).

Certificates from the university regarding the foreign language skills of teaching staff involved in the implementation of the study programme (see appendix 2.3.7.-4).

2.3.8. Assessment of the support available for the students, including the support provided during the study process, as well as career and psychological support by specifying the support to be provided to specific student groups (for instance, students from abroad, part-time students, distance-learning students, students with special needs, etc.).

Support for LAC students is based on a student-centred education approach. Support activities are designed to provide an empathetic and inclusive study environment, developing and improving the range of career development services, as well as ensuring participation in decision-making and quality management processes. Representation of students shall be ensured in the following decision-making institutions of the academy: the Senate, the Rectorate, the Council of Study

Programmes, the Commission for Granting Financial Aid. Students participate in surveys and discussions, and evaluate the study process. Student Association addresses important issues about academic, social, cultural life, represents and defends students' opinions and rights.

Several departments provide support to LAC students. Support is sufficient and the areas of responsibility of staff are clearly defined, student issues are responsibly and expeditiously addressed.

Support in the study process. Information regarding all matters related to the study process shall be provided by employees of the study department: supervises admission of students, contract signing, achievements of students, scholarship grants, preparing information regarding study payments, administering e-study environment, etc. In all matters related to the content of studies, support shall be provided by the head of the department, assistant manager and lecturers. Lecturers are available for student communication not only during class and counselling times, but also for communication – in e-studies and e-mails. The assistant of head of the department shall ensure the circulation of information between students, administrative staff, structural units and the lecturers attached to the department. Programme leaders and representatives of the academy administration regularly discuss questions and suggestions of students in improving the study process and the environment.

Career support for students is continuously being developed through the development of a career development service model. Career support mechanisms vary significantly between study levels, study programmes and sub-programmes, which is determined by the nature of the labour market that corresponds to the respective programme. For example, under the “Arts” sub-programme “Stage Acting”, students are usually admitted in close cooperation with a particular theatre, e.g., Valmiera Dramas Theatre, New Riga Theatre, etc., with which the students' career after graduation will be related. Another catalogue of career opportunities is for graduates of study directions programmes/sub-programmes whose study programme (knowledge, skills, competences) open up a wider range of employment (Bachelor's study programme “Arts” sub-programmes “Cultural and Arts Studies”, “Sociology and Management of Culture”, “Intercultural Relations”, etc.). For graduates of those programmes/sub-programmes, positioning in the labour market is in accordance with the professional capacity and interests of the graduate. This led the LAC to develop a flexible, practical model that is differentiated between different programmes and even sub-programmes of the same programme. The student shall choose and implement the time period for internship individually. The internship coordinator shall inform students regarding the place of internship and job offers. Internships are excellent support for career building, as often students continue to work there after graduation.

LAC works with numerous companies that offers internships. Employers include institutions, organisations, associations and enterprises of the Latvian cultural and creative sector (public and private), including creative industries, media, advertisement companies, etc. Students happily choose internships not only in theatre, film, dance industry organisations or projects and memory institutions (museums, libraries, archives), but also in music (including LNOB, LNSO, regional concert halls, music festival projects, etc.) and visual arts (galleries and art centres) organisations, as well as in state and local government institutions (programmes/sub-programmes related to cultural management). It is also possible to take internship in social business, advertising and marketing agencies, as well as banks, such as Swedbank (Creative Industries Programme). Public administration and local government agencies, regional cultural centres, as well as several NGOs and various foundations regularly offers to cooperate with LAC students. LAC students can provide their own placements by setting up their own company or implementing their own project, to which other LAC students are drawn, thus working in a team and developing leadership qualities. Often LAC students choose to do internship abroad, acquiring contacts during ERASMUS studies, as well

as cooperating with EUNIC and other European representative institutions in Latvia.

LAC students have the opportunity to apply for individual consultations with the LAC Career Education Project Manager to discuss internships and career plans individually. During the consultation student's skills are analysed, based on the student's own interests and prepared questions, the experience of studies, practice/volunteering, etc. During the COVID-19 pandemic, career counselling took place online, and gained a different direction: they were more like psychological support for students to help find motivation to continue to meet their study criteria and goals, and to continue to fulfil their study assignments in a changing environment by learning and using a variety of digital tools, diversifying their skills and competencies, and expanding opportunities.

Since 2021 there is a new initiative to support students' careers and studies called the "LAC Mentoring Programme". The programme is voluntary and involves around 25 students each year, to whom the LAC, as programme coordinator, offers cooperation with industry professionals who are willing to share their experience. The duration of the mentoring programme is up to 5 months. Its main tasks are (1) to broaden the student's perspective on work and/or business opportunities in the sector, (2) to explore the professional environment; 3) to develop competences (knowledge, skills and attitude) of the student; 4) to improve the skills for setting and achieving the objectives of the student; 5) to help a student make contact with people in respective industry. Although the programme does not directly aim at finding a workplace for students, the assessment of its effectiveness and feedback from programme participants show that the successful cooperation initiated during the programme often continues to take place on individual projects or already in a specific workplace that has been encountered during the programme.

Psychological support. There is no separate position as a psychologist in the LAC, however, relationships between students and programme/sub-programme managers, heads of departments, administration representatives are based on empathy and mutual trust, which allows to discuss current issues and, if necessary, recommend the assistance of a specialist. The Student Association of LAC students also provides significant support in the adaptation of students and in the study process. The academy's advantage is the relatively small number of students and compact study spaces that allow successful and supportive communication.

Accessibility of the environment. Academy within its capabilities tries to create and ensure environment, in which any place in any building can be freely accessed by a student, trainer or visitor and that people with reduced mobility have the opportunity to study and work.

Information regarding accessibility is here: <https://lka.edu.lv/lv/par-akademiju/vides-pieejamiba/> (Latvian only)

Financial support. Financial support for students during their studies is provided through scholarships. Students may apply for a monthly, one-off or increased scholarship at budget places each semester in the Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral study programmes of the LAC. The basic grant starting from 2022 is 140,00 EUR per month. Since 2021, students from large families, orphans and those left without parental support, students with Group I and II disabilities can apply for a "Studēt gods" scholarship. "Studēt gods" grant is set at 160 EUR per month, 10 months per year. Within the framework of the calendar year, the LAC Study Financing Allocation Council grants scholarships to support research and research-based creativity on the basis of proposals from representatives of the Pre-Advocacy Commission for Bachelor's and Master's works. Students have the opportunity to apply for study fee reliefs, which are regulated at the Academy by the "Procedures for the application of study fee reliefs at the Latvian Academy of Culture". The following fee relief incentives are available to students:

- under certain criteria, ask for a reduction in tuition fee per semester or a full study programme;
- amend the time periods of the specified study payment schedule and divide the total study fee for the semester up to four parts

Two types of study loans are available to students: 1) study loan (to cover study fees); 2) student loan (for day-to-day needs of a student during studies). Information regarding application for study loans can be received in the study department or credit institution.

Mobility support. Mobility support for LAC students during the mobility study period shall be provided by the head of the mobility programme and the international cooperation specialist. When moving abroad, the head of the mobility programme can provide support to LAC students:

- organise seminars and individual consultations before students apply for mobility, as well as individual consultations (electronically, remotely, face-to-face) after the student has been approved for mobility;
- provide all forms of assistance in the preparation of the necessary documents (cognitions, endorsements, training contracts, scholarship contracts, alignment of credits, etc.);
- after a period of mobility, academy does registration of courses in the informative system and in co-operation with the study department prepares individual study plans, if such are necessary.

Incoming full time and mobility period students are supported by an international cooperation specialist: that helps to complete documents (study contracts, certificates), find a place of residence, navigate study information and daily life. The head of the mobility programme shall assist with the completion of visas, residence permits, and prepare study documentation.

Academy students are attracted to support foreign students: every year a team of Erasmus mentors is announced to help incoming students adapt to Latvia and LAC, as well as organise various events and trips.

Support in technical and IT matters shall be provided by an IT service specialist and a party responsible for technical provision of the digital environment that is necessary for studies, as well as to solve issues related to the maintenance of infrastructure (IT, maintenance of premises, provision according to the needs of the training process, etc.).

Support for the organisation of creative projects and extracurricular activities. Students have access to the support of the LAC communications department regarding organisation of extracurricular activities: dissemination of information to the media, informative support on social media platforms, and services of the LAC photographer. The department of communications also regularly offers students to practice at the department, allowing students to develop marketing, communication and management skills. Implementation of the creative projects of the LAC shall be ensured by the Centre for creative activity. Students can apply to the staff of the centre as creators and participants. The Centre for creative activity shall provide support to students during organisation of events.

2.4. Scientific Research and Artistic Creation

2.4.1. Description and assessment of the fields of scientific research and/or artistic creation in the study field, their compliance with the aims of the higher education institution/ college and the study field, and the development level of scientific research

and artistic creation (provide a separate description of the role of the doctoral study programmes, if applicable).

The Latvian Academy of Culture, as a university-type university of arts and culture, implements the programmes in one study direction "Arts", but its strategic specialisation is closely related to interdisciplinarity in the three pillars of its activity – educational programmes, scientific research and expressions of artistic creativity. The priority directions of scientific research and artistic creativity of the LAC have developed in close synergy with the development of study programmes. They are subordinated to **the overarching goal of the study direction "Arts"** – to provide sustainable, successive, interdisciplinarity-based higher and post-graduate (doctoral) education in the field of culture, art and the creative sector; to prepare competitive professionals in the field of culture and art (theatre, dance and audio-visual arts); to closely integrate education, research and artistic creativity in the study process; to effectively integrate into the cultural, artistic and creative ecosystem on a national and international scale.

The themes of **scientific and applied research of the LAC** are aimed at accumulating knowledge not only about artistic creativity, but also about the entire cultural and creative ecosystem which includes the management of artistic creativity processes, commercialisation, the process of cultural heritage formation, audience formation, etc. Such interdisciplinary research directions as cultural studies have been developed as the themes of priority research: cultural heritage, social and economic impact of culture, formation of cultural policy; cultural and creative industries, intercultural communication, especially focusing on the study of theatre, dance and film art phenomena.

The Latvian Academy of Culture is registered in the register of scientific institutions with registration no. 372184. The structural unit of the LAC, whose main objective is to ensure the functioning of the LAC as a scientific institution, is the Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies (IACS). The IACS had 36 scientists working in elected academic positions at the end of 2021: nine leading researchers, nine researchers and 18 research assistants by making a total of almost 17 FTE. The IACS has a high reputation both in the academic environment and in the environment of cultural and creative sector professionals and policymakers, but a comprehensive external/international assessment of the scientific activity of the LAC was carried out within the framework of the international assessment of Latvian scientific institutions on scientific activity in the period 2013–2019 by the Ministry of Education and Science. The evaluation is based on five main evaluation criteria: research quality, impact on the scientific industry, economic and social impact, research environment and infrastructure, development potential. In the international evaluation of scientific activity, the LAC got the second highest rating not only among scientific institutions (SIs) representing the humanities in Latvia (the assessment was carried out in 11 SIs working in the disciplinary framework of humanities), but in general (International Evaluation of Scientific Institutions Activity (2021). Panel Report: Humanities. Available: <https://www.izm.gov.lv/lv/media/10719/download?attachment>) among all Latvian scientific institutions. The summary of the evaluation states that the LAC, based on the strengths of its research profile, with impressive determination and strategic vision, has expanded its research scope, developed new projects and opened new research directions during the reporting period. It is recognised that the LAC focuses on the implementation of collective interdisciplinary research projects and enhanced international cooperation. It was emphasised that the LAC as a scientific institution has found its unique research focus (quantitative and qualitative) which is on creative industries, cultural policy, intangible cultural heritage, theatre and film art. It is indicated that with a clear strategy of research activities and staff development, the LAC has managed to create a

dynamic and inclusive research environment with highly motivated researchers inspired by common goals. Experts have recognised the influence of the LAC scientists on the development of related scientific fields, as well as the significant economic and social impact of the scientific activity of the LAC which is directed in several directions. When describing the research environment in general, the experts in the assessment first of all emphasised that an inclusive research strategy has stimulated the forward-looking spirit of cooperation of the academic staff, including doctoral students, involvement in thematic research groups and collective projects which are also intended for collegial peer review of research results. The scientific staff development strategy has been praised, described as an effective tool to maintain researchers' motivation and also promote their involvement in informational activities. Evaluating the potential of the LAC to offer doctoral studies, it is emphasised that with the new practice-based doctoral study program – the professional doctoral study program in arts "Arts" – the LAC, together with LAoA and JVL AoM, will raise doctoral training to a new level. Along with the planned national reform of doctoral education and the improvement of the institutional and economic status of doctoral students, the new study program will be a significant step forward in doctoral education in Latvia.

The specifics of the scientific activity of the LAC, including the fact that some of the scientists of the LAC are associated with the study of locally important cultural and artistic issues, determine the fact that the number of publications is large, but a relatively small number of researchers work on internationally "convertible" publications which after anonymous review are included in publications indexed in SCOPUS and Web of Science databases. This is one of the most important priorities – to ensure the competence of a larger range of researchers in the development of such publications, while at the same time increasing international competitiveness.

Table no. 11

Scientific and creative activity of academic staff: published scientific articles (2015-2021)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Scientific articles published in the editions included in internationally cited databases	9	10	16	17	15	16	26
Scientific articles in total	39	41	29	58	38	39	51

An important basis for the development of publications is the involvement of scientists in the projects of international and national-scale which allow the development of new knowledge as a basis for the development of publications. During the reporting period, the scientific teams of the IACS of the LAC have attracted a relatively large number of financially extensive research projects of various scales which has allowed achieving a greater number of developed publications and monographs. The researchers of the LAC have attracted funding for the implementation of international projects, national research programs (NRP), fundamental and applied research projects (FARP), applied research (contract research), as well as post-doctoral research.

Table no. 12

Implemented research projects from 2015 to 2022

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
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Number of National Research Programme studies implemented	2	2	2	1	0	2	3	3
The number of fundamental and applied research projects implemented	0	0	0	1	1	4	3	3
The number of implemented research and development projects commissioned by the industry	3	5	5	4	2	6	10	7
The number of international research projects implemented	1	2	4	2	1	0	0	2
Postdoctoral research projects	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	2
The number of implemented LAC internal research projects	0	0	11	10	6	0	6	6
Total:	6	9	22	18	11	14	25	23

The artistic creativity of the LAC is predominantly developed in the directions of theatre art, audio-visual art and contemporary dance art. Specific study programmes and sub-programmes are also related to them. They form an important dimension of the uniqueness of the LAC's activity and a fundamental justification for belonging of the LAC to the type of arts and culture universities by preparing specialists in theatre, dance and film arts. Artistic creativity is not only an essential part of the content of several study programs and sub-programs, but also a requirement for the professional activities and qualifications of the lecturers involved in them. At the LAC such works of artistic creation as short plays, documentaries, theatre plays, performances, dramaturgy (plays), screenplays, translations, etc. are created.

The study programmes of the LAC which are related to the preparation of creative professionals for the fields of theatre, contemporary dance and audio-visual arts are implemented by the Department of Performing Arts (hereinafter – the DoPA) and the Department of Audio-visual Arts (hereinafter – the DoAA). The artistic creations created by the LAC students and lecturers are produced and distributed by the Creative Activity Centre (hereinafter – the CAC of the LAC) and the National Film School of the LAC (hereinafter – the NFS of the LAC). The activity of the DoAA is closely related to the NFS of the LAC, which supports the creative activity of the department's lecturers and students, as well as maintains its internationalisation dimension, ensuring participation in international festivals, professional organisations, etc. The programs of these departments At the same time, the LAC confirms its openness to the development of interdisciplinary educational offers, because there is a new demand in the arts in accordance with the development of art branches (education of circus artists, etc.). The preparation of highly competitive graduates is threatened by financial barriers, both for attracting excellent artists in the implementation of study programs, and for ensuring the appropriate infrastructure and material

and technical bases based on the latest technologies. In order to ensure quality study content, the study programmes and sub-programmes administered by the DoPA and DoAA need systematic and predictable funding for the creation and distribution of students' artistic creations which is predominantly funded by the SCCF and the LAC performance funding, the amount of which also depends on external factors. For example, in 2021, EUR 169,878.09 was raised for artistic creative projects (29) of the students of both departments from several sources (the SCCF, the Riga City Municipality, the association "Zied zeme", *Tallinna Ulikool*, *Centrum Kultury Wroclaw*, *Turun Ammattikorkeakoulu OY*, *Tartu Ulikool*, *Den Danske Scenekunstskole*, *Eesti Muusika- ja Teatriakadeemia*); however, the dominant funding for creative projects is the SCCF (1/3 of all funding) and performance funding scholarships. This funding is supplemented by the LAC performance funding scholarships. (from the LAC's performance funding), where, for example, EUR 24,025.99 were allocated to the students of the programmes of both departments for the development of creative works in 2022.

The CAC of the LAC plays a special role in the implementation of the LAC creative initiatives which support the creative work of students and teachers of audio-visual arts, dance and theatre arts: the distribution of theatre and dance performances, films and other interdisciplinary projects. The administrative and production support provided by the CAC of the LAC for study programmes and sub-programmes in which specialists are trained for the performing arts and audio-visual arts sector has the potential to create post-graduate support programmes for the successful integration of students into the labour market. The planned, but not yet implemented *Theatre and audio-visual art platform* of the LAC in the premises of Tabakas Fabrika is a decisive condition for the development of the modern and internationally competitive study programmes in these fields.

The CAC of the LAC also ensures the organisation of various cultural events on the national level, for example, the Latvian theatre award ceremony "Spēlmaņu nakts" held in the theatre house "Zirgu pasts" of the LAC, the "Excellence award in culture 2020" ceremony organised by the Ministry of Culture. Every year, apart from the studies in theatre art, contemporary dance art and audio-visual art, the LAC implements approximately 15 artistic creation projects in cooperation with organisations and institutions of the cultural sector.

2.4.2. The relation between scientific research and/or artistic creation and the study process, including the description and assessment of the use of the outcomes in the study process.

All the development planning documents of the LAC provide for the connection of scientific and applied research, as well as artistic creativity activities with the study process, for example, in both strategies of the LAC developed during the reporting period, separate action plan directions have been developed for research and artistic creativity (see LAC Strategy 2022-2027, available: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pLPD08ZbMW7nRtVaSQQZhvTCJLxiaie/view>).

The connection of scientific and applied research with the study process is ensured by the synchronicity of study programmes and priority research topics. This connection manifests itself in several ways. First of all, as the integration of research results carried out by the lecturers of the LAC and the IACS into the content of study courses. For example, in the state research programme "The Cultural capital as a resource for the sustainable development of Latvia/CARD" (see <https://lka.edu.lv/en/research/research-projects/state-research-programmes/cultural-capital-resource-sustainable-development-latviacard/>), research was carried out by 10 lecturers of the LAC who

integrated the results of CARD programme research into their study courses (Prof. R. Muktupāvela, Prof. A. Laķe, Prof. I. Zemīte, Prof. I. Pērkone-Redoviča, associate professor Liene Ozoliņa, associate professor Z. Kreitzberga, associate professor L. Ulberte, lecturer K. Freiberg, and others). This is also reflected in the changes in the course descriptions of study programmes at all levels. Knowledge transfer also takes place in other NRP, FARP, Apvārsnis 2020 implemented by the IACS, as well as in contractual studies, international studies, etc. (See research projects and programmes implemented by the LAC: <https://lka.edu.lv/en/research/research-projects/>). Such transfer of research results to current study content ensures that knowledge about art and related phenomena based on the latest research is available to those studying in the cultural and creative sector without time lag. Other lecturers not involved in the research projects of the LAC also integrate research-related tasks into the study content. Secondly, a close connection of scientific and applied research with the study process is ensured by the involvement of students in the research projects of the IACS. The student involvement in research projects is described in more detail in Section 2.4.5. Thirdly, students are closely integrated into the practice of the scientific conferences of the LAC – both as conference audience and as speakers. For example, the programme of the annual conference series Cultural Intersections of the LAC (see <https://lka.edu.lv/en/research/conferences/annual-conferences/international-research-conference-culture-crossroads/>) covers several days, it is part of the study process, because classes are replaced by attending a conference, and for those studying almost all study programmes, study assignments related to the content of the conference programme are included in one of the study courses. On the other hand, the annual student conference "ZinātMāksla" (see ZinātMāksla programme from 2015 on the website of the LAC <https://lka.edu.lv/en/research/conferences/annual-conferences/student-research-conference-art-knowing/>) is dedicated to the communication of students' research works. It integrates both research works and works of artistic creativity, and every year its main topic is subordinated to the current affairs of the cultural and creative sector. "ZinātMākslā" presents both individual and group research and artistic creativity projects. Fourth, the development of students' research competencies is also financially stimulated. It takes place in various forms, for example 1) the concept of internal research projects of the LAC (see <https://lka.edu.lv/en/research/research-projects/>) and the regulations of the research project competition of the Latvian Academy of Culture "Development of scientific activity in the Latvian Academy of Culture" provide that students of different study levels must be included in the research project team. In recent years, students (especially doctoral students, but not only) have also been project applicants, for example, the project manager of the study "Journey to Utopia: the use of a research-based art approach in the analysis of social problems" is Lote Katrīna Cērpa, 4th-year student of the sub-programme of Cultural Sociology and Management of the bachelor study program "Arts", the scientific assistant of the IACS; 2) the type of material stimulation of research excellence support is research support performance scholarships in the amount of 200 euro which are awarded annually based on the results of the pre-defence of bachelor's and master's theses to one student of each study programme and sub-programme for the development of bachelor's or master's research. In 2022, the Pēteris Laķis Young Scientist Award was established, which will be presented annually at the "ZinātMāksla" student conference.

The described and other activities have contributed to the purposeful connection of scientific and applied research with the study process and the development of bright talents of young scientists. At the same time, barriers to this connection are formed by the heterogeneous self-initiative and interest of students and lecturers in scientific activity, which creates risks of unequal inclusion in scientific and applied research. Systematic integration of all students and lecturers in research activities is promoted as one of the development tasks of the scientific activity of the next planning period.

The integration of the process of artistic creation in the study process takes place, firstly by ensuring the activity of artistic creativity (theatre, dance and film art) within the study programmes, and secondly, by representing the results of the creative activity of the students and lecturers of the LAC outside the LAC – in Latvia and abroad.

The component of artistic creativity is most closely related to the sub-programmes "Art of Dramatic Theatre Acting", "Art of Dramatic Theatre Directing", "Drama and Text Studies" of the bachelor's study programme "Arts", bachelor's study programmes "Audio-visual Art" and "Art of Contemporary Dance", with master's study programme "Audio-visual and Stage Art", as well as with the joint professional doctoral study programme in arts "Arts", "Audio-visual Art, Theatre and Contemporary Dance" of the LAC. In the above-mentioned bachelor's and master's study programmes and sub-programmes, the final test is the work of artistic creativity for which the theoretical basis is also developed, while the study of the professional doctoral study programme "Art" in the arts ends with a state examination, defending the work of artistic creativity developed during the study process, and with it related theoretical appendix.

The activity of artistic creativity in the field of theatre, audio-visual art and contemporary dance is administratively and organisationally supported by the Centre for Creative Activities and the National Film School. The connection of artistic creativity with the study process is ensured by all artistic creativity projects of the LAC, as students implement these projects under the guidance of lecturers. During the reporting period, approximately 15 artistic creativity projects were implemented annually. The activity of artistic creation is not only integrated in the study process, but also closely related to the industry, as both theatre art and contemporary dance art projects are implemented in cooperation with public and private cultural organisations – the Latvian National Theatre, the New Riga Theatre, the Art Theatre, the Valmieras Drama Theatre, film production companies, etc.

16 international joint products of artistic creativity have been implemented. Master workshops of foreign creative professionals are organised at the LAC every year, the LAC lecturers and students go to creative residencies held abroad. International creative partnership networks are identified, projects are implemented within them.

An important indicator of the artistic value of the creative activity of the LAC students and lecturers is nominations and awards in national and international film art and performing arts competitions, for example, on average, 12 films are nominated for the national cinema award "Lielais Kristaps" per year (films of the LAC students + working filmmakers of the LAC), where we receive an average of 2 "Lielā Kristaps" awards each year (nomination "Best student film", teachers for their work on the film), as well as an average of 4 awards per year at international film festivals. On the other hand, in performing arts, in 6 years – 132 nominations, 42 awards. The development of students' artistic creative competences is also materially stimulated. From the performance funding of the LAC, support funding is allocated both for the implementation of artistic creation projects and for mobility and distribution of creative works abroad.

2.4.3. Description and assessment of the international cooperation in the field of scientific research and/or artistic creation by specifying any joint projects, researches, etc. Specify those study programmes, which benefit from this cooperation. Specify the future plans for the development of international cooperation in the field of scientific research and/or artistic creation.

International cooperation is an element of the implementation of the LAC strategic priority (see the strategy of the LAC for 2023–2027, point 3.2.1) "Excellence of studies, research and artistic creativity". In the implementation of the study direction "Art", internationalisation is seen as an important indicator of excellence both in study work, research and artistic creation. The LAC is one of the members of the European Network of Observatories in the Field of Arts and Cultural Education (ENO, <https://www.eno-net.eu/>), as well as a member of other networks internationally significant for the development of arts and culture universities (see <https://lka.edu.lv/en/research/cooperation-networks/>).

In scientific activity, international cooperation manifests itself in at least the following aspects. Firstly, by implementing the research projects of international-scale, secondly, by organising international conferences and inviting foreign scientists/industry experts as speakers at the conferences organised by the LAC, thirdly, by the LAC scientists and lecturers participating in foreign international conferences, including organising and leading panel discussions in them, fourthly, by creating the Department of Politics and Law for the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage. During the reporting period, the scientists of the LAC have implemented several international research projects, including 1) the leading researchers of the LAC, three research projects (2014–2015, 2016–2017, 2020–2021) implemented under the leadership of dr.art. A. Vaivade (see <https://lka.edu.lv/en/research/research-projects/international-research-projects/osmose/>) in the Hubert Curien Partnership programme OSMOZE which is a Latvian-French cooperation programme in the fields of science and technology development, the results of which are integrated into study courses related to intangible cultural heritage; 2) 2016–2019 the scientists of the LAC implemented the EU research and innovation programme "Horizon 2020" project "CoHERE: "Critical Heritages: performing and representing identities in Europe" under the leadership of R. Muktupāvela, where the LAC was one of 12 partners (leading partner: University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Great Britain). The EU research and innovation programme "Horizon 2020" (EC H2020 funded the research project under grant agreement 693289) (for more details, see <https://lka.edu.lv/en/research/research-projects/international-research-projects/>); 3) in 2022–2026, the scientists of the LAC are implementing a research project IN SITU funded by the EU research and innovation support programme "Horizon Europe": Cultural and creative industry innovations in non-urban areas based on the uniqueness of the place /IN SITU: Place-based innovation of cultural and creative industries in non-urban areas / Under the leadership of Prof. I. Zemīte, where the LAC is one of 13 partners, and the leading partner is the Social Research Centre of the University of Coimbra in Portugal. The project is financed by the EU research and innovation support program "Horizon Europe" (project grant agreement No. 101061747) (<https://lka.edu.lv/en/research/research-projects/international-research-projects/>); 4) 2023–2027, the scientists of the LAC are implementing the research project "Transforming crafts knowledge for a sustainable, inclusive and economically viable heritage in Europe" of the EU research and innovation support program "Horizon Europe" under the leadership of the leading researcher A. Vaivade, where the LAC is one of 15 partners, and the leading partner is the University of Antwerp. The project is financed by the EU research and innovation support program "Horizon Europe" (project grant agreement no. 101094507) (see the link for details: <https://lka.edu.lv/en/research/research-projects/international-research-projects/tracks4crafts/>). The results of these and other international research projects are most directly integrated into those study programmes where the scientists involved in the projects work as lecturers. Also, the beneficiaries are the students who have participated in the conferences of the LAC where the results of these projects were presented. Students of all study programmes benefit from this involvement of the scientists of the LAC in international research projects.

The international dimension also manifests itself in several directions in **artistic creativity**. Firstly,

by implementing international projects that promote the development of artistic creativity of students and teachers, secondly, by developing joint products of artistic creativity with foreign creative partners, thirdly, by implementing mobility activities with the aim of developing partnership in the field of artistic creativity, fourthly, by becoming a member of various influential international organisations. More details about each direction:

1. 2016–2018, the LAC was one of 8 partners in the project *European Theatre Academies Platform* (PLETA) supported by the EC programme *Creative Europe*, together with theatre universities from Austria, Belgium, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Finland and Germany, within the framework of which regular international workshops were held, several joint productions were created, several conferences were organised on issues of performing arts education, and at the end, a large-scale international summer school and festival was held in Latvia with the participation of all partners. The LAC was the leading partner in the *Nordplus* project FAME (*Film and Media for Education*) on the use of films in educational programmes. The long-term cooperation will continue with the organisers of the international summer school *Summer Media Studio* in Lithuania. The LAC was one of the 7 European partners in the Erasmus+ project *FilmTerm* for the development of a unified cinema terminology and one of the 5 partners in the Erasmus+ lifelong learning project *Audio Description Against Exclusion* for creating audio descriptions for works of art.
2. During the reporting period, 16 international joint products of artistic creativity were implemented, as well as 6 cultural and art festivals of national and international-scale, as well as 10 thematic conferences subordinated to them were organised during the reporting period.
3. The LAC has so far been involved in several Erasmus+ and *Nordplus* cooperation projects, which have promoted mobility and interdisciplinary international cooperation, especially in the field of audio-visual arts. International cooperation in the study process related to artistic creativity gives an opportunity to expand and specify the range of creative approaches and methods, to develop intercultural competence, competitiveness and excellence of academic staff and students, as well as to position the LAC as an equal player and cooperation partner in the international educational arena. Since 2018, the LAC has been one of the 18 member organisations of the cooperation network NORTEAS of the *Nordplus* Baltic and Nordic performing arts universities, thus not only promoting the short-term mobility of students and lecturers, the exchange of knowledge and experience in the region, but also creating specific cooperation projects, such as cycles of master workshops, summer schools and joint productions. The LAC also participates in two other platforms supported by *Nordplus* – DAMA and ECA which have promoted student participation in thematically specific international workshops. The LAC has established a long-term cooperation with *COLINE*, a French professional education contemporary dance school which regularly accepts the students of the AoCD of the LAC to work on specific productions under the guidance of internationally recognised choreographers.
4. Since 2022, the National Film School (NFS) of the LAC is a full member of the prestigious International Association of Film, Audio-visual Arts and Media Schools CILECT. This opens wide opportunities for faster development of international cooperation with other educational institutions that implement educational programmes in the art of film by mainly ensuring the quality of the study process, and also by inviting highly qualified foreign lecturers in areas where there are a lack of specialists in Latvia. In this way, the qualifications of the lecturers of the LAC are also raised and the current development trends of audio-visual art are integrated into the study process. Cooperation also takes place with the organisers of the European Film Academy Award, including the students of the AVA theory of the LAC in the student jury.

In the field of artistic creation, international cooperation results in the bachelor's study programme *Arts*, sub-programme *Dramatic Theatre Acting*, *Dramatic Theatre Directing* and *Drama and Text Studies*, bachelor's study programme *Audio-visual Art (AVA)* and *Art of Contemporary Dance (AoCD)*, master's study programme *Audio-visual and Performing Art* and students and teachers of the professional doctoral study programmes in arts, *Arts*. In addition to strengthening bilateral ties with foreign universities and professionals, within the framework of Erasmus+ mobility and other activities, the LAC strategically and actively engages in networks and platforms that promote focused long-term cooperation. In the abovementioned programmes and sub-programmes, in general, international workshops are regularly held (on average 5-6 per year), and the mobility of students and lecturers is promoted within the framework of programmes supported by Erasmus+ and *Nordplus*. In the field of artistic creativity, the strategic goal is to ensure that every student is involved in international cooperation at least once during his study cycle.

In the future, cooperation between film schools in the Baltic and Nordic region will also be intensified, with 6 partners from Estonia, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Finland and Sweden joining in the new *Nordplus* cooperation network *Nordfilm* which focuses on student mobility and gaining new skills and international experience. In the future, NORTEAS will also be one of the main international cooperation platforms of the LAC in the field of performing arts by ensuring the regularity of mobility and cooperation projects and developing new cooperation initiatives, including the creation of joint study modules. In 2023, the LAC will host partners at the annual NORTEAS partner meeting.

During the reporting period, there has been an ambitious expansion and development of international cooperation both in the dimension of scientific activity and artistic activity which will be continued by attracting funding for international programs, as well as foreign human resources for academic, scientific and artistic creative work. In the strategy of the LAC for **2023-2027, the planned results of internationalisation and international cooperation are:**

1. Participation in one consortium of the "European Universities" initiative organised within the framework of the Erasmus+ programme.
2. Participation in "Horizon Europe" research projects (at least four during the planning period).
3. Membership in one international cooperation consortium of universities of arts and culture.
4. Individual or collective awards (at least two per year) won in national and international artistic creativity competitions.

2.4.4. Specify the way how the higher education institution/ college promotes the involvement of the teaching staff in scientific research and/or artistic creation. Provide the description and assessment of the activities carried out by the academic staff in the field of scientific research and/or artistic creation relevant to the study field by providing examples.

The involvement of the teaching staff of the LAC/study direction in scientific and applied research takes place in a purposeful manner by offering lecturers diverse opportunities for scientific activities. Firstly, the opportunity to professionally engage in scientific activity at the Institute of Culture and Arts of the LAC by being elected to the position of scientific assistant, researcher or leading researcher through competition. In December 2022, the IACS employed 37 scientists (research assistants, researchers and leading researchers). Of these, 16 work at the LAC as lecturers, assistant professors, associate professors or professors, 11 are guest lecturers at the LAC, 7 are students of the LAC, but only 3 scientists do not work at the LAC as lecturers. The number of

people elected by the IACS has systematically increased, providing less than 17 PLE in 2021.

Table no. 13

IACS employees in terms of full-time equivalent from 2015 to 2022

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
PLE Scientists	2,9	5,68	4,99	7,45	9,63	11	16,59

In the assessment of the scientific activities of the LAC by foreign experts, the increase in human resources employed in science and the systematic integration of doctoral students and young scientists into research, extensive involvement in national and international projects in the field of both academic and applied research were also welcomed. Some lecturers of the LAC have also been elected to other scientific institutions of Latvia, for example, the LFMI of the UL or the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the UL. Secondly, the conferences organised by the LAC offer an opportunity for lecturers to communicate the results of their research locally and internationally. Thirdly, the scientific publications of the LAC "Culture Crossroads" and "Crossroads: Culture and Art Researches" (see <https://culturecrossroads.lv/index.php/cc>) are an incentive and opportunity for lecturers to develop and publish scientific publications. To promote the development of scientific publications, a special remuneration motivation system has been developed (see the regulations of the Latvian Academy of Culture on the allocation and use of performance funding https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GtddKbGlwmTmAS8i9x1_KzdwBVShqRBs/view (Latvian only)) which provides material incentives for the development of publications that are published in scientific publications indexed in SCOPUS and/or Web of Science databases.

Table no. 14

Scientific activity of academic staff: published scientific articles (2015-2021)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Scientific articles published in the editions included in internationally cited databases	9	10	16	17	15	16	26
Scientific articles in total	39	41	29	58	38	39	51

Fourthly, the results of the scientific activity are included in the calculation of the workload of the lecturers of the LAC which acts as an incentive for scientific activity in accordance with the Regulation "On the scope of work of academic staff, determination of salary, evaluation of work performance and material stimulation at the Latvian Academy of Culture" (see https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IR1K2qcISoh3PawzL_aULzRCVlayVPKV/view (Latvian only)). Fifthly, the LAC financially supports participation of lecturers in international conferences outside Latvia, if the paper is included in the conference programme. The involvement of the staff in research is also gradually producing results by increasing the number of people who develop a doctoral thesis and obtain a doctorate. Sixthly, teaching staff have the opportunity to form communities of researchers with similar scientific interests (creative industries, intangible cultural heritage, theatre and film art science), to whom the LAC offers financial and consultative support in the development of research project applications.

Involvement in the work of artistic creativity is an important expression of professional activity for those teaching staff who work with students in study courses, the goals of which are related to the

creative skills of theatre, film and contemporary dance. Recruitment of teaching staff for the study programmes of the Department of Performing Arts takes place through close cooperation with professional theatres of the public sector and private sector (mainly NGOs), and by attracting teaching staff from the Latvian National Theatre, New Riga Theatre, Valmiera Drama Theatre, Mikhail Chekhov's Riga Russian Theatre, Gertrude Street Theatre, Dirty Deal Teatro, Latvian Puppet Theatre, etc. These theatres have been cooperation partners in the development of creative works, in both bachelor's and master's study works. In the last six years, professionals in the field have been involved in the study process, such as guest lecturers Alvis Hermanis, Guna Zariņa, Valters Sīlis, Andrejs Jarovojš, Gundars Āboliņš, Elīna Gaitjukeviča, Dmitrijs Gaitjukevičs, Mārtiņš Meiers, etc. International artists are also attracted, who give master classes or create new creative works. At the moment, the Department of Performing Arts would like to have professionals in their field working in academic positions – Olga Žitluhina, Ilze Zīriņa, Ramona Galkina, Elmārs Senkovs, Indra Roga, Mihails Gruzдовs, Kārlis Krūmiņš, Zane Vadņiņa, Zane Kreicberga, Māra Ķimele, etc. Professionals of the industry are engaged as supervisors for students' diploma theses (artistic creativity works). (For example – theatre directors Gatis Šmits, Pēteris Krilovs, Inga Tropa, etc.). In the Department of Audio-visual Arts, several industry-recognised directors, operators and other professionals related to audio-visual art work with the students – Dāvis Sīmanis, Andrejs Verhoustinskis, Antra Cilinska, Liene Linde and others. The results of the scientific activity and artistic creativity of the teaching staff of the LAC are attached in the appendix.

The appendix includes a summary of quantitative data on scientific and/or applied research and/or artistic creative activities corresponding to the field of study during the reporting period (see appendix 2.4.4.-1).

The list of publications, patents, artistic creative works of teaching staff for the reporting period is attached in the appendix (see appendix 2.4.4.-2).

2.4.5. Specify how the involvement of the students in scientific research and/ or applied research and/or artistic creation activities is promoted. Provide the assessment and description of the involvement of the students of all-level study programmes in the relevant study field in scientific research and/ or applied research and/or artistic creation activities by giving examples of the opportunities offered to and used by the students.

The involvement of students in scientific and applied research has already been described in section 2.4.2, but the most effective tool for students to develop research skills is the employment of students in research projects implemented by the IACS of the LAC. Such an opportunity is provided by the increase in funding for scientific activities, research and development attracted by the tender procedure of the LAC (in 2021-2022, the IACS of the LAC implemented more than 20 research projects of various scales). Students of all levels (bachelor's, master's and doctoral studies) work in research projects both as elected scientists (research assistants) and as trainees. Eleven of the currently elected research assistants of the IACS are students of the LAC of various levels (including bachelor's level) which is almost 1/3 of all scientists of the IACS and is an important resource for the regeneration of scientists in the field of humanities and arts, as well as interdisciplinary research. In each research project, at least 25% of the staff are students. Also, the LAC internship system provides for the possibility of implementing internships in research projects, which are used by 4-5 students at the bachelor's level every year. Since one of the sub-programmes "Cultural Sociology and Management" of the bachelor's study programme "Arts" is focused on the development of research competences in the cultural and creative sector, it includes

a special type of practice “Applied research practice”, where students participate in cultural organisations under the guidance of lecturers (the Latvian National Symphony Orchestra, the Latvian School Bag Programme, the Latvian National Museum of History, the Dailes Theatre, Dirty Deal Teatro, etc.) in the implementation of commissioned research (contract research) at all stages of the research cycle. Also, undergraduate students are involved in contract research projects implemented by the IACS of the LAC in the field work phase and data processing (see <https://lka.edu.lv/en/research/research-projects/applied-studies/>). Master’s and doctoral study programme students have the opportunity to participate in the internal research project competition of the LAC by forming research teams of 3-5 people and carrying out research corresponding to their scientific interests (see, e.g. <https://lka.edu.lv/en/research/research-projects/>). Doctoral students are involved both in the FARP projects administered by L郑 and in State research programmes, thus providing support in the development of publications necessary for doctoral work (e.g. doctoral degree applicants Elīna Vikmane, Žanete Eglīte, Lolita Ozoliņa, Dita Pfeifer, etc.) and in deepening the skills of scientific activity.

The involvement of students in the work of artistic creativity is an integral part of the study content of the “Arts” bachelor study programme “Art of Dramatic Theatre Acting”, “Art of Dramatic Theatre Directing”, “Drama and Text Studies”, bachelor study programmes “Audiovisual Art” and “Art of Contemporary Dance”, in the master’s study programme “Audiovisual and Performing Art”, as well as in the joint professional doctoral study programme in arts “Arts”, “Audiovisual Art, Theatre and Contemporary Dance” of the LAC. The involvement of students in the work of artistic creativity is already described in section 2.4.2. The students of each programme or sub-programme implement the activity of artistic creativity in accordance with the content of the study programme – for example, in the sub-programme “Art of Dramatic Theatre Acting” students defend their coursework and final diploma theses with roles in performances created by hired directors or the teaching staff of the LAC, they are also involved in practice in cooperation with professional theatre. The works of artistic creativity are communicated and shown at the festival “Patriarha Rudens” organised by the Centre for Creative Activities of the LAC which takes place in cooperation with local and international guest artists. Students of all mentioned study programmes and sub-programmes cooperate in the development of creative works, for example, students of the “Art of Dramatic Theatre Actor’s” sub-programme participate as actors in short films created by students of the programme of “Audiovisual Art” or in new works staged by students of “Art of Dramatic Theatre Directing”. Artistic creativity is encouraged by participating in residencies, international projects, master classes, organised municipal events and festivals. Master classes organised by the LAC also promote cooperation with invited guest artists. In the audio-visual art programme, students specialise in their chosen field – camera operating, film directing, editing, etc. Artistic creativity is implemented through practice, coursework and diploma theses. When creating their own short films or documentaries, students act as directors, cameramen, editing specialists, producers. The creative works of students are submitted to international competitions of audio-visual art, theatre and contemporary dance, thus creating prerequisites for an international assessment of the artistic quality of creativity works.

2.4.6. Provide a brief description and assessment of the forms of innovation (for instance, product, process, marketing, and organisational innovation) generally used in the higher education institution, especially in study field subject to the assessment, by giving the respective examples and assessing their impact on the study process.

The innovations of the LAC can be implemented in three pillars of its activity – the study process, research and artistic creativity work. Their feasibility and spread is facilitated by openness of the LAC to new

As an example of organisational innovations in the study process, two joint study programmes can be mentioned: firstly, the joint bachelor's programme of Creative Industries of the Latvian Academy of Culture and Riga Technical University which led to the development of new forms of study process management for the cooperation of two organisationally radically different higher education institutions; secondly, the development of the joint (JVLAoM, LAoA, LAC) professional doctoral study programme in arts "Arts" which was the first professional doctoral programme in Latvia and envisaged the development of a new, original doctoral process, which, moreover, is implemented through the cooperation of three universities of arts and culture. During the distancing requirements introduced to limit the spread of Covid-19, several innovations were introduced for the implementation of the creative process in a remote form – remote tasks in the spring of 2020 – remote communication (study tasks of Olga Žitluhina which can be completed online, etc.) The restrictions imposed by Covid-19 allow rehearsals to take place in limited square meters and a limited number of people in 2021, so most diploma theses of the AoCD are created with a small composition and a limited space scale. An example of process innovation is the integration of the applied research process in the implementation of study courses (Study subject "Marketing research", etc.).

Several new methodological approaches have been introduced in the scientific activity – network analysis, visual research methods, art-based research approaches which are approved in national and international studies and scientific conferences. The close cooperation of the IACS in the implementation of research activities with state and local government policy makers, cultural and creative industry professionals can be evaluated as innovative. In science communication, innovative approaches are used in developing original digital video materials for the communication of various research programmes and scientists (see <https://lka.edu.lv/lv/petnieciba/zinatne-runu/> (Latvian only)).

Several new works have been created in the field of artistic creativity which are characterised by the features of an innovative creative product.

- Ieva Džindža, a graduate of MTM in 2019, creates her diploma thesis as an interactive performance ("Filmu vakars")
- Liena Šmuskte, a graduate of MTM in 2019, creates her thesis in theatre aesthetics by blindfolding the audience ("Grāmata Zīme")
- Kitija Geidāne, a graduate of CD of 2021, creates her diploma thesis as a kinesthetic exhibition ("(Lei)putrija")
- Jurgis Spulnieks, a graduate of MAVSM in 2021, creates his diploma thesis in the Ozolu manor of Renda Parish, Kuldīga County, as an immersive theatre performance ("Indrānos")
- ZOOM/during the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions, the CD creates contact improvisational performances on the ZOOM platform under the guidance of the teacher Ilze Zīriņa
- The students of the subprogramme "Stage Acting" create performative video works about the poetry works nominated for the 2020 Latvian Literary Award. In cooperation with Latvijas Radio 1 programme Culture Rondo. Available here: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLR2yUDK6PMaAg_nCTLnZ8TyCkQ_tXpd34 etc.

Several organisational innovations were introduced by providing an online or hybrid format of further education of studies, scientific conferences, and artistic creativity.

2.5. Cooperation and Internationalisation

2.5.1. Provide the assessment as to how the cooperation with different institutions from Latvia (higher education institutions/ colleges, employers, employers' organisations, municipalities, non-governmental organisations, scientific institutes, etc.) within the study field contributes to the achievement of the aims and learning outcomes of the study field. Specify the criteria by which the cooperation partners for the study field and the relevant study programmes are selected and how the cooperation is organised by describing the cooperation with employers. In addition, specify the mechanism for the attraction of the cooperation partners.

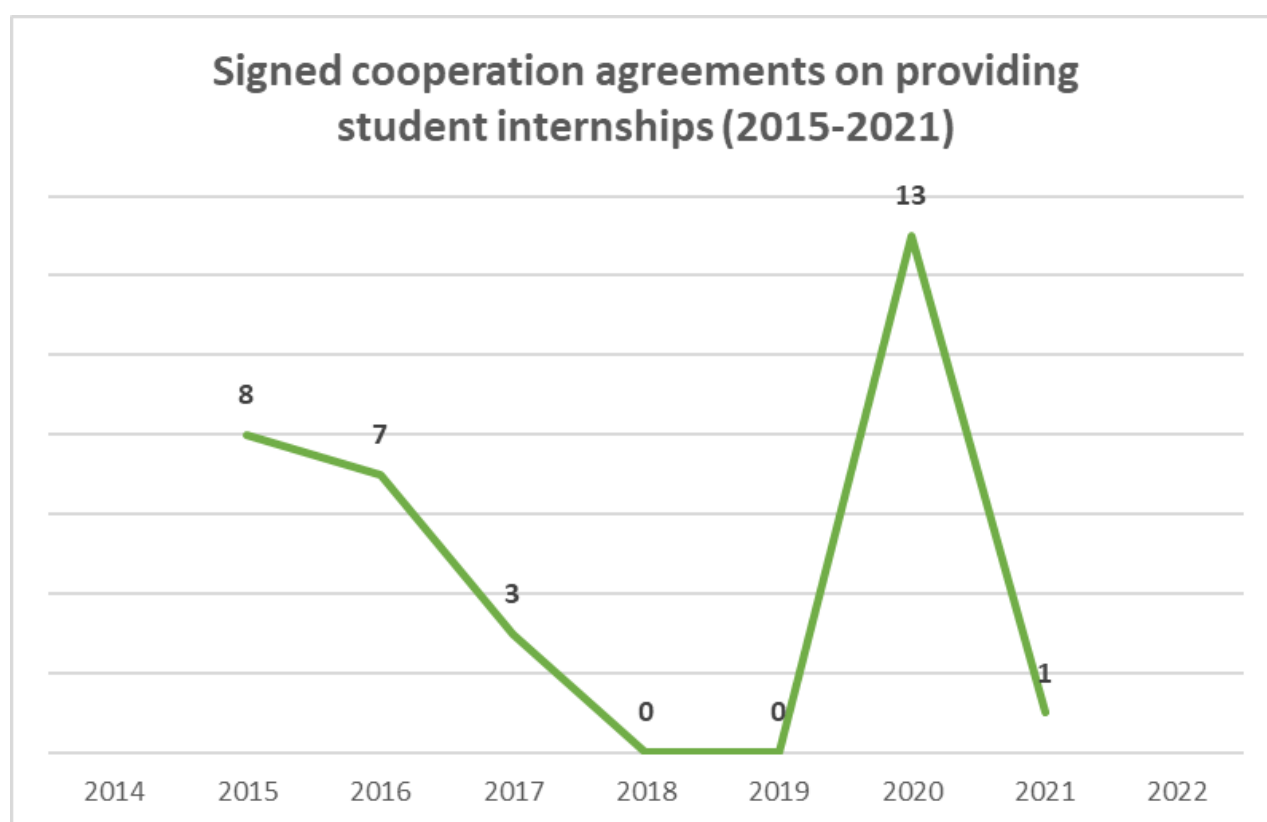
During the reporting period, the study direction "Arts" has significantly expanded and become more diverse in cooperation in studies, research, and artistic creativity, expanding the number of cooperation partners on a Latvian scale in all the mentioned fields.

Cooperation partners in **study work** and programme development are selected based on the common strategic interests of universities and study areas. First of all, the most important partnership with a significant contribution to the achievement of the direction's goals and study results is cooperation with other universities in the development of joint programmes. During the reporting period, 1) cooperation with Riga Technical University in the development of bachelor's ("Creative Industries") and master's ("Creative Industries and Growth Management") study programs, which effectively develop the interdisciplinary dimension of the direction and expand the range of knowledge, skills and competences acquired by the direction students; 2) cooperation with the Latvian Academy of Arts, Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music in the development of a joint professional doctoral study program in arts "Arts" (LAC sub-programme "Audiovisual art, theatre and contemporary dance"). This collaboration ensures cross-disciplinary value flows in professional doctoral studies and the exchange of creative, academic and research experiences of professionals from various art sectors. The value of the cooperation is increased by the fact that the first professional doctoral program has been created and is being implemented in the study direction "Arts", revealing new and innovative connections of doctoral studies with the labour market in the cultural and creative sector. Secondly, specific partnerships with various employers are formed for specific programmes and sub-programmes of the study direction. The choice of these cooperation partners is closely related to the specific partners' contribution to the improvement of study content and the promotion of graduate employment, as well as to the partners' motivation to cooperate with LAC in various aspects of human resources and knowledge exchange. Mechanisms for attracting partners are different - they can be based on the initiative of LAC management, structural units, or students, or on the proposal of partners. This is how cooperation with specific theatres, film studios, municipalities, Latvian National Centre for Culture, UNESCO National Commission, and many other partner organizations has developed. For example, the Department of Intercultural Relations and Foreign Languages cooperates with embassies (Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Finland, Japan, China, Great Britain, Canada, Ireland, USA, Germany, Italy, Spain, and the Netherlands), as well as the Danish Cultural Institute, the Goethe-Institute, French Institute in Latvia, and the Honorary Consulate of Belgium in Riga. The forms and benefits of cooperation are diverse, for example, financial support is provided for the implementation of specific specializations, providing specialized language lecturers and their remuneration, for example, the Italian Embassy partially covers the salary of language lecturers for the fifth year already; joint events are created, for example, the Spanish Embassy in cooperation with the Intercultural Relations and Foreign Languages sub-programme "Latvia-Spain" organizes a Spanish film festival, culture days and other

events for students with the aim of integrating students and promoting their integration into a specific culture; internships are provided - students of the Department of Intercultural Relations and Foreign Languages regularly choose to do an internship at the embassy, because their offer is in line with the goals of the study direction. The selection criteria of the mentioned cooperation partners are related to the development goals of the study programme, sub-programmes and specializations, it ensures the effective achievement of study results related to the acquisition of language skills. Thirdly, a wide range of cooperation partners is formed in the context of student internships. LAC has concluded internship cooperation agreements with 32 institutions/organizations /companies in Latvia. Most often, students choose to do internships in cooperation organizations such as the Latvian National Museum of Art, Latvian National Opera and Ballet and the National Library of Latvia. As can be seen in image no. 4, the regularity of concluding cooperation agreements is variable.

Image no. 4

Signed cooperation agreements on providing student internships (2015-2021)



Students of RISEBA Department of Audiovisual Media Art and Latvian Culture College have the opportunity to take elective courses at cooperating universities, thus ensuring the maximum variety of study courses, as well as promoting student interaction and the future collaborations in the cultural sector.

LAC has a diverse range of Latvian cooperation partners, also in the field of **scientific research** - scientific institutions, state and local government institutions and policy makers, cultural organizations.

The main partners in the field of scientific research are Art Academy of Latvia, Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music, National Library of Latvia and Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art of the University of Latvia. This partnership is based on common or similar research strategic priorities, the connection of the research topic, and the need to create a interdisciplinary network of researchers, which promotes the integrity and inclusion of the scientific knowledge in the study

content. As a successful example of cooperation between the mentioned partners, the State research programme "Cultural capital as a resource for the sustainable development of Latvia/CARD" (see: <https://lka.edu.lv/en/research/research-projects/state-research-programmes/cultural-capital-resource-sustainable-development-latviacard/>). Partners in other national research programs - Rezekne Academy of Technologies, Liepaja University, Institute of Mathematics and Computer Science of the University of Latvia, University of Latvia Livonian Institute, Latvian Language Institute of the University of Latvia, Riga Technical University, etc. The second group of partners in scientific research consists of state and local government institutions, which commission applied studies from Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies. (see: <https://lka.edu.lv/en/research/research-projects/applied-studies/>) The number of such partners has systematically increased during the reporting period, because since 2015 Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies has implemented almost 40 research and development projects at the request of the industry, including developing cultural development programs for several municipalities. An important partnership has been established with Latvian National Centre for Culture, Latvian National Symphony Orchestra, National History Museum of Latvia, the Ministry of Culture, Kuldīga Municipality, Valka Municipality, Valmiera Municipality, Liepāja City, Gulbene Municipality, Jelgava Municipality, Stāmeriena Palace and many others. Various mechanisms are used to attract partners, but one of the most important is active communication of scientific activity and research, involvement in the argumentation of important decisions for the culture and art sector. The results of such research activities ensure knowledge transfer in the content of study programs.

A diverse circle of partners is also attracted to the implementation of artistic creative activity, which is chosen depending on the specific content of the study direction "Arts", the potential workplaces of the students, the places where creative works are shown. The circle of partners includes educational institutions that implement the study direction "Arts", but especially Art Academy of Latvia and Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music - as an important resource for artistic creative practice and exchange of experience, Latvian professional theatres, film studios, contemporary dance professionals as representatives of the labor market and partners of the creative process etc.

The appendix includes information on the concluded cooperation agreements with other institutions (see appendix 2.5.1).

2.5.2. Provide the assessment as to how the cooperation with different institutions from abroad (higher education institutions/ colleges, employers, employers' organisations, municipalities, non-governmental organisations, scientific institutes, etc.) within the study field contributes to the achievement of the aims and learning outcomes of the study field. Specify the criteria by which the cooperation partners suitable for the study field and the relevant study programmes are selected and how the cooperation is organised by describing the cooperation with employers. In addition, specify the mechanism for the attraction of the cooperation partners.

The study direction "Arts" is provided in active cooperation with various foreign partners: universities, non-governmental organizations, scientific institutes, professional organizations, etc. International cooperation contributes to the achievement of the main goal of the study direction, especially with regard to its component "...to effectively integrate into the cultural, artistic and creative ecosystem of national and international scale". The international partnership is created in

the three dimensions of quality management of LAC and the study direction - in the field of study work, scientific research and artistic creation, moreover, sometimes it includes all or two of the aspects.

The criteria for the selection of international partners for the promotion of the internationalization of the study process are based on the content of the study direction and the comparability of the results to be achieved. A large circle of partners is created by concluding cooperation agreements within the framework of the ERASMUS + programme. During the reporting period, the number of ERASMUS mobility agreements has increased from 75 cooperation agreements with exchange universities to 130 partner universities in 2020/2021. They represent the EU, the EEA and Turkey, a total of 32 countries. Out of all 130 universities, 62% of the contracts have been concluded for the study fields "Humanities" and "Languages", although, 12% of contracts have been concluded for the fields of study "Education", "Social and behavioural sciences" and "Journalism and information". The remaining 26% of the contracts have been concluded for the study fields "Arts" (within the framework of the Erasmus+ program it is understood as audiovisual arts, theatre art and contemporary dance) and "Business and administration". International partnership is formed thanks to activities in various projects of scientific research, artistic creation, mobility and networking. The main benefit of the international partnership is strengthening the professional qualifications of lecturers, diversifying the educational experience of students, horizontal and vertical transfer of knowledge, skills and competence, attracting foreign lecturers and others. For example, we were partners together with the Theatre Academy of the University of the Arts Helsinki (Taideyliopisto, Teatterikorkeakoulu), the Royal Institute of Theatre, Cinema and Sound (Erasmushogeschool Brussel) and the Aleksander Zelwerowicz National Academy of Dramatic Art in Warsaw (Akademia Teatralna im. Aleksandra Zelwerowicza w Warszawie) in the "Platform European Theatre Academies" (PLETA) project of the "Creative Europe" program (the project ended in August 2018). We are partners with the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre (Eesti Muusika- ja Teatriakadeemia), University of Tartu Viljandi Culture Academy (Tartu Ülikool, Viljandi kultuuriakadeemia), Tampere University (Tampereen Yliopisto), Aalto University School of Art, Design and Architecture (Aalto Yliopisto), Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre (Academia Musicae et Theatri Lithuaniae) and University of Gothenburg Academy of Music and Drama (Högskolan för scen och musik) in the cooperation network NORTEAS, which is a platform of Baltic and Nordic performing arts universities that unites 17 universities and is part of the Nordic Council of Ministers lifelong learning program Nordplus. Together with Tallinn University (Tallinn Ülikool) and Vytautas Magnus University (Vytauto Didžiojo Universitetas), we were partners in the Nordplus project "Film and Media for Education" (the project ended in August 2020). With Tallinn University (Tallinn Ülikool) and Vytautas Magnus University (Vytauto Didžiojo Universitetas), we were partners in the Nordplus project FAME (Film and Media for Education) Network Development (the project ended in August 2022). With the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre (Eesti Muusika- ja Teatriakadeemia) and the University of Antwerp (Universiteit Antwerpen), we are currently partners in the Erasmus+ strategic partnership project "Reinventing Mentoring in Arts Management (REMAM)" (the project will end in August 2023). With the Tallinn University (Tallinn Ülikool) and the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre (Academia Musicae et Theatri Lithuaniae), we are currently partners in the Erasmus+ strategic partnership project "Joint Development of Qualification Standards for Film Occupations (FILM-SKILLS)" (the project will end in November 2023) etc. A large circle of partners has been formed thanks to the international dimension of the scientific activities carried out by Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies, where in the last five years, LAC has worked in research consortia of numerous partners while implementing the Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe projects. The biggest benefit of several cooperations is that the forms of cooperation with specific partners multiply and are transferred to other areas. For example, scientists from partner universities of scientific activity become lecturers in LAC master's and doctoral programs or the

partnership, which is initially started on a relatively small scale (for example, mobility of students and teaching staff) later result in other, larger projects.

For more on international cooperation and the internationalization dimension in **scientific research and artistic creation, see the section 2.4.3**. The selection of foreign cooperation partners is made based on the priority research topics, which are synchronized with the study programs in the study direction "Arts".

The list of current agreements with cooperation universities (2020/2021 academic year) is available in appendix 2.5.2.

2.5.3. Specify the system or mechanisms, which are used to attract the students and the teaching staff from abroad. Provide the assessment of the incoming and outgoing mobility of the teaching staff in the reporting period, the mobility dynamics, and the issues which the higher education institution/ college faces with regard to the mobility of the teaching staff.

In order to realize LAC internationalization goals, set in our strategy, LAC uses various mechanisms for attracting foreign students and teaching staff. For example, every academic year the heads of LAC departments are identified the need to attract specialists in specific fields is clarified. So far, it has been very successful to attract guest lecturers to the bachelor's programme "Contemporary Dance", the bachelor's program "Intercultural relations" and all master's level programs. Due to the active participation in Erasmus+ mobility programmes and accepting students, as well as ensuring the mobility of LAC students abroad, the Latvian Academy of Culture has gained international recognition and a good reputation, thanks to which visiting lecturers often contact the Latvian Academy of Culture with the desire to give specific lectures. (For example, visiting lecturers from Turkish and Polish universities often apply individually, sending their lecture offer to the Intercultural Relations or Sociology and Management of Culture subprograms).

In order to realize LAC internationalization goals, set out in the strategy, LAC uses various funding mechanisms for the implementation of both student and teaching staff mobilities. International and national level financial instruments are used: funding of the ERASMUS+ programme, funding of the HORIZON2020 and "Horizon" programmes, funding of the "Creative Europe" and "Nordplus" programmes, funding of EEA and Norwegian grant activities "Scholarships", funding of the "Osmosis" program, BAFF programmes "Dialogue" financing, State Culture Capital Fund financing, Riga City Council and other municipalities financing, Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Education and Science financing, etc. Certain mobilities have also been realized with the support of Fulbright scholarships or scholarships awarded by the Latvian government, as well as from LAC's own income.

Comparatively, it is the financial instrument of the ERASMUS+ program that is very important in achieving this goal, therefore, in the overall table, mobilities realized within the framework of the Erasmus+ programme are separated.

LAC has been participating in the Erasmus programme since 2000. The number of student and staff mobilities has increased from 6 mobilities in 2000 to 126 mobilities in academic year 2018/2019 (including both outgoing and incoming mobility of students and staff). For the number of mobilities (both outgoing and incoming mobilities) since academic year 2013/2014, there is a tendency to slowly increase, but the COVID19 pandemic and the restrictions naturally affected the number of

both outgoing and incoming mobilities.

Table no. 15

Incoming and outgoing mobilities (students) by academic year (total number of mobilities counted):

Academic year	Outgoing mobilities of LAC students (within the framework of the Erasmus+ programme; including graduate internship mobilities)	Outgoing mobilities of LAC students (not included in ERASMUS+ programme)	Incoming mobilities of foreign students (within the ERASMUS+ programme)	Incoming mobilities of foreign students (not included in ERASMUS+ programme)
2013/2014	67	19	22 (1 internship)	-
2014/2015	63	45	24	1
2015/2016	63	27	20	1
2016/2017	64	82	38	1
2017/2018	59	38	34	-
2018/2019	63	77	36	2 + 23
2019/2020	58	44	53	4 +20
2020/2021	34	-	27	3
2021/2022	67	20	36	1 +7

In the incoming mobilities section, 3 positions have been allocated separately, as they are foreign students who were invited to the LAC festival "The autumn of the Patriarch": during academic year 2018/2019 23 students from Russia visited LAC, during the academic year 2019/2020 - 20 students from Estonia and Slovakia and during 2020/2021 3 students from Estonia.

The relatively large number of outgoing mobilities (not within the ERASMUS+ program) is mainly directly related to the LAC programmes "Audiovisual Art" and "Contemporary Dance", as well as the master classes of students of the "Arts" sub-programme "Stage Acting", participation in various theatre and film festivals, etc. for short-term activities abroad within the framework of various projects.

Study mobility of the Erasmus+ programme (one semester or one year) is mainly realised by the students of the LAC study direction "Arts" (mainly students of the sub-programs "Intercultural relations", "Sociology and Management of Culture", "Culture and Arts Studies"), while internships and internship opportunities for graduates are more in demand among students in other LAC programmes ("Creative Industries", "Audiovisual Art", "Contemporary Dance"). One of the main reasons for such a choice of students is that the length of studies in the "Arts" sub-programs of the LAC study direction at the bachelor's level is 4 years, while in the other LAC programmes the

duration of studies is 3 years, and there is also a large proportion of practical lessons.

Table no. 16

Relative % for the last 3 years of the total number of mobilities within the Erasmus+ programme:

Academic year	Students and graduates of LAC's study direction "Arts"	Students and graduates in other LAC programs
2019/2020	77,58	22,42%
2020/2021	61,77 %	38,23%
2021/2022	61,20%	38,80%

Table no. 17

Incoming and outgoing mobilities (teaching staff) by academic year (total number of trips counted):

Academic year	Outgoing mobilities of LAC teaching staff (within the framework of the Erasmus+ programme)	Outgoing mobilities of LAC teaching staff (not included in ERASMUS+ programme)	Incoming mobilities of foreign teaching staff (within the ERASMUS+ programme)	Incoming mobilities of foreign teaching staff (not included in ERASMUS+ programme)
2013/2014	21	20	19	5
2014/2015	20	36	17	5
2015/2016	13	45	15	11
2016/2017	10	41	20	20
2017/2018	12	76	15	16
2018/2019	13	61	14	22
2019/2020	14	39	3	19 + 72
2020/2021	4	1	3	8
2021/2022	13	29	18	3

The statistics take into account all mobilities realized by teaching staff, both mobilities of various programmes and projects and scholarships (Fulbright scholarships, Latvian government scholarships). Creative trips, participation in conferences, seminars and working groups are also listed for the mobility of outgoing teaching staff.

In the incoming mobilities section, one position is allocated separately, because a conference was organized in the fall of 2019 as part of the Nordplus project, to which a large number of foreign

participants were invited (72 in total).

The COVID-19 pandemic and its resulting restrictions on faculty mobility during the period 2020-2022 influenced even more than student mobility. In the academic year 2020/2021, the mobility of teaching staff was mainly virtual (12 foreign lecturers were recruited) and such virtual mobility was also realized by several LAC teaching staff.

Attached are:

Statistical data on foreign students and teaching staff in the reporting period (see appendix 2.5.3.-1).

Statistical data on the outgoing and incoming mobility of students in the reporting period by study programs (see appendix 2.5.3.-2).

Statistical data on the incoming and outgoing mobility of teaching staff (see appendix 2.5.3.-3).

2.6. Implementation of the Recommendations Received During the Previous Assessment Procedures

2.6.1. Assessment of the fulfilment of the plan regarding the implementation of the recommendations provided by the experts during the previous accreditation of the study field, as well as the assessment of the impact of the given recommendations on the study quality or the improvement of the study process within the study field and the relevant study programmes.

In the previous evaluation of the study direction, no expert recommendations were given for improving the quality of the study direction or the study process. The experts concluded that the LAC's study direction "Arts" and the included study programmes: academic bachelor's programme "Arts", academic master's programme "Arts", and doctorate programme "Arts" are sustainable and recommend that the LAC receive state funding in proportion to its growing influence. According to the positive assessment provided in the expert report, the development of the LAC study direction "Arts" was targeted towards promoting the sustainability of the study direction and integrating existing study programmes with the employment model specificities of the cultural and creative sector and labour market demands, improving the content of the study programmes and developing new study programmes at the bachelor's, master's and doctorate levels.

Comprehensive expert recommendation report and implementation for individual study programmes that are licensed and/or included in the accreditation report of the study direction is attached in the appendix 2.6.1.

2.6.2. Implementation of the recommendations given by the experts during the evaluation of the changes to the study programmes in the respective study field or licensed study programmes over the reporting period or recommendations received during the procedure for the inclusion of the study programme on the accreditation form of the study field (if applicable).

During the review period, there are seven study programmes licensed and included in the LAC's study direction "Arts" accreditation sheet:

- **academic bachelor study programme "Audiovisual Art"** (study programme's licence no. 04066-5, (Decision of the Study Quality Committee's meeting on June 16th, 2017), programme is listed on accreditation page of LAC's study field "Arts". (no. 2022/34, 20.06.2022.) The implementation plan for recommendations received during the licensing procedures can be viewed in appendix no 2.6.1.

The implementation of the recommendations has helped to purposefully improve both the material and technical base of the study programme, as well as the knowledge, skills and competence of students, including audiovisual art research. For example, it has been recognized that there have been improvements in the quality of student works, especially in the sound design and color correction of term papers and final papers, improved practical skills in structuring the narrative and using narrative techniques, etc. The level of students' knowledge and skills, as well as the artistic level of the created audiovisual works of art, is competitive on a European and global scale. Also, the international seminars, conferences, festivals organized during the reporting period strengthened the students' academic capacity.

- **the academic bachelor's study program "Creative Industries"**, which was created and is implemented together with Riga Technical University (study program license No. 04066-6 (decision of the licensing commission meeting on June 16, 2017), the program is included in the accreditations of LAC's Study Direction "Arts" page (No. 2022/34, 20.06.2022) See Appendix 2.6.1 for the implementation plan of the recommendations received as part of the licensing procedure.

The implementation of the recommendations has helped to purposefully improve the practice opportunities of the study programme both in terms of organizations and skills acquisition, especially by expanding the practice opportunities in manufacturing companies. Also, in the study content, more emphasis is placed on the use of technology, development of business ideas and product prototypes. The mentioned changes and the clarified results of the program significantly expand the students' employment opportunities.

- **academic master's study programme "Audiovisual and Performing Art"** (study programme's licence no. 04066-7, (Decision of the Study Quality Committee's meeting on August 8th, 2018), programme is listed on accreditation page of LAC's study field "Arts" (no. 2022/34, 20.06.2022.) The implementation plan for recommendations received during the licensing procedures can be viewed in appendix no 2.6.1.

The provided recommendations have helped to improve the study programme in several ways. Those recommendations related to the teaching of study courses in English have been implemented, thus promoting the internationalization of the content of the study programme, the transfer of knowledge and experience of foreign industry practitioners and lecturers (regular foreign guest lecturer workshops, etc.) in the Latvian audiovisual and performing arts education system, as well as in the field of film and performing arts (taking into account that students are often also practicing film, theater, dance directors, producers, etc.). The experience of foreign lecturers has expanded the students' knowledge, skills and competence, both in the artistic creation and research dimensions of the study programme. The before mentioned has contributed to the competitiveness of the study programme not only in Latvia, but also internationally. The recommendation, which envisages the clarification of the evaluation criteria of study courses, as well as their closer alignment with the expected results of the programme, has been introduced, it

has promoted the efficiency of cooperation between students and lecturers, the purposeful direction of the study process towards specific results, weakening the risk of subjectivity in the evaluation of works of artistic creativity. The recommendation to develop a computer program for accounting and management of audiovisual equipment is in the implementation stage. After its implementation, the students' awareness of the availability of the necessary equipment for studying the study programme will be improved, and it will allow more efficient administration of time, financial and human resources for the development of audiovisual art creative works implemented in the programme.

- **academic master's study programme "Creative Industries and Growth Management"**, which is developed and implemented jointly with Riga Technical University (study programme's licence no. 2020/04K (Decision of the Study Quality Committee's meeting on August 19th, 2020), programme is listed on accreditation page of LAC's study field "Arts". (no. 2022/34, 20.06.2022.) The implementation plan for recommendations received during the licensing procedures can be viewed in appendix no 2.6.1.

The provided recommendations have helped to improve the study programme in two ways. Firstly, improved methodological support for students before the starting to write a master's thesis and during the writing process, thereby improving the research skills of master's students. Secondly, the attraction of foreign students has promoted the interaction of students' mutual experiences and value flows, thus giving an additional dimension of internationalization to the content of the programme.

- **academic master's study programme "Cultural Heritage Governance and Communication"** (study programme's licence no. 04066-8 (Decision of the Study Quality Committee's meeting on August 19th, 2020), programme is listed on accreditation page of LAC's study field "Arts" (no. 2022/34, 20.06.2022.) The implementation plan for recommendations received during the licensing procedures can be viewed in appendix no 2.6.1.

The provided recommendations have helped to improve the study programme in several ways. First of all, by ensuring the diversification of the content of the study courses of the programme, by strengthening the connection with industry professionals representing other higher education institutions and memory institutions. Secondly, the addition of internships to the study programme promotes the acquisition of internship experience in cultural heritage organizations of various scales and functions. Thirdly, the organization of studies (a certain proportion of online lectures) is more inclusive for master's students who are employed full-time and live in more remote regions of Latvia. Fourthly, the internationalization dimension is developing in the implementation of the programme, attracting more foreign lecturers.

- **Professional Doctoral Study Programme "Arts"**, which is developed and implemented jointly with Latvian Academy of Music and Art Academy of Latvia (study programme's licence no. 2020/05K (Decision of the Study Quality Committee's meeting on September 30th, 2020), The implementation plan for recommendations received during the licensing procedures can be viewed in appendix no 2.6.1.

The provided recommendations have helped to improve the study programme in several ways. First, the internationalization dimension of the programme has been strengthened by increasing the number of lecturers with English language skills at C1 and C2 levels. Secondly, the amount of mandatory literature has been clarified, comparing it with the number of credit points and the time allocated for learning, thus determining the exact amount of work to be invested for the doctoral student to obtain credit points. Thirdly, closer cooperation between universities is implemented in the context of the implementation of the study process of sub-programmes, creating a closer

connection and the possibility of exchange of experience between doctoral students of different branches of art. It promotes the development of new, experimental art forms in the environment of doctoral studies. Fourthly, referring to the recommendations, a uniform format for calculating the costs of study places in the study program has been developed for all three universities (Jāzeps Vītola Latvian Academy of Music, Latvian Art Academy, Latvian Academy of Culture), which improves the efficiency of inter-institutional communication and programme management.

- **academic bachelor's study programme "Art of Contemporary Dance"** (study program license No. 04066-4, (decision of the meeting of the licensing commission on May 15, 2015), the programme is included in the accreditation page of the LAC's Study Direction "Art" (No. 2022/34, 20.06. 2022.) Within the framework of the licensing procedure, no specific recommendations to be implemented in the short and long term were received.

Annexes

I - Information on the Higher Education Institution/ College		
Information on the implementation of the study field in the branches of the higher education institution/ college (if applicable)	LXA nolikumu uzskaitē_LAC regulatory acts.xlsx	LXA nolikumu uzskaitē_LAC regulatory acts.xlsx
List of the governing regulatory enactments and regulations of the higher education institution/ college		
The management structure of the higher education institution/ college	1.2. LAC Management Structure 2023.xlsx	1.2. LXA pārvaldības struktūra 2023.xlsx
II - Description of the Study Field - 2.1. Management of the Study Field		
Plan for the development of the study field (if applicable)	2.1.3. STUDY DIRECTION DEVELOPMENT PLAN BASED ON THE LAC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY.pdf	2.1.3. Studiju virziena attīstības plāns.docx.pdf
The management structure of the study field	2.1.3. Programme Structure 2023.xlsx	2.1.3. Programmu struktūra 2023.xlsx
A document certifying that the higher education institution or college will provide students with opportunities to continue their education in another study programme or another higher education institution/ college (agreement with another accredited higher education institution or college) if the implementation of the study programme is terminated.	2.1.4_1_ENG.zip	2.1.4_1_LV.zip
A document certifying that the higher education institution or college guarantees compensation for losses to students if the study programme is not accredited or the study programme license is revoked due to actions (actions or omissions) of the higher education institution or college and the student does not wish to continue studies in another study programme.	2.1.4-2_ENG.zip	2.1.4-2_LV.zip
Standard sample of study agreement	2.1.4-3 study agreement example.pdf	2.1.4-3 studenta līguma tipveida paraugs.pdf
II - Description of the Study Field - 2.2. Efficiency of the Internal Quality Assurance System		
Analysis of the results of surveys of students, graduates and employers	Analysis of the results of the surveys.docx	Studiju virziena "Mākslas" studiju programmu studijpils, absolventu un darba devēju aptauju rezultātu analīze (2).docx
II - Description of the Study Field - 2.3. Resources and Provision of the Study Field		
Basic information on the teaching staff involved in the implementation of the study field	2.3-1_en.xlsx	2.3-1_lv.xlsx
Biographies of the teaching staff members (Curriculum Vitae in European format)	2.3-2_CV_EN.zip	2.3-2_CV_LV.zip
A statement signed by the rector, director, head of the study programme or field that the knowledge of the state language of the teaching staff involved in the implementation of the study programmes within the study field complies with the regulations on the state language knowledge and state language proficiency test for professional and official duties.	2.3.7-3_Confirmation_Language_Levels.docx	2.3.7-3_aplēcinājums_par_dok.valodas_praemi.docx
A statement of the higher education institution/ college on the respective foreign language skills of the teaching staff involved in the implementation of the study programme at least at B2 level according to the European Language Proficiency Assessment levels (level distribution is available on the website www.europass.lv, if the study programme or part thereof is implemented)	2.3.7-4_Confirmation_Language_Levels.docx	2.3.7-4_aplēcinājums_par_dok.valodas_praemi.docx
II - Description of the Study Field - 2.4. Scientific Research and Artistic Creation		
Summary of quantitative data on scientific and/ or applied research and/ or artistic creation activities corresponding to the field of study during the reporting period (1) (1).xlsx	2.4-1_Compilation of quantitative data on scientific and/ or artistic creation activities corresponding to the field of study during the reporting period (1) (1).xlsx	2.4-1. Kvantitatīvo datu apkopojums par studiju virzienam atbilstošām zinātniskās un/ vai mākslinieciskās jaunrades aktivitātēm pārskata periodā (2) (1).xlsx
List of the publications, patents, and artistic creations of the teaching staff over the reporting period.	2.4-2 List of publications, patents, artistic creative works of teaching staff for the reporting period (2) (1).xlsx	2.4-2. Mācībspāļu publikāciju, patentu, māksliniecisko jaunrades darbu saraksts pārskata periodā (2) (1).xlsx
II - Description of the Study Field - 2.5. Cooperation and Internationalisation		
List of cooperation agreements, including the agreements for providing internship	2.5.1_Cooperation agreements on the provision or student internships (1).docx	2.5.1. Neslēgtie-sadarbības-līgumi-par-studijpils-prakses-nodrošināšanu (1) (1).docx
Statistical data on the teaching staff and the students from abroad	2.5.3-1 Statistics on outgoing and incoming mobility (1).xlsx	2.5.3-1. Statistiskās dati par izieju un ienākošo mobilitāti (1) (1).xlsx
Statistical data on the incoming and outgoing mobility of students (by specifying the study programme)	2.5.3-2 INCOMING AND OUTGOING STUDENT MOBILITIES (1) - Copy.docx	2.5.3-2. Statistiskās dati par LXA studijpils ienākošo un izieju mobilitāti (1) - Copy.docx
Statistical data on the incoming and outgoing mobility of the teaching staff	2.5.3-3 INCOMING AND OUTGOING TEACHING STAFF MOBILITIES (1).docx	2.5.3-3. Statistiskās dati par docētāju ienākošo un izieju mobilitāti (1) (1).docx
II - Description of the Study Field - 2.6. Implementation of the Recommendations Received During the Previous Assessment Procedures		
Report on the implementation of the recommendations received both in the previous accreditation and in the licensing and/ or change assessment procedures and/ or the procedures for the inclusion of the study programme on the accreditation form of the study field	2.6_en.zip	2.6_lv.zip
An application for the evaluation of the study field signed with a secure electronic signature	LAC_13.04.2023_1106137_Application_translation.pdf	LXA_13.04.2023_1106137_iesniegums.zip
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme		
Sample of the diploma and its supplement to be issued for completing the study programme		
For academic study programmes - Opinion of the Council of Higher Education in accordance with Section 55, Paragraph two of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)		
Compliance of the joint study programme with the provisions of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (table) (if applicable)		
Statistics on the students in the reporting period		
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof		
Compliance with the study programme with the State Education Standard		
Compliance of the qualification to be acquired upon completion of the study programme with the professional standard or the requirements for professional qualification (if applicable)		
Compliance of the study programme with the specific regulatory framework applicable to the relevant field (if applicable)		
Mapping of the study courses/ modules for the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study programme		
The curriculum of the study programme (for each type and form of the implementation of the study programme)		
Descriptions of the study courses/ modules		
Description of the organisation of the internship of the students (if applicable)		
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.4. Teaching Staff		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the doctoral study programme includes not less than five doctors, of which at least three are experts approved by the Latvian Council of Science in the branch or sub-branch of science in which the study programme intends to award a scientific degree (if applicable)		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the academic study programme complies with the requirements specified in Section 55, Paragraph one, Clause 3 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)		

Other annexes

Name of document	Document
2.3.6. Latvijas Kultūras akadēmijas personāla individuālā atskaite par zinātnisko un mākslinieciskās jaunrades darbību 2022. gadā	2.3.6. Zin_Maksl_Veidlapa_2022.pdf
Augstskolu līgumu saraksts (2020-2021. gads)	2.5.2. Augstskolu līgumu saraksts (2020-2021.gads).xlsx
LKA brīvās izvēles kursi.zip	LKA brīvās izvēles kursi.zip
LAC free choice courses.zip	LAC free choice courses.zip
Paskaidrojums par sniegtajiem ieteikumiem programmu kodos un piešķiramā grāda nosaukumos	Paskaidrojums par sniegtajiem ieteikumiem programmu kodos un piešķiramā grāda nosaukumos.docx
Explanation on changes of codes and degree titles	Explanation on changes of codes and degree titles.docx

Cultural and Arts Management (45217)

Study field	Arts
ProcedureStudyProgram.Name	<i>Cultural and Arts Management</i>
Education classification code	45217
Type of the study programme	<i>Academic master study programme</i>
Name of the study programme director	<i>Kristīne</i>
Surname of the study programme director	<i>Freiberga</i>
E-mail of the study programme director	<i>kristine.freiberga@lka.edu.lv</i>
Title of the study programme director	<i>Mg. art.</i>
Phone of the study programme director	
Goal of the study programme	<i>The goal of the master's study programme "Cultural and Arts Management" is to prepare competitive specialists for the cultural and arts industry labour market, with a deep understanding of cultural and artistic processes in the national and global cultural space and the management skills for cultural and artistic organizations. The aim of the programme is to provide students with the opportunity to acquire in-depth theoretically and practically oriented knowledge, skills and competences demanded by the labour market of modern culture and creative sector.</i>

Tasks of the study programme	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To develop students' academic thinking and writing skills in cultural studies, art sciences and interdisciplinary approach, to provide in-depth, innovative theoretical knowledge, skills of using concepts, reasoning and debating complex aspects of science or professional field; 2. To support the students in the independent and in-depth learning of the methodological and ethical basic principles of research of cultural and artistic phenomena, to develop knowledge, skills and competence in planning, managing and implementing the research process - in describing, evaluating and comparative analysis of complex cultural and artistic research problems. 3. Promote the independent development and use of theoretical knowledge and empirical research skills in the analysis and solving of current cultural and artistic problems, as well as the transfer and communication of academic knowledge in a specific professional cultural and artistic environment, including in complex and unpredictable conditions. 4. Prepare specialists in accordance with the demand of the cultural and creative sector, the labor market, support students in the acquisition of professional and general skills subordinate to the specifics of the labor market, including decision-making skills, as well as personality traits. 5. To develop the skills of integration of knowledge of art sciences, cultural studies and cultural management, to promote the cooperation of academic staff and students in carrying out scientific research and artistic creative work. 6. To support students in building the skills necessary for professional and personal growth: to teach independent work planning and presentation skills, cooperation and communication skills, entrepreneurship and responsibility skills, as well as to provide mediation that allows students to get involved in industry activities, 7. Promote international mobility of academic staff and students; strengthen international competitiveness and career growth potential of graduates 8. Develop the digital skills specifically required for the culture and art sector, provide a favorable study environment for the dissemination of technological and non-technological innovations of the culture and art sectors.
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Results of the study programme	<p>As a result of completing the study programme, the graduate will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. acquire knowledge and understanding of the regularities of the historical development and modern processes of the cultural and artistic sectors and their relationship with cultural and artistic process management approaches 2. is aware of and understands the latest developments in cultural studies, art studies and theoretical approaches to management field, explains theoretical connections 3. able to independently obtain information and critically analyse industry problems, knows and applies the latest scientific research methods of cultural studies and art 4. independently integrates and uses theoretical knowledge and empirical data in the analysis, comparison and evaluation of cultural and artistic developments 5. able to argue about cultural studies, the art industry and arts management or other professional aspects of the cultural and creative sector with both specialists and non-specialists 6. able to independently develop their competences in the field of culture and art management, conduct business and introduce innovations in the cultural and creative sector or in the work of their own cultural organization 7. uses the latest empirical research approaches, independently creates new knowledge, uses quantitative and qualitative data acquisition, analysis and visualization programs 8. knows the basic principles of cultural and artistic organization and project management, classic and digital marketing, branding, knows how to apply them in practice 9. in the development and management of cultural projects, make independent decisions, creatively and conceptually use theoretical knowledge and empirical research data, demonstrate entrepreneurship skills and a civically active position in their message 10. knows how to responsibly choose and use information technologies in the research and management of cultural and artistic developments, as well as in the acquisition, creation and sharing of digital content
Final examination upon the completion of the study programme	Master's Thesis.

Study programme forms

Full time studies - 2 years - latvian

Study type and form	Full time studies
Duration in full years	2
Duration in month	0
Language	latvian
Amount (CP)	80
Admission requirements (in English)	Bachelor's degree or second-level professional higher education, or equivalent higher education in the following thematic fields of education: humanities, arts, social, human behaviour and humanities sciences, information and communication sciences, teacher education and educational sciences. Entrance exam - interview.

Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Master of Arts in Creative Industries</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	-

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
Latvian Academy of Culture	RĪGA	LUDZAS IELA 24, LATGALES PRIEKŠPILSĒTA, RĪGA, LV-1003

3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme




3.1.1. Description and analysis of changes in the parameters of the study programme made since the issuance of the previous accreditation form of the study field or issuance of the study programme license, if the study programme is not included on the accreditation form of the study field, including changes planned within the evaluation procedure of the study field evaluation procedure.

No changes have been made to the parameters of the academic master's study programme "Arts" since the issuance of the accreditation sheet for the study direction "Arts" on May 22, 2013 (as well as the issuance of a new accreditation sheet on June 22, 2020 (accreditation sheet No. 2022/34)). However, as a part of this study evaluation procedure, it is planned to change three of the parameters of the study programme - the name of the study programme, the programme code and the awarded degree. The planned new name of the study program - " Cultural and Arts Management". Programme code 45212 (educational programme group "Music and performing arts") is planned to be changed to 45217 (educational programme group "Creative industries"). The title of the awarded degree is to be changed from "Master of Arts" to " Master of Arts in Creative Industries ". Study direction, language of implementation and other parameters are not planned to be changed.

Already in the documents of the previous reporting period (*LAC Development Strategy 2015 – 2020*, Appendix no. 1 *Educational Programme Development Plan*, available: https://lka.edu.lv/media/cms_page_media/925/APST_LKA_Attistibas_Strategija_2015_2020_Labojumi_16.04.2018.pdf, 50. pp., (Latvian only)) it was indicated that in the long term it is planned to reform the academic master's study programme "Arts" (45212), by reviewing and consolidating the offer of sub-programmes and clarifying their content according to the current needs of the cultural and creative industries sector, as well as the demand of the labour market. The general policy of LAC during this planning period was purposefully aimed in this direction, which was realised as the development of a new internship model at LAC and the creation of new study programmes at the bachelor's, master's, and doctoral study levels. Thus, LAC's academic master's study programme "Cultural and Arts Management" is a direct result of the overall structural changes in LAC's master's study programmes.

Most easily the changes made to master's degree programmes can be represented in the form of a table, see image no. 1.

Image no. 1. Changes made in LKA's academic master's study programmes.

Previous reporting period		Current situation
Academic master's study programme "Arts" with sub-programmes:		Academic master's study program "Cultural and Arts Management" (2022)
Cultural Management (from 2012 – 2019, <i>Cultural Management and Creative Industries</i>)		
<i>Audiovisual Art</i>		Academic master's study programme "Audiovisual and performing art" (2018)
<i>Theatre art</i>		
<i>Museum and Cultural Heritage Studies</i>		Academic master's study programme "Cultural Heritage Governance and Communication" (2020)
<i>Cultural and Intercultural Studies</i>		Last admission in 2018
<i>International Media and Culture Management</i>		Last admission in 2018
		The joint academic master's study programme of the Latvian Academy of Culture and Riga Technical University "Creative Industries and Growth Management" (2020)
1 academic master's study programme	TOTAL	4 academic master's study programmes

Thus, since 2019 the sub-programme "Cultural Management" (at that time "Cultural Management and Creative Industries") became the dominant sub-programme in the academic master's study programme "Arts". In 2020, a new director was appointed for the sub-programme - Latvian Academy of Culture lecturer Mg. art. Kristīne Freiberga - and the previous name "Cultural Management" was restored for the sub-programme (The name has been specified, taking into account the licensed new joint academic master's study programme of LAC and RTU "Creative Industries and Growth Management" and the need to differentiate the content of the two programmes/subprogrammes, as well as the reluctance to use the concept of creative industries in the names of two programmes/subprogrammes).

In 2020, the content of the sub-programme "Cultural Management" was reviewed and several changes were made, which were based on the analysis of the implementation of the sub-programme (including taking into account the feedback and recommendations of students and graduates), with the aim of making the structure of the programme clearer, better understood by applicants. Thus, the content of the sub-programme "Cultural Management" was adapted for the education of highly qualified project managers or managers of various Latvian cultural institutions, incl. in the context of the "Cultural Centers Law" then being developed (entered into force on 11.10.2022) and the need to train qualified employees for cultural centres, which is also one of the target audiences of this sub-programme.

In 2022, according to the decision of the LAC Senate session 19.12.2022. (Minutes of the Senate session, no. 10), it was decided to eliminate the sub-programmes in the LAC academic master's study programme "Arts" and change the name of the programme to "Cultural and Arts Management", which practically means - transforming the previously dominant sub-programme "Cultural Management" into a programme. Taking into account that since 2020, the sub-programmes that ensured the interdisciplinary nature of the programme and compliance with the programme code 45212 (educational programme group "Music and performing arts") are no longer relevant in the "Arts" program, within the framework of this study evaluation procedure, we have decided to change the programme code and the awarded degree according to the content of the dominant sub-programme "Cultural Management". Thus, the changed parameters of the study programme more accurately correspond to the current content of the programme and the specifics of the industry.

3.1.2. Analysis and assessment of the study programme compliance with the study field. Analysis of the interrelation between the code of the study programme, the degree, professional qualification/professional qualification requirements or the degree and professional qualification to be acquired, the aims, objectives, learning outcomes, and the admission requirements. Description of the duration and scope of the implementation of the study programme (including different options of the study programme implementation) and evaluation of its usefulness.

The overarching **goal of the study direction "Arts"** is to provide sustainable, successive, interdisciplinarity-based higher and post-graduate (doctoral) education in the field of culture, arts and the creative sector; to prepare competitive professionals in the field of culture and arts (theatre, dance and audiovisual arts); to closely integrate education, research and artistic creativity in the study process; effectively integrate into the cultural, artistic and creative ecosystem of national and international scale. The **conformity of the study programme to the direction "Arts" is confirmed by** the courses included in the programme, which promote a deeper understanding of culture and arts and examine current trends in various sectors of culture and the creative sector, introduce the activities of cultural organizations and the management of cultural events, promoting interdisciplinary knowledge and promoting understanding of the cooperation possibilities of different sectors. Education, research and artistic creativity are closely integrated in the study process, and students and graduates manage to effectively fit into the cultural, artistic and creative ecosystem of a national and international scale, as evidenced by the graduates' employment and experience in specialization internships (see the following sections).

The strategic goal of the programme "Cultural and Arts Management" of the study direction "Arts" is set in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No 240 on the State Standard of Academic Education (available: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/266187-noteikumi-par-valsts-akademiskas-izglitiba-standartu> / Latvian only): 1) to ensure the acquisition of in-depth and broad theoretical knowledge and research skills of students by reaching the study results set out in the study programme which correspond to the 7th level knowledge, skills and competencies of European Qualifications Framework (EQF), in accordance of the Latvian Classification of Education; 2) to ensure the ability of the graduates of the program to perform highly skilled professional functions in changing environments, integrate knowledge from different fields, innovate, contribute to the creation of new knowledge and critically and creatively analyse complex scientific and professional problems proficiently using information technologies in their professional activities, research and lifelong learning, as well as in the acquisition and creation of digital content. The content of the study programme is designed to ensure the scientifically sound achievement of comprehensive study results.

The **goal of the master's study programme "Cultural and Arts Management"** is to prepare competitive specialists for the cultural and arts industry labour market, with a deep understanding of cultural and artistic processes in the national and global cultural space and the management skills for cultural and artistic organizations. The aim of the programme is to provide students with the opportunity to acquire in-depth theoretically and practically oriented knowledge, skills and competences demanded by the labour market of modern culture and creative sector. The purpose and tasks of the study programme are closely related to the study results, which are monitored both in the final exams of the study courses and in the master's thesis.

To begin studies in the programme, one **entrance exam** is planned - *interviews*, in which, based on previously submitted letters of motivation, as well as answers to questions asked by committee

members, applicants' motivation for cultural management studies (1-30 points), knowledge of cultural theory and history, understanding and ability to formulate an opinion on current issues of cultural management and cultural policy (1-30 points), the concept of the topic of the master's thesis, its relevance and relevance to the study programme (1-20 points), as well as knowledge of the English language (1-20 points) is determined. Interviews as an exam form allows to assess in a concentrated format applicants' motivation for studies in this particular programme, general understanding of the operations of the cultural sector, current processes in the sector and readiness to be part of the cultural sector labour market. Also, during the discussions, the applicant's understanding and readiness to study in an academic study programme with significant research competence can be well determined, as well as during a short, reasoned discussion with the entrance examination committee in English, evaluation of the applicant's ability to understand and communicate his or her opinion in English is possible, thus evaluating the applicant's readiness to also take study courses in English (e.g. *International Cultural Management in Practice*), study theoretical literature, etc.

The new changed code of the programme 45217 complies with the provisions of the Cabinet of Ministers regulations no. 322 *Regulations on the classification of education in Latvia* (available: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/291524-noteikumi-par-latvijas-izglitiba-klasifikaciju> (Latvian only)), where it is determined that the thematic group of education *Humanities and arts* includes the thematic field of education *Arts*, which includes the group of educational programmes *Creative industries*. Thus, upon graduating from the programme, students obtain a **Master of Arts in Creative Industries degree**. The graduate of the programme must have a sufficient amount of theoretical knowledge in the arts of humanities and creative industries (including cultural management), as well as knowledge in the possibilities of their proof and justification. Thus, the students in the programme develop knowledge and skills starting from understanding the process of making creative works, its theoretical analysis, up to its commercialization - governance and management, market promotion, etc. The graduate of the programme must be able to solve original, interdisciplinary, also unstudied or unthematized theoretical areas of humanities and creative industries, must demonstrate the skills of scientific work.

Programme code 43217 (Creative industries) was introduced in the Latvian education classification only in 2017, when this classification was supplemented in order to 1) ensure compliance of national statistical data with the requirements of international comparability, 2) adapt the educational programme to the real educational content of the group. Also, the group of educational programmes of creative industries (in the thematic field of education "Arts") indicates the development trends of the arts industry's labour market, in particular the close connection of the processes of artistic creation with the broader processes of the cultural and creative ecosystem - the legal forms of cultural and artistic organizations, management, product commercialization, communication of cultural and artistic developments in the national and intercultural environment, research, cultural policy, etc.

The duration of studies in the academic master's study programme "Cultural and Arts Management" is four semesters or two years in the amount of 80 credit points or 120 ECTS. In general, this amount is considered appropriate for such master's level studies, which combine interdisciplinary learning of theoretical and practical knowledge of humanities and social sciences, a research component, as well as internship. Taking into account that the specifics of the programme provide not only the continuation and deepening of students' previous education and professional experience, but also the acquisition of completely new competencies and skills, a shorter study period would not be suitable for learning the full study content. This can be especially well observed when students who have obtained previous education in other thematic areas of education (either without in-depth understanding of the field of culture, or without experience in the development of

academic works, cultural management, etc.) start their studies in the programme. Accordingly, the programme should provide time for all students to gain equivalent understanding of the principles of culture and the creative sector as the LAC bachelor study programme graduates with a humanities degree in the arts has.

In the attachment:

A sample of the diploma and its appendices to be issued for completion of the study program (see appendix 3.1.2.)

3.1.3. Economic and/ or social substantiation of the study programme, analysis of graduates' employment.

Graduates of the programme make a significant contribution to the operations of the cultural sector in Latvia, representing managers, project managers, etc. of cultural institutions of all sector (governmental, local government, non-governmental, private) positions. Thus, the graduates of the programme are to a large extent those who, together with the graduates of other LAC study programmes, form the most active community of cultural workers of the new and middle generation in Latvia, contributing to the long-term development of the industry. The study programme is necessary because it prepares highly professional cultural project managers who both successfully integrate into existing cultural organizations and establish their own in the non-governmental and private sector. Also, the economic and social justification of the programme in the long term is also formed by the "Cultural Centers Law" adopted in 2022 (entered into force on 11.10.2022), which determines the necessary qualifications for heads of cultural centres. Since there are no alternatives to the programme in the cultural sector with a specialty in cultural and arts management at the master's study level in Latvia, it is expected that the programme will continue to be compelling both for graduates of bachelor's study programmes in the thematic areas of culture and arts with the desire to continue professional development, and for cultural project managers actively working in the sector with the desire to improve qualifications and obtain a master's degree. The economic and social justification of the study programme is based on the regular research of the cultural and artistic work market of Latvia, the analysis of the employment of the graduates so far and the problems related to it. The lecturers of the programme are well acquainted with the industry's labour market in Latvia, and carefully monitor the development and requirements of this market.

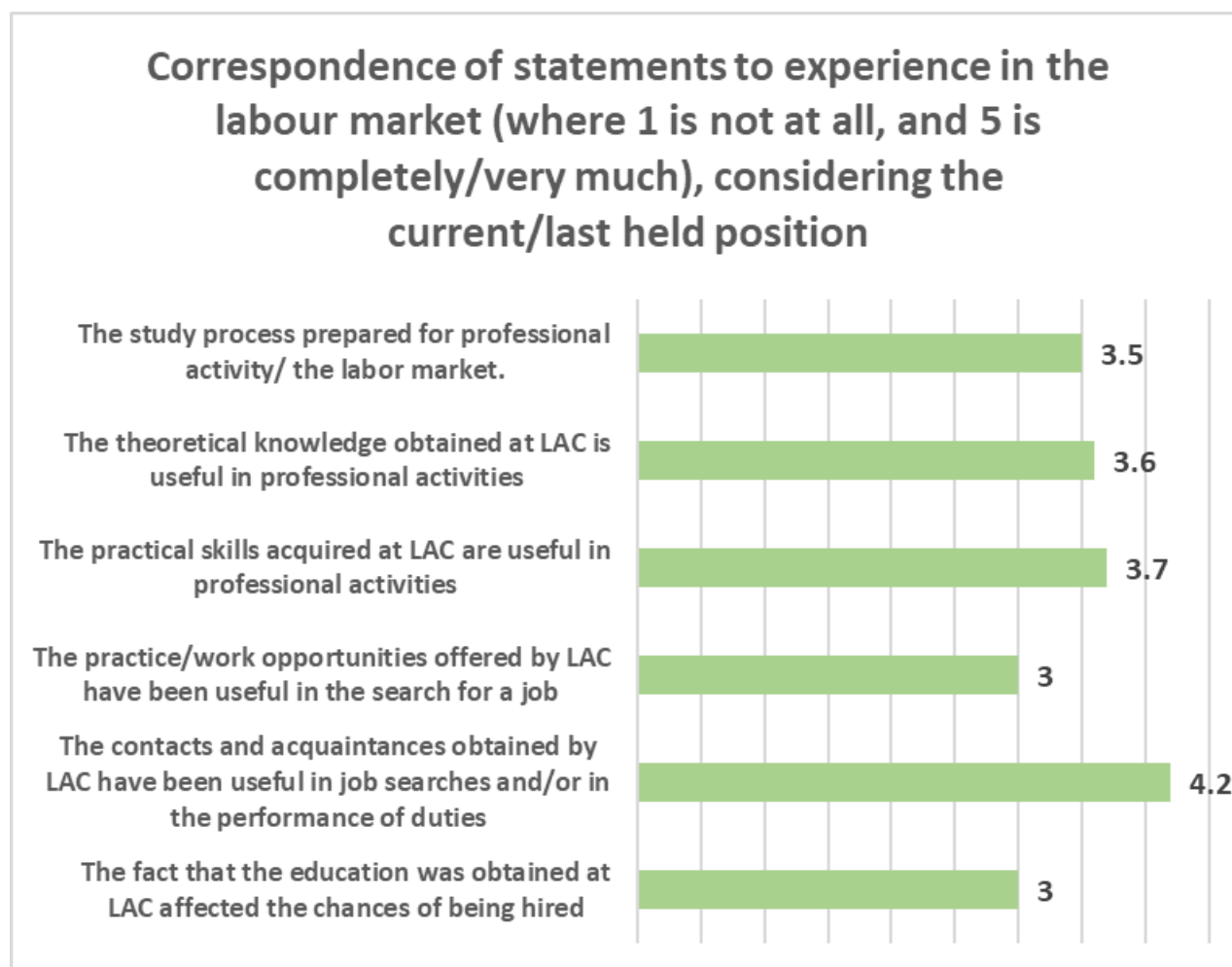
Between 2013 and 2022, **123 students** graduated from the academic master's study programme "Cultural and Arts Management" (previously - sub-programmes "Cultural Management and Creative Industries" (2013 - 2020) and "Cultural Management" (2020 - 2023) of the academic master's study programme "Arts").

85% of the graduates of the programme are already employed upon graduation, which can be considered a very positive trend. Graduates of the programme represent very different cultural sectors - 18% work in the field of cultural education, 11% work in the field of performing arts (theatre, opera, shows, circus, etc.) and music, 8% work in the field of public relations, marketing and another 8% represent audiovisual art industry (cinema, video, etc.) Also represented are such industries as museums, archives, libraries (7%), recreation, entertainment and/or tourism sector (6%), business (6%), cultural administration (6%) and other industries. The most popular position is project manager. The majority of graduates (n=88) believe that the contacts and acquaintances obtained at LAC have been useful in finding a job. In general, all statements related to the

experience gained at the LAC in relation to the current/last held position were evaluated positively. See more in image no. 2.

Image no. 2.

Compliance of statements with experience in the labour market (where 1 is not at all, and 5 – completely/very much), thinking about the current/last position held.



As another positive trend in the employment of graduates can be observed that at least 8 of the graduates of the programme are currently continuing their teaching and research activities at the Latvian Academy of Culture, both in elected positions and as guest lecturers, both in this programme and in other LAC departments, programmes and sub-programmes, as well as in LAC Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies. This means that, in general, the programme ensures the regeneration of LAC academic staff (since a large part of LAC teaching staff and researchers are LAC graduates themselves). During this period, the relatively large number of graduates also allows to ensure quality selection and competition, hiring the most motivated and capable professionals.

Also, a large part of the graduates of the programme lead cultural and arts organizations, and currently continue to cooperate with LAC in various types of creative collaborations, both in an inter-organizational format and privately (for example, by participating in the LAC Mentoring Programme network).

The programme's graduates of year 2022, in communication with the programme's director, indicated as their places of work in the cultural sector - the Latvian National Art Museum (2 graduates), the Cēsis Small Theater, the association "For the development of Jaunolaine", the Latvian National Culture Centre, the "Rail Baltica" project, Kauguru Culture House, Riga City Council, "Forte Production" LLC, Aizkraukles District Culture Board. Available positions - manager,

project manager, event producer, educational programme manager, public relations specialist.

3.1.4. Statistical data on the students of the respective study programme, the dynamics of the number of the students, and the factors affecting the changes to the number of the students. The analysis shall be broken down into different study forms, types, and languages.

In the study year 2022/2023, a total of 25 students study in the programme - 17 students in the 1st year, 8 students in the 2nd year. In each course, students work **in one group**.

The dynamics of the number of students in the programme in the period from 2013 is most influenced by the number of sub-programmes of the "Arts" programme, which has been volatile during this time:

1. Academic master's study programme "Audiovisual and performing art" gradually separated from the "Arts" programme and was created as a separate programme, thus all artistic creativity specializations were separated from the programme;
2. Several sub-programmes of the master's study programme "Arts" ("Cultural and Intercultural Studies", "International Media and Culture Management") have not admitted new students in recent years due to insufficient profitability of the programmes.

Thus, the most objective way to track changes in the number of students is by analysing data on the current number of students in the sub-programmes "Cultural Management and Creative Industries" and "Cultural Management" of the academic master's study programme "Arts". Table no. 1 shows a summary of data on the specific sub-programmes from the study year 2013/2014.

Table no. 1.

Distribution of the number of students in the sub-programmes "Cultural Management and Creative Industries" and "Cultural Management" of the academic master's study programme "Arts" by sources of funding (state budget places, private funding), the total number of students.

No	Study year	Budget / private funding	1st Year	2nd Year	Total	
1	2013./2014.	budget	24	18	21	42
	Cultural Management and Creative Industries	private			21	
2	2014./2015.	budget	18	18	20	36
	Cultural Management and Creative Industries	private			16	

3	2015./2016.	budget	21	15	23	36
	Cultural Management and Creative Industries	private			13	
4	2016./2017.	budget	18	15	25	33
	Cultural Management and Creative Industries	private			8	
5	2017./2018.	budget	18	12	25	30
	Cultural Management and Creative Industries	private			5	
6	2018./2019.	budget	20	17	32	37
	Cultural Management and Creative Industries	private			5	
7	2019./2020.	budget	15	21	35	36
	Cultural Management and Creative Industries	private			1	
8	2020./2021.	budget	12	13	23	25
	Cultural Management	private			2	
9	2021./2022.	budget	10	11	19	21
	Cultural Management	private			2	
10	2022./2023.	budget	17	8	21	25
	Cultural Management	private			4	

As can be seen in the table, between 2013 and 2022, the total number of students in the programme (sub-programme) has decreased. The decrease in the number of students can be explained both by the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic (especially in the 2021/2022 study year) and by the development of new study programmes at LAC. For example, in 2020, the newly created joint master's study programme of LAC and Riga Technical University "Creative Industries and Growth Management" demanded to make changes in the "Cultural Management and Creative Industries" sub-programme of the "Arts" study programme, by refusing to include the concept of creative industries in the names of two programmes/sub-programmes and causing each of these programmes to have more specific specializations/emphasis. Applicants who want to develop entrepreneurial skills, become entrepreneurs and want to work in an international environment should choose the study programme "Creative Industries and Growth Management", while those who want to become managers of cultural projects in Latvia and would be focused on more local activities mainly in the public sector, would choose the "Cultural Management" sub-programme.

This means that the applicants who would be more interested in working in the field of cultural entrepreneurship and creative industries, chose the newly created study programme "Creative Industries and Growth Management", and the number of students in the "Cultural Management" sub-programme decreased that year. At the same time, the 2022 application statistics and admission results in the "Cultural Management" sub-programme improved significantly again (half as many applicants (22) applied as in the previous year, 17 started their studies), which can probably be explained by the fact that in the "Creative Industries and Growth Management" study programme admission was held only in English, accordingly those wishing to study in Latvian showed more interest in the sub-programme "Cultural Management".

Although in general the number of students in the programme (sub-programme) is still relatively stable and the interest of applicants in the programme is stable, in recent years it has been made very clear how easily various external conditions and changes in other LAC study programmes affect the number of students in this programme.

The study programme "Cultural and Arts Management" implements studies **in Latvian** with one exception - the study course "International Cultural Management in Practice", which is taught by guest professor Frans Brouwer from the University of Rotterdam. Since one of the criteria in the entrance exams of the programme is knowledge of the English language, all those studying in the programme have an appropriate level of language knowledge to learn at least one study course in a foreign language.

Due to the impact of the pandemic, the study process in this study programme since the study year 2021/2022 takes place **in a combination of in-person and online classes**, at the beginning of each semester, the preferences and wishes of the specific group of students are clarified, taking into account the workload of the students in their work, as well as the possibilities of the teachers. On average, out of the four evenings in which studies take place, 1-2 evenings (25-40%) of each semester in each group take place in a online format.

At the beginning of the study year 2021, by reducing the number of contact hours per credit point from 16 to 12, **a transition to a study format that is partially closer to the module principle** has also been introduced. Respectively, instead of the previous 16 study weeks and 4 session weeks, some of the study courses end after 6 or 12 weeks, and the exams in these courses take place immediately after the end of the course, instead of during the session month. Thus, the study plan has been created with a more even workload throughout the semester, while keeping the possibility to take the exams during the session as well, if the teachers and students agree. No lectures are scheduled during the session.

In the attachment:

The total number of students and graduates of the academic master's study programme "Arts" (without dividing sub-programmes), reasons for study interruption and Statistical data on students in the academic master's study programme "Arts" since 2013/2014. of the study year, dividing the number of students into the sub-programmes "Cultural Management and Creative Industries" and "Cultural Management" (since 2013/2014) (see appendix 3.1.4.).

3.1.5. Substantiation of the development of the joint study programme and description and evaluation of the choice of partner universities, including information on the development and implementation of the joint study programme (if applicable).

3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof

3.2.1. Analysis of the content of the study programme. Assessment of the interrelation between the information included in the study courses/ modules, the intended learning outcomes, the set aims and other indicators with the aims of the study course/ module and the aims and intended outcomes of the study programme. Assessment of the relevance of the content of the study courses/ modules and compliance with the needs of the relevant industry, labour market and with the trends in science on how and whether the content of the study courses/ modules is updated in line with the development trends of the relevant industry, labour market, and science.

The programme provides basic and specialized knowledge, skills and professional competence in the cultural and arts management in accordance with the level 7 knowledge, skills and competence of the framework structure determined in the Latvian education classification.

The programme also includes one or more mandatory internships in the amount of 200 hours (5 CP) in cultural organizations in Latvia, which creates an opportunity to test the practical applicability of theoretical knowledge.

The programme plan consists of three parts and seven thematic blocks.

1. **Part A (compulsory)** is 47 CP, including the development of a master's thesis (20 CP). Part A study courses are structured in three blocks:

1. **Contemporary cultural and arts theory**, which includes the study courses "Modernity and Modernism" (2 CP), "Philosophy" (2 CP) and "Contemporary Art Discourse" (5 CP). These study courses allow the students to learn the theories of humanities, to learn in depth the 20th and 21st centuries' main research directions in philosophy, audiovisual arts, music, literature, visual arts and performing arts. This thematic block broadens students' horizons, develops an understanding of cultural and artistic processes, allows to deepen knowledge about the value of contemporary cultural and artistic products, acquiring the skill to analyse them in depth, to see the connections and foundations of current phenomena in the 20th and 21st century history of culture.
2. **Theories of cultural management**, which includes the study courses "Principles of Anthropological Research of Cultural and Artistic Phenomena" (2 CP), "Cultural and Arts Management and Leadership Theories" (4 CP), "Sociology of Culture and Arts" (2 CP), "Team and Conflict Management" (2 CP). In this thematic block, students learn courses related to the theoretical basis of cultural and arts management - the historical development of the industry, the main theories and approaches that would allow the development of research works and practical projects in the future. The second focus of this thematic block is human-centred, which allows students to better understand the importance of cultural management in society, the basics of cooperation, team and human resource management, as well as work with audiences, public attitudes and needs. Thus, with such an interdisciplinary humanities and social sciences approach, students gain a strong foundation for further work in the industry with an in-depth understanding.

3. **Theory and methodology of cultural sciences**, which includes courses in "Research Methodology and Academic Writing" (4 CP), "Specialization Discourse in English" (4 CP). The thematic block is intended for the preparation of students for the development of research works, especially for the master's thesis, by learning the principles of research development starting from the definition of the research problem, goals, tasks, methods of obtaining empirical data, up to the correct reflection of the research results. "Specialization Discourse in English" helps the students to prepare more successfully for work with the theoretical sources of the field in English, which are necessary and relevant in the development of research papers.
2. **Part B (compulsory choice)** is 29 credits, including "Specialization Practice" (5 credits). The study courses of part B are structured in four blocks, and in them both theoretical and practical study courses in project management, event production and curation, marketing, public relations, branding, cultural policy, cultural economy, cultural entrepreneurship are offered for the development of knowledge and skills of cultural management, production and project management. In the final block, students have the opportunity to develop self-presentation skills by learning business etiquette and public speaking, which are an integral part of a good communicator's daily work.
 1. **Cultural marketing**, which includes study courses "Cultural and Digital Marketing" (4 CP), "Brand Management" (2 CP).
 2. **Cultural and Arts Management**, which includes the study courses "Production in Culture and Arts" (6 CP), "Curatorial Practice in Contemporary Art" (2 CP), "International Cultural Management in Practice" (2 CP), "Current Trends in Cultural Heritage" (1 CP).
 3. **Cultural Policy and Cultural Economics**, which includes study courses "Cultural Policy and Cultural Economics" (2 CP), "Cultural Entrepreneurship" (2 CP).
 4. **Personal Growth and Development**, which includes study courses "Business Etiquette" (1 CP), "Stage Presence and Public Speaking" (2 CP).
3. **In part C (optional)**, the student must take study courses of total 4 credit points. The student can independently select one of the optional study courses offered in other academic master's study programs of LAC, obtain the necessary amount of credit points at LAC cooperation universities or international workshops. Free optional courses are also created, which are primarily intended for students studying in the "Cultural and Arts Management" programme (for example, "Practical Film Production" (2 CP), future planned - "Promotion of Accessibility in Culture" (2 CP), etc.).

In addition to the programme, according to the regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers no. 240 *Provisions on State Academic Education Standards*, Clause 21, if the student has not completed the requirements specified in the Civil Protection Law in a lower-level study programme, then in addition to the programme, the "Civil Protection" (1 CP) and "Environmental Protection" (1 CP) study courses are compulsory.

The planned tasks and the content of the study courses are purposefully coordinated so that the programme ensures the achievement of results (see Appendix 3.2.1.-2). The content of study courses is regularly updated in accordance not only with the developing trends of industries, the labour market and science, but also in accordance with the individual needs of the academic and professional career of the members of the specific student group. The planning of study courses in the programme is also regularly reviewed, discussions are held with teaching staff about the content of study courses, tasks, taking into account feedback from students. A more detailed description of particular examples of the changes made in the programme, taking into account the feedback from students and graduates, is indicated in the annex (see Mandatory annexes, section 2.2 "Analysis of the results of surveys of students, graduates and employers"). Also, the content of

the study courses is regularly updated with the latest research findings, and the study content uses materials that the teaching staff of the programme were involved in creating (e.g., in the state research programme CARD / "Cultural capital as a resource for sustainable development", texts translated in the anthology of translations of performing arts texts, etc.).

The compliance of the programme content with the trends and requirements of the labour market is determined by the students' active involvement in the labour market already during the study process, as well as the students' positive experience in specialization internship. At the end of the 3rd study semester, students participate in the defence of the internship, sharing their experience, reflecting on their ability to integrate into the internship organization(s), and mostly the students show high results, which confirm that the knowledge and skills provided in the programme meet the requirements and needs of the labour market.

In the attachment:

Compliance of the study programme with the national education standard (see Appendix 3.2.1.-1)

Mapping of study courses/modules for achieving study results of the study programme (see appendix 3.2.1.)

Study programme plan (see appendix 3.2.1.-3)

Descriptions of study courses/modules (see appendix 3.2.1.-4)

3.2.2. In the case of master's and doctoral study programmes, specify and provide the justification as to whether the degrees are awarded in view of the developments and findings in the field of science or artistic creation. In the case of a doctoral study programme, provide a description of the main research roadmaps and the impact of the study programme on research and other education levels (if applicable).

The awarding of the master's degree in Humanities in Creative Industries in the academic master's study programme " Cultural and Arts Management" is based on the achievements and knowledge of humanities and arts. It is provided and justified by:

1. to obtain a master's degree, it is necessary to successfully pass exams in the study courses of the programme in the amount of 60 CP or 90 ECTS;
2. to obtain a master's degree, it is necessary to develop and defend a master's thesis (20 CP or 30 ECTS) in accordance with the *Latvian Academy of Culture Regulations about final examinations of bachelor and master studies*;
3. the study process is ensured by highly qualified teaching staff, most of whom are lecturers and researchers elected to academic positions at LAC and the LAC Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies, the rest are guest lecturers recognized in the industry as professionals.

In the fourth semester of the programme, each student develops a master's thesis - an individual and independent research work in the amount of 20 credit points, which is the final examination of the study programme and a part of its development is the pre-defence and public defence of the master's thesis before the commission. The master's thesis is a written, independent, interdisciplinary research, which proves the student's ability and skill to identify and analyse the programme-related, topical issues related to the theoretical aspects of culture, arts and creative industry (including cultural management, cultural policy, cultural economy, marketing), as well as develop reasonable and original recommendations for solving them. The master's thesis is the most

important student's research in the academic programme, which confirms the acquired knowledge and skills within the study programme. As part of the process of developing the master's thesis, the student chooses an interesting and relevant topic for the master's thesis, which corresponds to the goals of the programme and which includes the need for a solution to a scientific problem, substantiates its relevance, creates a theoretical framework by critically analysing theoretical sources, creates a research strategy, learns and uses research methods by which empirical material is analysed, resulting in original conclusions and recommendations, making a contribution to the science and industry's development. (see 3.2.6.). The student's master's theses in the programme are supervised and reviewed by the teaching staff of the programme who are competent in the subject of the specific master's thesis topic. For additional evaluation, both pre-defense and defense commissions are created by an order, so the evaluation is performed by more than one examiner. Methodical regulations for the development of coursework, bachelor and master's thesis and criteria for evaluating master's theses have been defined and are available to students on the LAC's website (*LAC Regulations about final examinations of bachelor and master studies* <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aBRafU0uVK6Qa-Lzy6PtQgmzbfQtOv2i/view> (Latvian only)).

In order to obtain a degree, the student's final thesis and theoretical preparation must meet the requirements of the master's study programme.

3.2.3. Assessment of the study programme including the study course/ module implementation methods by indicating what the methods are, and how they contribute to the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study courses and the aims of the study programme. In the case of a joint study programme, or in case the study programme is implemented in a foreign language or in the form of distance learning, describe in detail the methods used to deliver such a study programme. Provide an explanation of how the student-centred principles are taken into account in the implementation of the study process.

The pedagogical methods of study course implementation, as well as evaluation methods, are chosen by the teaching staff responsible for the study course, according to the specifics of the course content and study programme, as well as the needs of the students.

Implementation methods of the study programme and study courses, and their assessment:

- **Lectures, incl. guest lectures** – students are presented with theoretical questions using practical examples and visual explanations of lectures, e.g. *PowerPoint* or other types of presentations. During lectures, lecturers use technical means: computer, multimedia projector, sound equipment. Guest lectures in industry organizations and with industry professionals help to learn and consolidate learning material in a suitable work environment.
- **Seminars** – addition and deepening of theoretical and practical knowledge, in which theoretical literature texts and works of arts and culture are analyzed, creative tasks are carried out. Seminars strengthen students' independent information acquisition and analysis skills, reasoning skills and promote the process of acquiring knowledge and skills.
- **Working in groups** – promotes students' skills to cooperate and work in a group, builds skills in organizing and implementing collective work, strengthens students' ability to argue and justify their individual opinion in the process of making a collective decision.
- **Independent and individual works** – tasks to be completed independently: theoretical literature studies and preparation for seminars, research work, self-reflection, preparation of

reports, essays and presentations, preparation of creative tasks (development of project ideas and applications, creation of event concepts, creation of marketing strategies, creation of broadcast content and record organization, etc.).

- **Tests** – regular knowledge testing to ensure the student's personal growth dynamics, understanding of learned topics and mastery of the necessary terminology; are implemented both with and without the use of additional materials for students; can be implemented as a part of a lecture or a full lecture, practical or theoretical.
- **Extracurricular activities** – students attend dance and theater performances, art exhibitions, concerts, films, etc., integrating the acquired experience in the study process (audiovisual art, music, contemporary visual art, performing arts, familiarity with the context of the heritage industry, ability to analyze cultural and artistic processes, etc.). In certain study courses, attending performances, films, concerts, exhibitions are an essential requirement to pass the final exam (e.g. in the study course "Contemporary Art Discourse" (5 CP)). In addition to the study programme, students are involved in extracurricular activities organized and offered by LAC, both as participants and as organizers, and this adds to students' knowledge and skills and also improves the student experience. For example, students are invited to attend and participate in scientific conferences (*ZinātMāksla*, *Culture Crossroads*), industry conferences (*Subject Creativity*, *Tech Chill*, *Riga COMM*, *Event Forum*, etc.), creative projects (performing and audiovisual arts festival "The Autumn of the Patriarch", film screenings).

The various methods of implementing the study programme, as well as study courses, are considered appropriate for achieving the results of the study courses and the goals of the study programme. The diverse application of methods, the combination of theoretical lectures and practical seminars, discussions, events ensures that knowledgeable and competent specialists with a good theoretical base and practical understanding of cultural and artistic processes in the national and global cultural space enter the labor market of the industry, which is the main goal of the study programme. Since the programme basically prepares academically educated specialists for practical work in the industry, lecturers, especially in Part B study courses related to specialization subjects, pay careful attention to choosing interactive learning methods (group discussions, learning knowledge in a practice-based way, lots of independent do-it-yourself tasks, students sharing their experience, attending guest lectures in industry organizations, etc.). On the other hand, the acquisition of theoretical knowledge of the humanities (mostly part A study courses) is basically dominated by passive teaching methods (lectures, work with the text in seminars, etc.), which allow students to acquire fundamental knowledge and understanding of the regularities of the historical development and modern processes of the cultural and artistic sectors, the latest discoveries in cultural studies, art science. All of the above helps to develop students' ability to creatively and conceptually integrate and use theoretical knowledge and empirical data in the analysis, comparison and evaluation of cultural and artistic developments, to know and apply in practice the basic principles of cultural and artistic organizations and project management, classic and digital marketing, branding, to develop reasoning skills and to independently make decisions, which are the most important results of the study courses.

Student-centered approach in the programme is promoted by the significant proportion planned of seminars, practical classes, individual choices in specific topics. The form of the seminar promotes students' participation in the study process, gives an opportunity to judge the individual knowledge and interests of each student, promotes an adequate evaluation of the students' abilities and the work invested. A student-centered approach is also provided in communication with students, regularly discussing the course of the programme and the study process. A student-centered approach is also manifested in the fact that every LAC teaching staff and administration

employee is easy to reach, available for consultations and informal conversations. The teaching staff updates the course content to include topics and tasks of interest to the particular student group. In accordance with the level of preparation of students, tasks of increased complexity are also offered. Students can freely choose a topic of their interest in the development of the master's thesis.

One of the results of the student-centered approach is the transition to a reduced number of contact hours per credit point (from 16 to 12), thus a gradual transition to a study format that is closer to the module principle has also taken place. Some study courses take place in a short and intensive format (e.g., "International Cultural Management in Practice" (2 CP), whose lecturer guest prof. Frans Brouwer comes to Latvia for two weeks, and during this time no other parallel study course takes place for the students). All study courses are planned in such a way that students focus on a deeper understanding of the topics and devote time to their additional learning. At the start of the study course, the lecturer introduces the students to the description of the study course, which indicates the topics to be learned in the course, the independent work to be done during the study process, the literature to be studied, exact requirements for obtaining credit points, test forms and evaluation criteria. In each study course, the lecturer sets the final examination, in which the student's knowledge, skills and competences are assessed in accordance with the requirements of the programme. The form of the exam, the method of execution and the evaluation criteria are defined in the course description approved by the Department of Sociology and Management of Culture. Evaluations in most study courses are formed summarily, by performing several independent tasks during the semester and passing the final exam at the end of the semester. The evaluation follows the following basic principles:

- the principle of mandatory examination – a successful assessment is mandatory at the end of each course;
- the principle of openness and clarity of evaluation criteria – the test requirements of each course are outlined in the course description, which is available to all students on the LAC e-study platform, and is also outlined at the beginning of the study course. The content and scope of the exams correspond to the content of the study course;
- the principle of diversity of evaluation forms – tests, independent works, creative works, seminars, exams (written, oral, practical work), defence of practice, pre-defence and defence of master's thesis; the principle of the possibility of revision of the assessment;
- the student's right to challenge the assessment is described in the " LAC Regulations about final examinations of bachelor and master studies ".

The student-centered approach is also supported by various activities offered by LAC (e.g. ERASMUS+ study or internship experience exchange trips, LAC mentoring program). Every year at least one of the students of the programme takes the opportunity to participate in each of the mentioned programs.

Each course has a group leader who is in regular communication with the programme director and vice versa. The students of the programme communicate with each other in a common *Whatsapp* group, where, with the help of the group leader, both the programme director and other lecturers can easily convey informal or advisory information to the entire course. Students have the opportunity to receive individual consultations from the academic staff, including communication through the e-study environment, e-mails, *ZOOM*, *Microsoft Teams*. If the particular teacher allows it, then also by phone and on social networking sites *Whatsapp*, *Facebook Messenger*, etc.

3.2.4. If the study programme envisages an internship, describe the internship

opportunities offered to students, provision and work organization, including whether the higher education institution/ college helps students to find an internship place. If the study programme is implemented in a foreign language, provide information on how internship opportunities are provided in a foreign language, including for foreign students. To provide analysis and evaluation of the connection of the tasks set for students during the internship included in the study programme with the learning outcomes of the study programme (if applicable).

The compulsory choice part of the master's study programme "Cultural and Arts Management" includes internship, the purpose of which is to provide students with opportunities to supplement the knowledge acquired in the study programme and to develop professional skills and abilities in accordance with the specifics of the development of the culture and art sector, the current conditions of the labour market structure and environment, as also for the needs of employers. The main achievable results of the internship are acquired knowledge, skills and abilities in a specific creative, artistic, cultural, research, intercultural or other project corresponding to the content of the study programme, which is implemented under the guidance of the LAC's lecturers or another representative of the creative, cultural, artistic sector. Each student coordinates his or her individual internship tasks with the director of the study programme and the head of internship, and **the individual internship tasks are consistent with the study results to be achieved in the programme** - (1) the student is able to independently integrate and use theoretical knowledge and empirical data in the performance of highly qualified professional functions, (2) is able to reasonably explain and discuss complex or systemic aspects of the arts industry and arts management or other professional aspects of the cultural and creative sector both with specialists and with non-specialists, (3) is able to independently develop his or her competences in the field of culture and arts management, take responsibility for the results of the work of personnel groups and their analysis, (4) knows the basic principles of cultural and arts organization and project management, classic and digital marketing, branding, knows how to apply them in practice, (5) make decisions independently in the development and management of cultural projects, creatively and conceptually use theoretical knowledge and empirical research data, demonstrate entrepreneurship and a civically active position in their message, (6) knows how to responsibly choose and use information technologies in the research and management of cultural and artistic developments, as well as in the acquisition, creation and sharing of digital content. Therefore, the implementation and defence of internship is a very important part of the content of the programme, and it allows clarify that the knowledge, skills and competences of the specialists prepared by the programme match the labour market of the industry.

Internship at the LAC is organized in accordance with the Internship Regulations (appendix), in the "Cultural and Arts Management" programme - in accordance with the programme's internship rules. Internship regulations, rules and documents (agreement form, internship diary-report form, internship manager's feedback form) are available to students on the LAC website, but the LAC staff is actively involved and provides various types of support in the internship context:

- The internship coordinator provides an opportunity to receive advice on filling out documents and is a support person in cases where students have questions about the internship process, credit points and other binding issues;
- Students are offered to attend internship consultations with the career education project manager. In the consultations, students' skills are evaluated and analysed and, according to the students' interests and wishes, the internship consultant recommends the most suitable

internship places for the students;

- Internship providers regularly send internship offers to the Academy's internship coordinator, which the coordinator sends to students through the LAIS system, as well as publishes them on the Academy's website;
- The programme manager regularly informs and advises the students about the progress and procedures of the internship;
- Students can practice in the Academy's structural units - the Center for Creative Activities, Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies, the Department of Communication, the LAC Eduarda Smilga Theater Museum and the LAC Riga Cinema Museum.

Students of the Master's study programme "Cultural and Arts Management" during internship assist heads of organizations, heads of departments, write texts, prepare information and communication materials about exhibitions, performances and other events, work with the media, organize events, work on the implementation of new projects in organizations, perform management jobs. In the last two years (since the sub-programme "Cultural Management" was launched), students have chosen internships in museums and theaters (National Art Museum of Latvia, Latvian Contemporary Art Center, Tukuma Museum, Latvian National Theatre), in various projects and festivals (in the "Rail Baltica" project, the international film festival "Riga IFF", the conversation festival "Lampa"), at the structural units of the Latvian Academy of Culture and at the events organized by them (at the LAC festival of performing and audiovisual arts "Patriarha rudens", at the international scientific conference "Cultural Crossroads", In the professional development courses organized by LAC and the State Educational Content Center), as well as elsewhere. The students of the programme are allowed to choose their workplace as a place of internship, by implementing a project outside of their daily work duties as part of the internship and coordinating the duties with the programme director, which is an option also used by a large part of the students of the programme.

3.2.5. Evaluation and description of the promotion opportunities and the promotion process provided to the students of the doctoral study programme (if applicable).

3.2.6. Analysis and assessment of the topics of the final theses of the students, their relevance in the respective field, including the labour market, and the marks of the final theses.

The LAC academic master's study programme "Cultural and Arts Management" (45212, 45217) prepares specialists who are able to combine deep and thorough knowledge of cultural history and theory with applied knowledge and practical skills in the commercialization of cultural products, administration, organization and evaluation of cultural processes. Thus, the topics of the students' final theses of the academic master's study programme have vividly demonstrated the integration of the interdisciplinary knowledge acquired within the programme in the master's thesis. The topics of the developed master's theses reflect current problems and themes in the creative industries (including cultural management, marketing, branding, audience engagement and development), at the same time, the phenomena studied in the works are directly from the cultural and arts sector and refer either to the industry as a whole, or to a specific organization, field, genre, etc. research. The students chose to study the industries and organizations in which they already work or want to

start professional activities, respectively - which is most in line with their own academic and professional interests. Already in the entrance exams of the programme, one of the evaluation criteria for applicants is the description of the research design of the master's thesis, which must correspond to the theoretical knowledge of the scientific fields of the programme. During the study process, most of the students retain their initial research interest, at least in terms of industry, while some - by supplementing their knowledge during their studies, come to completely different choices for the topics of their final theses. Since master's level studies are mostly chosen by professionals already working in the industry, whose aim is to supplement their knowledge, competences and skills, the topics of their master's theses reflect the current interests of the industry, which in this programme are mostly related to audience research, analysis of marketing strategies, organization operation and management in various sectors (state, municipal, non-governmental, private), analysis of demand and supply of specific cultural products, etc.

Between 2013 and 2022, a total of 123 master's theses were developed in the programme. The table summarizes the division of research topics by specific cultural sector or sub-sector:

Table no. 2.

Sector	Number of works	
Cultural organizations (including cultural centres), general research of the cultural sector	22	18%
Performing arts (theatre, dance, circus)	16	13%
Music	15	12%
Memory institutions (museums, libraries)	11	9%
Events (including festivals)	11	9%
Creative industries (entrepreneurship)	11	9%
Audiovisual art	9	7%
Visual art	9	7%
Intangible cultural heritage	5	4%
Education (cultural education)	3	2%
Media	3	2%
Literature, bookkeeping	2	2%
Fashion	2	2%
Other	4	3%
Total:	123	

As can be seen, the three dominant cultural sectors amid programme graduates' research works

are: various cultural organizations (including cultural centres and cultural sector research in general), performing arts and music. At the same time, it should be emphasized that the coverage of industries shows a very wide variety of topics.

The second table summarizes the division of subjects by thematic areas of sciences/correspondence study courses:

Table no. 3

Research field	Number of works	
Cultural management	37	30%
Cultural policy	23	19%
Cultural and digital marketing	20	16%
Cultural economy	15	12%
Audience research	11	9%
Branding	8	7%
Career research	5	4%
Cultural sociology	4	3%
Kopā:	123	

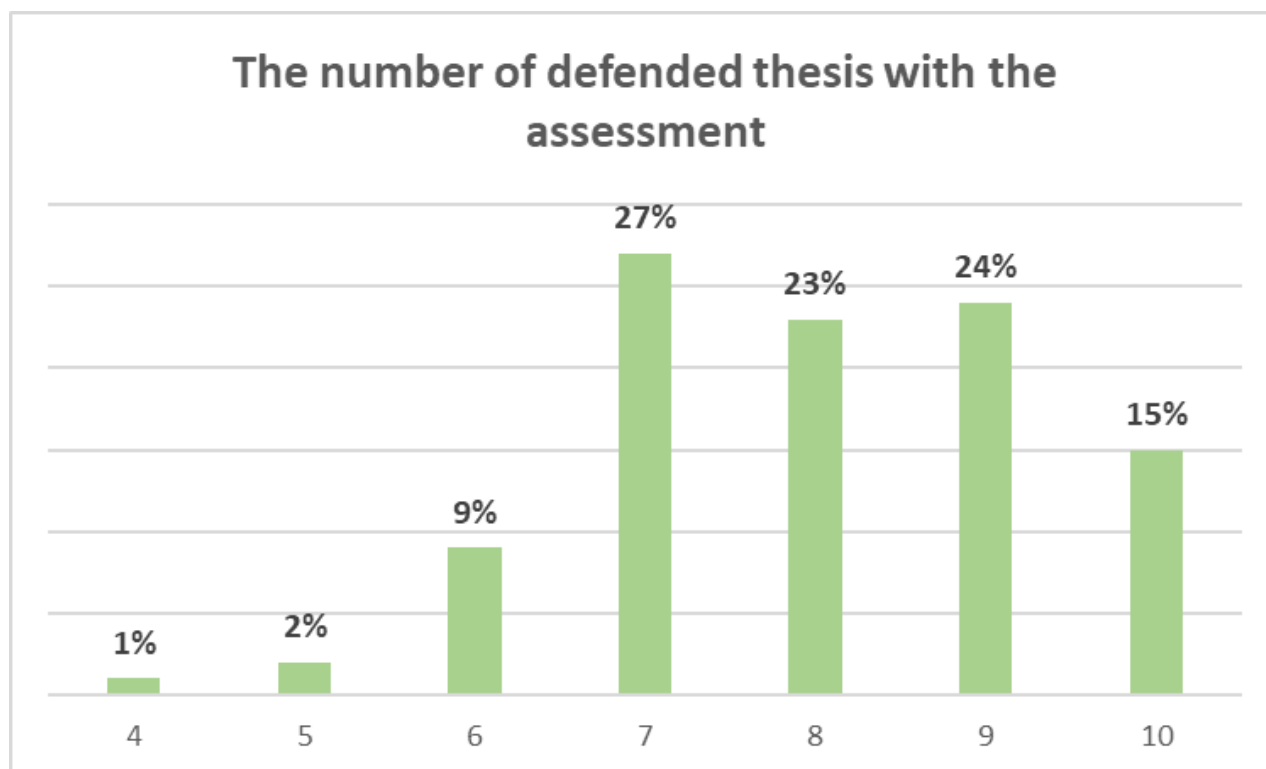
Here, too, it is natural that master's theses are developed in the fields of creative industry sciences, which directly corresponds to the interdisciplinary specificity of the programme and once again confirms the relevance and the need to add additional code to the programme.

In 2022, LAC received an invitation to participate in the competition organized by the Cultural Management Foundation of the University of Antwerp, which annually awards a master's or doctoral thesis developed in cultural management, management or cultural policy. The purpose of the competition is to reward and develop the quality of management research in the cultural and creative industries. Thus, in 2022, the Department of Sociology and Management of Culture nominated three works of graduates of the 2020 master's study programme "Arts" sub-programme "Cultural Management and Creative Industries" for participation in the competition. Considering that the graduates themselves had to provide the translation of the work summary to English, two graduates participated in the competition.

Students in the Master's study programme "Cultural and Arts Management" develop a full-scale theoretical study in accordance with the LAC Methodical Regulations for the development of course, bachelor's and master's thesis. Between 2013 and 2022, a total of 123 master's theses were developed in the programme with an average rating of 8.00 points.

The image (diagram) summarizes the evaluations of the final papers in points:

Image no. 3



As can be seen, the majority of evaluations (74% or 91 papers) are in the range of 7 to 9 points. At the same time, more than 14% of defended works (18 works in total) have received the highest evaluation. This proves that students who are really motivated and focus on their studies, mostly achieve very good and even excellent results.

The authors of the best-rated and thematically innovative works are invited to develop scientific publications based on their master's theses and submit them to the LAC's collections of scientific articles, Culture Crossroads and Culture and Art Studies, as well as elsewhere. Unfortunately, LAC does not collect statistics on scientific publications developed on the basis of master's theses, but as of 2020, such scientific publications have been prepared by at least three graduates of the programme.

3.3. Resources and Provision of the Study Programme

3.3.1. Assessment of the compliance of the resources and provision (study provision, scientific support (if applicable), informative provision (including libraries), material and technical provision, and financial provision) with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the learning outcomes to be achieved by providing the respective examples.

Since LAC implements one study direction "Arts", the total resources of LAC can largely be considered as the resources available for the academic master's study programme "Cultural and arts management". Paragraphs 2.3. of the self-assessment report with sub-paragraphs provide a detailed description of the infrastructure and material and technical provision, information base, as well as information and communication technology solutions necessary for the implementation of

LAC study programmes. In the following section, the available and necessary resources specific to the "Cultural and Arts Management" programme are described in more detail.

The study process of the "Cultural and Arts Management" study programme is organized in the main study building of LAC at Ludzas street 24, Riga. In case of necessity (e.g. for guest lectures, ensuring accessibility for people in wheelchairs, which unfortunately is not possible at Ludzas Street 24), it is possible to organize separate classes also in the LAC Theater House "Zirgu Pasts" at Dzirnavu Street 46, Riga.

As a result of the European Social Fund project "Effectiveness of the management of the Latvian Academy of Culture and the Latvian Culture College and modernization of the study process" (No. 8.2.3.0/018/A/020) the students of this programme are also subject to the purposeful use of the LAC e-study environment in all study courses, as well as the possibility of using an auditorium adapted and equipped for remote training and conferences at Ludzas Street 24. For the students of the programme the study process regularly takes place in this auditorium. Since the groups of students are not large, and the participation of each student in the study process is essential, if the lecturer of the study course agrees, lectures and seminars can also be held in this auditorium in a hybrid format, allowing those students who cannot attend the class for various reasons to connect to the class online in the auditorium.

Students can apply for a free online version of Microsoft Office 365.

Also, LAC joining the common plagiarism control system applies also to the students of the programme, which contributes to the improvement of academic honesty in the entire study environment in Latvia. Unfortunately, in this programme too, one case of plagiarism has been detected in the development of final theses, compelling the student to develop a new final thesis on a different topic the following year.

LAC also regularly replenishes resources in the library by purchasing both books and subscribing to databases that are available to programme's students. Lecturers of the *Department of Sociology and Management of Culture*, as well as guest lecturers, are regularly invited to submit a list of recommended books for purchase, which, as far as possible, is also provided. For example, at the end of 2022, on the recommendation of the department and programme lecturers, seven new books were purchased in the library, which directly relate to the content of the programme and study courses. Students are informed about the latest available literature in classes or during programme director's meetings with students, as well as supervisors of final theses inform students about the literature available for a specific topic in the LAC library. The available resources for any student are described in detail in the *Library* section of the LAC website. The LAC Library uses the database resources included in the National Electronic Resource Package: EBSCO Academic Search Complete + MasterFILE Premier, Health Source: Nursing/Academic Edition+Consumer Edition, Newspaper Source, ERIC, GreenFILE, LISTA, MEDLINE. The particular databases the Library chooses to subscribe to are selected and approved by the Council of the LAC Library, which is a collegial body that resolves issues related to the LAC Library. It consists of six representatives of LAC study programmes and one representative from the Student Council and the LAC Library. Databases are available from anywhere with an Internet connection, it is not necessary to be connected to the LAC network. The Library also uses the free trials of databases, OPEN ACCESS databases (core.ac.uk, openresearchlibrary.org, ijsrp.org), as well as the digital resources of the National Library of Latvia, implemented within the framework of the LAC study direction "Arts", corresponding to the specifics of the study programmes and sub-programmes. An important information resource is also the LAC Thesis database created and maintained by the LAC Library, which includes bibliographic descriptions of the final theses of LAC graduates, as well as, if necessary, the student has the opportunity to access full versions of the final theses in person at the Library - this is essential in

the development of study theses, giving students the opportunity to view graduates' performance, reflect on what they have read and continue the research activity.

The mentioned resources and solutions allow students to independently guide their study process, keeping up with the topicalities in study courses, as well as in culture and arts management and research in related fields in general. The sources and databases available at the LAC Library, as well as the materials published in the e-study environment, allow in-depth acquaintance with the theoretical sources and researches of the field, allowing students to supplement and strengthen the knowledge acquired in study courses, as well as to conduct independent research activities. All of the above helps to inform students and promote their understanding of current research topics in cultural studies, art studies and theoretical approaches to the management of the field, gives students the opportunity to explain theoretical connections and independently obtain information, critically analyze industry problems, as well as apply the latest scientific research methods of cultural studies and art, which are also the most important results of study courses.

3.3.2. Assessment of the study provision and scientific base support, including the resources provided within the framework of cooperation with other science institutes and higher education institutions (applicable to doctoral study programmes) (if applicable).

3.3.3. Indicate data on the available funding for the corresponding study programme, its funding sources and their use for the development of the study programme. Provide information on the costs per one student within this study programme, indicating the items included in the cost calculation and the percentage distribution of funding between the specified items. The minimum number of students in the study programme in order to ensure the profitability of the study programme (indicating separately the information on each language, type and form of the study programme implementation).

The costs of the programme are calculated in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers' Regulations of December 12, 2006 no. 994 "The order in which universities and colleges are financed from the state budget". The current base fee for a study place is EUR 1,630.11. According to the mentioned regulation no. 994 point 13 study cost coefficient for master's study programmes is 1.5. According to Clause 20 of Appendix 1 of the Regulations, the Academy's funding for one master's study place in the thematic field of education "Arts" (except for the programmes mentioned in Clause 28 of this Appendix) thematic field coefficient is 3.1. The estimated amount of the state grant in 2022 is 6,796 EUR, for one budget place. Performance funding per 1 student in the programme is EUR 239 and tuition fees are on average EUR 1,769, taking into account that tuition fees are revised every year.

The funding of the study programme in 2022 is 185,920 EUR, it was formed from the budget grant, performance funding and tuition fees. When making cost calculations, all expenditure items necessary for the programme are included, the programme calculation is: 85% compensation (ECC (economic classification codes) 1000), 6% goods and services (ECC 2000) and 9% other ECC. A cost calculation is carried out every year, after which the number of guest lecturers and the amount diverted for the development of study programmes are determined, which is a part of the own revenues, in 2022 in the amount of 25%, which amounts to 2,211 EUR. The program is created on

the basis of funding from the state budget, and the own revenues are directed to the maximum extent for the development of the programme and covering unexpected expenses. A lot of attention is devoted to the optimization of study programme implementation expenses, for example, by organizing flow lectures in professor-taught courses and providing remote lectures.

In order to ensure the profitability of the study programme, the minimum number of students in the study programme is 20 students (see appendix from section 3.1.4).

The programme is full time in-class attendance and studies are conducted in Latvian.

3.4. Teaching Staff

3.4.1. Assessment of the compliance of the qualification of the teaching staff members (academic staff members, visiting professors, visiting associate professors, visiting docents, visiting lecturers, and visiting assistants) involved in the implementation of the study programme with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the provisions set out in the respective regulatory enactments. Provide information on how the qualification of the teaching staff members contributes to the achievement of the learning outcomes.

In the implementation of the "Cultural and Arts Management" study programme 26 members of teaching staff are involved - the academic staff is made up of elected academic staff, elected academic staff in research, and guest lecturers.

Taking into account the specifics of LAC's academic activity and changes in the composition of academic positions due to elections/re-elections, as well as the need to involve industry specialists in academic work temporarily, the composition of LAC's academic staff involved in the implementation of the study programme "Cultural and Arts Management" in the 2022/2023. the study year consists of the following positions:

Lecturers elected to academic positions at the Latvian Academy of Culture:

Table no. 4

No.	ACADEMIC POSITION	NUMBER OF PERSONS ELECTED
1	Professor	5
2	Associated professor	5
3	Assistant professor	3
4	Lecturer	3
	Total	16
	Of those with a doctorate degree	12

Lecturers elected to academic positions in science at the LAC Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies, who do not overlap with lecturers elected to academic positions at the Latvian Academy of Culture:

Table no. 5

No.	ACADEMIC POSITION IN SCIENCE	NUMBER OF PERSONS ELECTED
1	Research assistant	2
	Total	2
	Of those with a doctorate degree	0

Guest lecturers:

Table no. 6

No.	ACADEMIC POSITION	NUMBER OF PERSONS
1	Guest professor	2
2	Guest associated professor	0
3	Guest assistant professor	0
4	Guest lecturer	6
	Total	8
	Of those with a doctorate degree	3

The Law on Universities stipulates that at least 40 percent of the elected academic staff in universities of arts and culture have a doctorate in science or a professional doctorate in arts. In this programme, 75% of the elected academic staff have a doctorate degree, thus showing a positive trend in the qualifications of teaching staff. Analysing the overall composition of the teaching staff by scientific degrees, it can be seen that a larger part of those who do not have a doctoral scientific degree are on the way to obtaining it, either currently studying for a doctoral degree (2 lecturers) or being candidates for a doctoral degree (5 lecturers). Most of the lecturers are also active professionals in their field and have joined the programme in order to share not only theoretical knowledge, but also to provide students with the most up-to-date information on developing trends and current events in their specialty. In general, the composition of the teaching staff shows interest and desire to increase their qualifications, to improve professionally not only in the academic environment, but also in their professional activities in the industry on a daily basis.

Composition of teaching staff by scientific degrees:

Table no. 7

No.	SCIENTIFIC DEGREE	NUMBER OF PERSONS
1	Doctorate	15

2	Applicants for a doctoral degree (completed doctoral studies)	5
3	Master's degree, currently studying for a Ph.D	2
4	Master's Degree	4
Kopā		26

The qualifications of the teaching staff, as well as the professional experience, directly help to achieve the study results. Firstly, the academic qualification of the teaching staff helps the students to improve and manage theoretical knowledge in the arts of humanities, to improve the students' competence in cultural history and cultural theory, cultural management, marketing, cultural policy, etc. spheres; improve knowledge and skills to develop academic research, incl. master's thesis; develop the skill of arguing one's point of view. Secondly, the involvement of professionals actively working in the industry in the implementation of the programme helps to improve the students' practical experience in the industry more easily, using both specific practical recommendations and a network of contacts that can be offered by teaching staff, incl. internships, various projects, work and cooperation opportunities in the industry. Thirdly, the qualifications and professional experience of the teaching staff make it possible to inspire students to express their assessment of cultural processes in society and to positively influence them through personal example (in research or artistic creativity).

3.4.2. Analysis and assessment of the changes to the composition of the teaching staff over the reporting period and their impact on the study quality.

In the LAC academic master's study programme *Cultural and Arts Management*, the changes in the composition of the teaching staff took place after the revision of the content of the sub-programme (programme) and the change of the director (in March 2020), who herself, as a graduate of the sub-programme (programme) and a professional working actively in the industry, came with her vision of the sub-programme's (in the programme) necessary changes.

The composition of the teaching staff of the programme is still based on the work of the lecturers of the Department of Sociology and Management of Culture (50% of the elected academic staff in the programme) and guest lecturers already engaged by the department (e.g. F. Brouwer, S. Voldiņš, L. Ozoliņa, E. Vikmane). At the same time, the lecturers of all LAC departments are involved in the implementation of the programme, the second largest proportion (31% of the elected academic personnel in the programme) being the lecturers of the Department of Theory and History of Culture. In providing the content of part A study courses, the proportion of lecturers of the Department of Theory and History of Culture is decisive - it is they who help the most to ensure the acquisition of high-quality theoretical knowledge in the arts of the humanities, help to expand students' understanding of arts, and improve critical thinking, logic, analysis and argumentation skills. Before the changes in the content of the sub-programme (programme) in 2020, the block of social sciences was more dominant, currently the programme content has been balanced between humanities and social sciences. It is also more in line with the current situation in the industry, as the labour market prepares not only good project managers with a practical understanding of the work of the industry, but also open and creative-minded, humanitarian-educated specialists who

are able to raise and realize artistic ambitions in their work - to become good producers or even curators. Accordingly, for a good organization or project manager, it is not enough only to have knowledge of management, governance, business, but a common humanities-based understanding of the value of culture and arts, role in society, quality assessment, etc., and this is provided by this programme and its teaching staff in high quality.

The composition of the teaching staff has been supplemented by professionals who have proven themselves in the industry as guest lecturers in the programme (Aija Lūse for the study course *Cultural and Digital Marketing*, Auguste Petre for the study courses *Curatorial Practice in Contemporary Art*, Dita Pfeifere for the study courses *Cultural and Arts Management and Leadership Theories* and *Team and Conflict Management*, Elizabete Palasiossa in the *Production in Culture and Arts* study course). The fact that some of the guest lecturers in this programme tried their hand at academic work for the first time, proved themselves well, and are now increasingly involved in teaching work in other LAC study programmes and sub-programmes at the master's and bachelor's level is pleasing.

In general, the composition of the teaching staff has been stable in recent years, minimal changes have occurred in individual study courses, when lecturers have decided not to continue teaching due to personal reasons, or changes have taken place when clarifications have been made in the content of the programme and it has been decided to completely abandon a study course or add a new one.

3.4.3. Information on the number of the scientific publications of the academic staff members, involved in the implementation of doctoral study programme, as published during the reporting period by listing the most significant publications published in Scopus or WoS CC indexed journals. As for the social sciences, humanitarian sciences, and the science of art, the scientific publications published in ERIH+ indexed journals or peer-reviewed monographs may be additionally specified. Information on the teaching staff included in the database of experts of the Latvian Council of Science in the relevant field of science (total number, name of the lecturer, field of science in which the teaching staff has the status of an expert and expiration date of the Latvian Council of Science expert) (if applicable).

3.4.4. Information on the participation of the academic staff, involved in the implementation of the doctoral study programme, in scientific projects as project managers or prime contractors/ subproject managers/ leading researchers by specifying the name of the relevant project, as well as the source and the amount of the funding. Provide information on the reporting period (if applicable).

3.4.5. Assessment of the cooperation between the teaching staff members by specifying the mechanisms used to promote the cooperation and ensure the interrelation between the study programme and study courses/ modules. Specify also the proportion of the

number of the students and the teaching staff within the study programme (at the moment of the submission of the Self-Assessment Report).

The main responsibility for harmonizing and coordinating the study process, not only organizationally, but also in terms of content, carries the director of the programme lect. Kristīne Freiberga. The director of the programme regularly gets acquainted with the results of student and graduate surveys, written evaluations of study courses at the end of each semester, also meets individually and in groups with students several times a semester, collecting feedback on the content of the studies, the work of lecturers, successes and problematic issues, also further this information is passed on to the lecturers of the programme, if necessary, inviting them to make improvements to the study process. Interlinking of study courses and provision of content that is more appropriate and relevant to students' interests is the basis for regular clarifications of the programme content.

In order to promote mutual awareness and cooperation between teaching staff and the interconnection of study courses, the following mechanisms have been implemented in the management of the "Cultural and Arts Management" programme:

1. Since teaching staff of all five LAC departments and also guest lecturers not affiliated with LAC are involved in the teaching of the study courses of the programme, gathering them together would not be relevant due to both time resources and the content of the different study courses, therefore the programme director does not organize specific meetings for all programme lecturers, but emphasizes individual communication with the teaching staff of the programme or the transfer of common information in a single correspondence in e-mail communication.
2. At the end of each semester and before the beginning of a new semester, the programme leader has individual conversations with the lecturers of the specific study courses to discuss the results of the previous semester, the study process and problems, feedback from the students, problem questions and necessary changes in the study courses. The topics of the next semester, their implementation methods, class times, etc. are agreed upon.
3. Six of the study courses included in the content of the programme are implemented with the cooperation of several lecturers. Therefore, they must coordinate the topics, requirements and criteria of the study course, agree on the final assessment.
4. Since the core of the programme's lecturers is made up of lecturers elected by the Department of Sociology and Management of Culture, a large part of the conceptual issues relevant to the programme are discussed at the Department of Sociology and Management of Culture meetings, which take place at least once every two months.
5. Descriptions of study courses are approved at the meetings of the Department of Sociology and Management of Culture, when the other colleagues of the department have also familiarized themselves with them. Thus, lecturers are informed about the content of other lecturers' study courses, there is an opportunity to discuss it, as well as to change and adapt it if necessary.

When updating the content of the study courses, the teaching staff coordinate it with each other and with the programme director to ensure that the content does not overlap and to keep the logical connection of the courses. Study courses are also being improved based on feedback from students and teaching staff.

The ratio of the number of students and teaching staff within the study programme at the time of submitting the self-evaluation report is 26 lecturers to 25 students. It should be noted that a large

part of the number of lecturers in the programme teaches only one study course or even only individual topics in study courses/part of a study course (1 to 6 lectures). In general, this gives the impression of a disproportionately large involvement of teaching staff for the number of students, however, it is essential to ensure the content and quality of the study programme, so that when learning a specific subject, even if it is only a few lessons, students meet in the auditorium the most relevant professional of the highest kind. Respectively, regardless of the number of students in future years, the number and composition of the programme's lecturers will remain within the limits of 24 - 27 lecturers, as the content of the programme requires it.

Annexes

III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme		
Sample of the diploma and its supplement to be issued for completing the study programme	3.1.2._diploms_mKMP.zip	3.1.2._diploms_mKMP.zip
For academic study programmes - Opinion of the Council of Higher Education in accordance with Section 55, Paragraph two of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)		
Compliance of the joint study programme with the provisions of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (table) (if applicable)		
Statistics on the students in the reporting period	3.1.4._Annex.zip	3.1.4._pielikums.zip
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof		
Compliance with the study programme with the State Education Standard	3.2.1.-1_State Standard KMP.docx	3.2.1.-1_Atbilstība valsts standartam KMP.docx
Compliance of the qualification to be acquired upon completion of the study programme with the professional standard or the requirements for professional qualification (if applicable)		
Compliance of the study programme with the specific regulatory framework applicable to the relevant field (if applicable)		
Mapping of the study courses/ modules for the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study programme	3.2.1._Study course mapping_KMP.xlsx	3.2.1._Kursu kartēšana_KMP.xlsx
The curriculum of the study programme (for each type and form of the implementation of the study programme)	3.2.1.-3_Curriculum_KMP.xlsx	3.2.1.-3_Studiju programmu plāns_KMP.xlsx
Descriptions of the study courses/ modules	3.2.1.-4_Course descriptions CAM.zip	3.2.1.-4_Kursa apraksti KMP.zip
Description of the organisation of the internship of the students (if applicable)	Statute on Internship of the LAC.pdf	Prakses nolikums.pdf
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.4. Teaching Staff		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the doctoral study programme includes not less than five doctors, of which at least three are experts approved by the Latvian Council of Science in the branch or sub-branch of science in which the study programme intends to award a scientific degree (if applicable)		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the academic study programme complies with the requirements specified in Section 55, Paragraph one, Clause 3 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)	CONFIRMATION_mKMP.pdf	mKMP.zip

Contemporary Dance (43212)

Study field	Arts
ProcedureStudyProgram.Name	Contemporary Dance
Education classification code	43212
Type of the study programme	Academic bachelor study programme
Name of the study programme director	Olga
Surname of the study programme director	Žitluhina
E-mail of the study programme director	zitluhina@gmail.com
Title of the study programme director	Mg. art.
Phone of the study programme director	
Goal of the study programme	<i>The aim of the study programme is to prepare theoretically and practically educated bachelor's of arts who are able to think and work independently and creatively - contemporary dance art specialists (choreographers, dancers, researchers) who would be competitive in the professional field of dance art and its academic research environment in Latvia and abroad, as well as motivated for professional development, further education, creative and scientific research activities.</i>
Tasks of the study programme	<p><i>Tasks for achieving the goals of the academic bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Dance":</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>- to provide academic education in arts in accordance with the "Regulations on the State Academic Education Standard" of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia;</i> <i>- to provide in-depth and specific knowledge, skills and competences in various fields of contemporary dance art;</i> <i>- to develop students' creativity potential, promoting the creation of innovative works of artistic creativity and ensuring their availability to society;</i> <i>- develop students' skills in evaluating and communicating contemporary dance art processes;</i> <i>- teach to cooperate in a creative team, as well as to work with different groups of society, creating an inclusive environment of artistic creativity;</i> <i>- to ensure the participation of highly qualified academic staff in the implementation of the programme, by purposefully cooperating with Latvian and foreign universities and creative institutions;</i> <i>- cooperate with students' potential employers, ensuring students' understanding of the specifics of the industry's professional environment and promoting graduates' professional employment.</i>

Results of the study programme	<p><i>As a result of completing the study programme, the graduate:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Has acquired basic knowledge of the arts; specialized knowledge of dance and other arts and the ability to critically evaluate this knowledge; understanding of the interaction of contemporary dance art and other arts in a local and global context, being aware of the uniqueness of the Latvian national cultural identity;</i> <i>2. Has acquired professional skills: graduates are able to carry out professional and innovative creative work of choreographer and dancer in a wide variety of fields of contemporary dance art both in Latvia and internationally; are able to engage in research based on the creative process and promote in the field of contemporary dance both in the target groups of specialists and in the widest audience of interested parties;</i> <i>3. Has acquired general skills: graduates are able to formulate and analytically describe information, problems and solutions in the field of humanities and arts; able to work professionally both individually and in a team, make decisions and find creative solutions.</i> <i>4. Knows how to acquire, select, evaluate and store all kinds of information in the field of humanities and arts; are able to create business collaboration and creative projects using online tools.</i> <i>5. Is able to see the potential of creativity in different fields and situations, are able to motivate and encourage different groups of society for an inclusive art experience; work successfully in a team, e.g., in various capacities (choreographer, dancer, movement consultant, etc.) by being included in a dramatic or musical theatre performance and influencing its artistic solutions; able to work with different groups of society.</i> <i>6. Is able to see and critically evaluate the cultural and political context of the field of performing arts and use the strengths and weaknesses of the professional market, e.g., by attracting funding for their creative projects in various Latvian and international competitions; are motivated to show initiative by forming non-governmental creative associations or individual, institutionally unattached creative works.</i> <i>7. Is able to evaluate the impact of their professional and creative activities on the environment and society; are actively involved in the social and creative activities of the Latvian non-governmental cultural sector.</i> <i>8. Understands and are able to use the international perspective of contemporary dance; are actively involved in international cooperation projects, developing intercultural communication in the privileged form of expression of contemporary dance - without linguistic restrictions.</i> <i>9. Is able to realize and evaluate their artistic activity and conceptualize it in an appropriate research discourse; understand the professional ethics of dance; know how to communicate various aspects of contemporary dance in public discussions, topical criticism and theoretical research, thus promoting the understanding and popularity of contemporary dance in society.</i>
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Final examination upon the completion of the study programme	<i>Bachelor's Thesis.</i>
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Study programme forms

Full time studies - 3 years - latvian

Study type and form	<i>Full time studies</i>
Duration in full years	<i>3</i>
Duration in month	<i>0</i>
Language	<i>latvian</i>
Amount (CP)	<i>120</i>
Admission requirements (in English)	<i>Secondary education</i>
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Bachelor of Arts in Contemporary Dance</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	<i>-</i>

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
Latvian Academy of Culture	RĪGA	LUDZAS IELA 24, LATGALES PRIEKŠPILSĒTA, RĪGA, LV-1003

3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme

3.1.1. Description and analysis of changes in the parameters of the study programme made since the issuance of the previous accreditation form of the study field or issuance of the study programme license, if the study programme is not included on the accreditation form of the study field, including changes planned within the evaluation procedure of the study field evaluation procedure.

Since the issue of the programme license on May 15, 2015 (license No. 04066-4), the main parameters of the Latvian Academy of Culture's (hereinafter - LAC) academic bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Dance" (code 43212) - name, form of implementation, language and code - have not been changed.

During the self-evaluation period, the objectives, tasks and results of the study programme have been specified.

A number of changes have been made in the study course planning, based on the analysis of programme's implementation (including taking into account the feedback and recommendations of students, lecturers and programme graduates), with the aim of making the content of the programme more relevant to the specifics of today's work environment and dynamic art development processes, as well as to balance the content between semesters.

1. Part A study course "*Introduction to Arts and Philosophy*"(10 CP) is divided into three separate study courses of Part A: "*Fundamentals of Philosophy*"(4 CP), "*The History of World Literature*" (4 CP), and "*The History of Latvian and World Art*" (4 CP), in order to introduce students to the historical development trends and current theories of the specific field in a more structured and qualitative manner.
2. Part A study course "*Theory, Methodology, Techniques and History of Contemporary Dance*"(13 CP) is divided into two separate study courses - Part A study course "*Methodology and Techniques of Contemporary Dance*"(13 CP) and part B study course "*Theory and History of Contemporary Dance*" (2 CP). Prioritizing the learning of contemporary dance technique and methodology echoes the programme's goal - to prepare contemporary dance choreographers who are able to use the knowledge and competences acquired at the university in their professional activities. At the same time, the sovereign teaching of the theory and history of contemporary dance allows students to be introduced to the current theories of contemporary dance in depth.
3. In the study course of Part B, "*Theories of Epistemology of the Body and Movement, Methodologies and Techniques in the Discourse of Contemporary Dance*" (10 CP), at the suggestion of students, the content planning by semesters has been changed (the parts of the course devoted to aikido and yoga practice have been changed) in order to respect the logical subordination of the topics to be learned.
4. Part B study course "*Fundamentals of Law*" has been replaced by Part B study course "*Employment of a Creative Person and Project Management*"(1 CP), which provides students with an insight into the cultural-political and organizational context of the contemporary dance industry in Latvia, as well as the knowledge, competences and skills to act as self-employed creative persons in the cultural field, with the ability to independently engage in project management and attract funding for their creative activity.
5. At the request of the students and by taking into account the interdisciplinary development

trends of contemporary dance, the offer of elective part C courses of LAC has been supplemented with the study courses "*Speech in Motion*"(2 CP) and "*Drawing and Composition*"(2 CP), which additionally develop the students' competences in the process of innovation.

The overall qualitative growth of the content of the bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Dance" since the previous accreditation has been determined by logical inclusion in the hierarchy of all study levels:

- applicants with increasingly better previous training, obtained at LAC Latvian College of Culture or Riga Ballet School, enter the programme;
- after graduating from the bachelor's programme, it is possible to continue contemporary dance studies in the interdisciplinary LAC master's programme in "*Audiovisual and Performing Art*" and, respectively, after that in the joint JVLMA, LAC and LAA professional doctoral study programme "Arts" sub-programme "*Audiovisual Arts, Theatre and Contemporary Dance*".

3.1.2. Analysis and assessment of the study programme compliance with the study field. Analysis of the interrelation between the code of the study programme, the degree, professional qualification/professional qualification requirements or the degree and professional qualification to be acquired, the aims, objectives, learning outcomes, and the admission requirements. Description of the duration and scope of the implementation of the study programme (including different options of the study programme implementation) and evaluation of its usefulness.

The academic bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Dance" (code 43212) of the LAC fully complies with the overarching goal of the LAC study direction "Arts" - to ensure sustainable, successor, interdisciplinarity-based higher and postgraduate (doctoral studies) education in the field of culture, art and creative sector, to prepare competent professionals of the field of culture and art (theatre, dance and audiovisual arts), to deepen the implemented education, research, and artistic creation process integration into the national and international cultural, artistic and creative ecosystems. The programme code 43212 complies with the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No. 322 "*Regulations on the classification of the Latvian education*", where it is determined that the thematic group of education "Humanities and Arts" includes the thematic area of education "Arts", which includes the group of educational programs "Music and Performing Arts". Upon completion of the programme, "Bachelor of Arts in Contemporary Dance" degree is awarded. Although the current structuring of educational thematic groups does not identify the art of dance as a special art form, it contradicts the structuring of the cultural and creative sectors in Latvia (see <https://www.km.gov.lv/lv/deja> (Latvian only)) and in the global cultural space. The dance industry in general, but contemporary dance in particular, and the professionals employed in it, can be characterized by high specialization of knowledge, skills and competence. Such formulation of the degree provides a clear indication of the content of the study programme and the knowledge, skills and competence of its graduates to both national and international employers, as well as clearly positions the graduates in the cultural and creative sector labour market.

The aim of the study programme "Contemporary Dance" is to prepare theoretically and practically educated bachelor's of arts who are able to think and work independently and creatively - contemporary dance art specialists (choreographers, dancers, researchers) who would be

competitive in the professional field of dance art and its academic research environment in Latvia and abroad, as well as motivated for professional development, further education, creative and scientific research activities.

The strategic aim of the programme is set in accordance with Cabinet of Ministers regulations no. 240 *Regulations on the standard of state academic education* (see <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/266187-noteikumi-par-valsts-akademiskas-izglitiba-standartu> (Latvian only)) to ensure, first of all, that students acquire theoretical knowledge and research skills, achieving the study results determined in the study programme, which correspond to the level 6 knowledge, skills and competence of the European qualification framework determined in the Latvian education classification; secondly, to ensure that graduates of the programme are able to responsibly and safely choose and use information technologies in their professional activities, research and lifelong learning, as well as in the acquisition, creation and sharing of digital content. The content of the study programme is designed to ensure the achievement of scientifically based study results of a wide profile.

Programme tasks:

- to provide academic education in arts in accordance with the "Regulations on the State Academic Education Standard" of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia;
- to provide in-depth and specific knowledge, skills and competences in various fields of contemporary dance art;
- to develop the potential of students' creativity, promoting the creation of innovative works of artistic creativity and ensuring their availability to society;
- develop students' skills in evaluating and communicating contemporary dance art processes;
- teach to cooperate in a creative team, as well as to work with different groups of society, creating an inclusive environment of artistic creativity;
- to ensure the participation of highly qualified academic staff in the implementation of the programme, by purposefully cooperating with Latvian and foreign universities and creative institutions;
- cooperate with students' potential employers, ensuring students' understanding of the specifics of the industry's professional environment and promoting graduates' professional employment.

In order to achieve a high-quality and balanced study process and maintain high quality requirements, an entrance examination "creative competition" is organized in four rounds (dance technique, dance improvisation, dance composition and general negotiations), as a result of which applicants with high motivation and skills in the field of dance are selected. The study programme is implemented in a period of 6 semesters (3 years), in the amount of 120 CP / 180 ECTS.

The experience gained during the implementation of the study programme confirms that, despite the intensive study process, the duration and amount of studies for the implementation of the objectives and tasks of the programme, as well as for the achievement of the planned results, is optimal and ensures the acquisition of the programme results (knowledge, skills and competences):

1) acquired knowledge: basic knowledge of the humanities; specialized knowledge of dance and other arts and the ability to critically evaluate this knowledge; understanding of the interaction of contemporary dance art and other arts in a local and global context, being aware of the uniqueness of the Latvian national cultural identity;

2) acquired skills:

- professional skills: graduates are able to carry out professional and innovative creative work

of choreographer and dancer in a wide variety of fields of contemporary dance art both in Latvia and internationally; are able to engage in research based on the creative process and promote in the field of contemporary dance both in the target groups of specialists and in the widest audience of interested parties;

- general skills: graduates are able to formulate and analytically describe information, problems and solutions in the field of humanities and arts; able to work professionally both individually and in a team, make decisions and find creative solutions.

3) acquired competences:

- graduates know how to acquire, select, evaluate and store all kinds of information in the field of humanities and arts; are able to create business collaboration and creative projects using online tools. For example, during the restrictions of the Covid-19 pandemic, students created contact improvisation performances on the ZOOM platform as the final test of the course *"Improvisation and Contactimprovisation"* (Rubene Z., Dimdiņš Ģ., Miltuze A., Baranova S., Medne D., Jansone-Ratinika N., Ābolīņa L., Bernande M., Ābolīņa A., Demitere M., Lāma G., Oļesika A., Sarva E., Sīlis M., Slišāne A. (2021). *Augstākajā izglītībā studējošo kompetenču novērtējums un to attīstības dinamika studiju periodā. 1. kārtas noslēguma ziņojums. Rīga: LU - Only in Latvian*).
- graduates are able to see the potential of creativity in different fields and situations, are able to motivate and encourage different groups of society for an inclusive art experience; work successfully in a team, e.g., in various capacities (choreographer, dancer, movement consultant, etc.) by being included in a dramatic or musical theatre performance and influencing its artistic solutions; able to work with different groups of society. For example, the association "LAUKKU", in which several graduates of the programme work, actively implements various community-inclusive projects - contemporary dance performances with amateurs of small-town residents of different ages and social groups (the performance *"Un pēkšņi gulbji!"* (2019), the cycle *"Kāda deja der laukiem?"* (2019) etc.). The "IevaKrish" association, together with the graduates and students of the programme, created an inclusive contemporary dance show *"Labra nams"* (2022), suitable for people with visual impairments.
- graduates are able to see and critically evaluate the cultural and political context of the field of performing arts and use the strengths and weaknesses of the professional market, e.g., by attracting funding for their creative projects in various Latvian and international competitions; are motivated to show initiative by forming non-governmental creative associations or individual, institutionally unattached creative works. For example, the graduates self-organized in several non-governmental creative associations: the graduates of 2015 created the association "ĀRĀ", the graduates of 2018 - the association "LDM5", and the graduates of 2021 - the creative association "SIXTH". Most graduates become members of the Choreographers Association, which provides advocacy for their interests and helps them operate in the industry both as independent artists and within institutions.
- graduates are able to evaluate the impact of their professional and creative activities on the environment and society; are actively involved in the social and creative activities of the Latvian non-governmental cultural sector. For example, graduate student Ramona Levane's diploma thesis highlights a specific ecological problem (the negative impact of palm oil on the environment); graduate student Jana Jacuka created a social performance about the problem of violence, and is also the author of the exhibition and virtual museum in the project *"Lietisko pierādījumu muzejs"* (2020), which records the stories of women who have suffered from violence; graduates regularly create performances at the contemporary dance festival *"Vides deja"*.
- graduates understand and are able to use the international perspective of contemporary

dance; are actively involved in international cooperation projects, developing intercultural communication in the privileged form of expression of contemporary dance - without linguistic restrictions. Since 2015, LAC has had a regular cooperation with the French professional education contemporary dance school "COLINE", within the framework of which LAC students go to the city of Istres to stage a performance together with French choreographers. In 2019, the graduates of the programme performed a show together with the Chinese choreographer Cai Rang Ren Qing, several graduates as dancers and choreographers participated in the "Creative Europe" programme project "PEOPLE POWER PARTNERSHIP", which is implemented by 14 cooperation partners from 11 countries. Graduates of the "Contemporary Dance" programme continue their studies and improve abroad (France, Estonia, Italy, Spain, Great Britain, Belgium, etc.), including at the leading European contemporary dance school A.R.T.S.

- graduates are able to realize and evaluate their artistic activity and conceptualize it in an appropriate research discourse; understand the professional ethics of dance; know how to communicate various aspects of contemporary dance in public discussions, topical criticism and theoretical research, thus promoting the understanding and popularity of contemporary dance in society. Graduates actively write reviews of performances, participate in discussions on the portal/v, created by the Latvian Dance Information Center, and in the series of podcasts "Horeofone". Participate in the international show "LiVe" organized by the Latvian Young Theatre Institute, where foreign theatre industry representatives are introduced to Latvian performances; professionally represent the industry in Latvia at Baltic dance platform events.

In the attachment:

Sample of the diploma and its supplement to be issued for completing the study programme (see annex 3.1.2.).

3.1.3. Economic and/ or social substantiation of the study programme, analysis of graduates' employment.

The economic and social justification of the LAC's academic bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Dance" is based on the study of the Latvian performing arts as a whole and specifically on the creative environment and labor market of dance, the analysis of the employment of current graduates and related problems. The lecturers of the programme are well acquainted with the performing arts market in Latvia, carefully follow the development and requirements of this market, by closely cooperating with industry institutions and artists' associations (Choreographers' Association, Riga Ballet School, LAC Latvian College of Culture, Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music, New Theatre Institute of Latvia, Latvian Dance Information Center, associations "Party", "Tuvumi", "LAUKKU", Latvian institutional and non-governmental dramatic theatres, professional dance schools, dance studios and folk dance collectives). The institutional structure of the contemporary dance industry does not always provide permanent employment, so the graduates themselves establish creative associations and successfully enter the labor market as an independent artist (*freelanced*). Therefore, when evaluating the compliance of graduates' employment with the goals and expected results of the programme, the specifics of the employment of dance artists are taken into account - not only the permanent workplace, but also regular involvement in dance art processes in the form of individual creative projects. Therefore, it

is all the more important to maintain high quality requirements during the implementation of the program so that graduates are competitive in the labor market.

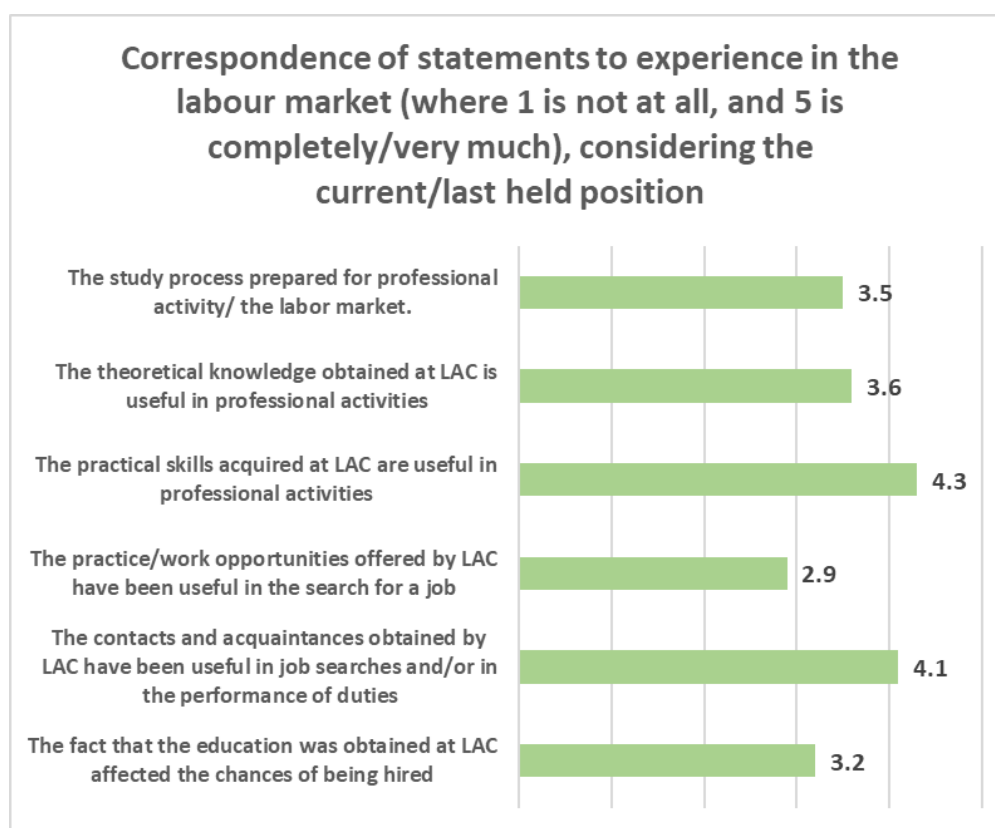
45% of graduates of the "Contemporary Dance" programme are already employed upon graduation, and 36% of graduates become employed within 1-3 months after graduation, which can be considered a positive trend. The majority of graduates work in the industry - 41% of graduates work as choreographers (movement consultants, movement artists, show creators, etc.) and 24% as performers (dancers, performers, actors) in various fields of performing arts (dramatic and musical theatre, music concerts of various genres, in the circus, etc.). 12% of graduates work in the field of cultural education. Graduates of the programme also work in the leisure, entertainment and/or tourism (6%) industry, cultural centres and creative centres (6%) in the capital and regions, as well as in the audiovisual arts industry (cinema, video, etc.) (6%).

Most of the graduates believe that the practical skills acquired at LAC have been useful in the context of professional activity, and the contacts and acquaintances gained during studies have been useful in the search for a job.

The role of the internship offered by LAC in the search for a job is considered the most controversial, which can be explained by the practical orientation of the study programme throughout the study period and the fact that a large number of graduates already work at the time of graduation. See *Image no. 1* for more.

Image no. 1

Correspondence of statements to experience in the labor market (where 1 is not at all, and 5 is completely/ very much), considering the current/ last held position.



3.1.4. Statistical data on the students of the respective study programme, the dynamics of the number of the students, and the factors affecting the changes to the number of the students. The analysis shall be broken down into different study forms, types, and languages.

Admission of new students to LAC's academic bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Dance" takes place once every 3 years, the optimal number of students in the group is up to 20 students. Thus, in each three-year study cycle at LAC, only one course of the programme "Contemporary Dance" studies, and it is possible to ensure a completely student-centered education. Studies take place full-time in person only in Latvian. Since the licensing of the "Contemporary Dance" programme, three admissions have taken place - in 2015, 2018 and 2021.

In 2015, 21 students, contemporary dance artists, so-called "*Fifth Generation*", were admitted to the programme (10 - with state budget funds; 11 - with personal funding). In 2018, 13 students graduated from this course (9 - with state budget funds; 4 - with personal funding). The relatively large number of student dropouts in the specific study cycle is related to the need to cover study fees and therefore combine studies with work, which is mostly impossible due to the specifics of the study process of the programme (intense load of practical classes).

In 2018, 24 students, contemporary dance artists, so-called "*Sixth Generation*", were admitted to the programme (9 - with state budget funds; 14 - with personal funding). In 2021 and 2022, a total of 21 students graduated from this course (10 - with state budget funds; 11 - with personal funding).

In 2021, 16 students, contemporary dance artists, so-called "*Seventh Generation*", were admitted to the program (11 - with state budget funds; 5 - with personal funding).

The restrictions of the *Covid-19* pandemic had a severe impact on students of contemporary dance, as the conduct of practical classes, observing the restrictions on gatherings and remotely, is not compatible with the goals and objectives of the programme. However, under the influence of this restriction, no one dropped out, which indicates high student motivation.

In general, the number of students in the programme can be assessed as stable. Discontinuation of studies is mostly related to individual students' incomplete understanding of the programme's goals, tasks and the large amount of practical work, as well as socioeconomic factors - students who study with personal funds sometimes have difficulty paying the tuition fees.

Additional Appendix 5: statistical data on students in the bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Dance".

3.1.5. Substantiation of the development of the joint study programme and description and evaluation of the choice of partner universities, including information on the development and implementation of the joint study programme (if applicable).

3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof

3.2.1. Analysis of the content of the study programme. Assessment of the interrelation between the information included in the study courses/ modules, the intended learning outcomes, the set aims and other indicators with the aims of the study course/ module and the aims and intended outcomes of the study programme. Assessment of the relevance of the content of the study courses/ modules and compliance with the needs of the relevant industry, labour market and with the trends in science on how and whether the content of the study courses/ modules is updated in line with the development trends of the relevant industry, labour market, and science.

LAC's academic bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Dance" is a full-time study programme created in accordance with the Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers on the standard of state academic education (MK Regulations No. 240, Riga, May 13, 2014, available: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/266187-noteikumi-par-valsts-akademiskas-izglitiba-standartu> (Latvian only)).

The strategic goal of the "Contemporary Dance" programme is to prepare competitive theoretically and practically educated bachelor of arts graduates who are able to think and work independently and creatively - contemporary dance artists (choreographers, dancers, researchers) who are competitive in the creation of dance in Latvia and abroad, as well as are motivated for further professional development in creative and research activities, for continuing studies in master's degree programmes and other types of further education.

The study programme consists of compulsory (A) part, compulsory choice (B) part and elective (C) part study courses.

The amount of the compulsory part (A) is 72 credit points, of which 4 credit points are intended for the development of the coursework in the 4th semester, while 10 credit points are for the bachelor's thesis, in which, according to the [Regulations on creative works of the Latvian Academy of Culture in the academic bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Dance"](#) (Latvian only), the student creates both a creative work and its theoretical basis.

Part A of the programme is structured in three blocks:

1. **Characteristics and problems of arts in an interdisciplinary aspect**, which includes study courses "An Introduction to Culture and Art Studies" (2 CP); "Cultural Semiotics"(3 CP); "Fundamentals of Philosophy" (4 CP);
2. **History of arts and current problems**, which include study courses: "The History of World Literature" (4 CP); "The History of Latvian and World Art" (4 CP); "History of Music and Styles"(2 CP); "The History and Theory of World Theatre"(3 CP).
3. **Guidelines, principles, structure and methodology of arts**, which combine integrated theory, research and practice study courses specific to the stage and contemporary dance: "The Composition and Choreography of Modern Dance"(10 CP), "Methodology and Techniques of Contemporary Dance"(13 CP), "Theory, Methodology, Techniques and History of Classical Dance"(10 CP), "Technique and Methodology of Classical Modern Dance" (3 CP).

The study courses included in part A develop students' academic thinking and writing skills in cultural studies, arts and interdisciplinary approach, as well as provide systematic theoretical knowledge and skills in using concepts. Study courses contribute to the use of acquired professional

skills and theoretical knowledge in the analysis of current cultural and artistic problems, evaluation and analysis of practical and research problems of dance processes, as well as in the transfer of academic knowledge and communication in the cultural and artistic environment.

The compulsory choice (B) part of the programme amounts to 44 credit points, including internship in the amount of 2 credit points. Part B courses provide the necessary theoretical and practical knowledge and skills for in-depth study of contemporary dance specialization (*"Improvisation and Contactimprovisation"*(11 CP), *"Theory, Methodology, Techniques and History of Contemporary Dance"*(2 CP), *"Theories of Epistemology of the Body and Movement, Methodologies and Techniques in the Discourse of Contemporary Dance"*(10 CP), *"Functional Anatomy"*(4 CP), *"Feldenkrais Method"*(4 CP), *"Introduction to Employment of a Creative Person and Project Management"*(1 CP), *"The Psychology of Personality"*(1 CP), *"The History of Latvian literature"*(2 CP), *"The History of Latvian theatre"*(2 CP), *"The Fundamentals of Acting and Directing"*(2 CP), *"English for Specific Purposes"* (2 CP)).

The study courses included in part B develop artistic creative skills in contemporary dance, provide systematic theoretical knowledge, as well as promote the use of theoretical knowledge in the evaluation and analysis of art processes, prepare specialists in accordance with the demand of the labor market in the dance industry and promote the creation of innovative works of art in contemporary dance. Practices implemented in study courses ensure interaction between academic staff and students and promote cooperation in artistic creation and research work.

The elective (C) study courses must be taken by the student in the amount of 4 credit points, acquiring knowledge and skills that complement the specialty.

The task of the study courses included in Part C is to develop students' independent work planning and presentation skills, cooperation and communication skills, entrepreneurship and responsibility skills, as well as to provide mediation that allows students to get involved in industry activities.

The requirements stipulated in the Law on Environmental Protection and the Law on Civil Protection are included, as well as the digital skills specifically required for the culture and art sector are improved in the content of the study course *"Introduction to Employment of a Creative Person and Project Management"*.

Within the framework of the "Contemporary Dance" programme, the international mobility of academic staff and students is promoted, which strengthens the international competitiveness and career growth potential of the graduates. Such residencies usually take place once during the study year. Since 2015, residencies have been held in Georgia, twice in Albania and twice in Spain. Being in the specific country, students are also given the opportunity to work with local instructors and get to know the local choreographers of the contemporary dance community and their specifics. Within the framework of the programme, opportunities for short-term mobility are widely used, inviting foreign choreographers and contemporary dance professionals to give students master classes in various dance techniques.

The planned study results (see the annex 3.2.-2, Mapping of study courses/modules for achieving the study results of the study programme) and the content of the study courses are purposefully coordinated so that the programme ensures the fulfilment of tasks. The content of study courses is regularly updated in accordance not only with the development trends of industries, the labor market and science, but also in accordance with the individual needs of the academic and professional career of the members of the specific student group.

In the attachment:

Compliance of the study programme with the national education standard (see Appendix 3.2.-1)

Mapping of study courses/modules for achieving study results of the study programme (see appendix 3.2.-2)

Study programme plan (see appendix 3.2.-3)

Descriptions of study courses/modules (see appendix 3.2.-4)

3.2.2. In the case of master's and doctoral study programmes, specify and provide the justification as to whether the degrees are awarded in view of the developments and findings in the field of science or artistic creation. In the case of a doctoral study programme, provide a description of the main research roadmaps and the impact of the study programme on research and other education levels (if applicable).

3.2.3. Assessment of the study programme including the study course/ module implementation methods by indicating what the methods are, and how they contribute to the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study courses and the aims of the study programme. In the case of a joint study programme, or in case the study programme is implemented in a foreign language or in the form of distance learning, describe in detail the methods used to deliver such a study programme. Provide an explanation of how the student-centred principles are taken into account in the implementation of the study process.

The pedagogical methods for the implementation of the study courses of the LAC's academic bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Dance", as well as the evaluation methods, are chosen by the teaching staff responsible for the study course, according to the course content and the specifics of the study programme, as well as the needs of the students.

The study methods used in the implementation of the LAC's academic study programme "Contemporary Dance" are:

- **lectures** (mostly theoretically oriented study courses) - students are presented with theoretical questions, supplemented with practical examples, visual material, statistical data; during lectures, lecturers use technical means: computer, multimedia projector, sound equipment. In several study courses, the lectures are oriented towards students' creative participation and research in the process of acquiring knowledge.
- **seminars** - supplementing and deepening of theoretical and practical knowledge, in which works of dance, literature and other branches of art and culture are analysed, theoretical articles, creative tasks are carried out. Seminars strengthen students' independent information analysis skills, promote the process of acquiring knowledge and skills.
- **work in groups** - promotes students' skills to cooperate and work in a group, builds skills in organizing and implementing collective work, strengthens students' ability to argue and justify their individual opinion in the process of making a collective decision. Group work is particularly relevant in the context of dance composition, improvisation and dance techniques. In order to promote the development of communication networks of potential employees of the cultural sector, great attention is paid in the organization of the study

process to the strengthening of cooperation and corporate ties between students of various programmes.

- **independent and individual works** - tasks to be performed independently, independent practicing of dance and other techniques, maintaining and developing individual skills and physical condition, dance composition works, development, research and preparation of dance technique training classes, development of improvisational exercises, structures, writing and self-analysis of self-reflections on the study process, theoretical literature studies and development of topics related to the field of study, presenting reports, creating presentations, practical games.
- **individual lessons** - in order to discover the individual artistic potential of the students, develop and improve creative research activity and physical condition, as well as to develop in depth the practical skills and abilities of the art of dance that each student individually needs, the study process includes individual lessons, where the teacher works with the student individually. Students have the opportunity to receive individual consultations from academic staff also via e-media, *WhatsApp*, *MsTeam*, *Zoom*, etc.
- **practical lessons** - provide the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for learning the art of contemporary dance by improving professional competences. Help to integrate and test theoretical knowledge in the practical activity of artistic and creative research. For better learning of the practical part of study courses, if necessary, students are divided into groups (6-10 students in one group).
- **tests** - regular testing of knowledge to determine the dynamics of the student's personal growth, understanding of the learned topics and management of the necessary terminology; are implemented both with and without the use of additional materials for students; can be implemented in the scope of a lesson / part of a lecture or a full lesson / lecture, practically or theoretically.
- **extracurricular activities** - students attend dances, theatre performances, art exhibitions, concerts, films, etc., write reviews, essays. Assist in the organization of festivals and other dance industry and cultural events, participate in artistic residencies, master classes, performances, master workshops and other creative projects.

Overall, the diverse methods of implementing the study programme are considered appropriate both for the strategic goal of the study programme, the fulfillment of tasks and the achievement of results, and for the achievement of the results of specific study courses. The combination between theoretical lectures and practical seminars, individual and group work ensures that theoretically educated and creatively capable specialists who are competitive in the professional environment and motivated for further development enter the industry's labor market.

The acquisition of theoretical knowledge and historical development processes of the field of arts (mostly Part A study courses) is based on passive learning methods (lectures, seminars), which allow students to acquire interdisciplinary knowledge about the historical development of the cultural and artistic sectors and specialized knowledge in the historical and contemporary processes of dance art.

The principles of student-centered education are the basis of the implementation of the practical study courses of the "Contemporary Dance" study programme, as the programme is based on an individual approach to each student, promoting and developing the individual artistic potential and professional autonomy of each student - the ability to independently and freely make professional decisions about the form of their creative works, content, creative team, aesthetic and quality goals and criteria.

In study courses aimed at cultivating students' individual abilities and skills ("*The Composition and Choreography of Contemporary Dance*"(10 CP), "*Methodology and Techniques of Contemporary*

Dance"(13 CP); *"Improvisation and Contact Improvisation"*(11 CP); *"Theories of Epistemology of the Body and Movement, Methodologies and Techniques in the Discourse of Contemporary Dance"*(10 CP); *"Feldenkrais Method"*(4 CP)), lessons can be organized in small groups or individually. Such study methods directly contribute to the achievement of programme results - the ability to professionally perform innovative creative work as a choreographer and dancer.

Working in groups, seminars and extracurricular activities develop the skills to work in a team, to see the potential of creativity in various fields and situations, as well as to manage and organize the creative process within the framework of predetermined duties and working conditions.

Different forms of tests contribute to students' ability to realize and evaluate their theoretical knowledge and artistic activity. The form of the examination, the method of execution and the evaluation criteria are defined in the description of the specific study course. Assessments in most study courses are formed summarily, by completing several independent tasks during the semester and passing the final exam at the end of the semester.

3.2.4. If the study programme envisages an internship, describe the internship opportunities offered to students, provision and work organization, including whether the higher education institution/ college helps students to find an internship place. If the study programme is implemented in a foreign language, provide information on how internship opportunities are provided in a foreign language, including for foreign students. To provide analysis and evaluation of the connection of the tasks set for students during the internship included in the study programme with the learning outcomes of the study programme (if applicable).

In order to promote the development of students' professional autonomy, draw their attention to targeted promotion of civic, social and cultural participation and prepare them for active representation in society and involvement in the labor market, the compulsory elective part of the LAC's academic bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Dance" includes *"Internship"* in the amount of 2 credit points, which provides the student's participation in a project related to the dance industry, where the student applies his skills and competences as a dancer, choreographer, dance pedagogue.

Internship is an essential tool for the implementation of the programme goal and achievable study results. It provides students with a set of knowledge and competences that contribute to the understanding of the work of a dancer and choreographer in various fields of contemporary dance art; develops the ability to work in a team and see the potential of creativity in different areas and situations, as well as the ability to communicate the field of contemporary dance art to different groups of society.

The purpose of *"Internship"* is to improve the results of study programme implementation and provide LAC's students with opportunities to supplement the knowledge acquired in the study programme and develop professional competences in accordance with the specifics of the development of the culture and art sector, the current conditions of the labor market structure and environment, as well as the needs of employers.

"Internship" is carried out in accordance with the internship regulations of the LAC's academic bachelor's study programme "Contemporary dance art" (available: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_eDPnJtcr2bubqY7NQLVrCddwGGHDtCs/view (Latvian only)), which

regulate the internship organization and reports. Internships are provided by LAC's cooperation (*Annex 2.5.1. Cooperation agreements on the provision of student internships*) or other institutions, state, local government and private organizations, companies, associations, etc., which are individually chosen by the students themselves, on the condition that the chosen internship site and the tasks performed there comply with the programme internship regulations. The internship must be completed by the end of the 5th semester.

Students of the academic bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Dance" most often complete their "*Internship*" within the projects offered by LAC (e.g. at the LAC's student stage and audiovisual arts festival "*Patriarha rudens*", etc.) and in projects organized outside of LAC, in which the leading state and non-state institutions of the Latvian dance industry invite the students to participate in (e.g. Choreographers Association, Riga Ballet School, LAC Latvian College of Culture, Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music, Latvian New Theatre Institute, Latvian Dance Information Center, associations "*Party*", "*Tuvumi*", "*LAUKKU*", Latvian institutional and non-governmental dramatic theatres, etc.).

The compliance of the programme content with the trends and requirements of the industry's labor market is evidenced by the fact that most of the Latvian dance industry institutions that provide internships are places for the implementation of creative projects of students of the "Contemporary Dance" programme already during their studies and often become permanent workplaces for graduates of the programme.

Internship regulations and documents are available for students on the LAC's website (see <https://lka.edu.lv/lv/prakse-un-karjeras-atbalsts/karjeras-konsultacijas/> (Latvian only)). LAC's staff is actively involved and provides various types of support in the organization of practice:

- the internship coordinator provides the opportunity to receive advice on filling out documents, and is also a support person in cases where students have questions about the internship process, credit points and other binding issues;
- internship providers regularly send internship offers to the LAC's internship coordinator, which the internship coordinator sends to students through the LAIS system, as well as publishes them on the LAC's website in the internships section;
- the director of the bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Dance", professor Olga Žitluhina, and other lecturers of the programme, who are actively working professionals in the field, also provide consultations to the students about internship opportunities.

"*Internship*" is a way to improve not only students' professional skills, but also social competence already during the studies, by understanding the generally accepted codes of conduct and norms of behavior in various environments (for example, how to distinguish between personal and professional spheres in work relations), and civic competence, for example the ability to cooperate effectively in the public space with various groups of society.

In the attachment:

Description of the organisation of the internship of the students (see annex 3.2.4.).

3.2.5. Evaluation and description of the promotion opportunities and the promotion process provided to the students of the doctoral study programme (if applicable).

3.2.6. Analysis and assessment of the topics of the final theses of the students, their relevance in the respective field, including the labour market, and the marks of the final theses.

A mandatory part of the study process of the academic bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Dance" is a coursework in creative work in the second year of study and a bachelor's thesis at the end of the programme.

The aim of the coursework is for students to gain experience by getting to know and participating in the creation of creative work and the research process, thus improving artistic and creative skills and understanding. In the coursework, the student participates as a performer and co-author in the creative process of a contemporary dance production created by a professional, invited choreographer, and in the public performance of the final result. The condition that the production of the coursework is made by an invited choreographer, not a lecturer working regularly in the programme, is set with the aim of developing students' creativity, as well as cooperation and communication skills in new conditions.

The final work of the programme (bachelor's work) is the student's independently created and publicly presented creative work - a contemporary dance performance (play, film, performance, etc., length ~ 30 min.), as well as the theoretical justification of this creative work.

In agreement with the programme director, the student can also choose a bachelor's thesis - a theoretical study, the topic of which is related to the art of contemporary dance, in accordance with the *"Regulations of the Academy on Examinations in Academic Bachelor's and Master's Study Programmes at the Latvian Academy of Culture"* (available: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VQO-ky9inAKysD1hmjj7Go-55NFCb97o/view?fbclid=IwAR2GjgHu43hlzyGeUe-fS-OG_cYoTCXURxV9-DRUlsaygmCWxFrvszhU2UI).

The subjects of the bachelor thesis of the students of the academic study programme "Contemporary Dance" are directly dependent on their own academic, artistic and professional, as well as social and civic interests. The theme of each show reflects a current issue for the particular student, addressing both the problematic issues of Latvian society and the internal processes of people and patterns of mutual relations. The bachelor theses of the graduates of the programme show conceptual creative solutions with an emphasis on visual aesthetics or bodily expression, state of being and movement research, as well as physically challenging and emotionally filled works, including in 2018 the students of the programme solved the themes of their bachelor theses with the means of expression of contemporary dance, both looking for new forms of expression and feeling experiences in interdisciplinary experiments: for example, the synthesis of contemporary dance and contemporary circus ("*Faux pas*", choreographer Jana Jacuka, 2018), the transfer of the principles of contemporary dance into folk dance (the dance performance "*Garais dancis*", choreographer Laura Kuške), visual kinesthetic exhibition combining photography, video, music, scenography and live performance ("*Lei* Putrija", choreographer Kitija Geidāne, 2021), physically challenging existence in the construction of scenography (dance show-performance "*Y*", choreographer Laura Gorodko, 2018) etc.

The bachelor's works of several young contemporary dance artists were created thinking about building a more inclusive society and call for solidarity and empathy, invite to think about mental health problems (Alise Madara Bokaldere's diploma thesis - dance show "*Manu acu tulkojums*", 2018) and the perception of sexual identity issues in society (Vladimirs Goršantovs' diploma thesis - dance performance "*Mans skābais krējums*", 2021; Ģirts Dubults' diploma thesis - dance

performance "*Draudzene*", 2021), critically examines ecological issues (Ramona Levane's diploma thesis - dance performance "*Elaeis Guineensis*", 2021; Milena Paviļča's diploma thesis "*Plastmasas sapnis*", 2021) and various social constructs (courtesy - Edvards Kurmiņš's dance performance "*Visi zina, kā labāk, izņemot mani*", 2021; family relations - Emanuela Zvaigznīte's diploma thesis "*Aizkur*", 2021; masculinity - Ksenija Simanova's diploma thesis "*Atkala*", 2018; human as a social being - Patrīcija Mūrniece's diploma thesis "*Es viens nespēju eksistēt*", 2021) traditional understanding, as well as the problem of intergenerational relations (Alina Mihailova's dance performance "*Viens*", 2018). The selection of topics for the programme's 2021 graduates' final theses was also significantly influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic, encouraging them to focus on personally experienced feelings, e.g., Emīlija Berga's diploma thesis "*Es vairs neesmu tas, kas biju, bet vēl neesmu tas, kas būšu*".

The relevance and importance of the final creative works of the academic bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Dance" in the context of the industry is confirmed by their repeated performances in many places in Latvia, as well as in international dance forums, such as the international contemporary dance festival "*Laiks dejot*", the international show "*Baltijas Dejas platforma*", the LAC's performing arts festival "*Patriarha rudens*", as well as at international festivals in Europe and Japan ("*Faux pas*", chor. J. Jacuka, at the "*Subcase*" festival in Sweden and "*Yokohama Dance Collection*" in Japan, 2019; "*Horizontā*", chor. G. Rēdere, at the "*Spider*" festival in Slovenia, 2022). Some performances are included in the programme of the video project "*Laikmetīgās dejas dzīvais arhīvs*".

Six final works of the students of the "Contemporary Dance" programme have been nominated for Latvia's highest award in the art of professional dance "*Dejas Balva*" in the 2019-2020 and 2021-2022 cycle, which proves the very high creative potential of the graduates of the programme.

The evaluation of the bachelor thesis is agreed upon by the bachelor thesis examination commission, which evaluates the bachelor thesis in accordance with the criteria defined in the Regulation on creative works in the academic bachelor's study programme of the Latvian Academy of Culture "Contemporary Dance": artistic, theoretical, creative and technical level of the work; correspondence of the work content to the chosen topic and performance of the work task; use of information sources and literature; language culture; work design; the ability to defend the concept of the work and the necessity of the chosen artistic techniques.

The average rating of the 34 bachelor theses defended during the accreditation period is 8.32 points in a 10-point system. 6 final works or 18% were evaluated with 10 points (with distinction), 7 works or 21% - with 9 points (excellent), 16 works or 47% - with 8 points (very good), 2 works or 6% - with 7 points (good) and 3 works or 9% with 6 points (almost good). Not a single graduate of the programme received a rating lower than 6 points, but the absolute majority of graduates, or 86%, received ratings from 8 to 10 points. This confirms that the programme is graduated by highly motivated students who mostly achieve excellent results in their final theses.

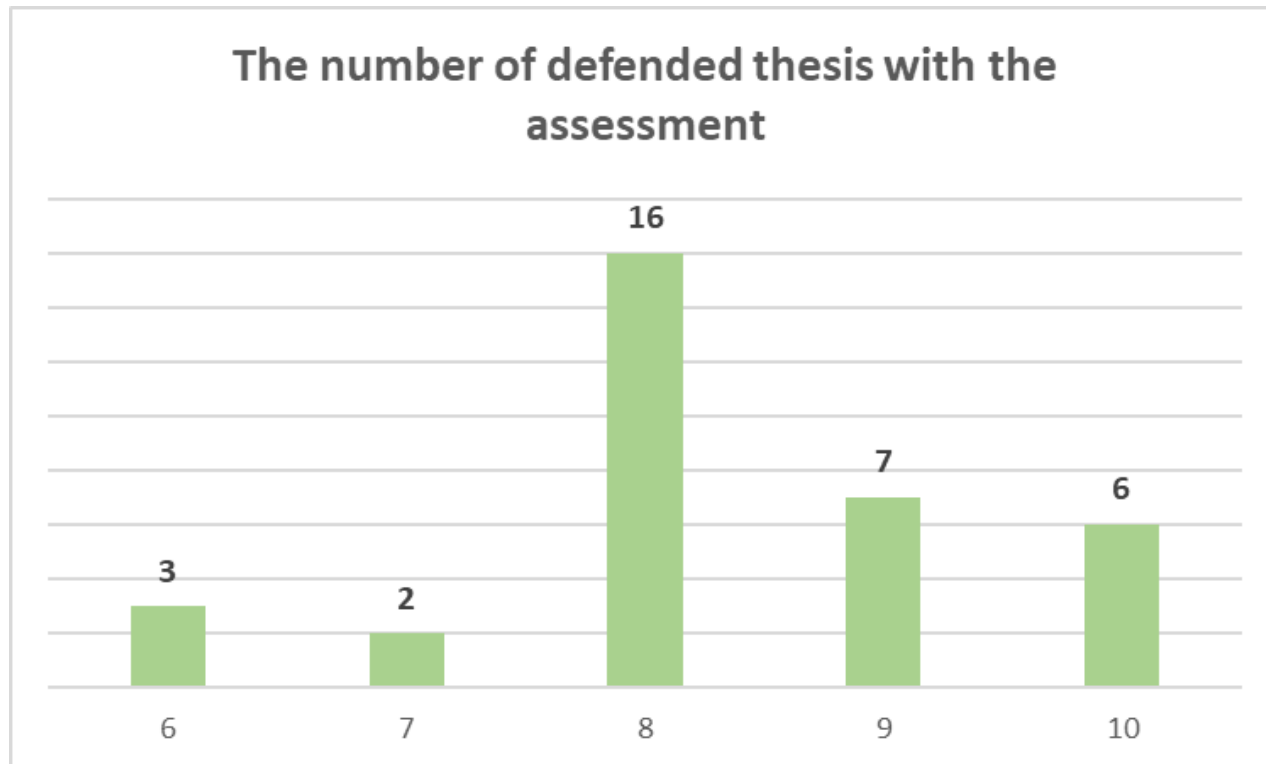
Table no. 1. The number and percentage of defended thesis with the assessment

Mark	Number of works	Percentage
6	3	9%
7	2	6%
8	16	47%

9	7	21%
10	6	18%

34

Image no. 2. The number of defended thesis with the assessment



3.3. Resources and Provision of the Study Programme

3.3.1. Assessment of the compliance of the resources and provision (study provision, scientific support (if applicable), informative provision (including libraries), material and technical provision, and financial provision) with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the learning outcomes to be achieved by providing the respective examples.

Information about the material and technical base is available in Part II, Chapter 3 of the self-assessment report, 2.3.2. subsection, but this section describes in more detail the resources available for the implementation of the programme "Contemporary Dance" (code 45212).

The study process for the LAC's students of the programme is basically organized in two LAC buildings - in Riga, Ludzas street 24, and in Riga, Dzirnavu street 46 (in the "Zirgu pasts" theatre house).

Often, the study process takes place and performance-creative works are also created or shown at the LAC Eduards Smiļģis Theater Museum, Riga, Eduarda Smiļģa Street 37, where the Felicita

Ertner's Hall is most often used, as well as at the National Film School of LAC, Riga, Elijas Street 17, where programme's "Contemporary Dance" students use the rooms of the Great Pavilion. The specific rooms of the Eduards Smilģis Theater Museum and the National Film School are not primarily designed for dance rehearsals and the showing of new works, however, their area is adequate and in cases of high occupancy of the rooms, they are adapted and used accordingly. Adaptation usually provides for the laying of a suitable dance floor in the room and the construction of podiums for spectators.

In the LAC's building in Riga, Ludzas Street 24, technically equipped auditoriums with an area of 557 m² and a Library reading room with an area of 35 m² are available for studying theoretical subjects and research, while a rehearsal hall with an area of 209 m² is used for practical dance lessons. In the LAC's Theatre house "*Zirgu pasts*" on Dzirnava street 46, there are available auditorium and practical lesson rooms with an area of 431 m², including two rehearsal halls and a 107 m² modern black box-type multifunctional hall fully equipped with sound, light and video equipment. Working in this hall, students have access to the consultations and services of the technical specialist and lighting specialist of the "*Zirgu pasts*" building of the Department of Performing Arts of LAC.

For the purposes of showing bachelor's creative works, LAC has cooperated with non-governmental theatres - "*Gertrude Street Theatre*" and "*Dirty Deal Teatro*", having previously concluded a mutually beneficial agreement.

The location of the classrooms of the academic bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Dance" in different places determines the need for mobile technical equipment (digital pianos, lighting systems, video projectors, dance floors, etc.). For the provision and renewal of this equipment, additional funding is regularly attracted. For example, in the State Culture Capital Fund's (SCCF) target programme "*Improving the material and technical base of music and dance art educational institutions*" a financial support was found for the purchase of a mobile and universal dance floor (in 2017 and 2022), a video projector (in 2018), floor covering sheets 10 m x 10 m (2019), yoga mats (in 2020).

The current infrastructural resource for the "Contemporary Dance" programme can generally be assessed as partially adequate. The main infrastructure problems are related to the high occupancy of studio spaces. In the intensive study process of bachelor's studies, both in contemporary dance and in the sub-programmes of the academic bachelor's study programme "Arts" "*Stage Acting*" and "*Theatre Directing*", great emphasis is placed on the independent rehearsal and training process of creative works, as well as their public performance, and for this the capacity of the rooms for this purpose in the LAC's Theatre House "*Zirgu pasts*" is insufficient. However, the LAC's Theatre House "*Zirgu pasts*" has additional rooms suitable for students of contemporary dance, which are needed before and after the practical lessons, - appropriate dressing rooms, showers and a sauna designed for muscle relaxation after increased physical exertion, while there are no appropriate dressing rooms at Ludzas Street 24.

The space issue will be solved in perspective, when LAC moves to a new building in the former Tobacco Factory complex, Riga, Miera Street 58a, where special halls for dance classes and public performances are being designed. Until then, it is necessary to supplement and strengthen the technical base in the existing premises, taking into account that the LAC's Theatre House "*Zirgu pasts*" and the LAC's Eduards Smilģis Theatre Museum will continue to operate even when the study process of the LAC will be carried out mainly in the Tobacco Factory complex.

The mentioned resources allow the students to independently direct their study process - the preparation and performance of new works of contemporary dance art. Several classrooms with mobile technical equipment, as well as cooperation with other professional performing arts

organizations in the use of facilities, develop students' ability to work both individually and in a team, make decisions and find creative solutions. The possibilities of sound, light and video equipment of LKA Theater house "Zirgu pasts" and the appropriate specialists contribute to the artistic quality of new works created by students of contemporary dance art and the achievement of the main goal of the programme - the preparation of professional and competitive specialists in contemporary dance art.

The sources and databases available in the LAC Library, as well as the materials published in the e-study environment, allow in-depth acquaintance with the theoretical sources and researches of the field, allowing students to supplement and strengthen the knowledge acquired in study courses, as well as to conduct independent research activities.

A problematic aspect is also insufficient funding for the creation of final creative works. LAC tries to attract project funding in SCCF tenders, etc., as far as possible, but this is always associated with the risk of not receiving funding or receiving it in an insufficient amount. Requesting additional funding for this position from the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia has unfortunately not resulted in a long-term solution. However, by combining the resources of LAC with the funding, it has been possible to create high-quality student final works.

3.3.2. Assessment of the study provision and scientific base support, including the resources provided within the framework of cooperation with other science institutes and higher education institutions (applicable to doctoral study programmes) (if applicable).

3.3.3. Indicate data on the available funding for the corresponding study programme, its funding sources and their use for the development of the study programme. Provide information on the costs per one student within this study programme, indicating the items included in the cost calculation and the percentage distribution of funding between the specified items. The minimum number of students in the study programme in order to ensure the profitability of the study programme (indicating separately the information on each language, type and form of the study programme implementation).

The costs of the programme are calculated in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers' Regulations of December 12, 2006 No. 994 "The order in which universities and colleges are financed from the state budget". The current base fee for a study place is EUR 1,630.11. According to the mentioned regulation no. 994 Point 13 study cost coefficient for master's study programs is 1.5. According to Clause 27 of Appendix 1 of the Regulations, funding for the Academy for one bachelor's study place in the thematic field of education "Music, choreography", the coefficient of the thematic field is 3.9. The estimated amount of the state grant in 2022 is 5,737 EUR, for one budget place. Performance funding per 1 student in the programme is EUR 239 and tuition fees are on average EUR 1,769, taking into account that tuition fees are revised every year.

The funding of the study programme in 2022 was 67,794 EUR, it was formed from the budget grant, performance funding and tuition fees. When making cost calculations, all expenditure items necessary for the programme are included, the programme calculation is 72% compensation for ECC 1000, 3% ECC goods and services 2000 and 25% other ECC. A cost calculation is carried out

every year, after which the number of guest lecturers and the amount diverted for the development of study programmes are determined, which is a part of the own revenues, in the amount of 25% in 2022, which amounts to 1,769 EUR. The programme is basically created on the basis of funding from the state budget, and the own revenues are directed to the maximum extent for the development of the programme and covering unexpected expenses. A lot of attention is devoted to the optimization of study programme implementation expenses, for example, by organizing stream lectures in professor-taught courses and providing remote lectures.

The minimum number of students in the study programme to ensure the profitability of the study programme is set at 10 budget places (see Annex No 3.1.4._5. "Statistical data on students LDM BA 2015 2022").

The minimum number of students in the study programme, in order to ensure the profitability of the study programme, is determined at each admission year by looking at the needs of the programme in the current period (see Annex for section 3.1.4., Statistics on the students in the reporting period).

The programme is full-time attendance and is conducted in Latvian.

3.4. Teaching Staff

3.4.1. Assessment of the compliance of the qualification of the teaching staff members (academic staff members, visiting professors, visiting associate professors, visiting docents, visiting lecturers, and visiting assistants) involved in the implementation of the study programme with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the provisions set out in the respective regulatory enactments. Provide information on how the qualification of the teaching staff members contributes to the achievement of the learning outcomes.

The specificity of the academic bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Dance" determines that both academic lecturers and industry specialists with great practical experience and authority are attracted to its implementation.

In accordance with the laws of Latvia and the regulatory documents of LAC, an open competition is announced for the positions of academic staff, the staff is elected and re-elected for a period of 6 years. The evaluation and election of candidates for the positions of professors and associate professors is carried out by the LAC Professors' Council and it takes place in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers' Regulations adopted in 2021 No. 129 *"The procedure for evaluating the scientific and pedagogical qualifications or artistic creative work results of an applicant for the position of professor or associate professor and an existing professor or associate professor"*. The evaluation of candidates for the positions of docents, lecturers and assistants takes place at the meeting of the LAC's Senate. When evaluating candidates for positions in study programmes related to artistic creation, including the bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Dance", special attention is paid to the candidates' creative work experience, their contribution to Latvian artistic culture and international achievements. In open lectures or practical classes organized before the elections, the applicants' ability to convey their knowledge and skills to the student audience is tested and analysed. Therefore, the qualifications of the lecturers of the "Contemporary

Dance" programme meet the conditions of the implementation of the study programme and the requirements of regulatory acts.

Currently, 17 lecturers elected to the academic positions of LAC are involved in the implementation of the program, of which 11 are professors and 2 associate professors elected to the basic work of LAC. Therefore, the program complies with the requirements set out in Clause 3 of the first part of Article 55 of the Law of Universities, that no less than five professors and associate professors elected at the relevant university participate in the implementation of the compulsory part and the limited optional part of the academic study programs. Of the 17 lecturers, 9 have a doctor's degree.

In accordance with the requirements of Article 3.², Part 3, Clause 2 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions, the specifics of the content of study programmes of LAC as an arts and culture university provide for important (as mentioned – 20% of all elected academic personnel) creative persons (theatre and film directors, actors, choreographers, etc.) inclusion of the number of academic staff. The academic bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Dance" fully meets this criterion, as 37% of the academic staff of the programme elected to academic positions at LAC are nationally and internationally recognized artists - contemporary dance choreographers and dancers Olga Žitluhina, Ramona Galkina and Ilze Zīriņa, former classical ballet master soloist and classical dance historian Gunta Bāliņa, theatre directors Māra Ķimele and Elmārs Senkovs. Programme manager, professor Olga Žitluhina, received the industry's highest award - the "Dance Award" for her contribution to the art of dance (for artistic, pedagogical and organizational activities in Latvia and internationally, 2017-2018) and was recognized as the best contemporary dance dancer (2019-2020).

The lecturers of the programme are also actively involved in research activities. Prof. Zane Kreicberga, Prof. Rūta Muktupāvela and Prof. Zane Šiliņa work in various positions at the Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies of the LAC. All these lecturers together with Prof. Valda Čakare were involved in the research projects (2020-2022) of the state research programme "*CARD Cultural Capital as a Resource for Sustainable Development of Latvia (VPP-KM-LKRVA-2020/1-0003)*", the implementation of which and the achieved results have received excellent evaluation from international experts. Both the aforementioned and other lecturers regularly participate in scientific conferences, develop and publish scientific publications, including articles in peer-reviewed collections of scientific articles included in *Scopus*, *Web of Science*, *IPSA*, *EBSCO*, *CEEOL* databases.

In the implementation of some study courses, the same guest lecturers are engaged for a long time, who, being high-level professionals in a specific field, provide expanded and at the same time specific knowledge needed by contemporary dance artists. Dr. Paed. Dace Medne, being a practicing psychologist and teacher, teaches the course "*The Psychology of Personality*", doctor Dr. Med. Silvija Umbraško - "*Functional Anatomy*" course, composer, music historian Ph.D. Andris Vecumnieks - the course "*The History and Styles of World Music*". Dr. Art. and Mg. Iur. Sandis Voldiņš teaches part of the study course "*Introduction to Employment of Creative Person and Project Management*", because he is currently a member of the board of the Latvian National Opera and Ballet, but previously worked as a state secretary in the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia, and is one of the best specialists in the field of employment of creative persons. Mārtiņš Veide, Doctor of Psychological Sciences, is a qualified master of martial arts aikido and iaido, and therefore leads part of the lessons in the course "*Theories of Epistemology of the Body and Movement*", "*Methodologies and Techniques in the Discourse of Contemporary Dance*".

Lecturers elected to academic positions:

Table no. 2

List of number of lecturers elected to academic positions

No.	ACADEMIC POSITION	NUMBER OF ELECTED PERSONS
1	Professors	11
2	Associate Professors	2
3	Assistant Professors	2
4	Lectors	1
5	Researchers	1
	Total	17
	Of those with a doctorate degree	9

Guest assistant professors:

Table no. 3

List of guest assistant professors

No.	ACADEMIC POSITION	NUMBER OF PERSONS
1	Guest Professors	3
2	Associate Guest Professors	0
3	Guest Assistant Professors	1
4	Guest Lecturers	1
	Total	5
	Of those with a doctorate degree	4

The qualifications of all the mentioned teaching staff directly influence and help to achieve the study results, because their active involvement and high-quality activity in the current creative processes of contemporary dance and theatre art and in research provide the students with the necessary knowledge, competences and skills, taking into account both the historical development processes of the fields and the latest discoveries and achievements.

3.4.2. Analysis and assessment of the changes to the composition of the teaching staff over the reporting period and their impact on the study quality.

In the LAC's academic bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Dance" during the reporting period, there have been minimal changes in teaching staff compared to the composition of lecturers announced in the programme's licensing documents. Mainly, it is related to raising the qualifications of the academic staff and qualitative development of the study programme.

The composition of the teaching staff of the programme in the specialized theoretical and practical study courses is based on the work of the lecturers of the Department of Performing Arts (36%), while the study courses dedicated to the general theory of arts, history and contemporary processes are taught in an interdisciplinary aspect by the teaching staff of the Department of Theory and History of Culture (32%), other lecturers of LAC's departments and researchers of the Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies of the Latvian Academy of Culture (9%), as well as invited guest lecturers (23%).

The development of study quality in a natural interaction with the professional development of teaching staff during the reporting period is mainly evidenced by two facts:

- one of the leading professionals in the industry and contemporary dance basic course lecturer Mg. Art. Ilze Zīriņa from a guest lecturer has turned into an elected lecturer at LAC, creates creative works and teaches in the academic study programme "Contemporary Dance" (course "*Improvisation and Contactimprovisation*"), as well as conducts classes in the course "Contemporary dance" in the sub-programmes of the academic bachelor's study programme "Arts" - "*Stage Acting*" and "*Theatre directing*";
- two lecturers of the "Contemporary Dance" programme, Mg. art. Ramona Galkina and Mg. art. Elmārs Senkovs, have started their studies in Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music, Latvian Academy of Culture and Art Academy of Latvia's Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme "Arts" Sub-programme "*Audiovisual Arts, Theatre and Contemporary Dance*" and plan to obtain a professional doctorate in arts within two to three years.

An important indicator of the quality of studies is the openness to attract foreign lecturers, industry professionals for the implementation of study programmes.

The specificity of the "Contemporary Dance" programme requires learning various dance techniques. Therefore, in order to develop the content of study courses as qualitatively as possible, short-term mobility opportunities are used, attracting contemporary dance professionals and choreographers from foreign higher education institutions and organizations. In the period from 2015 to 2022, 60 lecturers from Great Britain, Croatia, USA, France, Denmark, China, Czech Republic, Russia, the Netherlands, Hungary, Estonia, Cyprus, Austria, Belgium, Sweden, Finland, Argentina, Slovenia, Lithuania, Portugal, Poland, Bosnia and Herzegovina Germany have visited the "Contemporary Dance" programme with master classes in contemporary dance technique, contact improvisation and other contemporary dance methods developed by the choreographers themselves. In short-term mobility, guest lecturers have been attracted using the funding of the international mobility programme "*Erasmus+*", funding of SCCF and Riga City Council's project tenders, as well as LAC's internal funds. Some of the mobility activities have been designed as master classes, which result in the creation of a creative work - a public show.

Thanks to the master classes led by foreign specialists, in which the nuances of the dance technique of various choreographers and dancers are presented and practically tested, the students of the academic bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Dance" develop a more complete idea of the spectrum of the profession and the international potential of creative works increases. In 2022, several such master classes were held, for example a master class in contact improvisation with contemporary dance choreographers from Sweden, Benno Voorham and Sybrig Dokter (22-29.04.2022, 12 students participate), and a dance film workshop with Tomáš Hubáček from the Czech Republic (2-6.10.2022, 12 students participate).

3.4.3. Information on the number of the scientific publications of the academic staff members, involved in the implementation of doctoral study programme, as published

during the reporting period by listing the most significant publications published in Scopus or WoS CC indexed journals. As for the social sciences, humanitarian sciences, and the science of art, the scientific publications published in ERIH+ indexed journals or peer-reviewed monographs may be additionally specified. Information on the teaching staff included in the database of experts of the Latvian Council of Science in the relevant field of science (total number, name of the lecturer, field of science in which the teaching staff has the status of an expert and expiration date of the Latvian Council of Science expert) (if applicable).

3.4.4. Information on the participation of the academic staff, involved in the implementation of the doctoral study programme, in scientific projects as project managers or prime contractors/ subproject managers/ leading researchers by specifying the name of the relevant project, as well as the source and the amount of the funding. Provide information on the reporting period (if applicable).

3.4.5. Assessment of the cooperation between the teaching staff members by specifying the mechanisms used to promote the cooperation and ensure the interrelation between the study programme and study courses/ modules. Specify also the proportion of the number of the students and the teaching staff within the study programme (at the moment of the submission of the Self-Assessment Report).

Coordination and harmonization of the study process, not only organizationally, but also in terms of content, is primarily carried out by the director of the programme Professor Olga Žitluhina and associate professor of the programme Ramona Galkina. The director of the programme regularly gets acquainted with the results of student and graduate surveys and meets individually and in groups with students several times a semester, listening to opinions on the content of study courses, successes and problematic issues, as well as discussing the evaluations given by students with the programme lecturers, calling for improvements in the study process if necessary. The interlinking of study courses and the provision of more relevant and corresponding content to the interests of students contributes to regular clarifications of the programme content, the attraction of highly qualified guest lecturers and the organization of master classes.

In order to promote mutual awareness and cooperation between teaching staff and the interconnection of study courses, the following mechanisms have been implemented in the management of the bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Dance":

1. since the teaching staff of three LAC departments and also guest lecturers not affiliated with LAC are involved in the teaching of the study courses of the programme, the meeting of which would not be purposeful due to both time resources and the content of the different study courses, the programme leader does not organize specific meetings for all programme lecturers, but emphasizes individual communication with the teaching staff of the programme or the transfer of common information in a single correspondence in e-mail communication.

2. the core of the programme's lecturers is made up of lecturers elected by the Department of Performing Arts, a large part of the conceptual issues relevant to the programme are discussed at the meetings of the Department of Performing Arts, which take place at least once every two months.
3. study course descriptions are approved at the meetings of the Department of Performing Arts, when the other colleagues of the department have also familiarized themselves with them. In this way, lecturers are informed about the content of other lecturers' study courses, there is an opportunity to discuss it, as well as to change and adapt it if necessary.
4. when updating the content of the study courses, the teaching staff coordinate with each other and with the head of the programme that the content does not overlap and the logical connection of the courses. Study courses are also being improved based on feedback from students and teaching staff.
5. three of the study courses included in the content of the programme are implemented with the cooperation of several lecturers. Therefore, they must coordinate the topics, requirements and criteria of the study course, agree on the final assessment
6. during the semester and sessions, all lecturers of the programme are invited to watch the creative works in the courses "*The Composition and Choreography of Modern Dance*" and "*Theory, Methodology, Techniques and History of Contemporary Dance*", after which the works are discussed and deliberated together with the students.
7. public shows of creative works of students and graduates of the programme and other publicity events are held in cooperation with the LAC's Creative Activity Centre (CAC). CAC project managers publish information about the student activities of the "Contemporary Dance" programme (performances, projects, awards, etc.) in LAC's internal communication channels, as well as inform the wider public in the media and social communication platform accounts of LAC.

The mutual cooperation and collective action of the teaching staff, both in the university environment and outside it, qualitatively develops the study content and creates a democratic internal microclimate and public image of the industry. Cooperation also stimulates self-analysis and self-evaluation of the professional activity of each lecturer.

The ratio of the number of students and teaching staff within the study programme at the time of submitting the self-evaluation report is 22 lecturers to 12 students. It should be taken into account that a large part of lecturers in the programme read only one one-semester study course (1-2 CP) or a part of a separate study course. Some study courses are implemented together for students of several LAC's programmes and sub-programmes. In general, this gives the impression of a disproportionately large involvement of teaching staff compared to the number of students, however, it is essential to ensure the content and quality of the study programme. Education that is clearly student-centered and stimulates the individual professional autonomy of each student is crucial in order to achieve the main goal of the programme - to prepare theoretically and practically educated, independent and creative thinkers, capable of working, locally and internationally competitive contemporary dance artists. Therefore, the number of students in the programme will not significantly increase in the following years, remaining within the optimal range of 15-20 students, while the number of lecturers in the programme will not decrease and will remain within the range of 20-23 lecturers, as the content of the programme requires.

Annexes

III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme		
Sample of the diploma and its supplement to be issued for completing the study programme	3.1.2._diploms_bLDM.zip	3.1.2._diploms_bLDM.zip
For academic study programmes - Opinion of the Council of Higher Education in accordance with Section 55, Paragraph two of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)		
Compliance of the joint study programme with the provisions of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (table) (if applicable)		
Statistics on the students in the reporting period	3.1.4._Annex 5_statistical data on students LDM BA 2015_2022.pdf	3.1.4._5. pielikums_bLDM studejoso skaits 2015_2022.pdf
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof		
Compliance with the study programme with the State Education Standard	3.2.-1_state standards_LDM.docx	3.2.-1_valsts standarts_LDM.docx
Compliance of the qualification to be acquired upon completion of the study programme with the professional standard or the requirements for professional qualification (if applicable)		
Compliance of the study programme with the specific regulatory framework applicable to the relevant field (if applicable)		
Mapping of the study courses/ modules for the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study programme	3.2.-2_course mapping_Contemp. dance.xlsx	3.2.-2_kursu kartējums_laikm. deja.xlsx
The curriculum of the study programme (for each type and form of the implementation of the study programme)	3.2.-3_Contemporary Dance curriculum.xlsx	3.2.-3_Laikmetigas dejas maksla semestru plans.xlsx
Descriptions of the study courses/ modules	3.2.-4.Course description_LDM.zip	3.2.-4_Kursa apraksti_LDM.zip
Description of the organisation of the internship of the students (if applicable)	3.2.4.Statute on Internship of the LAC.pdf	3.2.4.Prakses nolikums.pdf
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.4. Teaching Staff		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the doctoral study programme includes not less than five doctors, of which at least three are experts approved by the Latvian Council of Science in the branch or sub-branch of science in which the study programme intends to award a scientific degree (if applicable)		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the academic study programme complies with the requirements specified in Section 55, Paragraph one, Clause 3 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)	CONFIRMATION_LDM.pdf	LDM.zip

Arts (51212)

Study field	Arts
ProcedureStudyProgram.Name	Arts
Education classification code	51212
Type of the study programme	Doctoral study programme
Name of the study programme director	Inga
Surname of the study programme director	Pērkone- Redoviča
E-mail of the study programme director	inga.perkone@lka.edu.lv
Title of the study programme director	Dr.art.
Phone of the study programme director	
Goal of the study programme	<i>The aim of the academic doctoral study programme "Arts" of the Latvian Academy of Culture is to prepare experts of international scale in the field of Humanities and Arts. The priority of the study programme is interdisciplinarity methodology-based fundamental research of art phenomena and the processes of the creative sector. The study programme creates prerequisites for the creation of new fields of research, as well as innovative research approaches, which have a significant impact on the field of humanities and arts in Latvia, allowing not only to understand a wide range of cultural and historical phenomena, but also to effectively solve the topical problems of the fields of culture and creative industries.</i>

Tasks of the study programme	<p><i>The tasks of the study programme are:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. to provide students with the opportunity to conduct interdisciplinarity-based scientific research in the field of cultural theory, cultural studies and the creative industries sector in accordance with the international principles of open scientific activity and academic freedom;</i> <i>2. to provide in-depth knowledge of the most current research strategies of the cultural sciences and creative industries sector, which allows to understand, interpret and critically evaluate the connection of cultural and artistic phenomena with wider social, political and economic contexts;</i> <i>3. to develop internationally transferable, modern theoretical approaches based on doctoral level knowledge and research skills in humanities and arts sciences, which can be effectively used in solving the problems of the cultural and creative sector;</i> <i>4. promote the abilities and skills of doctoral students to learn, integrate, synthesize and use theories and methodologies of various disciplines, creating innovative interdisciplinary knowledge in the field of humanities and arts, as well as creative industries;</i> <i>5. promote the ability of doctoral students to reasonably communicate research results to an international academic audience in the format of conference reports and anonymously peer-reviewed scientific publications;</i> <i>6. to ensure the regeneration of academic staff by promoting the involvement of doctoral students in national and international research projects implemented by LAC, in managing and reviewing the scientific works of bachelor's and master's students;</i> <i>7. to develop the digital skills specifically required for the culture and art sector, to provide a favorable study environment for the dissemination of technological and non-technological innovations of the culture and art sectors.</i>
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Results of the study programme	<p><i>The achievable results of the study programme can be categorized in two levels: 1) After completing the doctoral studies; 2) After the defence of doctoral thesis. (EQF level 8)</i></p> <p><i>1) As a result of completing the study programme, the graduate:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>- is able to show that he knows and understands the most current theories in the field of cultural theory, cultural studies and creative industry science, as well as manages the methodology of humanities and social sciences based on interdisciplinarity, modern research methods that are relevant in the research of the phenomena of the culture, art and creative industry sector;</i> <i>- is able to independently evaluate and choose appropriate methods for researching the phenomena of culture, art and creative industry sector, as well as makes a significant contribution to the creation of new fundamental knowledge by implementing original research, the results of which are tested and approved both in the national and international academic environment;</i> <i>- performing fundamental or applied interdisciplinary research within the framework of the research field of culture, art and creative industry, is able to discover, understand, interpret and critically evaluate the connection of the studied phenomena with wider social, political and economic contexts,</i> <i>- respecting the principles of open science and academic freedom, is able to independently advance research ideas, plan, structure and manage national and international level scientific projects, as well as take responsibility for the ethical principles of research activities;</i> <i>- is able to convincingly communicate his/her scientific ideas and the results of studies of the phenomena of culture, art and creative industry sector at both levels, namely to the academic community in the form of discussions, lectures, scientific conference reports and anonymously reviewed publications, as well as to society in general by initiating and engaging in science popularization activities;</i> <i>- is able and aspires to independently raise his/her scientific qualification and purposefully build an academic career by getting involved in the implementation of study programmes, developing and implementing scientific projects and conducting expertise in the field of humanities and arts, and in creative industry science, participating in international academic forums, research networks, professional associations and organizations, organizing conferences, leading and participating in editorial boards of scientific publications.</i> <p><i>The 8th level of qualification of EQF is received after the successful defence of doctoral thesis.</i></p>
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Final examination upon the completion of the study programme	<i>Doctoral examinations.</i>
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Study programme forms

Full time studies - 3 years - latvian

Study type and form	<i>Full time studies</i>
Duration in full years	<i>3</i>
Duration in month	<i>0</i>
Language	<i>latvian</i>
Amount (CP)	<i>120</i>
Admission requirements (in English)	<i>Successfully completed Master's degree or any equivalent diploma that qualifies for applying to doctoral studies according to the Latvian Higher Education Act and has been issued in such fields of studies as Sociology, Humanities, Cultural Studies, Business Management or similar specialization.</i>
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Doctor of Science (Ph.D.) in Humanities and Arts</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	<i>-</i>

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
Latvian Academy of Culture	RĪGA	LUDZAS IELA 24, LATGALES PRIEKŠPILSĒTA, RĪGA, LV-1003

3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme

3.1.1. Description and analysis of changes in the parameters of the study programme made since the issuance of the previous accreditation form of the study field or issuance of the study programme license, if the study programme is not included on the accreditation form of the study field, including changes planned within the evaluation procedure of the study field evaluation procedure.

Since 2013, when the accreditation of the study direction "Arts" last took place and based on the regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers of August 14, 2018 no. 522 *"Amendments to the regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers of December 27, 2005 No. 1001 "Procedure and criteria for the awarding (promotion) of the Doctoral degree"*", as well as on the regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers of August 14, 2018 No. 523 *"Amendments to the regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers of April 16, 2013 No. 202 "The procedure for issuing state-recognized higher education documents"*", the Latvian Academy of Culture has made changes to the accreditation form and its annex for the study direction "Arts", **supplementing the list of degrees** in the doctoral study programme "Arts" (51212) **with the following degrees in Humanities and Arts: "Doctor of Science (Ph.D.) in Music, Visual Arts and Architecture" and "Doctor of Science (Ph.D.) in the Sciences of Creative Industries"**. The decision to make changes was made at the meeting of the Academic Information Centre's study quality commission on May 27, 2020 (decision No. 2020/25-I).

Since 2013, when the accreditation of the study direction "Arts" last took place and in accordance with the set goal and tasks of the study direction "Arts", **the goal, tasks and results** of the academic doctoral study program "Arts" **have also been specified**(see 3.1.2.).

The programme code 43217 (Creative industries) was introduced in the classification of education in Latvia only in 2017, when the classification was supplemented with the aim 1) to ensure that the national statistical data are compliant with the requirements of international comparability, 2) to adapt the educational programme groups to the actual contents of education in Latvia. Thus, the educational programme group "creative industries", which is included in the thematic educational field of "Arts", corresponds to the developing trends in the labor market, in particular highlighting the close connection of the processes of artistic creativity with the wider processes of the creative and cultural ecosystem, such as, the legal forms of existence for the culture and arts organizations, management, commercialization of products of culture and arts, communication in the field of culture and arts at the national and intercultural level, research, cultural policy, etc.

To increase the scope of the programme from 180 ECTS to 198 ECTS. The planned changes are based on the need to provide doctoral students with the opportunity to develop in-depth and international academic discourse-based theoretical knowledge in humanities and arts, as well as to strengthen research competences and capacity.

As part of this evaluation procedure, it is planned to **make changes in the following parameters of the programme:**

1. **to supplement the study programme code 51212 with the code 51217**, which in accordance with the regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers no. 322 *"On the classification of education in Latvia"* corresponds to the thematic group of education "Humanities and Arts", which includes the thematic field of education "Arts" and the thematic group of education "Creative industries" accordingly.

2. **Specify the name of the awarded doctoral degree in humanities and arts.** The awarded doctoral degree is Doctor of Science (PhD) in Humanities and Arts. The need to specify the degree name is justified by the amendments to the Law on Scientific Activity, which came into force on July 29, 2022 (see <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/334347-grozijumi-zinatniskas-darbibas-likuma>). These amendments provide that "(2-1) the name of the Latvian science doctoral degree is Doctor of Science (philosophiae doctor) and its official abbreviation is Doctor of Science (Ph.D.). The official abbreviation of the doctoral degree in science, the corresponding field of science, and the title of the doctoral thesis are indicated on the doctoral diploma." The programme belongs to the educational thematic group "Humanities and Arts," which corresponds to the field of science group Humanities and Arts (see Cabinet Regulations No. 595 "Regulations on the groups, fields, and subfields of Latvian science," available at <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/335928-noteikumi-par-latvijas-zinatnes-nozaru-grupam-zinatnesnozarem-un-apaksnozarem>), which is also included in the degree name. The degree name is also more appropriate in terms of the content and essence of the academic doctoral study programme at the Latvian Academy of Culture, which aims to promote interdisciplinary research on cultural and artistic phenomena, as well as research on cultural theory and creative industries, including performing arts, audiovisual arts, and cultural heritage industries.

3.1.2. Analysis and assessment of the study programme compliance with the study field. Analysis of the interrelation between the code of the study programme, the degree, professional qualification/professional qualification requirements or the degree and professional qualification to be acquired, the aims, objectives, learning outcomes, and the admission requirements. Description of the duration and scope of the implementation of the study programme (including different options of the study programme implementation) and evaluation of its usefulness.

The academic doctoral study programme "Arts" is included in the study direction "Arts" with the code 51212 (to be supplemented with the code 51217). The name and code of the programme both comply with the regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers no. 322 "*Regulations of the classification of education in Latvia*", where it is determined that the thematic group of education "*Humanities and Art*" is included in the thematic field of education "Arts", which also includes the following groups of educational programmes: "*Music and performing arts*" (code 51212) and "*Creative industries*" (51217). The title to be awarded for acquiring the degree Doctor of Science (Ph.D.) in Humanities and Arts corresponds to: 1) the regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers "*Regulations on the scientific branch groups, scientific branches and sub-sectors in Latvia*"; 2) the names of both fields of study and the programme codes.

The **aim** of academic doctoral study programme "Arts" of the Latvian Academy of Culture is to prepare experts of international scale in the field of Humanities and Arts. The priority of the study programme is interdisciplinarity methodology-based fundamental research of art phenomena and the processes of the creative sector. The study programme creates prerequisites for the creation of new fields of research, as well as innovative research approaches, which have a significant impact on the field of humanities and arts in Latvia, allowing not only to understand a wide range of cultural and historical phenomena, but also to effectively solve the topical problems of the fields of

culture and creative industries. The **tasks** of the study programme are:

1. to provide students with the opportunity to conduct interdisciplinarity methodology-based scientific research in the field of cultural theory, cultural studies and creative industries in accordance with the international principles of open scientific activity and academic freedom;
2. to provide in-depth knowledge on the most topical research strategies in the fields of cultural sciences and creative industries, which allows to understand, interpret and critically evaluate the connection of cultural and artistic phenomena with wider social, political and economic contexts;
3. to expand internationally transferable doctoral-level knowledge and research skills, which are based on modern theoretical approaches and can be effectively used in solving problems in the fields of culture and creative industries;
4. to encourage the doctoral students to learn, integrate and synthesize the theories and methodologies of various disciplines, thus creating innovative interdisciplinary knowledge in the fields of humanities, arts and creative industries;
5. to promote the abilities of the doctoral students to communicate their research results to an international academic audience in the form of conference reports and anonymously peer-reviewed scientific publications;
6. to ensure the regeneration of the academic staff, encouraging the involvement of the doctoral students in national and international research projects implemented by Latvian Academy of Culture, as well as in managing and reviewing the research papers of bachelor's and master's students;
7. to develop the digital skills of the doctoral students specifically required in culture and arts, to provide a beneficial study environment for the dissemination of technological and non-technological innovations in the fields of culture and arts.

Thus, the academic doctoral study programme "Arts" fully corresponds to the Latvian Academy of Culture study direction "Arts" and its main goal - to provide sustainable, successive and interdisciplinarity-based higher and post-graduate (doctoral) education in the field of culture, arts and creative industries, to prepare competitive professionals in the field of culture and arts (theatre, dance and audiovisual arts), to increase the integration of the implemented education, research and creative processes in the ecosystem of culture, arts and creative industries both at the national and international level. The programme also meets the common goals of all the other programs under-graduate and graduate programmes included in the study direction, such as, to develop cultural education that is based on research and artistic creativity, to provide high-quality, internationally recognized studies in culture and arts (theatre art, dance art and audiovisual art), as well as in creative industries, thus providing a full cycle of successive studies at the bachelor's and master's levels, as well as academic or professional doctorate study programmes.

The study courses included in the programme confirm its correspondence to the study direction "Arts", which provide in-depth theoretical knowledge in the field of cultural theory, cultural studies and creative industries and encourage the development of interdisciplinary research.

The duration of the program is 3 years (6 semesters). Within the framework of the evaluation procedure of this study direction, it is planned to increase the scope of the programme to 132 CP (198 CP), thus providing doctoral students with the opportunity to acquire in-depth theoretical knowledge, promoting competence in the field of interdisciplinary research, and also allowing students to gain knowledge on their selected specific cultural or artistic phenomenon. The scope and structure of the programme comply with the Higher Education Law and the Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers no. 1001 "Procedure and criteria for the awarding (promotion) of the doctoral scientific degree".

The academic doctoral study programme is purposefully oriented towards the development of a doctoral thesis, however the doctoral studies and obtaining a doctoral degree is a mutually complementary process. At the end of the 3rd semester, doctoral students take a doctoral exam in a foreign language, while at the end of the programme - a doctoral exam in the specific sector and sub-sector of science, within the framework of which the results of the progress of their dissertation development is also evaluated. After completing the studies, the doctoral student is issued a certificate of completion of the programme and passing the doctoral exams in their chosen sector and sub-sector of science, as well as in foreign language. While the 8th EQF qualification level is obtained when the doctoral student has completed the doctoral study programme and defended their doctoral thesis. The duration and scope of the studies are appropriate for the completion of the doctoral study programme, taking into account the right to interrupt and extend the studies if needed as specified in the regulation of the state and the Latvian Academy of Culture, however, practice shows that the completion of the doctoral thesis and the acquisition of the diploma usually require additional time even after the completion of the study programme. Some doctoral students choose to go on a study break after the 4th or 5th study semester, during which they consolidate their knowledge in the chosen field of research, as well as continue the development of their doctoral thesis.

The academic doctoral study programme is implemented in the state language. This choice is existentially crucial for maintaining and developing the Latvian language, and at the doctoral level, it provides an opportunity to develop the Latvian language as a language of science. According to the State Language Policy (<https://likumi.lv/ta/id/325679-par-valsts-valodas-politikas-pamatnostadnem-2021-2027-gadam>) and the Guidelines for Science, Technology Development and Innovation for 2021-2027 (<https://likumi.lv/ta/id/322468-par-zinatnes-tehnologijas-attistibas-un-inovacijas-pamatnostadnem-2021-2027-gadam>), the main goal of the state policy is "to ensure the sustainability of the Latvian language, its use in all areas of society, promoting the study of the language and the development and digitalization of language resources, strengthening public participation and individual responsibility in the implementation of the state language policy (...)." However, the individual research work and individual approach to each student enrolled in the study programme make it possible for foreign students who do not know Latvian or who only know it at a basic level to study the programme. Both Latvian and foreign students are entitled to submit their theses in foreign languages, providing a detailed summary translation in the state language. Moving to a new doctoral model (see below) and establishing the LAC Doctoral School will enable wider cooperation with foreign university doctoral schools, promote mutual student mobility, and increase the volume of study courses that can be learned in foreign languages - opening up opportunities for exporting doctoral-level education.

In the next stage of the accreditation, a transition to a new doctoral model is planned, which stipulates that the studies at the doctoral study programme and the development of the doctoral thesis are a single process which results in obtaining a doctoral degree. The solution contained in the conceptual report "*On the introduction of a new doctoral model in Latvia*" developed by the Ministry of Education and Science ([https://www.izm.gov.lv/lv/media/1474/download?attachment - Only in Latvian](https://www.izm.gov.lv/lv/media/1474/download?attachment-Only+in+Latvian)) proposes a new approach to financing doctoral studies, strengthening a closer connection between the doctoral study programmes and research processes and facilitating the obtaining of a doctorate degree in an optimal time (three to four years). The administrative and academic staff of Latvian Academy of Culture are already preparing for the introduction of the new model, which will include a new process for the promotion and awarding the doctoral degree. Other prerequisites for the implementation of the new doctoral study programme, such as the research capacity of the HEI, the development of a doctoral school, licensing and accreditation of the doctoral study programme, as well as compliance with the Salzburg principles (2005) and

recommendations of the European University Association (2010) are also taken into account. It should be also noted that during the previous accreditation period, changes in the study content and the structure of the doctoral programme were made with the aim to optimize and supplement the contents of the programme, to as well as to promote the improvement of theoretical knowledge and research skills. By implementing the transition to the new doctoral model, the Latvian Academy of Culture is also planning to establish a doctoral school, thereby responding to the development of the research environment and the international market and continuing the development of the programme in accordance with the new regulatory requirements, in order to further promote the growth of doctoral students' research results and the progress towards scientific excellence in the field of humanities and arts.

3.1.3. Economic and/ or social substantiation of the study programme, analysis of graduates' employment.

The compliance of the academic doctoral study programme "Arts" with the needs of society and economic development is justified by the importance of culture and arts, as well as creative industries in strengthening the quality of society's life, sustainability and resilience, in the development of principles of humanistic-based societal values, in overcoming crises, digital transformation, the spread of innovation, as emphasized in development planning documents of the EU and the Republic of Latvia. According to the National Development Plan of Latvia 2021-2027 the training of critically thinking, emotionally intelligent and digitally skilled specialists has been set as one of the priorities in the field of higher education. While according to the medium-term planning document of the Ministry of Culture - Cultural Policy Guidelines 2022-2027 "*Cultural State*" the priority in higher education is to implement a competitive cultural and arts education that is focused on human resource development, the development of professional and academic doctoral study programmes, promotion of artistic creation and research, as well as stimulating the internationalization of education and compliance with the needs of the cultural and creative industries. The Cultural Policy guidelines also emphasize the need to continue to strengthen research in the fields of culture and arts, including implementing interdisciplinary state research programmes on history of culture and art in Latvia, contemporary culture and art, cultural consumption trends, social and economic impact and sustainability of culture and other areas (research issues related to a deeper understanding of the conditions for the development of cultural and creative industries and the accumulation of data for planning the development of the industry are particularly relevant). The purpose and tasks of the study programme are defined in close connection with the needs of society and economy outlined in these development planning documents.

The social and economic impact of the programme is also substantiated by the international evaluation of the research activity at the Latvian Academy of Culture within the framework of the international evaluation of scientific and research institutions of Latvia in the time period 2013-2019 carried out by the Ministry of Education and Science, which is based on five main evaluation criteria: research quality, impact on the industry, economic and social impact, research environment and infrastructure, development potential. The evaluation welcomed the growth of human resources employed in research and the systematic integration of doctoral students and young research fellows, as well as the extensive involvement in national and international projects, both in the field of academic and applied research. Experts have recognized the impact of the research activity by the researchers (including doctoral students and graduates of the programme)

of the Latvian Academy of Culture on the development of related fields of research.

The priority of the academic doctoral study programme "Arts" is interdisciplinarity-based fundamental research of art phenomena and the processes in creative sector, which creates prerequisites for the development of new fields in research, as well as innovative approaches and has a significant impact on the field of humanities and arts. The social and economic impact of the study programme is also justified by the experts of international and national education institutions and representing field of research and culture and arts industries, indicating that interdisciplinarity in all dimensions - economic, education, research, art, etc. – is an essential resource for innovation and development.

Graduates of the programme are purposefully involved in the academic and research work of Latvian Academy of Culture. Since the previous accreditation of the study direction in 2013, 12 graduates of the programme have been elected to academic positions at Latvian Academy of Culture, including the Institute of Culture and Arts. Five graduates of the programme are engaged as guest lecturers on a regular basis in the bachelor's and master's study programmes. Graduates of the programme also work in other higher education institutions (Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music, University of Latvia, Daugavpils University, Rēzekne Academy of Technology, etc.), other research institutes (Institute of Culture and Arts of LAC, Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art of the University of Latvia, Institute of History of Latvia of the University of Latvia, etc.). Applicants for the academic doctoral degree, who have completed the programme, are also working in leading positions in cultural organizations in Latvia (e.g. Latvian National Opera and Ballet, Latvian National Museum of Art). Both the employment of graduates in the mentioned institutions and the results of individual research activities show that the study programme prepares highly-qualified specialists in their field of culture and arts, whose intellectual capacity contributes to the creation of new knowledge and research, thus contributing to the development of society and the economic growth of the country.

3.1.4. Statistical data on the students of the respective study programme, the dynamics of the number of the students, and the factors affecting the changes to the number of the students. The analysis shall be broken down into different study forms, types, and languages.

During the reporting period, the number of students in the programme has been stable. Every year, 4-8 students are enrolled in the programme, including 3-4 students in the study places financed from the state budget and 1-4 students in the study places financed using personal funds. There has been increase in the number of matriculated students in the time period from 2017/2018 to 2021/2022, when 8 students were enrolled in the programme each year. The increase in the number of matriculated students is related both to the increasing interest for the enrolment in the academic doctoral study programme "Arts", as well as to the decision of the Latvian academy of Culture to reduce the tuition fee by 100% for one 1st-year student (2017/2018 study year) or two 1st-year students (2021/2022 study year), which was based on the quality of the submitted doctoral thesis' topics and approved by the Senate of the Latvian Academy of Culture as indicated in the *"Procedure for the application of tuition fee concessions at the Latvian Academy of Culture"*. The small number of budget places in the programme (2013/2014 study year - 3 budget places, from 2014/2015 study year onwards - 4 budget places) was the reason for several applicants, who had submitted high-quality applications, but did not receive one of these 3 or 4 budget places, to make the decision not to start their studies due to financial restraints.

The total number of students in the programme during the reporting period also shows the stability of the programme, although it should be noted that several students used the opportunity to go on a study break, as well as to extend their study break. Students of the doctoral programme usually choose to take a study break after the 4th or 5th semester, and this choice is usually made when it becomes difficult to combine studies, as well as their research work with the workload of their day-to-day work. Part of the students who are on a study break use this time to strengthen their knowledge in the specified field of research, as well as to continue to develop their doctoral thesis. In order to address the issue of the workload of doctoral students and thereby their financial security, the Latvian Academy of Culture offers several mechanisms of support. For example, since 2020, 4 doctoral students were involved in the ESF project "*Development of the academic staff of the Latvian Academy of Culture - investment in the quality of studies*" (No. 8.2.2.0/18/A/018). As part of the project, these doctoral students were involved in the undergraduate and graduate study programmes of the Latvian Academy of Culture as guest lecturers, thus providing stable funding for the promotion of their academic and research capacity for a certain period of time. While, within the ESF project "*Development of academic staff - approbation of doctoral student grants and attraction of foreign academic staff in the Latvian Academy of Culture, Latvian Academy of Arts and Jāzeps Vītols Academy of Music of Latvia*" (No. 8.2.2.0/20/I/002), 3 more doctoral students were involved. Within this project a new model of funding for the doctoral students is being developed, which will make it possible in the future to provide funding for the remuneration of doctoral students for research or study work at Latvian Academy of Culture related to the development of their doctoral thesis.

Although the academic doctoral study programme is purposefully oriented towards the development of a doctoral thesis, the study process and obtaining a doctorate degree is a mutually complementary process, which is also justified by the legislation in force during the period of the self-evaluation report. This explains the fact that the statistics show a very large number of students who are dismissed from the programme at the end of the 6th semester, meaning, they have fulfilled the requirements of the programme, including have passed the doctoral exams, but have not defended their thesis. Some of these students defend their dissertations after a while, obtain a doctoral degree and after the issuance of diploma, are registered as graduates of the programme. In the next stage of accreditation, a transition to a new doctoral model is planned, which would stipulate that the study process of the doctoral study programme and the development of the doctoral thesis, which results in obtaining a doctoral degree, are a single process.

During the reporting period there are 13 students, however, who have dropped-out from the programme for one reason or another - 7 students did not resume their studies after a study break, while the other 6 have stated personal reasons as the motive for leaving the programme, such as, moving abroad, inability to combine studies with work, etc.

From 2013 until January 2023, 17 doctoral degree applicants have defended their doctoral theses at the Latvian Academy of Culture and received their doctorate degrees, of which 14 are graduates of the academic doctoral study programme "*Arts*".

The total number of students in the academic doctoral study programme "*Arts*" has varied from 13 to 24 during the reporting period (including those on study break). Since 2018/2019 the number of doctoral students has increased and this can be explained by the previously mentioned growing interest in the academic doctoral study programme "*Arts*", as well as by the activities carried out by the Latvian Academy of Culture that financially supports the doctoral students.

3.1.5. Substantiation of the development of the joint study programme and description and evaluation of the choice of partner universities, including information on the development and implementation of the joint study programme (if applicable).

3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof

3.2.1. Analysis of the content of the study programme. Assessment of the interrelation between the information included in the study courses/ modules, the intended learning outcomes, the set aims and other indicators with the aims of the study course/ module and the aims and intended outcomes of the study programme. Assessment of the relevance of the content of the study courses/ modules and compliance with the needs of the relevant industry, labour market and with the trends in science on how and whether the content of the study courses/ modules is updated in line with the development trends of the relevant industry, labour market, and science.

The content of the academic doctoral study programme "Arts" is designed in accordance with the regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 1001 *"Procedure and criteria for the awarding (promotion) of a scientific doctoral degree"*, to the LAC regulations *"On studies in the academic doctoral study programme "Arts" and other regulatory documents*. Within the framework of the accreditation procedure for the field of study "Arts", it is planned to increase the amount of the programme from 120 CP to 132 CP.

The structure of the programme consists of parts A, B and C:

Part A, or the compulsory part of the programme, in the amount of 116 CP (174 ECTS), consists of the compulsory research part of the study programme - *"Development of a doctoral thesis and individual research work"* (100 CP), *"Seminar in culture and art research"* (12 CP), as well as doctoral exams - *"Doctoral examination in the discipline and sub-discipline of science"* (2 CP) and *"Doctoral examination in a foreign language"* (2 CP), which are determined as mandatory by the Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 1001 *"On the procedure and criteria for the awarding (promotion) of a scientific doctorate degree"*.

Part B, or part of the compulsory choice (12 CP) consists of specialization study courses in the field of science and sub-fields, the focus of which is on learning the theoretical approaches and methodology of the field of science and sub-fields, as well as the basic principles of planning and creating a logical structure of a doctoral thesis, designs and methods of cultural research, as well as the interdisciplinarity aspects of cultural studies:

- the purpose of the study course *"Cultural research: theoretical approaches and methodological principles"* (2 CP) is to promote and develop students' abilities and skills to identify, choose and apply optimal research strategies based on cultural theory and cultural studies, analysing current aspects of the doctoral thesis being developed.
- in the study course *"Interdisciplinary Aspects of Culture and Arts Studies"* (2 CP) conceptual aspects of interdisciplinarity are analysed, goals and tasks in the field of cultural studies are

identified, contexts of use of interdisciplinarity are outlined, terminology and methodological principles of interdisciplinarity are acquired.

- the purpose of the study course "*Planning and logical structure of the doctoral research*" (2 CP) is to deepen knowledge based on current epistemological approaches about the logic of the development of the doctoral research concept and the logical structure of the doctoral work, to develop skills in structuring a problem appropriate to the scope and degree of depth of the doctoral research, and to choose an appropriate research formulation of questions or hypotheses, developing the competence to plan research according to the research approach to pluralism, diversity, which is foreseen by the tradition of metamodernism in science, especially in the research of cultural and artistic phenomena.
- the study course "*Cultural research designs and methods*" (2 CP) deepens knowledge about the diversity, methodological pluralism and relativism of cultural and artistic research designs, while expanding the competence to choose and practically use such specific research designs and methods in the doctoral research, which allow to arrive at new knowledge and conclusions relevant to the purpose and tasks of the research.
- the study course "*The language of scientific work and scientific discourse*" (2 CP) strengthens the understanding of different trends in the scientific languages of different cultures, so that doctoral students are able to communicate the results of their research in the correct scientific language, incl. observing the culture-specific principles of textual and term creation. Doctoral students are encouraged to identify the field of terminology of the researched field, critically evaluate it and create new concepts corresponding to the scientific language system for the communication of innovative research. The course promotes understanding of science communication appropriate to the target group, academic honesty, as well as analyses means for achieving different goals and target groups.
- the study course "*Research Discourse in English*" (4 CP) is designed to help doctoral students learn scientific discourse in English at the highest level (C2 level according to the Council of Europe scale), as well as to develop the skills to freely and accurately apply their knowledge in order to obtain and provide the necessary information both orally (e.g., at conferences) and in written discourse, which is necessary in their scientific work.

In part B study courses, doctoral students learn the theoretical sources recommended by the teaching staff, as well as work on the completion of the course's final tasks. Part B study courses are purposefully aimed at strengthening students' capacity for research work, as well as preparing them for doctoral examinations.

In part C, or the elective part of the programme, the doctoral student must take study courses in the amount of at least 2 CP.

If the doctoral student has not acquired the knowledge, skills and competence specified in the Law on Civil Defense and Disaster Management and the Law on Environmental Protection in the previous study levels, in addition to the programme, it is mandatory to take the study courses "*Civil Protection*" (1 CP) and "*Environmental Protection*" (1 CP)

The content of the courses included in the study programme is regularly updated in accordance not only with the most current development trends of the science sector and sub-sector, but also with the research interests of doctoral students, as well as the individual needs of the academic career.

Along with the direct study process, students are motivated to participate in both international and Latvian-wide scientific conferences, as well as being involved in academic work, managing student coursework, bachelor's or master's theses, as well as participating in the teaching of bachelor's or master's study courses.

The focus of the programme content on the development and approbation of the doctoral thesis, as

well as in-depth learning of the theories, methodologies and current affairs of the field of humanities and arts, cultural theory, cultural studies and creative industries, is directly related to the purpose of the programme and the achievable results. The content of the programme corresponds to the development trends and priorities of the cultural sector and creative industries, which are included in the cultural policy guidelines for 2022-2027 "*Cultural State*" and which emphasize the need to continue strengthening research in the fields of culture and arts, including implementing interdisciplinary state research programmes and other studies on the arts of Latvia and cultural history, contemporary cultural and artistic processes, cultural consumption trends, social and economic impact and sustainability of culture and other areas (see (Latvian only) <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/330444-kulturpolitikas-pamatnostadnes-2021-2027-gadam-kulturvalsts>). Also, the content of the programme is developed and improved in accordance with the Conceptual Report of the Ministry of Education and Science "*On the introduction of a new doctoral model in Latvia*" (see (Latvian only) <https://www.izm.gov.lv/lv/konceptualais-zinojums-par-jauna-doktoranturas-modela-ieviesanu-latvija>) for the emphasized need to strengthen the closer connection of doctoral studies with research.

3.2.2. In the case of master's and doctoral study programmes, specify and provide the justification as to whether the degrees are awarded in view of the developments and findings in the field of science or artistic creation. In the case of a doctoral study programme, provide a description of the main research roadmaps and the impact of the study programme on research and other education levels (if applicable).

The awarding of the scientific doctorate degree in the academic doctoral study programme "*Arts*" is based on the achievements and findings of the humanities and arts sciences - specifically cultural theory and cultural studies, as well as creative industries. This is ensured and justified by several important aspects of the implementation of the programme: 1) in part A of the programme the included mandatory part of scientific research (including the development of a doctoral thesis, individual research work and seminars in cultural and artistic research) and doctoral exams in accordance with the specifics of the science branch and sub-branch in the amount of 114 CP; 2) specialization study courses included in part B of the programme in the amount of 12 CP, the focus of which centred around the theoretical approaches and methodology of the science branch and sub-branch, the basic principles of planning and creating a logical structure of the doctoral thesis, designs and methods of cultural studies, as well as the interdisciplinarity aspects of cultural studies.

The **strategic specialization** of LAC as a university of art and culture is closely related to interdisciplinarity in the three pillars of its activity - educational programmes, scientific research and creative work. The priority directions of scientific research of LAC have developed in close synergy with the development of study programmes. They are subordinated to the overarching goal of the "*Arts*" study direction - to provide sustainable, successive, interdisciplinarity-based higher and post-graduate (doctoral) education in the field of culture, art and the creative sector; to prepare competitive professionals in the field of culture and art (theatre, dance and audiovisual arts); to closely integrate education, research and creative work in the study process; to effectively integrate into the cultural, artistic and creative ecosystem of national and international scale.

LAC's scientific and applied research topics are aimed at accumulating knowledge not only about creative work, but also about the entire cultural and creative ecosystem, which includes the

management of creative work processes, commercialization, the process of cultural heritage formation, audience formation, etc. Such **interdisciplinary research directions** as cultural studies have been developed as priority research topics: cultural heritage, social and economic impact of culture, formation of cultural policy; cultural and creative industries, intercultural communication, especially focusing on the study of theatre, dance and film art phenomena. The doctoral theses developed by the doctoral students of the LAC's academic doctoral study programme "Arts" and defended by applicants for the scientific doctorate degree (see? Pielikums ar darbu sarakstu? Annex No. x) fully correspond to the priorities of the research topics set by the LAC. The doctoral students and applicants for the scientific degree of the LAC's academic doctoral study programme are systematically involved in the research projects implemented by the LAC, develop scientific publications, report on the results of their research at scientific conferences, are elected to academic positions at Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies of LAC, thus ensuring the direct influence of the study programme on the research work carried out by LAC.

The impact of the academic doctoral study programme "Arts" on other educational levels of the LAC's study direction "Arts" is manifested in three aspects: 1) ensuring the succession of study programmes, 2) promoting the integrity of studies and scientific activities, 3) promoting the renewal of academic staff of bachelor's and master's study programmes.

3.2.3. Assessment of the study programme including the study course/ module implementation methods by indicating what the methods are, and how they contribute to the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study courses and the aims of the study programme. In the case of a joint study programme, or in case the study programme is implemented in a foreign language or in the form of distance learning, describe in detail the methods used to deliver such a study programme. Provide an explanation of how the student-centred principles are taken into account in the implementation of the study process.

The implementation of the LAC's academic doctoral study programme "Arts" is based on **the principles of student-centred education**, that is, at the beginning of each study year, doctoral students' individual work plans for the relevant study year are developed, evaluated and approved by the Science and Arts Council of LAC, different ways of implementing the content of study courses are included in the implementation of study courses, teaching staff work with students in small groups or individually, regularly evaluate and improve the content and implementation methods of study courses, based on the independence of the doctoral student, while at the same time ensuring the guidance and support of the scientific supervisor of the doctoral thesis, as well as other teaching staff of the programme, both in the development of the doctoral thesis and the results of the research work in creating an approval strategy.

The study process in the programme is implemented mainly in the form of **lectures, seminars, individual consultations**, as well as **independent and individual work**. The principles of student-centred education in the programme are especially promoted in **part A** of the study programme, ensuring the individual cooperation of the doctoral student with the thesis supervisor, as well as the proportion of seminars both in the content of individual study courses and in the entire programme as a whole. The doctoral thesis supervisor advises each doctoral student in the development of his doctoral thesis, specifies the tasks given to the doctoral student according to

the research topic, provides recommendations on the topicality of the topic and the development of the theoretical justification of the doctoral thesis, as well as on other issues related to the development of the doctoral thesis and the approval of the research results. Additionally, the form of the seminar promotes the participation of doctoral students in the study process, gives teaching staff, as well as the members of the Science and Arts Council of LAC, which oversees doctoral studies, the opportunity to evaluate the individual knowledge, skills, competence and research interests of each doctoral student, promotes an adequate evaluation of the performance, invested work and work results of the doctoral students. The 6-semester study course "*Seminar in culture and art research*" contributes to the progress of the doctoral student's doctoral thesis development, develops presentation skills, promotes discussions between doctoral students and teaching staff, interdisciplinary cooperation and exchange of opinions, strengthens the ability of doctoral students to see the innovative aspects of their doctoral thesis, and also ensures additional monitoring of the progress of the doctoral student's research work. The study courses of **parts B and C** use the format of both lectures and seminars, in addition, discussions are also organized within the lectures, the lecturers involve the doctoral students in discussing problematic issues, thus promoting the discussion and argumentation skills of the doctoral students.

Both oral, written and combined evaluation methods are used during study courses, mid-term and final exams, thus promoting the active participation, critical thinking, presentation, research structuring and academic writing skills of doctoral students. Students receive feedback from lecturers during the study process. The study course "*Seminar in culture and art research*" ensures the evaluation of students' performance throughout the entire study process.

During the study process, there is active communication between lecturers and students using e-mails and online communication platforms (especially *Zoom*). These forms of communication gained special importance due to the restrictions imposed in the country during the *Covid-19* pandemic, but have not lost their relevance even after the restrictions were lifted. The e-study environment (*MOODLE*) is gaining more and more importance in the process of doctoral studies, although more activity in its use specifically for the provision of doctoral studies would be desirable, so the practice of using this tool for communication between lecturers and doctoral students needs to be further developed.

Study results are evaluated in a 10-point system in accordance with the "*Regulations on Examinations at the Latvian Academy of Culture*" ([link](#)). Collegial assessment institutions play a vital role in evaluating study results - Science and Arts Council of LAC (especially in the evaluation of doctoral students' research seminars and doctoral thesis progress), as well as doctoral examination commissions established in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 1001 "*Procedure and criteria for the awarding (promotion) of a scientific doctorate*".

The student-centred approach underlying the implementation of the programme and the evaluation of the achieved results and the methods used in the implementation of the study programme are closely related both to the specific goals and achievable results of the study courses included in the programme, and to the overall goal of the programme - to prepare highly qualified scientists in the humanities and arts, as well as with the tasks set to achieve this goal, especially - to promote in-depth learning of the theories and methodologies of art sciences, cultural theory, cultural studies and creative industries, as well as to develop and improve scientific research and academic writing skills.

3.2.4. If the study programme envisages an internship, describe the internship opportunities offered to students, provision and work organization, including whether the higher education institution/ college helps students to find an internship place. If the study programme is implemented in a foreign language, provide information on how internship opportunities are provided in a foreign language, including for foreign students. To provide analysis and evaluation of the connection of the tasks set for students during the internship included in the study programme with the learning outcomes of the study programme (if applicable).

3.2.5. Evaluation and description of the promotion opportunities and the promotion process provided to the students of the doctoral study programme (if applicable).

The promotion process for students of LAC's academic doctoral study programme "Arts" and scientific degree applicants is ensured in accordance with the regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 1001 "Procedure and criteria for the awarding (promotion) of a scientific doctoral degree", "Regulations of the Latvian Academy of Culture on studies in the academic doctoral study programme "Arts" (https://lkua-my.sharepoint.com/personal/_lka_edu_lv/_layouts/15/onedrive.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2F) and "Regulations on promotion at the Latvian Academy of Culture" (only in Latvian: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iuBLbjtHoVSrZcKpJoS-WV35ZpPy74b-/view>). During the development of the self-assessment report, promotion in the LAC is possible in science branches according to the Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia of December 27, 2005 No. 1000 "Rules for the delegation of the awarding (promotion) of the doctoral scientific degree to universities". The "Regulations on promotion at the Latvian Academy of Culture" determine the procedure for the formation and promotion of The Promotion Council of LAC, the defense and evaluation criteria for the acceptance of a doctoral thesis, as well as the procedure and criteria for awarding a doctoral degree in science to both - persons who have studied the LAC's accredited academic doctoral study programme "Arts", and for persons who have not studied the LAC's academic doctoral study programme "Arts", but whose academic activities performed outside of this programme are equated to it, following the procedures provided for in the mentioned regulations and in accordance with the regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 1001 "Procedure and criteria for the awarding (promotion) of the scientific doctor's degree" and who has successfully passed the doctoral examinations in the corresponding branch and sub-branch of science.

Based on the regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 1001, the chairman of the The Promotion Council of LAC is approved by the LAC rector upon the proposal of the vice-rector. The proposal for the composition of the Council is prepared by the Chairman of the Council. The council includes at least five scientists who have the right of an expert of the Latvian Council of Science (hereinafter - LCS) in the field of science, two of them - in the sub-field of science in which the doctoral thesis is defended. Necessary changes in the composition of the Council (in order to fulfil the requirements of Regulation No. 1001 of the CM on the presence of two experts from the science sub-sector relevant to the work in the council, on restrictions on the composition of the council and the invitation of work reviewers or if the applicant objects to the composition of the established council (Regulation No. 1001 Clauses 5, 17, 18 and 19)), as well as reviewers for each promotion are approved by the rector of LAC on the proposal of the Chairman of the Council. The term of office of

the Council shall not exceed six years.

In connection with the accredited academic doctoral study programme "Arts", several councils can be established, specializing in the science branches and sub-branches corresponding to the programme in accordance with the regulations of the CM No. 595 "*Rules on groups of Latvian scientific branches, scientific branches and sub-sectors*" for the specified classification of scientific branches and sub-sectors. During the development period of the self-assessment report, the Latvian Academy of Culture has established a Doctoral Council in the field of Music, visual arts and architectural science in the sub-field of Cultural Theory. In accordance with the regulation established in the internal regulatory acts of the national level and LAC, the composition of the council is regularly reviewed and updated, carefully evaluating the qualifications of each member of the doctoral council, as well as making sure of the terms of the LCS expert status of members of the doctoral council and reviewers of doctoral theses. In the perspective of developing LAC's study offer in the field of creative industries, especially with the development of the joint master's study programme of LAC and RTU "*Creative Industries and Growth Management*", LAC will be able to develop doctoral theses in the field of science of creative industries and also create a relevant doctoral council.

The "*Regulations on promotion at the Latvian Academy of Culture*" stipulate that the Promotion Council of LAC accepts the doctoral thesis submitted for defense for public defense if it meets the following criteria:

1. the author of the doctoral thesis has justified the choice of the topic, defined the purpose and tasks of the research, described the scientific achievements in the research of the topic, used appropriate research methods, presented the results and insights obtained in the work, summarizing them in conclusions and theses to be defended;
2. the doctoral thesis is a completed original research, the results of which are of significant importance in the relevant branch and sub-branch of science (in the sub-branch of Music, visual arts and architecture science "*Cultural theory*" or the science branch of Creative Industries);
3. the volume of the thesis is not less than 216,000 and not more than 360,000 characters (without spaces);
4. modern analysis and data processing methods are used in the thesis;
5. the results of the doctoral thesis have been published in scientific publications or a monograph or the related intellectual property is patented;
6. the results of the doctoral thesis have been approved at international scientific conferences or seminars;
7. the doctoral thesis is not a forgery or plagiarism or another violation of scientific ethics has not been committed.

When accepting the work for defense, the Council appoints 3 reviewers for the doctoral thesis, of which 1 is an expert of the Council in the relevant scientific branch and sub-sector, and 2 – sub-sector experts from other scientific institutions or organizations.

The Council's work is provided by LAC. The costs of the promotion process are covered from the funds intended for the implementation of the doctoral programme. If the applicant for a doctoral degree has not studied the LAC's academic doctoral study programme "Arts" or has studied it more than two full calendar years ago without obtaining a degree, the decision on which funds to cover the costs of the doctoral process is taken by the Rector of the LAC on the recommendation of the LAC's Science and Arts Council (hereinafter - SAC).

Before advancing the doctoral thesis to start the doctoral process, the applicant for a scientific degree submits a prepared doctoral thesis to the SAC for evaluation of its scientific quality and

compliance with the requirements set by LAC. In the case of a positive evaluation of the doctoral thesis, the SAC forwards it to the defense of the doctoral thesis. Until now, all doctoral theses developed by LAC and submitted to the LAC's Promotion Council have been defended and their authors have been awarded a scientific doctorate degree (until 2018 - Doctor of Arts degree *Dr. art.*, in the following period, in accordance with the amendments made on August 14, 2018 to the regulations of the Ministry of Education No. 1001 "*Procedure and criteria for the awarding (promotion) of the scientific doctor's degree*" - Doctor of Science *Ph.D.*). This shows that both the evaluation of the doctoral thesis at the SAC before the initiation of the doctoral process at the LAC's Promotion Council, as well as the doctoral process implemented by the LAC, ensure high-quality expertise, as well as a transparent and legally compliant doctoral procedure.

3.2.6. Analysis and assessment of the topics of the final theses of the students, their relevance in the respective field, including the labour market, and the marks of the final theses.

Until the moment of submission of the self-evaluation report, the topics of doctoral theses of the doctoral study programme "*Arts*" were determined by two factors - the research, academic and professional interests of the doctoral student, as well as the relevance of these interests and the topics of the intended doctoral thesis to the research strategy of LAC and, therefore, to the cultural and creative industries industry news. An important condition is also the possibility of LAC to attract a scientific leader appropriate to the specific research topic, who could manage the doctoral work in the specific research field and provide highly qualified consultations in the specific research field.

During the study year of 2013/2014 until January 2023, 17 scientific doctoral degree applicants have defended their doctoral theses at the Latvian Academy of Culture and obtained a doctorate degree, **of which 14 are applicants for a doctorate degree from LAC's academic doctoral study programme "*Arts*".** This section provides an overview of the doctoral theses developed and defended in the Promotion Council of LAC by applicants for the doctorate degree of the LAC's academic doctoral study programme "*Arts*", in annex no. 3.2.6. see attached an overview of all doctoral theses defended at the Promotion Council of LAC and diplomas issued by LAC for obtaining a doctorate degree (until 2018 - Doctor of Arts degree *Dr.art.*, in the following period, in accordance with the amendments made on August 14, 2018 in the regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 1001 "*Procedure and criteria for the awarding (promotion) of the scientific doctor's degree*" - Doctor of Science *Ph. D.*). All these doctoral theses were developed and defended in humanities and art in the branch "*Music, visual arts and architecture*" according to the specifics of the sub-branch "*Cultural theory*". Cultural theory is an interdisciplinary field of study that explains the nature and dynamics of culture and provides the tools to study cultural and artistic phenomena in order to understand how they relate to wider social, political and economic contexts. The function of cultural theory is to interpret, critically evaluate and explain the meanings and values that are both implicit and explicit at both levels - actual contemporary and past culture.

Baibas Tjarve's doctoral thesis "*Institutional Transformations in Latvian Culture in the Post-Communist Transition, 1991-2010*" **(2014)** is dedicated to the determination of the actors involved in the Latvian change process - international institutions, regulatory acts, financial instruments - and the analysis of their impact on Latvian cultural policy in the transition period. The novelty of the work is based on the model developed by the author, which is universal, so that it can be used to

analyse changes not only in the field of cultural policy of other countries, but also institutional changes in other sectors, such as education. The study is useful for cultural policy makers and analysts of state-level administration in the field of culture and art.

Elīna Krasovska's doctoral thesis *"Metonymy and Figurative Thinking: A Cognitive Approach"* (2014) analyses the close relationship of metonymy with cognitive and thinking processes, revealing metonymy as one of the types of categorizations and typical structuring that exists in the consciousness of language users and is the basis of linguistic categorization. The novelty and relevance of the thesis for the field concerns the discursive analysis of tropes, which has not been a common approach in cognitive linguistics, especially regarding the discourse of visual metonymies. The work is an important contribution to the field of Latvian cognitive linguistics and stylistics, as the analysis is based on Latvian language material, using a wide interdisciplinary field - classical rhetoric, multimodal theory, history, literary science, history of art and culture. The research is integrated into the acquisition of language and theoretical knowledge, especially in LAC's study programmes.

The novelty of **Andris Vecumnieks's** doctoral thesis *"Theatricality Phenomenon in Music. Theatre Space of Juris Karlsons"* (2015) is an interdisciplinary view (musicology, semiotics, theatre, cultural anthropology) of the composer Juris Karlson's work in a close context with his personal characteristics, analysing them within the framework of the concept of musical theatricality. The author of the study has carried out a critical evaluation of the systematization, classification and definitions of musical theatricality, created a catalogue of the composer's compositions, clarified the genre systematization, analysis and schematization of forms. The work complements both the theoretical and methodological basis of the analysis of the performance of cultural figures, as well as provides new empirical data important for the cultural space of Latvia.

In **Dāvis Sīmanis'** doctoral thesis *"Structuring Historical Narrative in Films: The Model of Southern Renaissance"* (2015) the discursive differences between the academic historical narrative and the historical narrative created by cinema are characterized and analysed, the research tradition related to the representation of the Renaissance today is identified, as well as the most common types of Renaissance representations are identified in motion pictures. The study fills the lack of historiographical and monographic material not only in Latvia, but also in the world, by exhaustively analysing the representations of the Southern Renaissance in cinema art. The results of the research are used as cognitive material about the construction of the historical narrative in films, in addition, it is the first monographic historiographical study in Latvia that analyses the film image as a source of history.

Laila Niedre's doctoral thesis *"Die Rolle der deutschen Sprache in der Kommunikation der lettischen Wissenschaft im transkulturellen Kontext des 21. Jahrhunderts"* (*"The Role of German in Latvian Science Communication in the Context of the 21st Century Transculturality"*) (2016) is dedicated to identifying the opportunities provided by multilingualism in the development of science, as well as for establishing the importance of the German language in the context of Latvian science in the 21st century. The interdisciplinarity of the research is formed by the theoretical and methodological basis of sociolinguistics, sociology of sciences, translatology and transculturality. The study concluded that when planning language learning in universities, learning the basics of the German language should be planned in certain branches, so that Latvians would be able to conduct scientific research in important scientific fields (such as medieval history, modern history, Latvian administrative and civil law, etc.). The results of the doctoral thesis can be applied not only in the educational process, but also more widely - in planning and creating language policy in Latvia.

Astra Spalvēna's doctoral thesis *"Cultural-Contextual Analysis of Food Adaptation in Sign Systems"* (2016) analyses the regularities of the functioning and interaction of the phenomenon of food and eating, which creates ideas about the society that created this world of food. The interdisciplinarity of the research is based on the theories and methodological base of cultural studies, anthropology, semiotics, history and sociology. The thesis fills the lack of comprehensive material on the culture of Latvian gastronomy and its cultural and historical context, especially with regard to the culinary traditions and practices of the Soviet period, which greatly influence the culinary tastes of the Latvian population today.

Ieva Pigozne's doctoral thesis *"Colors and Their Meanings in 3rd – 13th Century Baltic Dress in the Area of Present-Day Latvia"* (2016) is devoted to the problem of conceptualizing clothing color representations in a broad chronological perspective. The phenomenon of clothing is analysed from the perspective of folkloristics, ethnology and archaeology. The research answered the questions of what the elements of the clothing were and their cut, what technique and materials they were made of, what color they were and what natural substances they were dyed with. The contribution of the research to the industry is related not only to methodological and experimental aspects, but also to the great public interest in imitations of Iron Age and Medieval clothing.

In **Zeltīte Barševska's** doctoral thesis *"Representation of Ethnicity in Traditional Art: The Example of Latgalian and Latgalian Old-Believers' Adorned Towels in the 20th Century"* (2017) representations of ethnicity in the traditional art of the Latgale region of the 20th century are summarized and classified, based on the decorated towels made by Latgalians and Old Believers of Latgale in home crafts and their analogous and different design features. The research was conducted within the framework of cultural anthropology, ethnology and cultural heritage studies, choosing the ideas of cultural interactionism as the dominant and unifying theory. The novelty and relevance of the work is based on the recognition of the historical circumstances of the transformations of the ethnic and confessional structure, as well as the discovery of the essence of Latgale regionalism as an important factor in the dimension of multi-ethnicity of the county and the uniqueness of ethno-confessionalism. The thesis significantly complements the discourse of cultural heritage studies.

Rita Lūriņa's doctoral thesis *"Gesture in Latvian Dramatic Theatre and Actor's Education (Late 19th Century – 30ies of the 20th Century)"* (2021) reveals the role and functions of gesture in the context of Latvian dramatic theatre and theatre education, analysing the eclectic aesthetics of gesture and characterizing the most important qualitative features that have influenced the stage work of a Latvian professional dramatic theatre actor. The study fills the lack of systematic studies regarding the cultural-historical period analysed in the work. The research reveals how, in less than thirty years, Latvian theatre education provided a stylistically versatile upbringing of a modernist actor, which met the requirements of the artistic context of the European theatre space of that time.

Valda Vidzemniece's doctoral thesis *"Modern Dance in Latvia in the First Part of the 20th Century"* (2021) explores dance developments in Latvia, whose manifestations are identifiable with the characteristics of modern dance, characterizes and analyses the creative and pedagogical activities of the most important representatives, as well as determines the place of modern dance in Latvia in the first part of the 20th century in the cultural environment. The doctoral thesis fills the lack of research in the history of Latvian modern dance. Within the framework of the study, for the first time, a compilation and systematic study of the activities of modern dance dancers, choreographers and pedagogues was carried out. The research is important not only for dance art specialists, it makes a significant contribution to the cultural history of Latvia as a whole.

Uģis Nastevičs' doctoral thesis *"Latvian Dievturība and Japan Shintō: A Comparative Study of Rituals, Their Sacred Space and Texts"* (2022) structured the terminology and typology of the two analysed religions, identified connections in their historical development and symbolism, identified connections in the sacred space of rituals, its development and components, as well as compared the principles of the construction of ritual texts and their use. In the academic environment, a comparative study of the two religions has not been carried out so far. The study provides an overview of the development of both religions and current practices today, revealing both mutually complementary relationships and insights that are essential for sustainable development, promoting intercultural competence, which can be useful in cultural diplomacy and the promotion of cultural tourism.

Agnese Hermāne's doctoral thesis *"Manifestation of Leadership in the Management of Artistic Collectives of the Song and Dance Celebration"* (2022) analytically characterizes the specifics of the activities of professional artists in amateur art, identifies and evaluates the importance of leaders of artistic collectives involved in the process of song and dance festivals, leadership manifestations and their development opportunities for collectives and collectives in the context of individual growth of participants. The novelty of the study refers to the conceptualization and research aspects of cultural leadership, which is considered an understudied field compared to the general academic discourse on leadership. Even less studied is leadership in the amateur arts. The results of the research can be used in the development of cultural policy planning documents and reports, in recommendations for improving the leadership of artistic collective leaders, as well as in further education of collective leaders and cultural management and cultural heritage study programmes.

As part of **Zane Daudziņa's** *"Actor's Speech in 21st Century Latvian Theatre"* (2022), the speech of a Latvian actor has been characterized and transformations of speech under the influence of the post-dramatic era have been determined, the changes caused by technology in the art of theatre in relation to the actor's speech have been identified, problems in the modern actor's speech have been diagnosed, their reasons have been analysed and possible solutions are indicated. The novelty refers to a hitherto unexplored field due to the rapid entry of technology into the theatre environment, revealing how the use of sound-enhancing effects in performances changes the set of basic elements of the actor's speech, significantly adding to the actor's range of psychological and physical speech tools. The results of the doctoral thesis are integrated into the LAC's study programmes, as well as into the professional activities of Latvian theatre actors.

Zane Balčus' doctoral thesis *"Texts and Contexts of Documentary Films: Themes, Styles and Systems in Latvian Cinema"* (2022) examines the development of Latvian documentary films in the context of socio-economic, cultural and technological changes in the period from the end of the 20th century until the 20s of 21st century, the principles and conditions of documentary film production, film themes, artistic language are analysed, the artistic handwriting of individual filmmakers is described in detail. The doctoral work significantly complements the research of the Latvian cinema industry, offering new facts, knowledge and understanding of the artistic practices of Latvian documentary films and their institutional frameworks. The thesis is defended as a thematically unified set of publications.

The defended doctoral theses confirm the focus of the programme's strategic specialization - theatre, dance and audiovisual arts industry research, cultural heritage research, creative industries development research, the use of language and communication models in the cultural and creative industries sector, linking cultural phenomena with social, economic and political factors.

3.3. Resources and Provision of the Study Programme

3.3.1. Assessment of the compliance of the resources and provision (study provision, scientific support (if applicable), informative provision (including libraries), material and technical provision, and financial provision) with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the learning outcomes to be achieved by providing the respective examples.

All resources at LAC's disposal are available for the implementation of the academic doctoral study programme. Technically equipped auditoriums with an area of 557 m² and a Library reading room with an area of 35 m² are available to students for studying and research in the LAC building in Riga, on Ludzas Street 24. In the LAC's Theatre house "*Zirgu pasts*" on Dzirnavu street 46, there are auditoriums and practical lesson rooms with an area of 431 m² available. In the premises of the LAC National Film School (NFS) at Elijas Street 17, there are rooms for creative classes and Cinematheque's film collections. For example, on December 9, 2022, LAC doctoral graduate Zane Balčus received a scientific doctorate (Ph.D.) degree in Art science. In her doctoral thesis "Texts and contexts of documentary films: themes, styles and systems in Latvian cinema" the documentaries available in the LAC Cinematheque were viewed as empirical material, while the premises and technical equipment of the LAC NFS were used for the approbation of the topic of the thesis - for reports at conferences and research interviews.

More information about the material and technical base available to doctoral students can be found in Part II, Chapter 3 of the self-assessment report, in subsection 2.3.2.

Doctoral students actively use the resources of the LAC's library - the EBSCO National Electronic Resource Package, which includes database resources such as EBSCO Academic Search Complete + MasterFILE Premier and NLL online databases. An important information resource is also the Theses database of LAC created by the Library of LAC, which includes bibliographic descriptions of the final theses of LAC's students, which are important in the development of research papers, giving doctoral students the opportunity to look at the performance of graduates of study programmes of other study levels, reflect on what they have read and continue their research activities.

Doctoral students in the LKA library also use databases and resources whose availability is restricted due to copyright, for example the programme Latvian films in Latvian libraries (https://www.filmas.lv/filmu-katalogs/?tab=movies&sub_tab=movies-all&mp20=&watch=library)

Information on information and communication technology solutions is available in Part II, Chapter 3 of the self-assessment report, in subsection 2.3.4. In the study process, LAC uses the e-study environment (*Moodle*) and the Information System of Latvian Universities (*LAIS*), which ensures the flow of information with students, access to resources and information. Moodle provides communication with students necessary for the study process. Although the use of the e-study environment among doctoral students has not been very active during the self-assessment review period, its use is being intensified.

An important resource for the implementation and development of the doctoral study programme is the Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies of LAC, which involves doctoral students in research projects and promotes participation in local and international scientific conferences, discussions, promotes the development of scientific publications, as well as the involvement of doctoral students in thematic research groups and collective projects designed also for peer review of research results, are closely integrated into the practice of LAC's scientific conferences - both as conference audience and as speakers.

For example, the programme of LAC's annual conference cycle "*Culture Crossroads*" (see <https://lka.edu.lv/en/research/conferences/annual-conferences/international-research-conference-culture-crossroads/>) covers several days, is part of the doctoral study process and is included in the semester plan. Additionally, the annual student conference "*The Art-of-Knowing*" (see *The Art-of-Knowing programme since 2015 on the LAC website* <https://lka.edu.lv/en/research/conferences/annual-conferences/student-research-conference-art-knowing/>) is dedicated to the communication of students' research works, and every year its main theme is subordinated to the current affairs of the cultural and creative sector. The development of doctoral students' research competencies is also financially stimulated. It takes place in various forms, for example, the concept of internal research projects of LAC (see <https://lka.edu.lv/en/research/research-projects/internal-research-grants/>) and the research project of the Latvian Academy of Culture the regulations of the contest "*Development of scientific activity in the Latvian Academy of Culture*" provide that the research project team must necessarily include students of various study levels, especially those studying in the doctoral programme. In recent years, doctoral students have also been project applicants.

Also, an example of good practice that contributes to the development of a doctoral study programme is the LAC UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage Policy and Law Department, which was established with the aim of developing international academic and research cooperation in the field of Intangible Cultural Heritage policy and law research. The activity of the UNESCO department is focused on the development of master's and doctoral studies, as well as the development of research projects, focusing on the implementation of the UNESCO Convention on the Preservation of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003) in international cooperation, as well as at the national level in various countries of the world. The focus of the UNESCO Department is the analysis of experiences, challenges and solutions that address the connection between different areas of policy-making and law creation related to the Intangible Cultural Heritage.

3.3.2. Assessment of the study provision and scientific base support, including the resources provided within the framework of cooperation with other science institutes and higher education institutions (applicable to doctoral study programmes) (if applicable).

An important factor in the implementation and development of LAC's academic doctoral study programme "*Arts*", especially in promoting the research work of doctoral students, is LAC's cooperation with other universities and scientific institutions. Special emphasis should be placed on the cooperation in the field of research, which is important for the programme and is supported, organized and coordinated by the Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies of LAC. The main cooperation partners from the environment of scientific institutions are Art Academy of Latvia (AAL), Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music (JVLMA), the National Library of Latvia (NLL) and the

Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art of the University of Latvia (ILFA LU). This partnership is based on common or similar research strategic priorities, the connection of the research topic with the cultural and creative ecosystem, the need to create a unified humanities and arts sciences, as well as an interdisciplinary network of researchers, which promotes the integrity and inclusion of the scientific knowledge of the mentioned branches of science in the study content. A successful example of cooperation between the mentioned partners is the State research programme project "*Cultural Capital as a Resource for Sustainable Development of Latvia*"/CARD (No. VPP-KM-LKRVA-2020/1-0003), which was financed by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia under the state research programme "*Latvian Culture – a Resource for National Development*" (2020-2022) (Project partners: LAC – leading partner, JVLMA, AAL, NLL, ILFA LU) (see <https://lka.edu.lv/en/research/research-projects/state-research-programmes/cultural-capital-resource-sustainable-development-latviacard/>). Partners in other state research programmes have also been Rezekne Academy of Technologies (<https://2021.rta.lv/en/>), Liepaja University (<https://www.liepu.lv/en>), The Institute of Mathematics and Computer Science of the University of Latvia (<https://www.lumii.lv/>), The University of Latvia Livonian Institute (<http://www.livones.net/lili/en>), Latvian Language Institute of the University of Latvia (<http://www.lulavi.lv/>), Riga Technical University (<https://www.rtu.lv/en>), etc.

As a leading partner, LAC also cooperates with other Latvian universities of art and culture in the ESF project "*Approval of doctoral grants and attracting foreign academic staff to LAC*" (8.2.2.0/20/I/002), which aims to provide support to LAC and its partners AAL and JVLMA for the development of academic personnel, including the regeneration of scientists, internationalization, international competitiveness, as well as for the cooperation of three partner universities and the sharing of resources. When implementing the project, a new funding model for doctoral students is approved, which makes it possible to provide funding for the remuneration of doctoral students for research or study work at LAC, which is related to the development of a doctoral thesis. As a result of the project, the renewal of the academic staff of LAC is promoted, an investment is made in the improvement of academic work and the improvement of quality, an increase in the proportion of academic staff with a doctorate degree will be promoted, as well as the attraction of doctoral students to LAC. The received ESF support will allow doctoral students to integrate both in the study and scientific research environment, to develop their academic and scientific activity careers, and to make a significant contribution to the creation of new knowledge and the active dissemination of research results, 4 doctoral students are involved in the project (see *(Latvian only)* <https://www.lka.edu.lv/lv/aktuali/jaunumi/latvijas-kulturas-akademija-pieskirusi-petniecibas-grantus-4-doktorantiem-danielai-zacmanei-zanetei-eglitei-ditai-pfeiferei-un-ivaram-steinbergam/>).

3.3.3. Indicate data on the available funding for the corresponding study programme, its funding sources and their use for the development of the study programme. Provide information on the costs per one student within this study programme, indicating the items included in the cost calculation and the percentage distribution of funding between the specified items. The minimum number of students in the study programme in order to ensure the profitability of the study programme (indicating separately the information on each language, type and form of the study programme implementation).

The costs of the programme are calculated in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation of December 12, 2006 No. 994 "*The order in which universities and colleges are financed from the*

state budget". The current base fee for a study place is EUR 1,630.11. According to the mentioned regulation no. 994 Clause 13 study cost factor for doctoral study programmes 3. According to Clause 20 of Annex 1 to the Regulations, the Academy's funding for one doctoral study place in the thematic area of education *"Art" (except for the programmes mentioned in Clause 28 of this Annex)* thematic area coefficient is 3.1. The estimated amount of the state grant in 2022 is 14,006 EUR, for one budget place. Performance funding per 1 student in the programme is EUR 239 and tuition fees are on average EUR 1,769, taking into account that tuition fees are revised every year.

The funding of the study programme in 2022 is 187,011 EUR, it was formed from the budget grant, performance funding and tuition fees. When making cost calculations, all expenditure items necessary for the programme are included, the programme calculation is 85% compensation ECC 1000, 6% ECC goods and services 2000 and 9% other ECC. A cost calculation is carried out every year, after which the number of guest lecturers is determined and the amount allocated to the development of study programmes, which is a part of the own revenues, in the amount of 12% in 2022, which amounts to 1,698 EUR. The program is basically created on the basis of funding from the state budget, and the own revenues are directed to the maximum extent for the development of the programme and covering unexpected expenses. A lot of attention is devoted to the optimization of study programme implementation expenses, for example, by organizing stream lectures in professor-taught courses and providing remote lectures.

The minimum number of students in the study programme is equal to the budget places provided during the enrollment period. 12 budget places were secured in the previous enrollment period. So far, students of the academic doctoral study programme "Arts" have only been admitted to the Latvian language stream. The LAC Senate and the LAC Council will decide on the amount of tuition fees for the following study years.

Statistics on students during the reporting period can be viewed in the appendix section "Statistics on students during the reporting period"

3.4. Teaching Staff

3.4.1. Assessment of the compliance of the qualification of the teaching staff members (academic staff members, visiting professors, visiting associate professors, visiting docents, visiting lecturers, and visiting assistants) involved in the implementation of the study programme with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the provisions set out in the respective regulatory enactments. Provide information on how the qualification of the teaching staff members contributes to the achievement of the learning outcomes.

At the beginning of the 2022/2023 study year, 15 teaching staff elected to LAC academic positions - 7 professors, 3 associate professors, 2 leading researchers, 2 assistant professors - are involved in the implementation of the LAC academic doctoral study programme "Arts" - teaching study courses and managing doctoral theses; two emeritus professors are also involved in the implementation of the programme. At the time of submission of the self-evaluation report, 6 of the teaching staff involved in the implementation of the programme are experts approved by the Latvian Council of

Science in the field of science "*Music, visual arts and architecture*" (3 experts), as well as in the field of science "*Science of creative industries*" (3 experts). The qualifications of the teaching staff are evaluated according to the external laws and regulations governing these processes and the internal regulation of LAC - Regulation "*On academic positions in the Latvian Academy of Culture*" (see saite), "*Procedures for the Creation and Operation of the Council of Professors of the Latvian Academy of Culture*" (see in the Annex 2.3.5.) etc. All persons involved in the implementation of the programme have a scientific doctoral degree, their qualifications fully meet the conditions of the implementation of the study programme and the requirements of regulatory acts. The qualification indicators of the teaching staff of the programme and the network of the research directions they represent guarantee the implementation of the study programme in accordance with its goals, tasks and requirements, as well as the priority set in the implementation of the programme - fundamental research of art phenomena and creative sector processes based on interdisciplinarity methodology. The teaching staff of the programme has extensive publication practice, they actively participate in scientific conferences. The qualification of the academic staff of the programme is briefly described in the short biographies included in the section. See more detailed information in curriculum vitae of teaching staff, as well as the list of academic staff publications and the list of implemented research projects in Annexes 2.4.4.-1. and 2.4.4.-2.

Professor *Dr. art.* Rūta Muktupāvela is a member of the Latvian Council of Science, participates in both national and international research projects, is the author of more than 60 scientific publications in the field of cultural studies, ethnology, folkloristics and intangible cultural heritage studies, has supervised scientific works in all three higher education programmes - bachelor's, master's and doctoral – study levels. R. Muktupāvela's research interests and expertise are in the field of cultural studies, art anthropology, cultural heritage studies, methodology of cultural and art sciences, and folkloristics. The results of the research activity have been integrated into the study courses of the academic doctoral study programme "*Interdisciplinary aspects of cultural studies*", "*Cultural Studies: Theoretical Approaches and Methodological Principles*", etc. Significant experience has been gained while working in research, including in the State research programmes "*Habitus: Sustainability of Latvian Cultural Traditions in an Innovative Environment*" (2014-2018), CARD: "*Cultural capital as a resource for the sustainable development of Latvia*" (2020-2022), as well as in the international research project "*CoHERE: Critical Heritages: performing and representing identities in Europe*" funded by the European Commission "*Horizon 2020*" (2016-2019).

Professor *Dr.sc.soc.* Anda Laķe's scientific interests are related to social and humanities research methodology, including social and economic impact assessment and art-based research methods. In recent years, she has participated in and led several academic research projects on intangible cultural heritage: SRP "*Habitus: Sustainability of Latvian Cultural Traditions in an Innovative Environment*", "*CoHERE: Critical Heritages: performing and representing identities in Europe*", FLPP "*Community Participation in Cultural Heritage Governance: Practices, Developments and Challenges*", as well as conducted other studies related to the cultural and creative sector. A. Laķe's research interests also include the importance of culture and art in the development of society (FLPP "*The art of nationalism: Social solidarity and exclusion in contemporary Latvia*"), as well as contemporary employment issues of creative persons and other segments of the labor market (FLPP "*Meaning and Practice of Autonomy in Gig-Work*"). The research activity of recent years is closely related to the research of the current problems of the cultural sector, which includes a number of Latvian cultural organizations, including the management or participation of studies commissioned by the Ministry of Culture. A. Laķe is the editor-in-chief of the international, anonymously reviewed periodical collection of scientific articles "*Culture Crossroads*" (<http://www.culturecrossroads.lv/>) and the editor-in-chief of the periodical collection of scientific

articles "*Crossroads: Culture and Art Studies*".

Prof. Dr.art. Inga Pērkone-Redoviča is the author of the scientific monographs "*Stage of the Screen: on the Acting in Latvian Cinema*" (2020), "*First Latvian Films*" (2016), "*You, the Great Evening Sun! Essays on modernism in Latvian films*" (2013), the compiler and co-author of the collective monographs "*Latvian cinema. New Times 1990-2020*" (2022), "*Reality of productions: History of Latvian Actor Cinema*" (2011), as well as several scientific collections. Inga Pērkone's research interests: history and theory of Latvian and world cinema, affect theories, gender studies, modernism. In 2022, she is working on a scientific monograph "*Affects. Memories. Objects. On the feelings of Latvian cinema*" preparation (with the support of the State Culture Capital).

Leading researcher Dr.art. Baiba Tjarve's research interests are mainly related to various issues of cultural management and cultural policy. Significant experience has also been accumulated in research on intangible cultural heritage, including the State research programme "*Habitus: Sustainability of Latvian Cultural Traditions in an Innovative Environment*" (2014-2018) and the international research project "*CoHERE: Critical Heritages: performing and representing identities in Europe*" (2016-2019).

Leading researcher Dr.sc.soc. Ilona Kunda participates both in fundamental research supported by the Latvian Council of Science and in applied research on various aspects of the cultural and creative ecosystem. As a researcher, Ilona Kunda has participated in several applied studies, including the study commissioned by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia "*The study on succession and correlation between the cultural education offer and culture and creative industry labour market*", as well as "*Evaluation of the impact of the implementation of the Latvian state centenary programme for the period from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2018*". Research interests: entrepreneurial characteristics of creative industries, employment characteristics in creative industries, cities and creative industries, sustainability, co-creation of knowledge, social innovations and their legitimization. In the field of creative industries research, she participated in the project "*Research on the socio-economic impact of the culture and creative industries of the city of Liepāja*", and together with Ieva Zemīte and several students, she implemented the project "*Creative entrepreneurship: between culture, art and 'real' business*" supported by the LAC internal grant competition.

Assoc. prof. Dr.oec. Ieva Zemīte's research interests are mainly related to various issues of the development of cultural and creative industries. In 2020, together with Ilona Kunda, a pilot study "*Interpretations of the growth of female entrepreneurs in creative business*" was conducted, which continued the creative business study "*Creative entrepreneurship: between culture, art and 'real' business*" started in 2019. Research results have been presented at major international conferences in Melbourne, Australia (2018), Reykjavík, Iceland (2018), Venice, Italy (2019) and online at the 21st International Conference on the Economy of Culture in Lille, France (2021). Since the end of 2020, I. Zemīte has been leading FLLP studies and has presented their progress and results at national and international conferences of various scales. Significant experience has been accumulated in the State Research Program "*Habitus: Sustainability of Latvian Cultural Traditions in an Innovative Environment*" (2014-2018).

The Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies research assistant professor, Ph.D. Iveta Kešāne's research interests are related to sociology of emotions, sociology of culture, sociology of politics, sociology of development and sociology of migration. Before obtaining her doctorate degree, I. Kešāne worked as a researcher at the Baltic Institute of Social Sciences, where she conducted research on migration and integration. She has co-authored several research reports on these

topics. Based on her dissertation, I. Ķešāne has published several articles on the symbolic and emotional aspects of post-Soviet transformation and post-Soviet emigration to the West in international scientific journals such as *Emotion, Space and Society*, *Social Currents* (together with L. Frank Weyher) and *Communist and Post-Communist Studies*.

Leading researcher *Dr.habil.art., Dr.hist.* Juris Urtāns' publications include around 1,700 publications, including more than 280 scientific articles and 58 books (author, compiler, editor-in-chief), including 13 monographs. His scientific interests are related to the identification and evaluation of ancient places of worship, mounds, ancient sacred places, cultural-historical stones, underwater cultural environments and other monuments of ancient history, the interaction of archaeology and folklore, archaeological monuments as a cultural-historical phenomenon, studies of historical geography. In addition to the traditional research methods used by archaeologists and cultural historians, he introduced aerial archaeology, later methods based on aerial laser scanning, and participated in the development of underwater archaeology.

Professor *Dr.philol.* Raimonds Briedis is the author of several books: "*Short Course on Text Censorship: Prose Text and Censorship in the Soviet Years in Latvia*" (2010), "*Chronicle of Latvian Literature in Composition with Events in the World and in Latvia, 1888-1944, 1945-2005*" (1-2, 2006). Articles published in periodicals and scientific publications. In 2018, the chronicle "*People and Events in Latvian Lands from the Leaving of Ice to Latvian State*" was published (compiled together with Z. Gailītis, J. Goldmanis, Z. Grigoroviča, M. Grudule, L. Ulberte). Compiled books and collections of articles: "*Index of Latvian novels*" (2014), "*Latvian literature*" (1994-1995), "*New Latvian literature*" (1996, 1997, 2001, 2002), "*Hundred of the most famous Latvian poems*" (2004), "*Latvian golden stories*" (2007) etc. From 1998 to 2009, he was the editor of the ILFA magazine "*Letonica*". Participated as an expert in the working group for the creation of the Latvia's Cultural Canon. Worked in the expert commission of the State Cultural Capital Fund in the field of literature.

Associate professor *Dr.art.* Laila Niedre's main research interests: language teaching methodology, language of science, language in the context of communication. L. Niedre presents reports on these issues at scientific conferences in various universities in Latvia, neighboring countries, as well as in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. The most important publication is the "*German-Latvian, Latvian-German legal dictionary*" compiled together with Ingrid Schaffert (2001 and 2003).

Associate professor *Dr.art.* Līga Ulberte's scientific interests are related to the research of Latvian and European theatre history and contemporary processes. The collective monographs "*New directing of Latvia*" (2015), "*100 outstanding Latvian actors*" (2018), "*People and Events in Latvian Lands from the Leaving of Ice to Latvian State*" (2018), "*Contemporary Latvian Theatre*" (2020), "*Cultural History of Latvia*" (2021), etc. co-author.

Professor *Dr.art.* Zane Šiliņa's research interests are centered around literature and dramaturgy in a broad cultural context. She has published about 30 scientific articles in Latvian, English and Lithuanian. Among the most important publications - Šiliņa Z. Interpretation of the Theme of Night: A Case Study of Rainis's Creative Laboratory. Latvia. No. 46, 2022, 210-226. (Indexed in Scopus, ERIH, EBSCO).

Emeritus professor *Dr.philol.* Anita Načičione's research interests are stylistics, cognitive stylistics, phraseology, translation, identity, foreign language teaching methodology. A. Načiscione's research articles have been published in Latvian and foreign scientific publications (see website www.naciscione.com). Her monograph "*Stylistic Use of Phraseological Units*" (2010) was awarded the ESSE prize for a book in the field of English language and linguistics in 2012. A. Načiscione

regularly speaks at international scientific conferences (including plenary lectures). She is a member of several international scientific organizations (Poetics and Linguistics Association, European Phraseology Society, European Society for English Language Studies, Research and Use of Metaphor). She regularly gives guest lectures at Latvian and foreign universities.

Professor *Dr.art.* Dāvis Sīmanis is an internationally recognized film and editing director, who combines his creative work with scientific research, developing publications based on the experience of creative work, lecturing at local and international scientific conferences. D. Sīmanis' scientific interests are the history and theory of cinema.

During the reporting period, several guest lecturers were also attached to the programme, for example during the study year in 2013/2014, 2015/2016 and 2017/2018, the doctoral students of the programme had the opportunity to take the study course "*Diplomacy and culture*" taught by the visiting professor *Ph.D.* Vita Matīss. Additionally, in the fall semester of the 2022/2023 study year, the study plan of doctoral students included the study course "*Theories and methods*" taught by visiting professor *Ph.D.* Anca Claudia Prodan (Berlin) (2 CP).

3.4.2. Analysis and assessment of the changes to the composition of the teaching staff over the reporting period and their impact on the study quality.

Since 2013/2014, when 7 professors and associate professors were elected to LAC's academic positions, as well as 3 guest lecturers, were involved in the study programme, the composition of lecturers has changed. The changes can be justified both by the clarification of LAC's priority research directions and the development of new research topics, the development of the content of the study programme in accordance with the current research trends in Latvia and the international environment, and changes in the composition of the academic staff at LAC as a whole, as well as the collegial institution Science and Arts Council of LAC, which oversees LAC's doctoral studies strengthening the functions of a collegial institution and the active involvement of its members in the implementation of the study programme. Since the previous accreditation of the study direction, prof. *Dr.art.* Inga Pērkone-Redoviča, prof. *Dr.phil.* Daina Teters, prof. *Dr.philol.* Raimonds Briedis, prof. emeritus *Dr.philol.* Valda Čakare, prof. emeritus *Dr.philol.* A. Načisčone, leading researcher *Dr.habil.art.*, *Dr.hist.* Juris Urtāns participate in the implementation of the study programme. Additionally, during the reporting period, prof. *Dr.art.* R. Muktupāvela, prof. *Dr.sc.soc.* Anda Laķe, leading researcher *Dr.art.* Baiba Tjarve, leading researcher *Dr.sc.soc.* Ilona Kunda, assoc. prof. *Dr.art.* Laila Niedre, assoc. prof. *Dr.art.* L. Ulberte, prof. *Dr.art.* Dāvis Sīmanis, prof. *Dr.art.* Zane Šiliņa, assoc. prof. *Dr.oec.* Ieva Zemīte, leading researcher asst. prof. *Dr.art.* A. Vaivade, asst. prof. *Ph.D.* Iveta Kešāne were actively involved as lecturers of study courses and supervisors of doctoral theses. The expansion of the teaching staff contributes to the interdisciplinary orientation of the programme and gives students the opportunity to conduct interdisciplinary scientific research in the field of cultural theory, cultural studies and the creative industries sector. The expansion of the teaching staff contributes to the interdisciplinary orientation of the program and gives students the opportunity to conduct interdisciplinary scientific research in the field of cultural theory, cultural studies and the creative industries sector.

3.4.3. Information on the number of the scientific publications of the academic staff

members, involved in the implementation of doctoral study programme, as published during the reporting period by listing the most significant publications published in Scopus or WoS CC indexed journals. As for the social sciences, humanitarian sciences, and the science of art, the scientific publications published in ERIH+ indexed journals or peer-reviewed monographs may be additionally specified. Information on the teaching staff included in the database of experts of the Latvian Council of Science in the relevant field of science (total number, name of the lecturer, field of science in which the teaching staff has the status of an expert and expiration date of the Latvian Council of Science expert) (if applicable).

During the reporting period, the lecturers involved in the implementation of the programme prepared about 39 individual and collective scientific monographs and about 125 articles in peer-reviewed scientific journals and collections of articles, of which 26 are in SCOPUS/WoS and 9 ERIH databases. The list of the most important publications of the academic staff is attached in Annex 2.4.4.-1.

The most important publications of the programme lecturers in the last six years:

[monograph] Latvijas kinomāksla. Jaunie laiki. 1990–2020. **SE Pērkone, I.**, Rietuma, D., Rīga: LAC, Dienas Grāmata, 2021, ISBN 978-9934-595-51-6, 432 pages; published by the decision of the Science Council of the Latvian Academy of Culture on October 18, 2021, State Research Program project no. VPP-KM-LKRVA-2020/1-0003 “*Cultural capital as a resource for sustainable development of Latvia*” (CARD)

Cornu, Marie, **Anita Vaivade**, Lily Martinet, Clea Hance (Eds.). Intangible Cultural Heritage under National and International Law: Going Beyond the 2003 UNESCO Convention. Edward Elgar Publishing, 2020.

Freibergera, Kristīne, **Tjarve, Baiba, Zemīte, Ieva**. Role of participatory governance in safeguarding the tradition of the Song and Dance Celebration. Culture Crossroads. 2020. Vol.16, p. 60-76.

Kockel, Ullrich, Craith, M. Nic, Clopot, Cristina, **Tjarve, Baiba**, eds. Heritage and Festivals in Europe. London, New York: Routledge, 2019. p.236.

Kockel, Ullrich, Craith, M. Nic, Clopot, Cristina, **Tjarve, Baiba**, Heritages, Identities and Europe: Exploring Cultural Forms and Expressions. In: Kockel, U., Craith, M.N., Clopot, C., Tjarve, B., eds. Heritage and Festivals in Europe. London, New York: Routledge, 2019.

Kunda, Ilona, Tjarve, Baiba, Eglite, Zanete. Creative industries in small cities: contributions to sustainability. Economic Science for Rural Development Conference Proceedings. 2021, No. 55, p. 151-160.

Kunda, Ilona, Zemīte, Ieva, Laķe, Anda. Cultural and creative industries: new entrants' responses to paradoxes of creating a new creative industry product/service (extended conference abstract), AIMAC 2019, <https://aimac2019.com/>

Kunda, Ilona, Zemīte, Ieva, Laķe, Anda. Cultural Entrepreneurship: Negotiating Paradoxes in New Cultural Product Development. The International Journal of Interdisciplinary Cultural Studies 2021, Volume 16 (1), pp. 15-28. doi:10.18848/2327-008X/CGP/v16i01/15-28 Indexed by Scopus

Laķe, Anda, Brutāne, Laura, Petkeviča, Ketrisa. Collective and Individual Factors in the Development of Creative Ideas in Art: The Perspective of Film Directors. Filosofija. Sociologija, 2021, Vol. 32., No. 4, pp. 407-416. (Indexed in SCOPUS)

Laķe, Anda, Muktupāvela, Rūta, Tjarve, Baiba (zin. red.). Kultūras mantojuma kopienas: prakses, attīstība un izaicinājumi. Rīga: Jāņa Rozes apgāds/ LKA, 2022.

Muktupāvela, Rūta, Anda, Laķe (eds.). Dziesmu un deju svētki. Tradīcijas anatomija. Rīga: Latvijas Kultūras akadēmija, Jāņa Rozes apgāds, 2018.

Muktupāvela, Rūta, Laķe, Anda. Comparative aspects of the Song and Dance Celebration of the Baltic countries in the context of nation branding processes.//Nic Craith, Mairead, et al. (eds.). Heritage and Festivals in Europe. London and New York: ROUTLEDGE, 2019, pp. 29-46. (Indexed in SCOPUS, Web of Science)

Muktupāvela, Rūta, Laķe, Anda. Kopienas jēdziena konceptualizācija, kopienu daudzveidība un kultūras mantojuma kopienas kā īpašs kopienas veids. // Laķe, Anda, Muktupāvela, Rūta, Tjarve, Baiba (zin. red.). Kultūras mantojuma kopienas: prakses, attīstība un izaicinājumi. Rīga: Jāņa Rozes apgāds/ LKA, 2022.

Muktupāvela, Rūta, Muktupāvels, Valdis. Artistic Research: On the Way Towards Conceptual Clarity and Off the way with the Folkloratorio Rivers of Our Being.//Kockel, Ullrich, McDermott, Philip, Campbell, Liam (eds.). Per Scribendum, Sumus: Ethnopoiesis, or: Writing Heritage. Vienna: LIT Verlag, 2020, pp. 177-187.

Muktupāvela, Rūta, Vītola Ieva. The Role of Non-governmental Organizations in Ensuring Sustainability of Cultural Heritage: A case study of the SERDE Art Residency Centre.// Laķe, A., Tiškeizere, E. (zin. red.). LETONICA. 2022 (in print).

Muktupāvela, Rūta. University Students' Humour in Digital Environment: Internet Memes as a Folklore Genre. // Laķe, Anda (ed.) Culture Crossroads. Volume 12. 2018., Pp. 4-19. Cultural Crossroads. Rīga: Latvian Academy of Culture. Accessible at www.culturecrossroads.lv

Naudin, Annette, **Zemīte, Ieva,** Hermane, Agnese (forthcoming) A framework for exploring cultural and creative industries in regional contexts: the role of cultural intermediaries. Journal "Letonica", the Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art of the University Latvia (indexed in Scopus, ERIH PLUS)

Pērkone, Inga. War and Women in Jānis Streičs` Films. Baltic Screen Media Review, Volume 6, Issue 1. First online: 07 Mar 2019, <https://content.sciendo.com/view/journals/bsmr/6/1/article-p56.xml>

Pērkone, Inga. Ekrāna skatuve: par aktiermākslu Latvijas kino. Rīga: Neputns, 2020, ISBN 978-9934-565-88-5

Šiliņa, Zane. Interpretation of the Theme of Night: A Case Study of Rainis's Creative Laboratory. Letonica. Nr. 46, 2022, 210-226. (indexed in Scopus, ERIH, EBSCO).

Tjarve, Baiba, Zemīte, Ieva, Freiberga, Kristīne (2017) Fiscal Decentralization in Amateur Art Sector in Latvia: Case of Song and Dance Celebration. Trames, A Journal of the Humanities and Social Sciences, Vol. 21, Issue 4, pp. 383.-402. (indexed in Scopus) <https://doi.org/10.3176/tr.2017.4.06>

Vaivade, Anita. Article 13. Other Measures for Safeguarding. Developing Intangible Cultural Heritage Policies and Legislation at the National Level. In: Blake, Janet and Lucas Lixinski (Eds). The 2003 UNESCO Intangible Heritage Convention: A Commentary. Oxford University Press, 2020. Pp. 200-217.

Vikmane, Elīna, **Laķe, Anda.** Critical Review of Sustainability Priorities in the Heritage Sector: Evidence from Latvia's Most Visited Museums. European Integration Studies, 2021, pp. 95-109. (Indexed in Web of Science)

Vinogradova, Līga, **Laķe, Anda**. The Role of Emotions in Sustaining the Tradition: the Case of the Latvian Song and Dance Celebration. The International Journal of Interdisciplinary Cultural Studies, vol.14, no.1. 2019. pp.1-15. (Indexed in Scopus; China National Knowledge Infrastructure (CNKI Scholar); Educational Psychology & Administration Directory (Cabell's); Ulrich's Periodicals Directory)

Zemite, Ieva, Tjarve, Baiba, Freiberga, Kristīne. Rethinking the Role of Public Incentives for Amateur Arts. The International Journal of Interdisciplinary Cultural Studies. 2017. Vol. 12, Issue 1. p 1-13.

Zemite, Ieva, Tjarve, Baiba, Freiberga, Kristīne. The Significance of Individual Contributions in Amateur Art Process in Latvia. Economic Science for Rural Development: Proceedings of the International Scientific Conference. 2018, Vol, 49 p. 419-427.

The right of an expert of the Latvian Council of Science in the relevant field of science has been granted to **6 teaching staff**:

Rūta Muktupāvela - Science sector: Music, visual arts and architecture, sub-branch Cultural theory (expiry date of current expert rights 02.11.2025)

Anita Vaivade - Science sector: Music, visual arts and architecture (expiry of current expert rights 01.02.2026)

Līga Ulberte - Science sector: Music, visual arts and architecture (expiry of current expert rights 01.02.2026)

Baiba Tjarve - Science sector: Other humanitarian and artistic sciences, including the science of the creative industries (current expert rights expire on 23.04.2023)

Ieva Zemīte - Science sector: Other humanitarian and artistic sciences, including the science of the creative industries (expiry date of current expert rights 01.02.2026)

Ilona Kunda - Science sector: Other humanitarian and artistic sciences, including the science of creative industries (expiration date of current expert rights 01.02.2026)

The certificate that the academic staff of the program consists of at least five doctors, of which at least 3 are experts approved by the Latvian Science Council in the field of sciences "*Music, visual arts and architecture*", as well as in the field of sciences "*Science of creative industries*" will be added to the appendix after February 2, 2023.

3.4.4. Information on the participation of the academic staff, involved in the implementation of the doctoral study programme, in scientific projects as project managers or prime contractors/ subproject managers/ leading researchers by specifying the name of the relevant project, as well as the source and the amount of the funding. Provide information on the reporting period (if applicable).

Teaching staff involved in the academic doctoral study programme "*Arts*" actively participate in research projects both as project managers and as main performers. 11 of the teaching staff of the programme were elected to the academic positions of the Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies of Latvian Academy of Culture, which can be evaluated as a factor contributing to their academic

qualifications.

International research projects:

As a result of the activities of the Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies (IAC) since 2012, significant successes have been achieved in the field of internationalization of scientific research activities, and IAC is currently implementing the only project in Latvia funded by the EU research and innovation programme "Horizon 2020" in the field of humanities and arts "CoHERE", participate in teams with international researchers in the development of new projects, and since 2014 have been implementing an international project in the field of intangible cultural heritage rights, which is financed by the Latvian-French partnership programme "Osmose".

1) Three research projects have been implemented under the leadership of the **leading researcher doc. Dr.art. Anita Vaivade** (2014-2015, 2016-2017, 2020-2021) (see

<https://lka.edu.lv/en/research/research-projects/international-research-projects/osmose/>) in Hubert Curien partnership programme OSMOSE, which is a Latvian-French cooperation programme in the fields of science and technology development. The project is financed by the EU research and innovation support programme "Horizon Europe" (project grant agreement No. 101061747).

2) In 2016-2019, LAC's scientists implemented the project "CoHERE: Critical Heritages: performing and representing identities in Europe" funded by the EU research and innovation programme "Horizon 2020" under the leadership of **Dr. art. Rūta Muktupāvela**, where LAC was one of 12 partners (leading partner: University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Great Britain. EU research and innovation programme "Horizon 2020" (EC H2020 funded research project under grant agreement 693289) (see <https://lka.edu.lv/en/research/research-projects/international-research-projects/>);

3) In 2022-2026, LAC's scientists implement the research project "IN SITU: Place-based innovation of cultural and creative industries in non-urban areas" funded by the EU research and innovation support programme "Horizon Europe" under the leadership of **prof. Dr. oec. I. Zemīte**, where LAC is one of 13 partners, and the leading partner is The Centre for Social Studies of the University of Coimbra in Portugal. The project is financed by the EU research and innovation support programme "Horizon Europe" (project grant agreement No. 101061747) (see <https://lka.edu.lv/en/research/research-projects/international-research-projects/in-situ/>). **Prof. Dr.sc.soc. Anda Laķe, Dr.sc.soc. Ilona Kunda, Dr.art. Baiba Tjarve** participate in the implementation of the project. Project funding: 213,500 EUR.

4) In 2023-2027 (from 01.03.2023) LAC's scientists will implement the EU research and innovation support programme "Horizon Europe" research project "Transforming crafts knowledge for a sustainable, inclusive and economically viable heritage in Europe" under the leadership of lead researcher **Dr.art. Anita Vaivade**, where LAC is one of 15 partners, and the leading partner is the University of Antwerp. The project is financed by the EU research and innovation support programme "Horizon Europe" (project grant agreement No. 101094507) (see <https://lka.edu.lv/en/research/research-projects/international-research-projects/>). **Project funding:** 242 200 EUR.

State research programmes:

- Project "**Cultural capital as a resource for sustainable development of Latvia**"/CARD (No. VPP-KM-LKRVA-2020/1-0003); financier: Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia within the framework of the state research programme "Latvian Culture – a Resource for National Development" (2020-2022). **Project manager: Dr. art. Rūta Muktupāvela.** Project No.: VPP-KM-LKRVA-2020/1- 0003; Project implementation time: 1.10.2020-30.09.2022; **Project funding:** 1 000 035.00 EUR; Project partners: LAC, JVLMA, AAL, LNB, ILFA UL. Project coordinator is IAC leading researcher **Dr. art. Baiba Tjarve, Prof.**

Anda Laķe, Assoc. Prof. Dr. oec Ieva Zemīte are involved in the project as responsible contacts.

Within this project, LAC implements several sub-projects:

- **“Latvijas kinomāksla. Jaunie laiki. 1990-2020”**. **Purpose:** to prepare collective scientific monographs “*Latvian Cinema: New Times 1990-2020*” manuscript, as well as organize a set of thematically appropriate public events. **Involvement of researchers:** Art. Dita Rietuma, main performer, **prof. Dr. art. Inga Pērkone-Redoviča**. Collaborating institutions: National Film Centre of Latvia, Riga Film Museum of LAC, Latvian State Archive of Audiovisual Documents of the Latvian National Archive, Latvian Film Producers Association, Latvian Filmmakers Union, film studios, etc.
- **“Laikmetīgā teātra terminoloģija: jēdzieni un konteksti”**. The aim of the research is to create a theatre glossary in Latvian, which explains and illustrates the most important theoretical concepts and practical concepts of contemporary theatre with examples recognizable in the context of European, including Latvian, theatre; approve and explain internationally accepted theatre terminology in Latvian, offering a unified understanding and use of theatre language based on theory and practice. **Working group:** LAC prof. Līga Ulberte, LAC professor *Dr. philol.* Valda Čakare, ILFA UL – Edīte Tišheizere, LAC scientific doctorate candidate Zane Kreicberga, LAC doctoral student Atis Rozentāls.
- Sub-project **“Sabiedrības un mantojuma kopienu līdzdalības prakses. Mantojuma kopienas jauniešu segmentā”** aims to typify society and heritage communities, as well as their participation practices in heritage protection, conservation, transmission, communication and management, in order to assess the role of society and cultural heritage communities in the development of the diversity of the cultural ecosystem and in the creation of cultural values (tangible and intangible), paying special attention to the cultural practices of young people. Involvement of researchers: the sub-project is led by **Dr.art. Rūta Muktupāvela** in collaboration with leading researcher **Ieva Vītola**. Cooperation partners.
- Sub-project **“Kultūras un radošā sektora ietekmes un pārnese efektu noteikšana”** aims to develop research methodology and methods of social and economic impact of creative work and cultural heritage; determine sets of indicators for measuring and monitoring these phenomena; to discover the most suitable evaluation research designs and road maps to determine the impact of creative work and cultural heritage on the sustainable development of the country, society and economy and national identity. **Involvement of researchers:** the sub-project is led by **prof. Ieva Zemīte**, in cooperation with **prof. Anda Laķe** and **leading researcher Baiba Tjarve**.
- Sub-project **“Projekta vadība un sinerģijas starp konsorcijs partneriem”** aims to monitor project implementation and ensure interaction and synergy between partners' research and academic activities. The sub-project is led by the **leading researcher Dr.art. Baiba Tjarve**.
- Sub-project's **“Aktuālo kultūras procesu ekosistēma un sabiedrības līdzdalība kā kultūras kapitāla vairošanas resurss”** aim is to supplement the cultural information system and create new knowledge about current cultural processes: to identify, map and typologize Latvian cultural and creative sector ecosystem operator groups and their interactions, to evaluate the importance of these operators, as well as the participation of society and the cultural audience in increasing the diversity of cultural capital. The sub-project is designed as an empirical and field research based on the theories of cultural ecosystem and cultural capital. **Involvement of researchers:** P **Dr.sc.soc. Anda Laķe**. **Assoc. prof. Ieva Zemīte**, **leading researchers Ilona Kunda** and **Baiba Tjarve** participate in the working group.
- **The project “Digital Resources for Humanities: Integration and Development” (No.**

VPP-IZM-DH-2020/1-0001) is implemented within the framework of the State research programme "*Digital resources of humanities*". **Project No.:** VPP-IZM-DH-2020/1-0001. **Time of project implementation:** 05.10.2020 - 04.10.2022. **Project funding:** 1,217,700 EUR, **Project financier:** The Latvian Council of Science of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia. **Project partners:** [Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art of the University of Latvia](#), Institute of Mathematics and Computer Science of the University of Latvia, University of Latvia ([UL Livonian Institute](#) and [Latvian Language Institute of the University of Latvia](#)), Rēzekne Academy of Technologies, Liepaja University, Latvian Academy of Culture, Riga Technical University, National Library of Latvia. **Project coordinator LAC:** **Dr.sc.soc. Ilona Kunda**. The latest information about the project: <https://dhlv.mozello.com/projects/DHVPP-en/>

- The project "**Landscapes of Identities: History, Culture, and Environment**" (No VPP-LETONIKA-2021/1-0008) is implemented within the framework of the National Research Programme "*Letonika – Fostering Latvian and European Society*". **Project implementation period:** 20.12.2021–19.12.2024. **Project funding:** 1 068 000 EUR. Project funding authority: Latvian Council of Science of the Ministry of Education and Science. **Project partners:** Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art of the University of Latvia (leading partner), Rezekne Academy of Technologies, Liepaja University, Latvian Academy of Culture, Art Academy of Latvia. **Project executors:** **Professor Dr. Art. Rūta Muktupāvela** and **leading researcher Dr.habil.art., Dr.hist. Juris Urtāns**. (<https://lka.edu.lv/en/research/research-projects/state-research-programmes/landscapes-of-identities/>)
- From 2014 to 2017, the Research Centre of the Latvian Academy of Culture (LAC) implemented the State Research Programme "*Sustainability of Latvian Cultural Traditions in an Innovative Environment*" / *Habitus*. Programme leader: **Dr.art. Ruta Muktupāvela**. The programme was implemented in the priority direction of the state research programme "*Latvia - history, languages, culture, values of Latvia*" developed by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia. **Project funding:** 124,718 EUR. (<https://lka.edu.lv/en/research/research-projects/state-research-programmes/archive-national-research-programmes/state-research-programme-habitus/>)
- The project of the state research programme "**Aspects of values in Letonika. Letonika – the history, languages, culture, values of Latvia /LETONIKA**". Implementation period: 02.12.2014 - 30.06.2018. Project client or supervising institution: Administration of Studies and Science. **Project funding:** 65 000 EUR.

Fundamental and applied research projects:

- Meaning and Practice of Autonomy in Gig-Work: Sociocultural Inquiry in Experience of Wolt and Bolt Delivery Workers in Riga (No. Izp-2021/1-0521) is implemented in the Fundamental and Applied Research (FLPP) programme. Funded by the Latvian Council of Science. **Project leader:** **Dr.sc.soc. Maija Spuriņa**. Time of project implementation: 03.01.2022. – 31.12.2024 **Project funding:** 299613.60 EUR. Project financier: Latvian Council of Science.
- **Rethinking Creative Cities: Networks, Intermediaries, Development Prospects/ RePrint** (No. Izp-2021/1-0588) is implemented in the Fundamental and Applied Research (FLPP) programme. Funded by the Latvian Council of Science. **Project leader:** **Dr. oec. Ieva Zemīte**. **Project No.:** No. Izp-2021/1-0588. **Time of project implementation:** 03.01.2022. – 31.12.2024 **Project funding:** 299999.70 EUR. Project financier: Latvian Council of Science.
- **Fundamental and Applied Research Programme Project "Community Participation in Cultural Heritage Governance: Practices, Developments and Challenges"** (project no. Izp-2018/2-0280). Project implementation time 12.2018-12.2020. **Research project**

leader: Dr.art. Rūta Muktupāvela, financier - Latvian Council of Science. The core of the project's research team consists of 9 researchers, including Prof. *Dr.art.* Rūta Muktupāvela, prof. *Dr.sc.soc.* Anda Laķe, leading researcher *Dr.art.* Baiba Tjarve, leading researcher asst. prof. *Dr.art.* Anita Vaivade. Cooperation partners of the project are the Latvian National Centre for Culture and the Latvian National Commission for UNESCO. Funding institution: Latvian Council of Science. **Project funding:** 199 340 EUR.

- **Project “Newly discovered hillforts in Latvia 2018-2021: cultural-historical significance”** (No. lzp-2020/2-0078) is implemented in the Fundamental and Applied Research (FLPP) programme. **Project leader: Dr. hist., Dr. habil. art. Juris Tālivaldis Urtāns, Project No.:** No. lzp-2020/2-0078. **Time of project implementation:** 01.12.2020. – 31.12.2021 **Project funding:** 100,389 EUR. **Project financier:** Latvian Council of Science.
- **Project “The Vidzeme River Svētupe in the Mythical and Real Cultural Space”.** **Project leader: Dr.hist., Dr.habil.art.** Juris Urtāns, **Project executors: Dr.habil.philol.** Janīna Kursīte, *Dr.philol.* Sandis Laime, *Dr.art* Rūta Muktupāvela, *Mg.hist.* Rasma Noriņa, *Dr.art.* Ieva Vītola. **Project funding:** 35 161 EUR.

Noteworthy is the participation of the academic staff involved in the implementation of the programme in the **implementation of post-doctoral projects**. In total, LAC is involved in 3 postdoctoral projects, including the programme **lecturer Dr.art. Anita Vaivade** who implements the project “*Intangible Cultural Heritage as Resource for Sustainable Development in Northern Europe: Rights-Based Approach*” (Project No. 1.1.1.2/VIAA/3/19/476) in the EU Operational Programme “*Growth and employment*” activity 1.1.1.2 “*Post-doctoral Research Aid*” of the Specific Objective 1.1.1 “*To increase the research and innovative capacity of scientific institutions of Latvia and the ability to attract external financing, investing in human resources and infrastructure*”. **Project implementation deadline:** 01.02.2020. – 31.01.2023 **Total funding of the project:** EUR 133 805.88 (including ERDF funding: EUR 113 734.98, State budget funding: EUR 13 380.58, LAC funding: EUR 6 690.31).

Studies commissioned by the Latvian culture and art industry administration and other institutions

The results of these studies are used in the development of municipal and national cultural policy. LAC regularly cooperates with the Latvian National Centre for Culture, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia, cultural organizations, as well as with municipalities, developing both cultural consumption studies and municipal cultural development programmes. In 2013, 3 studies were developed, in 2014 - 5 studies, in 2015 - 3 studies, in 2016 - 5 studies, in 2017 - 5 studies, in 2018 - 4 studies, in 2019 - 2, in 2020 - 6, in 2021 - 10, in 2022 - 11 such studies were developed. Teaching staff involved in the implementation of the academic doctoral study programme also participated in the conduct of these studies as project leaders or executors.

3.4.5. Assessment of the cooperation between the teaching staff members by specifying the mechanisms used to promote the cooperation and ensure the interrelation between the study programme and study courses/ modules. Specify also the proportion of the number of the students and the teaching staff within the study programme (at the moment of the submission of the Self-Assessment Report).

In order to promote the cooperation of teaching staff of the study programme in the implementation of the study programme and ensuring the interconnection of the study courses

included in the programme, these factors are essential:

1. **The succession of study programmes of the study direction "Arts" implemented by LAC** and for the cooperation of LAC's departments in the implementation of LAC's bachelor's, master's and doctoral study programmes;
2. **Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies of LAC (IAC)**, which supports, organizes and coordinates scientific research activities at LAC, promotes the process of research-based studies and creative activities and thus ensures a close relationship between LAC's academic staff and students (including students in the LAC's academic doctoral study programme "Arts") cooperation in the development of both local and international research project applications and especially in the implementation of projects, e.g. the EU research and innovation support program "Horizon 2020" research project CoHERE: "*Critical Heritages: performing and representing identities in Europe*", in which LAC acted as one of 12 partners (leading partner: University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Great Britain); The projects financed by the main EU research and innovation funding programme "Horizon Europe": 1) IN SITU: *Place-based innovation of cultural and creative industries in non-urban areas/* and 2) Tracks4Crafts: Transforming crafts knowledge for a sustainable, inclusive and economically viable heritage in Europe. State research programme project "*Cultural Capital as a Resource for Sustainable Development of Latvia*"/CARD (No. VPP-KM-LKRVA-2020/1-0003) etc.). During the period of development of the self-evaluation report, 11 teaching staff involved in the implementation of the doctoral study programme were elected to the position of IAC leading researcher or researcher.
3. **Science and Arts Council of LAC**, whose activities and functions are determined by the "*Regulations of the Science and Arts Council of the Latvian Academy of Culture*" (see https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dSopD1Whk4_IJC3cc7Fv1OhkHHApNQiC/view). The Science and Arts Council of the Latvian Academy of Culture (hereinafter - SAC) is a collegial institution of LAC, which resolves issues related to doctoral studies and the scientific and creative activities of LAC's academic staff. The composition of the SAC includes no less than seven members from the academic staff of LAC with a doctorate in science or a professional doctorate in arts, or professors. The delegated functions of the SAC include:
 - perform the duties of the Admission Commission of LAC within the limits of the number of study places allocated by the LAC's Senate for admission to the LAC's academic doctoral study programme "Arts" and evaluate the eligibility of applicants for LAC's doctoral studies;
 - to approve the topics and scientific supervisors of doctoral theses of the LAC's academic doctoral study programme;
 - evaluate the study results of LAC's doctoral students, as well as their compliance with the individual work plan submitted by the doctoral students. Based on the evaluations of the individual studies of the doctoral students of the academic doctoral study programme and the evaluations of the studies and artistic work of the doctoral students of the academic or professional doctoral study programme, to recommend the doctoral students for a scholarship, transfer to the next courses or deduction in case of not completing the research work or creative work project and related theoretical research development plans;
 - to evaluate the doctoral thesis and its parts of doctoral students of the academic doctoral study programme, as well as to determine the degree of readiness of the doctoral student to defend the thesis;
 - develop and/or evaluate regulations and other regulatory documents related to LAC's doctoral studies.

During the self-evaluation report development period, the SAC included 16 highly qualified LAC's academic staff representatives, 13 of whom are directly involved in the implementation of doctoral

studies during the self-evaluation report development period, both as lecturers of programme study courses and supervisors of doctoral theses developed by doctoral students. In order to carry out the delegated functions in accordance with the "*Regulations of the Culture and Arts Council of the Latvian Academy of Culture*", SAC meetings are held regularly, systematically evaluating the performance of doctoral students, as well as discussing and solving issues related to the implementation of the study programme and promoting mutual cooperation and communication between teaching staff involved in the implementation of the programme, including interlinking study courses and the topics included in them, as well as updating them according to the topics of doctoral theses developed by doctoral students in the programme. SAC also performs essential functions in the implementation of the study course "*Seminar in Culture and Art Research*" included in Part A of the programme. Seminars are organized regularly - at the end of each study semester and in them doctoral students present the topics of their doctoral theses, report on the progress of the development of the doctoral thesis, answer the questions asked by the participants of the seminar. As part of the seminars, academic discussions take place, in which all doctoral students studying in the programme, members of the SAC, and all supervisors of doctoral theses participate, discussing the presentations of doctoral students, shaping the progress of the development of the doctoral thesis, providing proposals on the possibilities of solving the problems that the doctoral students face in their individual research in the process of developing the thesis and doctoral thesis, as well as providing recommendations for the further development of the doctoral thesis. These seminars especially promote the cooperation of teaching staff involved in the implementation of the programme, as well as promote interdisciplinary cooperation between teaching staff and doctoral students representing different priority research areas of LAC.

The ratio of the number of students and teaching staff within the study programme at the time of the development of the self-evaluation report is 16 lecturers to 19 students. Taking into account the specifics of doctoral level studies, namely the need to ensure individual cooperation between the doctoral student and the thesis supervisor in accordance with the research focus of the doctoral thesis, as well as the specific research interests of each student, such a ratio of students and teaching staff is natural and appropriate.

Annexes

III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme		
Sample of the diploma and its supplement to be issued for completing the study programme	3.1.2._akad.dok.zip	3.1.2._akad.dok.zip
For academic study programmes - Opinion of the Council of Higher Education in accordance with Section 55, Paragraph two of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)		
Compliance of the joint study programme with the provisions of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (table) (if applicable)		
Statistics on the students in the reporting period	Annex 5_statistical data on students Acad Doc 2013_2022.docx	5. pielikums_Akad-Dokt. studejoso skaits 2013_2022.docx
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof		
Compliance with the study programme with the State Education Standard	Compliance of the study programme with the national education standard.zip	Studiju programmas atbilstība valsts izglītības standartam.zip
Compliance of the qualification to be acquired upon completion of the study programme with the professional standard or the requirements for professional qualification (if applicable)		
Compliance of the study programme with the specific regulatory framework applicable to the relevant field (if applicable)	Eng_The compliance of the study programme with regulatory requirements, if a doctoral study programme is implemented.docx	Studiju programmas atbilstība normatīvajam regulējumam LKA akad doktors (1) (1).docx
Mapping of the study courses/ modules for the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study programme	3.2.1._Study course mapping.xlsx	3.2.1._Studiju kursu kartēšana.xlsx
The curriculum of the study programme (for each type and form of the implementation of the study programme)	3.2.1._Curriculum (1).xlsx	3.2.1. Programmas plāns (1).xlsx
Descriptions of the study courses/ modules	3.2.1._Course description_ENG (1).zip	3.2.1. Kursu apraksti (2).zip
Description of the organisation of the internship of the students (if applicable)		
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.4. Teaching Staff		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the doctoral study programme includes not less than five doctors, of which at least three are experts approved by the Latvian Council of Science in the branch or sub-branch of science in which the study programme intends to award a scientific degree (if applicable)	Apliecinājums.zip	Apliecinājums.zip
Confirmation that the academic staff of the academic study programme complies with the requirements specified in Section 55, Paragraph one, Clause 3 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)	CONFIRMATION_dARTS.pdf	Akad.dokt. %22Mākslas%22.zip

Audiovisual Art (43213)

Study field	Arts
ProcedureStudyProgram.Name	Audiovisual Art
Education classification code	43213
Type of the study programme	Academic bachelor study programme
Name of the study programme director	Jānis
Surname of the study programme director	Putniņš
E-mail of the study programme director	janis.putnins@lka.edu.lv
Title of the study programme director	Mg.art
Phone of the study programme director	
Goal of the study programme	<p><i>The aim of the programme is to provide modern, international standards-compliant studies in the field of audiovisual art, preparing academically educated and professionally competitive specialists, in accordance with the requirements of the Latvian audiovisual art field, the cultural policy of Latvia and the audience.</i></p> <p><i>The programme provides basic and specialized knowledge, skills and professional competence in the audiovisual arts, as well as basic knowledge and skills in the performing arts, providing students with a set of knowledge, skills and competences in accordance with the level 6 knowledge, skills and competence of the framework structure determined in the Latvian education classification.</i></p>

Tasks of the study programme	<p>The tasks of the program are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to provide academic education of humanities to the students of the program in accordance with the "Regulations on the State Academic Education Standard" of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia - to create an integrated study process of the programme, in which students would acquire comprehensive knowledge of the diverse aspects of the aesthetics, production and analysis of audiovisual works of art in the wider context of the art field, - to teach how to work in creative team, thus creating a harmonious environment for artistic creativity in Latvia in the future, - to provide in-depth and specific knowledge, skills and competences in the student's chosen specialization - "Film Directing", "Film Editing and Sound", "Specialization: Cinematography", "Specialization: Production of Audiovisual Art and Theatre" and "Specialization: Theory of Audiovisual Art and Theatre", to prepare students for further studies in the master's study programs of LAC or other Latvian and international higher education institutions, - ensure the participation of highly qualified academic personnel in the implementation of the programme, actively and purposefully cooperate with Latvian and foreign universities and other educational and creative institutions, - create a favorable environment for the study process with appropriate technical support, - to cooperate with the students' potential employers, ensuring the acquisition of students' knowledge and practical skills in the audiovisual arts, as well as promoting the professional employment of LKA graduates, - to ensure the accessibility of students' creativity and research works of appropriate quality to the public.
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Results of the study programme	<p>As a result of completing the study program, the graduate:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has improved specialized knowledge, skills and professional competence in audiovisual arts, as well as basic knowledge and skills in performing arts, ensuring a set of knowledge, skills and competences of students in accordance with the knowledge, skills and competence of level 6 of the Framework specified in the Latvian Classification of Education 2. Students can demonstrate specialized knowledge and critical understanding of this knowledge in art science and artistic creation. The knowledge of the student in the field of audiovisual arts is appropriate to the level of the highest achievements of the field. In the field of performing arts the student acquires an understanding of the most important concepts and regularities. 3. Using the acquired theoretical foundations and practical skills, students are able to carry out professional, artistic or research activities in the field of audiovisual art. Students are able to formulate and analytically describe information, problems and solutions in the subfield of art science "Theory of Cinema and Theater". Students are able to explain the most important issues of audiovisual art and reasoned debate about them with both specialists and non-specialists. Students are able to independently structure their studies, strive for academic and professional improvement, are able to demonstrate a scientific and professional approach to solving problems, take responsibility and initiative when working individually or in a team, as well as managing the work of other people, are able to make decisions and find creative solutions in changing conditions. 4. Students are able to independently acquire, select and analyze art science information and use it in the field of audiovisual art, are able to make decisions and solve problems in audiovisual art research and creation, understand professional ethics, are able to evaluate the impact of their professional activities on the environment and society, and professionally operate the audiovisual arts industry development and improvement.
Final examination upon the completion of the study programme	Bachelor's Thesis.

Study programme forms

Full time studies - 3 years - latvian

Study type and form	Full time studies
Duration in full years	3
Duration in month	0
Language	latvian
Amount (CP)	120
Admission requirements (in English)	Secondary education and entrance examination
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	Bachelor of Arts in Audiovisual Art
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	-

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
Latvian Academy of Culture	RĪGA	LUDZAS IELA 24, LATGALES PRIEKŠPILSĒTA, RĪGA, LV-1003

3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme

3.1.1. Description and analysis of changes in the parameters of the study programme made since the issuance of the previous accreditation form of the study field or issuance of the study programme license, if the study programme is not included on the accreditation form of the study field, including changes planned within the evaluation procedure of the study field evaluation procedure.

Since license No. 04066-5 issue on June 8, 2016 to the Latvian Academy of Culture for the right to implement the academic bachelor's study programme "Audiovisual Art" (code 43213), no changes have been made to the parameters of the study programme and are not planned as part of the study direction evaluation procedure.

In the academic bachelor's study programme "Audiovisual Art" since its licensing, it is possible to study in five specializations - Film Directing, Film Editing and Sound, Cinematography, Audiovisual and Performing Arts Production and Audiovisual and Performing Arts Theory.

Since the graduation of the first students in 2019, the programmes study course planning and course content have been regularly evaluated together with graduates and lecturers, as a result of which minor changes have been made. It is important to note that until 2019, students were admitted once every 3 years, respectively, in the "Audiovisual Art" programme one group of students studied at the same time. Since 2019, students have been admitted to the programme every year, entrance exams are held in July. At the moment, this transitional stage has ended, and the programme is implemented every year in the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd year of studies. Therefore, since 2022, the students of the programme graduate every year. Due to the annual enrolment, changes in the workload and composition of lecturers, as well as to balance of the volume of study courses in all six semesters, the semester plan of study courses has undergone minor changes since 2016.

Taking into account the number of students and lecturers' recommendations, to improve student cooperation, the curriculum of the programme's specializations "Film directing" and "Film editing and sound" is the same, but the study content of each specialization incorporates emphasis corresponding to the specialization.

Changes made to the curriculum:

- The study course "History and Current Trends of World and Latvian Cinema" (10 CP) has been restructured so that in the first-year students learn "An Introduction to the History of World Cinema" (2 CP) and "Latvian Film History" (2 CP), and starting from the 3rd up until the 6th semester students learn the study course "World Cinema: History and Current Tendencies" (8 CP) in thematic blocks.
- The study courses "Documentary Cinema Aesthetics: Theory and Practice" (4 CP) and "Stage Cinema Aesthetics: Theory and Practice" (4 CP) have been restructured into one study course "Aesthetics of Film: Theory and Practice" (8 CP), which is implemented from the 1st up until the 4th semester.
- The study course "The Fundamentals of Acting" (4 CP) has been restructured from a 4-part course to a 2-part course, which students learn in the 1st and 2nd semester.
- The study courses "TV Journalism" (2 CP) and "TV Theory and Practice" (4 CP) have been replaced by the study course "New Media: Theory and Practice" (2 CP), and students are offered the opportunity to undergo specialization internship in companies related to the

specifics of television.

- The content of the study courses "Film Sound Direction" (4 CP) and "Film Composition, Style, Image, Narrative" (2 CP) is integrated into the 6-part structured study course "Theory and Practice of Film Editing and Sound Postproduction" (11 CP).
- The content of the study course "Filming Technique and Technologies" (3 CP) is integrated into the study course "Cinematography: Theory and Practice. Contemporary Camerawork" (5 CP).
- The content of the study course "Event Production and Management" (2 CP) is integrated into the study course "Production of Performances and Audiovisual Works: Theory and Practice" (13 CP).
- Clarifying the amount of study courses in credit points, the study course "Culture Marketing and Fundraising" (2 CP) is offered as a free choice (C) part study course for those studying the specialization "Audiovisual and Performing Arts Production"
- For specializations "Audiovisual and Stage Art Production" and "Audiovisual and Performing Arts Theory" part of the compulsory electives (B) includes the study course "The Fundamentals of Cinema Direction" (2 CP).
- For specializations "Film Directing" and "Film Editing and Sound", part (B) of the compulsory electives includes the study course "The Basics of Film Production" (1 CP).

No other significant changes have been made in the programme planning. The changes made to the semester plans and the offer of study courses have contributed to the unity of the program, improved the logical subordination of the studied courses and reduced the number of tests for the students.

3.1.2. Analysis and assessment of the study programme compliance with the study field. Analysis of the interrelation between the code of the study programme, the degree, professional qualification/professional qualification requirements or the degree and professional qualification to be acquired, the aims, objectives, learning outcomes, and the admission requirements. Description of the duration and scope of the implementation of the study programme (including different options of the study programme implementation) and evaluation of its usefulness.

LAC's academic bachelor's study programme "Audiovisual Art" fully corresponds to the overarching goal of LAC's study direction Art - to provide sustainable, successive, interdisciplinarity-based higher and postgraduate (doctoral) education in the field of culture, art and the creative sector, to prepare competitive culture and arts (audiovisual arts, theater and dance arts) industry professionals, to deepen the integration of the implemented education, research and artistic creation process in the national and international culture, art and creative ecosystem. Programme code 43213 complies with Latvia's Cabinet of Ministers regulations no. 322 Regulations on the classification of education in Latvia, where it is determined that the thematic group of education Humanities and Art includes the thematic field of education Arts, which includes the group of educational programs "Audiovisual Art and Media Art".

The aim of the programme is to provide academic humanities education to the students of the programme in accordance with the "Regulations on the State Academic Education Standard" of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia, to create an integrated study process of the programme, in which the students would gain comprehensive knowledge of the diverse aspects of

the aesthetics, production and analysis of audiovisual works of art in the wider context of the art field, to learn to work in a coherent creative team, thereby creating a harmonious environment for Latvian artistic creativity in the future, to provide in-depth and specific knowledge, skills and competences in the student's chosen specialization - "Film directing", "Film Editing and Sound", "Cinematography", "Audiovisual and Performing Arts Production" and "Audiovisual and Performing Arts Theory", to prepare students for further studies in the master's study programs of LAC or other higher education institutions in Latvia and the world, to ensure the participation of highly qualified academic staff in the implementation of the programme actively and purposefully cooperate with Latvian and foreign universities and other educational and creative institutions, create a favorable environment for the study process with appropriate technical support, cooperate with potential employers of students, ensuring students' acquisition of knowledge and practical skills in audiovisual arts, as well as promoting LAC graduates professional employment, to ensure the accessibility of students' creativity and research works of appropriate quality to society.

The planned results - provide basic and specialized knowledge, skills and professional competence in audiovisual art, as well as in performing arts, knowledge, skills and competences in accordance with the knowledge, skills and competences of level 6 of the framework structure determined by the Latvian education classification - are achieved.

Students are able to demonstrate specialized knowledge and critical understanding of art science and artistic creativity. The students' knowledge of the field of audiovisual art corresponds to the level of the highest achievements and understanding of the field, the study content of the field of performing arts is about the most important concepts and regularities.

Using the acquired theoretical foundations and practical skills, students are able to carry out professional, artistic or research activities in the field of audiovisual and performing arts (according to their specialization), are able to formulate and analytically describe information, problems and solutions in the sub-field of humanities and art science "History and Theory of Theatre and Cinema". Students are able to explain the most important issues of audiovisual art and reasonably discuss them with both specialists and non-specialists. Students are able to independently structure their studies, strive for academic and professional improvement, are able to demonstrate a scientific and professional approach to solving problems, take responsibility and take initiative when working individually or in a team, as well as managing the work of other people, are able to make decisions and find creative solutions in changing conditions.

Students are able to independently acquire, select and analyse art science information and use it in the field of audiovisual art, are able to make decisions and solve problems in audiovisual art research and creation, understand professional ethics, are able to evaluate the impact of their professional activities on the environment and society, and professionally operate the audiovisual arts industry development and improvement.

Achieving the quality of study results is also facilitated by the admission requirements in the programme's entrance exams. In order for students to be motivated and informed about the specifics of the study programme and its implementation, every year, information days and consultations are organized for those interested in the programme, the lecturers of the programme participate in project "Ēnu diena", where pupils, potential applicants have the opportunity to get to know the specifics of LAC more closely. The entrance examination of the programme "Creative Competition" is organized in three rounds, as a result of which applicants with high motivation and relevant skills are selected according to their chosen specialization. During the study process, it is possible to maintain high-intensity studies and maintain high study quality requirements, as well as to implement the principle of horizontal (non-hierarchical) cooperation embedded in the study program, when students and lecturers cooperate as equal partners, in which mutual cooperation

between students is of great importance, in which they learn from each other.

By successfully graduating from LAC's academic bachelor's programme "Audiovisual Art", students obtain a bachelor's degree in humanities in audiovisual art.

The positive results are confirmed by the nominations and awards of creative works of students and graduates in the national film contest "Lielais Kristaps".

The duration of studies in the academic bachelor study programme "Audiovisual Art" is six semesters or three years in the amount of 120 credit points or 180 ECTS. In general, this volume is considered optimal for such bachelor's level studies, which combine creative and research components, practical and theoretical classes. Considering that the specifics of the programme require not only the acquisition of theoretical knowledge, but also the creation of creative works, such a study period is sufficient to ensure a comprehensive, high-quality education. An integral part of the creative work is a theoretical basis that meets the academic conditions and requirements, in which students both study the topic chosen for the development of the creative work and analyze the process and result of creating their creative work.

3.1.3. Economic and/ or social substantiation of the study programme, analysis of graduates' employment.

The Latvian National Cinema Center annually publishes a public annual report, which provides information on trends in the audiovisual arts sector. From the available statistical data on the website of the National Cinema Center (Available: <https://www.nkc.gov.lv/lv/media/14461/download?attachment>) in the period from 2018-2022 in the year 2020, we see a trend that the industry is developing steadily, with the state funding for film production reaching EUR 7,455,298 in 2022, producing an average of 48 films per year.

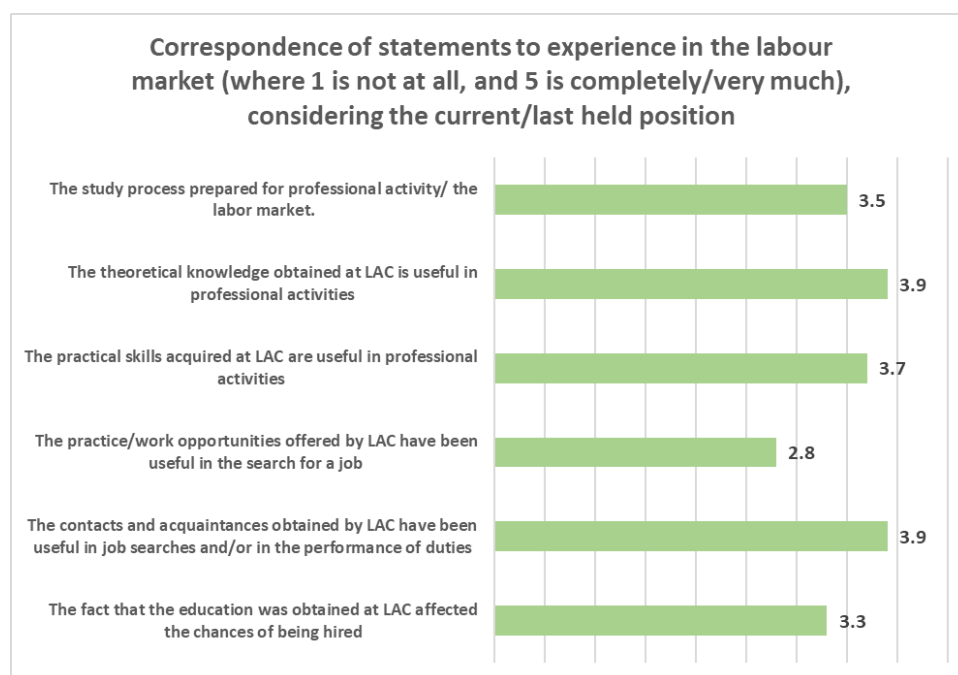
As funding increases, so does the number of specialists employed in the industry. During LAC's daily cooperation with industry employers, a trend has been observed that the demand for specialists with practical work experience and good knowledge of the latest technologies is growing. Observing the integration of LAC's graduates into the labor market so far, it can be seen that the majority of graduates work in the field of the obtained degree and education, and the most active generation in the field of audiovisual art (from 25 to 45 years old) are exactly LAC's graduates.

International film projects implemented in Latvia provide additional opportunities for audiovisual art specialists in the labour market, in which not only programme's graduates, but also LAC's students often work as administrative and technical support staff, sometimes also participating in film creative groups. The number of international projects implemented in Latvia has increased in recent years, thanks to the co-financing programme of the Riga municipality "Riga Film Fund" and the programme "Filming of Foreign Films in Latvia", which is administered by the Investment and Development Agency of Latvia.

Data on graduate employment is obtained through an annual graduate survey. In general, collecting data from 2016, it is possible to conclude that graduates enter the labour market relatively quickly, 68% of students are already working at the time of graduation, and the represented industries are similar to the studied study programs. In the following text, the employment of the graduates of the study programme "Audiovisual Art" will be analysed and examples of graduates' employment and integration into the labour market will be presented.

Audiovisual art - 75% of the programme's graduates are already employed upon graduation, while 10% of graduates become employed 1-3 months after graduation, which can be considered a very positive trend. The majority of graduates work in the industry - 34% represent the Audiovisual arts sector (cinema, video), 18% of graduates work in television, radio and/or interactive media platforms, 7% represent the field of cultural education. Such industries as choreography, dance industry, performing arts (theatre, opera, concerts, shows, circus) and other industries are also represented. The majority of graduates (n=75) believe that the theoretical knowledge acquired at LAC has been useful in the context of professional activity, as well as the cooperation and working relationships initiated during the studies have been useful in job searches and/or in fulfilling the duties of the position. The opinion about the usefulness of internships and work opportunities offered by LAC in the search for a job is quite ambiguous, which can be explained by the fact that the majority of students are already employed at the time of graduation. See *Table 1* for more.

Table 1.



During their studies in the academic bachelor's study programme "Audiovisual Art", future specialists of the audiovisual art industry acquire not only theoretical knowledge, but also practical work skills, which allow them to be included in the creation of local and international film industry projects already during their studies, especially after 2016, in the creation of student films, there is a regular cooperation with industry professionals, production studios working in the industry and equipment rental companies. Regular participation of LAC's student films in local and international industry film festivals, showing them to the wider public on Latvian Television (LTV), as well as their inclusion in commercial television content packages, contributes to the inclusion of students' creative works in the audiovisual arts industry and recognition already during their studies. The annual results and awards of the National Cinema Award "Lielais Kristaps" as well as success in international festivals testify to the quality of students' works.

During the creation of the "FilmSkills" cooperation project of the three Baltic States, when the representatives of the various departments responsible for film production were interviewed, the experience gained led to the conclusion that due to the rapidly growing volume of foreign film shooting, there is a seasonal shortage of specialists in the Baltic States who have the necessary specific technical knowledge and skills and competence, such as second assistant operator, video operator, lighting, assistants in the production department, field sound operators, etc. Taking into account the demand of the labour market, in the future it is planned to give students the

opportunity to carry out additional practice during their studies and to specialize in one of the necessary professions of the industry, obtaining an additional certificate for this.

3.1.4. Statistical data on the students of the respective study programme, the dynamics of the number of the students, and the factors affecting the changes to the number of the students. The analysis shall be broken down into different study forms, types, and languages.

Since its licensing in 2016, 174 students have started studying in the Bachelor study programme "Audiovisual Art" (in 2016 – 54; in 2019 – 48; in 2020 – 20; in 2021 – 24; in 2022 – 28). Studies are conducted face-to-face in Latvian. We believe that the transition period to the annual admission has ended. Currently, 63 students are studying in the program.

This report analyses data on students whose three-year study cycle has formally ended. Of these 102 (100%) students who started their studies, 73 students (72%) have graduated, 23 (22%) students have left their studies, but there are 6 (6%) students who are on a study break or have returned from a study break with a high potential to graduate the programme in the near future, thus the statistics of graduates will be 78% of those admitted.

The most important factors for the students' choice in favour of a study break are difficulties in meeting academic obligations due to their financial situation (it is not possible to combine studies with work, they are unable to pay tuition fees) or by their own choice, citing family circumstances or the program's incompatibility with their interests.

In the analysis of the dynamics of the number of students, it should be taken into account that, starting from March 2020, the restrictions of Covid-19 were in force for two years, which significantly affected the motivation of students to continue their studies in this program. The specifics of the programme require a lot of group work (especially in the creation of creative works), cooperation skills are of great importance in it. During the Covid-19 restrictions, some students had difficulty finding opportunities to collaborate, fulfill academic obligations and thus continue their studies. There are cases when students used a study break during this period and have successfully resumed their studies afterwards.

Statistics show that currently (7 years after the program's licensing and start of implementation) at least 72% of those students who started their studies have graduated from the programme. Considering the impact of the already mentioned pandemic, this is a highly positive result.

As already mentioned above, since 2019 admission to the study programme takes place every year. The annual enrolment has contributed to a positive trend - students who have gone on an academic break, return after a year and continue their studies. Currently, there are 3 students in the programme who have returned after a study break and have successfully entered the study process.

The three students have learned the programme completely, have passed all tests of the study courses, but have not defended the final thesis, but its submission and defence is planned within the next 6 months. Students will be reinstated to take the final exam and will defend their final thesis in June 2023, when regular final thesis defence's take place.

"3.1.4._Annex 5_statistical data on students AVM 2016_2022.pdf" is attached in the appendix (see appendix 3.1.4.)

3.1.5. Substantiation of the development of the joint study programme and description and evaluation of the choice of partner universities, including information on the development and implementation of the joint study programme (if applicable).

3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof

3.2.1. Analysis of the content of the study programme. Assessment of the interrelation between the information included in the study courses/ modules, the intended learning outcomes, the set aims and other indicators with the aims of the study course/ module and the aims and intended outcomes of the study programme. Assessment of the relevance of the content of the study courses/ modules and compliance with the needs of the relevant industry, labour market and with the trends in science on how and whether the content of the study courses/ modules is updated in line with the development trends of the relevant industry, labour market, and science.

The approved objective of LAC's academic bachelor's study programme "Audiovisual Art" during the licensing process has not changed in essence during the implementation of the programme (2016 - 2022), but minor changes have been made so that the content of the study programme and the semester plan are adapted to the current situation, as well as more comprehensible to all involved and the students would better learn the skills necessary for the work of the current industry and acquire the necessary competences in accordance with the purpose of the programme - to provide modern, international standards-compliant studies in the field of audiovisual art, preparing academically educated and professionally competitive specialists, in accordance with the field of Latvian audiovisual art, Latvian national cultural policy and Latvian audiences' requirements.

Part A, or the compulsory part of the programme, which is the same for all specialisations, includes study courses that describe audiovisual art in the wider context of the field of humanities, introduces the field's history and current problems. Part A is structured in two blocks – Theoretical Insights and Current Problems of Humanities and Theory of Audiovisual and Performing Arts.

1) Theoretical insights and current problems of humanities include study courses "The Theory of Drama" (2 CP); "The History of World Theatre" (3 CP); "Latvian and World History of Art" (4 CP); "History of World Literature and the Latvian Literature" (8 CP); "Introduction to Western Philosophy" (2 CP); "Cultural Semiotics" (3 CP); "20th-century Traditions of Thought" (3 CP).

2) The theory of audiovisual and performing arts includes study courses "An Introduction to the History of World Cinema" (2 CP); "Latvian Film History" (2 CP); "World Cinema: History and Current Tendencies" (8 CP); "Contemporary Theatre" (2 CP); "Audiovisual Discourse in English" (2 CP), as well as the development of the annual paper (4 CP) in the 4th study semester and the Bachelor's thesis (10 CP) development in the 6th study semester.

Part B, or the compulsory elective part, includes study courses that are also taken by all students in the programme. These study courses include the knowledge necessary for all specializations

about the guidelines, principles, structure and methodology, history and current problems of audiovisual art, as well as knowledge about environmental and civil protection and other legal aspects of the field.

The common compulsory elective part includes study courses "Theory and Praxis of Experimental Filmmaking" (2 CP); "Dramaturgy of the Audiovisual Arts" (2 CP); "Aesthetics of Film: Theory and Practice" (8 CP); "Theoretical Foundations of Creative Works" (3 CP); "New Media: Theory and Practice" (2 CP); "The Fundamentals of Acting" (4 CP); "Employment of Creative Persons" (1 CP); "Civil Protection" (1 CP) and "Internship in speciality" (2 CP), which the student must complete during one of the following - 2nd, 3rd, 4th or 5th semester.

Part B, or the compulsory elective part, also includes those study courses that make up the set of knowledge, skills and competencies necessary for the specific specialization of the program. In the specialization part B courses, in-depth training of the applicant's chosen specialization takes place.

The courses included in Part B of the Specializations "Film Directing" and "Film Editing and Sound" provide in-depth knowledge, skills and competences about the theory, methodology and practice of creating audiovisual works (staged or documentary films, commissioned films, interviews, etc.), as well as about moving images and their accompanying sound processing and editing. Graduates of the programme who have completed the specialization will have acquired the professional skills necessary for the work of a film director and editing director in a broader context of knowledge in the field of humanities.

Specialization "Film Directing" and "Film Editing and Sound" study courses: "Theory and Practice of Film Directing" (14 CP); "Theory and Practice of Film Editing and Sound Postproduction" (11 CP); "Script Development Workshop" (4 CP); "Directing Actors for Films" (2 CP); "Basics of the Cameraman's Art. Practical Filming Seminar" (2 CP); "Introduction to Production Management and Producing" (1 CP).

Specialization "Cinematography" provides in-depth knowledge, skills and competences about the theory, methodology and practice of shooting a moving image and the audiovisual work based on it (staged or documentary films, commissioned films, concert films, etc.). Graduates of the programme who have completed the specialization will have acquired the professional skills necessary for the work of a cinematographer in a broader context of knowledge in the field of humanities.

In the B part of the program, students studying "Cinematography" study "Cinematography: Theory and Practice. Classical Camerawork" (9 CP), "Cinematography: Theory and Practice. Contemporary Camerawork" (5 CP); "The Theory and Practice of Lighting" (12 CP); "Basics of Photography" (2 CP); "Basics of Film Editing" (2 CP); "Special Effects and CGI" (2 CP); "Basics of Color Correction" (2 CP).

Specialization "Production of Audiovisual Art and Theatre" provides in-depth knowledge, skills and competencies about the theory, methodology and practice of audiovisual work (staged or documentary films, concert films, etc.) or stage art work (shows, dance productions, concerts, performances, etc.) production. Graduates of the programme who have completed the specialization will have acquired the professional skills necessary for the production and management of audiovisual and performing arts projects in a broader context of knowledge in the field of humanities.

Part B of the Specialization "Production of Audiovisual Art and Theatre" programme, study courses: "Production of Performances and Audiovisual Works: Theory and Practice" (13 CP); "Fundamental Principles of Cultural Governance" (2 CP); "Basics of the cameraman's art. Practical filming seminar" (1 CP); "Basics of Film Editing" (2 CP); "The Fundamentals of Cinema Direction" (2 CP); "Culture

Marketing" (2 CP); "The Basics of Public Speech" (2 CP); "The Fundamentals of the Theatre Direction" (2 CP); "The History of Latvian Theatre" (2 CP); "Introduction to the Theory of Theater and Film" (4 CP); "The History of Dance" (2 CP).

Specialization "Theory of Audiovisual Art and Theatre" provides in-depth knowledge in audiovisual and performing arts research, provides the necessary skills and competences in the analytical evaluation of audiovisual work (staged or documentary films, animations, etc.) or performing arts work (shows, dance productions, concerts, performances, etc.), in the preparation of historical, theoretical studies and current critique.

Students studying the "Theory of Audiovisual Art and Theatre" specialization in part B of the programme take study courses "Seminar of the Criticism of the Performing and Audiovisual Art" (17 CP); "Basics of the cameraman's art. Practical filming seminar" (1 CP); "Basics of Film Editing" (2 CP); "The Fundamentals of Cinema Direction" (2 CP); "The Basics of Public Speech" (2 CP); "The Fundamentals of the Theatre Direction" (2 CP); "The History of Latvian Theatre" (2 CP); "Introduction to the Theory of Theater and Film" (4 CP); "The History of Dance" (2 CP).

Part C or free choice courses include study courses from other LAC study programmes, cooperation university programs or additional study courses offered by LAC's Audiovisual Arts Department lecturers. For example, from LAC students choose courses "Public speaking (2 CP)", "Pedagogy (2 CP)", "Planning in the creation of audiovisual work (1 CP)", from the partner university RISEBA Department of Audiovisual Media Arts the course "Basics of composition (2 CP)", from the offer of the Latvian Academy of Arts courses "Interpretation of images (2 CP)", "Cultural contexts (2 CP)", "Research methods and materials of culture, architecture and art (2 CP)".

The content and sequence of the listed courses are designed to fulfill the programmes task - to provide specialized knowledge, skills and professional competence in audiovisual art, as well as basic knowledge and skills in performing arts, ensuring the set of knowledge, skills and competences of the students in accordance with the framework structure determined in the Latvian education classification for level 6 knowledge, skills and competence.

3.2.2. In the case of master's and doctoral study programmes, specify and provide the justification as to whether the degrees are awarded in view of the developments and findings in the field of science or artistic creation. In the case of a doctoral study programme, provide a description of the main research roadmaps and the impact of the study programme on research and other education levels (if applicable).

3.2.3. Assessment of the study programme including the study course/ module implementation methods by indicating what the methods are, and how they contribute to the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study courses and the aims of the study programme. In the case of a joint study programme, or in case the study programme is implemented in a foreign language or in the form of distance learning, describe in detail the methods used to deliver such a study programme. Provide an explanation of how the student-centred principles are taken into account in the implementation of the study process.

The pedagogical methods of the LAC's academic bachelor's study programme "Audiovisual Art", as well as the evaluation methods, are chosen by the teaching staff responsible for the study course, according to the course content and the specifics of the study programme, as well as the needs of the students.

The study methods used in the implementation of the LAC's academic bachelor's study programme "Audiovisual Art" are:

- **lectures** (mostly theoretically oriented study courses) - students are presented with theoretical questions, supplemented with practical examples, visual material, statistical data; during lectures, lecturers use technical means: computer, multimedia projector, sound equipment. In several study courses, the lectures are oriented towards students' creative participation and research in the process of acquiring knowledge. This method is used in study courses, e.g., "Latvian and World History of Art" (4 CP), "Cultural Semiotics" (3 CP); "20th-century Traditions of Thought" (3 CP) etc.
- **seminars** - strengthening and addition of theoretical and practical knowledge, in which works of audiovisual art, literature and other art and culture branches are analyzed, theoretical articles, creative tasks are carried out. Seminars strengthen students' independent information analysis skills, promote the process of acquiring knowledge and skills. This method is used in study courses, e.g., "History of World Literature and the Latvian Literature" (8 CP), "The History of World Theatre" (3 CP), "Aesthetics of Film: Theory and Practice" (8 CP), etc.
- **work in groups** - promotes students' skills to cooperate and work in a group, builds skills in organizing and implementing collective work, strengthens students' ability to argue and justify their individual opinion in the process of making a collective decision. Group work is particularly relevant in the process of creation of audiovisual and performing arts creations. In order to promote the development of communication networks of potential employees of the cultural sector, great attention is paid in the organization of the study process to the strengthening of cooperation and corporate ties between students of various programmes. Such a method is used in study courses, e.g., "Basics of the cameraman's art. Practical filming seminar" (2 CP), "Theory and Practice of Film Directing" (14 CP), "The Fundamentals of Acting" (4 CP), etc.
- **independent and individual work** - tasks to be completed independently, filming tasks to be carried out individually, maintenance and development of individual skills, research works on frame composition, research and preparation for creation of creative work, theoretical literature studies and development of topics related to the field of study, presentation of reports, creation of presentations. This method is used in study courses, e.g., "Theory and Praxis of Experimental Filmmaking" (2 CP), "New Media: Theory and Practice" (2 CP), "Seminar of the Criticism of the Performing and Audiovisual Art" (17 CP), etc.
- **individual consultations** - in order to reveal the individual artistic potential of the students, develop and improve creative research activities, as well as to develop in depth the practical skills and skills of creating creative works, the study process includes consultations, where the instructor works with the student individually. Students have the opportunity to receive individual consultations from the academic staff also in the e-environment. This method is used in study courses, e.g., "Cinematography: Theory and Practice. Classical Camerawork" (9 CP), "Script Development Workshop" (4 CP), "Directing Actors for Films" (2 CP), etc.
- **practical lessons** - provide the knowledge, skills, abilities and attitudes necessary for learning audiovisual art and improving professional competences. Helps to integrate and test theoretical knowledge in the practical activity of artistic and creative research. For better learning of the practical part of study courses, if necessary, students are divided into groups

(4-5 students in one group). This method is used in study courses, e.g., "The Basics of Public Speech" (2 CP), "The Fundamentals of Cinema Direction" (2 CP), "Cinematography: Theory and Practice. Contemporary Camerawork" (5 CP), etc.

- **tests** - regular knowledge tests are conducted to make sure of the dynamics of the student's personal growth, understanding of the learned topics and the necessary terminology; are implemented both with and without the use of additional materials for students; can be implemented as a part of a practical / part of a lecture or as a full practical / lecture, practically or theoretically. This method is used in study courses, e.g., "World Cinema: History and Current Tendencies" (8 CP), "Audiovisual Discourse in English" (2 CP), "Dramaturgy of the Audiovisual Arts" (2 CP), etc.
- **extracurricular activities** - students attend film screenings, theater and dance performances, art exhibitions, concerts, etc., write essays, reviews and their impressions. Assists in organizing festivals and other film industry and cultural events, participates in artistic residencies, master classes, films, workshops and in other creative projects. This method is used in study courses, e.g., "Latvian Film History" (2 CP), "Contemporary Theatre" (2 CP), etc.

The implementation of the study process of the bachelor's study programme "Audiovisual Art" is based on the principles of student-centered education, as the programme is based on an individual approach to each student, promoting and developing the individual artistic potential and professional skills of each student - the ability to independently and freely make professional decisions about the form of their creative works, content, creative team, aesthetic and quality goals and criteria.

In study courses aimed at cultivating students' individual abilities and skills ("Theory and Practice of Film Directing" (14 CP), "Theory and Practice of Film Editing and Sound Postproduction" (11 CP), "Cinematography: Theory and Practice" (5 CP; 9 CP), "Production of Performances and Audiovisual Works: Theory and Practice" (13 CP), "Seminar of the Criticism of the Performing and Audiovisual Art" (17 CP)), lessons can be organized in small groups or individually.

At the same time, the programme develops the skills to work in a group, as well as manage and organize the creative process within the framework of predetermined duties and working conditions.

Various methods of study courses and implementation are considered appropriate for achieving the results of study courses and the goals of the study program, they improve creative thinking, and communication skills, find and critically evaluate information, make conclusions, analyze own and colleagues works. The teaching methods of lectures, seminars, group work, independent work, and practical classes in the training process ensures that knowledgeable, creative and open specialists with good theoretical base and an in-depth understanding of the processes of creating and analyzing creative works, and they are prepared for the labour market. Group work trains the ability to collaborate. Communication skills are also trained using various interactive methods (group discussions, acquisition of knowledge, in a practice-based experience, personally trying it out, sharing your experience, attending guest lectures in industry organizations, attending professional events, etc.). All mentioned above helps to develop students' ability to integrate theoretical knowledge and practical competencies in the process of creating creative works and make their analysis, ensures knowledge of current processes in the industry, develops reasoning skills and the ability to make decisions, present and implement their ideas in accordance with the intended.

3.2.4. If the study programme envisages an internship, describe the internship

opportunities offered to students, provision and work organization, including whether the higher education institution/ college helps students to find an internship place. If the study programme is implemented in a foreign language, provide information on how internship opportunities are provided in a foreign language, including for foreign students. To provide analysis and evaluation of the connection of the tasks set for students during the internship included in the study programme with the learning outcomes of the study programme (if applicable).

The compulsory elective part of the bachelor's study programme "Audiovisual Art" includes internship in specialization, the purpose of which is to provide students with opportunities to supplement the knowledge acquired in the study programme and develop professional skills and abilities in accordance with the specifics of the development of the culture and art industry, the current conditions of the labor market structure and environment, as well as for the needs of employers.

Internship at LAC is organized in accordance with the LAC's Internship Regulations and the Rules for Internships in the academic bachelor's study programme "Audiovisual Art". The internship regulations and documents are available for students on the LAC's website (available (Latvian only): <https://lka.edu.lv/lv/prakse-un-karjeras-atbalsts/prakse/dokumenti-praksu/>), but the LAC staff is actively involved and provides various types of support in the context of the internship:

- The internship coordinator provides an opportunity to receive advice on filling out documents and is a support person in cases where students have questions about the internship process, credit points and other related issues;
- Students are offered the option to attend internship consultations with the career education project manager. During the consultations, students' skills are evaluated and analyzed and, according to the students' interests and wishes, the internship consultant recommends the most suitable internship places for the students. Consultations on internships are also provided by programmes lecturers, programmes director and head of the Department of Audiovisual Art;
- Internship providers regularly send internship offers to the LAC's internship coordinator, which the coordinator sends to students through the LAIS system, and also publishes them on the LAC's website;
- Students can also undertake internships in LAC's structural units - Center for Creative Activities, Institute of Culture and Arts, Department of Communication, National Film School, LAC's Eduards Smilģis Theater Museum and LAC's Riga Film Museum.

Students of the bachelor's study programme "Audiovisual Art" for their internships, according to their specialization, work as editing directors, operators, sound operators, production assistants, production assistants, coordinators, director's assistants, operator's assistants, etc. Students' favourite internships are in film and TV production companies (LLC "Vides filmu studija", LLC "Fenixfilm", LLC "Fa Filma", LLC "Tasse Film", etc.).

The internship tasks proposed by the students are approved by the head of the LAC's Audiovisual Art Department or the programme's director. When examining the student's application, the connection of internships tasks with the study results achievable in the study programme is evaluated. For example, if the student sets the following internships tasks: "to install sound equipment on the field", "to perform sound recording, sound direction and sound post-processing", it is connected and corresponds to the planned results of achievable study skills "[...] strives for academic and professional improvement, is able to demonstrate scientific and professional

approach to solving problems, takes responsibility and initiative when working individually or in a team, as well as managing the work of other people, able to make decisions and find creative solutions in changing conditions." Internships supervisor and student can verify the quality of the tasks performed in the internship report. For the most part, internship supervisors praise LAC's students in their reports, pointing out their high sense of responsibility, energy, focus, as well as their ability to work in a team.

3.2.5. Evaluation and description of the promotion opportunities and the promotion process provided to the students of the doctoral study programme (if applicable).

3.2.6. Analysis and assessment of the topics of the final theses of the students, their relevance in the respective field, including the labour market, and the marks of the final theses.

A mandatory part of the study process of the academic bachelor's study programme "Audiovisual Art" is the annual paper in the second year of studies and the bachelor's thesis at the end of the program.

The aim of the annual paper is for the students to gain experience by getting to know and participating in the creation of creative work, thus improving artistic and creative skills and understanding of the specific chosen topic. Students participate in the annual paper project as filmmakers, show creators or conduct theoretical research.

The final exam of the programme - bachelor's thesis is a creative work created by the student and a study of the chosen topic, which is included in the theoretical basis of the thesis. A creative work can be a film, the production of a stage performance or a show, while for those studying "Theory of Audiovisual Art and Theatre", the final work is a theoretical study that must be in accordance with the LAC's Methodological Instructions for the development of term papers, bachelor's and master's theses. The length of the final work - film is set at 10-30 minutes.

The topics of the bachelor's theses of the academic bachelor's study programme "Audiovisual Art" are chosen and developed by the students themselves during the last year of studies, within the deadlines set by LAC. The applications of students' chosen topics and the creation of filming/creative groups are evaluated and approved at the meeting of the Department of Audiovisual Art of LAC.

So far, 26 films, 4 theater performances and 9 theoretical studies have been produced as the final bachelor's thesis by the students of the "Audiovisual Art" bachelor's study programme.

Bachelor's level students follow the director's idea in choosing their final work - the producer together with the director forms a creative group (director, editing director, cinematographer, producer). The choice of the story of the creative work is up to the director, but each student individually conducts research according to their specialization, developing the topic of the chosen research into the theoretical basis of the creative work. The actuality and importance of the finished final works of the students of the programme in the context of the industry is confirmed by their nomination for industry awards of national importance and receiving them as well. For the national

film industry award "Lielais Kristaps" in 2022, two final thesis films were nominated in the "Best student film" category, and in 2019, four final thesis films were nominated.

The topics of the bachelor thesis of film directors of the academic study programme "Audiovisual Art" are directly dependent on their own academic, artistic and professional, as well as social and civic interests. The theme of each creative work reflects a current issue for the specific student of film directing, addressing both the problematic issues of Latvian society, the internal processes of people and models of mutual relations, or creating a film in a specific film genre.

The choice of final topics is diverse, in each case the chosen topic corresponds to the student's interests and the specifics of creating the chosen work. When approving topic applications, lecturers take into account the topicality of the topic of the final thesis in the industry and its importance in the labor market. For example in the bachelor's thesis "Production of the film "Nabassaitē" and its theoretical basis" (2022) the production process of the film "Nabassaitē" was analyzed and in the research part of the work the author conducted an in-depth study of the funding sources of short feature films in the Baltic States. The aim and main task of the film directing student's bachelor thesis "Short feature film "Sāc visu no jauna" and its theoretical basis" (2022) was the creation of a short feature film in the form of documentary cinema, paying special attention to the specifics of an actor's work in documentary cinema. In bachelor's thesis "Direction in the film "Putekļu sūcēju pārdevējs" and its theoretical basis" (2022), the student of film direction analyzed the possibilities of comic and tragic synthesis in cinematography, in the research part of the work she expanded the historical study of the concept of comedy and tragedy, starting from the ideas that originated in Ancient Greece, until for today. The author had put forward the features of the tragic and comic modality and its application in the process of developing a creative work as the goal of the work. In the bachelor's thesis "Production of the short film "Karaļu duelis" and its theoretical basis" (2022), the author of the work produced the suspense short film "Karaļu duelis" and set as a goal to find regularities and conclusions about various ways of promoting a newly created film on the platforms of social networks Facebook and Instagram, based on its peculiarities and the latest trends, as well as made conclusions about the marketing techniques of certain Latvian films on Facebook.

Current cinema works are analyzed in final works by students of the specialization "Theory of Audiovisual Art and Theatre", for example, in the final work "The image of Satan and its transformations in modern TV series" (2022), the author studied how the image of satan developed in the cultural space, cinematography and modern TV series. The aim of the work was to find out the most important manifestations of the representation of the image of satan in culture, to describe how the image of satan appeared in different stages of the development of cinematography and in film types, as well as to analyze the transformations of the image of satan and the related narrative and style features in popular series of the second decade of the 21st century. As a current work in the industry, the bachelor's thesis "Production of the show "TAG" and its theoretical basis" 2022 of the student of the specialization "Production of Audiovisual Art and Theatre" should be mentioned, in which the student analyzed the methods of creating non-attendance theater in Latvia and around the world.

The evaluation of the final theses is carried out by the bachelor's final examination commission, which evaluates the bachelor's theses in accordance with the criteria included in paragraph 15 of the LAC's Regulations on creative works in the academic bachelor's study programme "Audiovisual art": student participation and activity in the process of creating a creative work, mutual cooperation of the creative group, work artistic and technical level, public speaking and argumentation skills.

Of the 73 bachelor's theses defended so far, the most frequently obtained rating in the 10-point

rating system is the grade 8. 9 final papers or 12% were evaluated with a grade of 10 (with distinction) 23 papers or 32% - with the grade 9 (excellent), 25 papers or 34% - with the grade 8 (very good), 11 papers or 15% - with the grade 7 (good), 2 works or 3% - with the grade 6 (almost good), 3 works or 4% - with the grade 5 (average). Most of the students' final theses were evaluated on a scale of 8 to 10, with the majority, or 78%, receiving an evaluation of 10 (excellent), 9 (excellent) or 8 (very good). This proves that the students mostly achieve very good and excellent results.

The list of theses can be found in Appendix 3.2.6.

3.3. Resources and Provision of the Study Programme

3.3.1. Assessment of the compliance of the resources and provision (study provision, scientific support (if applicable), informative provision (including libraries), material and technical provision, and financial provision) with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the learning outcomes to be achieved by providing the respective examples.

Information on the material and technical base and information provision (library, databases) is available in Part II, Chapter 3 of the self-assessment report, 2.3.2. and 2.3.3. in subsections, but this section describes the resources available for the implementation of the bachelor's study programme "Audiovisual Art" in more detail. The LAC's study process for the students of the programme is basically organized in two LAC buildings - in Riga, Ludzas street 24 and Elijas street 17 in Riga (LKA National Film School (NFS)). In some cases, classes are also held at LAC's structural units - LAC's Eduards Smilģis Theater Museum, Riga, Eduards Smilģis Street 37 or LAC's Riga Film Museum, Riga, Peitavas Street 10.

Most of the theoretical and practical lessons of the programme take place at the LAC's National Film School. Students have access to premises with an area of 1,011 m², including two filming pavilions with a total area of 430 m², a computer classroom with eight computers for film editing, two separate video editing rooms with two work stations each (for pair group work), a film color correction work station with specific technical equipment and software, filming equipment warehouse (200 units), filming lighting equipment warehouse (150 units), filming sound recording equipment warehouse (50 units). Students have the option and actively use digital cinema cameras Sony PMW-F5, Panasonic AU-EVA1E, SONY PXW-FS7M2, Canon EOS C200 and seven sets of Black Magic Pocket Cinema Camera 4K in the study process. Specialized filming lights are available for filming in the NFS pavilion and interiors. Technologically, there is a transition from halogen lamps to LED technology filming lighting. For the use of these resources, students have access to the advice of the LAC's NFS technical manager.

The Cinema Library with more than 2,500 video recordings of motion pictures and theater performances operates in the premises of LAC's NFS. It houses an archive of student films and theater productions, as well as a collection of film recordings in DVD format. Recordings available in the Cinematheque can be used free of charge by students, academics and general staff. Consultations of the director of the Cinematheque are available to students if necessary. Students and staff of the Academy can use the structural unit of LAC - the collection of the Eduards Smilģis

Theater Museum and the Riga Film Museum for the study process and research work. The museum's qualified staff offers consultations on the history and current affairs of Latvian and world audiovisual and performing arts.

The LAC's National Film School currently has wireless internet that provides 99% coverage. The auditoriums are equipped according to the needs of the study process, they have a computer, projector and screen, whiteboard, if necessary, the auditoriums can also be equipped with other equipment.

The contract for the lease of the premises at Elijas street 17 has been concluded until the summer of 2024, when the state joint-stock company "State Real Estate " (SRE) plans to finish the construction of the LAC's National Film School building at Miera street 58a (Tabakas Fabrika quarter) where the programmes, managed by the Department of Audiovisual Art of LAC, further implementation will be conducted. A filming pavilion, computer classroom, rehearsal room, auditoriums and other necessary facilities for practical and theoretical classes will be built in this building.

In general, it can be considered that the compliance of LAC's resources and provision with the conditions of the study programme implementation and the achievement of the study results is sufficient.

3.3.2. Assessment of the study provision and scientific base support, including the resources provided within the framework of cooperation with other science institutes and higher education institutions (applicable to doctoral study programmes) (if applicable).

3.3.3. Indicate data on the available funding for the corresponding study programme, its funding sources and their use for the development of the study programme. Provide information on the costs per one student within this study programme, indicating the items included in the cost calculation and the percentage distribution of funding between the specified items. The minimum number of students in the study programme in order to ensure the profitability of the study programme (indicating separately the information on each language, type and form of the study programme implementation).

The costs of the programme are calculated in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers Regulations of December 12, 2006 No. 994 "The order in which universities and colleges are financed from the state budget". The current base fee for a study place is EUR 1 630.11. According to the mentioned Regulation No. 994 point 12 study cost coefficient for bachelor's study programmes is 1. According to Clause 28 of Appendix 1 of the Regulations, the Academy's funding for one bachelor's study place in the thematic field of education "Audiovisual Art" has a coefficient of 3.9. The estimated amount of the state grant in 2022 is EUR 5 737 for one budget place. Performance funding per 1 student in the programme is EUR 239 per student and tuition fees are on average EUR 1 769, taking into account that tuition fees are revised annually.

The funding of the study programme in 2022 is EUR 313 400, it is formed from the budget grant, performance funding and tuition fees. The cost calculations include all expenditure items necessary

for the programme, the programme calculation is based on the following split: 60% compensation for ECC (economic classification codes) 1000, 10% ECC goods and services 2000 and 30% other ECC. A cost calculation is carried out every year, after which the number of guest lecturers and the amount diverted for the development of study programmes are determined, which is a part of own revenue, in 2022 in the amount of 3%, which amounts to EUR 2 123. Own revenues are directed to maximize the extent of the development of the programme and covering unexpected expenses. Great attention is given to optimizing the implementation costs of the study programme, for example, by organizing flow lectures in courses taught by professors and providing remote lectures.

The minimum number of students in the study programme to ensure its profitability is determined annually by considering the needs of the programme and sub-programmes in the current year. See "3.1.4._Annex 5_statistical data on students AVM 2016_2022.pdf" (see appendix 3.1.4.)

The programme is full time in-class attendance and studies are conducted in Latvian

3.4. Teaching Staff

3.4.1. Assessment of the compliance of the qualification of the teaching staff members (academic staff members, visiting professors, visiting associate professors, visiting docents, visiting lecturers, and visiting assistants) involved in the implementation of the study programme with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the provisions set out in the respective regulatory enactments. Provide information on how the qualification of the teaching staff members contributes to the achievement of the learning outcomes.

The study process of the programme is provided by LAC's lecturers with high achievements in artistic creativity and/or pedagogical work. For specific courses or parts of courses (e.g. " Basics of Color Correction " or the sound theory and practice section in the course "Theory and Practice of Film Editing and Sound Postproduction"), Latvian and foreign industry professionals are invited as guest lecturers, as the specifics of the programme determine that for its implementation both academic lecturers and industry specialists with great practical experience and authority are attracted.

In accordance with the laws of Latvia and the regulatory documents of LAC, an open competition is announced for the positions of academic staff, the staff is elected and re-elected for a period of 6 years. The evaluation and election of candidates for the positions of professors and associate professors is carried out by the LAC's professors' Council and it takes place in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers regulations adopted in 2021 no. 129 "Procedure for evaluating the scientific and pedagogical qualifications or artistic creative work results of an applicant for the position of professor or associate professor and an incumbent professor or associate professor". The evaluation of candidates for the positions of assistant professors, lecturers and assistants takes place at the meeting of the LAC's Senate. When evaluating candidates for positions in study programs related to artistic creation, special attention is paid to the candidates' creative work experience, their contribution to Latvian artistic culture and international achievements. In open lectures organized before the elections, the applicants' ability to convey their knowledge and skills to the student

audience is tested and analyzed. Therefore, the qualification of the permanent lecturers of the academic bachelor's study programme "Audiovisual Art" meets the conditions of the implementation of the study programme and the requirements of regulatory acts.

Currently, 24 lecturers elected to LAC's academic positions are involved in the implementation of the programme, of which 8 are professors elected in LAC and 3 are associate professors. Therefore, the academic study programme "Audiovisual Art" meets the requirements set out in the third paragraph of the first part of Article 55 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions. Of the 24 permanent lecturers, 12 have a doctorate in science, while 3 lecturers are studying in the joint professional doctoral study programme "Arts" of Latvian universities of art and culture during the development of the self-evaluation report and plan to obtain a professional doctorate in arts within two to three years.

The activity of research and artistic creativity of the Academy's lecturers is high - the most important researchers and artists in their fields in Latvia are involved in the study process of the programme, whose achievements are often recognized with Latvia's highest professional awards. For example, prof. Dāvis Sīmanis and asst. prof. Andrejs Verhoustinskis has received the National Cinema Award "Lielais Kristaps" (2021) for their films, while asst. prof. Ivo Briedis (2020), asst. prof. Antra Cilinska (2019) and prof. Valda Čakare has received the Normund Naumans Annual Award in art criticism (2022).

The lecturers of the programme are also actively involved in scientific activities. In various positions at the LAC's Institute of Arts and Culture studies are programmes academic staff - prof. Zane Kreicberga, prof. Inga Pērkone-Redoviča, prof. Dāvis Sīmanis, prof. Zane Šiliņa, assoc. prof. Līga Ulberte. All these lecturers, as well as prof. Valda Čakare was involved in the research projects (2020-2022) of the State research programme CARD "Cultural capital as a resource for the sustainable development of Latvia" (VPP-KM-LKRVA-2020/1-0003), the implementation of which and the achieved results have received excellent evaluation from international experts. Both the before mentioned and other lecturers of the programme regularly participate in scientific conferences, develop and publish scientific publications, including articles in peer-reviewed scientific collections included in Scopus, Web of Science, IPSA, EBSCO, CEEOL databases.

The same guest lecturers are engaged in the implementation of some study courses for a long time. MA and Mg. iur. Sandis Voldiņš directs the compulsory elective part of the study course "Employment of Creative Persons", because he, currently is a member of the board of the Latvian National Opera and Ballet, but previously worked as a state secretary in the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia, is one of the best specialists in the field of employment of creative persons. LAC's emeritus professor Mg. Art. Pēteris Krilovs was a permanent lecturer at LAC until 2022, and for the bachelor's study programme "Audiovisual Art", his knowledge and experience in film directing and acting methodology is still an essential resource to ensure the progress of the study course "Directing Actors for Films".

The other guest lecturers - both Latvian and foreign recognized audiovisual and performing arts professionals - are recruited according to the specifics and interests of the respective student group, mostly in the form of workshops or guest lectures, and in the last two years also as participants of the LAC's Mentor Program. So far, film director Laila Pakalniņa, film producers Uldis Cekulis, Gints Grūbe, script specialist Larisa Gūtmanis (Canada), digital image technician Arnout Deurick (Belgium), cinematographers Gints Bērziņš, Jānis Eglītis, etc., have shared their knowledge and experience with the students studying in the program. Students are introduced to the methods of artists' creative work and ensure the acquisition of specific competencies and skills related to them, as well as strengthen the student's connection with the professional environment both in Latvia and internationally.

The qualifications of all the mentioned teaching staff directly influence and help to achieve the study results, because their active involvement and high-quality work in the current creative processes of audiovisual and performing arts and in the scientific field provide the students with the necessary knowledge, competences and skills in their chosen thematic areas, taking into account the historical development processes of the fields, and the latest discoveries and achievements.

3.4.2. Analysis and assessment of the changes to the composition of the teaching staff over the reporting period and their impact on the study quality.

In the LAC's academic bachelor's study programme Audiovisual Art, during the reporting period, there are minimal changes in teaching staff compared to the composition of lecturers announced in the programme's licensing documents. Some of them are related to the choice of lecturers to reduce their workload or to terminate their working relationship with LAC due to their respectable age. Asst.prof. Valdis Eglītis was elected a LAC's Honorary Professor in 2018, but since autumn 2020 he is no longer a regular lecturer at LAC. Prof. Pēteris Krilovs was elected as LAC's Emeritus Professor in 2022 and continues to work at LAC with a minimal workload, teaching only the course "Directing Actors for Films" in the programme. Lect. Jānis Putniņš has been the director of the "Audiovisual Art" programme since 2019, before that it was headed by prof. Pēteris Krilovs. Asst. prof. A. Verhoustinskis from asst. prof. V. Eglītis took over the management of the "Cinematography" specialization in the programme. In order to ensure the development of study courses for the specialization "Cinematography", in 2020 lect. Uldis Jancis started to work at LAC, who is now in charge of the study course "The Theory and Practice of Lighting".

By monitoring changes in the composition of lecturers and the curriculum, the quality of studies is ensured at an appropriate level.

3.4.3. Information on the number of the scientific publications of the academic staff members, involved in the implementation of doctoral study programme, as published during the reporting period by listing the most significant publications published in Scopus or WoS CC indexed journals. As for the social sciences, humanitarian sciences, and the science of art, the scientific publications published in ERIH+ indexed journals or peer-reviewed monographs may be additionally specified. Information on the teaching staff included in the database of experts of the Latvian Council of Science in the relevant field of science (total number, name of the lecturer, field of science in which the teaching staff has the status of an expert and expiration date of the Latvian Council of Science expert) (if applicable).

3.4.4. Information on the participation of the academic staff, involved in the implementation of the doctoral study programme, in scientific projects as project managers or prime contractors/ subproject managers/ leading researchers by specifying the name of the relevant project, as well as the source and the amount of the funding. Provide information on the reporting period (if applicable).

3.4.5. Assessment of the cooperation between the teaching staff members by specifying the mechanisms used to promote the cooperation and ensure the interrelation between the study programme and study courses/ modules. Specify also the proportion of the number of the students and the teaching staff within the study programme (at the moment of the submission of the Self-Assessment Report).

Coordination of the study process, not only organizationally, but also in terms of content, is primarily carried out by the programme's director lect. Jānis Putniņš and the head of the Department of Audiovisual Art asst. prof. Dainis Juraga. The head of the department regularly gets acquainted with the results of student and graduate surveys and meets individually and in groups with students several times each semester, listening to opinions on the content of study courses, successes and problematic issues, as well as discussing the evaluations given by students with the programme lecturers, if necessary, inviting them to make improvements to the study process. The interlinking of study courses and the provision of more relevant and applicable content to the interests of students contributes to regular clarifications of the programmes content, the attraction of highly qualified guest lecturers and the organization of master classes.

In order to promote mutual awareness and cooperation between the teaching staff and the interconnection of study courses, the following mechanisms have been implemented in the management of the bachelor's study programme "Audiovisual Art":

1. at least once a month, the meetings of the Department of Audiovisual Art take place, which are scheduled in time so as not to overlap with lecturers' lecture times. A large part of the actual conceptual issues in the programme are discussed at the department's meetings.
2. study course descriptions are approved at the meetings of the Department of Audiovisual Art, when the other colleagues of the department have also familiarized themselves with them. Thus, lecturers are informed about the content of other lecturers' study courses, there is an opportunity to discuss it, as well as to change and adapt it if necessary.
3. when updating the content of the study courses, the teaching staff coordinate with each other and with the head of the programme that the content does not overlap and ensure the logical connection of the courses. Study courses are also being improved based on feedback from students and academic staff.
4. during the semester and the examination period, all lecturers of the programme are invited to the screenings of creative works in the courses "Theory and Practice of Film Directing" and "The Fundamentals of Acting", after which the works are discussed together with the students.
5. public screenings and shows of creative works of students and graduates of the programme and other publicity events which are held, are announced in LAC's internal communication channels, as well as inform the wider public in the media and social communication platform on the LAC National Film School account.
6. in order to improve communication, a group of lecturers of the Department of Audiovisual Art has been created on the MS Teams platform, and it is planned to gather and solve lecturers' conversations on current work issues using this platform.

The mutual cooperation and collective action of the academic staff, both in the university environment and outside it, develops the study content and creates a high-quality, democratic

internal microclimate and public image of the industry. Cooperation also stimulates self-analysis and self-evaluation of the professional activity of each lecturer.

The ratio of the number of students and teaching staff within the study programme at the time of submitting the self-evaluation report is 32 lecturers to 63 students. It should be taken into account that a large part of lecturers in the programme read only one one-semester study course (1-2 CP) or a part of a separate study course. Some study courses are implemented together for students of several LAC's programmes and sub-programmes. In general, this gives the impression of a disproportionately large involvement of teaching staff compared to the number of students, however, it is essential to ensure the content and quality of the study programme. Education that is clearly student-centered and stimulates the individual professional autonomy of each student is crucial to achieve the main goal of the programme - to prepare theoretically and practically educated, independent and creative thinkers and who are able to work, locally and internationally as competitive filmmakers, screen and stage art producers and researchers. Therefore, it is not planned to significantly increase the number of students in the programme in the following years, remaining in the optimal range of 60-70 students, while the number of lecturers in the programme is not planned to be reduced, remaining in the range of 30-35 lecturers, as the content of the programme requires it.

Annexes

III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme		
Sample of the diploma and its supplement to be issued for completing the study programme	3.1.2._AVM.zip	3.1.2._AVM.zip
For academic study programmes - Opinion of the Council of Higher Education in accordance with Section 55, Paragraph two of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)	3.1.2._2. translation AIP 28.11.2022. Nr.1.10.69 conclusion_AVA.pdf	3.1.2._2. AIP Iemums 28.11.2022. Nr.1.10.69_AVM .edoc
Compliance of the joint study programme with the provisions of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (table) (if applicable)		
Statistics on the students in the reporting period	3.1.4. AVA_Admitted students statistics_2013_2022_EN .xlsx	3.1.4. AVM_Studejoso skaita dinamika 2013_2022_LV .xlsx
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof		
Compliance with the study programme with the State Education Standard	3.2.1._State Standard_AVA.docx	3.2.1._Valsts standarts_AVM.docx
Compliance of the qualification to be acquired upon completion of the study programme with the professional standard or the requirements for professional qualification (if applicable)		
Compliance of the study programme with the specific regulatory framework applicable to the relevant field (if applicable)		
Mapping of the study courses/ modules for the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study programme	3.2.1._Course mapping_AVA.xlsx	3.2.1._Kursu kartēšana_AVM.xlsx
The curriculum of the study programme (for each type and form of the implementation of the study programme)	3.2.1._Curriculum_AVM.xlsx	3.2.1._Programmas plāns_AVM.xlsx
Descriptions of the study courses/ modules	3.2.1._AVM_ENG.zip	3.2.1._AVM_LV.zip
Description of the organisation of the internship of the students (if applicable)	Statute on Internship of the LAC.pdf	Prakses nolikums.pdf
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.4. Teaching Staff		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the doctoral study programme includes not less than five doctors, of which at least three are experts approved by the Latvian Council of Science in the branch or sub-branch of science in which the study programme intends to award a scientific degree (if applicable)		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the academic study programme complies with the requirements specified in Section 55, Paragraph one, Clause 3 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)	CONFIRMATION_bAVM.pdf	AVM.zip

Creative Industries (43217)

Study field	Arts
ProcedureStudyProgram.Name	<i>Creative Industries</i>
Education classification code	43217
Type of the study programme	<i>Academic bachelor study programme</i>
Name of the study programme director	Agnese
Surname of the study programme director	Hermane
E-mail of the study programme director	agnese.hermane@lka.edu.lv
Title of the study programme director	Ph. D.
Phone of the study programme director	
Goal of the study programme	<i>The aim of the programme is to provide the students with the opportunity to gain theoretical and practical knowledge in the creative industries and to train versatile, competitive professionals in the creative industries. The programme combines artistic and entrepreneurial competencies to enhance the graduates' ability to create innovative products and services, creative content and experience, which would enhance the ability to operate in today's changing and challenging business environment</i>
Tasks of the study programme	<p><i>Programme tasks:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• provide students with interdisciplinary knowledge in the fields of culture, art, business and develop creative thinking competencies, cooperation and communication skills according to the requirements of the labor market;</i> <i>• provide competitive second-level academic higher education that fits international standards and prepare students for practical work, develop entrepreneurial competences, motivating them to become employers themselves;</i> <i>• promote in-depth understanding of cultural and artistic processes, personal growth, promote interest in further education, stimulate the development of students into positive, modern, responsible and capable personalities who know how to act independently and make decisions;</i> <i>• stimulate students' interest in cultural and societal developments, trends in the development of creative entrepreneurship, promote the ability to see business potential in creative practices;</i> <i>• develop the skills of scientific research work, promote mutual interaction between academic staff and students in conducting scientific research work and practical use of the obtained results.</i>

Results of the study programme	<p>As a result of the programme the student:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is able to appreciate cultural and artistic values, understands processes and potential of the cultural heritage and contemporary culture, is familiar with the specifics of operations of cultural organizations; 2. Is able to integrate into the business environment, create jobs for themselves, and establish start-ups; understands principles of economy, is competent in the economic performance of enterprises; 3. Understands the specifics of creative industries, and their economic, political, social and legal context, understands the needs of different areas of creative industries and factors affecting the work environment of creative companies in Latvia; 4. Is capable to obtain, select, analyse information, apply research methods and professional terminology of creative industries in Latvian and English, is able to present the results of the research and substantiate personal opinion; 5. Is capable of developing innovative, artistic, competitive products and services according to the customer needs and good design principles, knows the funding models of cultural and creative industries; 6. Is able to offer goods and services to relevant audiences in the market by using modern communication channels, information and communication technologies; 7. Is capable to apply the obtained knowledge in practice, in different areas of creative industries and to analyse business performance; understands the interdisciplinary nature of creative industries; is able to cooperate, participate in teamwork, and act ethically, socially responsibly and decisively.
Final examination upon the completion of the study programme	<i>Bachelor's Thesis</i>

Study programme forms

Full time studies - 3 years - latvian

Study type and form	<i>Full time studies</i>
Duration in full years	3
Duration in month	0
Language	<i>latvian</i>
Amount (CP)	120
Admission requirements (in English)	<i>Secondary education</i>
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Bachelor of Arts in Creative Industries</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	-

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
Latvian Academy of Culture	RĪGA	LUDZAS IELA 24, LATGALES PRIEKŠPILSĒTA, RĪGA, LV-1003

3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme

3.1.1. Description and analysis of changes in the parameters of the study programme made since the issuance of the previous accreditation form of the study field or issuance of the study programme license, if the study programme is not included on the accreditation form of the study field, including changes planned within the evaluation procedure of the study field evaluation procedure.

According to 02.08.2017 issued license No. 04066-6. The Latvian Academy of Culture has made the following changes to the parameters of the study programme for the joint academic bachelor's study programme "Creative Industries":

- 1) form of study programme implementation - from full-time and part-time studies to full-time studies;
- 2) the language of study programme implementation - from Latvian and English to Latvian.

Evaluation of programme and study course content is also carried out regularly together with graduates and lecturers, as a result of which the following changes of study courses have taken place:

- In order to reduce the number of tests, several content-related study courses were combined into one course - "History of World Art" (2 CP) and "Contemporary Art and the Art Market" (2 CP) combined, creating a new course "History of Art and Contemporary Art Market" (4 CP);
- The lecture courses "Introduction to Studies and Career Building" (1 CP) and "Introduction to Creative Industries" (2 CP) were also combined, creating a new study course "Introduction to Studies and Creative Industries" (5 CP), increasing the number of CPs of this content from 3 CP to 5 CP because in the evaluation was recognized the need for more in-depth learning of creative industries theory and research opportunities;
- The lecture courses "Contemporary Stage Art" (2 CP) and "Technological Aesthetic Solutions of Audio-visual Media" (2 CP) have been combined into one course "Contemporary Performing and Audio-visual Art" (2 CP), for which the amount of credit points have been reduce, because during the evaluation it was concluded that it is necessary to increase the number of CPs for courses related to research methodology and the scope of the course paper "Creative industries. Course paper" (6 CP) was increased from 4 to 6 CP;
- The lecture course "Music and Sound Art" (2 CP) has been removed from the program, also adding additional credits to the field of research methodology. The scope of CP was increased to the Bachelor thesis from 10 to 12 because of its complexity - students produce interdisciplinary work combining knowledge from both universities;
- The scope of the study course aimed at learning various creative industries branches has been expanded and the title has been clarified from "Management of Creative Industries" (5 CP) to "Cultural and Creative Industries" (6 CP). The scope of initially planned study course "Design Industry" (2 CP) has been added to this course in a smaller amount of hours;
- Two study courses "Introduction to the Anthropology of Art" (2 CP) and the study course "Sociology of Culture, Art and Creativity" (2 CP) have been combined, creating a new study course that covers the content of both courses "Contemporary Cultural and Social Theories" (2 CP);

- The 4 CP study course "E-commerce and E-marketing" has been modified and supplemented; a new study course "E-commerce" (2 CP) has been created, which deals only with the aspects of e-commerce. The study course "Marketing" (4 CP) includes now topics of e-marketing;
- The study course "Legal Regulations of Creative Industries" (2 CP) has been removed from the programme, because topics related to legal regulation are included in other study courses - "Event Management and Technical Production", "Cultural Management and Practical Cultural Policy", "Business and Labour Law", "Social Responsibility and Business Ethics", "Accounting and Finance". The scope of the study course "Cultural Management and Practical Cultural Policy" (4 CP) has been increased from 2 to 4 CP;
- The course "Research Methods and Academic Writing" (2CP) has been increased in size and changed in title to "Research Planning and Implementation in the Creative Industries" (4CP), cancelling the course "Cultural Consumption and Audience Research" (2CP);
- After discussions with students and lecturers, the study programme council has in some cases also changed the planning of study courses by semesters, thus improving the sequence of content mastering.
- The first graduates finished their studies, the practice included in the study programme was also evaluated and it was decided to make changes in the internship system, giving up 2 internships (each worth 3 CP), but creating one internship for the amount of 6 CP and providing it in the 6th study semester (previously students of LAC could complete their internship at any time during their studies).

The changes made have reduced the fragmentation of the programme, improved the logical sequencing of courses, reduced the number of examinations for students and strengthened the programme's focus on achieving its objectives.

3.1.2. Analysis and assessment of the study programme compliance with the study field. Analysis of the interrelation between the code of the study programme, the degree, professional qualification/professional qualification requirements or the degree and professional qualification to be acquired, the aims, objectives, learning outcomes, and the admission requirements. Description of the duration and scope of the implementation of the study programme (including different options of the study programme implementation) and evaluation of its usefulness.

The joint three-year (120 CP) academic bachelor's study programme "Creative Industries" (43217) of the Latvian Academy of Culture (LAC) and Riga Technical University (RTU) provides an opportunity to acquire theoretical and professional knowledge in creative industries by obtaining a Bachelor's degree of Humanities in Creative Industries.

The strategic goal of the programme "....." of the study direction "Arts" is set in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No 240 on the State Standard of Academic Education (<https://likumi.lv/ta/id/266187-noteikumi-par-valsts-akademiskas-izglitiba-standartu> / Latvian only): 1) to ensure the acquisition of theoretical knowledge and research skills of students by reaching the study results set out in the study programme which correspond to the 6th level knowledge, skills and competencies of European Qualifications Framework (EQF), in accordance of the Latvian Classification of Education; 2) to ensure the ability of the graduates of the program to responsibly and safely choose and use information technologies in their professional, research and lifelong learning activities, as well as in the acquisition, creation and sharing of digital content. The content of the study programme is designed to ensure the scientifically sound achievement of

comprehensive study results.

The main **goal** of the academic bachelor study program "Creative Industries" is to prepare creative and motivated interdisciplinary specialists for work in creative industries, namely, in various industry companies, sectors, in various business forms, with an in-depth understanding of cultural and artistic processes and the desire to promote the growth of Latvian national economy and cultural and creative industries. The programme prepares versatile, competitive creative industry professionals, combining artistic and entrepreneurial competencies to foster graduates' ability to create innovative products and services, creative content and experience in order to operate in today's challenging cultural and business environment.

The tasks of the study program are:

1. To provide students with interdisciplinary knowledge in the areas of culture, art, business and creativity, to form specialist skills and develop competencies in accordance with labour market requirements.
2. To provide competitive second-level academic higher education, which corresponds to international standards and to prepare students for practical work, to strengthen both the employee and employer skills of the students, motivating them to become employers and create start-ups.
3. To foster a deeper understanding of cultural and artistic processes, personal development and creativity, the ability to see business potential in creative practices and to develop students' motivation to work in the creative industries.
4. To develop entrepreneurial competencies, work planning and presentation skills, cooperation and communication skills by involving students in industry activities and enterprises during their studies.
5. To develop scientific research skills and promote their use, to facilitate cooperation between academic staff and students in carrying out scientific research work and practical application of the results obtained in accordance with international standards and trends.
6. To promote and develop international mobility of academic staff and students and participation in projects.
7. To promote interest in further education and development and in the enrichment of academic and professional knowledge.

As a **result** of the programme the student:

1. Is able to appreciate cultural and artistic values, understands processes and potential of the cultural heritage and contemporary culture, is familiar with the specifics of operations of cultural organizations;
2. Is able to integrate into the business environment, create jobs for themselves, and establish start-ups; understands principles of economy, is competent in the economic performance of enterprises;
3. Understands the specifics of creative industries, and their economic, political, social and legal context, understands the needs of different areas of creative industries and factors affecting the work environment of creative companies in Latvia;
4. Is capable to obtain, select, analyse information, apply research methods and professional terminology of creative industries in Latvian and English, is able to present the results of the research and substantiate personal opinion;
5. Is capable of developing innovative, artistic, competitive products and services according to the customer needs and good design principles, knows the funding models of cultural and creative industries;

6. Is able to offer goods and services to relevant audiences in the market by using modern communication channels, information and communication technologies;
7. Is capable to apply the obtained knowledge in practice, in different areas of creative industries and to analyse business performance; understands the interdisciplinary nature of creative industries; is able to cooperate, participate in teamwork, and act ethically, socially responsibly and decisively.

Admission requirements: - general or vocational secondary education, selection is based on centralised examination results: 1) English or German or French centralised examination score; 2) Latvian centralised examination score; 3) Mathematics centralised examination score (with coefficient 2) in order to select students with sufficient capacity in interdisciplinary content. The final examination at the end of the study programme is the Bachelor's thesis (see more in section 3.2.6).

The interdisciplinary knowledge of the creative industries, culture and art acquired in this programme, as well as the developed logical, business and innovation-oriented thinking, allow graduates to integrate not only into the cultural sector but also into the business sector, encouraging them to create their own jobs, establish companies, promote intersectoral cooperation, develop business ideas both in Latvia and abroad. The creative industries sector is a relatively new area of economic development, which has an invaluable role to play in promoting the innovation potential of other sectors of the economy. Therefore, when considering the opportunities for graduates of the programme, thought has been given not only to servicing the demand of the existing labour market but also to the training of specialists who can contribute to the development of the creative industries sector and increase its exportability. Creative entrepreneurship, unlike conventional entrepreneurship, requires to a greater extent creative thinking, flexibility and the application of new business approaches by owners and employees, which students can develop by studying in the creative industries programme.

There are more than 10 000 companies operating in the creative industries in Latvia, employing more than 70 000 people. Overall, the creative industries and related sectors in the Latvian economy, like in other EU countries, account for around 8%-10% of the total number of enterprises and employees (Latvian Creative Industries 2013). A number of European studies and reports (KEA 2006; Creative Economy Report 2008; Innovation Union Competitiveness Report 2011; Council of Europe 2014; Report on a Coherent EU Policy for Cultural and Creative Industries 2016) value the development potential of the cultural and creative industries, highlighting them as an economic engine and the fastest growing sector of the economy. It also highlights the strong need to promote creativity in business education and vice versa - to promote creativity in the training of business and entrepreneurship professionals. The art world and business are closely linked, complementary to each other and open up to new opportunities. Creative industries are the crossroads of art, culture, business and technology - it is this cross-sectoral collaboration that leads to innovation. These arguments have been taken into account when designing the creative industries study programme and defining its objectives and deliverables.

The joint interdisciplinary study program was created in accordance with the goals and priorities set in the strategy of the Latvian Academy of Culture (LAC) for 2015-2020 (https://lka.edu.lv/media/cms_page_media/925/APST_LKA_Attistibas_Strategija_2015_2020_Labojumi_16.04.2018.pdf / Latvian only) and in the strategy of Riga Technical University (RTU) for 2014-2020 (https://projekti.rtu.lv/external/rtu-projektupublicitate/Infrastrukt%C5%ABrasatt%C4%ABst%C4%ABbasprojekts/index_files/RTU%20Strategija%20un%20Attistibas%20programma%202014.-2020.%20gadam.pdf /Latvian only) as well as in accordance with the LAC's-accredited study direction "Arts" and for the RTU accredited study direction "Management, Administration and Real Estate Management" (RTU).

At the time of the development of the programme, it corresponded to the 1st priority of the LAC's strategy (P1) *to ensure high quality of the study process, which included the task - the creation of a new bachelor's level study program in creative industries*, while the 4th priority was (P4) *to create a cooperation platform for the development of creative industries*. The sub-goal of RTU's strategy for this period *was internationally competitive, analytical and creative thinking specialists prepared in prestigious, internationally recognized high-quality studies, who ensure the development of Latvia's national economy and who have the ability to learn throughout life*, which was in line with the joint program "Creative Industries" purposes.

The program also corresponds to the strategies of LAC and RTU for the next period. RTU's mission in the strategy 2021-2025 (https://www.rtu.lv/writable/public_files/RTU_strategy_for_2121_2025_eng.pdf) emphasized creativity and the ability to create new ideas are mentioned as one of RTU's values, in the LAC's strategy 2023-2027 (<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pLPD08ZbMWe7nRtVaSQQZhvTCJLxiaie/view>), *provide for the provision of the results of studies, research and creative work that allow creating, developing, preserving and the popularization of national cultural values, traditions and cultural heritage in the cultural space of Latvia, ensure openness to cultural diversity and intercultural communication based on loyalty. Contribution to film and performing arts (theatre and dance) industries, audio-visual arts, and creative and cultural industries, including promoting the export potential of these industries and sectors*. The program also plays an important role in moving towards LAC as a part of the creative industries ecosystem in Latvia, which is connected with the planned transfer of LAC's to the Tabakas Fabrika quarter, which is planned to be the centre of creative industries in Latvia.

The relevance of the creative industries programme to the study direction "Art" demonstrate the courses included in the program, which promote a deeper understanding of art and culture, provide insight into the field of cultural heritage and examine current trends in various cultural sectors, introduce to the specifics of cultural organizations and the production of cultural events, promoting interdisciplinary knowledge and the understanding of cooperation opportunities of different sectors. The potential of mutual cooperation between art and business is also explored, thus encouraging the development of new business models of cultural organizations and the economic justification of artistic activities.

In the attachment:

A sample of the diploma and its appendices to be issued for completion of the study program (see appendix 3.1.2.)

3.1.3. Economic and/ or social substantiation of the study programme, analysis of graduates' employment.

The programme has been in demand since its creation. It has had a large number of applicants in comparison to other LAC study programmes (in 2017, 197 applications; in 2018, 164 applications; in 2019, 141 applications; in 2020 - 212 applications; in 2021 - 180 applications; in 2022 - 231 applications). In comparison to other LAC study programmes in 2022:

- Culture and Arts studies – 152 applications
- International cultural relations Latvia – France / Canada – 106 applications
- Audio-visual Arts – 79 applications
- International cultural relations Latvia – Spain – 78 applications

- Drama and text studies – 42 applications.

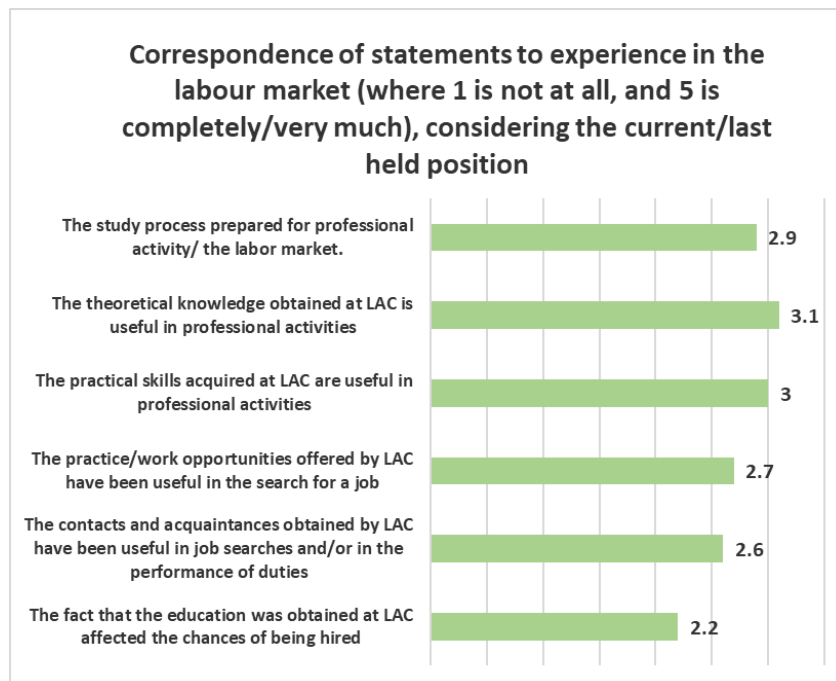
The high demand for the programme is influenced by several factors: first, the content and novelty of the programme; second, students' positive feedback about the content of the programme, including in the public space, which contributes to the programme's reputation; thirdly, interdisciplinarity, as the programme provides basic and specialized knowledge, skills and professional competence in the creative industries, combined with an in-depth understanding of culture and business, and also provides basic knowledge and skills in the specifics of various creative industries, in the creation of new products, in the following competence blocks: Creative industries and their sectors, Arts and Culture, Business and Economics, Creative Thinking and Technologies, Marketing and Communication, Research and Praxis. Despite the great interest of the school graduates in the programme, the two universities mutually agreed to admit no more than 50 students in the future, thus ensuring the highest possible quality of the learning process and the use of the infrastructure of the universities. The programme has 10 state-funded study places (exceptionally, 12 budget places are available for the programme in the 2022/2023 academic year), provided by LAC. Student competition for budget places in the 2022 study year was 23 students for 1 state-funded study place.

In order to find out the employment statistics of graduates, a unified survey of LAC's graduates of the last 3 years has been conducted. As the "Creative Industries" programme has been implemented only since 2017/2018. study year, survey data is available only for a short period of time. Analysing the data directly on graduates of the Creative Industries programme (24 respondents), it can be concluded that the majority were already employed at the time of graduating from the programme or became employed shortly after graduating from the programme.

59% of programme graduates are already employed at the time of graduation, and 21% of graduates become employed 1-3 months after graduation, which can be considered a positive trend. The majority of graduates work in the industry - 28% of graduates work in the public relations/marketing industry, 20% - in the advertising industry, 9% - in the field of cultural education/education, 8% - in business. Sectors such as cultural administration (5%), cultural houses/creative centres (4%), television, radio and/or interactive media (4%) and other sectors are also represented. Most often, graduates hold positions such as public relations, marketing specialist, project manager, and manager of cultural projects/organizations. The majority of graduates (n=60) believe that the theoretical knowledge acquired at LAC has been useful in the context of professional activity, and also that the study process has prepared the student for the performance of professional duties/ the labour market in general. There is an ambiguous opinion on whether the fact that the education was obtained at LAC has contributed to the chances of being hired. See image no. 1 for more.

Image no. 1

Compliance of statements with experience in the labour market (where 1 is not at all, and 5 – completely/very much), considering the current/last held position

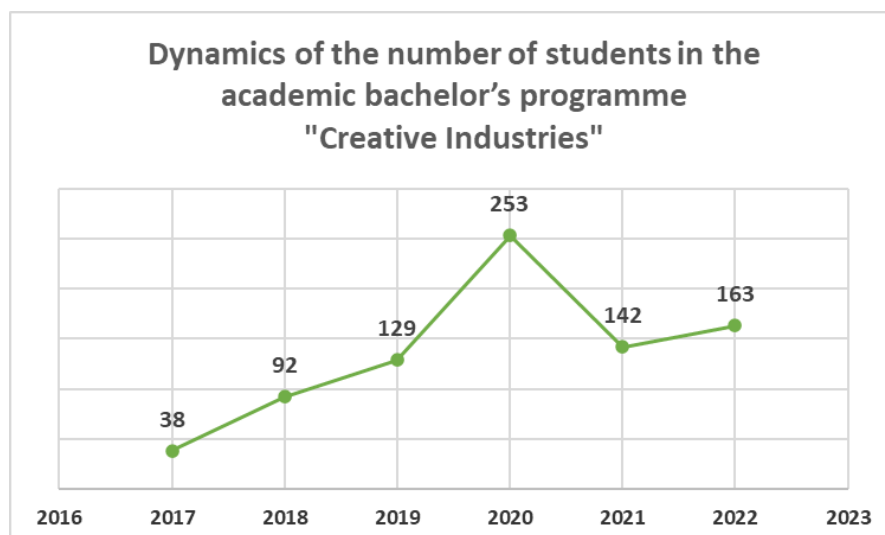


In the personal communication of the programme director with the graduates of the programme, the following workplaces have been identified: Creative Industries Department of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania, Department of Cultural Education and Sports of Riga City Council, Municipal Culture and Youth Centres, Event Agency Untitled, Dzintari Concert Hall, several work in advertising, marketing and digital technology companies (White, White Label, Accenture Latvia, etc.), in the fashion industry - model agency (Vacatio), in the field of tourism (Vanilla Travel), in the field of media (TrueSix, TV3 group), in the field of design (Design studio TEIKA), in the entertainment industry (Bowling centre "Bowlero"), have created their own company (DartaVisuals, Avalion), or work as a self-employed creative person or producer, etc.

3.1.4. Statistical data on the students of the respective study programme, the dynamics of the number of the students, and the factors affecting the changes to the number of the students. The analysis shall be broken down into different study forms, types, and languages.

The number of students in the programme is generally stable. The number of admitted students in 2017 and 2018 is smaller, because the programme just started its operation and there were no students in all stages of study yet, but a larger number of students were admitted in 2020 and 2022, as 2 groups were admitted.

Image no. 2



Student dropout rates increased during the global pandemic, when students' mental health problems and motivational difficulties increased, some students admitted that they were unable to motivate themselves to complete the study programme in a remote study format. In order to reduce the feeling of distance and promote motivation, informal meetings of programme directors with students of each course were organized once a month during the restriction period, where current problems, progress of the study process were discussed, games were played and various unifying activities were organized.

It can be concluded that by accepting a larger number of students, students with lower motivation and lower interest in creative industries also enter the programme. This is also one of the reasons why, as mentioned in point 3.1.3 of this description, universities have agreed not to admit more than 50 students, thus assembling a more motivated group of students.

3.1.5. Substantiation of the development of the joint study programme and description and evaluation of the choice of partner universities, including information on the development and implementation of the joint study programme (if applicable).

The Latvian Academy of Culture, wishing to develop a creative industries study programme, approached Riga Technical University (RTU), one of Latvia's largest and best universities, as a potential partner for a joint study programme. RTU positions itself as an internationally important centre of knowledge and innovation. RTU was interested in cooperation, and work started in 2016. Such a partner enhances the programme's prestige and provides an opportunity to provide studies relevant to the interdisciplinarity of the creative industries. The cooperation between LKA and RTU is significant in the Latvian education system, where the share of joint and highly interdisciplinary study programmes is small.

The two universities have signed an agreement on cooperation in the implementation of the joint programme (Agreement on the Implementation of the Joint Bachelor Study Programme "Creative Industries" of 13 March 2017 - LAC Contract Reg. No 1-25/008; RTU contract Reg. No. 01000-4.1/10), see annex 3.1.5._4). LKA covers the study courses of the cultural and creative sector while RTU provides ensures courses in entrepreneurship and technologies. As the creative industries are an interdisciplinary field, the acquisition of different competencies was an essential prerequisite for the development of such a programme. RTU's experience in providing entrepreneurship competencies, the university's infrastructure and resources are an important contribution to the interdisciplinarity

and quality of the programme. The cooperation between the two universities provides students with more opportunities: students can use the resources of both universities (libraries, databases, activities offered by the structural units - LAC museums, Centre for Creative Activity of LAC, RTU Design Factory, RTU Career Centre etc.); consult with the teaching staff of both universities; use the opportunities offered by both universities (RTU career days, LAC mentoring programme); participate in events organised by both universities (conferences, seminars, attend cultural events), including graduations.

The joint study programme of LAC and RTU complies with the conditions for the development of joint study programs defined in the Law on Higher Education (see attachment Nr. 3.1.5._4. Compliance of the joint study programme with the requirements of the Higher Education Act).

The joint study programme of LAC and RTU forms a coherent and consecutive joint study programme, covering the study courses offered by both universities. The two universities coordinate all issues related to the implementation of the study programme and students at both universities have equal opportunities:

- 1) in both universities, the study programme is managed by directors who cooperate and coordinate with each other the matters related to the implementation of the programme, communicate with the teaching staff involved in the implementation of the programme at their university;
- 2) the Joint Study Programme Council has been established (see below).
- 3) the schedule of lectures is planned and mutually coordinated - students have 2 – 3 lecture days at the premises of LAC and 1 – 2 lecture days at RTU, so that they do not have to change location within the same day;
- 4) students can choose and take elective courses at both universities;
- 5) students can use Erasmus+ programme mobility possibilities at both universities;
- 6) common methodological guidelines for the development of course paper and bachelor theses have been developed, which harmonise the approaches and requirements of both universities. They are published on the websites of both universities (LAC e-study environment and RTU e-study environment, available to authorized users – students and teaching staff);
- 7) the teaching staff of both universities cooperate in the development of bachelor theses. Each bachelor thesis has 2 supervisors - one from LAC and one from RTU, there are regular meetings between both supervisors and students. Programme directors organise seminars for thesis supervisors from both universities to facilitate a unified process of thesis development. The teaching staff of both universities participate in the work of the bachelor thesis defence committee (see more in 3.2.6);
- 8) the timetable for the submission of the most important works of the programme is agreed and published on the e-study environment of both universities for the subsequent study year;
- 9) joint formal and informal meetings of the teaching staff involved in the programme take place (see 3.4.5)
- 10) a joint diploma and a diploma appendix is issued (see annex 3.2.1._RI)

In order to ensure the supervision and quality of the programme, the Council of Joint Study programmes of LAC and RTU has been established. The Council is a collegial body and is composed of programme directors and representatives of the two universities nominated by the Vice-Rectors. One student of the programme participates as an observer in the meetings of the Council. The

Council's competencies include: monitoring the implementation of the programme and approving changes to the study programme; requesting and receiving information from both universities on issues relevant to the implementation of the study programme; Council approves the topics of the bachelor theses, assigns the supervisors of RTU, reviewers, Council decides the procedure and commission for bachelor theses defence as well as discusses the financial settlements between the institutions. Determines the amount of tuition fee and other charges related to the study process; coordinates the joint marketing activities of the study programme. The meetings of the Council are protocolled and they take place once per month. The work of the Council is described in the Regulations of the Council of Joint Study Programmes of LAC and RTU (see annex 3.1.5._4). Programme directors regularly communicate with each other, and discuss and coordinate topical issues. Meetings of the programme staff of both universities are also organised. Each year, the faculty members of both programmes meet to discuss and evaluate the Bachelor thesis process (see also section 3.4.5. on cooperation).

In the attachment:

Compliance of the joint study programme with the provisions of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (see annex 3.1.5._4).

3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof

3.2.1. Analysis of the content of the study programme. Assessment of the interrelation between the information included in the study courses/ modules, the intended learning outcomes, the set aims and other indicators with the aims of the study course/ module and the aims and intended outcomes of the study programme. Assessment of the relevance of the content of the study courses/ modules and compliance with the needs of the relevant industry, labour market and with the trends in science on how and whether the content of the study courses/ modules is updated in line with the development trends of the relevant industry, labour market, and science.

The general goal of the joint academic bachelor's study programme of LAC and RTU "Creative Industries" is to prepare creative and motivated interdisciplinary specialists to work in creative industries - in various industry organizations and companies with a deep understanding of cultural and artistic processes and the desire to promote the growth of Latvia's national economy and creative industries. The programme combines arts and business competencies to enhance graduates' ability to create innovative products and services, creative content and experiences that would enhance the ability to operate in today's changing, challenging business environment.

The programme provides basic and specialized knowledge, skills and professional competence in the creative industries according to the level 6 knowledge, skills and competence of the framework structure determined in the Latvian education classification. The planned study results (see Appendix "Mapping of study courses/modules for achieving the study results of the study program") and the content of the study courses are purposefully coordinated so that the programme ensures the fulfilment of tasks. The content of study courses is regularly updated according to the development trends of the industry, the labour market and science, and the findings of research projects are incorporated. The content of the programme consists of seven competence blocks, to

which all study courses are subordinated:

Creative industries and their sectors - within the block, students learn the theoretical and political aspects of creative industries, get to know the multidimensional nature of the concept of creativity, develop an understanding of the importance of creativity in the creation of innovative products and business, as well as learn in depth the operational specifics of specific creative industries.

Art, culture and humanities - students learn the history and development of art, literature, performing arts and audio-visual art today, learn to understand the possibilities of using the cultural industry as a source of creativity, learn the basic relations and theoretical aspects of art and culture, and subjects explaining management.

Entrepreneurship and economy - the block creates an understanding of the regularities of business and economy. Students learn the full-cycle business process, based on market needs, starting with the creation of a company, which also includes knowledge of various legal norms and procedures, company management and ensuring development, including personnel management, company finance and accounting issues. Students get to know the types of companies, business support opportunities, business models, learn the philosophy and operating principles of start-ups, and financing models.

Creative thinking and technologies - creative thinking, problem-solving skills, teamwork and cooperation abilities, public speaking skills, and reasoning skills are developed within the block. At the same time, competence in new product development and technology transfer is developed.

Marketing and communication - the block is focused on developing the skills of modern product advancement in the market, learning e-commerce, promotes the use of social networks in the activities of organizations and in marketing communication. Students learn how to create a marketing plan, calculate to determine market capacity and plan marketing activities, determine demand and sales volumes, and plan product development.

Research - students learn the basics of research, empirical research methods that can be used in conducting academic research, marketing and market research, as well as researching the operation of companies and organizations, preparing for the development of their bachelor's thesis.

Internship - within the block, students complete an internship in a creative industry company, getting to know the specifics of cultural and creative sector business branches. Internship allows them to test and use the theoretical knowledge learned in other blocks and develop practical skills using them in a real work environment, expanding their network among industry professionals.

The content of study courses is periodically updated in line with the industry, labour market and scientific trends. For example, the study course **"Event Management and Technical Production"** (3 CP) due to global changes in the field caused by Covid-19 has been supplemented with a topic on the organisation of hybrid and virtual events, the content of risk management topic has been specified, the list of literature has been updated with the latest publications. The content of the study course **"Cultural Management and Practical Cultural Policy"** (4 CP) is regularly updated, incorporating the latest regulations of the cultural sector and the latest research data, for example, an overview of the actual National Cultural Policy Guidelines 2021-2027 have been incorporated and the latest data from culture consumption study (*Study of the Impact of Cultural Consumption and Participation* 2018, 2020, 2022). In response to the rapid increase in the use of artificial intelligence at the end of last year, the course **"Introduction to Conception of Culture and Arts"** (2 CP) has been updated with the required reading - a recent article on the interplay between culture, art and artificial intelligence, the topic is also discussed in lectures. Each

semester, several classes of the course **"History of Art and Contemporary Art Market"** (4 CP) are held in Latvian museums, thus familiarising students with current contemporary art processes. The content of this course includes the topic of art activism, including the actualization of environmental protection topics. The study course **"Cultural Heritage"** (2 CP) includes topics that have been recently studied in the Fundamental and Applied Research Project "Community Participation in Cultural Heritage Management: practices, development and challenges" implemented by LAC and published in the collective monograph "Cultural Heritage Communities: practices, development and challenges" (2022), edited by professors of the programme R. Muktupavels and A. Lake. The reading list of the course **"Introduction to Studies and Creative Industries"** (5 CP) is supplemented by the publication on Theoretical Approaches and Methodological Challenges in the Study of the Cultural and Creative Ecosystem (http://lulpmi.lv/files/letonica/Letonica_46.pdf), published within the framework of the National Research Programme CARD, finished 2022. In response to global trends, the course **"Arts and Entrepreneurship"** (2 CP) includes a discussion on mentoring and its role in creative entrepreneurship, as well as the role of creative intermediaries - topics that were not originally covered in the course.

In the attachment:

Compliance of the study programme with the national education standard (see Appendix 3.2.1.-1)

Mapping of study courses/modules for achieving study results of the study programme (see appendix 3.2.1.-2)

Study programme plan (see appendix 3.2.1.-3)

Descriptions of study courses/modules (see appendix 3.2.1.-4)

3.2.2. In the case of master's and doctoral study programmes, specify and provide the justification as to whether the degrees are awarded in view of the developments and findings in the field of science or artistic creation. In the case of a doctoral study programme, provide a description of the main research roadmaps and the impact of the study programme on research and other education levels (if applicable).

3.2.3. Assessment of the study programme including the study course/ module implementation methods by indicating what the methods are, and how they contribute to the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study courses and the aims of the study programme. In the case of a joint study programme, or in case the study programme is implemented in a foreign language or in the form of distance learning, describe in detail the methods used to deliver such a study programme. Provide an explanation of how the student-centred principles are taken into account in the implementation of the study process.

Pedagogical methods for the implementation of study courses, as well as evaluation methods, are chosen by the teaching staff responsible for the study course according to the specifics of the course content and study programme, as well as the needs of the students. In the implementation

of the programme, teaching methods such as lectures, seminars, studies and analysis of the theoretical literature, practical work both individually and in groups, tests, laboratory works, project and product development, creative tasks, group discussions, guest lectures by industry professionals, study tours to organizations are offered in order to learn and consolidate the learning material in an appropriate environment. Lecture explanation is available in PowerPoint slides or in other formats in e-studies, where the teaching staff also uploads additional materials for reading or watching. Students develop a research paper (annual paper) that helps to strengthen their research skills. Students have the opportunity to receive individual consultations from the academic staff in both universities, including communication in the e-environment.

The variety of methods applied in the study courses are appropriate for achieving the results of the study courses and the objectives of the study programme. They train both logical and creative thinking, teach how to find, select and critically evaluate information, and draw conclusions. The combination of theoretical lectures and practical classes ensures that the programme for the sector's labour market produces knowledgeable, creative and logical-thinking professionals with a good theoretical background and a practical understanding of the processes of the creative industries. Group work trains the ability to cooperate, which is a very important skill in today's labour market. The use of various interactive methods (group discussions, learning by doing, trying things out, sharing experiences, visits to industry organisations, etc.) also trains cooperation and communication skills. All of the above helps to develop students' ability to integrate theoretical knowledge and practical competencies in the exploration and analysis of creative industries, ensures knowledge of current processes in the sector, and develops argumentation skills and the ability to make decisions, present and implement their ideas.

In most of the study courses, a summative evaluation approach is used. In the study course **"Introduction to Studies and Creative Industries"** (5 CP), students study the labour market of creative industries, create their own career plan, learn resources and information acquisition opportunities for the promotion of in-depth understanding of creative industries, guest lecturers are invited, senior students of the programme share their experience. In the lecture course **"Public Speech and the Culture of Latvian Language"** (4 CP), practical lessons are held, without the application of which the mentioned course cannot be mastered. Students perform speech exercises, practice breathing and relaxation, speaking skills, and prepare their speech. In the study course **"Event Management and Technical Production"** (3 CP), students learn the full cycle of organizing an event and then, in groups, develop parts of an event plan under given conditions, present it and participate in discussions, evaluating the project. Students also visit event venues (*Hanzas perons, Arena Riga*) and companies that provide events with technical equipment. In the study course **"Cultural Management and Practical Cultural Policy"** (4 CP), several tasks have to be completed: summary of academic articles; an analysis of a cultural organization; discussions about current cultural policy trends in Latvia and the world. One of the significant tasks is to develop a project application for the State Culture Capital Foundation, thereby learning the process of attracting funding in practice and understanding the operation of the foundation. Students develop projects in groups and participate in the discussion and evaluation of other groups' projects. In the study course **"World Literature"** (2 CP) and **"Introduction to Conception of Culture and Arts"** (2 CP), seminars are organized to discuss the materials and works of art, promoting students' independent thinking and reasoning skills. In the study course **"Creative Thinking"** (2 CP) creative tasks have to be fulfilled and various creative thinking methods are used - metaphorical thinking, "through the opposite" analysis, brainstorming, mind mapping, idea evaluation, serious play, a person (marketing/design), experience mapping, De Bono 6 thinking hats, lotus brainstorming, etc. mood board, as well as improvisation methods, principles of design thinking. In the study course **"Research Planning and Implementation in Creative Industries"** (4 CP), students learn various qualitative and quantitative research methods, learn

their application with the help of various practical tasks, and practice academic writing and academic formatting writing skills. The acquired knowledge is essential in the development of the annual paper and the bachelor's thesis. In the study courses "**Cultural Heritage**"(2 CP), and "**History of Art and Contemporary Art Market**"(4 CP), students visit memory institutions, museums and exhibition halls to evaluate and familiarize themselves with their activities. In the course "**Introduction to Studies and Creative Industries**" lecturers organizes visits to the creative industries business incubator of the Latvian Investment and Development Agency (LIAA) and the Latvian National Library. Unfortunately, study visits were not possible during the pandemic. During the study course, students write a report, learning the skills of arguing their point of view.

In addition to the study programme, students are involved in extracurricular events of both universities which complement the students' knowledge and skills and also improve students' experience in planning and implementing events, for example - students organise LAC Christmas party, music and arts festival "Valpurģi", get involved in research projects, for example on event industry mapping, become buddies of incoming Erasmus students, become ambassadors of LAC etc.). Students can also attend events offered by both universities - scientific conferences (students conference "Zinātmāksla" of LAC, Students conference of RTU, International conference of LAC "Cultural Crossroads" etc.) and attend creative projects organized by the universities (LAC festival "Patriarch's Autumn", performances of dance and theatre and films of LAC students). Students also have the opportunity to participate in the LAC's mentoring program, in which a suitable mentor is found according to the student's interests. Each course has an elected course "senior" who maintains an active link with the program director and vice versa. A common *Facebook* group has also been created for the students of the programme, so that programme directors can quickly share information about current events, which, in connection with the content of the study program, are recommended to attend.

During the pandemic, in order to promote student cohesion and to strengthen the sense of belonging, the programme's directors organized remote meetings with students once a month, during which they discussed both current issues related to the study process and spent time in informal conversations, games were also played and various bonding activities took place.

A student-centred approach is also manifested in the fact that every LAC lecturer and professor is easy to reach and available for consultations and informal conversations. The lecturers update course content to include topics and assignments of interest to specific student groups. In most study courses, a summative assessment is applied, thus providing the opportunity to complete all tasks step-by-step balancing the workload. Tasks of increased complexity are also offered according to the student's level of preparation. Students can freely choose a topic of their interest in the development of the annual paper and bachelor's thesis.

3.2.4. If the study programme envisages an internship, describe the internship opportunities offered to students, provision and work organization, including whether the higher education institution/ college helps students to find an internship place. If the study programme is implemented in a foreign language, provide information on how internship opportunities are provided in a foreign language, including for foreign students. To provide analysis and evaluation of the connection of the tasks set for students during the internship included in the study programme with the learning outcomes of the study programme (if applicable).

As part of the programme, students are provided with one internship in the amount of 6 CP, RTU is responsible for the internship. Internship allows them to get to know the specifics of culture as well as creative business sectors, allows you to use the theoretical knowledge learned in the various competency blocks of the programme and develop practical skills by using them in a real work environment. Internship also allows students to expand their network among industry professionals. Students can do internships in organizations and companies of their own choosing, as well as those offered by LAC and RTU. During the internship in the organization, the student must perform the following tasks:

1. The organization as a whole (its structure, development, etc.) should be characterized, as well as the organization's business model and its sustainability should be evaluated using one of generally recognized scientific theories;
2. In the event that the internship takes place in the creative structural unit of the organization, a brief description of the entire organization should be carried out, with an in-depth description of the specific structural unit. The analysis to be performed must be supported by data and/or calculations that will confirm the intern's conclusions;
3. Possible problem/s or inconsistencies of the organization (or its creative department) should be identified, justifying them with the analysis of the main financial generators (data and information).

By performing these tasks, students demonstrate the ability to create and manage their own company, navigate business models, and understand the basic indicators of a company's operation. Students should be able to independently plan and rationally use resources to achieve strategic goals and evaluate the effectiveness of their actions. In the internship also helps to achieve the result - being able to act and think creatively, apply methods, argue, present their ideas orally and in writing. During the internship, students must be able to act ethically, understand the principles of sustainable and socially responsible behaviour in business - this is another of the achievable results of the program. When performing practice tasks, students must also be able to act in compliance with the laws and regulations governing the protection of business and intellectual property, work with company information and develop report on the inetrnship. Students should be able to join a collective and work in a team, cooperate collegially and know the basic principles of business etiquette, which is one of the program's achievable results. Students should be able to independently use modern information technologies to solve business, marketing and communication issues, which they will also demonstrate during the internship.

At the beginning of the programme, in the course "Introduction to Studies and Creative industries" students are introduced to internship opportunities and requirements, and provided with the information about the internship places on offer. Consultations on internships are also organised before the start of the internship. Since the creative industries are a diverse field, students are encouraged to choose internships according to their interests. The devirsity of internships places is wide - both public and municipal sector (Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia, Valmiera Tourism Board, Vecumnieki City Council, Olaine Municipality, Sigulda Municipality Culture Centre, Ogre Municipality Culture Centre, Jūrmala Culture Centre) and private sector (*Arena Riga*, *VFS FILMS*, *Publishing house MicRec*, *Printful Latvia*, *Apollo cinema*, *venue - Hanzas Perons*, *event agency Pasākumu meistari*, *Brain games*), non-governmental sector (*Initium Foundation*, *Club House for the youth*, *Tarba Society*), cultural organisations of various sectors (*Lielais Dzintars*, *Liepāja Theatre*, *Memorial Museum Association*, *Liepāja Museum*, *Latvian Puppet Theatre*), etc.

The list of cooperation agreements concluded by LAC on provision of student internships is available in the annex of section 2.5. (see Mandatory annexes, annex 2.5.1. (List of cooperation agreements, including the agreements for providing internship).

Methodological guidelines for the organisation, implementation and defence of internships in the Creative Industries (Latvian only), as well as student internship places 2020-2023 are attached in "Creative industries" programme Other annexes, annex "Prakses dokumenti / Internship documents").

The course description of the internship is available in the "Creative Industries" programme Mandatory annex 3.2.1-4.

3.2.5. Evaluation and description of the promotion opportunities and the promotion process provided to the students of the doctoral study programme (if applicable).

3.2.6. Analysis and assessment of the topics of the final theses of the students, their relevance in the respective field, including the labour market, and the marks of the final theses.

Students develop their bachelor's thesis in the 6th semester, it has 2 scientific supervisors - one from LAC and one from RTU. It ensures the integration of the interdisciplinary knowledge acquired within the programme in the bachelor thesis and the cooperation of teaching staff from both universities.

Students can choose the topic of their bachelor paper according to their interests taking into account the specifics of the programme. The bachelor thesis consists of 3 parts - theoretical, empirical and business design part, thus requiring practical application of theoretical knowledge and appropriate terminology in the chosen field of creative industries research. It lets also demonstrates the ability to use various methods and tools for data acquisition and processing in empirical data and business design part to solve the problem in an original way. Methodological guidelines for the development of the bachelor thesis ([https://lka.edu.lv/media/cms_page_media/1228/MN%20kursa%20un%20bakalaura%20darba%20izstradei%20\(03.10.2022\).pdf](https://lka.edu.lv/media/cms_page_media/1228/MN%20kursa%20un%20bakalaura%20darba%20izstradei%20(03.10.2022).pdf) (Latvian only)) have been developed and they are binding for both students and supervisors. Guidelines state that during the work on the thesis, it is the student's duty to meet with both supervisors in a timely and regular manner (as necessary, but at least once a month), to consult with them and to report on the progress of the thesis. It is recommended that trilateral meetings are held with student and both supervisors. The student chooses the LAC supervisor (about one month before the submission of the topic, students receive a list of LAC lecturers and professors - potential supervisors with contact details, scientific interests of the supervisors and an overview of the thesis topics supervised so far. Information about the faculty members can also be found on the LAC website <https://lka.edu.lv/lv/par-akademiju/struktura/katedras/kulturas-sociologijas-un-menedzmenta-katedra/docetaji/> (Latvian only)), while the RTU scientific supervisor is assigned and approved by the Joint Study Programme Council. Communication between supervisors and students takes place both in face-to-face consultations and remotely and via e-mail. The methodological guidelines also mention that if the student does not follow the timetable for the bachelor thesis of the respective year and does not cooperate with the supervisors, the student will not be allowed to defend the thesis. During the development of the bachelor thesis, the programme directors invite the thesis

supervisors from both universities to a meeting to discuss the requirements and the process of the thesis. A post-defence evaluation is also organised. The thesis defence committee is composed of members from both universities and the thesis evaluation consists of 3 parts: 1) the average score of the supervisors; 2) the score of the reviewer; 3) the average score of the defence committee.

The topics of the bachelor's theses reflect current problems and topics in the creative industries, a number of topics can be considered innovative since they deal with specific and so far unexplored aspects of creative industries in Latvia, for example: "The role of the creative intermediaries in creative industries development in Cesis region", "The meaning of bricolage in creative communities' development in the context of creative industries", "Competitiveness of Creative Industry Sectors in the Context of Experience Economy: Case of Gastronomy and Music Industries", "Synergy of Stakeholders In Place Branding: Case Study of Valmiera", "The role of sound and music in brand identity and communication", "The role of the creative intermediaries in creative industries development in Cesis region", "Transforming forms of employment in the creative industries: digital nomads", "Crypto art in the art market and its risk assessment" etc. The topics of works developed during the pandemic were affected by the changes caused by Covid-19, the bachelor theses reflected the interest in the increase in the proportion of digital content and forms in various fields of creative industries.

The themes of the defended bachelor theses can be grouped into several blocks:

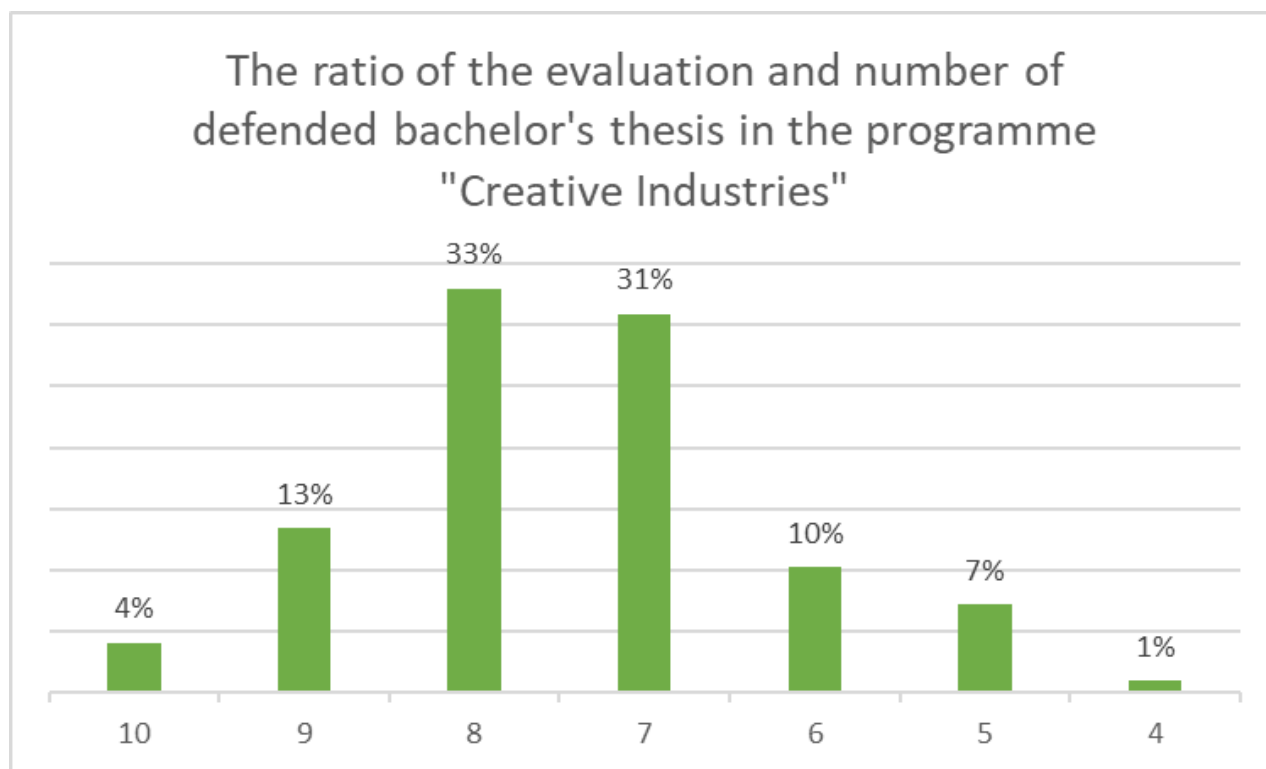
- Topics related to **creative and cultural industries human resource management, career and community building**, for example, "The importance of management and cultural leadership in the development of the non-governmental theatre industry. The case of Gertrude Street Theatre and "Quadrifron", "The importance of the form of employment in work efficiency in the creative industries", "Transformation of the forms of labour relations in the cultural and creative industries: digital nomads", "Prerequisites for building a career in Latvia of popular music performers in the music industry";
- Topics related to **the sustainability aspects of the creative industries sector**, for example "Zero waste" as a marketing tool in the development of creative entrepreneurship", "Sustainable fashion principles. A case example of the company LLC "Baltika Latvija". Some of the works look at **sustainability in the context of the event industry**, for example, "Prerequisites for the sustainable development of music festivals in the creative industry sector. Analysis of the Glastonbury Festival and Positivus Festival", "The importance of creative and cultural events in actualizing the theme of environmental sustainability: the case of the association "Greenfest";
- Topics related to **cultural tourism and urban environment, place management**, such as "Impact of the city brand and synergy with local companies and organizations: the example of Valmiera", "The importance of cultural tourism in the development of concert halls. The example of the Dzintari concert hall", "Literary work as a marketing tool in creating the identity of Latvian cities",
- Topics related to **branding, marketing, advertising and sales, and communication issues of creative organizations**, for example, "The importance of music and sound in the development and communication of brand identity", "Using digital marketing tools in creating publicity for the program "Latvian films for the centenary of Latvia", "Marketing challenges in promoting the sale of demeritorious and restricted products", "The importance of using experiential marketing in modern service services in creative industries", "Etsy" as an export channel of Latvian creative design companies";
- Topics related to **innovations in creative industries can be distinguished**, for example, "Innovation potential in creative industries companies in Latvia", "Effectiveness of innovation implementation in creative industries companies. Example of the company "Sign+display".

- one of the thematic groups of works is related to the **application of digital marketing tools in various fields of creative industries and forms and monetization of digital content, media activity**, for example "Evaluation of the return of digital marketing tools in the Latvian National Opera and Ballet", "Transfer of museum products in the digital environment in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic", "Socio-economic impact of Latvian Radio 2 exiting the advertising market", "The importance of the text in the content marketing approach of Latvian design companies in use in social media", "Video game streaming culture and its economic potential in Latvia", "Possibility of monetizing the digital content of Liepaja concert hall "Great Amber";
- One thematic block of bachelor theses related to **the development of creative entrepreneurship**, - "The role of creative brokers in the development of creative industries in Cesis district", "Food design as a form of creative entrepreneurship in Latvia" as well as **business operations in conditions of uncertainty**, for example, "Business operations in conditions of uncertainty. The example of "Arena Riga", "Using the design thinking method in business in the conditions of the Covid-19 crisis", "Sustainability of creative industries companies in the conditions of the crisis; COVID-19 crisis support programs administered by the State Culture Capital Foundation";
- In their bachelor's theses, students also focus on the **research of various creative industry branches and cultural environment, the current issues of the music, cinema, theatre and art market**, for example "The operation of Riga's contemporary art galleries in the local and foreign market", "Specifics and problems of management in state theatres in Latvia", "Conditions and possibilities of financial support for the Valmiera Drama Theatre as a regional theatre", "Creation of repertoires and financial management in non-state theatres", specific **niches of creative industries**, such as "Retreats as part of the wellness services industry and their marketing specifics" and "Positioning of Latvian nightclubs in social networks";
- Students have chosen also topics related to **social responsibility and cultural accessibility for people with special needs**: "Accessibility of navigation system information for persons with functional disabilities in Dzintari concert hall", "Promoting access to museums for people with sensory disabilities in Latvia", "The importance of social responsibility in Latvian State Theatres".

As can be seen, the topics of the final theses are versatile and qualitatively reflect the real and current problems of the creative industries. Bachelor theses confirm the implementation of the interdisciplinary idea of the program, the achievement of goals and the ability of both universities to cooperate in all stages of the study process. Students' bachelor's thesis should include a theoretical part, an empirical part and a business design part, which demonstrate the student's ability to use the diverse theoretical knowledge, methods and approaches of various fields acquired during the bachelor's studies, demonstrating an understanding of the creative industries and how to conduct research on them.

A total of 97 works have been defended in the programme so far, the ratio of evaluation and number of defended bachelor's theses is shown in Image no. 2

Image no 2. The ratio of the evaluation and number of defended bachelor's thesis in the programme "Creative Industries"



3.3. Resources and Provision of the Study Programme

3.3.1. Assessment of the compliance of the resources and provision (study provision, scientific support (if applicable), informative provision (including libraries), material and technical provision, and financial provision) with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the learning outcomes to be achieved by providing the respective examples.

The study process of the programme is organized in two LAC's buildings - Ludzas street 24 and Elijas street 17, as well as in the Faculty of Engineering Economics and Management of RTU at Kalnciema iela 6. Students use the premises and resources of both universities - libraries, premises for work. Wireless internet is available in all buildings of LAC and RTU. The auditoriums are equipped according to the needs of the study process, all the auditoriums have a computer, projector and screen, blackboard, if necessary, the auditoriums can also be equipped with other equipment. Computer labs and rooms with transformable tables are available that can be adapted for seminars, round table discussions, etc. Premises for students is available 24/7 in RTU's scientific library.

The programme is financed from the state budget grant awarded to the Latvian Academy of Culture (planned budget places in the program are provided by LAC) and students' study fees. Mobility and internships of the academic staff and students is financed from funds awarded through tenders from the European Union and Latvian science, education and creativity foundation.

The programme provides 10 study places financed from the state budget (the exception is the 2022/2023 study year, when 12 budget places are available for the programme). Fees for full-time

face-to-face studies 2017/2018, 2018/2019, 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 is EUR 2100 set for the study year, but for 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 the study fee is 2300 EUR. In the cooperation agreement of the higher education institution, the mutual settlement procedure has been agreed upon, and an agreement is additionally concluded for each specific study year.

During the study process, both universities use an e-study environment (LAC - Moodle and Latvia's Higher Education Information System (LAIS), RTU - ORTUS), which ensures full information circulation with students, access to resources and information. Moodle provides a channel for communication with students necessary for the study process. Course descriptions, lecture materials and additional sources, instructions for tasks, tests and assessment books are posted for each study course. The use of the e-study environment takes place in all study courses and its use is intensified along with the provision of the study process remotely. From November 2018 to June 2021, the European Social Fund project "Effectiveness of management of Latvian Academy of Culture and Latvian College of Culture and modernization of study process" (No. 8.2.3.0/018/A/020) was implemented at LAC. Within the project, during the year 2019-2020 LAC's E-study environment was significantly improved.

The decision on the necessary resources is taken by the programme directors and, according to the procedure established by each university. The renewal and replenishment of resources in LAC is discussed at the weekly meetings of the LAC management - rectorates. The replenishment of resources is supported, rejected or transferred to the budget for the next period, according to the needs and financial possibilities of the LAC.

Both universities also regularly supplement the resources in the library by purchasing both books and by subscribing to databases that are available to students of the "Creative Industries" programme at both universities.

Information on the required books is requested 2 times a year by the Head of the Department of Sociology and Management of Culture, who prepares an application to the Library summarising the requests from all programmes of the department.

In the RTU library, students also have at their disposal libraries of methodical offices, where they can familiarize themselves with the latest periodicals, statistical materials, books, conference materials on economic and business issues. Students and academic staff have access to a wide and modern scientific library of RTU (Kipsala, Paula Valdena iela 5), where it is possible to use all kinds of educational literature, as well as electronic subscription databases, as well as temporary trial databases: SpringerLink, IEEE/IET Electronic Library (IEL), Web of Science, Latvian standards database content: Latvian national standards (LVS); European standards (EN) adapted to Latvian standard status; International standards adapted to Latvian standard status (ISO), EBSCO database, Academic Search Complete, Business Source Complete, MasterFile Premier, Library, Information Science & Technology Abstracts (LISTA), ScienceDirect, SCOPUS (published by Elsevier), news available in the National News Agency database LETA, archive, reviews and nozare.lv, educational materials repository - MERLOT, films.lv. RTU ensures that Firms.lv and Amadeus database are also available to students of the joint programme, which can be used for both study and research purposes. In addition, as a result of international cooperation, Harvard Business Publishing provides access to electronic resources. Every month, the latest literature is reflected in the newsletter of newly received literature (<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/studijas/biblioteka/jaunieguvumi> (Latvian only)) in the "Economics and management" section, while LAC informs about the latest available literature in classes or during programme's director's meetings with the students.

These resources help to ensure the achievement of study results by ensuring the availability of premises, technical resources, literature for students when carrying out study assignments and developing the final thesis.

3.3.2. Assessment of the study provision and scientific base support, including the resources provided within the framework of cooperation with other science institutes and higher education institutions (applicable to doctoral study programmes) (if applicable).

3.3.3. Indicate data on the available funding for the corresponding study programme, its funding sources and their use for the development of the study programme. Provide information on the costs per one student within this study programme, indicating the items included in the cost calculation and the percentage distribution of funding between the specified items. The minimum number of students in the study programme in order to ensure the profitability of the study programme (indicating separately the information on each language, type and form of the study programme implementation).

The costs of the programme are calculated in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation of December 12, 2006 No. 994 "The order in which universities and colleges are financed from the state budget". The current base fee for a study place is EUR 1,630.11. According to the mentioned regulation No. 994 Clause 12 study cost ratio for undergraduate study programmes 1. According to Clause 20 of Appendix 1 of the Regulations, LAC's funding for one bachelor's study place in the thematic field of education "Art (except for the programmes mentioned in Clause 28 of this Appendix)" coefficient is 3.1. The estimated amount of the state grant in 2022 is 4,607 EUR for one budget place. Performance funding per 1 student in the programme is EUR 239 and tuition fees are on average EUR 1,769, taking into account that tuition fees are revised every year.

The funding of the study programme in 2022 is 373,287 EUR, it was formed from the budget grant, performance-based funding and tuition fees. When making cost calculations, all expenditure items necessary for the programme are included, the programme costs divide accordingly: 24% compensation for EKK 1000, 16% EKK goods and services 2000 and 60% other EKK. The large proportion of other EKK expenses can be explained by the fact that this is a joint programme and all revenues are shared between two universities. Every year, a cost calculation is carried out, after which the number of guest lecturers hired and the amount diverted for the development of study programmes are determined, which constitutes a part of the revenues, e.g., in 2022, the amount is 3%, which amounts to 5,891 EUR. A lot of attention is devoted to the optimization of study programme realization expenses, for example, by organizing flow lectures in courses taught by professors.

In order to ensure the profitability of the study programme the minimum number of enrolled students is determined every year by looking at the needs of the programme in the current year.

The programme is full-time attendance and is conducted in Latvian.

3.4. Teaching Staff

3.4.1. Assessment of the compliance of the qualification of the teaching staff members (academic staff members, visiting professors, visiting associate professors, visiting docents, visiting lecturers, and visiting assistants) involved in the implementation of the study programme with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the provisions set out in the respective regulatory enactments. Provide information on how the qualification of the teaching staff members contributes to the achievement of the learning outcomes.

The selection of teaching staff is organized in accordance with the requirements set out in regulatory documents, taking into account competencies in humanities and social sciences and activities in the professional environment, as well as achievements in research or artistic creative activity.

8 professors, 1 emeritus professor, 8 associate professors, 4 assistant professors, 3 lecturers, 1 guest lecturer and 1 lead researcher, are involved in the implementation of the programme as responsible teaching staff (see table below). This number of professors and associate professors is in accordance with the conditions of program implementation and the requirements of regulatory acts.

In several lecture courses (e.g., "Event Management and Technical Production" (3 CP), "Art and Entrepreneurship" (2 CP), and "Cultural and Creative Industries" (5 CP), industry professionals and experts are invited for individual guest lectures to introduce students to current issues relevant to the subject of the study course.

Table no. 1. Responsible teaching staff of the programme

	LAC	RTU
Professors (incl. Emeritus)	4	5
Associated professors	6	2
Assistant professors	3	2
Lectors	2	1
Lead researcher	1	0
Guest lecturer	1	0

An important mechanism for maintaining high qualifications is the participation of teaching staff in research projects and creative projects, seven of the responsible teaching staff involved in the program and seven of the lecturers have also been elected to various research positions at the LAC's Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies and are engaged in active research on a regular basis.

Prof. A.Lake and prof. R.Muktupavela participated in the only project in Latvia financed by the EU research and innovation program "Horizon 2020" in the field of humanities. LAC was one of the 12 partners in the project "Critical Heritages: performing and representing identities in Europe", abbreviation CoHERE. National-level research programs are also important for the development of the academic staff's competencies.

In the period from 2020-2022 teaching staff of the program, **Prof. A.Lake and Prof. R.Muktupavela, lecturers K.Freiberga, A.Pasane and A.Kristala** worked in the State Research Programme "Cultural Capital as a Resource for the Sustainable Development of Latvia/CARD".

In the competition for fundamental and applied research in 2020, LAC won support for the implementation of the project "Creative Industries in Small Towns: Potential and Contributions to Sustainability", in which participated - **Assoc. Prof. I.Zemite, Assoc. Prof. A.Hermene, leading researcher I.Kunda**. The project was implemented in 2021, the findings of this research are also incorporated into study courses. From 2022-2024 the same team implements a new Fundamental research project "Reviewing the Concept of Creative Cities: networks, Mediators and Development Directions". **A.Kristala and I.Kunda** were involved in the State Research Programme "Digital Resources of Humanities: Integration and Development", which was implemented in the period from 2020 to 2022.

The research of creative industries issues is carried out within the framework of applied research commissioned by the Ministry of Culture and a number of local municipalities. In 2019, the study "On the Socio-economic Impact of the Culture and Creative Industries in the City of Liepaja" was carried out by order of the municipality of Liepaja with participation of **A. Lake and I.Kunda**. In 2020, the culture industry strategy of Ventspils region was also developed; participated - **A.Lake, I.Kunda and A.Hermene**.

An important area of activity of the LAC's academic staff consists of conducting research commissioned by the Latvian Culture and Art Industry governors (for example, the Ministry of Culture, the Latvian National Culture Centre, the State Culture Capital Foundation) and other institutions (for example, the Latvian National Symphony Orchestra, Latvian Book Publishers Association). These studies expand practical connections with the industry and provide a solid knowledge base about the current processes of the industry.

To ensure the quality of the study process, the LKA teaching staff members continuously improve their professional qualifications and are also recognised as experts in their professional fields. For example, since 2021, **Assoc. Prof. I.Zemite** has been a member of the Open Method of Coordination Expert Working Group on the Status and Employment of Artists and Creative Persons of the Member States of the European Union, a representative of Latvia and since 2018 a member of the Association for Cultural Economics International (ACEI). **Professor R.Muktupavela** is a member of the Latvian Council of Science, Head of the National Cultural Council, from 2019-2021 she was also Latvian representative on the UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions. **Assoc. Professor L.Ulberte's** scientific interests are related to the research of Latvian and European theatre history and contemporary processes. The collective monographs "New Directing of Latvia" (2015), "100 Outstanding Latvian Actors" (2018), "People and Events in Latvian Lands from the Leaving of Ice to Latvian State" (2018), "Contemporary Latvian Theatre" (2020) etc. co-author.

In 2020 and 2021, lecturers of the study programme from LAC participated in project No. 8.2.2.0/18/A/018 "Development of the Academic Staff of the Latvian Academy of Culture - Investment in the Quality of Studies" financed and implemented during 2021 in the digital skills improvement training of LAC academic staff in the amount of 64 academic hours and training for

the improvement of leadership skills. 2019-2020 English language skills improvement training for academic staff in the amount of 144 academic hours was carried out twice a week for 9 months. Currently studying in a doctorate programme is lecturers **A.Kristala and K.Freiberga**. Program director **A.Hermane** and lecturer **Z.Daudzina** raised their qualifications by obtaining PhD degrees in 2022.

The teaching staff of the programme also have extensive publication and conference practice (see in annex LAC teaching staff CV (see: obligatory annexes "2.3.-2_CV_EN" and list of publications "2.4.4.-2 List of publications, patents, artistic creative works of teaching staff for the reporting period")). More about the research projects available in LAC homepage (see: <https://lka.edu.lv/en/research/research-projects>).

The CV of RTU teaching staff and the list of publications is available in the annex (see Other annexes, annex "RTU mācībspēki / RTU teaching staff").

The qualification of all staff members has a direct impact on the quality of the programme and contributes to the achievement of learning outcomes. The active involvement and activities of the teaching staff in current creative industries processes, projects and research provide students with the necessary knowledge, competencies and skills, as well as ensure access to the latest research data, scientific knowledge and insight into global trends of the field.

3.4.2. Analysis and assessment of the changes to the composition of the teaching staff over the reporting period and their impact on the study quality.

There are few changes to the teaching staff in the programme. This is due to changes in working relationships, changes in the study course and the wish to improve the teaching of the courses. In one case, the reason for the change of lecturer was student dissatisfaction, which was recorded in course evaluation questionnaires and in the meetings of students and programme directors.

Changes in the teaching staff in LAC:

1) The study course "Introduction to Cultural and Creative Industries" (2 CP) was initially taught by guest lecturer Z. Avenina, however, after the evaluation of the study course and collecting critical feedback from students and also because of the changes in the scope and title of the study course to "Introduction to studies and Creative Industries (5 CP), it was decided to transfer this course to the regular teaching staff of LAC- now it is taught by three LAC staff members - lect. A.Pasane, lect. K.Freiberga and lead researcher I.Kunda.

2) The study course "Cultural Management and Practical Cultural Policy" (4) was initially taught by Assoc. prof. I.Zemite, however, in order for the programme director to have more intensive cooperation with the students already in the first semester of studies, the study course was taken over by the programme director, assoc. prof. A.Hermane.

3) Lecturer L. Kestere was planned to be the lecturer of the study course "Event Management and Technical Production" (3 CP), however, after the change of employment relations, the study course was taken over by Assoc. prof. A.Hermane.

4) In the first two years of the study programme's implementation, the study course "Art and Entrepreneurship" (2 CP) was taught in English by a guest professor from the Netherlands - prof. Frans Brouwer, however, after the establishment of the joint Master's study programme of LAC and RTU "Creative Industries and Growth Management", it was decided by the Study Programme

Council to redirect the guest professor to the Master's study programme, where an individual approach is possible and more necessary. Currently, the course is taught by Assoc. prof. I.Zemite.

5) It was planned that the study course "Creative Thinking" (2 CP) will be prepared and taught by assoc. prof. A. Hermane, however, after assessing her competencies and experience, it was decided to invite a more suitable guest lecturer with extensive experience in creative thinking processes and projects - guest lecturer E.Palasiosa.

Changes in the teaching staff in RTU:

RTU has changed lecturers in two courses due to workload and career planning reasons:

The course "Accounting and Finance (3 CP) initially was taught by Assist. prof. L.Tise, now - by prof. Prof. N.Lace. The study course "Civil Protection" (1 CP) was taught by prof. Prof. J.leviņš - now by prof. V.Jemeljanovs.

3.4.3. Information on the number of the scientific publications of the academic staff members, involved in the implementation of doctoral study programme, as published during the reporting period by listing the most significant publications published in Scopus or WoS CC indexed journals. As for the social sciences, humanitarian sciences, and the science of art, the scientific publications published in ERIH+ indexed journals or peer-reviewed monographs may be additionally specified. Information on the teaching staff included in the database of experts of the Latvian Council of Science in the relevant field of science (total number, name of the lecturer, field of science in which the teaching staff has the status of an expert and expiration date of the Latvian Council of Science expert) (if applicable).

3.4.4. Information on the participation of the academic staff, involved in the implementation of the doctoral study programme, in scientific projects as project managers or prime contractors/ subproject managers/ leading researchers by specifying the name of the relevant project, as well as the source and the amount of the funding. Provide information on the reporting period (if applicable).

3.4.5. Assessment of the cooperation between the teaching staff members by specifying the mechanisms used to promote the cooperation and ensure the interrelation between the study programme and study courses/ modules. Specify also the proportion of the number of the students and the teaching staff within the study programme (at the moment of the submission of the Self-Assessment Report).

Teaching staff of the programme cooperate on a daily basis in various issues related to the study process. When updating the content of the study courses, the teaching staff coordinate with each

other and with the programme directors to ensure that the content does not overlap and that the courses are logically connected. Due to the fact that the programme is new, the study courses are being improved based on feedback from students and teaching staff.

During the study process, regular formal and informal meetings of colleagues from both universities take place, which promote mutual cooperation, among teaching staff as well as among students. For example, a joint event for RTU and LAC teaching staff was held in December 2017, May 2017. In the spring of 2019, a joint seminar was held for LAC and RTU teaching staff on managing bachelor's theses. Also in the spring of 2020, 2021 and 2022, a seminar on managing and reviewing bachelor's theses was held. On January 12, 2023, a strategic work meeting of the joint study programme council of LAC and RTU took place on the evaluation of the cooperation so far. The seminar analyzed the strengths and weaknesses of the joint study programmes, discussed the principles of programme's participatory management and the terminology of creative industries, formulated strategies for strengthening mutual communication and information circulation both on the administrative level of the program, and for promoting the cooperation of teaching staff and the involvement of students. It was decided to regularly organize joint seminars of the teaching staff of the two universities, to start work on improving the terminology of creative industries in Latvian, to activate the participation of the teaching staff of the two universities in the conferences organized by both universities.

Annexes

III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme		
Sample of the diploma and its supplement to be issued for completing the study programme	3.1.2._RI.zip	3.1.2._RI.zip
For academic study programmes - Opinion of the Council of Higher Education in accordance with Section 55, Paragraph two of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)		
Compliance of the joint study programme with the provisions of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (table) (if applicable)	3.1.5._4. RI joint programme.zip	3.1.5._4. RI kopīgā programma.zip
Statistics on the students in the reporting period	3.1.4._Annex 5_statistical data on students bRI 2017_2022.pdf	3.1.4._5. pielikums_bRI studejoso skaits 2017_2022.pdf
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof		
Compliance with the study programme with the State Education Standard	3.2.1._1_state standard_bRI.docx	3.2.1._1_valsts standarts_bRI.docx
Compliance of the qualification to be acquired upon completion of the study programme with the professional standard or the requirements for professional qualification (if applicable)		
Compliance of the study programme with the specific regulatory framework applicable to the relevant field (if applicable)		
Mapping of the study courses/ modules for the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study programme	3.2.1._2_Course mapping_bRI.xlsx	3.2.1._2 Kursu kartēšana_bRI.xlsx
The curriculum of the study programme (for each type and form of the implementation of the study programme)	3.2.1._3_Curriculum_bRI.xlsx	3.2.1._3 Programmas plāns_bRI.xlsx
Descriptions of the study courses/ modules	3.2.1.-4._course descriptions_RI.zip	3.2.1.-4._kursa apraksti_RI.zip
Description of the organisation of the internship of the students (if applicable)		
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.4. Teaching Staff		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the doctoral study programme includes not less than five doctors, of which at least three are experts approved by the Latvian Council of Science in the branch or sub-branch of science in which the study programme intends to award a scientific degree (if applicable)		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the academic study programme complies with the requirements specified in Section 55, Paragraph one, Clause 3 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)	CONFIRMATION_bRI.pdf	RI.zip

Arts (43212)

Study field	Arts
ProcedureStudyProgram.Name	Arts
Education classification code	43212
Type of the study programme	Academic bachelor study programme
Name of the study programme director	Zane
Surname of the study programme director	Šiliņa
E-mail of the study programme director	zane.silina@lka.edu.lv
Title of the study programme director	Dr.art.
Phone of the study programme director	
Goal of the study programme	<i>To prepare competitive growth-oriented specialists with knowledge of interdisciplinary theories of humanitarian, artistic and creative industries, research skills in the research of specific cultural and creative sector problem issues, as well as artistic creativity skills in theater art. In the study process, closely integrate education, research and artistic creativity, develop a holistic understanding of cultural and artistic processes in the national and global cultural space. To provide students with the theoretically and practically oriented knowledge, skills and competences required in the modern cultural and creative sector labor market, which are applicable 1) for further academic research as well as professional practical activities and 2) provide opportunities to study in related master's and doctoral study programs both in Latvia and abroad.</i>

Tasks of the study programme	<p><i>Tasks of the study programme:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. To develop students' academic thinking and writing skills in cultural studies, art sciences and interdisciplinary approach, to ensure systematic theoretical knowledge and skills in using concepts;</i> <i>2. To support students in learning the methodological and ethical basic principles of cultural and artistic phenomenon research, to develop knowledge, skills and competence in planning, managing and implementing the research process - in describing, evaluating and analyzing research problems of cultural and artistic processes.</i> <i>3. Promote the use of acquired theoretical knowledge, empirical research skills in the analysis of current cultural and artistic issues, as well as the transfer of academic knowledge and communication in the cultural and artistic environment.</i> <i>4. To develop artistic creativity skills in theater art and other creative activity skills required in the management of cultural and artistic processes and intercultural communication.</i> <i>5. Prepare specialists in accordance with the labor market demand of the cultural and creative sector, as well as the theater arts sector, support students in learning professional and general skills, as well as personality traits, subordinate to the specifics of the labor market of the sector.</i> <i>6. To ensure the cooperation of academic staff and students in carrying out scientific research and artistic creative work.</i> <i>7. To support students in building the skills necessary for professional and personal growth: to develop independent work planning and presentation skills, cooperation and communication skills, entrepreneurship and responsibility skills, as well as to provide mediation that allows students to get involved in industry activities.</i> <i>8. To support the development of innovative works of art in theater art, their distribution in Latvia and internationally.</i> <i>9. Promote the international mobility of academic staff and students; strengthen international competitiveness and career growth potential of graduates</i> <i>10. Develop the digital skills specifically required for the culture and art sector, provide a favorable study environment for the dissemination of technological and non-technological innovations of the culture and art sectors.</i>
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Results of the study programme	<p><i>As a result of completing the study programme, the graduate will:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>- acquired interdisciplinary knowledge of the regularities of historical development and modern processes in the cultural and artistic sectors (literature, visual arts, music, theatre and cinema);</i> <i>- recognizes and understands theoretical approaches to cultural studies and art science, describes and defines concepts corresponding to the content of the program, identifies and explains theoretical connections</i> <i>- is able to independently obtain and critically analyse information, capability of choosing and applying scientific research methods or artistic creation solutions of cultural studies and art;</i> <i>- uses theoretical knowledge and empirical data in the analysis, comparison and evaluation of independently identified cultural and artistic developments,</i> <i>- is able to communicate the results of the processes of their research or artistic creation work in a reasoned manner - orally and in writing.</i>
Final examination upon the completion of the study programme	<i>Bachelor's thesis.</i>

Study programme forms

Full time studies - 4 years - latvian

Study type and form	<i>Full time studies</i>
Duration in full years	<i>4</i>
Duration in month	<i>0</i>
Language	<i>latvian</i>
Amount (CP)	<i>160</i>
Admission requirements (in English)	<i>Secondary education and entrance examination</i>
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Bachelor of Arts</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	<i>-</i>

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
Latvian Academy of Culture	RĪGA	LUDZAS IELA 24, LATGALES PRIEKŠPILSĒTA, RĪGA, LV-1003

3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme

3.1.1. Description and analysis of changes in the parameters of the study programme made since the issuance of the previous accreditation form of the study field or issuance of the study programme license, if the study programme is not included on the accreditation form of the study field, including changes planned within the evaluation procedure of the study field evaluation procedure.

No changes have been made to the parameters of the programme since the issuance of the accreditation sheet for the "Arts" study field on May 22, 2013 (as well as the issuance of a new accreditation sheet on June 20, 2022 (accreditation sheet No. 2022/34)), but within the framework of the evaluation procedure for this study field it is planned to make changes in one parameter of the academic bachelor's study programme "Arts" - to include a new code 43217 in addition to the code 43212 included in the previous accreditation pages. Other parameters of the study programme - awarded degree, direction, duration of the programme, language and admission rules are not changed. The changes are related to the more precise positioning of the interdisciplinary content of the goals and tasks of the study programme in accordance with the educational programme groups of the thematic field of education "Arts" defined in the regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 322 (Regulations Regarding the Classification of Education of Latvia (Latvian only): <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/291524-noteikumi-par-latvijas-izglitiba-klasifikaciju>): educational programme group with code 43212 (Music and performing arts) and educational programme group with code 43217 (Creative Industries). Programme code 43217 (Creative industries) was introduced in the education classification of Latvia only in 2017, when this classification was supplemented in order to 1) ensure compliance of national statistical data with the requirements of international comparability, 2) adapt the educational programme to the real educational content of the group. Also, the group of educational programmes of creative industries (in the thematic field of education "Arts") indicates the development trends of the art industry's labor market, in particular the close connection of the processes of creative work with the wider processes of the cultural and creative ecosystem - the legal forms of cultural and artistic organizations, management, product commercialization, communication of cultural and artistic developments in the national and intercultural environment, research, cultural policy, etc.

Table No. 1. Changes in the parameters of the academic bachelor's study programme "Arts" during the reporting period 2013-2023.

Parameters of the academic bachelor study programme "Arts"	Study programme accredited in 2013	The programme submitted for 2023 accreditation	Reason for the changes
Degree to be obtained	Bachelor of Arts	Bachelor of Arts	-
Field of study	"Arts"	"Arts"	-
Study programme code according to Latvian education classification	43212	43212 43217	According to the regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 332 (13.06.2017) Regulations on the classification of education in Latvia, which introduces a new group of educational programmes Creative Industries in the thematic field of education "Arts".
Duration of studies	4 years	4 years	-
Language	Latvian	Latvian	-
Admission rules	The competition is held on the basis of the results of the centralized exams and in accordance with the decision of the Council of Higher Education of the Republic of Latvia of March 27, 2003 No. 16 "On additional requirements for admission to study programmes at the Latvian Academy of Culture"	Competition for study places in bachelor study programmes takes place taking into account the results of centralized examinations (CE) in mathematics, Latvian and foreign languages, as well as specific study programme or sub-programme entrance exams (see section 2.1.4.)	The changes were made in accordance with the regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 846 "Regulations Regarding the Requirements, Criteria and Procedures for Admission to Study Programmes"

The bachelor's study programme "Arts" is created as a group of several sub-programmes subordinated to one study goal and tasks, which has dynamically developed by improving various elements of sub-programme content, student attraction and quality management, while maintaining the continuity of the programme. This programme has a special role in the development of the Latvian Academy of Culture and the field of study "Arts", as it was the only bachelor's study programme of LAC for a long time and closely resonates with the general goals of LAC. It was established in order to 1) provide a unique, interdisciplinary, holistic educational content offer based on humanism and national cultural values in the higher education space of Latvia, 2) ensure appropriate preparation of specialists for the needs of the cultural and creative sector labor market. This approach is reflected in the structure of the programme, namely in the offer of such sub-programmes (5-6) which are characterized by a single block of part A or Compulsory part, but for a specific segment of the labor market of the cultural and creative sector, a subordinate set of knowledge, skills and competences is included in the choice part (parts B and C). Such a structure of the programme allows to prepare for the complex and fragmented labor market of the cultural and creative sector the profile of a specialist who knows the specifics of artistic creation in various art forms, is able to manage cultural and artistic organizations in the public and private sector, and is able to ensure the commercialization and communication of the creative product in the local and in the global cultural environment, and to conduct professional research of cultural and artistic processes, especially specializing in the preparation of creative professionals in the field of theatre (actors, directors, playwrights). Such a structure of the programme determines not only the duration of its study - four years, but also the continuous improvement of the quality of educational content and the attraction of students according to the specifics of each sub-programme. The development of diverse sub-programmes within the framework of one study programme provides graduates of the programme with a unified set of knowledge, skills and competences in the general principles of cultural theory, history of the development of arts and contemporary challenges, cultural management and research.

The changes in the study programme have not exceeded 20% of its content and have been aimed

at improving the content of sub-programme study courses in accordance with the latest theoretical and methodological findings, changes in the conceptual and terminological "apparatus", as well as changes in the Latvian cultural and creative sector ecosystem and the structure of the labor market.

The content of the bachelor's study programme "Arts" during the reporting period was structured in 6 sub-programmes, where:

1. Students are admitted to the sub-programme "Theory of Culture and Management" every year, but in 2017 the name of the sub-programme was changed to "Culture and Arts Studies", with the aim of expressing the content more precisely in its name;
2. In the "Sociology and Management of Culture" sub-programme, students are admitted every other year in order not to saturate the labour market;
3. In the sub-programme "Intercultural Relations" students are admitted every year, but the specializations are changed dynamically: according to the demand of the labor market and the cooperation capacity of the partner countries: Latvia-Netherlands/Germany; Latvia-Italy; Latvia-France/Belgium; Latvia-Germany; Latvia-Spain; Latvia-Northern countries. Several specializations have been created at the request of cooperation partners, but during the reporting period they have not been accepted more than once. (See Figure No. 2 Admission dynamics of sub-programmes and specializations of the Bachelor's study programme "Arts" 2013-2023)
4. In the sub-programmes "Stage Acting" and "Theatre Directing", the rhythm of students' admission is interrelated and subordinated to the demand of the theatre industry, preparing the training of specialists for a specific segment of the industry.
5. In the "Drama and Text Studies" sub-programme, students are admitted when the previous group of students has graduated from LAC, forming groups of specialist generations, but at the same time not saturating the labor market.

Table No. 2. Admission dynamics of sub-programmes and specializations of the Bachelor's study programme "Arts" 2013-2023.

2013	Theory of Culture and Management	Sociology and Management of Culture	Intercultural Relations	Stage Acting	Theatre Directing		
2014	Theory of Culture and Management		Intercultural Relations			Drama and Text Studies	
2015	Theory of Culture and Management	Sociology and Management of Culture	Intercultural Relations	Stage Acting			Traditional Culture and Latvian Folklore
2016	Theory of Culture and Management		Intercultural Relations				
2017	Culture and Arts Studies	Sociology and Management of Culture	Intercultural Relations	Stage Acting	Theatre Directing		
2018	Culture and Arts Studies		Intercultural Relations	Stage Acting		Drama and Text Studies	
2019	Culture and Arts Studies	Sociology and Management of Culture	Intercultural Relations				
2020	Culture and Arts Studies		Intercultural Relations				
2021	Culture and Arts Studies	Sociology and Management of Culture	Intercultural Relations	Stage Acting	Theatre Directing		
2022	Culture and Arts Studies		Intercultural Relations			Drama and Text Studies	

3.1.2. Analysis and assessment of the study programme compliance with the study field. Analysis of the interrelation between the code of the study programme, the degree, professional qualification/professional qualification requirements or the degree and professional qualification to be acquired, the aims, objectives, learning outcomes, and the admission requirements. Description of the duration and scope of the implementation of the study programme (including different options of the study programme implementation) and evaluation of its usefulness.

The relevance of the study programme to the field of study is expressed by its goals and tasks, as well as study results. The study programme "Arts" is a set of six sub-programmes, which are united by a common strategic goal, tasks and a set of achievable results. Sub-programmes comply with the provisions of Section 55, Part 1 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (Latvian only, available at <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/37967-augstskolu-likums>), that a study programmes sub-programme (sub-programmes) can be created within the framework of the study programme, which is a part of the study programme and corresponds to a specific branch of science, branch of economy or professional qualification to be obtained. The "Arts" programme and each of its sub-programmes correspond to two branches of Humanities and Art Sciences: 1) Music, visual arts and architecture, which includes art theory, art history, architectural design, musicology, performing arts studies (theatre science, dramaturgy), folklore studies, studies on cinematography, radio and television; 2) For other humanitarian and artistic sciences, including creative industry sciences. Achieving the strategic goal, tasks and common results of the programme is ensured by a single set of compulsory part study courses and separate compulsory elective subjects, while the achievement of the goals and results of the sub-programmes is ensured by compulsory elective and elective (C) part study courses, as well as different requirements for the final study project (research or artistic work) for development. Each sub-programme has its own goal, and the common results are supplemented differently, the achievable results are framed according to its content. They not only complement the range of outcomes common to the programme, but also determine the advantages of sub-programmes graduates in a specific segment of the cultural and creative sector labour market. Although each sub-programme prepares specialists for different segments of the cultural and creative sector labor market, the goal and common part of the programme creates a common humanities and arts knowledge base for the graduates of all sub-programmes, which makes the cooperation of these specialists effective in the cycle of creating specific cultural and artistic products in the real cultural environment.

The strategic goal of the study programme "Arts" is set in accordance with Cabinet of Ministers regulations no. 240 Regulations on the standard of state academic education (Latvian only, see <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/266187-noteikumi-par-valsts-akademiskas-izglitiba-standartu>) to ensure, first of all, that all students acquire theoretical knowledge and research skills, achieving the study results specified in the study programme, which correspond to the level 6 knowledge, skills and competence of the European Qualification Framework (hereinafter referred to as the Framework) defined in the Latvian education classification; secondly, to ensure that graduates of the programme are able to responsibly and safely choose and use information technologies in their professional activities, research and lifelong learning, as well as in the acquisition, creation and sharing of digital content. On the other hand, the content of the study programme is designed to ensure the achievement of scientifically based study results of a wide profile.

The strategic goal of the study programme "Arts":

To prepare competitive growth-oriented specialists with knowledge of interdisciplinary theories of humanitarian, artistic and creative industries, research skills in the research of specific cultural and creative sector problem issues, as well as artistic creativity skills in theater art. In the study process, closely integrate education, research and artistic creativity, develop a holistic understanding of cultural and artistic processes in the national and global cultural space. To provide students with the theoretically and practically oriented knowledge, skills and competences required in the modern cultural and creative sector labor market, which are applicable 1) for further academic research as well as professional practical activities and 2) provide opportunities to study in related master's and doctoral study programs both in Latvia and abroad.

Tasks of the study programme:

1. To develop students' academic thinking and writing skills in cultural studies, arts and interdisciplinary approach, to provide systematic theoretical knowledge and skills in using concepts;
2. To support students in learning the methodological and ethical basic principles of research of cultural and artistic phenomena, to develop knowledge, skills and competence in planning, managing and implementing the research process - in describing, evaluating and analysing the research problems of cultural and artistic processes.
3. Promote the use of acquired theoretical knowledge, empirical research skills in the analysis of current cultural and artistic issues, as well as the transfer of academic knowledge and communication in the cultural and artistic environment.
4. Develop creative work skills in theatre art and other creative activity skills required in the management of cultural and artistic processes and intercultural communication.
5. Prepare specialists in accordance with the labor market demand of the cultural and creative sector, as well as the theatre arts sector, support students in learning professional and general skills, as well as personality traits, subordinated to the specifics of the labor market of the sector.
6. To ensure the cooperation of academic staff and students in carrying out research and creative work.
7. Support students in developing skills necessary for professional and personal growth: develop independent work planning and presentation skills, cooperation and communication skills, entrepreneurship and responsibility skills, as well as provide mediation that allows students to get involved in industry activities.
8. To support the development of innovative works of art in theatre, their distribution in Latvia and internationally.
9. Promote the international mobility of academic staff and students; strengthen international competitiveness and career growth potential of graduates.
10. To develop the digital skills specifically required for the culture and arts sector, to provide a favorable study environment for the dissemination of technological and non-technological innovations of the culture and arts sectors.

Planned study results of the study programme

The common results of studies for all sub-programmes:

As a result of studying the study programme, the graduate:

- has acquired interdisciplinary knowledge about the regularities of the historical development and modern processes of the fields of culture and art (literature, visual arts, music, theatre and film);
- recognizes and understands the theoretical approaches of cultural studies and arts, describes and defines concepts relevant to the content of the programme, identifies and explains

theoretical connections

- are able to independently acquire and critically analyse information, knows, selects and applies cultural study and art research methods or creative work solutions;
- uses theoretical knowledge and empirical data in the analysis, comparison and evaluation of independently identified cultural and artistic developments,
- are able to communicate the results of their research or creative work processes in an argumentative manner - orally and in writing.

Sub-programmes have defined goals that supplement the strategic goal of the programme by specifying only what is specific to the sub-programme. Also, sub-programmes have specific achievable study results that complement the common results of the programme.

The goal of the **CULTURE AND ARTS STUDIES** sub-programme is to prepare competitive growth-oriented culture and creative sector (public and private) specialists with knowledge of interdisciplinary humanities and arts theories, research skills in contemporary and historical culture and arts, especially literature, theatre, dance, audiovisual in the research of art problems.

The achievable study results of the sub-programme:

- has acquired in-depth knowledge in cultural theory, anthropology of culture and art, philosophy, semiotics and art history (art, literature, theatre, film), tools and terminology used in culture and art studies;
- has acquired the skills to think critically and analyse cultural phenomena, to navigate the conceptualization strategies of cultural and artistic phenomena, to express one's opinion in a reasoned way both in research works and in texts of various levels in cultural media;
- has acquired the skill of using classical and modern methods of obtaining, processing and systematizing information in cultural research;
- understands the role of the artistic creation process in personal growth and research;
- has acquired basic skills in cultural management and project management and is able to use them constantly in practice

The aim of the **SOCIOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT OF CULTURE** sub-programme is to prepare competitive, growth-oriented cultural and creative sector (public and private) specialists with knowledge of interdisciplinary theories of humanities and arts, cultural sociology, cultural management and creative industries, with in-depth research skills in contemporary cultural and artistic processes in analysis and explanation; with the competence to undertake the management of cultural organizations, creative and artistic projects.

The achievable study results of the sub-programme:

- knows and understands the theoretical approaches, concepts and connections of modern and classical sociology, sociology of culture and art, as well as cultural management (management and politics), evaluates their role in the understanding of cultural and artistic phenomena;
- knows and is able to choose empirical research designs, methodologies, methods and techniques of the sociology of culture and art, uses them in practice and evaluates their suitability in obtaining new knowledge about cultural and artistic phenomena;
- uses the latest empirical research quantitative and qualitative data acquisition, analysis and visualization programmes;
- knows the basic principles of cultural and artistic organization and project management, classic and digital marketing, branding, knows how to apply them in practice.

- in the development of cultural projects, theoretical knowledge and empirical research data are creatively and conceptually used, and their message demonstrates entrepreneurship and a civically active stance.
- knows how to responsibly choose and use information technologies in the research and management of cultural and artistic developments, as well as in the acquisition, creation and sharing of digital content.

The goal of the **INTERCULTURAL RELATIONS** sub-programme is to prepare competitive, growth-oriented cultural and creative sector (public and private) specialists with knowledge of interdisciplinary theories of humanities and arts, intercultural communication, intercultural communication and sociolinguistics; with research skills in the research of intercultural communication problems of national and international scale, with the competence to perform professional activities in the language of national or cultural specializations.

The achievable study results of the sub-programme:

- knows and understands the theoretical approaches, concepts and interrelationships of cultural contact and intercultural communication, evaluates their role in understanding the phenomena of society formation;
- is able to use developed global competence for understanding cultural and artistic processes, their management and communication;
- is able to use the developed sociolinguistic competence of the language of the specialization region in the mediating process of the cultures of Latvia and the specialization region, in the creative process or in building an academic career;
- knows how to responsibly choose and use information technology in the research and provision of cultural communication, as well as in the acquisition, creation and sharing of digital content.

The goal of the **DRAMA AND TEXT STUDIES** sub-programme is to prepare competitive, growth-oriented cultural and creative sector (public and private) specialists with knowledge of interdisciplinary theories of humanities and arts, drama, theater and literature; with research skills in the analysis of historical and contemporary processes of literature and theater art; with the competence to perform professional dramaturgical and other types of text creation activities in performing arts and other cultural and creative sector as well as media organizations.

The achievable study results of the sub-programme:

- has acquired in-depth knowledge in the theory, technique and history of drama and theatre, focusing both on the historical interaction of theatre and literature, as well as contemporary performing arts practice;
- has learned and manages the classical analysis and creation tools of dramaturgical work;
- has learned and knows how to apply the basic principles of analysis and creation of fiction and criticism texts;
- has acquired and strengthened research skills in the analysis and critical reflection of literature and theatre art;
- using the acquired skills, is able to independently realize their creative idea in the composition of an appropriate dramaturgical work or carry out a research work in the field of literature and theatre analysis.

The goal of the **STAGE ACTING** sub-programme is to prepare competitive, growth-oriented cultural and creative sector (public and private) specialists with knowledge of interdisciplinary humanities and arts theories, especially the theory of theatre science; with research skills in the analysis of

historical and contemporary processes of theatre art, as well as acting skills; with acting and role creation skills and competence to perform professional acting in performing arts organizations and projects.

The achievable study results of the sub-programme:

- has acquired in-depth knowledge of theatre history, theory and contemporary practice;
- has learned the basics of various acting techniques;
- has cultivated the individual professional tools that make up acting - body, voice and imagination;
- using the acquired skills, are able to create a role composition both independently and under the direction of the director;
- has acquired and strengthened research skills based on creativity in the field of theatre.

The goal of the **THEATRE DIRECTING** sub-programme is to prepare competitive, growth-oriented cultural and creative sector (public and private) specialists with knowledge of interdisciplinary humanities and arts theories, especially theatre directing theory; with research skills in the analysis of the historical and contemporary processes of theatre directing, as well as the composition of theatre performances; with theatre directing skills and competence to perform professional activities related to theatre directing in performing arts organizations and projects.

The achievable study results of the sub-programme:

- has acquired in-depth knowledge in theatre theory, history and contemporary practice;
- has mastered and practically manages the main means of expression of theatre directing - work with actors and space;
- has learned different directing approaches in working with the text;
- using the acquired skills, are able to realize his creative idea in an appropriate theatre performance composition;
- has acquired and strengthened research skills based on creativity in the field of theatre.

The compliance of the programme with two codes: for the group of educational programmes with the code 43212 (Music and performing arts) and for the group of educational programmes with the code 43217 (Creative industries) is expressed by the spectrum of sub-programmes, where the sub-programme "Culture and Arts Studies" has a relatively balanced representation of the knowledge content from both codes, in the sub-programmes "Drama and Text Studies", "Stage Acting", "Theatre Directing" the content is dominated by the Music and Performing Arts code 43212, but in the sub-programmes "Sociology and Management of Culture" and "Intercultural Relations" the content of the Creative Industries dominates. Upon completion of the programme, a Bachelor of Humanities degree in "Arts" is awarded, which reflects the affiliation of the programme to the thematic field of education "Arts". The duration of the study programme is eight semesters (4 years), which is related to the provision of interdisciplinary content and the provision of complex knowledge, skills and competences that combine both the study content of part A of all sub-programmes (53 credit points) in cultural theory, history of art development and current problems, characteristics of culture and arts in an interdisciplinary aspect, issues of research and methodology of culture and arts, as well as the extensive part B specific to each sub-programme (103 credit points) (see Annex No. 10)

Given the high degree of specification of sub-programme content and outcomes and the fact that sub-programmes differ in some of the outcomes to be achieved, differences in admission requirements are also defined.

For the admission of applicants to the sub-programmes of the bachelor's study programme "Arts",

different **entrance exams** are set and in certain cases, **additional requirements for participation in the competition are set for the applicants of the bachelor's study programmes, which are closely related to ensuring the specific achievable results of the sub-programmes.**

Applicants for the sub-programs "Culture and Art Studies", "Sociology and Management of Culture", "Intercultural Relations" of the bachelor's study programme "Arts" must take the entrance exam "Essay". The admission rules for the study year 2023/2024 stipulate that the score obtained by the applicants of these sub-programmes in the centralized exam in a foreign language (English, French or German) must not be lower than 30 percent after applying the coefficient of equalization of the results of the exam levels.

On the other hand, applicants for the sub-programmes "Drama and Text Studies", "Stage Acting", "Theatre Directing" of the bachelor's study programme "Arts" must take the entrance exam "Creative Competition" (in 2 parts or 4 rounds). The evaluation criteria of the creative competition for the relevant academic year are approved by the order of the Rector.

3.1.3. Economic and/ or social substantiation of the study programme, analysis of graduates' employment.

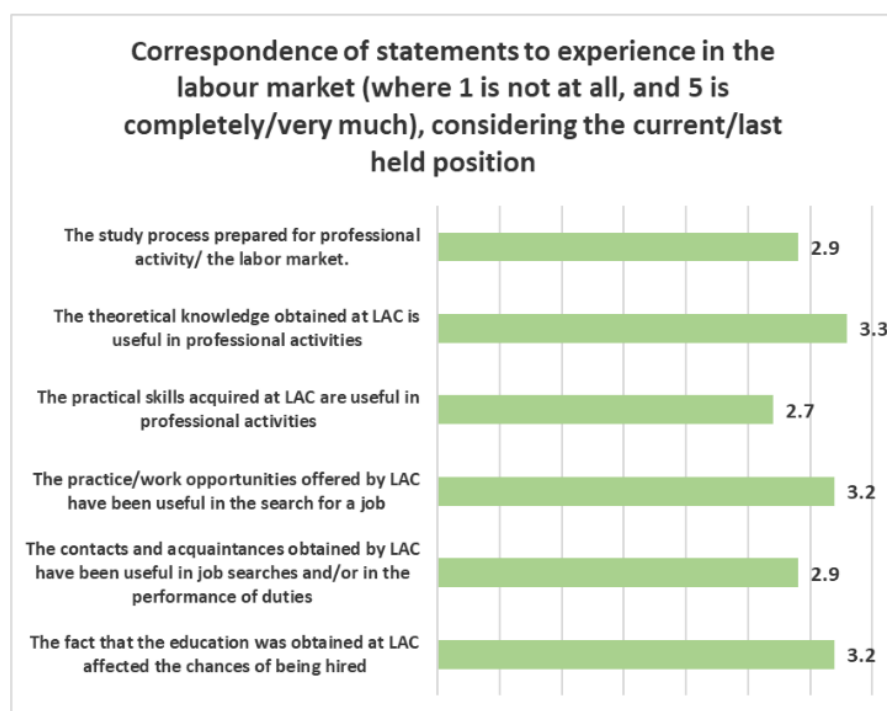
The overall economic rationale of the study programme is formed by the compliance of acquired knowledge, skills and competences with the general profile of the needs of the employer in the cultural and creative sector. This profile includes a contextual understanding of cultural and artistic processes combined with workplace-specific knowledge, skills and competence. Management of cultural and artistic processes, commercialization of products, distribution, communication, research of these processes strengthens the economic and social footprint of the entire cultural and creative sector in society, especially in those sectors that financially benefit from cultural and artistic developments in society. The cultural and creative ecosystem is closely related to such sectors as tourism, hospitality business, traffic, etc. thus, the field of economic impact of this programme is significantly expanded. On the other hand, the relatively large labor market of the cultural and creative sector in the non-governmental sector ensures the social impact of the programme, as students of any sub-programme can start work in cultural non-governmental organizations or create one. The prepared specialists, working on the creation and distribution of cultural and artistic products, create diverse economic and social effects of the cultural and creative sectors, moreover, the graduates of each sub-programme affect different fields/segments of employment in the cultural and creative sector. The specificity of the demand for the study programme and the knowledge, skills and competence of the specialists prepared in it is also related to the fact that the labor market in this field foresees both the demand of state and local government companies, the demand of art and culture organizations subsidized by the state and local governments, and the demand formed by associations and NGOs, both cultural and creative industry companies' demand for labor. Similarly, in the preparation of specialists, one should take into account the wide opportunities for self-employment in this field, where the labor market does not offer "ready-made" jobs, but employment is formed in the so-called freelancer status.

Data on graduate employment is obtained through an annual graduate survey. In general, collecting data from 2015, it is possible to conclude that graduates fit into the labor market relatively quickly, 68% of students are already working at the time of graduation, and the represented industries are similar to the studied study programmes. In the following, the text will

analyse the classes of graduates in the sub-programmes and provide examples of the employment and integration of graduates into the labor market.

Sub-programme “Culture and Arts Studies” - 57% of the graduates of the sub-programme are already employed at the time of graduation, as well as 21% of graduates become employed 1-3 months after graduation, which can be considered a positive trend. The majority of graduates work in the industry - 24% of graduates work in a museum, archive and/or library, 24% represent the cultural education/education sector, 18% work in television, radio and/or interactive media, 12% provide translation services, another 12% work in the performing arts (theatre, opera, concerts, shows, circus, etc.). Sectors such as audiovisual arts (cinema, video, etc.) (6%) and international/intercultural relations, cultural education (6%) are also represented. The majority of graduates (n=15) believe that the theoretical knowledge acquired at LAC has been useful in the context of professional activity. The most controversial is the importance of practical skills in the context of professional activity, but this can be explained by the fragmentation of the cultural and creative sector, which in practice manifests itself in the way that in each specific cultural and artistic organization and workplace there may be a distinct set of instrumental knowledge and skills that cannot be learned in an educational programme. Therefore, the role of internship in the educational content is increased. See Image No. 1 for more.

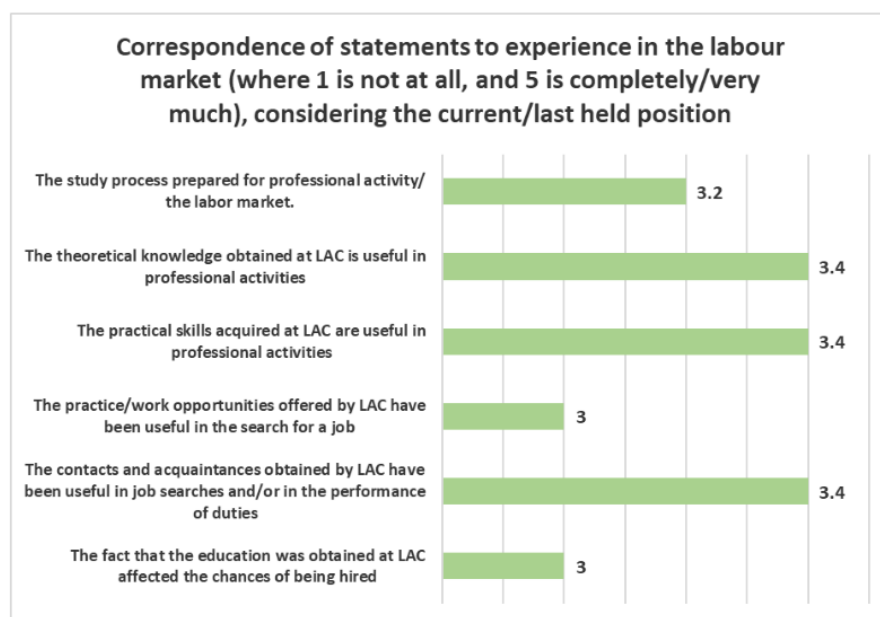
Image No. 1. Correspondence of statements to experience in the labor market (where 1 is not at all, and 5 – completely/very much), considering the current/last held position



The significance of the graduates of **the “Sociology and Management of Culture” sub-programme** in the labor market of the cultural and creative sector is influenced by the interdisciplinary knowledge of the sub-programme graduates in the management and research of cultural and artistic phenomena, which allows them to work in influential cultural and artistic organizations and in the development of cultural policy in local governments and at the state level, including the Ministry of Culture. 58% of the graduates of the programme are already employed at the time of graduation, as well as 13% of the graduates become employed 1-3 months after graduation, which can be considered a positive trend. The majority of graduates work in the industry - 13% of graduates work in the field of culture and art research, 11% represent the advertising industry, 10% - public relations and marketing and another 10% work in the field of leisure, entertainment, tourism and other creative activities. Sectors such as cultural education

(8%), performing arts (theatre, opera, concerts, shows, circus, etc.) (8%), television, radio and interactive media (6%) and other sectors are also represented. Most often, the graduates of the sub-programme occupy the positions of project manager and producer. The majority of graduates (n=74) believe that the theoretical knowledge, practical skills and contacts/acquaintances gained during the studies have been useful in the context of professional activities. The usefulness of the internship offered by LAC in the search for a job was rated average, as well as the fact that the education obtained at LAC affected the chances of being hired, which can be explained by the fact that the majority of students are already employed at the time of graduation. See Image No. 2 for more.

Image No. 2. Correspondence of statements to experience in the labor market (where 1 is not at all, and 5 – completely/very much), considering the current/last held position

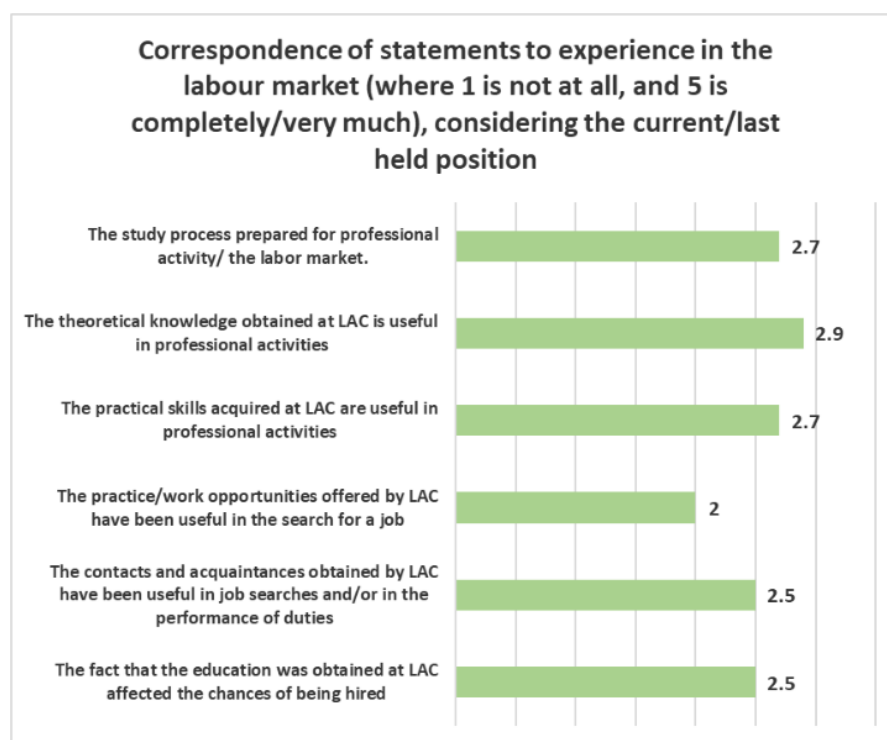


The influence of the graduates of **the sub-programme “Intercultural Relations”** on the labor market is determined by the fact that the implementation of the international dimension in Latvian economy and administration requires specialists with knowledge of several European Union and other foreign languages. One of the results of the “Intercultural Relations” sub-programme are the following specialists, therefore, graduates are employed in very different industries, acquiring specific industry skills in practice or in master's studies. The most popular areas of master's studies for ICR graduates are cultural management (including studies at LAC), translation studies, other social sciences, pedagogy in Latvian or foreign universities. The global competence and good knowledge of foreign languages developed and cultivated in the bachelor's study programme's "Arts" sub-programme "Intercultural relations", for example, with the disappearance of jobs in the tourism industry in 2020, made it possible through the “Mācīspēks” programme (previously through the "Iespējamā misija" programme) or with master's studies in pedagogy to become teachers of European Union (e.g. English, French or German) languages.

58% of programme's graduates are already employed at the time of graduation, and 18% of graduates become employed 1-3 months after graduation, which can be considered a positive trend. The majority of graduates work in the industry - 17% of graduates work in translation, 11% represent the cultural education/education sector, another 11% work in the leisure, entertainment, tourism and/or creative industries sector. Also represented are such fields as public relations/marketing (9%), literature, press and printing (7%), international/intercultural relations (e.g. work in an embassy) (8%), museums, archives, libraries (7%) and other industries. In addition to the given answer options, graduates mostly mention industries such as IT and administrative

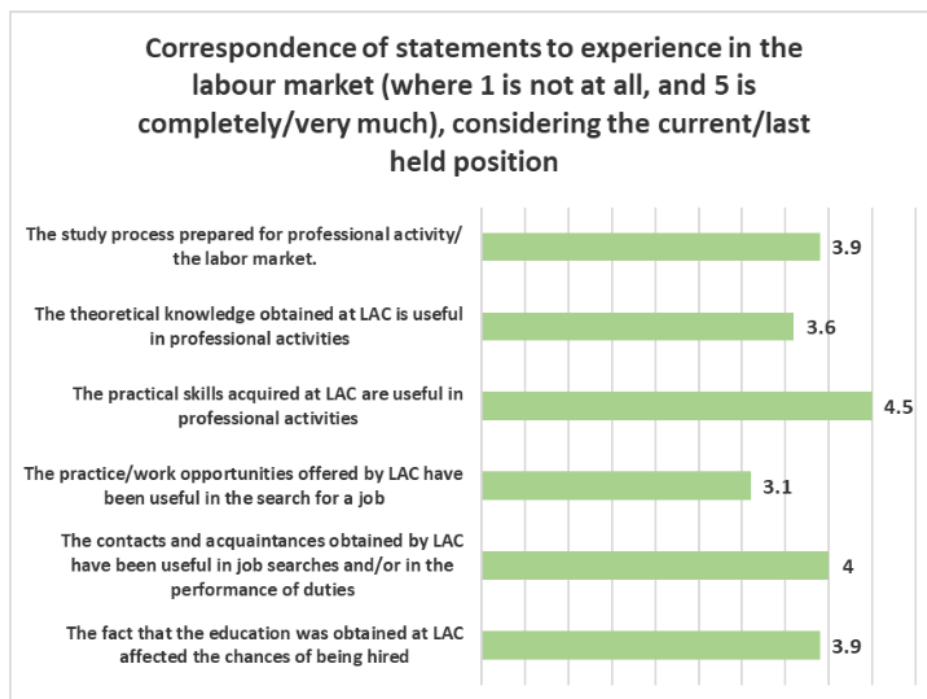
work, indicating that the language skills acquired at the Academy are essential in performing work duties. The majority of graduates (n=136) believe that the theoretical knowledge acquired at LAC has been useful in the context of professional activity, and also that the study process has prepared the student for the performance of professional duties/ the labor market in general. The opinion about the usefulness of internships and work opportunities offered by LAC in the search for a job is quite ambiguous, which can be explained by the fact that the majority of students are already employed at the time of graduation. See Image No. 3 for more.

Image No. 3. Correspondence of statements to experience in the labor market (where 1 is not at all, and 5 – completely/very much), considering the current/last held position



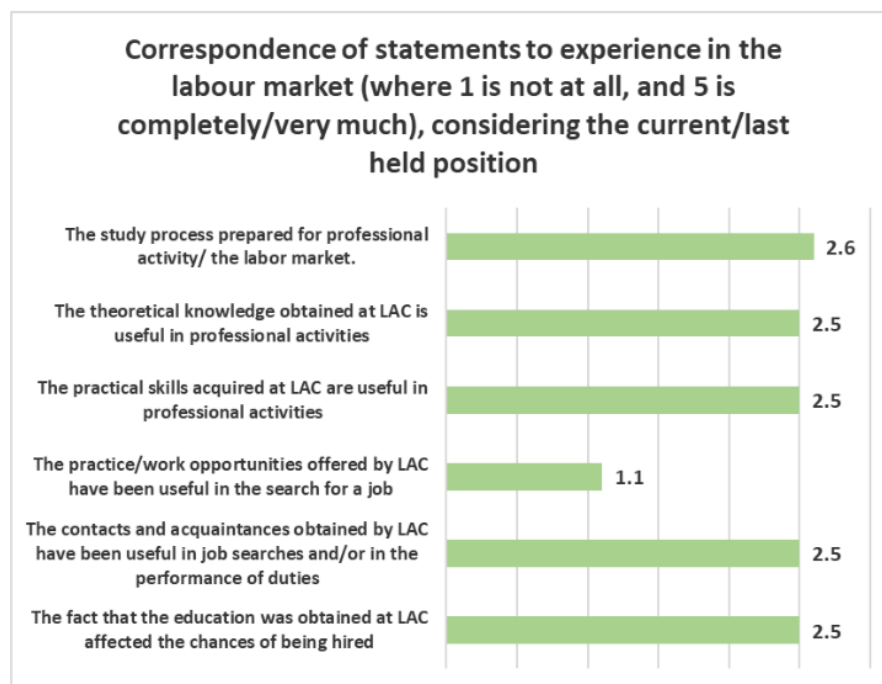
The influence of the **sub-programmes “Stage Acting” and “Theatre Directing”** is manifested in such a way that their graduates ensure the regeneration of professionals in the field of Latvian theatre. 86% of the graduates of the programme are already employed at the time of graduation, which can be considered a very positive trend. The majority of graduates work in the industry - 50% represent the performing arts industry, working in theatres, opera, circus, etc., 12% represent the audiovisual arts industry (cinema, video, etc.) and 12% work in television, radio and/or interactive media. Such sectors as cultural education (6%), business (3%), advertising (3%) and others are also represented. Most of the graduates believe that the practical skills acquired at LAC have been useful in the context of professional activity, and that the study process has prepared the student for the performance of professional duties/ the labor market in general. The majority of graduates believe that the fact that they received their education directly at LAC affected their chances of being hired. The least rated aspect is the importance/usefulness of internships offered by LAC in the search for a job. This is partially explained by the fact that the study process includes a lot of practical tasks, which the students do not perceive as specially organized internship, and most of the students are already employed in the theatreindustry at the time of graduation. See Image No. 4 for more.

Image No. 4. Correspondence of statements to experience in the labor market (where 1 is not at all, and 5 – completely/very much), considering the current/last held position



The impact of the **“Drama and Text Studies” sub-programme** is manifested in the way that their graduates ensure the revival of Latvian playwrights as a special profession in the field of theatre. 50% of the graduates of the sub-programme are already employed upon graduation, 13% of graduates become employed 1-3 months after graduation, but 38% of graduates become employed 4-6 months after graduation, which can be considered a positive trend. The majority of graduates work in the industry - 27% work in cultural/creative centers, 18% work in the recreation, entertainment and/or tourism sector, another 18% represent the field of cultural education/education, but 9% provide interpreter services, another 9% work in television, radio and / or in interactive media and 9% represent the audio arts industry (music, sound recordings, etc.). Statements related to the opportunities in the labor market and the usefulness of internships have been evaluated critically, because in most cases the work of a playwright in the labor market means self-employed status and irregular employment in the industry. At the same time, the demand for such specialists in the industry is very high.

Image No. 5. Correspondence of statements to experience in the labor market (where 1 is not at all, and 5 – completely/very much), considering the current/last held position



3.1.4. Statistical data on the students of the respective study programme, the dynamics of the number of the students, and the factors affecting the changes to the number of the students. The analysis shall be broken down into different study forms, types, and languages.

The number of students in the study programme is influenced by both contextual factors, for example, the rapid decrease in the population of Latvia in the age group of secondary education graduates, or the so-called demographic "hole", and the overall strategy for the development of study programmes in LAC. However, mainly the statistical data on students in the study programmes (see Appendix No. 5) can be interpreted in connection with the overall study programme and sub-programme development strategy of LAC. Until 2015, LAC implemented one bachelor's degree study programme, but as different professions and their related knowledge, skills and competences developed and differentiated in the labor market, new bachelor's study programmes were created at LAC, in which students were admitted, which simultaneously reduced the number of students for bachelor's in the "Arts" study programme. This explains the decrease in the number of students in 2015/2016, because a new bachelor study programme "Contemporary Dance" was created. As new programmes were formed, the number of sub-programmes and their related specializations was reduced. The general trend can be seen in Figure No. 8. Other fluctuations in the number of students are related to the fact that students are admitted to several sub-programmes at a specific time interval, which means that students are not admitted to all sub-programmes every year, therefore the number of admitted students varies.

The relatively large number of enrolled students in the 2017/18 and 2021/22 academic years is due to the fact that students were enrolled in five out of six sub-programmes in these years, in addition, a large number of fee-paying students are enrolled in several sub-programmes (Culture and Art Studies, Sociology and Management of Culture, also in several Intercultural Relations specializations), which maintains a relatively large number of students in this programme. All sub-programmes also have a high competition ratio per study place (in some years, in some sub-programmes, up to 10-12 applicants per budget place).

Table No. 3. Dynamics of the number of LAC bachelor's degree study programmes from 2015 to 2022.

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Number of bachelor's study programmes	2	3	4	4	4	4	4	4
Number of sub-programmes of bachelor's degree study programmes	8	8	8	7	7	6	6	6

In the study programme, students drop out, where the dominant reasons for dropping out are inability to combine studies with work and financial considerations, personal reasons, including leaving Latvia, inability to fulfil academic obligations, as well as starting studies at another university. More precisely, see Annex 5.

3.1.5. Substantiation of the development of the joint study programme and description and evaluation of the choice of partner universities, including information on the development and implementation of the joint study programme (if applicable).

3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof

3.2.1. Analysis of the content of the study programme. Assessment of the interrelation between the information included in the study courses/ modules, the intended learning outcomes, the set aims and other indicators with the aims of the study course/ module and the aims and intended outcomes of the study programme. Assessment of the relevance of the content of the study courses/ modules and compliance with the needs of the relevant industry, labour market and with the trends in science on how and whether the content of the study courses/ modules is updated in line with the development trends of the relevant industry, labour market, and science.

The strategic goal of the "Arts" study programme is to prepare competitive growth-oriented specialists with knowledge of interdisciplinary humanitarian, art and creative industry theories, research skills in the research of specific cultural and creative sector problem issues, as well as artistic creativity skills in theatre art. In the study process, closely integrate education, research and artistic creativity, develop a holistic understanding of cultural and artistic processes in the national and global cultural space. To provide students with the theoretically and practically oriented knowledge, skills and competences required in the modern cultural and creative sector labour market, which are applicable 1) for further academic research as well as professional practical activities and 2) provide opportunities to study in related master's and doctoral study programs both in Latvia and abroad.

It has subordinate study results, which are structured: 1) in study results common to all sub-programmes and 2) in study results specific to each sub-programme (see section 3.1.2).

Common results for the entire programme are provided mainly in **Part A or Compulsory study** courses structured in four thematic blocks:

- **Basic principles of understanding culture and art.** In this block, the study courses implemented are: *An Introduction to Culture and Art Studies* (2 CP), *Semiotics of Culture* (4 CP), *Fundamentals of Philosophy* (4 CP), *Introduction to Critical Thinking* (2 CP).
- **History of art development and current problems.** In this block, the study courses implemented are: *The History and Theory of World Art* (6 CP), *Trends in the Development of World Literature* (6 CP), *Music History and Styles* (2 KP), *Introduction to Theatre Studies* (2 CP), *Film Art* (2 CP).
- **Characteristics of culture and arts in an interdisciplinary aspect.** In this block, the following study courses are implemented: *Basic Principles of Cultural Management* (2 CP), *Industry foreign language (English or German)* (4 CP).
- **Culture and arts research and methodology.** The study courses implemented in this block are: *Introduction to Research* (1 KP), *Annual Paper* (6 CP), *Bachelor's thesis* (10 CP).

The results of the study courses included in this part of the programme ensure that interdisciplinary knowledge is obtained about the regularities of the historical development and modern processes of the fields of culture and art (literature, visual arts, music, theatre and film); the student recognizes and understands the theoretical approaches of cultural studies and art, describes and defines concepts corresponding to the content of the programme, identifies and explains theoretical connections; is able to independently acquire and critically analyse information, knows, selects and applies cultural studies and art research methods or artistic creative solutions; uses theoretical knowledge and empirical data in the analysis, comparison and evaluation of independently identified cultural and artistic developments, is able to argue - orally and in writing - communicate the results of the work processes of their research or creative work (for more details, see the study programme plan, course descriptions and study course mapping in the appendices to achieve results). This part of the study programme meets the needs of both the industry and the labor market, as well as the trends of the science sub-sector of humanities, arts and creative industries. Employer surveys and other labor market studies reveal that employees in a large number of organizations in the cultural and artistic sector need a contextual understanding of the general basic principles of the development of the cultural and creative sector, as well as artifacts of cultural and artistic history.

The study results specific to sub-programme are provided mainly in the **Compulsory Choice or Part B**

The specific study results achievable in the CULTURE AND ARTS STUDIES sub-programme are provided in the study courses *Theoretical and Empirical Aspects of Cultural Studies* (2 CP), *Culture and Arts Anthropology* (4 CP), *Methodology in Culture Studies and Humanities* (2 CP), *Analysis of Philosophical Texts* (2 CP), *Traditions of Thinking in 20th Century and in Contemporary Culture* (4 KP), etc. (see the study plan of the sub-programme), which allow to achieve such study results where the student has acquired in-depth knowledge in cultural theory, cultural and art anthropology, philosophy, semiotics and art history (art, literature, theatre, cinema), the tools used in culture and art studies and terminology; acquired the skills to think critically and analyse cultural phenomena, to navigate the conceptualization strategies of cultural and artistic phenomena, to express one's opinion in a reasoned way both in research works and in texts of various levels in cultural media; acquired the skill of using classical and modern methods of obtaining, processing and systematizing information in cultural research; understands the role of

the artistic creation process in personal growth and research; acquired basic skills in cultural management and project management and is able to use them constantly in practice.

The specific study results of the SOCIOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT OF CULTURE sub-programme are provided in the study courses *Introduction to Sociology (2 CP)*, *Methodology of Social Research (4 CP)*, *Theories of Modern Sociology (2 CP)*, *The Management of Culture Projects (4 CP)*, *Production in the Performing and Audiovisual Arts (2 CP)*, *Creative Enterprise (4 CP)*, etc. (see the study plan of the sub-programme), which allow to achieve such study results, where the student knows and understands the theoretical approaches, concepts and relationships of modern and classical sociology, sociology of culture and art, as well as cultural management (management and politics), evaluates their role in the understanding of cultural and artistic phenomena; knows and is able to choose empirical research designs, methodologies, methods and techniques of the sociology of culture and art, uses them in practice and evaluates their suitability in obtaining new knowledge about cultural and artistic phenomena; uses the latest empirical research quantitative and qualitative data acquisition, analysis and visualization programs; knows the basic principles of cultural and artistic organization and project management, classical and digital marketing, branding, knows how to apply them in practice, creatively and conceptually uses theoretical knowledge and empirical research data in the development of cultural projects, demonstrates entrepreneurship and a civically active position in their message; knows how to responsibly choose and use information technologies in the research and management of cultural and artistic developments, as well as in the acquisition, creation and sharing of digital content.

The specific study results of the INTERCULTURAL RELATIONS sub-programme are provided in the study courses *Philosophy: Texts and Studies (2 CP)*, *Cultural Contexts in Latvian Art (2 CP)*, *Regional Studies (15 CP)*, *Society and Culture of the Country of Specialization (8 CP)*, *Culture Policy of the Region of Specialization (2 CP)*, *Cultural Relations of the Country of Specialization in the European Context (2 CP)*, *Language of the Country of Specialization (varies, see study plan)*, etc. (see study plan of the sub-programme), which allows to achieve such study results where the student knows and understands the theoretical approaches, concepts and connections of cultural contact and intercultural communication, evaluates their role in understanding the phenomena of society formation; is able to use developed global competence for understanding cultural and artistic processes, their management and communication; is able to use the developed sociolinguistic competence of the language of the specialization region in the mediating process of the cultures of Latvia and the specialization region, in the creative process or in building an academic career; knows how to responsibly choose and use information technology in the research and provision of cultural communication, as well as in the acquisition, creation and sharing of digital content.

The specific study results achievable in the DRAMA AND TEXT STUDIES sub-programme are provided in the study courses *The Theory of Drama (6 CP)*, *The Analysis of Drama (12 CP)*, *The History and Theory of World Theatre (4 CP)*, *Contemporary Theatre (4 CP)*, *Strategies of Creating a Text for Contemporary Theatre (2 CP)*, *Creative Writing: Theory and Practise (4 CP)*, etc. (see study plan of the sub-programme), which allows to achieve such study results, where the student has acquired in-depth knowledge in the theory, technique and history of drama and theatre, focusing both on the historical interaction of theatre and literature, as well as contemporary performing arts practice; has learned and manages the classical analysis and creation tools of dramaturgical work; has learned and knows how to apply the basic principles of analysis and creation of fiction and criticism texts; acquired and strengthened research skills in the analysis and critical reflection of literature and theatre; using the acquired skills, is able to independently realize their creative idea in the composition of an appropriate dramaturgical work or carry out a research work in the field of literature and theatre analysis.

The specific study results achievable in the STAGE ACTING sub-programme are provided in the study courses *The Theory and Practice of Acting: Theatre, Cinema, Dramaturgy (30 CP)*, *Actor's Speech (12 CP)*, *Stage Movement and Improvization (12 CP)*, *Stage Dance (10 CP)*, *Contemporary Theatre (4 CP)*, *The Theory of Drama (4 CP)*, *The Culture of Latvian Language (2 CP)*, etc. (see the study plan of the sub-programme), which allows to achieve such study results where the student has acquired in-depth knowledge of theatre history, theory and contemporary practice; learned the basics of various acting techniques; cultivated the individual professional tools that make up acting - body, voice and imagination; using the acquired skills, is able to create a role composition both independently and under the direction of the director, has acquired and strengthened research skills based on creativity in the field of theatre art.

The specific study results achievable in the THEATRE DIRECTING sub-programme are provided in the study courses *Fundamentals of Practical Directing (14 CP)*, *Expressive Means in Stage Direction (15 CP)*, *Stage Movement and Improvization (7 CP)*, *Theory and History of Directing (6 CP)*, *The History of Latvian Theatre (4 CP)*, *Contemporary Theatre (4 CP)*, etc. (see the study plan of the sub-programme), which allows to achieve such study results where the student has acquired in-depth knowledge of theatre theory, history and contemporary practice; mastered and practically manages the main means of expression of theatre direction - work with actors and space; has learned different directing approaches in working with the text; is able to realize his creative idea in an appropriate theatre performance composition; has acquired and strengthened research skills based on creativity in the field of theatre art.

The study content is updated every year in accordance with the current cultural and artistic processes in Latvia and globally (for example - the increase in the number of cultural and artistic events in the digital environment, changes in the habits of the cultural audience, changes in the development trends of contemporary art, etc.). Renewing the content of the courses is facilitated by the close connection of the teaching staff's professional activity with the cultural and creative sector (a large part of the lecturers of the programme have a double career - in the arts and academic work), as well as the close involvement of another part of the lecturers in the research activity, which is facilitated by the active research activity of the Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies, the amount of funding allocated to research, which ensures the prompt transfer of research results to educational content.

3.2.2. In the case of master's and doctoral study programmes, specify and provide the justification as to whether the degrees are awarded in view of the developments and findings in the field of science or artistic creation. In the case of a doctoral study programme, provide a description of the main research roadmaps and the impact of the study programme on research and other education levels (if applicable).

3.2.3. Assessment of the study programme including the study course/ module implementation methods by indicating what the methods are, and how they contribute to the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study courses and the aims of the study programme. In the case of a joint study programme, or in case the study programme is implemented in a foreign language or in the form of distance learning, describe in detail the methods used to deliver such a study programme. Provide an explanation of how the student-centred principles are taken into account in the implementation of the study

process.

The pedagogical methods of study course implementation, as well as evaluation methods, are chosen by the teaching staff responsible for the study course, according to the specifics of the course content and study programme, as well as the needs of the students. They also differ significantly in different sub-programmes, but the unifying factor is that the choice of methods is based on the principle of a student-centered education approach, i.e., students are provided with the opportunity to participate in the creation of the curriculum and process in order to achieve certain results. For example, group work allows the selection of specific organizations or cultural artifacts for case analysis. Lecturers organize a learning environment in which students are provided with information, which students process individually, in group and/or pair work. The study process often uses methods that allow students to evaluate each other and learn from each other. Several lecturers use the practices of problem-based analysis of situations and the design of subordinate solutions to them, project and research-based topic studies, testing the use of artificial intelligence capabilities, brainstorming, group and individual project methods, creative thinking methods, communicative and interactive discussion-based approaches based on the lecturer's and student dialogue, interactive assessment of prior knowledge and new knowledge, as well as methods of obtaining feedback. These and other used methods are purposefully chosen to promote the common and sub-programme specific achievable results of the study programme. For example, problem-based situation analysis and research-based topic studies develop not only the ability to independently obtain and critically analyze information, but also to model solutions to current problems for the cultural and artistic sector in both conceptual and artistic language. Interactive, video and audio materials, as well as discussion-based approaches strengthen theoretical knowledge, group and individual project methods develop the ability to argue and communicate the results of one's research or artistic creative work processes.

The study process often uses methods that allow students to evaluate each other and learn from each other. Several lecturers use problem-based situation analysis, brainstorming, group and individual project methods, creative thinking methods, communicative approaches based on the dialogue between the lecturer and students. Art-based research methods and research-based art methods are being used more and more often, the basic methodological principles of which were developed by teachers and students, participating in the State Research Programme *Cultural Capital as a Resource for Sustainable Development of Latvia /CARD* led by LAC. It is a common practice to provide study tours to specific cultural organizations in study courses in order to create an idea of the work environment based on visual experience. Also, the teaching staff organizes the opportunity to get a specific cultural and artistic experience: watching films, theatre performances, listening to concerts, followed by discussion and analysis of works of art based on interpretation. Also, the personal artistic creation of students of all sub-programmes is encouraged (not only in the studies of actors, directors and playwrights) in order to develop empathy and understanding of the specifics of the creative process (see the *Aesthetic Experience Laboratories (8 CP)* study course of the sub-programme of "Culture and Arts Studies"). Meetings with creative persons, guest lectures by industry experts and provoked reflection on the acquired experience are also organized. Some lecturers also organize the exam in a natural cultural environment (e.g., the study course *Principles of Analysis and Interpretation of Works of Art (2 CP)* taught by Asst. Prof. Z. Grigoroviča is held at the Latvian National Art Museum). Teachers use various forms of communication with students, e.g., PowerPoint or other types of presentations, communication in the e-environment, Whatsapp, MsTeam, Zoom, etc. Students have the opportunity to receive individual consultations from the academic staff. On the other hand, in the intercultural relations programme - so that the language

of specialization can become the language of study from the 3rd semester, the CLIL (content and language integrated learning) method is already used in its acquiring. It is dominant in the entire specialization learning process. Materials for content learning are selected and created according to students' prior knowledge. In this sub-programme, an essential addition to lessons and independent work is organized involvement in publicly offered cultural exchange events - language cafes (e.g. organized by DAAD and the German Association of Latvia), competitions (e.g., Francophonie competition), guest lectures and readings (e.g., events organized by Embassy of Ireland, the Goethe Institute, the Swedish Institute in Riga). Students are also creatively involved in public events, for example, activities in Italian culture days, Cervantes' readings, Lucia Day events, essay contests organized by various international organizations. The main forms of study in the programme are:

- **lectures** (mostly theoretically oriented study courses) - students are presented with theoretical questions, supplemented with practical examples, visual material, statistical data; during lectures, lecturers use technical means: computer, multimedia projector, sound equipment. In several study courses, the lectures are oriented towards students' creative participation and research in the process of acquiring knowledge.
- **seminars** - addition and deepening of theoretical and practical knowledge, in which works of various art forms and cultural branches, theoretical articles, and creative tasks are analysed. Seminars strengthen students' independent information analysis skills, promote the process of acquiring knowledge and skills.
- **work in groups** - promotes students' skills to cooperate and work in a group, builds skills in organizing and implementing collective work, strengthens students' ability to argue and justify their individual opinion in the process of making a collective decision. Group work is particularly relevant in the context of dance composition, improvisation and dance techniques. In order to promote the development of communication networks of potential employees of the cultural sector, great attention is paid in the organization of the study process to the strengthening of cooperation and corporate ties between students of various programmes.
- **independent and individual tasks** - tasks to be performed independently, independent speaking, singing, dancing, etc. practicing techniques, individual skills, as well as in some sub-programmes - maintaining and developing physical condition, writing and self-analysis of self-reflections on the study process, theoretical literature studies and development of topics related to the field of study, presenting reports, making presentations, practical games.
- **individual lessons** - in order to reveal the individual academic, research and artistic potential of students, to develop and improve creative research activities, as well as to develop in depth the practical skills and abilities of theatre art that are individually necessary for each student, the study process includes individual lessons, where the teacher works with the student individually.
- **practical lessons** - provide the knowledge, skills, abilities and attitudes necessary for learning the art, improving professional competences. Helps to integrate and test theoretical knowledge in the practical activity of artistic and creative research. For better learning of the practical part of study courses, if necessary, students are divided into groups (6-10 students in one group).
- **tests** - regular knowledge test to make sure of the dynamics of the student's personal growth, understanding of the learned topics and management of the necessary terminology; are implemented both with and without the use of additional materials for students; can be implemented in the scope of a lesson / part of a lecture or a full lesson / lecture, practically or theoretically.

- **extracurricular activities** - students attend theatre and dance performances, art exhibitions, concerts, films, etc., write reviews, essays. Assist in the organization of festivals and other dance industry and cultural events, participate in artistic residencies, master classes, performances, master workshops, etc. in creative projects.

The study programme is focused on an individual approach to each student, promoting and developing each student's individual analytical and academic, as well as artistic potential and professional autonomy - the ability to independently and freely make professional decisions about the form, content, creative team, aesthetic and quality goals of their creative works and criteria. At the same time, the programme develops the skills to work in a team, as well as manage and organize the creative process within the framework of predetermined duties and working conditions.

3.2.4. If the study programme envisages an internship, describe the internship opportunities offered to students, provision and work organization, including whether the higher education institution/ college helps students to find an internship place. If the study programme is implemented in a foreign language, provide information on how internship opportunities are provided in a foreign language, including for foreign students. To provide analysis and evaluation of the connection of the tasks set for students during the internship included in the study programme with the learning outcomes of the study programme (if applicable).

Internship in the sub-programmes of the study programme is a part of the compulsory choice of study programmes. Its purpose is to provide students with opportunities to supplement the knowledge acquired in the study programme and develop professional skills and abilities in accordance with the specifics of the development of the culture and arts sector, the current conditions of the labor market structure and environment, as well as the needs of employers. The content of the study programme for all sub-programmes in the Compulsory Choice part in the amount of 2 CP includes not only *Specialization Internship*, but also other types of internships - according to the purpose and specifics of the sub-programme. For example, the "Sociology and Management of Culture" sub-programme, in addition to *Specialization Internship*, includes *Practice of Applied Research* (2 CP), within the framework of which students, under the guidance of a lecturer, carry out audience or marketing research on the decision-making of a specific cultural organization (e.g. Dailes Theatre, Latvian National Symphony Orchestra, Dirty Deal Teatro, etc.) needs. On the other hand, in the sub-programmes "Drama and Text Studies", "Stage Acting", "Theatre Directing", internship is integrated as a passing method in almost all Compulsory Choice courses.

The linking of student practice tasks included in the study programme with the study results achievable in the study programme is ensured in two ways. Firstly, purposefully and critically choosing the institutions, institutions and organizations with which to conclude internship contracts, as well as clarifying for which tasks the potential internship provider is looking for an intern; secondly, by setting the requirement for the student to map the connection between the tasks completed in practice and specific study courses in the internship report. The analysis of internship reports shows that 90% of internship tasks are related to specific study subjects and contributed to the achievement of study results.

Internship is organized in accordance with the Internship Regulations (attached in the annex).

Internship regulations and documents are available to students on the website (Available only in Latvian: <https://lka.edu.lv/lv/prakse-un-karjeras-atbalsts/prakse/dokumenti-praksu/>), but the academy staff is actively involved and provides various types of support in the context of the internship:

- The internship coordinator provides the opportunity to receive advice on filling out documents, and is also a support person in cases where students have questions about the internship process, credit points and other binding issues;
- Students are offered to attend internship consultations with Career education project manager. During the consultations, students' skills are evaluated and analysed and, according to the students' interests and wishes, the internship consultant recommends the most suitable internship places for the students;
- Internship providers regularly send internship offers to the LAC's internship coordinator, which the internship coordinator sends to students through the LAIS system, as well as publishes them on the LAC's website in the internships section;
- Students are additionally informed about the progress and procedures of the internship as part of the study course *Introduction to Studies and Career Development (1 CP)*;
- Students have the opportunity to complete internship in LAC's structural units - Creative Activity Centre, Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies, LAC's Eduards Smiļģis Theatre Museum and LAC's Riga Film Museum.

Specialization internship (2 CP) is a way to improve not only students' professional skills, but also social competence already during studies, by understanding the generally accepted codes of conduct and norms of behavior in various environments (for example, how to distinguish between the personal and professional spheres in work relations), and civic competence, for example the ability to cooperate effectively in the public space with various groups of society.

As part of the internship of the sub-programme "**Culture and Arts Studies**", students work as production assistants, deal with project management, coordination, marketing, organize workshops and events, write projects for obtaining funding, prepare publicity materials, edit texts. Students most often choose to complete internship in cultural centres and folk houses of various municipalities (Bauska Culture Center, Jelgava County Municipality, Liepāja Cultural Administration, Talsi Town Hall of Talsi County Municipality, Ventspils Culture Center), participate in concerts, shows and festivals (Austrumlatvijas koncertzāle, "Producers.lv", Mulino Dell'arte, "RIGA IFF", "Sansus").

Students of the "**Sociology and Management of Culture**" sub-programme participate in research, assist producers, organizations and personnel selection managers, work with data entry, deal with marketing, organization and coordination of events as part of their internship. Students most often practice in public administration institutions (National Library of Latvia, Latvian National Centre for Culture, Art Academy of Latvia, Latvian National Opera and Ballet, Latvian National Symphony Orchestra, Riga Circus), advertising and marketing organizations ("Wrong Digital", "ATOP Marketing"), in employment agencies ("Biuro", "Visas iespējas"), participate in the implementation of performances, concerts and festivals ("RIGA IFF", "Lampa" festival, Operetta Theatre, "Party" association, "Perforation" association). At the Academy, students take part in research organized by the Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies, previously the Research Centre of the Latvian Academy of Culture.

Students of the sub-programme "**Intercultural Relations**" most often perform oral and written translation, organize and coordinate educational and intercultural events as part of their internship. Students choose to do internships in various translation offices ("Nordtext", "Baltic Translations", "Linearis"), international organizations and institutions (Baltic-German Higher Education Office, LIAA

representation in Germany, Spanish Embassy, Baltic Regional Foundation), educational institutions (Vangaži Secondary School, Ventspils High School, Riga Culture Secondary School, Private High School ĀBVS). At the Academy, students practice at the conferences "Jornada de ELE ne Riga", "Culture Crossroads" and by doing translation work for the website.

Students of the sub-programme **"Theatre Directing"** direct plays, carry out the necessary organizational work for the creation of the play, and assist the directors. The favorite places of practice for students are the Valmiera Summer Theatre Festival and non-governmental theatre organizations ("Quadrifron", Dirty Deal Teatro). At the Academy, students most often choose internships in the organization and creation of the "Patriarha rudens" festival.

Students of the **"Stage Acting"** sub-programme participate in the creation of a role, cooperate with a director and playwright, cooperate with a cameraman in feature films and television, and play roles. Students practice in various theatres (The New Riga Theatre, Latvia Puppet Theatre, Valmiera Drama Theatre, Dailes Theatre, non-governmental theatres), as well as take part in television projects or feature films. At the Academy, students complete their internship by taking parts in plays or films by students of other programmes (dance performance "Lūdzami nekāpiet laukā", film "Ūdens garša").

Students of the sub-programme **"Drama and Text Studies"** write and prepare dramaturgical material for plays, edit dramatizations, assist in performance rehearsals, transcribe actors' etudes during rehearsals, participate in the creation and selection of theatre festival programmes, analyse and collect interviews, literature and other sources. Students most often choose to do their internship at Dirty Deal Teatro, Dailes Theatre and New Theatre Institute of Latvia. At the academy, students participate in plays created by directing students.

Among the providers of work and internships are Latvian cultural institutions, creative industry companies, media companies, municipalities, state agencies, as well as associations and foundations. Creative industry companies include film, music, design and event industry companies - students work on film shoots, become managers of music groups and artists' agents. Theatres, the Latvian National Opera and Ballet, concert halls, museums, as well as galleries and art centres offer not only internship, but also work for students. State administration and municipal agencies, regional cultural centres, as well as several NGOs and foundations regularly want to cooperate with students of the programme. Students have the opportunity to take internship in publishing and multimedia companies, in Latvian public media - both radio and TV, as well as in TV and radio commercial channels, often also in news portals in Latvian, Russian and English versions of portals. Sometimes students choose to do internships abroad, gaining contacts during ERASMUS studies, as well as cooperating with EUNIC and other European representative institutions in Latvia. Students of the programme can provide their own internship by establishing their own company or implementing their own project, to which other LAC students are attracted, thus working in a team and developing leadership qualities.

For more than 20 years, LAC's students have had the opportunity to cooperate with all LAC's programmes and cooperation universities - Art Academy of Latvia, Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music and Riga Technical University students of various programmes, mutually engaging in their internship projects, such as performances, concerts, exhibitions, festivals, Summer Academy and conferences, design and in creating social impact projects.

3.2.5. Evaluation and description of the promotion opportunities and the promotion process provided to the students of the doctoral study programme (if applicable).

3.2.6. Analysis and assessment of the topics of the final theses of the students, their relevance in the respective field, including the labour market, and the marks of the final theses.

An obligatory part of the study process of the academic bachelor's study programme "Arts" is the bachelor's thesis at the end of the programme. Final theses (Bachelor's thesis) in all sub-programmes of the study programme are included in the A or Compulsory (10 CP) part. Students choose their topics according to their interests and sub-programme. Students of the **"Culture and Arts Studies"** sub-programme, as well as the **"Sociology and Management of Culture"** sub-programme, develop their bachelor thesis as a research paper. Works are developed on specific art sectors such as theatre, dance, music, visual arts, film, as well as specific problems for the circus industry, cultural sector, including issues of the development of the cultural heritage sector, development, management, marketing and other problems of specific cultural and art organizations, society cultural participation and audience development issues, etc. In the bachelor theses of the students of the "Sociology and Management of Culture" sub-programme, the skills of using the theories and research methods of sociology, especially the sociology of culture and art, are demonstrated. Students of this sub-programme often choose to study problems that are relevant in a cultural and artistic organization or a project in which they are already employed.

Students of the sub-programme **"Intercultural Relations"** can create their final thesis as a research or creative work. The topics of research works are often related to the intended direction of professional activity, e.g., Latvian history in the context of cultural contact (work in cultural heritage institutions, tourism industry), intercultural communication (work in foreign missions in Latvia, Latvian institutions, companies, NGOs with an international dimension). Creative works are translations of texts of various content and genre, which complement the collection and provision of study literature of the LAC's library. They strengthen and confirm the skills of young translators, some of the authors of creative works choose the profession of translator in the labor market.

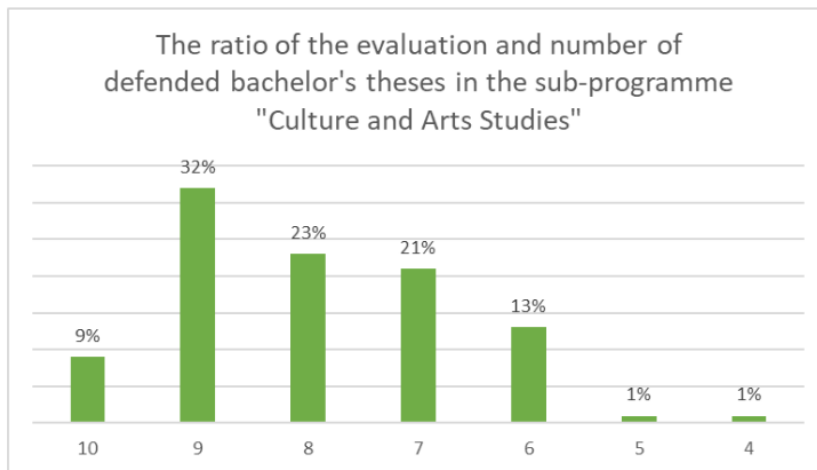
In the sub-programme **"Drama and Text Studies"**, the bachelor's thesis can be developed either as a creative work (creating a play or other dramatic text) with a theoretical basis or as a research work. Students choose topics of creative work in close connection with personal identity, socially relevant problems and formats that are innovative and experimental in the field of performing arts.

In the sub-programmes **"Stage Acting"** and **"Theatre Directing"**, the bachelor's thesis is a creative work created by the student and a study of the chosen topic, which forms the theoretical basis of the creative work. A creative work is a production of a play or an actor's work in a stage performance. The selection of the theme of the creative work, dramaturgical material and means of artistic expression takes place in close cooperation with the supervisor of the bachelor thesis.

Final theses are evaluated by the bachelor's final examination commission.

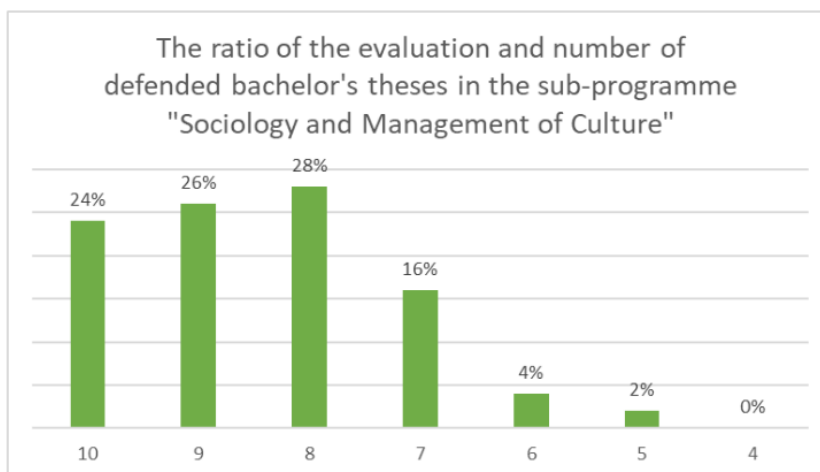
In the period from 2017, 83 bachelor's theses were defended in the **"Culture and Art Studies"** sub-programme. The statistical distribution of evaluations of bachelor's theses can be seen in Image No. 6.

Image No. 6. The ratio of the evaluation and number of defended bachelor's theses in the sub-programme "Culture and Arts Studies"



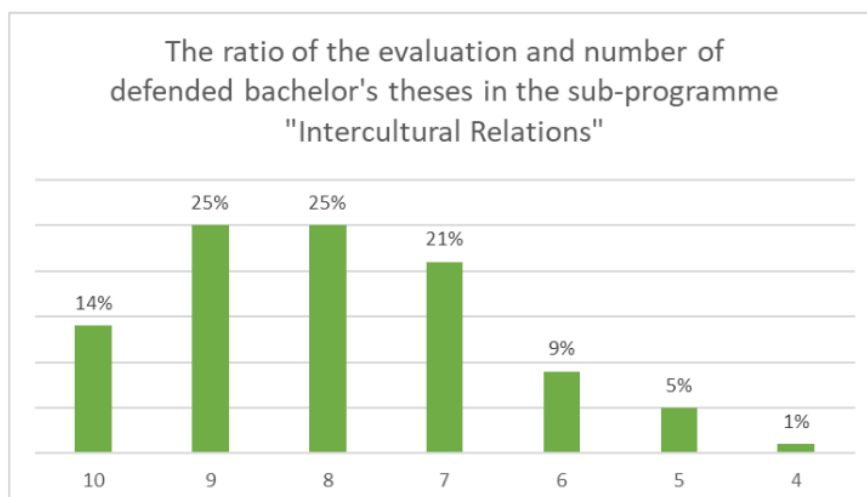
In the period from 2017, 43 bachelor's theses were defended in the sub-programme "**Sociology and Management of Culture**". The statistical distribution of evaluations of bachelor's theses can be seen in Image No. 7.

Image No. 7. The ratio of the evaluation and number of defended bachelor's theses in the sub-programme "Sociology and Management of Culture"



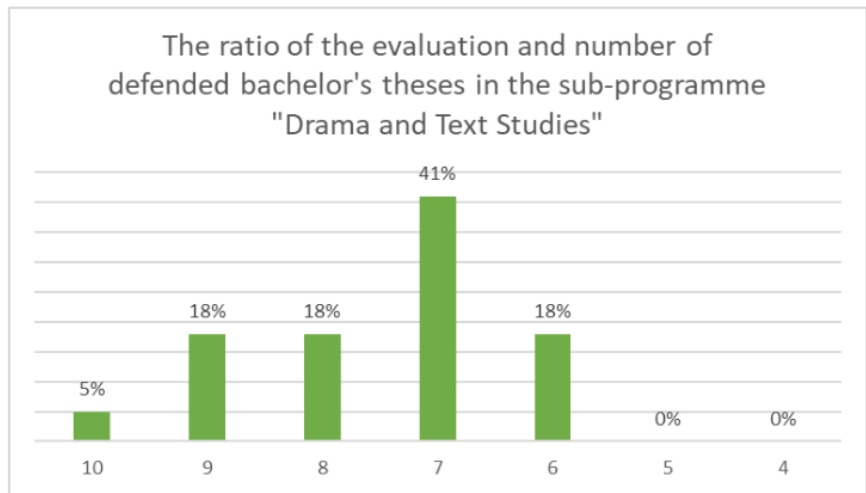
In the period from 2017, 138 bachelor's theses were defended in the sub-programme "**Intercultural Relations**". The statistical distribution of evaluations of bachelor's theses can be seen in Image No. 8.

Image No. 8. The ratio of the evaluation and number of defended bachelor's theses in the sub-programme "Intercultural Relations"



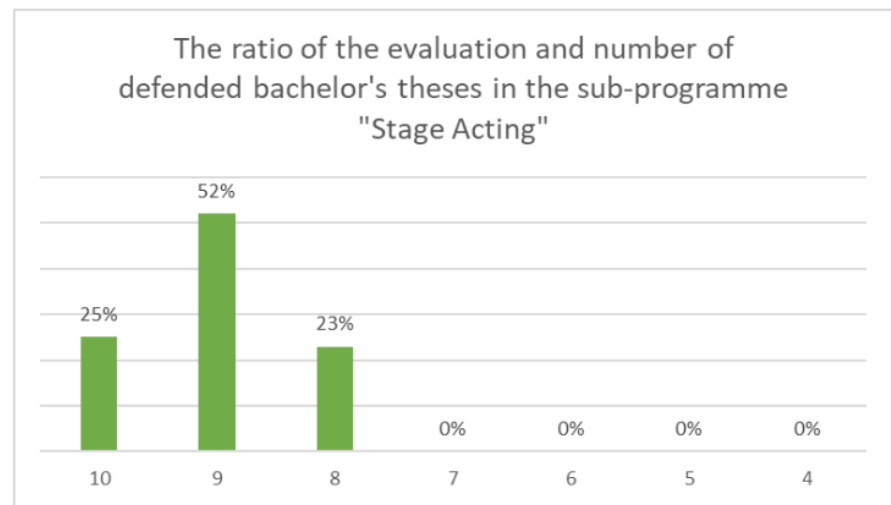
In the period from 2017, 17 bachelor's theses were defended in the **"Drama and Text Studies"** sub-programme. The statistical distribution of evaluations of bachelor's theses can be seen in Image No. 9.

Image No. 9. The ratio of the evaluation and number of defended bachelor's theses in the sub-programme "Drama and Text Studies"



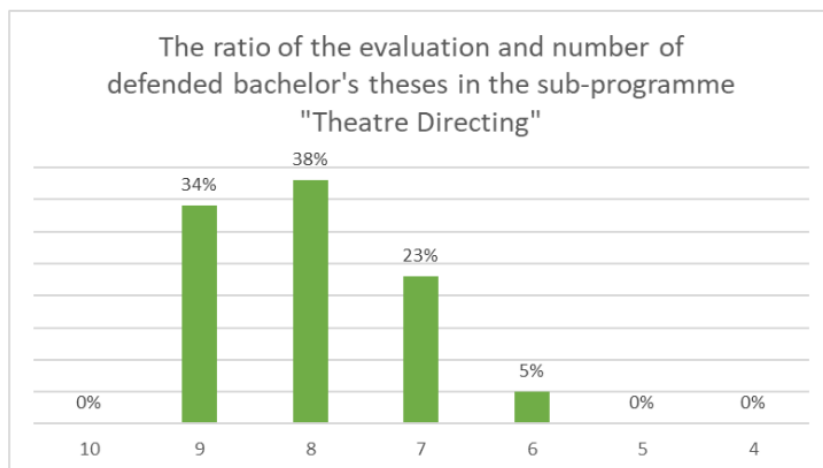
In the period from 2017, 56 bachelor theses were defended in the sub-programme **"Stage Acting"**. The statistical distribution of evaluations of bachelor's theses can be seen in Image No. 10.

Image No. 10. The ratio of the evaluation and number of defended bachelor's theses in the sub-programme "Stage Acting"



In the period from 2017, 18 bachelor's theses were defended in the sub-programme **"Theatre Directing"**. The statistical distribution of evaluations of bachelor's theses can be seen in Image No. 11.

Image No. 11. The ratio of the evaluation and number of defended bachelor's theses in the sub-programme "Theatre Directing"



The relevance of final theses in the industry is confirmed by the interest of industry organizations in the research of bachelor's theses and the interest of the audience in creative works in theatre art.

3.3. Resources and Provision of the Study Programme

3.3.1. Assessment of the compliance of the resources and provision (study provision, scientific support (if applicable), informative provision (including libraries), material and technical provision, and financial provision) with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the learning outcomes to be achieved by providing the respective examples.

Technically equipped auditoriums with an area of 557 m² and a Library reading room with an area of 35 m² are available for learning theoretical subjects and for research in the LAC building in Riga, Ludzas Street 24. The studies of the "Intercultural relations" sub-programme supplement the archive of the library of LAC with material donations, for example, from the Italian, Irish, and Dutch embassies in Latvia, from the Swedish Institute and the Goethe Institute in Riga. The resources of the National Library of Latvia, the Goethe Institute in Riga, and the French Institute in Latvia are used for the implementation of the study subprogramme. The teachers are supported by publishing houses by providing free teaching materials, e.g., Ernst Klett Verlag, Edelsa, Anaya ELE.

In the LAC's Theatre house "Zirgu pasts" on Dzirnavu street 46, there are available auditorium and practical lesson rooms with an area of 431 m², including two rehearsal halls and a 107 m² modern black box-type multifunctional hall fully equipped with sound, light and video equipment. Working in this hall, students have access to the consultations and services of the technical specialist and lighting specialist of the "Zirgu pasts" building of the Department of Performing Arts of LAC. For the purposes of showing bachelor's creative works, LAC has cooperated with non-governmental theatres - Gertrude Street Theatre and "Dirty Deal Teatro", having previously concluded a mutually beneficial agreement.

Both the material and technical and informational resources meet the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and ensure the achievement of the study results. For example, in the LAC's Theater House "Zirgu pasts" at Dzirnavu street 46, the rooms available are adapted for the creation of theater productions and acting lessons, as they provide conditions

identical to real professional activities; LAC's Library resources provide specialized informational resources for specific study subjects, science-based funding provides opportunities for developing research skills for students most interested in research.

The current infrastructure resource can be assessed as adequate in general. The main infrastructure problems are related to high occupancy of study rooms. In the intensive teaching process of bachelor's studies in the sub-programmes "Stage Acting" and "Theatre Directing" of the academic bachelor's study programme "Arts", great emphasis is placed on the rehearsal and training process of independent creative works, as well as their public performance, and the capacity of the rooms for this purpose LAC's Theatre house "Zirgu pasts" tends to be insufficient. LAC's Theatre house "Zirgu pasts" has, however, additional rooms suitable for students, which are needed before and after practical classes, - appropriate changing rooms, showers and a sauna designed for muscle relaxation after increased physical exertion, while there are no appropriate changing rooms at Ludzas Street 24.

The space issue will be solved in perspective, when LAC moves to a new building in the former Tobacco Factory complex, Riga, Miera Street 58a, where special halls for dance classes and public performances are being designed. Until then, it is necessary to supplement and strengthen the technical base in the existing premises, taking into account that the LAC's Theatre House "Zirgu pasts" and the LAC's Eduards Smilģis Theatre Museum will continue to operate even when the study process of the LAC will be carried out mainly in the Tobacco Factory complex.

More information about the material and technical base is available in Part II, Chapter 3 of the self-assessment report, in subsection 2.3.2.

Information on the provision of methodological and informational resources is available in Part II, Chapter 3 of the self-assessment report, in subsection 2.3.3. An important information resource is also the LAC's Theses database created by the LAC's Library, which includes bibliographic descriptions of the final theses of LAC's students, which are important in the development of study theses, giving students the opportunity to view the work of graduates, reflect on what they have read and continue their research activities.

Information on information and communication technology solutions is available in Part II, Chapter 3 of the self-assessment report, in subsection 2.3.4. In the study process, LAC uses the e-study environment (Moodle) and the Information System of Latvian Universities (LAIS), which ensures full information flow with students, access to resources and information. Moodle provides communication with students necessary for the study process. Course description, lecture materials and additional sources, instructions for tasks, tests and assessment books are posted for each study course. The e-study environment is used in all study courses and its use is being intensified.

3.3.2. Assessment of the study provision and scientific base support, including the resources provided within the framework of cooperation with other science institutes and higher education institutions (applicable to doctoral study programmes) (if applicable).

3.3.3. Indicate data on the available funding for the corresponding study programme, its funding sources and their use for the development of the study programme. Provide information on the costs per one student within this study programme, indicating the

items included in the cost calculation and the percentage distribution of funding between the specified items. The minimum number of students in the study programme in order to ensure the profitability of the study programme (indicating separately the information on each language, type and form of the study programme implementation).

The costs of the programme are calculated in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers' Regulations of December 12, 2006 No. 994 "The order in which universities and colleges are financed from the state budget". The current base fee for a study place is EUR 1,630.11. According to the mentioned regulation no. 994 Clause 12 study cost factor for undergraduate study programmes is 1. According to Clause 20 of Appendix 1 of the Regulations, the Academy's funding for one bachelor's study place in the thematic field of education "Art (except for the programmes mentioned in Clause 28 of this Appendix)" thematic field coefficient is 3.1. The estimated amount of the state grant in 2022 is 4,607 EUR, for one budget place. Performance funding per 1 student in the programme is EUR 239 and tuition fees are on average EUR 1,769, taking into account that tuition fees are revised every year.

The financing of the study programme in 2022 is 1,111,707 EUR, it was formed from the budget grant, performance financing and tuition fees. When making cost calculations, all expenditure items necessary for the programme are included, the programme calculation is 79% compensation for ECC 1000, 7% ECC goods and services 2000 and 14% other ECC.

Sub-programmes	ECC 1000	ECC 2000	other ECC
Stage Acting	70%	5%	25%
Theatre Directing	77%	2%	21%
Drama and Text Studies	93%	2%	5%
Sociology and Management of Culture	77%	15%	8%
Culture and Arts Studies	72%	13%	15%
Intercultural Relations	85%	6%	9%
Total	79%	7%	14%

Every year, a cost calculation is carried out, after which the number of guest lecturers hired and the amount diverted for the development of study programmes are determined, which is a part of the own revenues, in the amount of 3% in 2022, which amounts to 6,581 EUR. A lot of attention is devoted to the optimization of study programme implementation expenses, for example, by organizing stream lectures in professor-taught courses and providing remote lectures.

The minimum number of students in the study programme to ensure the profitability of the study programme is determined every year by looking at the needs of the programme and sub-programmes in the current year. (See Annex No. 5)

The programme is full-time attendance and is conducted in Latvian.

3.4. Teaching Staff

3.4.1. Assessment of the compliance of the qualification of the teaching staff members (academic staff members, visiting professors, visiting associate professors, visiting docents, visiting lecturers, and visiting assistants) involved in the implementation of the study programme with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the provisions set out in the respective regulatory enactments. Provide information on how the qualification of the teaching staff members contributes to the achievement of the learning outcomes.

The close connection of the study programme with cultural and creative sector organizations and the processes of creative work determines the fact that the teaching staff includes not only a large number of teaching staff with a doctorate degree, but also a large proportion of excellent creative professionals in theatre art.

In accordance with the laws of Latvia and the regulatory documents of LAC, an open competition is announced for academic staff positions, academic staff are elected and re-elected for a period of 6 years. The evaluation and election of candidates for the positions of professors and associate professors is carried out by the LAC Professors' Council and it takes place in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers' Regulations adopted in 2021 No. 129 "The procedure for evaluating the scientific and pedagogical qualifications or artistic creative work results of an applicant for the position of professor or associate professor and an existing professor or associate professor". The evaluation of candidates for the positions of docents, lecturers and assistants takes place at the meeting of the Senate of LAC.

Currently, 62 lecturers elected to the academic positions of LAC are involved in the implementation of the programme, of which 13 are professors elected to the principal work of LAC and 11 are associate professors. Therefore, the programme complies with the requirements set out in Article 55, Part One, Clause 3 of the Law on Universities, that no less than five professors and associate professors elected at the relevant university participate in the implementation of the compulsory part and the compulsory choice part of the academic study programmes. The study programme employs 30 lecturers with doctorate degrees. Several lecturers of the programme are actively involved in research activities, working at the Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies of the Latvian Academy of Culture.

In the implementation of certain study courses, guest lecturers are recruited who, being high-level professionals in a specific field, provide extended and specifically necessary knowledge, for example Sandis Voldiņš (member of the LNOB board, former state secretary of the Ministry of Culture), Andris Vecumnieks, JVLMA professor, guest lecturer Evarts Melnalksnis, talented curator of Latvian cultural and artistic events with rich foreign experience, Ivars Šteinbergs, laureate of several literature and poetry awards, etc. The qualifications of all mentioned teaching staff directly influence and help to achieve study results, as their active involvement and high-quality activity in study processes and research provide students with the necessary knowledge, competences and skills, taking into account both the historical development processes of the fields and the latest discoveries and achievements.

The qualifications of the chosen lecturers and guest lecturers and the close connection of professional activities with the labor market of the cultural and creative sector, as well as

employment in cultural and artistic organizations ensure the transfer of knowledge and contribute to the achievement of study results in all sub-programmes. For example, several lecturers of the sub-programmes carry out current cultural and creative process research at the Institute of Culture and Arts, ensuring the transfer of the most current scientific knowledge in the study process. Also, several lecturers perform creative activities (directors) in theaters or implement literary creativity, which ensures the influence of these personalities and their creative potential on the results of students' studies.

3.4.2. Analysis and assessment of the changes to the composition of the teaching staff over the reporting period and their impact on the study quality.

The changes in the composition of lecturers during the reporting period are mainly related to the renewal of teaching staff and the recruitment of lecturers who have acquired foreign educational experience. After obtaining a doctorate in foreign and Latvian universities (including LAC), LAC graduates work as lecturers in the programme - Assoc. Prof. Liene Ozoliņa, Asst. Prof. Iveta Ķešāne, Asst. Prof. Līga Vinogradova, Assoc. Prof. Agnes Hermane, Assoc. Prof. Zane Daudziņa, Asst. Prof. Rita Lūriņa. Likewise, the teaching staff who are currently studying at LAC in academic or professional doctoral studies, or are degree applicants - Luīze Dakša, Kristīne Freiberga, Zane Kreicberga, Kārlis Krūmiņš, Elmārs Senkovs, Ivo Briedis, Lolita Ozoliņa - play an important role. Such renewal of the teaching staff has made a significant contribution to the improvement of the quality of the study content, that is, the transfer of knowledge acquired in prestigious foreign universities and the internationalization of the study content are ensured, moreover, lecturers of different generations contribute to the study content. The discussion of heads of sub-programmes and profiling departments at the meetings of the Council of Study Programmes is of great importance in the management of the study programme.

Unfortunately, it must be admitted that during the reporting period, Danish, Dutch and Norwegian language and culture specialists terminated their working relationship with LAC, because the salary of academic staff is not competitive in the Latvian labor market. As a result, studies in Intercultural Relations specializations Latvia-Denmark, Latvia-Norway, Latvia-Netherlands/ Germany, Latvia-Turkey, Latvia-East Asia are no longer offered in recent years.

3.4.3. Information on the number of the scientific publications of the academic staff members, involved in the implementation of doctoral study programme, as published during the reporting period by listing the most significant publications published in Scopus or WoS CC indexed journals. As for the social sciences, humanitarian sciences, and the science of art, the scientific publications published in ERIH+ indexed journals or peer-reviewed monographs may be additionally specified. Information on the teaching staff included in the database of experts of the Latvian Council of Science in the relevant field of science (total number, name of the lecturer, field of science in which the teaching staff has the status of an expert and expiration date of the Latvian Council of Science expert) (if applicable).

3.4.4. Information on the participation of the academic staff, involved in the implementation of the doctoral study programme, in scientific projects as project managers or prime contractors/ subproject managers/ leading researchers by specifying the name of the relevant project, as well as the source and the amount of the funding. Provide information on the reporting period (if applicable).

3.4.5. Assessment of the cooperation between the teaching staff members by specifying the mechanisms used to promote the cooperation and ensure the interrelation between the study programme and study courses/ modules. Specify also the proportion of the number of the students and the teaching staff within the study programme (at the moment of the submission of the Self-Assessment Report).

Management of the bachelor's study programme "Arts" is provided by four departments of LAC - Department of Theory and History of Culture (*Latvian only*: <https://lka.edu.lv/lv/par-akademiju/struktura/katedras/kulturas-teorijas-un-vestures-katedra/>), Department of Sociology and Management of Culture (*Latvian only*: <https://lka.edu.lv/lv/par-akademiju/struktura/katedras/kulturas-sociologijas-un-menedzmenta-katedra/>), Department of Intercultural Relations and Foreign Languages (*Latvian only*: <https://lka.edu.lv/lv/par-akademiju/struktura/katedras/starpkulturu-komunikacijas-un-svesvalodu-katedra/>), Department of Audiovisual Art (*Latvian only*: <https://lka.edu.lv/lv/par-akademiju/struktura/katedras/audiovizualas-makslas-katedra/>), Department of Performing Arts (*Latvian only*: <https://lka.edu.lv/lv/par-akademiju/struktura/katedras/skatuves-makslas-katedra/>). This requires a special cooperation and coordination approach, which is developed at the weekly meetings of department heads, as well as at department meetings. Forms of cooperation are also developed when lecturers participate in the conferences organized by the Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies of the Latvian Academy of Culture, especially by participating in discussions on current cultural and creative sector development issues at the annual *Culture Crossroads* conference. Cooperation is also promoted by professional development programmes and the annual experience-learning trip to cultural and art organizations in the regions of Latvia - museums, municipalities, heritage objects, creative industry quarters, etc. Discussions on methodological issues, student workload and independent work planning are organized in the departments for the cooperation of teaching staff. Discussions on the results of the student survey promote discussions and progress towards quality improvements. The supervision of the lessons and the discussion of its results are organized. Cooperation is also facilitated by the participation of representatives of all departments in the defense commissions of bachelor's theses of sub-programmes and the management and review of student's bachelor's theses under the management of other departments.

Table No. 4

	Number of teaching staff	Number of students as of 10.01.2023	ICR	CAS	SMC	DTS	SD	TD
<i>Academic bachelor's study programme "Arts"</i>	82	289	99	91	48	23	21	7

Heads of sub-programmes regularly familiarize themselves with the results of student and graduate surveys and meet with students individually and in groups several times a semester, listening to opinions on the content of study courses, successes and problematic issues, as well as discussing the evaluations provided by students with programme lecturers, calling for improvements in the study process if necessary. The interlinking of study courses and the provision of content that is more relevant and up-to-date to the interests of students contributes to regular clarifications of the programme content and the attraction of highly qualified guest lecturers.

Annexes

III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme		
Sample of the diploma and its supplement to be issued for completing the study programme	3.1.2.-1_EN.zip	3.1.2.-1_LV.zip
For academic study programmes - Opinion of the Council of Higher Education in accordance with Section 55, Paragraph two of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)	3.1.2._2_EN_Arts.zip	3.1.2._2_LV_Mākslas.zip
Compliance of the joint study programme with the provisions of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (table) (if applicable)		
Statistics on the students in the reporting period	3.1.4. Arts_statistical data on srudents_ 2013_2022_EN .xlsx	3.1.4. Mākslas_Studejoso skaita dinamika 2013_2022_LV .xlsx
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof		
Compliance with the study programme with the State Education Standard	3.2.1.-1_6 Annex Bachelor's Study Programme Arts_state standard.docx	3.2.1.-1_6. pielikums bakalaura studiju programma Mākslas_valsts standarts.docx
Compliance of the qualification to be acquired upon completion of the study programme with the professional standard or the requirements for professional qualification (if applicable)		
Compliance of the study programme with the specific regulatory framework applicable to the relevant field (if applicable)		
Mapping of the study courses/ modules for the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study programme	3.2.1.-2._course mapping_Arts.xlsx	3.2.1.-2._kursu kartējums_Mākslas.xlsx
The curriculum of the study programme (for each type and form of the implementation of the study programme)	3.2.1.-3_curriculum_Arts.xlsx	3.2.1.-3_prog. plāns_mākslas.xlsx
Descriptions of the study courses/ modules	3.2.1.-4_course descriptions_Arts.zip	3.2.1.-4_kursa apraksti_Mākslas.zip
Description of the organisation of the internship of the students (if applicable)	Statute on Internship of the LAC.pdf	APST_Prakses nolikums.pdf
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.4. Teaching Staff		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the doctoral study programme includes not less than five doctors, of which at least three are experts approved by the Latvian Council of Science in the branch or sub-branch of science in which the study programme intends to award a scientific degree (if applicable)		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the academic study programme complies with the requirements specified in Section 55, Paragraph one, Clause 3 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)	CONFIRMATION_bARTS.pdf	Mākslas.zip

Audiovisual and Performing Art (45213)

Study field	Arts
ProcedureStudyProgram.Name	<i>Audiovisual and Performing Art</i>
Education classification code	45213
Type of the study programme	<i>Academic master study programme</i>
Name of the study programme director	Zane
Surname of the study programme director	Kreicberga
E-mail of the study programme director	<i>zane.kreicberga@lka.edu.lv</i>
Title of the study programme director	<i>profesore, Mg. art.</i>
Phone of the study programme director	
Goal of the study programme	<p><i>The aim of the programme is to provide unique interdisciplinary studies focused on research and creative excellence, which provide extended theoretical knowledge of audiovisual and performing arts in the context of humanities, provide an in-depth insight into the fields of audiovisual and performing arts and their interaction, as well as gives students the opportunity to choose one of the thematic areas of the Program (Audiovisual Arts, Theater Art, Contemporary Dance, Dramaturgy and Theory) and learn in depth one of the specializations of research and artistic creation (theory, dramaturgy, theater direction, film direction, choreography, film operator, art, acting).</i></p>

Tasks of the study programme	<p>1. To provide academic education of humanities to the students of the programme in accordance with the "State General Education Standard" of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia. To create an integrated study process of the Programme, in which students would acquire extended knowledge of the theory and artistic creativity of the fields of audiovisual and performing arts in the wider context of humanities and arts.</p> <p>2. To provide in-depth understanding, skills and competences in the thematic area of the Programme chosen by the student - audiovisual art, theater art or contemporary dance art - and in the chosen specialization - theory, dramaturgy, theater direction, film direction, choreography, cinematography, acting, production - , providing appropriate theoretical study courses, creative workshops and opportunities for research and creative work practice in the Academy and outside.</p> <p>3. To prepare students for further studies at the Academy or other doctoral study programmes of Latvian or international universities.</p> <p>4. To ensure the participation of highly qualified academic personnel in the implementation of the Programme, to cooperate actively and purposefully with Latvian and foreign universities and other educational and creative institutions.</p> <p>5. Create a favorable environment for the study process with appropriate technical support.</p> <p>6. Cooperate with students' potential employers, ensuring in-depth learning of students' knowledge, skills and competencies in practical work and promoting the formation of a professional career corresponding to the education of Program graduates.</p> <p>7. To ensure the availability to the public of creative works and research works of appropriate quality produced by students during their studies</p>
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Results of the study programme	<p>As a result after studying the study programme, the graduate:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acquires extensive knowledge and understanding of current research in the humanities and arts, an idea of the historical context of current research in the field. 2. Well versed in the latest discoveries and achievements in the professional fields of audiovisual, theater and contemporary dance arts. 3. Orients oneself in the historical development processes of audiovisual and performing arts in Latvia and the world. 4. Well versed in the historical development and actualities of the theoretical and critical thought of audiovisual and performing arts. 5. Understands the interaction between the fields of audiovisual and performing arts, knows how to apply the acquired knowledge and skills in research and creative work. 6. Can independently use humanities theories and methods to carry out research or artistic activity. 7. Able to reasonably explain and qualitatively implement the ideas of one's creativity and research work, analyze the results of one's work. 8. Acquired the ability to discuss topical, complex and systemic aspects of humanities and arts. 9. Able to independently promote the improvement of his competences and specialization. 10. Having acquired the skills to work in a team, they are able to take responsibility for the results of the work of the staff involved in their artistic or research activities and analyze them. 11. Able to innovate and apply new approaches in the humanities and arts sector and in their profession. 12. Able to carry out artistic work and research in complex and unpredictable conditions and, if necessary, transform them by using new approaches. 13. Able to independently formulate and critically analyze complex scientific and professional problems in audiovisual and performing arts research and artistic creativity, justify decisions and perform additional analysis. 14. Able to integrate knowledge about the essential aspects of audiovisual and performing arts, contribute to the creation of new knowledge, development of research and professional activity methods. 15. Demonstrates understanding and ethical responsibility for the possible impact of the results of scientific and professional activities on the environment and society.
Final examination upon the completion of the study programme	Master's Thesis.

Study programme forms

Full time studies - 2 years - latvian

Study type and form	Full time studies
Duration in full years	2
Duration in month	0
Language	latvian

Amount (CP)	80
Admission requirements (in English)	<i>Bachelor's degree or second-level professional higher education, or equivalent higher education in the following thematic fields of education: humanities, arts, social, human behaviour and humanities sciences, information and communication sciences, teacher education and educational sciences</i>
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Master of Art in Audiovisual and Performing Art</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	-

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
Latvian Academy of Culture	RĪGA	LUDZAS IELA 24, LATGALES PRIEKŠPILSĒTA, RĪGA, LV-1003

Full time studies - 2 years - english

Study type and form	<i>Full time studies</i>
Duration in full years	2
Duration in month	0
Language	<i>english</i>
Amount (CP)	80
Admission requirements (in English)	<i>Bachelor's degree or second-level professional higher education, or equivalent higher education in the following thematic fields of education: humanities, arts, social, human behaviour and humanities sciences, information and communication sciences, teacher education and educational sciences. The level of the English language proficiency is at least B2 level.</i>
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Master of Arts in Audiovisual and Performing Art</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	-

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
Latvian Academy of Culture	RĪGA	LUDZAS IELA 24, LATGALES PRIEKŠPILSĒTA, RĪGA, LV-1003

3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme

3.1.1. Description and analysis of changes in the parameters of the study programme made since the issuance of the previous accreditation form of the study field or issuance of the study programme license, if the study programme is not included on the accreditation form of the study field, including changes planned within the evaluation procedure of the study field evaluation procedure.

Since the issue of license No. 04066-7 on 8 August 2018 to the Latvian Academy of Culture (hereinafter - LAC) for the right to implement the academic master's study programme "Audiovisual and Performing Art" (codes 45213, 45212) the Latvian Academy of Culture has not undertaken any changes to the parameters of the study programme and no changes are planned within the framework of the course assessment procedure.

However, since the licensing of the programme in 2018, several clarifications have been made in the LAC academic master's study programme in "Audiovisual and Performing Art", based on the analysis of the programme's implementation (including the feedback and recommendations of students and graduates), to make the structure of the programme clearer, more comprehensible for applicants, less fragmented into narrow specializations. The former structure of the programme consisted of three thematic areas (audiovisual arts, theater, and contemporary dance) and eight specializations (theory, dramaturgy, theater direction, film direction, choreography, cinematography, acting, and production) of which several covered multiple thematic areas. Taking into account the fact that interdisciplinarity and the relativism of boundaries in the arts are becoming more and more relevant nowadays, since 2022 the structure of the programme has been clarified, rejecting narrow specializations and defining four thematic areas of the programme: Audiovisual art, Theatre art, Contemporary dance, and Dramaturgy and theory. Entrance exams and the creative competition are organized according to these thematic areas.

Some changes have also been made to the study course plan of the programme following the recommendations of students and lecturers:

1. In Part A the study course "Research Methodology and Academic Writing" (2 CP) has been replaced by the study course "Artistic Research and Academic Writing" (2 CP), the lecturers also have been changed. With the creation of joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme "Arts" by JVLMA, AAL and LAC, artistic research is a topical and developing discipline to prepare master's students for studies at the next level.
2. In Part A the name and the content of the study course "Research in Humanities and Arts: Specific Features, Theories and Methods" (2 CP) has been clarified. The content of the study course is partially transferred from the study course mentioned in point 1.
3. In Part A the study course "The Legal Regulation of Culture and Creative Industries" (2 CP) has been replaced by the study course "Employment of a Creative Person, International Cooperation and Project Management" (2 CP), the lecturers also have been changed. This study course is much more in line with the students' interests and is more focused than the previous one.
4. In Part B a new study course "Art and Philosophy in the 21st Century" (2 CP) has been added to qualitatively implement the objectives of the programme and to acquaint students with current trends in theory.
5. Part B study course "Specialisation Workshops" (17 CP) is divided into two study courses:

"Workshop of the Thematic Field (Audiovisual art, Theatre art, Contemporary dance, and Dramaturgy and theory)" (9 CP) and "Practical Workshops" (8 CP). During the implementation of the programme, a decision was made to separate the main workshop from the thematic areas. The main workshop continues for three semesters under the guidance of one lecturer and follows the growth of the student in the specialization. In other thematic workshops students can choose to acquire skills and competencies in other areas.

6. For several study courses, the volume has been changed in order to balance the workload of students by semester.
7. The study course "Civil Defence" (1 CP), the acquisition of which is a mandatory requirement following Paragraph 21 of the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No. 240 "Regulations on the state academic standard of education", if the student has not acquired the requirements specified in the Civil Protection Law in a lower-level study programme, and the study course "Environment Protection" (1 CP), the acquisition of which is a mandatory requirement following Paragraph 42 of the Environmental Protection Law, are offered as additional courses in the Part B for those students who have not acquired such courses at the previous level of study or in other master's studies.

3.1.2. Analysis and assessment of the study programme compliance with the study field. Analysis of the interrelation between the code of the study programme, the degree, professional qualification/professional qualification requirements or the degree and professional qualification to be acquired, the aims, objectives, learning outcomes, and the admission requirements. Description of the duration and scope of the implementation of the study programme (including different options of the study programme implementation) and evaluation of its usefulness.

The strategic goal of the programme "Audiovisual and Performing Art" of the study direction "Arts" is set in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No 240 on the State Standard of Academic Education

(<https://likumi.lv/ta/id/266187-noteikumi-par-valsts-akademiskas-izglitiba-standartu> / Latvian only):

1) to ensure the acquisition of in-depth and broad theoretical knowledge and research skills of students by reaching the study results set out in the study programme which correspond to the 7th level knowledge, skills and competencies of European Qualifications Framework (EQF), in accordance of the Latvian Classification of Education; 2) to ensure the ability of the graduates of the program to perform highly skilled professional functions in changing environments, integrate knowledge from different fields, innovate, contribute to the creation of new knowledge and critically and creatively analyse complex scientific and professional problems proficiently using information technologies in their professional activities, research and lifelong learning, as well as in the acquisition and creation of digital content. The content of the study programme is designed to ensure the scientifically sound achievement of comprehensive study results.

The LAC's academic master's study programme "Audiovisual and Performing Art" fully complies with the LAC's study direction "Arts" as it aims to provide unique interdisciplinary studies focused on research and creative excellence, which provide expanded theoretical knowledge of audiovisual and performing arts in the context of the humanities, provide in-depth insights into the fields of audiovisual and performing arts and their interactions. The programme corresponds to the codes 45212 and 45213 which comply with the Cabinet regulation No. 322 "Regulations on the classification of the Latvian education", where it is stipulated that the thematic group of education

"Humanities and Arts" includes the thematic area of education "Arts", which includes the groups of educational programmes "Music and Performing Arts" and "Audiovisual and Media Arts". Upon successful completion of their studies, students obtain **a master's degree in audiovisual and performing art**. This corresponds to the interdisciplinary orientation of the study programme, which provides students in all thematic areas with knowledge, competences and skills in both audiovisual and performing arts. The aim and tasks of the study programme are closely related to the study results, which are monitored both in the final examinations of the study courses and in the final thesis (master's thesis). Studies are provided through an integrated process in which students acquire expanded knowledge of audiovisual and performing arts theory and artistic creation in the wider context of the humanities and arts. At the same time, students are provided with an in-depth understanding, skills and competences in the thematic area of their chosen programme, providing study courses "Workshop of the Thematic Field" (9 CP) and "Practical workshops" (8 CP). In the study course "Seminars in Theory of the Thematic Fields" student has the opportunity to regularly interact with a mentor and a highly qualified representative of the academic staff, as well as ensuring a focused and high-quality master's thesis preparation process. The study process is provided not only by LAC lecturers, high-caliber industry specialists and researchers, but also by recognized Latvian and foreign industry professionals who are regularly attracted. The quality of the study results is evidenced, for example, by the fact that during the relatively short period of implementation of the programme, one of the tasks of the programme has been successfully implemented – to prepare students for further studies in the LAC or another doctoral study programme of higher education institutions. That is confirmed by the fact that several graduates of the programme have started their studies in doctoral study programmes – both in the academic doctoral study programme of the Latvian Academy of Arts and in the Latvian Academy of Culture, also in the joint professional doctoral study programme in the arts of the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music and the Latvian Academy of Arts, one graduate continues her doctoral studies at King's College London. Also, the quality of study results and appropriate knowledge, competencies and skills of students in theoretical and creative aspects of audiovisual and performing arts (including knowledge and understanding of current research in the humanities and arts, the latest discoveries and achievements of audiovisual and performing arts and historical development processes, as well as the historical development and topicalities of theoretical and critical thought in Latvia and the world and the field of audiovisual and performing arts mutual interaction by applying the acquired knowledge and skills in research and creative work) is confirmed by nominations and awards of creative works of students and graduates in competitions of national significance (for example, Latvian Film award "Lielais Kristaps" and theatre award "Spēlmaņu nakts") and participation and recognition in international festivals.

3.1.3. Economic and/ or social substantiation of the study programme, analysis of graduates' employment.

The economic and social justification of the academic master's study programme "Audiovisual and Performing Art" (code 45213) is based on the research of the creative environment and labor market of audiovisual and performing arts, the analysis of the employment of LAC graduates so far and related problems. LAC is well aware of the audiovisual and art labor market in Latvia, closely follows the developments and requirements in this market, in close cooperation with industry institutions (National Film Centre of Latvia, institutional and independent theatres, film studios, contemporary dance organizations, Film Producers Association of Latvia, Latvian Theatre Workers Association, Latvian Filmmakers Union etc.). Most lecturers of LAC are also active in research and

with creative work, and are well aware of the professional needs of the fields. Master's level studies in this programme bring new knowledge, competences and methods to the film industry and the performing arts sector, increasing the excellence and international competitiveness of the achievements of these sectors, as the graduates of the programme are able to integrate knowledge about the essential aspects of audiovisual and performing arts, contribute to the creation of new knowledge, research and in the development of professional activity methods. Potentially, graduates of the programme can also contribute to audiovisual and performing arts education (currently three of the current graduates are lecturers at LAC). The employment structure of industries only in rare cases foresees permanent employment in the direct specialization of the thematic field (for example, the film industry is unthinkable without film directors, but there is no such institution or organization where it is possible to work permanently as a film director). Therefore, often graduates' basic workplace (if any) can be, for example, in the education system, the advertising industry or some other field, where their basic specialization knowledge, competences and skills can be useful and make a contribution outside of the directly applicable industries. But in their direct specialization (playwright, film director, choreographer, etc.), some graduates work in parallel and periodically, when they have managed to create a team, agree with an appropriate institution and attract funding. When evaluating the compliance of graduates' employment with the goals and expected results of the programme, LAC takes into account not only the permanent job, but also regular involvement in audiovisual and performing arts processes, as this is the specificity of employment in these fields. It should also be taken into account that employment in direct specialization often depends on the results of competition and funding tenders. For example, in the cinema industry there is a lot of competition for available public funding for the development or production of films in the National Film Centre of Latvia and the State Cultural Capital Fund project tenders, so the allocation of funding can already be considered a proof of success and quality, but the non-allocation of funding affects graduates' opportunities to work in the industry. Therefore, it is all the more important to maintain high-quality requirements during the implementation of the programme so that graduates are competitive in the labor market. The programme's interdisciplinary structure, which focuses on the openness of the study process and the interaction of programme areas, is innovative, appropriate to the requirements of the era and especially to the cultural environment of Latvia, it promotes the formation of wide-profile specialists who are able to adapt and apply their knowledge, skills and competences in a rapidly changing work environment and can potentially be in demand both in Latvia and in the European cultural environment. It should be noted that nowadays the results of education, and especially master's level education, should not be looked at in isolation, expecting only a literal "relevance to the labor market". More and more importance is given to interdisciplinary competences, the ability to adapt to different contexts, as well as artistic excellence and originality. The applicant's motivation letters show the following main reasons for choosing studies: 1) to deepen knowledge and competences and learn new skills in the existing specialization; 2) learn a new specialization related to the existing one (for example, a theatre actor wants to acquire directing competence); 3) to acquire knowledge and contacts relevant to the context of Latvia, to adapt and gain credibility in the professional environment of relevant sectors in Latvia (this applies to those who obtained their bachelor's education in arts outside of Latvia or acquired their specialization through self-study). The programme fully meets this demand.

In the period from 2020 (when the first course of the programme completed their studies) to 2022, 27 students graduated from the programme, of which 22, i.e., 81%, are actively working in the relevant industries. Of these graduates, 41% are connected to the audiovisual arts industry or the film industry, 30% work in the theatre industry, 4% in the contemporary dance industry, and 7% are regularly published in the industry media and engaged in research. Five graduates, or 19%, continue their studies at the doctoral level. Three graduates are lecturers at the higher education

level, but in total five graduates or 19% are involved in pedagogy. Out of 27 graduates, nine (33%) were nominated or won the nationally important award "Lielais Kristaps" in the cinema industry or "Spēlmaņu nakts" award in the theatre industry, which is the highest professional recognition.

3.1.4. Statistical data on the students of the respective study programme, the dynamics of the number of the students, and the factors affecting the changes to the number of the students. The analysis shall be broken down into different study forms, types, and languages.

In total, 79 students have started their studies in the "Audiovisual and Performing Art" study programme (codes 45213 and 45212) since its licensing in 2018 (25 in 2018; 18 in 2019; 15 in 2020; 21 in 2022). Breakdown of the number of new students by thematic areas of the programme (2018-2022): audiovisual art – 32 students (22 – film direction, 10 – cinematography); theatre arts – 23 students (17 – theatre direction, 6 – acting); contemporary dance – 3 students; dramaturgy and theory: 20 students (8 – dramaturgy, 12 – theory). Studies are conducted face-to-face in Latvian. Breakdown of the number of studies starting in this group by thematic areas of the programme: audiovisual art – 26 students (17 – film direction, 9 – cinematography); Theatre arts – 16 students (14 – theatre direction, 2 – acting); contemporary dance – 2 students; dramaturgy and theory – 14 students (7 – dramaturgy, 7 – theory) This report analyses data on 58 students whose two-year study cycle has formally ended. Of these 58 students who started their studies (100%), 27 students (47%) have graduated, 26 students (44%) have left their studies, and 5 students (9%) are on an academic break with the potential to return and graduate the programme in the near future. Breakdown of graduates by thematic areas of the programme: Audiovisual Art - 13 graduates (10 in film direction, 3 in cinematography); Theatre arts - 6 graduates (5 in theatre direction, 1 in acting); Contemporary Dance - 1 graduate; Dramaturgy and Theory - 7 students (4 in dramaturgy, 3 in theory). Two of the graduates have changed their initial specialisation - from theory to film direction and from theory to dramaturgy. The specific nature of the programme and the cross disciplinary approach allows this possibility if the student expresses such a desire in early time (in the 1st year of their studies) and learns the skills, skills and competences needed for specialisation in order to be able to successfully implement and defend their final work.

It should be noted that a number of students who have been formally dismissed at the end of their studies have shown interest in resuming their studies and applying for a master's degree (5 students (1 – film directing, 2 – theatre directing, 2 – dramaturgy) or 9%). In cases where, for example, due to the time-consuming fundraising and production process of the film, it is not possible to complete the final creative work within the specified deadlines for submitting and defending the master's thesis, the student is deducted, but then resumes studies for the defense of the final thesis.

In the analysis of the dynamics of the number of students, it should be taken into account that the very first graduation of the "Audiovisual and Performing Art" study programme in 2020 was adversely affected by the restrictions of the Covid-19 pandemic, which hindered not only the study process and the creation of final theses, but also worsened the mental health of some of the students. At least 7 students (or 23% of those who stopped their studies) left their studies or took an academic break directly because of health problems. It was also very difficult to create the final creative works (films, shows) due to the restrictions of the pandemic, therefore some works were created and defended in later terms (for example, in the first course enrolled in the program, only 3 students defended their master's theses in the official term, whose works were not related to a

show or film formation, while the others defended their master's theses in several rounds during the following year (see appendix 3.1.4.). Some students did not create opportunities to implement their ideas or could not withstand the tension when trying to combine study tasks with changes in their personal life and work. Therefore, it is only possible to speculate what the dynamics of the number of students would have been under normal conditions, but the adverse effect of the pandemic must be taken into account in the evaluation of the programme, without which the indicators would certainly be different.

An important factor influencing the dynamics of the number of students is that those studying at the master's level are mostly employed full-time or working in intensive project periods. Additionally, face-to-face master's studies require attendance at most of the classes planned during the study process, specifically in the master's programme in "Audiovisual and Performing Art", a part of the programme is oriented towards student cooperation in practical lessons. Therefore, it must be concluded that some students who left or interrupted their studies preferred their employment or were unable to combine the requirements of the study programme with employment. There are no study grants available in our country that would allow you to give up your job in order to fully study at the master's level. However, the aim of the programme is to create a high-quality contribution in the fields of audiovisual and performing arts ("to provide unique interdisciplinary studies focused on research and creative excellence") both nationally and internationally, so the strategy of the programme management and lecturers is not related to easing the conditions of the programme in order to increase the number of graduates, but with the maintenance of the programme's quality criteria and in the near future also the admission of international students, in order to increase the prestige of the programme and ensure an adequate contingent of students who find it interesting and valuable to interact with each other and who will potentially be able to make a significant contribution to the development of industries.

Although statistics show that currently (4 years after the programme was licensed and implemented) slightly less than half of those who enrolled (or 47%) have graduated from the programme, we believe that this should be evaluated as a testing period for the programme, and the already mentioned impact of the pandemic should also be considered. The number of graduates cannot be an end, rather the qualitative indicators of the graduates, which are high for the graduates of this programme, must be considered.

So far, the programme has not yet been implemented in English, as a testing period in Latvian was planned for it to identify the necessary improvements (which have already been made) and to prepare a strategic approach to popularizing and implementing the programme in English. The programme in English is expected to be announced in the period from 2024 to 2026, mainly focusing on potential applicants from the Baltic and Nordic countries. The initial goal of implementing the programme in English is to create it as an interdisciplinary platform for young audiovisual and performing arts professionals from the Baltic and Nordic countries, who are interested not only in acquiring knowledge, competences and skills in the thematic areas and specializations of the programme, but also in international cooperation and the labour market of the region. The implementation of the programme in English is subject to the same conditions as the programme in Latvian.

Annex 3.1.4. 5_statistical data on students mAVMS 2018_2022 is attached in the appendix (see appendix 3.1.4.)

3.1.5. Substantiation of the development of the joint study programme and description and evaluation of the choice of partner universities, including information on the

3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof

3.2.1. Analysis of the content of the study programme. Assessment of the interrelation between the information included in the study courses/ modules, the intended learning outcomes, the set aims and other indicators with the aims of the study course/ module and the aims and intended outcomes of the study programme. Assessment of the relevance of the content of the study courses/ modules and compliance with the needs of the relevant industry, labour market and with the trends in science on how and whether the content of the study courses/ modules is updated in line with the development trends of the relevant industry, labour market, and science.

The objective of the LAC's academic master's study programme "Audiovisual and Performing Art" (codes 45213 and 45212), approved by the licence, has not changed in essence during the four years (2018-2022) of the programme's implementation. Only the structure of the programme has been slightly corrected and updated, so that it is more understandable for applicants and more accurately reflects the trends of the merging of professions in the relevant sectors of art and creative industries, since the programme aims to provide unique interdisciplinary studies focused on research and creative excellence, which provide expanded theoretical knowledge of audiovisual and performing arts in the context of humanities, provides an in-depth insight into the fields of audiovisual and performing arts and their interaction, giving students the opportunity to choose one of the thematic areas of the Programme (Audiovisual art, Theatre, Contemporary dance, Dramaturgy and Theory) and study in depth one of the research and creative specializations. The programme planning consists of three parts:

- Part A (compulsory), structured in two blocks: 1) Theoretical insights and current problems of the humanities, which includes the study courses "Principles of Anthropological Research of Cultural and Artistic Phenomena" (2 CP); "Research Methods in the Arts and Academic Writing" (2 CP); "Research in Arts: Specific Features, Theories and Methods" (2 CP); "Performative Practices; Employment of a Creative Person, International Cooperation and Project Management" (2 CP); 2) Theory of audiovisual and performing arts, which includes the study courses "Contemporary Audiovisual and Performing Art Theory: trends, concepts" (6 CP); "Drama Theory, Modern Dramaturgy and Literature" (6 CP); "Narrative Techniques and Montage in Art" (2 CP); "Art and Philosophy in the 21st Century" (2 CP), as well as the development of a master's thesis in the 4th semester (20 CP).
- Part B (compulsory choice): Theory and practice of audiovisual and performing arts specializations includes study courses "Performing art and Film in Latvia: Periods, Trends, Personalities" (2 CP); "Theory of Contemporary Dance" (2 CP); "Thematic Creative Project" (4 CP); "Seminars in Theory of the Thematic Fields" (2 CP); "Thematic workshop" (9 CP); "Practical Workshops" (8 CP); "Internship" (3 CP). In addition, in the Part B the study courses "Civil Protection" (1 CP) and "Environmental Protection" (1 CP) are offered for students who

have not acquired such courses at the previous level of study or in other master's studies (in accordance with the 21st paragraph of the Cabinet regulation No. 240 "Regulations on the state standard of academic education").

- Part C (elective courses) gives students the opportunity to choose either study courses from other LAC or cooperation university programmes, or additional workshops within the "Audiovisual and Performing Art" programme, or international workshops (3 CP).

The students of all the thematic areas and specializations of the program study most of the programme together, both by gaining information about the specifics of their own and other thematic areas and specializations, and by sharing their views and experiences (for example, in seminars and discussions), which ensures a versatile, interdisciplinary and based on different perspectives study process. In several joint study courses, tasks are differentiated to correspond to the thematic area and specialization of the student. For example, in the study course "Narrative Techniques and Montage in Art" (2 CP), when completing practical tasks, students can choose a medium appropriate to their specialization (i.e. work with narrative and montage in dramaturgy, film, performance, etc.). Similarly, in such study courses as "Principles of Anthropological Research of Cultural and Artistic Phenomena" (2 CP); "Artistic Research and Academic Writing" (2 CP); "Research in Humanities and Arts: Specific Features, Theories and Methods" (2 CP); Students of "Performative Practices" (2 CP) can work with topics and media corresponding to their thematic field and specialization within the formulated task. On the other hand, in the study courses "Workshop of the Thematic Field" (9 CP) and "Practical Workshops" (8 CP), students are divided into groups according to their thematic area and specialization, as well as interests. These study courses include several workshops that ensure the acquisition of specific skills and competencies in the relevant thematic areas and specializations of the programme. The three-semester "Workshop of the Thematic Field" (9 CP) study course includes the following workshops: "Film directing methods and specifics" (mandatory for film direction specialization; mandatory choice for cinematography and audiovisual art dramaturgy and theory specializations, for others - choice in the study course "Practical workshops" (8 CP) or in part C); "Cinematography" (required for students specializing in cinematography); "Theatre directing" (mandatory for Theatre directing specialization, mandatory choice for Theatre dramaturgy specialization, for others - choice in the study course "Practical workshops" (8 CP) or part C); "Acting" (mandatory for the specialization of acting, for others - choice in the study course "Practical Workshops" (8 CP) or part C); "Contemporary Dance Choreography" (required for the Contemporary Dance specialization); "Dramaturgy" (mandatory for Dramaturgy specialization, mandatory choice for Theatre directing specialization, for others - choice in "Practical Workshops" (8 CP) study course or part C); "Theory" (mandatory for the Theory specialization, mandatory choice for the Dramaturgy specialization, for the others - choice in the study course "Practical Workshops" (8 CP) or part C). The study course "Practical workshops" (8 CP) includes the offer of the study course "Workshop of the Thematic Field" (9 CP) and additional workshops (led by both local and foreign specialists), from which students can choose the ones that suit their specialization or interests.

The goals set in the study courses, the information included and the results to be achieved are purposefully coordinated so that the study courses complement each other, but do not duplicate each other, as well as so that they provide both comprehensive knowledge about audiovisual and performing arts in the context of humanities, especially about the latest achievements and current theoretical thought, and a deeper insight into the fields of audiovisual and performing arts and their interaction. Most of the study courses include the acquisition of theoretical knowledge and research methodology, however, several of them also ensure a close connection with the acquisition of students' practical competencies and skills (for example, in the study courses "Employment of a Creative Person, International Cooperation and Project Management" (2 CP) and "Narrative Techniques and Montage in Art" (2 CP)). Part B is dominated by study courses centered on the

acquisition of thematic areas and specialization skills (more practical tasks), but also in these study courses there is a significant connection with the research aspect and current theories in the relevant thematic area. On the other hand, the evaluation criteria of theoretical study courses and the requirements for obtaining credit points often include test methods that show students' competence to apply theoretical knowledge and research skills in practical creative work (for example, in the study courses "Performative Practices" (2 CP), "Drama Theory, Modern Dramaturgy and Literature" (6 CP), "Narrative Techniques and Montage in Art" (2 CP)). Strengthening the research component in creative work, mastering the diverse methodology of artistic research, connecting and interacting with theory and practice is the cornerstone of the programme, which permeates the goals of most study courses, the tasks of students' independent work, the achievable results and evaluation methods and criteria. Each of the study courses is deliberately planned in such a way that several planned study results are simultaneously achieved, including the development of students' skills to argue the choice of scientific research and artistic creation methods and means of expression and the ability to critically and analytically reflect on the process and result of creating works; this has been achieved by combining theory and practice in the study courses, as well as promoting an interdisciplinary approach to the knowledge and competences acquired in the study courses. Part of the study courses, especially in the 3rd semester, are purposefully aimed at the students testing the methods, approaches and means of expression intended for the final creative work, as well as creating drafts of the theoretical justification.

Along with the direct study process, students are motivated to participate in conferences, shows and festivals organized by LAC, as well as in various events outside of LAC, in order to compare their knowledge, competences and skills with a wider academic and professional context. The evaluation and success of the students also confirm the compliance of the programme with the development trends of the industry, labor market and science. For example, in May 2019, the LAC student conference "ZinātMāksla" included an exhibition "Time transformations" of creative works by students of the master's study programme "Audiovisual and Performing Arts", which included two contemporary dance performances, improvised object exhibitions, a performance and a cinematographic installation. Students of the programme regularly participate in the LAC's annual international scientific conference "Culture Crossroads" (in 2018 - 1 speaker at the closing symposium "I Drank With My Own Money: the Phenomenon of Intoxication in Latvian Culture"; in 2019 - 1 speaker in the Audiovisual Arts section; in 2021 - 2 speakers on the day of the conference "Synergy of Art and Science in Education and the Cultural Space" and in the Audiovisual Art Section; in 2022 - 2 speakers in the Audiovisual Art Section. Students of the programme also regularly participating in the LAC's Stage and Audiovisual Arts Festival "Patriarha Rudens". The presentation of the dramaturgy workshop's task "Fantasy Intervention in The City" at the festival has already become a tradition - in 2019, 10 students created stories for the event "What is Stored in Lācplēša Street"; In 2021, 5 students created stories for the event "Horror on Smilga Street". In 2020 5 students created an audio walk "Fantasy Interventions in Valmiera" at the Valmiera Summer Theater Festival. In the 2019 "Patriarha Rudens", the performance "Hidden Life in Galaxies of Wonder and Effort" was also shown, which was the result of an international master workshop led by choreographer and performance artist Oleg Sulimenko, in which 9 students of the programme and two Erasmus+ exchange students from Finland and Spain participated. The program of the LAC's festival "Patriarha rudens" also regularly includes the creative works of students of the programme, including diploma performances and films. Students are also motivated to participate in international workshops, conferences and forums. For example, in June 2019, 5 students of the programme participated in the summer school "Summer Media Studio" in Nida, Lithuania, where the short film made by Artūrs Zeps won first place. In January 2020, contemporary dance major student Karīna Lapšina participated in the workshop of the "Fighting Monkey" method in Iceland, which had a significant impact on her future career. In 2021, 3 theater direction specialization

students participated in an international project in cooperation with Tampere University's Theater Arts Program, staging a play based on LAC's student Marta Stokova's play "When You Start Talking" with future Finnish actors. These are just some of the numerous examples.

The evaluation and success of the students also confirm the compliance of the program with the development trends of the industry, labour market and science.

The content of study courses is regularly updated in accordance not only with the development trends of industries, the labor market and science, but also in accordance with the individual needs of the academic and professional career of the members of the specific student group. This is provided by the individual cooperation with a mentor, one of LAC's competent lecturers included in the study course "Seminars in Theory of the Thematic Fields", which promotes an individual approach to the academic and creative trajectory of each student. The lecturers of the programme are mostly industry-recognized researchers and artists who, in their research and artistic activities, continuously follow the development trends of industries, the labor market and science, therefore updating the content of study courses in this programme is routine. One of the most significant innovations of the programme is the inclusion of a new study course "Art and philosophy in the 21st century" (2 CP) in part B of the programme's plan, which resulted from the need to introduce students to the latest trends in philosophical thought. The content is regularly (before each implementation for a new group of students) reviewed and updated in the study course "Contemporary Audiovisual and Performing Art Theory and Research: Trends, Concepts, Methods: (6 CP) to include current research and trends followed by course lecturers who are also active in sectoral research (all lecturers of this study course are also researchers of the LAC's Institute of Culture and Arts). The content of the study course "Seminars in Theory of the Thematic Fields" (2 CP) is by default adjusted to the interests and needs of each student, as it is an individual work with a mentor who learns the student's interests and adjusts the course content accordingly. The content of the study course "Artistic Research and Academic Writing" (2 CP) is also reviewed and updated before each implementation for a new group of students, taking into account both the specific interests of students and the latest research and approaches in artistic research. The content of the study course "Employment of a Creative Person, International Collaboration and Project Management" (2 CP) is also updated according to changes in legislation and current project competitions.

Since the programme is not yet implemented in English, here is a forecast of how foreign students are expected to meet the requirement for learning the national language, in accordance with Article 56, Subparagraph 7 of the Law on Higher Education. When implementing the programme in English, the part B of the compulsory electives will include the study course "Latvian as a Foreign Language" (2 CP) in the 1st semester, reducing the volume of the study course "Practical workshops" (6 CP) in the 1st semester from 3 to 1 CP. Such a study course has been prepared at LAC and is already implemented in other master's study programme's.

3.2.2. In the case of master's and doctoral study programmes, specify and provide the justification as to whether the degrees are awarded in view of the developments and findings in the field of science or artistic creation. In the case of a doctoral study programme, provide a description of the main research roadmaps and the impact of the study programme on research and other education levels (if applicable).

The awarding of the degree in the academic master's study programme "Audiovisual and

Performing Art" (codes 45213 and 45212) is based on the achievements and findings of audiovisual and performing arts creative works, as well as, more broadly, in the humanities and arts. This is ensured and justified by several important aspects of the implementation of the programme: 1) in order to obtain a master's degree, it is necessary to successfully pass the tests in the study courses of the programme in the amount of 60 CP or 90 ECTS, the content of which includes current theoretical knowledge of the field, academic and artistic research methodologies, approved and innovative creative work methods; 2) in order to obtain a master's degree, it is necessary to develop and defend a master's thesis (20 CP or 30 ECTS) in accordance with the LAC's Regulations on master's theses in the academic master's study programme "Audiovisual and Performing Art". The master's theses of the students of the programme are supervised and reviewed by highly qualified teaching staff of LAC or, in some cases, invited experts in the field; the master's thesis consists of a creative work and its theoretical justification (in theory specialization it is an original theoretical study), the essential evaluation criteria of which are "the creative artistic, research, theoretical and technical level and degree of novelty of the work", "the ability to argue the concept of the work and explain the necessity and context of the chosen forms of artistic expression in the cross-sectoral aspect" (Article 18 of the Regulations) etc.; 3) the study process is ensured by highly qualified teaching staff of LAC, most of whom are LAC's professors and associate professors, and invited high-quality Latvian and foreign professionals.

The teaching staff of LAC and field professionals involved in providing the study process are themselves active in research and creative work and follow the current achievements and findings of the field, integrating them in study courses, master workshops and mentor work with students. The study courses of the compulsory part of the programme provide an in-depth knowledge of cultural processes, focusing especially on the field of audiovisual and performing arts, and their mutual interaction in the national and international context. The understanding of aspects of Latvia and Latvian cultural heritage and national identity in study courses is provided by lecturers - the most experienced researchers, experts and practitioners of cultural processes in their fields, who have a significant range of scientific publications and creative achievements.

In order to obtain a degree, the student's creative work and theoretical preparation must meet the requirements of the master's study programme. The final theses examination committee decides on awarding the degree.

3.2.3. Assessment of the study programme including the study course/ module implementation methods by indicating what the methods are, and how they contribute to the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study courses and the aims of the study programme. In the case of a joint study programme, or in case the study programme is implemented in a foreign language or in the form of distance learning, describe in detail the methods used to deliver such a study programme. Provide an explanation of how the student-centred principles are taken into account in the implementation of the study process.

The implementation methods of LAC's master's study programme "Audiovisual and Performing Art" (codes 45213 and 45212) are based on the defined goal of the programme "to provide unique interdisciplinary studies focused on research and creative excellence, which provide extended theoretical knowledge of audiovisual and performing arts in the context of humanities, provide an in-depth insight into the fields of audiovisual and performing arts and their interaction", and the principles of the programme - to strengthen the research component in creative work, promote the

connection and interaction of theory and practice, promote the learning and application of the diverse methodology of artistic research in creative work, promote students' intercultural competence and international cooperation, as well as ensure horizontal (non-hierarchical) cooperation between the programme lecturers and students and among the students themselves. The principle of student-centered education is one of the cornerstones of the programme, which manifests itself in the study process in several ways:

- The process of getting to know the potential students starts during the entrance exam's creative competition, when the commission, which basically consists of lecturers involved in the programme, gets acquainted with the applicants' motivation letters, creative biography and the application of the potential master's thesis topic, and checks their creative abilities and level of theoretical knowledge. Before the beginning of the semester, a meeting of lecturers is organized, where it is discussed how to adapt the content of individual courses to the interests and needs of specific students (for example, by agreeing on a topic in the study course "Thematic Creative Project" (2 CP) and discussing and clarifying the content of the "Specialization Workshop" (9 CP) and "Practical Workshops" (8 CP)), as well as choosing appropriate mentors for students.
- Cooperation with a mentor, one of the lecturers of the programme or another lecturer of LAC, who best suits the interests and needs of a particular student, ensures an individual approach and continuous feedback, and is also organized in the most direct way by discussing with the student the content and tasks of the course "Seminars in Theory of the Thematic Fields" (2 CP), so that they fully correspond to the student's interests.
- At the end of each semester, students are invited to evaluate study courses, a survey of students is also being organized, the results of which are taken into account when organizing the future study process. Similarly, the semester is usually organized in informal discussions between the student group and the lecturers of the programme, assessing the study process of the previous semester and listening to the students' suggestions for improving it.
- The horizontal approach in the cooperation between the lecturers and the students of the programme ensures a respectful mutual attitude and respects the knowledge, competences and skills of the students as those that can be mutually shared.

A student-centered approach is also manifested in the fact that every LAC teaching staff is easy to reach, available for consultations and informal conversations. The faculty updates the course content to include topics and assignments of interest to specific student groups. In most study courses, summative assessment is used, thus providing the opportunity to gradually complete all the tasks necessary for obtaining credit points, balancing the study load. Tasks of increased complexity are also offered according to the students' level of preparation. Students can freely choose a topic of their interest in the development of a master's thesis.

The teaching staff responsible for the study course choose the pedagogical and evaluation methods for the study course implementation of the study programme in accordance with the course content, the specifics of the study programme and the needs of the students.

Study programme and study course implementation methods and their assessment:

- **Lectures** (mostly theoretically oriented study courses) – students are presented with theoretical questions using practical examples, visual material, etc.; during lectures, lecturers use technical means: computer, multimedia projector, sound equipment. In several study courses, the lectures are oriented towards students' creative participation and research in the process of acquiring knowledge.
- **Seminars** – supplementing and deepening of theoretical and practical knowledge, in which

works of audiovisual and performing arts, of literature and other arts and culture are being analysed, theoretical texts, creative tasks are performed. Seminars strengthen the students' independent information acquisition and analysis skills, argumentation abilities and promotes the process of acquiring knowledge and skills.

- **Work in groups** - promotes students' skills to cooperate and work in a group, builds skills in organizing and implementing collective work, strengthens students' ability to argue and justify their individual opinion in the process of making a collective decision. According to the specifics of the programme, group work is often organized in an interdisciplinary manner, thus promoting students' understanding of other thematic areas and specializations, for example, in the "Thematic Creative Project" (4 CP) study course, interdisciplinary cooperation is a condition for the implementation of a creative project.
- **Independent and individual work** - tasks to be performed independently: theoretical literature studies and preparation for seminars, research work, self-reflection, preparation of reports, essays and presentations, preparation of creative tasks (rehearsals, filming, etc.).
- **Individual lessons** - in order to implement an individual approach to each student's personal artistic and research trajectory and to promote feedback, the study process includes individual lessons with a mentor (study course "Seminars in Theory of the Thematic Fields" (2 CP)), in which, supported by the mentor, the student adds theoretical knowledge, analyses his creative and research activities and performs certain individual tasks.
- **Practical classes** - mainly included in the study courses "Specialization Workshops" (9 CP) and "Practical Workshops" (8 CP), provides knowledge, competences, abilities and skills necessary for practicing audiovisual and performing arts, help to integrate and appropriate theoretical knowledge in practical artistic and creative research, and apply artistic research methods in creation of creative works.
- **Tests** - regular knowledge testing to ensure the student's personal growth dynamics, understanding of learned topics and mastery of the necessary terminology; are implemented both with and without the use of additional materials for students; can be implemented as a part of a lesson or a full lesson, practical or theoretical.
- **Extracurricular events** - students attend dances, theatre performances, art exhibitions, concerts, films, etc., integrating the acquired experience into the study process (knowledge of the context of audiovisual and performing arts, ability to analyse cultural and artistic processes, etc.). In certain study courses, attendance of current shows and films is a mandatory requirement. Students participate in the conferences organized by LAC (International research conference "Culture Crossroads" and Students' conference "ZinātMāksla") and the festival of stage and audiovisual arts "Patriarha rudens", thereby strengthening their presentation skills and reaching a wider audience. Students also develop their professional competences by participating in residencies, workshops, performances and films.

Overall, the diverse methods of implementing the study programme, including courses, are considered appropriate for achieving the results of the study courses and the goals of the study programme.

3.2.4. If the study programme envisages an internship, describe the internship opportunities offered to students, provision and work organization, including whether the higher education institution/ college helps students to find an internship place. If the study programme is implemented in a foreign language, provide information on how internship opportunities are provided in a foreign language, including for foreign

students. To provide analysis and evaluation of the connection of the tasks set for students during the internship included in the study programme with the learning outcomes of the study programme (if applicable).

In the LAC's academic master's study programme "Audiovisual and Performing Art" (codes 45213 and 45212) "Internship" is planned in the amount of 3 CP or 4.5 ECTS. According to the LAC's Regulation on internships in the academic master's study programme "Audiovisual and Performing Art", "Internship" corresponds to the content of the thematic areas and specializations of the programme and contributes to the acquisition of knowledge, skills and competencies planned in the programme. The regulations are coordinated with the LAC's Internship Regulations, which regulate internship organization and reports.

Internship regulations and documents are available for students on the LAC's website (available (Latvian only): <https://lka.edu.lv/lv/prakse-un-karjeras-atbalsts/prakse/dokumenti-praksu/>). LAC's staff is actively involved and provides various types of support in the organization of internship:

- The internship coordinator provides the opportunity to receive advice on filling out documents, and is also a support person in cases where students have questions about the internship process, credit points and other binding issues;
- Students are offered to attend internship consultations with Career education project manager Leonarda Kestere. During the consultations, students' skills are evaluated and analysed and, according to the students' interests and wishes, the internship consultant recommends the most suitable internship places for the students;
- Internship providers regularly send internship offers to the LAC's internship coordinator, which the internship coordinator sends to students through the LAIS system, as well as publishes them on the LAC's website in the internships section (Latvian only, available: <https://lka.edu.lv/lv/prakse-un-karjeras-atbalsts/prakse/te-ir-prakse/>);
- The director of the master's study programme "Audiovisual and Performing Art", professor Zane Kreicberga, and other lecturers of the programme also provide consultations to students about internship opportunities.
- LAC also gets involved by providing internships. Students have the opportunity to complete internship in LAC's structural units - Creative Activity Centre (organization of events), Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies (participation in research), LAC's Eduards Smiļģis Theatre Museum and LAC's Riga Film Museum - as well as in international projects organized by LAC.

Student internship tasks, which must be defined in the student's application for the internship, are approved by the internship supervisor and the programme director, ensuring that they are linked to the study results to be achieved in the study programme. In the internship report, the student must also assess the compliance of the work done with the study results to be achieved in his thematic area and specialization. Considering that most of the students in the master's programme are also active artists and professionals working in their specialization, there are no problems with providing appropriate internship. Rather, we should think about making internship more of a tool that not only strengthens existing knowledge, competences and skills, but possibly provides new experience either in an interdisciplinary or international context.

Students of the master's study programme "Audiovisual and Performing Art" most often choose to complete their internship in film and television production companies (LLC "Fenixfilm", LLC "Tasse Film", LLC "Gumennikovfilms", etc.) or in theaters (Latvian Operetta Theatre, Latvia Puppet Theatre,

Dirty Deal Teatro, etc.). At the Academy, students choose internships in the projects of LAC's National Film School or LAC's Creative Activity Center.

Until now, the linking of student internship tasks with the study results achievable in the study programme has been appropriate and very good. During internship, students have acquired experience, competences and skills appropriate to their thematic field and specialization.

When the programme will be implemented in English, students, including foreign students, will be provided with internship opportunities in English in cooperation with international festivals of the industry, for example, the International New Theatre Festival "Homo Novus" (association "Latvijas Young Theater Institute"), the Riga International film festival Riga IFF (association "Riga International Film Festival"), International Documentary Film Festival "Artdocfest/Riga" (association "Artdoc Fest & Media"), Riga International Short Film Festival 2ANNAS (association "Virtual Studio Urga"), Experimental Cinema Festival "Process" (association "Baltic Analog Lab"), Baltic Sea Documentary Film Forum (National Cinema Center), etc., to theatre and film producer organizations that implement international projects, as well as the LAC's Creative Activity Center, Department of Audiovisual Arts and Performing Arts and LAC's The National Film School, providing internship opportunities for students in international projects organized by these structural units.

3.2.5. Evaluation and description of the promotion opportunities and the promotion process provided to the students of the doctoral study programme (if applicable).

3.2.6. Analysis and assessment of the topics of the final theses of the students, their relevance in the respective field, including the labour market, and the marks of the final theses.

The topics of the final theses of the students of the academic master's study programme "Audiovisual and Performing Art" depend to the greatest extent on their own academic and professional interests, which they are invited to define already in the planning stage as an applicant (one of the documents to be submitted, which is evaluated in the 1st round of the entrance exam's creative competition, is a description of potential research interest). Such a requirement helps to clarify and focus the study content according to the students' interests. However, this does not mean that students, inspired by the study process and content, cannot change or refine their research interest, that is exactly what the study process is intended for. Taking into account the fact that master's level studies are mostly chosen by field professionals who aim to supplement their knowledge, competences and skills in an existing specialization, gain interdisciplinary competence or learn a new related specialization, the topics of their master's theses reflect the younger and middle generation of audiovisual and performing Art" practitioners and the researchers' current interests, what they find worth exploring in today's context and their artistic or research trajectory. Therefore, it is possible to consider that the themes of the master's thesis chosen and defended by the students are not only relevant in the industry, but also in the brightest and most successful cases determine this relevance, they become instigators or promoters of new trends in the industry. The actuality and importance of the final works in the context of the industry is also confirmed by their nomination for industry awards of national importance and winning these

awards. For example, one thesis film was nominated for the national cinema award "Lielais Kristaps" in 2020 (in several nominations), and two thesis films were nominated in 2021, one of which received the award as the best short documentary film. Also, the relevance, quality and importance of the final works is confirmed by their inclusion in international festival programmes and competitions. In 2021, one of the diploma thesis films received the main prize in the "Baltic Focus" competition programme of the International Documentary Film Festival "Artdocfest".

The final thesis of the programme (master's thesis) consists of a creative work (film, performance, screenplay, play, etc.) and its theoretical justification, which can be created as an academic study, raising the research question related to one of the aspects of the creative work. On the other hand, in theory specialization, a full-scale theoretical study is carried out, according to the Methodological Instructions of LAC for course, bachelor's and master's theses. So far, 11 films and 3 cameraman's works in them, 5 theatre performances, 1 contemporary dance performance, 1 acting work, 3 plays, 1 screenplay and 3 theoretical studies have been created as master's works of the "Audiovisual and Performing Art" programme. All three theoretical studies are original works on topics in cinema theory that have not been studied much in the context of Latvia, graded with distinction, then two popular scientific articles were prepared on their basis, which were published in the specialized cinema media "Kinoraksti.lv" [see Stalovska, Dita (2022). Šantala Akermane. Netaisnās attēlu hierarhijas sakāve. *Kinoraksti*, 17.12.2022. Available: <https://kinoraksti.lv/petijumi/kino-vesture/santala-akermane-netaisnas-attelu-hierarhijas-sakave-1035>; Zacmane, Daniela (2020). Melodrāma - no ieročiem līdz asarām. *Kinoraksti*, 15.07.2020. Available: <https://kinoraksti.lv/domas/melodrama-no-ierociem-lidz-asaram-697>], and two scientific publications in the scientific monograph "Latvijas kinomāksla. Jaunie laiki 1990-2020" [see Boka-Grūbe, Inese (2021). Vēsturisko filmu mārketinga. Grām.: Pērkone, Inga, Rietuma, Dita (zin. red.). *Latvijas kinomāksla. Jaunie laiki. 1990-2020*. Rīga: Latvijas Kultūras akadēmija, Dienas Grāmata. 157.-167. lpp.; Zacmane, Daniela (2021). Melodrāmas modalitāte un pieaugšanas stāsti. Grām.: Pērkone, Inga, Rietuma, Dita (zin. red.). *Latvijas kinomāksla. Jaunie laiki. 1990-2020*. Rīga: Latvijas Kultūras akadēmija, Dienas Grāmata. 181.-191. lpp.] developed within the framework of the state research programme CARD "Cultural Capital as a Resource for Sustainable Development of Latvia" (VPP-KM-LKRVA-2020/1-0003). In the preparation of creative works, the search for the authors' original artistic handwriting in the chosen medium and genre is encouraged, based on artistic research. In most cases, creative works and their theoretical justifications are also a valuable contribution to the expansion of means of expression and thematic spectrum of audiovisual art, theater and contemporary dance, by the introduction and development of new approaches and methods. For example, in the field of audiovisual art, a new film performance genre has been applied for, a film has been made in the practically non-existent science fiction genre in Latvia, films have been made about topics that have not been touched on in Latvia (for example, abortions, the consequences of war from the perspective of Georgian children, Gotthard Friedrich Stender's (1714-1796) "The Book of High Wisdom from the World and Nature" (1774) screen adaptation, etc.), in the field of theatre, the still little-known immersive theatre in Latvia was studied, etc.

The evaluation of final theses is agreed upon by the master's final examination committee, which evaluates master's theses in accordance with the criteria included in point 18 of the LAC Regulations on Master's Theses in the Academic Master's Study Programme Audiovisual and Performing Art: correspondence of the structure of the work to the chosen topic and fulfilment of the task; use of information sources and literature; the creative artistic, research, theoretical and technical level and degree of novelty of the work; the logic of the presentation of the topic and the ability to theoretically support the conclusions; language and performance culture; work design; the ability to argue the concept of the work and explain the necessity and context of the chosen form of artistic expression in an interdisciplinary aspect, etc. The average rating of the 27 master's theses

defended so far in the 10-point system is 8.48 points. 6 final papers or 22% were evaluated with 10 points (with distinction), 8 papers or 30% – with 9 points (excellent), 9 papers or 33% – with 8 points (very good), 3 papers or 11% – with 7 points (good), but one master's thesis has received the lowest successful rating - 4 (almost mediocre), which shows that the student has mastered the programme in general, however, insufficient understanding of some basic concepts can be found and there are significant difficulties in the practical use of the acquired knowledge. But there is only one such case. In general, students' final theses were evaluated on a scale from 7 to 10 points, with the majority, or 63%, receiving a rating of 9 (excellent) or 8 (very good). This proves that students who are really motivated and focus on their studies, mostly achieve very good and even excellent results.

3.3. Resources and Provision of the Study Programme

3.3.1. Assessment of the compliance of the resources and provision (study provision, scientific support (if applicable), informative provision (including libraries), material and technical provision, and financial provision) with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the learning outcomes to be achieved by providing the respective examples.

Information about the material and technical base is available in Part II, Chapter 3 of the self-assessment report, 2.3.2. subsection, however, this section describes the resources available for the implementation of the "Audiovisual and Performing Art" programme (codes 45213 and 45212) in more detail. The study process of the Academy for the students of the programme is basically organized in three LAC buildings - in Riga, Ludzas Street 24, Dzirnavu Street 46, Riga (Theatre house "Zirgu Pasts") and Elijas Street 17, Riga (National Film School of LAC (NFS)). In some cases, classes are also held in the structural unit of LAC - LAC Eduards Smiļģis' Theater Museum, Riga, Eduarda Smiļģa Street 37. In Riga, Ludzas Street 24, technically equipped auditoriums with an area of 557 m² and a library reading room - 35 m² are available for students. In the LAC Theatre house "Zirgu pasts", Dzirnavu street 46, there are available auditoriums and practical lesson rooms with an area of 431 m², including two rehearsal halls and a modern black box-type multifunctional hall (107 m²) fully equipped with sound, light and video equipment. Working in this hall, students have access to the consultations and services of the technical specialist and lighting specialist of the "Zirgu pasts" building of the Department of Performing Arts of LAC. In NFS, Elijas street 17, there are rooms available to the students with an area of 1011 m², including two filming pavilions with a total area of 430 m², a computer classroom with eight computers for film editing, two separate video editing rooms with two workstations each (for pair group work), color correction of films workstation with specific technical equipment and software, filming equipment warehouse (200 units), filming light equipment warehouse (150 units), filming sound recording equipment warehouse (50 units). Academy students have access to and actively use digital cinema cameras Sony PMW-F5, Panasonic AU-EVA1E, SONY PXW-FS7M2, Canon EOS C200 and sets of seven Black Magic Pocket Cinema Camera 4K in the study process. Specialized filming lights are available for filming in the NFS pavilion and interiors. Technologically, there is a transition from halogen to LED technology filming lighting. Using these resources, NFS of LAC technical supervisor consultations are available to students.

The Cinematheque with more than 2,500 video recordings of motion pictures and theatre performances operates in the premises of NFS of LAC. It houses an archive of student films and theatre productions, as well as a collection of film recordings in DVD format. Recordings available in the Cinematheque can be used free of charge by students, academics and general staff. Consultations of the director of the Cinematheque are available to students if necessary. LAC's structural units' - Eduards Smiļģis Theatre Museum and Riga Film Museum collections can be used by students and staff of the Academy for the study process and research work. The museum's qualified staff provides consultations on the history and current affairs of Latvian and world audiovisual and performing arts.

Wireless internet is available in all buildings, providing 90% coverage. Auditoriums are equipped according to the needs of the study process, they have a computer, projector and screen, blackboard, if necessary, the auditoriums can also be equipped with other equipment. Available computer rooms and rooms with transformable tables that can be adapted for seminars, round table discussions, etc.

Description and assessment of the availability of the Library of LAC and databases for students and compliance with the needs of the study direction and programme, incl. on available literature for the implementation of the study direction and programme, available databases for students in the relevant field, see point 2.3.3. There is also information about the services available within the framework of the cooperation agreement with the National Library of Latvia, which are also important for those studying in the "Audiovisual and Performing Art" programme. Information and communication technology solutions used in the study process are described in point 2.3.4.

The mentioned resources help ensure the achievement of study results by ensuring the availability of locations/rooms, technical resources, literature and consultations for students, performing study tasks and implementing final works/ exams.

In general, it can be considered that the adequacy of LAC's resources and provision for the conditions of the implementation of the study programme and the achievement of the study results is sufficient, except for the provision of facilities for the areas of Theatre Art and Contemporary Dance, in which the process of training and rehearsals of students' independent work, as well as sketches and productions of creative works' showings are essential. The available rooms are primarily occupied, providing the needs of the students of undergraduate study programmes and sub-programmes, therefore the availability of rooms suitable for the needs of master's students is limited and insufficient. The increase in the number of students in the academy as a whole and the development of programmes exceeds the capacity of the available space resource. Most of the classes are planned at the NFS of LAC, some theoretical study courses are held in the LAC's Ludzas street building, but in the LAC's Theatre house "Zirgu pasts", which is the most suitable for the needs of theatre and contemporary dance students, master's students are not seen often, because it is basically loaded with the bachelor's study sub-programmes' "Stage Acting" and "Stage Directing" study process, which also includes many practical lessons. In the future, this issue will be resolved when the academy moves to the premises renovated for the needs of LAC in the former Tobacco Factory, Miera Street 58a. Then the entire bachelor's study process will be provided there and the LAC's Theatre House "Zirgu pasts" will become the study base of the master's degree programme "Audiovisual and Performing Art" and the Joint Professional doctoral study programme "Arts" of art universities. Until then, LAC is looking for and finding various solutions to adequately ensure the study process, which has been successful so far, as surveys of students and graduates show no complaints in this matter.

The second problematic aspect is the available funding for the creation of final creative works. LAC awards an Achievement Scholarship to students who have successfully defended their master's

theses, but this does not cover the costs of producing the final theses. To the extent possible, LAC attracts project funding in SCCF tenders, etc., but this is always associated with the risk of not receiving funding or receiving it in an insufficient amount. Requesting additional funding for this position from the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia has not resulted in a long-term solution. However, by combining the resources of LAC with the funding, it has been possible to create high-quality final works so far.

3.3.2. Assessment of the study provision and scientific base support, including the resources provided within the framework of cooperation with other science institutes and higher education institutions (applicable to doctoral study programmes) (if applicable).

3.3.3. Indicate data on the available funding for the corresponding study programme, its funding sources and their use for the development of the study programme. Provide information on the costs per one student within this study programme, indicating the items included in the cost calculation and the percentage distribution of funding between the specified items. The minimum number of students in the study programme in order to ensure the profitability of the study programme (indicating separately the information on each language, type and form of the study programme implementation).

The costs of the programme are calculated in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers' Regulations of December 12, 2006 No. 994 "The order in which universities and colleges are financed from the state budget". The current base fee for a study place is EUR 1,630.11. According to the mentioned regulation no. 994 Point 13 study cost coefficient for master's study programs is 1.5. According to Clause 28 of Appendix 1 of the Regulations, the Academy's funding for one master's study place in the thematic field of education "Audiovisual Media Art" thematic field coefficient is 3.9. The estimated amount of the state grant in 2022 is 8,490 EUR, for one budget place. Performance funding per 1 student in the programme is EUR 239 and tuition fees are on average EUR 1,769, taking into account that tuition fees are revised every year.

The funding of the study programme in 2022 is 151,722 EUR, it was formed from the budget grant, performance funding and tuition fees. When performing cost calculations, all expenditure items necessary for the programme are included, the programme calculation is 62% compensation ECC 1000, 5% ECC goods and services 2000 and 33% other ECC. A cost calculation is carried out every year, after which the number of guest lecturers is determined and the amount allocated to the development of study programmes, which is a part of the own revenues, in the amount of 18% in 2022, which amounts to 1,910 EUR. The programme is basically created on the basis of funding from the state budget, and the own revenues are directed to the maximum extent for the development of the programme and covering unexpected expenses. A lot of attention is devoted to the optimization of study programme implementation expenses, for example, by organizing stream lectures in professor-taught courses and providing remote lectures.

The programme is also financed from the funds awarded by the European Union and Latvia's educational and creative funds in the tender procedure for the mobility of academic staff and students, internships, master workshops, creative works, etc. The state budget grant covers the

costs of permanent lecturers, infrastructure and technical support. The performance funding partially covers the costs of the hired guest lecturers and the preparation and presentation of the final creative works. The mobility costs of teachers and students are mostly covered by the available funding of the Erasmus+ and Nordplus programmes. In addition, funding is attracted from the State Culture Capital Fund, Project Bank and other sources for the preparation of creative works, attracting guest lecturers for workshops, etc.

The minimum number of students in the study programme is 15 budget places. See appendix 3.1.4. Annex 5_statistical data on students mAVMS 2018_2022.

The programme is full-time attendance and is implemented in Latvian.

So far, the programme has not been implemented in English. The future implementation of the programme in English will not significantly affect the funding of the programme, as it is planned to implement the programme in only one language (English) in the relevant enrolment year.

3.4. Teaching Staff

3.4.1. Assessment of the compliance of the qualification of the teaching staff members (academic staff members, visiting professors, visiting associate professors, visiting docents, visiting lecturers, and visiting assistants) involved in the implementation of the study programme with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the provisions set out in the respective regulatory enactments. Provide information on how the qualification of the teaching staff members contributes to the achievement of the learning outcomes.

The specificity of the programme determines that both academic lecturers and industry specialists with great practical experience and authority are attracted to its implementation.

In accordance with the laws of Latvia and the regulatory documents of LAC, an open competition is announced for the positions of academic staff, the staff is elected and re-elected for a period of 6 years. The evaluation and election of candidates for the positions of professors and associate professors is carried out by the LAC Professors' Council and it takes place in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers' Regulations adopted in 2021 No. 129 "The procedure for evaluating the scientific and pedagogical qualifications or artistic creative work results of an applicant for the position of professor or associate professor and an existing professor or associate professor". The evaluation of candidates for the positions of docents, lecturers and assistants takes place at the meeting of the Senate of LAC. When evaluating candidates for positions in study programmes related to artistic creation, special attention is paid to the candidates' creative work experience, their contribution to Latvian artistic culture and international achievements. In open lectures organized before the elections, the applicants' ability to convey their knowledge and skills to the student audience is tested and analysed. Therefore, the qualification of the permanent lecturers of the "Audiovisual and Performing Art" programme (codes 45213 and 45212) meets the conditions of the implementation of the study programme and the requirements of regulatory acts.

Currently, 19 LAC permanent lecturers are involved in the implementation of the programme, of which 9 are professors elected to the principal work of LAC and 3 are associate professors.

Therefore, the academic programme meets the requirements set out in the third paragraph of the first part of Article 55 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions. Out of 19 lecturers, 7 have doctorate degrees, including 5 with a Doctor of Arts degree. On the other hand, 4 lecturers are currently studying in the joint professional doctoral study programme "Arts" of Latvian universities of arts and culture and plan to obtain a professional doctorate in arts within two to three years.

The activity of research and artistic works of the Academy's lecturers is high - the most important researchers and artists in their fields in Latvia are involved in the study process of the programme, whose achievements are often recognized with Latvia's highest professional awards. For example, Prof. Māra Ķimele has received the "Spēlmaņu nakts" award for lifetime contribution to theatre art (2020), while Prof. Olga Žitluhina received the "Dance Award" for Contribution to the art of dance (for artistic, pedagogical and organizational activity in Latvia and internationally, 2017-2018) and was recognized as the best contemporary dance dancer (2019-2020). The "Spēlmaņu nakts" award for the best original dramaturgy was won by Asst. Prof. Kārlis Krūmiņš (2022), but Asst. Prof. Ivo Briedis (2020), Asst. Prof. Kārlis Krūmiņš (2020, 2019, 2018), Assoc. Prof. Indra Roga (2019), Prof. Olga Žitluhina (2018) have been nominated in various nominations. On the other hand, Prof. Dāvis Sīmanis and Asst. Prof. Andrejs Verhoustinskis have received "Lielais Kristaps" award (2021) for their films, but in various nominations Prof. Māra Ķimele (2022), Asst. Prof. Ivo Briedis (2020), Asst. Prof. Antra Cilinska (2019) etc. have been nominated. Prof. Valda Čakare has won the Normunda Naumaņa Annual Award in art criticism (2022).

The lecturers of the programme are also actively involved in research activities. Prof. Zane Kreicberga, Prof. Rūta Muktupāvela, Prof. Inga Pērkone-Redoviča, Prof. Dāvis Sīmanis, Prof. Zane Šiliņa, Assoc. Prof. Līga Ulberte work in various positions at the Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies of the LAC. All these lecturers together with Prof. Valda Čakare were involved in the research projects (2020-2022) of the state research programme CARD "Cultural Capital as a Resource for Sustainable Development of Latvia" (VPP-KM-LKRVA-2020/1-0003), the implementation of which and the achieved results have received excellent evaluation from international experts. Likewise, the aforementioned and other lecturers regularly participate in scientific conferences and have scientific publications, including articles in peer-reviewed scientific collections included in *Scopus*, *Web of Science*, *IPSA*, *EBSCO*, *CEEOL* databases.

The same guest lecturers have been engaged in the implementation of some study courses for a long time. Mg. Art. and Mg. iur. Sandis Voldiņš is reading part of the study course "Employment of a Creative Person, International Cooperation and Project Management", because he is currently a member of the board of the Latvian National Opera and Ballet, but previously worked as a state secretary in the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia, so he is one of the best specialists in the field of employment of creative persons. LAC's emeritus professor Mg. Art. Pēteris Krilovs was a permanent lecturer at LAC until 2022, and for the "Audiovisual and Performing Art" programme, his knowledge and experience in film direction and acting methodology is still an essential resource to provide the relevant "Practical Workshops".

The other guest lecturers, both Latvian and foreign recognized audiovisual and performing arts professionals, are recruited according to the specifics and interests of the respective student group, mostly in the form of workshops within the *Practical Workshop* study course. So far, theatre director Valters Sīlis, scenographer and director Reinis Suhanovs, film directors Laila Pakalniņa and Juris Poškus, screenwriter Larisa Gūtmanis (Canada), playwright Gabrielė Labanauskaitė (Lithuania), choreographers and performance artists Oleg Soulimenko (Austria) and Barbara Lehtna (Estonia), theatre director Lucia Repašská (Czech Republic) have shared their knowledge and experience with those studying in the programme. In the near future, it is planned to attract theatre and cinema director Viesturs Kairšs and theatre director Davide Giovanzana (Finland). Attracting these specialists introduces the students to the creative work methods of artists and ensures the

acquisition of specific competencies and skills related to them, as well as strengthens the student's connection with the professional environment both in Latvia and internationally.

The qualifications of all the mentioned teaching staff directly influence and help to achieve the study results, because their active involvement and high-quality activity in the current creative processes of audiovisual and performing arts and in the research field provide the students with the necessary knowledge, competences and skills in their chosen thematic areas and also in an interdisciplinary section, taking into account both the field historical development processes, as well as the latest discoveries and achievements.

The level of English language knowledge of the majority of teaching staff corresponds to the implementation of the study programme in English, it is at least at the B2 level. Lecturers whose English language level is not adequate will be replaced in the English language version of the programme by other teaching staff whose level is adequate or by foreign guest lecturers. Until the implementation of the programme in English, the relevant teaching staff (Assoc. Prof. Ramona Galkina and Assoc. Prof. Indra Roga) will be motivated to improve their English language skills by attending courses. Already in 2020-2021 LAC organized English language courses of the ESF project "Development of the Academic Staff of the Latvian Academy of Culture - Investment in the Quality of Studies", no. 8.2.2.0/18/A/018, in which several lecturers of the Department of Performing Arts were qualified. The teaching staff is also motivated to practice teaching in English, using the mobility opportunities of Erasmus+ and NORTEAS (Baltic and Nordic theatre and dance universities) and offering workshops to partner universities. Until now, several lecturers of the programme have used this opportunity - prof. Zane Kreicberga, assist. prof. (acting) Kārlis Krūmiņš, assist. prof. Dainis Juraga and others, but prof. Dāvis Sīmanis has been a visiting professor at Aalto University in Finland. Also, English language skills in teaching can be practiced by preparing and implementing the offer of study courses for LAC's incoming Erasmus+ exchange students.

In the event that the relevant lecturers have not improved their English language skills, the study course "Theory of Contemporary Dance" (2 CP) will be taught in English by prof. Olga Žitluhina, but the "Workshop of the Thematic Field" (9 CP) workshop in Acting specialization in English will be taught by assist. prof. (acting) Kārlis Krūmiņš, and foreign guest lecturers will also be invited.

3.4.2. Analysis and assessment of the changes to the composition of the teaching staff over the reporting period and their impact on the study quality.

During the reporting period, there have been minimal changes in the LAC's academic master's study programme's "Audiovisual and Performing Art" (code 45213) teaching staff compared to the composition of lecturers announced in the programme's licensing documents. Part of the changes are related to the approach built into the programme to respond to the specific needs of students in combination with balancing the workload of LAC's permanent lecturers, who work at different study levels and with different groups of students. So, for example, initially in the study course "Specialisation Workshops" Theater Directing and Acting Workshops were provided by prof. Mg. Art. Māra Ķimele and assoc. prof. Mg. Art. Elmārs Senkovs, but currently these parts of the study course are provided by asst. prof. Mg. Art. Kārlis Krūmiņš and assoc. prof. Mg. Art. Indra Roga, equally recognized industry professionals. The quality of studies is ensured at an appropriate level. The second reason for the change is clarifications in the content of study courses, described in paragraph 3.1.1. Therefore, in part A, the study course "Research Methods in the Humanities and Academic Writing" (prof. Dr. sc. soc. Anda Laķe, lecturer Mg. art. Līga Vinogradova) has been

replaced by the study course "Research Methods in the Arts and Academic Writing", involving LAC's permanent lecturers, who are competent in this field, - prof. Dr. Art. Inga Pērkone-Redoviča, prof. Mg. Art. Zane Kreicberga and asst. prof. Mr. Art. Juris Goldmanis. In part A, the study course "The Legal Regulation of Culture and Creative Industries" (guest asst. prof. Dr. iur. Ivans Jānis Mihailovs) has been replaced by the study course "Employment of a Creative Person, International Cooperation and Project Management", which is provided by guest lecturer. Mg. Art., Mg. iur. Sandis Voldiņš and prof. Mg. Art. Zane Kreicberga. In these study courses, the study quality is ensured at an appropriate level and the study content has been specified and updated so that it is more relevant to the interests of the students.

3.4.3. Information on the number of the scientific publications of the academic staff members, involved in the implementation of doctoral study programme, as published during the reporting period by listing the most significant publications published in Scopus or WoS CC indexed journals. As for the social sciences, humanitarian sciences, and the science of art, the scientific publications published in ERIH+ indexed journals or peer-reviewed monographs may be additionally specified. Information on the teaching staff included in the database of experts of the Latvian Council of Science in the relevant field of science (total number, name of the lecturer, field of science in which the teaching staff has the status of an expert and expiration date of the Latvian Council of Science expert) (if applicable).

3.4.4. Information on the participation of the academic staff, involved in the implementation of the doctoral study programme, in scientific projects as project managers or prime contractors/ subproject managers/ leading researchers by specifying the name of the relevant project, as well as the source and the amount of the funding. Provide information on the reporting period (if applicable).

3.4.5. Assessment of the cooperation between the teaching staff members by specifying the mechanisms used to promote the cooperation and ensure the interrelation between the study programme and study courses/ modules. Specify also the proportion of the number of the students and the teaching staff within the study programme (at the moment of the submission of the Self-Assessment Report).

Cooperation between the teaching staff is a particularly important aspect of LAC's master's study programme "Audiovisual and Performing Art" (code 45213), especially in the study courses provided by several lecturers, but not only. It should also be considered that several LAC's departments are involved in providing the study courses of the programme - the Department of Audiovisual Art (AVA), The Department of Performing Art (DPA), The Department of Cultural History and Theory and The Department of Cultural Management and Sociology. The main responsible departments whose lecturers are most involved in ensuring the study process of the programme

are AVA and DPA. Promotion of cooperation between these departments and the exchange of current information is ensured by the fact that the programme director, prof. Zane Kreicberga, who represents DPA, also regularly participates in AVA meetings (on average once every two months). The programme director is also the main person responsible for coordinating the study process, not only organizationally, but also in terms of content. The programme director regularly gets acquainted with the results of student and graduate surveys and communicates the results with the programme lecturers, requesting improvements in the study process if necessary. It was the interconnection of study courses and the provision of more relevant content to the interests of students that was the basis for the programme changes, harmonizing and updating the content of Part A courses and introducing a new study course "Art and Philosophy in the 21st Century" (see 3.1.1.).

In order to promote mutual awareness and cooperation between teaching staff and the interconnection of study courses, the following mechanisms have been implemented in the management of the "Audiovisual and Performing Art" programme:

1. At the beginning of the academic year and at the end of each semester, a meeting of programme lecturers is held, where the results of the previous semester, the study process and problems are discussed and the topics of the next semester, their implementation methods, class times, etc. are agreed upon. Also, in these meetings, from the perspective of different instructors, each student's creative and theoretical learning trajectory is analysed, suggestions are made for clarifying and improving the further study process, so that it meets the students' interests as much as possible.
2. Several study courses are designed and implemented in cooperation with several lecturers. Therefore, they must coordinate the topics, requirements, and criteria of the study courses. The cooperation of the lecturers is especially important in the course "Thematic Creative Project", the topic and procedure of which the lecturers agree on in a joint discussion, applying it to the specifics of each student group, and in the course "Practical Workshops", because in this study course, a joint grade for attending several workshops must be given. In the meeting at the end of the semester, the lecturers jointly evaluate the students' performance in the workshops and agree on the grade.
3. During the examination period, all lecturers of the programme are invited to the viewings of the creative test works of "Thematic Creative Project" and "Practical Workshops", after which the works are also discussed and a discussion with the students is held.
4. Descriptions of study courses are approved at the meetings of the respective departments when the other colleagues of the department have also familiarized themselves with them. Thus, the lecturers' awareness of the content of other lecturers' study courses and the possibility to harmonize and adapt them is ensured.

The ratio of the number of students to teaching staff within the study programme at the time of submitting the self-evaluation report is 19 lecturers to 26 students, but this ratio should not be viewed separately from the workload of lecturers in this programme. For example, there are several lecturers who teach only one study course in the programme or lead one of the workshops while simultaneously teaching in other LAC's programmes and sub-programmes.

Annexes

III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme		
Sample of the diploma and its supplement to be issued for completing the study programme	3.1.2._mAVSM_EN.zip	3.1.2._mAVSM_LV.zip
For academic study programmes - Opinion of the Council of Higher Education in accordance with Section 55, Paragraph two of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)		
Compliance of the joint study programme with the provisions of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (table) (if applicable)		
Statistics on the students in the reporting period	3.1.4._Annex 5_statistical data on students mAVMS 2018_2022.pdf	3.1.4._5. pielikums_bAVMS studejoso skaits 2018_2022.pdf
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof		
Compliance with the study programme with the State Education Standard	3.2.1.-state standard_mAVPA.docx	3.2.1.-valsts standarts_AVSM.docx
Compliance of the qualification to be acquired upon completion of the study programme with the professional standard or the requirements for professional qualification (if applicable)		
Compliance of the study programme with the specific regulatory framework applicable to the relevant field (if applicable)		
Mapping of the study courses/ modules for the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study programme	3.2.1.-2._9 annex_course mapping_mAVSM.xlsx	3.2.1.-2._9.PIELIKUMS_ kursu kartējums_AVSM (1).xlsx
The curriculum of the study programme (for each type and form of the implementation of the study programme)	3.2.1.-3._curriculum_mAVSM.xlsx	3.2.1.-3._prog.plāns_mAVSM.xlsx
Descriptions of the study courses/ modules	3.2.1.-4_Course description_mAVSM.zip	3.2.1.-4_Kursa apraksti_mAVSM.zip
Description of the organisation of the internship of the students (if applicable)	Statute on Internship of the LAC (1).pdf	APST_Prakses nolikums.pdf
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.4. Teaching Staff		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the doctoral study programme includes not less than five doctors, of which at least three are experts approved by the Latvian Council of Science in the branch or sub-branch of science in which the study programme intends to award a scientific degree (if applicable)		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the academic study programme complies with the requirements specified in Section 55, Paragraph one, Clause 3 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)	CONFIRMATION_mAVSM.pdf	mAVSM.zip

Cultural Heritage Governance and Communication (45217)

Study field	Arts
ProcedureStudyProgram.Name	<i>Cultural Heritage Governance and Communication</i>
Education classification code	45217
Type of the study programme	<i>Academic master study programme</i>
Name of the study programme director	Ance
Surname of the study programme director	Kristāla
E-mail of the study programme director	ance.kristala@lka.edu.lv
Title of the study programme director	Mg.sc.soc.
Phone of the study programme director	
Goal of the study programme	<p><i>To train competent industry professionals who are familiar with the different areas of cultural heritage, the specifics and capabilities of their management and communication, and who are able to hold leadership and creativity-oriented positions in a wide range of industry-related institutions.</i></p> <p><i>To provide the students with an interdisciplinary and internationally integrated body of knowledge and competences, unique in Latvia, which would enhance the understanding of the diversity and significance of the cultural heritage today, the possibilities of its interpretation and potential, by developing a critical and creative approach to management, interpretation and communication.</i></p>

Tasks of the study programme	<p><i>To achieve the goal of the study program, the following tasks have been set:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. To provide academic education of humanities to those studying in the Programme, in accordance with the "Regulations on the State Academic Education Standard" of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia. To create an integrated study process of the Programme, in which students would acquire expanded knowledge about the theory and practice of the cultural heritage industry in the wider context of humanities and creative industries.</i> <i>2. To provide in-depth knowledge in the fields of cultural heritage, its management and communication, providing appropriate theoretical study courses, seminars, visits, practice and research opportunities.</i> <i>3. To prepare students for further studies at the Academy or other doctoral programs of Latvian and international universities.</i> <i>4. To ensure the participation of highly qualified academic personnel in the implementation of the Programme, actively and purposefully cooperating with Latvian and foreign universities and institutions and organizations of the heritage sector.</i> <i>5. Create a favorable environment for the study process with appropriate technical support.</i> <i>6. Cooperate with students' potential employers, ensuring in-depth learning of students' knowledge, skills and competencies in practical work and promoting the formation of a professional career corresponding to the education of program graduates.</i> <i>7. To ensure the availability of appropriate quality research papers created during the student's studies to the public and the industry.</i>
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Results of the study programme	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Graduates of the programme are well versed in the latest discoveries, developments, theories and trends in the field of cultural heritage. 2. Graduates of the programme orient themselves in the processes of historical development of cultural heritage in Latvia and in the world, as well as in heritage rights. 3. Graduates of the programme are well versed in the development and actualities of the theoretical and critical aspects of cultural heritage. 4. Graduates of the programme are provided with extensive knowledge and understanding of current research in the field of humanities, art and cultural heritage. 5. Graduates of the programme are familiar with the aspects and tools of effective and sustainable management and communication of cultural heritage. - Graduates of the programme understand the mutual interaction between cultural heritage and other fields, know how to apply the acquired knowledge and skills in research and creative work. 6. Graduates of the programme are able to independently use humanities theories and methods to carry out research or artistic activity. 7. Graduates of the programme are able to explain and qualitatively implement their research and creative work ideas, analyse the results of their work. 8. Graduates of the programme have learned the skill of discussing topical and complex aspects of humanities and cultural heritage. 9. Graduates of the programme are able to independently develop their competences and specialization. 10. Graduates of the programme are able to implement innovations and apply new approaches in the field of humanities and cultural heritage and in their profession. 11. Graduates of the programme are able to perform creative work and research in complex, unpredictable conditions, make decisions and use new approaches. 12. Graduates of the programme are able to independently formulate and critically analyse complex scientific and professional problems in cultural heritage research, management and communication, justify decisions and perform additional analysis. 13. Graduates of the programme are able to integrate knowledge about the essential aspects of cultural heritage, contribute to the creation of new knowledge, development of research and professional activity methods. 14. Graduates of the programme demonstrate understanding and ethical responsibility for the possible impact of the results of scientific and professional activities on the environment and society.
Final examination upon the completion of the study programme	Master's Thesis

Study programme forms

Full time studies - 2 years - latvian

Study type and form	Full time studies
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Duration in full years	2
Duration in month	0
Language	latvian
Amount (CP)	80
Admission requirements (in English)	<i>Bachelor's degree or second-level professional higher education, or equivalent higher education in the following thematic fields of education: humanities, arts, social, human behaviour and humanities sciences, information and communication sciences, teacher education and educational sciences. An additional condition for persons who have a bachelor's degree or second-level professional education, or an equivalent higher education in other thematic areas of education (not humanities, arts, social, human behaviour and humanities sciences, information and communication sciences, teacher education and educational sciences): at least 2 years of documented work experience in a cultural heritage institution.</i>
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Master's Degree in Creative Industries</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	-

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
Latvian Academy of Culture	RĪGA	LUDZAS IELA 24, LATGALES PRIEKŠPILSĒTA, RĪGA, LV-1003

Full time studies - 2 years - english

Study type and form	<i>Full time studies</i>
Duration in full years	2
Duration in month	0
Language	english
Amount (CP)	80
Admission requirements (in English)	<i>Bachelor's degree or second-level professional higher education, or equivalent higher education in the following thematic fields of education: humanities, arts, social, human behaviour and humanities sciences, information and communication sciences, teacher education and educational sciences. An additional condition for persons who have a bachelor's degree or second-level professional education, or an equivalent higher education in other thematic areas of education (not humanities, arts, social, human behaviour and humanities sciences, information and communication sciences, teacher education and educational sciences): at least 2 years of documented work experience in a cultural heritage institution. At least level B2 English language proficiency</i>
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Master's Degree in Creative Industries</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	-

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
Latvian Academy of Culture	RĪGA	LUDZAS IELA 24, LATGALES PRIEKŠPILSĒTA, RĪGA, LV-1003

3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme

3.1.1. Description and analysis of changes in the parameters of the study programme made since the issuance of the previous accreditation form of the study field or issuance of the study programme license, if the study programme is not included on the accreditation form of the study field, including changes planned within the evaluation procedure of the study field evaluation procedure.

At the Study Quality Commission session of the Latvian Higher Education Quality Agency on April 27, 2022, the inclusion of the academic master's study programme "Cultural Heritage Governance and Communication" (45217) of the Latvian Academy of Culture into the LAC study direction "Arts" took place. Since the inclusion of the study programme in the LAC study direction "Arts" accreditation sheet (accreditation sheet No. 2022/34, issued on June 20, 2022), no changes have been made to the parameters of the study programme and are not planned as part of the study direction evaluation procedure. For recommendations for the long-term improvement of the study programme received as part of the procedure during the inclusion of the study programme in the accreditation page of the study direction, which have been completed until the accreditation of the LAC study field, see Appendix 2.6.

3.1.2. Analysis and assessment of the study programme compliance with the study field. Analysis of the interrelation between the code of the study programme, the degree, professional qualification/professional qualification requirements or the degree and professional qualification to be acquired, the aims, objectives, learning outcomes, and the admission requirements. Description of the duration and scope of the implementation of the study programme (including different options of the study programme implementation) and evaluation of its usefulness.

"Cultural Heritage Governance and Communication" (45217) is a new study programme, the development of which was carried out within the framework of the European Social Fund project "Development of new study programmes for the labour market of culture and creative industries" (No. 8.2.1.0/18/A/018). At the time of the self-assessment report development, the programme is implemented based on the Latvian Academy of Culture Strategy for 2023-2027, its defined goals and priorities, in accordance with the LAC accredited study direction "Arts".

The strategic goal of the programme is set in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No 240 on the State Standard of Academic Education (<https://likumi.lv/ta/id/266187-noteikumi-par-valsts-akademiskas-izglitiba-standartu> / Latvian only): 1) to ensure the acquisition of in-depth and broad theoretical knowledge and research skills of students by reaching the study results set out in the study programme which correspond to the 7th level knowledge, skills and competencies of European Qualifications Framework (EQF), in accordance of the Latvian Classification of Education; 2) to ensure the ability of the graduates of the program to perform highly skilled professional functions in changing environments, integrate knowledge from different fields, innovate, contribute to the creation of new knowledge and critically and creatively analyse complex scientific and professional problems proficiently using information

technologies in their professional activities, research and lifelong learning, as well as in the acquisition and creation of digital content. The content of the study programme is designed to ensure the scientifically sound achievement of comprehensive study results.

The goals of the programme are:

- To train competent industry professionals who are familiar with the different areas of cultural heritage, the specifics and capabilities of their management and communication, and who are able to hold leadership and creativity-oriented positions in a wide range of industry-related institutions.
- To provide the students with an interdisciplinary and internationally integrated body of knowledge and competences, unique in Latvia, which would enhance the understanding of the diversity and significance of the cultural heritage today, the possibilities of its interpretation and potential, by developing a critical and creative approach to management, interpretation and communication.

The management of the programme is organized in accordance with the LAC Constitution, structure and regulations approved by the Senate. The implementation of the programmes is supervised by the Department of Sociology and Management of Culture of LAC, which operates in accordance with the Regulations on Departments of LAC. The department is a structural unit of LAC, the purpose of which is to ensure high-quality study, scientific and artistic activity, representing the strategic specialization of the study direction "Arts" implemented by LAC and uniting LAC academic staff involved in its implementation. The functions of the departments include the creation of study programmes, sub-programmes, specializations and study courses corresponding to the strategic goals of LAC and their qualitative implementation, approval of the content of study courses within the competence of the department, promotion of the growth of academic staff qualifications, etc.

The programme is implemented in cooperation with other LAC departments - some study courses are taught by the lecturers of the Department of Theory and History of Culture. Departments are managed by heads of departments, who are directly responsible for the development and management of study programmes to the LAC's Vice-Rector of Academic work. Also, in the implementation of studies, there is active cooperation with LAC structural units, Creative Activity Centre and Cinema Museum.

The duration of studies in the programme is 4 semesters (2 years), which gives the opportunity to implement the programme in the amount of 80 CP. The content of the study programme consists of three parts - cultural heritage and its protection, governance, interpretation and communication. The study courses of the compulsory part of the programme provide in-depth knowledge of the general processes, meaning and value of culture, especially cultural heritage, as well as potential in the context of the creative economy on a national and international scale.

The study results are evaluated according to two quantitative criteria - evaluation and the number of credit points, obtaining a positive evaluation for learning the content of the study course. The basic forms of evaluation of the programme are exams or tests, which must be taken at the end of each study course. The evaluation of students' knowledge takes place in accordance with the Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers of May 13, 2014 No. 240 "Regulations on the State Academic Education Standard" and in accordance with the LAC's "Regulations on Examinations in Academic Bachelor's and Master's Study Programs at the Latvian Academy of Culture", approved by LAC Senate meeting no. 1 decision no. 7 on January 16, 2023 (available: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/123cnXfLhH4UlqsRyI9Ppkj5YawQ58FWY/view>).

A sample of the diploma and its appendices to be issued for completion of the study programme (see appendix 3.1.2.).

Degree to be obtained: Master's Degree in Creative Industries

The programme has one entrance exam - in-person interview, which includes a test of prior knowledge relevant to the successful completion of the master's study programme. In the interview the following questions are discussed - the student's motivation, previous work experience and vision of professional activity in the future, master's thesis topic design, knowledge of English language - understanding and use. The student's understanding of cultural heritage, memory institutions and culture is also tested. The candidate must be able to clearly and reasonably present his or her potential master's thesis topic, research interest and motivation to study in the programme, presenting his or her knowledge of the cultural heritage industry in Latvia and on a wider scale. The committee can ask additional questions about culture, cultural heritage, as well as the applicant's professional activity plans. The entrance exams are organized and evaluated by the entrance exam evaluation commission approved by order of the rector of LAC. The selected entrance exam gives the opportunity to admit students to the study programme on a competitive basis, who are interested in cultural heritage processes and whose personalities ensure a high-quality study process and give the opportunity to achieve the result of the study programme.

Admission requirements ensure that Programme's applicants have a professional or academic knowledge base that provides an understanding of current processes in culture and society, with the possibility of applying existing knowledge to the field of cultural heritage. Since the study results are focused on both - the acquisition and expansion of knowledge in the field of humanities, focusing on learning the theoretical aspects of cultural studies and cultural heritage studies, and on the applicability of practical aspects of social sciences, such as management and communication, the content of the programme is available to students with previous study experience as well as in the humanities as social sciences. The study results ensure the competence of the graduates of the Programme as existing and future experts in the field of cultural heritage, maintaining and developing the importance of cultural heritage as an academic discipline and a branch of creative industries.

Cultural heritage governance and communication is clearly not only an interdisciplinary, but also an international phenomenon, which requires cooperation between experts from different fields and from different countries of the world. For this reason, foreign guest lecturers have been involved in the implementation of the Programme from the very beginning, as well as the study course "International Cooperation" (2 CP) has been developed, introducing the students to the experiences of Latvia and other countries in cultural heritage research and governance. The implementation of the Programme in English would further promote and strengthen this dimension of international cooperation, advancing networking and knowledge transfer among students and lecturers from different countries with different backgrounds in understanding cultural heritage. Although foreign students have not been admitted to the Programme yet, in the future it is planned to enroll students in both the Latvian and English stream, attracting students from other European Union countries. The content of the Programme can be considered competitive and current also at the European level, which is ensured by the inclusion of both the latest theories of cultural heritage and research topicalities in the content of the study courses. Also, the involvement of the aforementioned foreign guest lecturers and the promotion of international cooperation within the study courses provide the opportunity and necessity to ensure the implementation of the Programme in English. The jurisdictional and political aspects of cultural heritage are formed in international organizations, such as UNESCO, therefore, in the modern study process that prepares future professionals in the field of cultural heritage, it is essential to develop knowledge not only in the national discourse, but also in the global one, acquiring skills and competences for work at the international level in a foreign language.

3.1.3. Economic and/ or social substantiation of the study programme, analysis of graduates' employment.

When starting their studies, the students of the programme are mostly already employed in organizations related to the field of cultural heritage. The students are museum employees and managers of museums such as Cēsis, Olaine, Madona, Jēkabpils, Gulbene and other municipalities, thus also achieving the ambition of the regional scope of the programme. The number of students also includes representatives of organizations in the field of cultural heritage of various specialized sciences, for example, museums of medicine, history, art, music and writing, as well as owners, managers or employees of other cultural heritage objects, for example Āraiši Lake Castle, Jaunpils, Padures manor, etc. Among the students are also included those working in other memory institutions - libraries and archives, for example in the Exhibitions section of the Latvian National Library, as well as those employed in fields related to cultural heritage, for example in the private sector in restoration or public sector employees from the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia or tourism development centres. Thanks to the international nature of the programme, the participating foreign teachers and specialization practice, students are encouraged to participate in local and international projects that contribute to the growth of the industry.

The programme was also chosen by students who graduated from bachelor's studies at LAC and are interested in studying specifically in the field of cultural heritage. It has also been possible to attract students who have returned from studying abroad. Taking into account the generational change in cultural heritage objects taking place during this period (in 2020-2021 three competitions for directors of museums of national importance, competitions for directors of several municipalities and autonomous museums were announced), as well as the existing tendency for private individuals and companies to purchase and start manor buildings and complexes, as well as the restoration and development of other cultural heritage objects, employment prospects can be assessed as high. Graduates of the programme will be cultural heritage specialists who are oriented in the diverse field of cultural heritage, able to adapt and apply their knowledge, skills and competences in a rapidly changing work environment. Such specialists are in demand in cultural heritage sites in their home countries, in local and foreign organizations representing the industry, and in related cultural industries. A trend can be observed when the graduates of the programme develop their careers, for example, two directors of the municipal museums have become directors of large national museums. It can also be observed that during their studies, students already start to work in the field of cultural heritage, for example in the Rundāle Palace and the Žanis Lipke Memorial, and also change their careers. For example, a theatre producer started work at the Museum of Literature and Music, while a private sector project manager started work at the National Library of Latvia.

The study programme "Cultural Heritage Governance and Communication" was created in response to the labour market demand of the heritage industry, including memory institutions, which outlines the social and economic basis of the study programme, but the Cultural Policy Guidelines 2022-2027 "Cultural State" emphasize the wider relevance and importance of cultural heritage.

The social basis of the study programme is marked by the Cultural Policy Guidelines 2022-2027 "Cultural State". The guidelines state that in the conditions of increasing globalization and multiculturalism, it is essential to strengthen Latvia's unique cultural values, which are the core of the nation's identity, and to enrich Latvia's cultural space as a set of various elements and artefacts of the existence of the Latvian people rooted in history and valued today, formed by the Latvian language, culture heritage and cultural environment, social memory and lifestyle (see Order of the

Cabinet of Ministers no. 143 On the Cultural Policy Guidelines for 2022-2027 "Cultural State"). Cultural policy guidelines identify cultural heritage as the basis for Latvia's cultural individuality and identity, which strengthens the social impact and importance of the study programme in preserving Latvia's unique cultural heritage and promoting its creative use.

The economic basis of the study programme is also marked by the Cultural Policy Guidelines 2022-2027 "Cultural State". The industry's driving force for economic growth is the opportunities and potential provided by digitization. Much has been done in the field of digitization of cultural heritage, but the potential of digitized content has not yet been fully exploited. Therefore, in the study course "Digitisation of Cultural Heritage and Data Systems in the Heritage Sector", "Strategic Management", "Integrated Communication" and others, the promotion of access to digital content, as well as potential innovative cultural resource digitization activities, are intensively discussed. Students are encouraged to use digital resources in the creation of new knowledge, products and services, while solving the issues of long-term preservation of digital content, ensuring the compatibility of implemented digitization project systems, the integration of digitized content in future projects and the availability of digital resources and services (see Order of the Cabinet of Ministers no. 143 On the Cultural Policy Guidelines for 2022-2027 "Cultural State").

3.1.4. Statistical data on the students of the respective study programme, the dynamics of the number of the students, and the factors affecting the changes to the number of the students. The analysis shall be broken down into different study forms, types, and languages.

In December 2021, when the programme was submitted for accreditation, 29 students studied in it. In 2022, 13 more new students were admitted to the programme. In the licensing application of the "Cultural Heritage Governance and Communication" programme, it was planned to enrol an average of 20-23 students (in 2020, it was planned to enrol students in 8 budget study places, as well as 12-15 students in study places financed by individuals or legal entities). In the 2020/2021 study year with the LAC Senate meeting of June 15, 2020 no. 6 decision no. 7, 12 budget study places were approved for the study programme "Cultural Heritage Governance and Communication". With the minutes of the meeting of the LAC Admission Commission of August 31, 2020 no. UK-2020-5 decision no. 1, it was decided to increase the number of study places financed by the state budget in the study programme "Cultural Heritage Governance and Communication" in 2020/2021 from 12 to 14 study places per study year. In the study year 2020/2021, a total of 20 students were enrolled in the programme. In the 2021/2022 study year with LAC Senate meeting of March 15, 2021 no. 3 decision no. 15, 8 budget study places were approved for the study programme "Cultural Heritage Governance and Communication". With the minutes of the meeting of the LAC Admission Commission of July 17, 2021 no. UK-2021-2 decision no. 1 it was decided to increase the number of study places financed by the state budget in the study programme "Cultural Heritage Governance and Communication" in 2021/2022 from 8 to 9 study places per study year. In the 2021/2022 study year, a total of 12 students were enrolled in the programme. Unfortunately, the results of the 2021 admission were noticeably affected by the online study process that took place due to the Covid-19 situation. In the 2020/2021 study year, due to the fatigue caused by the pandemic, the interest of the graduates of bachelor's study programmes in master's studies decreased. Although a smaller number of students were enrolled than before the pandemic, all of them have continued their studies 100% without dropping out and are currently writing their master's theses. In the following enrolment year, the enrolment results increased again, which

confirms the importance of the programme in the industry. Although in the 2022/2023 academic year the application were also announced for foreign applicants and it was planned to implement the entire content of the Programme also in English, unfortunately, no applications from foreign countries were received. In the future, it is planned to fix this issue with a much more intensive and targeted marketing campaign of the Programme in English on international educational platforms and social networks.

More information about statistical data for students in the master's study programme "Cultural Heritage Governance and Communication" is available in the appendix (see appendix 3.1.4.).

3.1.5. Substantiation of the development of the joint study programme and description and evaluation of the choice of partner universities, including information on the development and implementation of the joint study programme (if applicable).

3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof

3.2.1. Analysis of the content of the study programme. Assessment of the interrelation between the information included in the study courses/ modules, the intended learning outcomes, the set aims and other indicators with the aims of the study course/ module and the aims and intended outcomes of the study programme. Assessment of the relevance of the content of the study courses/ modules and compliance with the needs of the relevant industry, labour market and with the trends in science on how and whether the content of the study courses/ modules is updated in line with the development trends of the relevant industry, labour market, and science.

During the development of the self-evaluation report, the programme is implemented based on the Latvian Academy of Culture strategy for 2023-2027, its defined goals and priorities, according to the LAC accredited study direction "Arts".

The goal of the study programme is to provide students with a set of knowledge and competences that promote understanding of the contemporary diversity and importance of cultural heritage, its interpretation possibilities, its potential as a resource, developing a critical and creative way of thinking in order to manage, interpret and communicate cultural heritage in a wide variety of ways.

To achieve the goal of the study programme, the following tasks have been set:

1. To provide academic humanitarian education to those studying in the programme, in accordance with the regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia no. 240 "Regulations on the State Academic Education Standard". To create an integrated study process of the programme, in which students would acquire extended knowledge about the theory and practice of the cultural heritage field in the wider context of humanities and creative industries.
2. To provide in-depth knowledge in the fields of cultural heritage, its governance and

communication, providing appropriate theoretical study courses, seminars, visits, practice and research opportunities.

3. To prepare students for further studies in the LAC or other doctoral programmes of Latvian and international universities.
4. To ensure the participation of highly qualified academic personnel in the implementation of the programme, actively and purposefully cooperating with Latvian and foreign universities and institutions and organizations of the heritage sector.
5. Create a favourable environment for the study process with appropriate technical support.
6. Cooperate with students' potential employers, ensuring in-depth learning of students' knowledge, skills and competencies in practical work and promoting the formation of a professional career corresponding to the education of programme graduates.
7. To ensure the availability of research works of appropriate quality produced by students during their studies to society and the industry.

The study courses of the compulsory part of the programme provide in-depth knowledge of the general processes, meaning and value of culture, especially cultural heritage, as well as potential in the context of the creative economy on a national and international scale.

The content of the programme consists of three parts:

1. cultural heritage and its protection;
2. governance;
3. interpretation and communication.

The study courses of the programme are structured in the following parts: compulsory study courses, including master's thesis (Part A), compulsory choice study courses (Part B), including internship in speciality, free optional study courses (Part C). The topic of cultural heritage looks at heritage from different perspectives, its types (both similarities and differences), in order to discuss cultural heritage studies at a theoretical level and show how the understanding of heritage has developed under the influence of various factors.

In the section of cultural heritage and its protection, there are study courses "Cross-Cultural Studies in Cultural Heritage, Environment and Sustainability" (2 CP), "Introduction to Heritage Studies" (2 CP), "Types of Cultural Heritage and Their Safeguarding" (4 CP), "Current Discussions in Museum Theory" (2 CP), "Digitisation of Cultural Heritage and Data Systems in the Heritage Sector" (2 CP), "Cultural Heritage Law and Ethics" (4 CP).

The governance thematic section is focused on the strategic governance aspects of a modern cultural heritage organization - organizations that are able to follow the approach of participatory heritage governance and realize the potential of cultural heritage (including economic), while at the same time prioritizing heritage protection and public involvement. Strategic governance of organizations, integrated marketing communication, creative business balanced with governance of memory organizations. The governance section includes study courses "Governance and Operation of Memory Institutions" (3 CP), "Entrepreneurship in cultural and creative industries" (3 CP), "Strategic Management" (2 CP), "Resource Raising" (1 CP), "International Cooperation" (2 CP).

The interpretation and communication section is aimed at promoting public involvement in work with cultural heritage, modern, community-friendly and engaging ways of heritage interpretation to explain the value of heritage. The section includes study courses "Heritage Interpretation" (4 CP), "Exhibition as Heritage Interpretation and Communication Tool" (6 CP), "Cultural Heritage as Resource for Tourism and Leisure" (3 CP), "Pedagogical Aspects of Communication of Cultural Heritage" (2 CP), "Integrated Communication" (6 CP).

Also, in order to develop research skills, which are essential in the development of Master's thesis,

the course "Research Design" in the amount of 4 credit points is included in the content of the programme. In order to ensure the acquisition of current topics in the field of cultural heritage, its governance and communication, 2 credit points are allocated in the elective part of the programme for the so-called changeable part or for guest lecturers and attendance the most important academic and scientific lectures in the field, discussions on the principles of academic writing and the role of scientific communication.

Updating the content of study courses according to the development trends in the industry, the labor market and science is provided by purposefully selected academic staff, who are also considered experts in the field they represent, solving and developing various issues related to cultural heritage, creative industries or research through their professional activities. Through their active and significant professional activities, lecturers are not only involved in the current processes of the cultural heritage sector, but also shape them. Thus, their competence allows to adjust the study content according to current events. For example, asoc.prof. Anita Vaivade has focused on researching the legal aspects of cultural heritage for several years, as well as acting as an expert of the UNESCO commission. The "Research Design" course is taught by prof. Anda Laķe - the head of the LCA Institute of Cultural and Arts Studies (ICAS) with many years of experience in cultural sector research, doc. Astrida Rogule is the custodian of the Latvian National Art Museum's Contemporary Art Collection and curator of exhibitions, providing her knowledge of current trends in the operation of memory institutions, etc. One of the priority research strands put forward by the LCA ICAS is the preservation and inheritance of cultural heritage, traditions, values, including digital forms of inheritance, which also allows the transfer and implementation of knowledge from research into the study process, as part of the programme's lecturers are also researchers at the LAC ICAS and work in research projects, also students are involved in the research projects. Besides that, at the beginning of each semester, lecturers are asked to review and update their course content, indicating changes in the course syllabus.

In order for all students to achieve the results specified in the Programme, the study semester plan envisages the sequential acquisition of knowledge, by taking courses that provide the same understanding of cultural heritage for all students, regardless of the acquired prior knowledge - "Introduction to heritage studies" (2CP), "Types of cultural heritage and their safeguarding" (4CP), "Governance and Operation of Memory Institutions" (3CP) at the beginning of the studies, in the 1st semester. These courses provide an introduction to the theoretical understanding of cultural heritage and introduce the working principles of memory institutions, providing all students with a common conceptual apparatus and understanding of the cultural heritage discourse, which helps to smooth out differences in experience and knowledge already at the beginning of studies. Thus, in further study semesters, students are already able to develop their acquired knowledge at an equivalent level.

In the attachment:

Compliance of the study programme with the national education standard (see Appendix 3.2.1.-1)

Mapping of study courses/modules for achieving study results of the study programme (see appendix 3.2.1.-2)

Study programme plan (see appendix 3.2.1.-3)

Descriptions of study courses/modules (see appendix 3.2.1.-4)

3.2.2. In the case of master's and doctoral study programmes, specify and provide the justification as to whether the degrees are awarded in view of the developments and findings in the field of science or artistic creation. In the case of a doctoral study programme, provide a description of the main research roadmaps and the impact of the

study programme on research and other education levels (if applicable).

In the fourth semester of the programme, each student develops a master's thesis - an individual and independent research work in the amount of 20 credit points, which is the final examination of the study programme and a part of its development is the pre-defence and public defence of the master's thesis before the commission. The master's thesis is a written, independent, interdisciplinary study that proves the student's ability and skill to identify and analyse topical problems related to the theoretical aspects of cultural heritage, governance or communication relevant to the programme, as well as to develop reasonable and original recommendations for their solution. The master's thesis is the most important student's research in the academic programme, which confirms the acquired knowledge and skills within the study programme. As part of the process of developing the master's thesis, the student chooses an interesting and relevant topic for the master's thesis that meets the objectives of the programme and that includes the need for a solution to a scientific problem, substantiates its relevance, creates a theoretical framework by critically analysing theoretical sources, creates a research strategy, studies and uses research methods with which empirical material is analysed, resulting in original conclusions and recommendations, making a contribution to the development of science and industry.

The students' master's thesis has a supervisor and a reviewer who give their evaluation, but in addition to the evaluation, both pre-defence and defence commissions are formed by an order, so that the evaluation is performed by more than one examiner. Methodical instructions for their development and criteria for evaluating master's theses have been defined and are available to students on the LAC's website (LAC Methodical Regulations for the development of course, bachelor and master's thesis).

3.2.3. Assessment of the study programme including the study course/ module implementation methods by indicating what the methods are, and how they contribute to the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study courses and the aims of the study programme. In the case of a joint study programme, or in case the study programme is implemented in a foreign language or in the form of distance learning, describe in detail the methods used to deliver such a study programme. Provide an explanation of how the student-centred principles are taken into account in the implementation of the study process.

The study methods used in the implementation of the LAC academic study programme are:

- **lectures** (mostly theoretically oriented study courses) - students are presented with theoretical questions, supplemented with practical examples, visual material, statistical data; during lectures, lecturers use technical means: computer, multimedia projector, sound equipment.
- **seminars** - addition and deepening of theoretical and practical knowledge, in which theoretical articles are analysed and creative tasks are performed. Seminars strengthen students' independent information analysis skills, promote the process of acquiring knowledge and skills.
- **work in groups** - promotes students' skills to cooperate and work in a group, builds skills in organizing and implementing collective work, strengthens students' ability to argue and

justify their individual opinion in the process of making a collective decision.

- **independent and individual works** - theoretical literature studies and development of topics related to the field of study, presentation of reports, creation of presentations.
- **individual lessons** - in order to discover the individual artistic potential of students, to develop and improve creative research activity, students have the opportunity to receive individual consultations from academic staff in person and in on *Moodle, Zoom*, etc.
- **exams** - regular knowledge test to make sure of the dynamics of the student's personal growth, understanding of the learned topics and management of the necessary terminology; are implemented both with and without the use of additional materials for students; can be implemented in the scope of a lesson / part of a lecture or a full lesson / lecture, practically or theoretically.
- **extracurricular events** - students have the opportunity to visit museums and cultural heritage objects, go on specialization internships and trips, as well as regularly have the opportunity to go to events organized by the Latvian Academy of Culture, related to the creative activities of students and graduates of other programmes.

During the study process, the opportunities provided by the intranet are actively used - the electronic environment of the studies, in which for studies necessary materials, lecture presentations, information exchange takes place, students post their presentations and homework is stored within the framework of each study course. Academic studies require a large amount of individual, independent reading and learning of scientific texts, as well as the development of academic writing skills.

Completion of all courses includes both independent work during studies and tests (during or at the end of the course). In most courses, the final assessment is made up of the independent work done during the course, participation in seminars and the final exam in the session.

Such a diverse model of study methods and multi-level assessment ensures high quality studies - students acquire and consolidate both academic knowledge and also acquire skills for their practical application during the course of their studies. Evaluation of students takes place within the framework of study courses, during the defence of internships, and during the pre-defence and defence of master's thesis.

The main principles in student evaluation are: compulsory (it is necessary to obtain a positive evaluation for learning the entire content of the study programme), openness of evaluation (public availability of the approved and determined evaluation criteria in course descriptions, internship regulations, and students, if they wish, receive an explanation from the lecturer about the posted evaluation), as well as the right of students to appeal the received assessment, as well as the principle of diversity of assessment methods, which manifests itself in several forms:

1. students are involved in the evaluation process as part of study courses, for example, evaluating each other's contributions within group works, reviewing the study works of group members, etc.,
2. during the course, the lecturer uses different forms of evaluation, for example, some study works are evaluated with "passed", others with a grades, etc.

The lecturers of the study courses are responsible for the public availability of the evaluation criteria to the students, while the supervisor is the head of the study direction. Students have the right to receive feedback and justification for the obtained assessment. In case of ambiguities, students consult with the lecturers of the specific study courses or with the director of the study programme. These measures ensure that evaluations serve as an opportunity for students to assess their progress in studies, as well as to evaluate opportunities for further growth and supplementing skills or knowledge. The study process is organized according to the approved

programme content and plan by the programme director, in cooperation with lecturers, the Study Department and Department of Sociology and Management of Culture preparing the plan for the next semester in time.

The aforementioned methods and approaches for ensuring the study process and testing students' knowledge are also consistent with the principles of student-centered learning, teaching and evaluation. In addition to them, the principles of a student-centered approach are manifested in the individual approach to the provision of the study process, adapting the study format (face-to-face/distance learning) as much as possible according to the possibilities and needs of the students. Both the Programme director, lecturers, and the Study Department provide personal treatment and find appropriate, timely solutions to students' problems, if they arise. Once a semester evaluation surveys of study courses are conducted, as well as discussions between the Programme's director and the students, in order to listen to their feedback and give the students the opportunity to directly participate in the improvement of the Programme, further discussing their recommendations with the course lecturers, making changes in the content of the study courses or the Programme plan. Thus, quality control of the study process is carried out regularly to ensure a supportive and inspiring study environment. Also, students have the opportunity to recognize their competences in academic knowledge or professional experience acquired in previous studies in accordance with the procedures established by LCA, allowing to model the study process according to each individual's needs.

3.2.4. If the study programme envisages an internship, describe the internship opportunities offered to students, provision and work organization, including whether the higher education institution/ college helps students to find an internship place. If the study programme is implemented in a foreign language, provide information on how internship opportunities are provided in a foreign language, including for foreign students. To provide analysis and evaluation of the connection of the tasks set for students during the internship included in the study programme with the learning outcomes of the study programme (if applicable).

In order to ensure the professionalism of the graduates of the study programme, to prepare them for the demands of the labour market and to ensure the quality of research works and their practical applicability, the compulsory choice part of the programme includes Internship in speciality (hereinafter - Internship) in the amount of 2 CP.

Internship must be completed in the third semester of studies (in exceptional cases, in agreement with the programme director, the internship may be completed sooner). **Internship is an essential tool for achieving the goal of the programme and achieving the study results.** It provided students with a set of knowledge and competences that promote understanding of the diversity and importance of cultural heritage today, its interpretation possibilities, its potential as a resource to manage, interpret and communicate it in various ways.

Internship content recognized as appropriate is: work in a cultural heritage or memory institution, or at a place of cultural heritage, as well as Erasmus internship abroad, work in an institution or organization related to cultural heritage governance or communication (e.g. cultural centre, municipality, etc.); participation in a project or event related to cultural heritage governance or communication; participation in a project or event related to cultural heritage tourism; participation in research related to cultural heritage; other types of activities recognized by the programme

director as relevant to the Programme. When choosing an internship place, it is taken into account whether the student is learning the programme in Latvian or English.

Students can do internship both in the LAC (in its projects) and outside it. Both the institutions with which the LAC has concluded a cooperation agreement, as well as other institutions with which a cooperation agreement is concluded for the provision of internship for the particular student, are available to students as potential internship places. We define memory institutions (museums, archives, libraries), cultural heritage sites (e.g. castles, manors), cultural centres, cultural heritage management institutions and organizations (e.g. National Cultural Center of Latvia, Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia) as the main places for internship. research organizations (e.g. Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies) etc.

Students can also realize the internship using the mobility opportunities of the ERASMUS+ programme. The duration of this internship is from 2 to 12 months (3 ECTS are awarded for a 1-month internship period). We will especially invite those studying in English to use Erasmus+ internship opportunities to encourage the experience of international cooperation and promote networking in cultural heritage institutions in foreign countries. Also, foreign students will have the opportunity to be involved in research projects implemented by LAC ICAS and to seek internship in Latvian memory institutions or cultural heritage governance organizations, where international cooperation is established, one of the working languages is English or communication with visitors is ensured in English.

The procedure for the implementation and evaluation of the internship is determined by the Internship Regulations (available: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1AcTVOIpxyaP32PiM_VK6V9F-LEo1Nr7v/view). The implementation of the internship is supervised by the LAC's internship coordinator, the LAC's career education project manager and the programme director.

3.2.5. Evaluation and description of the promotion opportunities and the promotion process provided to the students of the doctoral study programme (if applicable).

3.2.6. Analysis and assessment of the topics of the final theses of the students, their relevance in the respective field, including the labour market, and the marks of the final theses.

The first eleven research works of cultural heritage professionals have been completed within the framework of the Latvian Academy of Culture master's study programme "Cultural Heritage Governance and Communication" accredited in 2022. The research works reflect the vast field of cultural heritage, encouraging it to be made more accessible, inclusive, their results can be conditionally divided into two parts. The first ones cover the analysis of global painful issues in Latvia, for example, how to ensure public cooperation in the operation of museums and other cultural heritage objects and how to prove the value and influence of cultural heritage anew in the 21st century, as well as actualize the importance of intangible heritage. The second part of the research brings new breeze to the Latvian environment, for example, it starts a discussion on intercultural competence as a tool for strengthening tolerance, studies the preservation of cultural

landscapes - landscapes created jointly by people and nature, the need for a conscious environmental sustainability policy in the field of cultural heritage, calls to see cultural heritage as rural regeneration tools, especially in Latgale.

The importance of these research works is especially great because of the academic contribution, that was made mostly by practitioners of cultural heritage, who in their daily professional life represent important organizations for Latvia - the Latvian National Art Museum, Lūznava Manor, which was recognized as the cultural site of the year, Āraiši Museum Park, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia, Riga City Council, Riga History and Shipping Museum, Cēsis History and Art Museum and others.

Master's theses are available in the LAC library. The evaluations of the defended Master's theses on June 21, 2022 were as follows: 10 (with distinction) - two evaluations, 9 (excellent) - four evaluations, 8 (very good) one evaluation, 7 (good) - three evaluations 5 (satisfactory) - one evaluation rating.

Master theses topics:

- The role of manors' heritage in the regeneration of rural areas. The example of Latgale
- Exhibition as a tool for developing intercultural competence: the example of the Art Museum RIGA BOURSE
- Promoting Public Participation in Museums: the Case of the Museum of History of Riga and Navigation
- Cultural Landscapes as Models for the Integrated Management of Natural and Cultural Heritage. The Example of Āraiši Museum park
- Sustainable Management of Sacred Architectural Monuments: The Example of Lutheran Churches
- Amateur theater tradition as an element of Latvia's intangible cultural heritage and its role in community life
- The role of intangible cultural heritage in the preservation of cultural landscapes in Latvia
- Involvement of interested groups in the implementation of the policy of assembling the collection of Latvian museums in the preservation of cultural heritage
- Story in a Museum in the Context of Contemporary Collecting: Topical Issues in Latvia
- Determining the social and economic value of a museum: An example of Cēsis History and Art Museum
- Problematics and Significance Assessment of Museum Memorial Collections. Case of the Latvian National Museum of Art

3.3. Resources and Provision of the Study Programme

3.3.1. Assessment of the compliance of the resources and provision (study provision, scientific support (if applicable), informative provision (including libraries), material and technical provision, and financial provision) with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the learning outcomes to be achieved by providing the respective examples.

The study process of the programme mainly takes place in Ludzas and Dzirnavu Streets, as well as in the LAC Cinema Museum. In order to ensure the learning process, it is also possible to use the premises of the LAC's structural unit - Theater Museums in limited capacity. In Riga, at Ludzas Street 24, the LAC has 557 m² of auditoriums and rooms for practical classes, and a library reading room of 35 m². The facilities available to LAC and its structural units are smaller than it should be. When the LAC moves to the Tabakas Fabrika creative quarter at Miera Street 58a, most of the programme will be implemented there, in larger premises, where a more comfortable library (350 m²), spacious student co-working spaces, etc. will be available. It is planned that the combined cinema and photo museum will also form a part of the block, which will provide an additional material and technical base for the implementation of the Programme. Wireless internet is available in all LAC buildings, which provides 90% coverage. The auditoriums are equipped according to the needs of the study process, all the auditoriums have a computer, projector and screen, blackboard, if necessary, the auditoriums can also be equipped with other equipment. Computer rooms and rooms with movable tables are available that can be adapted for seminars, round table discussions, etc. Improvement of the material and technical base and infrastructure of LAC takes place regularly and is planned in the future. Cosmetic repairs of auditoriums are regularly carried out and their furnishings are improved, office equipment is replenished, study literature is purchased, computers are used for the study process, etc. From 2018 to the end of 2020, the European Social Fund project "Effectiveness of the management of the Latvian Academy of Culture and Latvian Culture College and modernization of the study process" (No. 8.2.3.0/018/A/020) is implemented at LAC. As part of the project, one office of LAC is equipped with hardware that provides video recording of lectures and the possibility to create and implement lectures in online mode. The new equipment is used both for recording video lectures and for online events. During the pandemic, the academy successfully conducts classes both completely remotely and in a hybrid form, with some students being in person, and others - online.

More information on the material and technical base is available in part 2, chapter 3, subsection 2.3.2. of the self-assessment report. The lessons of the study programme "Cultural Heritage Governance and Communication" are mainly planned in the LAC buildings located at Ludzas iela 24 and Dzirnavu iela 46 (LAC Theater House "Zirgu pasts").

More information on the provision of methodological and informational resources is available in part 2, chapter 3, subsection 2.3.3. of the self-assessment report. Students of the "Cultural Heritage Governance and Communication" study programme actively use both the LAC library resources and the EBSCO National Electronic Resource Package, which includes database resources such as EBSCO Academic Search Complete + MasterFILE Premier and LNB online databases. An important information resource is also the LAC Thesis database created by the LAC Library, which includes bibliographic descriptions of the LAC students' theses, which is important in the development of research works, giving students the opportunity to view the previous works of graduates, reflect on what they have read and continue their research activities.

More information on the provision of methodological and informational resources is available in part 2, chapter 3, subsection 2.3.4. of the self-assessment report. In the study process, LAC uses the e-study environment (Moodle) and the Information System of Latvian Universities (LAIS), which ensures full information flow with students, access to resources and information. Moodle ensures the necessary communication with students for the study process. Course description, lecture materials and additional sources, instructions for tasks, tests and assessment books are posted for each study course. The Moodle environment is used in all study courses and its use is being intensified.

The mentioned resources and solutions allow students to independently direct their study process, keeping up with current events in study courses, as well as in research in the field of cultural

heritage as a whole. The sources and databases available in the LAC Library, as well as the materials published in the e-study environment, allow in-depth acquaintance with the theoretical sources and research of the field, allowing students to supplement and strengthen the knowledge acquired in study courses, as well as to conduct independent research activities. Students can also apply for a free online version of Microsoft Office 365.

3.3.2. Assessment of the study provision and scientific base support, including the resources provided within the framework of cooperation with other science institutes and higher education institutions (applicable to doctoral study programmes) (if applicable).

3.3.3. Indicate data on the available funding for the corresponding study programme, its funding sources and their use for the development of the study programme. Provide information on the costs per one student within this study programme, indicating the items included in the cost calculation and the percentage distribution of funding between the specified items. The minimum number of students in the study programme in order to ensure the profitability of the study programme (indicating separately the information on each language, type and form of the study programme implementation).

The programme is financed from the state budget grant awarded to LAC, performance funding awarded to LAC, students' tuition fees, as well as from the funds awarded through the European Union fund competition procedure for the mobility of academic staff and students, internships, workshops, creative works, etc. The costs of the programme are calculated in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation of December 12, 2006 No. 994 "Procedure in which higher education institutions and colleges are financed from state budget funds" and the basic costs of a place of study determined by the Cabinet of Ministers. At the time of preparation of the information, the basic cost of the study place is 1,630 euros. In accordance with the mentioned Regulation No. 994 the coefficient of study costs for master's study programmes of paragraph 13 is one and a half times higher than the value of the coefficient of study costs determined for the relevant thematic field of education in Annex 1 of these regulations.

According to Clause 3 of Appendix 1 of the Regulations, the optimal funding for one master's study place in the thematic field of education "Cultural Heritage Governance and Communication" is 7,580 euros per year (the coefficient of the thematic field of education is 3.1 and the coefficient of master's studies is 1.5), the minimum funding is 2,445 euros per year (coefficient of the thematic field of education 1 and coefficient of master's studies 1.5), base funding is allocated in the amount of 84.90%. In 2020 and 2021, in the implementation of the LAC study direction "Arts", additional funding has been attracted from various sources for the implementation of creative and educational projects:

- Financing of foreign cooperation projects EUR 47,439.76;
- Riga City Municipality EUR 41,757.08;
- Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia EUR 57,029.89;
- State Cultural Capital Foundation 217,020.00 euros.

The calculated amount of the state grant in 2022 is 6,796 EUR, for one budget place. Performance

funding per 1 student in the programme is EUR 239 and tuition fees are on average EUR 1,769, taking into account that tuition fees are revised every year.

The funding of the study programme in 2022 was 173,858 EUR, it was formed from the budget grant, performance funding and tuition fees. When making cost calculations, all expenditure items necessary for the programme are included, the programme calculation is 76% compensation EKK 1000, 11% EKK goods and services 2000 and 13% other EKK. Every year, a cost calculation is carried out, after which the number of guest lecturers and the amount diverted for the development of study programmes are determined, which is a part of the own revenues, in 2022 in the amount of 17%, which amounts to 1,804 EUR. The programme is mainly created on the basis of funding from the state budget, and the own revenues are directed to the maximum extent for the development of the programme and covering unexpected expenses.

The minimum number of students in the study programme is 20 budget places (see appendix in subsection 3.1.4.).

The admission regulations for the academic master's study programmes at the Latvian Academy of Culture for the academic year 2022/2023 provided equal tuition fees for studies in Latvian and English for the students of the master's programme "Cultural Heritage Management and Communication." In the academic year 2023/2024, the study programme will admit students only in Latvian, however, in the future, the programme is also planned to be implemented in English.

Currently, the programme is full-time attendance and is conducted in Latvian.

3.4. Teaching Staff

3.4.1. Assessment of the compliance of the qualification of the teaching staff members (academic staff members, visiting professors, visiting associate professors, visiting docents, visiting lecturers, and visiting assistants) involved in the implementation of the study programme with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the provisions set out in the respective regulatory enactments. Provide information on how the qualification of the teaching staff members contributes to the achievement of the learning outcomes.

The specificity of the academic master's study programme "Cultural Heritage Governance and Communication" determines that both academic lecturers and industry specialists with practical experience and authority are attracted to its implementation. 22 lecturers (including visiting lecturers) are involved in the implementation of the programme.

In accordance with the laws of Latvia and the regulatory documents of LAC, an open competition is announced for academic staff positions, academic staff are elected and re-elected for a period of 6 years. The evaluation and election of candidates for the positions of professors and associate professors is carried out by the LAC Professors' Council and it takes place in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers regulations adopted in 2021 No. 129 *The procedure for evaluating the scientific and pedagogical qualifications or artistic creative work results of an applicant for the position of professor or associate professor and an existing professor or associate professor*. The evaluation of

candidates for the positions of docents, lecturers and assistants takes place at the meeting of the LAC Senate.

Currently, eight lecturers elected to LAC academic positions are involved in the implementation of the programme, of which five are professors elected in the main work of LAC and one is an associate professor. Therefore, the programme complies with the requirements set out in Clause 3 of the first part of Article 55 of the University Law, that no less than five professors and associate professors elected at the relevant university participate in the implementation of the compulsory part and the limited optional part of the academic study programmes. Of the eight lecturers, seven have a doctorate degree. All lecturers of the programme are actively involved in scientific activities, working at the LAC Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies.

Certain guest lecturers have been continuously engaged in the implementation of some lecture courses, who, being high-level professionals in a specific field, provide extended and specifically necessary knowledge, for example, museum pedagogue Danute Grīnfelde provides studies of pedagogical aspects of cultural heritage, curator of the Latvian National Museum of Art Līna Birzaka – Priekule ensures the learning of exposition as a cultural heritage interpretation tool, but Dr. Linda Veliverronena provides learning of cultural heritage as a tourism tool. Also, experienced foreign lecturers in the field of cultural heritage are involved in the implementation of the programme to ensure the latest international trends and experience exchange process, as well as the learning of specific subjects, for example the course "Cultural Landscapes", which is an essential topic in the field of cultural heritage.

The qualifications of all mentioned teaching staff directly influence and help to achieve study results, as their active involvement and high-quality activity in study processes and research provide students with the necessary knowledge, competences and skills, taking into account both the historical development processes of the fields and the latest discoveries and achievements.

3.4.2. Analysis and assessment of the changes to the composition of the teaching staff over the reporting period and their impact on the study quality.

The programme was developed and implemented by the LAC Department of Sociology and Management of Culture. LAC lecturers, who were involved in the implementation of other sub-programmes of the master's programme "Arts" (45212), including the sub-programme "Museum and Cultural Heritage Studies", and are experts in the field of heritage, as well as experts from Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences (hereinafter - ViA) – partner in programme development - have been involved in the development of the content of the programme. The working group was based on the scientific assistant of the LAC Scientific Research Centre (currently - the Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies (hereinafter - IAC)), guest lecturer, former head of the LAC Cinema Museum Zane Balčus and LAC lecturer, IAC scientific assistant and professional development education programme "Basics of Museum Operation" developer Agnese Pašane, graduate of LAC master's study programme "Arts" sub-programme "Museum and Cultural Heritage Studies". Since the programme was developed within the framework of the European Social Fund project No. 8.2.1.0/18/A/018 "Development of new study programmes for the labour market of cultural and creative industries", the programme development group was also based on assistant professor Linda Veliverronena of the Faculty of Social Sciences of ViA and Communication, Director of the direction of communication, media and management, assistant professor Agnese Dāvidsone. The administrative staff of LAC was also included in the working group. From May 2019, regular

meetings of the working group were held, where the conceptual vision of the programme, study methods, study courses of the programme, their planning and teaching staff were discussed. The study programme, both in terms of volume and content, corresponds to industry trends in the countries of the European Union and in the world. The content of the programme is designed according to the current trends of the European Union and policy planning documents in Latvia. The management of cultural heritage oriented towards public participation is also embedded in national level planning documents.

In the course of the implementation of the programme, from the moment of licensing to the accreditation of the direction, there have been upward changes in the teachers involved. This has been facilitated by the active work and reputation of the LAC, which has allowed to attract industry professionals to the doctoral study programme, thus involving them in the academic work as well. Also, the reputation of the programme in the industry and the evaluation of the students has allowed to attract professionals of the personnel industry with equivalent or higher academic or scientific qualifications.

LAC associate professor Ieva Zemīte, who is the director of LAC and RTU's joint academic master's study programme "Creative Industries and Growth Management", has been recruited instead of ViA guest lecturer Inese Vaivare in the course "Resource Raising". Ieva Zemīte has been a member of the Association for Cultural Economics International (ACEI) since 2018, as well as a representative of LAC in the evaluation committee of the participants of the Creative Industries Business Incubator of the Latvian Investment Development Agency and in the evaluation of the growth of the teams of the Student Business Incubator of the University of Latvia.

In the "Integrated communication" course, instead of guest lecturer Anita Savleviča, Lolita Ozoliņa, PhD student of LAC and scientific assistant of IAC, has been recruited, whose knowledge and experience have been accumulated by working in the field of advertising and marketing for almost 20 years, designing and developing brands of local and foreign organizations. Expert of the qualification exam commission in advertising design in cooperation with the Latvian National Culture Center. Also, guest lecturer Kristīne Tjarve - a practitioner of the communication industry with more than 17 years of experience in various industries and chairwoman of the board of the Latvian Association for Public Relations Professionals - has been recruited for this course.

In the course "Exhibition as Heritage Interpretation and Communication Tool", the curator of the Latvian National Museum of Art and the head of the expert commission of the "Purvīša Award", PhD candidate Līna Birzaka - Priekule, have been recruited instead of guest lecturer Elīna Kalniņa.

In the course "Governance and Operation of Memory Institutions", instead of guest lecturers Una Sedleniece and Uldis Zariņš, LAC PhD candidate and board member of the Latvian Museum Association Elīna Vikmane took charge of the course together with LAC assistant professor Astrīda Rogule.

The qualifications of the academic staff meet the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the requirements of regulatory acts. Project no. 8.2.2.0/18/A/018 "Development of the academic staff of the Latvian Academy of Culture - investment in the quality of studies", financed and implemented during 2021, provided digital training to the academic staff of LAC in the amount of 64 academic hours and training for improving leadership skills. In 2019 - 2020, English language skills improvement trainings for academic staff were implemented for 9 months 2 times a week. Thus, the academic staff's English language proficiency can be assessed as appropriate for the implementation of the Programme in English, as is also confirmed by the information found in the lecturers' CVs. In case the lecturer doesn't have the necessary level of English proficiency, they will be substituted with other lecturer in English stream.

3.4.3. Information on the number of the scientific publications of the academic staff members, involved in the implementation of doctoral study programme, as published during the reporting period by listing the most significant publications published in Scopus or WoS CC indexed journals. As for the social sciences, humanitarian sciences, and the science of art, the scientific publications published in ERIH+ indexed journals or peer-reviewed monographs may be additionally specified. Information on the teaching staff included in the database of experts of the Latvian Council of Science in the relevant field of science (total number, name of the lecturer, field of science in which the teaching staff has the status of an expert and expiration date of the Latvian Council of Science expert) (if applicable).

3.4.4. Information on the participation of the academic staff, involved in the implementation of the doctoral study programme, in scientific projects as project managers or prime contractors/ subproject managers/ leading researchers by specifying the name of the relevant project, as well as the source and the amount of the funding. Provide information on the reporting period (if applicable).

3.4.5. Assessment of the cooperation between the teaching staff members by specifying the mechanisms used to promote the cooperation and ensure the interrelation between the study programme and study courses/ modules. Specify also the proportion of the number of the students and the teaching staff within the study programme (at the moment of the submission of the Self-Assessment Report).

Coordination of the study process, not only organizationally, but also in terms of content, is primarily carried out by programme director Elīna Vikmane. The director of the programme regularly gets acquainted with the results of student and graduate surveys and meets individually and in groups with students several times per semester, listening to opinions on the content of study courses, successes and problematic issues, as well as discussing the evaluations given by students with the programme lecturers, calling for improvements in the study process if necessary. The interlinking of study courses and the provision of content that is more relevant and up-to-date to the interests of students contributes to regular clarifications of the programme content and the attraction of highly qualified guest lecturers.

In order to promote mutual awareness and cooperation between teaching staff and the interconnection of study courses, the following mechanisms have been implemented in the management of the master's study programme "Cultural Heritage Governance and Communication":

1. Since the teaching staff of two LAC departments and also LAC guest lecturers are involved in the teaching of the study courses of the programme, joint meeting with them would not be purposeful due to both time resources and the content of the different study courses, therefore the head of the programme does not organize specific meetings jointly for all the

lecturers of the programme, but emphasizes individual communication with the programme teaching staff or the transfer of common information in a single correspondence in e-mail communication. The programme director is responsible for the coherence of the study process, following the study content regularly and in detail, as well as creating the lesson schedule so that the sequence of lecture courses is appropriate and subordinate to the content logic and does not overlap.

2. Since the core of the programme's lecturers is made up of lecturers elected by the Department of Sociology and Management of Culture, a large part of the topical conceptual issues in the programme are discussed at the department's meetings, which take place at least once every two months, but more often if necessary.
3. Study course descriptions are approved at the meetings of the Department of Sociology and Management of Culture, when the rest of the department's colleagues have also familiarized themselves with them. Thus, lecturers are informed about the content of other lecturers' study courses, there is an opportunity to discuss it, as well as to change and adapt it if necessary.
4. When updating the content of the study courses, the teaching staff coordinate with each other and with the director of the programme that the content does not overlap and the logical connection of the courses. Study courses are also being improved based on feedback from students and teaching staff.
5. Several of the study courses included in the content of the programme are implemented with the cooperation of several lecturers. In each such course, there is a leading lecturer, who must mutually coordinate the topics, requirements and criteria of the study course, and agree on the final assessment. Questions are discussed with the programme director.

The number of lecturers involved in ensuring the study process is appropriate to the content of the programme and the task of qualitatively preparing graduates in the field of cultural heritage work.

Annexes

III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme		
Sample of the diploma and its supplement to be issued for completing the study programme	3.1.2._mKMPK.zip	3.1.2._mKMPK.zip
For academic study programmes - Opinion of the Council of Higher Education in accordance with Section 55, Paragraph two of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)		
Compliance of the joint study programme with the provisions of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (table) (if applicable)		
Statistics on the students in the reporting period	3.1.4._Annex 5_statistical data on students mKMPK 2020_2022.pdf	3.1.4._5. pielikums_mKMPK studejosos skaits 2020_2022.pdf
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof		
Compliance with the study programme with the State Education Standard	3.2.1.-1 KMPK EN (4).docx	3.2.1.-1 KMPK LV (1) (1).docx
Compliance of the qualification to be acquired upon completion of the study programme with the professional standard or the requirements for professional qualification (if applicable)		
Compliance of the study programme with the specific regulatory framework applicable to the relevant field (if applicable)		
Mapping of the study courses/ modules for the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study programme	3.2.1.-2 KMPK EN.xlsx	3.2.1.-2 KMPK LV.xlsx
The curriculum of the study programme (for each type and form of the implementation of the study programme)	3.2.1.-3. KMPK EN (1) (1).xlsx	3.2.1.-3. KMPK LV (2) (1).xlsx
Descriptions of the study courses/ modules	3.2.1.-4 Course descriptions CHGC.zip	3.2.1.-4 Kursa apraksti KMPK.zip
Description of the organisation of the internship of the students (if applicable)	Regulations on internships in the academic master's study programme Culture Heritage.pdf	mKMPK prakses noteikumi.pdf
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.4. Teaching Staff		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the doctoral study programme includes not less than five doctors, of which at least three are experts approved by the Latvian Council of Science in the branch or sub-branch of science in which the study programme intends to award a scientific degree (if applicable)		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the academic study programme complies with the requirements specified in Section 55, Paragraph one, Clause 3 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)	CONFIRMATION_mKMPK.pdf	mKMPK.zip

Creative Industries and Growth Management (45217)

Study field	Arts
ProcedureStudyProgram.Name	<i>Creative Industries and Growth Management</i>
Education classification code	45217
Type of the study programme	Academic master study programme
Name of the study programme director	Ieva
Surname of the study programme director	Zemīte
E-mail of the study programme director	ieva.zemite@lka.edu.lv
Title of the study programme director	Dr.oec.
Phone of the study programme director	
Goal of the study programme	<p>The goals of the master's study programme "Creative Industry and Growth Management" are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) to prepare leaders of change who are capable of managing the growth process, thinking strategically, who are creative, able to appreciate and apply diversity; 2) to equip the students with a set of knowledge and competencies that develop their growth thinking, on a personal, organizational, and global level, promoting understanding of the potential of creative industries and the importance of cultural values in the changing environment of the global economy; 3) to promote interdisciplinary collaboration in the development and research of the creative industries.
Tasks of the study programme	<p>Tasks of the study programme:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To provide the content of studies that provides an in-depth understanding of the processes of cultural and creative industries at various levels in order to implement and communicate growth-oriented changes in various systems. 2. To implement an interdisciplinary integrated study programme, including students with different educations, ensuring the use of diverse perspectives in studies and research and in the analysis of practical experience. 3. To develop students' cooperation and management skills within the framework of the creative industry ecosystem, promoting the connection of study content with the problems of the growth of organizations, the understanding of their operational context for strategic development. 4. Promote students' professional and personal growth, using study approaches focused on reflection and involvement, and promoting the understanding of creative experience.

Results of the study programme	<p><i>Upon completion of the study programme, the graduate will:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. be able to independently formulate and critically analyse the processes and challenges of the creative industries globally and locally under the leadership of various types of organizations, to substantiate and communicate decisions critical for growth and to implement changes in various areas and sectors;</i> <i>2. be able to integrate the theories and methods of humanities and social sciences in an interdisciplinary manner, to contribute to the creation of new knowledge, to develop their research and professional competence;</i> <i>3. be able to identify formal and informal collaborative opportunities, to fully utilize and develop them in creative industry ecosystems, to form and manage interdisciplinary teams, creative industry organizations, to foster collaborative growth;</i> <i>4. be able to independently manage their professional and personal growth, to reflect on the development of their competencies and career goals and to understand the connection with the broader development trends of the creative industries.</i>
Final examination upon the completion of the study programme	<i>Master's Thesis.</i>

Study programme forms

Full time studies - 2 years - latvian

Study type and form	<i>Full time studies</i>
Duration in full years	<i>2</i>
Duration in month	<i>0</i>
Language	<i>latvian</i>
Amount (CP)	<i>80</i>
Admission requirements (in English)	<i>Bachelor's degree in arts, humanities, social sciences, engineering and technology or equivalent higher education. Entrance exam - interview.</i>
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Master of Arts in Creative Industries</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	<i>-</i>

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
Latvian Academy of Culture	RĪGA	LUDZAS IELA 24, LATGALES PRIEKŠPILSĒTA, RĪGA, LV-1003

Full time studies - 2 years - english

Study type and form	<i>Full time studies</i>
Duration in full years	<i>2</i>
Duration in month	<i>0</i>
Language	<i>english</i>
Amount (CP)	<i>80</i>

Admission requirements (in English)	<i>Bachelor's degree in arts, humanities, social sciences, engineering and technology or equivalent higher education. The level of English language knowledge is at least B2 level. Entrance exam - interview.</i>
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Master of Arts in Creative Industries</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	-

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
Latvian Academy of Culture	RĪGA	LUDZAS IELA 24, LATGALES PRIEKŠPILSĒTA, RĪGA, LV-1003

3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme

3.1.1. Description and analysis of changes in the parameters of the study programme made since the issuance of the previous accreditation form of the study field or issuance of the study programme license, if the study programme is not included on the accreditation form of the study field, including changes planned within the evaluation procedure of the study field evaluation procedure.

In a meeting on June 8th, 2022, the Study Quality Commission of the Quality Agency for Higher Education approved the inclusion of the academic Master's programme "Creative Industries and Growth Management" (45217) of the Latvian Academy of Culture (hereinafter - LAC) and Riga Technical University (hereinafter - RTU) in the study direction "Arts" in LAC and in the study direction "Management, Administration and Property Management" in RTU. Since the inclusion of the programme in "Arts" of LAC accreditation page (accreditation page No. 2022/34, issued on June 20th, 2022), no changes have been made to the programme parameters and no further evaluations of the programme are planned. In the process of inclusion in the accreditation page of the discipline, recommendations for the long-term improvement of the programme were received on June 6th, 2022, which were implemented by the time of the accreditation in LAC.

3.1.2. Analysis and assessment of the study programme compliance with the study field. Analysis of the interrelation between the code of the study programme, the degree, professional qualification/professional qualification requirements or the degree and professional qualification to be acquired, the aims, objectives, learning outcomes, and the admission requirements. Description of the duration and scope of the implementation of the study programme (including different options of the study programme implementation) and evaluation of its usefulness.

The joint academic master's study programme of the Latvian Academy of Culture (LAC) and Riga Technical University (RTU) "Creative Industries and Growth Management" was created in accordance with the development strategy of the LAC for years 2015-2020 (available: https://lka.edu.lv/media/cms_page_media/925/APST_LKA_Attistibas_Strategija_2015_2020_Labojumi_16.04.2018.pdf) (Latvian only)) and implemented during the self-evaluation report, based on the LAC strategy for years 2023-2027 (available: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pLPD08ZbMWe7nRtVaSQQZhvTCJLxiaie/view>) and the strategy of RTU for 2021-2025 (available: https://www.rtu.lv/writable/public_files/RTU_strategy_for_2121_2025_eng.pdf), and in line with the LAC-accredited study direction "Arts" and the RTU-accredited study direction "Management, Administration and Property Management".

The strategic goal of the programme is set in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No 240 on the State Standard of Academic Education (<https://likumi.lv/ta/id/266187-noteikumi-par-valsts-akademiskas-izglitiba-standartu> / Latvian only): 1) to ensure the acquisition of in-depth and broad theoretical knowledge and research skills of students by reaching the study results set out in the study programme which correspond to the 7th

level knowledge, skills and competencies of European Qualifications Framework (EQF), in accordance of the Latvian Classification of Education; 2) to ensure the ability of the graduates of the program to perform highly skilled professional functions in changing environments, integrate knowledge from different fields, innovate, contribute to the creation of new knowledge and critically and creatively analyse complex scientific and professional problems proficiently using information technologies in their professional activities, research and lifelong learning, as well as in the acquisition and creation of digital content. The content of the study programme is designed to ensure the scientifically sound achievement of comprehensive study results.

The goals of the master's study programme "Creative Industries and Growth Management" are:

- to prepare leaders of change who are capable of managing the growth process, thinking strategically, who are creative, able to appreciate and apply diversity;
- to equip the students with a set of knowledge and competencies that develop their growth thinking, on a personal, organizational, and global level, promoting understanding of the potential of creative industries and the importance of cultural values in the changing environment of the global economy;
- to promote interdisciplinary collaboration in the development and research of the creative industries.

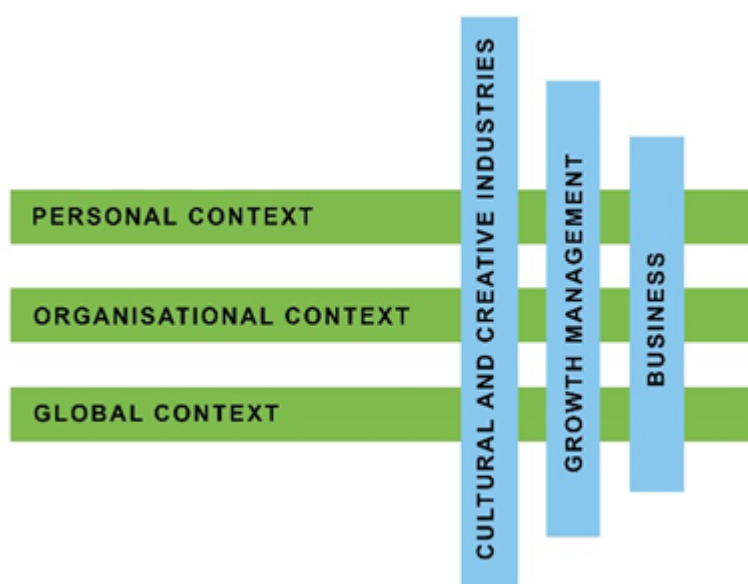
The name of the degree "Master of Arts in Creative Industries" obtained as a result of completing the study programme is formulated in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers' Regulations No. 240 „Regulations on the state academic standard of education" of May 13th, 2014 (available: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/266187-noteikumi-par-valsts-akademiskas-izglitiba-standartu> (Latvian only)) and Cabinet of Ministers' Regulations No. 322 "Regulations on the classification of education in Latvia" of June 13th, 2017 (available: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/291524-noteikumi-par-latvijas-izglitiba-klasifikaciju> (Latvian only)). Upon analysing the documents, it was found that in Regulation No. 322 there is an educational theme group "Humanities and Art", which includes the educational field of "Art" and subsequently the educational programme group "Creative Industries". On the other hand, in Regulation No. 240, point 22 mentions the degree title "Master of Humanities," which is only a part of the theme group. The degree titles mentioned in Regulation No. 240 in 2014 were consistent with the classification of sciences at that time, which was changed on January 23rd, 2018 with approval of the Cabinet of Ministers' Regulations No. 49 "Regulations on the Latvian Sciences Disciplines and subdisciplines" (available: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/296661-noteikumi-par-latvijas-zinatnes-nozare-un-apakšnozari> (Latvian only)), which as a separate science sector allocated in the following quote of the regulation "6.5. Other humanities and arts sciences, including the field of creative industries". Therefore, evaluating the normative regulations as a whole, the degree title was developed, in accordance with Cabinet of Ministers' Regulations No. 240 "Master's degree in Humanities in Creative Industries"

The duration of the programme is 4 semesters (2 years), which allows for the programme to be implemented with a volume of 80 ECTS (European Credit Transfer System). The themes that make up the content of the programme are viewed at three levels - global, organizational and individual. The study courses are combined in appropriate clusters. Part A has three clusters - "Culture and Creative Industries", "Business", "Growth Management", while Part B has two clusters - "Business Fundamentals" and "Arts Discourse", from which one must be studied, depending on the previously obtained bachelor's education.

The core theme of the programme is "growth," which is viewed not only in an economic context but also in a cultural, social, ethical and individual level, which is consistent with the nature of creative industry processes. It is complex, combines seemingly opposing characteristics, and the

characteristic of operational models differ from those typical of other fields.

Image no. 1. Programme structure matrix



The study programme is designed to provide a foundation for successful research and professional activity in the creative industries with diverse study subjects. The LAC-implemented part of the study programme corresponds to the study direction "Art". The clusters "Culture and Creative Industries" (Part A) include LAC-implemented study courses "Creative Industries Development " (4 CP), "Branding and reputation Management in Creative Industries " (4 CP) and "Arts conceptualization strategies and contexts " (6 CP). These courses fully correspond to LAC study direction "Art" as well as the specifics of creative industries, as it integrates knowledge and understanding of cultural and art development processes, the most important trends in the creative industry, and the role of modern graphic design in the field of creative industries. The cluster "Growth Management" (Part A) includes LAC-implemented study courses "Growth in Creative Industries" (6 CP), " Laboratory of Public Speech and Contact Improvisation " (4 CP) and "Research Design" (4 CP) which strengthens the base of humanities and arts sciences and corresponds to the following characteristics of the industry and science sectors: the particularly high importance of individual creativity, flexibility, reflexivity and analysis of current industry phenomena and the use of modern methods. The cluster "Business" (Part A) includes RTU-implemented study courses "Marketing and Digital Transformation" (4 CP), "Business Modeling" (4 CP), " Lifestyle Financial Management " (6 CP).

The programme has one entrance examination - an in-person interview, which includes an examination of the prerequisite knowledge required for successful completion of the Master's study programme. The interview covers the student's previous work experience, and vision for future professional activities, as well as the proposal for the Master's thesis. The student's understanding of creative industries in Latvia and globally, entrepreneurship and culture is also tested. The candidate must be able to clearly and substantively present their motivation to study in the programme. The commission may ask additional questions about culture, creative industries, entrepreneurship, as well as the candidate's plans for professional activities. The entrance exams are organized and evaluated by an entrance examination evaluation commission, which is approved by the Rector of LAC, and in which the programme director of RTU also participates. The admission of foreign students from third countries, including the selection of students according to the programme's admission criteria, which are in line with the common study programme guidelines of the LAC and RTU. Interviews, evaluation and processing of required documents, etc. are carried out

by the International Cooperation and Foreign Students Department of RTU.

The programme is implemented in Latvian and also in English since study year 2021/2022, with the same content and identical process for organizing studies for both languages. During the academic year 2021/2022, 1st-year students of the programme study only in English, 2nd-year students in Latvian. The study process in English strengthens internationalization, as attracting students from different countries allows to prepare professionals who are more open to cooperation, as well as to expand the discussion about the importance of creative industries and development perspectives.

The chosen entrance examination allows the programme to admit students through a competitive process who are interested in the creative industries and whose personalities ensure a high-quality study process. Thus, together with the structure of the programme and the content of study courses, it is possible to achieve the result of the study programme:

1. Upon completion of the study programme, the graduate will be able to independently formulate and critically analyse the processes and challenges of the creative industries globally and locally under the leadership of various types of organizations, to substantiate and communicate decisions critical for growth and to implement changes in various areas and sectors;
2. Upon completion of the study programme, the graduate will be able to integrate the theories and methods of humanities and social sciences in an interdisciplinary manner, to contribute to the creation of new knowledge, to develop their research and professional competence;
3. Upon completion of the study programme, the graduate will be able to identify formal and informal collaborative opportunities, to fully utilize and develop them in creative industry ecosystems, to form and manage interdisciplinary teams, creative industry organizations, to foster collaborative growth;
4. Upon completion of the study programme, the graduate will be able to independently manage their professional and personal growth, to reflect on the development of their competencies and career goals and to understand the connection with the broader development trends of the creative industries.

In the attachment:

A sample of the diploma and its appendices to be issued for completion of the study program (see appendix 3.1.2.)

3.1.3. Economic and/ or social substantiation of the study programme, analysis of graduates' employment.

Graduates from creative industry programmes make significant contributions to the development of businesses in the field by identifying diverse development opportunities and creating innovative and high-value products and services. They lead creative industry companies and cultural organizations, promoting the development of the creative industry in various sectors and driving change within them. The programme is necessary because it addresses a current societal problem - developing critical thinking skills for leaders and changemakers, unlocking individual creative potential, and promoting international collaboration. The programme has both economic and social long-term impacts on job market of the creative industry. Growth management is offered as an original concept, expanding the scope of growth thinking and applying it to a broader approach to growth in the creative industries, including both organizational and sector-wide growth promotion.

In the context of the programme growth management is understood as a specific set of skills and knowledge that promotes goal-oriented action to promote growth at the personal, organizational, and global level, thus ensuring sustainable and diverse development of the creative industry. Growth encourages change, but changes must be adjusted. In order to follow the various social changes in a global context, creativity and strategic thinking must be mastered. Growth management skills help to sustain and manage all the changing processes. In creative industries, an approach following growth thinking principles at the personal level is a prerequisite for creating new ideas, products, and services, at the organizational level the approach is needed for developing talents, promoting teamwork, and ensuring the successful operation of the organization in conditions of global competition. It is necessary to look at growth opportunities in a complex way, taking into consideration creativity, artistic values, diversity, and variety, while strategically aiming at business goals. To do this, a person needs creative thinking, openness and willingness to improve themselves.

The students of the programme are already employed when beginning the studies. They are managers or leaders for international or locally important enterprises, for example, British Council Latvia, advertisement and TV production agencies, NGOs of the field of culture, business owners, project managers and business developers, as well as social media content creators, specialists of sub-sectors of creative industries, municipality and State officials. Graduates of the programme are employed in companies and organizations such as Riga International Film Festival "Riga IFF", the association "Ascendum", the film studio "Fly For Film", the Ministry of Finance of Latvia, the studio "Red Dot Media", A/S "Printful", the design store "M50", the creative quarter "VEFFRESH", the British Council in Latvia, the advertising agency "Ozols", the McCann Riga agency, SIA "All Media Latvia", A/S "Arbo Windows Trading", SIA "Philip Morris Latvia", as well as several municipalities and companies abroad.

During evaluation meetings on January 30th, 2021, July 12th, 2021 and June 15th, 2022, students discussed and confirmed that there is still a niche for specialists who combine artistic/cultural/creative skills and an understanding of business aspects. They also appreciated the unique synergy of knowledge provided by the programme. Some students mentioned that they chose to study this programme to drive growth in other fields of science (specifically outside creative industries), recognizing the value and broad applicability of creativity resources. The programme will continue to develop in the direction of unlocking the potential of individual creativity, critical thinking and internationalization.

In 2021, programme students had the opportunity to virtually attend important conferences in the field of creative industries, "Subject Creativity 2021" and "TechChill 2021. In spring 2022, all programme students participated in the "Spring Academy" programme on personal and professional growth organized by the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre. During October 2022, second-year Master's programme students participated in the Erasmus BIP programme "Participatory art in public space" together with students of "Design and Transition" from the French university of Polytechnic Institute Rennes, and students from the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre Master's programme "Culture management", which in turn significantly expanded international collaboration.

As part of Project No. 8.2.3.0/018/A/020 "Efficiency of management and modernization of study processes at Latvian Academy of Culture and Latvian College of Culture", integrated cooperation with mentors has been modelled in Bachelor's and Master's level study programmes. This promotes the ability of students to analyse the main element of culture and the creative industry - the creative product - and the acquisition of related skills, providing practical experience in the development of creative industry products and personal growth under the guidance of practitioners - mentors. Students of the programme participate in the mentoring programme every year,

developing their professional skills and competencies.

3.1.4. Statistical data on the students of the respective study programme, the dynamics of the number of the students, and the factors affecting the changes to the number of the students. The analysis shall be broken down into different study forms, types, and languages.

As of December 2022, there are 28 students enrolled in the programme, 13 in the first year and 15 in the second year, of which 4 are on study break. Since study year of 2022/2021 the study programme is implemented in English and 13 students study in English in the 1st year. It is planned that from 2022/2023, studies will be provided in both Latvian and English.

In order to successfully attract foreign students from third countries to the study program "Creative Industry and Growth Management", the promotion of the programme in these countries is carried out by the International Cooperation and Foreign Students Department of RTU (RTU SSĀSD), using RTU Study and Information Centers abroad, the services of educational agencies, with the participation of international education at exhibitions and performing other activities to attract students. In the study year 2022/2023, a total of 13 students were enrolled in the programme, of which four were foreign students (Germany, Russia, Sri Lanka). The result is considered a good achievement, considering that the cooperation with RTU SSĀSD was started only in May 2022, when the services of educational agencies and international education exhibitions were no longer available.

In the accreditation application for the "Creative Industries and Growth Management" programme, it was planned to admit an average of 20 students per year (8 places with financing from state budget funds and 12 places with funds from individuals or organizations).

In the 2020/2021 academic year, 12 state-funded study places were approved for the "Creative Industries and Growth Management" programme by the ruling No. 7 of the Senate of LAC meeting on June 15th, 2020. In total, 19 students were enrolled in the programme for the 2020/2021 academic year. In the 2021/2022 academic year, 8 state-funded study places were approved for the programme by the ruling No. 15 of the Senate meeting on March 15th, 2021. But with the ruling No. 1 of the Admissions Committee of LAC meeting on July 17th, 2021, the number of state-funded study places in the academic Master's programme "Creative Industries and Growth Management" for the 2021/2022. academic year was increased from 8 to 9. In the 2021/2022. academic year, a total of 11 students were enrolled in the programme. The results of the 2021 admissions were greatly affected by the remote study process in the 2020/2021 academic year due to the situation of COVID-19. Due to pandemic induced fatigue, there was a decrease in interest in Master's studies among Bachelor's programme graduates, several informative events were postponed, which required modifying the study communication plans to adapt to addressing potential students in an online format.

In the attachement:

Statistics on the students in the reporting period (see annex 3.1.4._5)

3.1.5. Substantiation of the development of the joint study programme and description and evaluation of the choice of partner universities, including information on the

development and implementation of the joint study programme (if applicable).

The development of the study programme was conducted within the framework of the European Social Fund Project "Development of New Study Programmes for the labour market of the cultural and creative industries sector" (No. 8.2.1.0/18/A/018). The necessity of the new study programme is in line within the Appendix No. 1 of the LAC development strategy "Educational Programme Development Plan 2016-2020" in the addition "Development and Consolidation Plan of Study Programmes of the Latvian Academy of Culture". The addition indicates the reoccurring renewal of the content of study programmes, as well as the plan to create 5 new (including joint) study programmes by 2020. The study programme "Creative Industries and Growth Management" is one of these programmes.

The development of joint programme promotes interdisciplinary cooperation between LAC and RTU, which is a prerequisite for the development of creative industries. Since 2016, both universities have already had a successful, functioning, and in-demand bachelor's degree programme of "Creative Industries", and a logical next step was to offer education at the next level. The collaboration continued with RTU in line with a shared vision for the development of creative industries and the strategic targets of the Faculty of Engineering Economics and Management (FEEM), namely, the excellence of the study process, scientific activity, organization, and recognition, as well as the provision of excellence in infrastructure and the creation of an academic environment in the fields of management, economics, and security. Within the framework of the RTU study direction, the goal is to provide students with sustainable, multi-level education in the field of management and business, promoting the development of competitive and prosperity-enhancing careers and preparing internationally recognized, highly qualified specialists in various areas of management, administration, and industry management that are also essential for the successful implementation of the joint study programme. The Development Strategy of the Latvian Academy of Culture 2023-2027 projects *to ensure the provision of study, research and creative work results that allow the creation, development, preservation and popularization of national cultural values, traditions and cultural heritage within the Latvian cultural space, ensure openness to cultural diversity and loyalty-based intercultural communication, contribute to the development of the film and performing arts (theatre and dance) sectors, audio-visual arts, creative and cultural industries, including promoting the export potential of these sectors and industries* (available: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pLPD08ZbMWe7nRtVaSQQZhvTCJLxiaie/view>). The Joint Master's degree programme of LAC and RTU, combining the competences of the accredited study directions of both universities, promotes interdisciplinary cooperation in the development of leaders of creative industries. The programme is designed to prepare growth-oriented, creatively and strategically thinking, diversity-appreciating and capable change leaders who are growth and collaboration-oriented and can see the laws of the creative industries in a broader context. The interdisciplinary knowledge of the programme graduates allows for a deeper understanding of the opportunities for cooperation between different sectors, the need for change and the mechanisms for its implementation, furthermore, promoting the application of business and cultural competencies for development. The cooperation agreement on the implementation of the joint study program is available in the appendix (see annex 3.1.5._4).

The joint study programme of LAC and RTU complies with the conditions for the development of joint study programmes defined in the Law on Higher Education (see annex 3.1.5._4).

The parts of the joint study programme of LAC and RTU form a coherent and sequential joint study programme covering the study courses offered by both universities. The two universities mutually

coordinate all issues related to the implementation of the study programme, and students in both universities have equal opportunities:

- 1) in both universities, the study programme is managed by directors who cooperate with each other and coordinate the issues related to the implementation of the programme and cooperate with the teaching staff involved in the implementation of the programme in their university;
- 2) the council of joint study programmes of LAC and RTU has been established (see below);
- 3) the lecture schedule is planned and mutually agreed upon - LAC or RTU lecture days are planned for students, so that they do not have to change location within one day;
- 4) students can choose and learn freely optional courses at both universities;
- 5) students from both universities can go on Erasmus mobility;
- 6) unified methodological instructions for the development of master's theses have been created, which harmonize the approaches and requirements of both universities for the development of final theses and they have been published on the websites of both universities (LAC e-study environment and RTU e-study environment, available to authorized users – students and teaching staff);
- 7) the teaching staff of the two universities cooperate in managing master's theses, which is an essential prerequisite for achieving the interdisciplinary results of the programme. Each master's thesis has 2 supervisors - one from LAC and one from RTU, there are regular meetings of both supervisors and students. Seminars of the supervisors of the final theses of both universities are held in order to promote a unified development process. The teaching staff of both universities participate in the work of the master's theses defense commission;
- 8) the timetable for the submission of the most important works of the programme is agreed and published on the e-study environment of both universities for the subsequent study year;
- 9) there are joint formal and informal meetings of teaching staff involved in the implementation of the programme.

In order to ensure programme supervision and quality, a joint study programme council of LAC and RTU has been established. The Council is a collegial institution and the programme directors of both universities and representatives of the universities nominated by vice-rectors work in it. A student of the programme also participates in the council meetings as an observer. The competence of the council is to monitor the implementation of the programme and to approve changes to the study programme; to request and receive information from universities on issues relevant to the implementation of the study programme; to decide on the topics of the final theses, to approve the scientific supervisors, reviewers and defense procedures, etc. issues related to study work; discuss mutual financial settlements and their procedures; determine the amount of study fees and other payments related to the study process; coordinate the common marketing activities of the study programs. Council meetings are held once a month, they are recorded. The activity of the council is regulated by the regulations of the joint study programme council of LAC and RTU (See annex 3.1.5._4).

In the attachment:

Compliance of the joint study programme with the provisions of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (see annex 3.1.5._4).

3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof

3.2.1. Analysis of the content of the study programme. Assessment of the interrelation between the information included in the study courses/ modules, the intended learning outcomes, the set aims and other indicators with the aims of the study course/ module and the aims and intended outcomes of the study programme. Assessment of the relevance of the content of the study courses/ modules and compliance with the needs of the relevant industry, labour market and with the trends in science on how and whether the content of the study courses/ modules is updated in line with the development trends of the relevant industry, labour market, and science.

The results achieved in the study courses of the study programme provide a balanced contribution in reaching the results of the study programme. Within the offered framework, each study course is specifically aimed at one or two results, while also contributing to parts from other programme results. This planned link between results is the basis for the programme results.

Result No. 1: Be able to independently formulate and critically analyse the processes and challenges of the creative industries globally and locally under the leadership of various types of organizations, to substantiate and communicate decisions critical for growth and to implement changes in various areas and sectors.

This result formulation emphasizes the understanding of industry processes in a global context as the basis for decision-making in a leadership role. A range of study courses will provide such understanding from various perspectives. For example, the application of the course "Arts conceptualization strategies and contexts" (4 CP) is aimed at enabling students to critically analyse the key aesthetic and ideological features, their impact on national contexts, and operations of creative industry as a basis for implementing changes, emphasizing and assessing the importance and decisive role of art in creating changes. The course "Creative Industries Development"(4 CP) is aimed at mastering the main concepts and theoretical models that allow understanding the most important processes of culture and the creative sector as a complex, mutually related unified system. A number of courses have results oriented towards different aspects of organizational management, like courses "Strategies and Integrated Talent Management"(6 CP), Business Modeling"(4 CP), "Branding and reputation Management in Creative Industries"(4 CP), "Marketing and Digital Transformation" (4 CP).

Result No. 2: Be able to integrate the theories and methods of humanities and social sciences in an interdisciplinary manner, to contribute to the creation of new knowledge, to develop their research and professional competence.

This result formulation emphasizes the ability to apply analytical tools from both the humanities and social sciences, as Creative Industries combines fields of arts, culture, and business. Overall, the structure of the entire programme promotes the implementation of this goal, with both fields of study represented in a balanced manner. Interdisciplinary awareness will be implemented through several courses – in the beginning of both primarily research-oriented study courses ("Research Design"(4 CP) and "Master's Thesis"(20 CP)), followed by study courses that will particularly strengthen the humanities basis ("Arts Discourse"(4 CP), " Social, Economical and Political Processes of Cultural Sector"(4CP), "Arts conceptualization strategies and contexts"(4 CP)), as well as study courses whose theoretical material and study tasks combine both fields of study, integrating knowledge of culture, history, social processes, and economics ("Creative Industries Development"(4 CP), "Strategy and Integrated Talent Management"(6 CP), "Marketing and Digital Transformation"(4 CP), " Fundamentals of Managerial Finance"(4 CP), "Business Economics"(4 CP)).

Results No. 3: Be able to identify formal and informal collaborative opportunities, to fully utilize and develop them in creative industry ecosystems, to form and manage interdisciplinary teams, creative industry organizations, to foster collaborative growth.

This formulation of the result emphasizes the ability to collaborate, while taking into consideration that Creative Industries operate as a closely interconnected network of elements where creativity is the main resource. To allow creating this collaborative environment, the results from courses "Creative Industries Development"(4 CP),"Strategy and Integrated Talent Management"(6 CP), "Lifestyle Financial Management"(4 CP), and "Laboratory of Public Speech and Contact Improvisation"(4 CP) provide tools for developing communication and leadership skills. The results of the courses "Growth in Creative Industries"(6 CP) and "Branding and reputation Management in Creative Industries"(4 CP) facilitate opportunities for promoting the growth of those involved in collaboration.

Result No. 4: Be able to independently manage their professional and personal growth, to reflect on the development of their competencies and career goals and to understand the connection with the broader development trends of the creative industries.

This formulation of the result emphasizes self-directed growth at the individual level. The programme's courses promote this outcome both directly and indirectly. The courses "Growth in Creative Industries"(6 CP), "Laboratory of Public Speech and Contact Improvisation"(4 CP) are fully focused on promoting personal growth, while the courses "Creative Industries Development"(4 CP), "Lifestyle Financial Management"(6 CP) "Business Modeling"(4 CP), "Marketing and Digital Transformation"(4 CP) provide opportunities to reflect on the connection of individual actions with broader industry processes. Additionally, the course "Growth in Creative Industries"(6 CP) includes intensive feedback and skill development by analysing student's development on individual level (in the first semester), in relation to the organizational environment (in the second semester), and in a broader international context (in the third semester).

In summary, the content of the study programme is updated in accordance with the trends in the industry, labour market and scientific development related to the significance of a rapidly changing context, creativity and flexibility, as well as the importance of developing entrepreneurship in the creative sector.

1. Specifically focuses on high individual creativity, flexibility, and reflexivity: "Growth in Creative Industries"(6 CP), "Laboratory of Public Speech and Contact Improvisation"(4 CP), "Strategy and Integrated Talent Management"(6 CP);
2. Impact of global societal and consumer trends on the creation and distribution of industry products: "Social, Economical and Political Processes of Cultural Sector"(4 CP), "Development of Creative Industries"(4 CP) "Marketing and Digital Transformation"(4 CP);
3. Ability to understand current cultural and artistic processes: "Social, Economical and Political Processes of Cultural Sector"(4 CP), "Arts Discourse"(4 CP), "Arts conceptualization strategies and contexts"(4 CP);
4. The importance of entrepreneurship and developing entrepreneurial skills in the creative sector: "Branding and reputation Management in Creative Industries"(4 CP), "Lifestyle Financial Management"(6 CP) "Strategy and Integrated Talent Management"(6 CP) "Business Modeling"(4 CP);
5. Analysis of current industry phenomena and use of modern methods: "Research Design"(4 CP), "Master's Thesis"(20 CP).

In the attachment:

Compliance of the study programme with the national education standard (see Appendix 3.2.1.-1)

Mapping of study courses/modules for achieving study results of the study programme (see appendix 3.2.1.-2)

Study programme plan (see appendix 3.2.1.-3)

Descriptions of study courses/modules (see appendix 3.2.1.-4)

3.2.2. In the case of master's and doctoral study programmes, specify and provide the justification as to whether the degrees are awarded in view of the developments and findings in the field of science or artistic creation. In the case of a doctoral study programme, provide a description of the main research roadmaps and the impact of the study programme on research and other education levels (if applicable).

In the fourth semester of the programme, each student develops a master's thesis - an individual and independent research work of 20 credit points, which is the final examination of the programme and its component is the pre-defence and public defence of the master's thesis in a final thesis defence commission jointly created by LAC and RTU. The master's thesis is a written, independent, interdisciplinary research that attests to the student's ability and skill to identify, analyse and solve problems relevant to the programme and the creative industries, the student must be able to develop sound and original recommendations for their solution.

The master's thesis is the most important research work of the programme, which attests to the student's knowledge and skills acquired within the programme. The master's thesis demonstrates in-depth knowledge of the programme and current professional issues in the relevant field, which is the fundamental basis for original research. During the development of the master's thesis, the student chooses a topic that is interesting and relevant, meets the goals of the programme, includes the need for a scientific problem resolution, justifies its relevance, studies and analyses scientific literature, applies empirical research (including business data analysis, etc.), and in cooperation with the scientific advisor, develops an independent research work, which includes the author's original conclusions and recommendations.

The research provides recommendations for practical implementation of results for acknowledged, detailed, and specific problem in creative industries, which differ from the bachelor's thesis in terms of the depth of the problem being studied, the scope of the research, the level of detail in theoretical and empirical analysis, and the level of innovation in the conclusions. This is accomplished in accordance with the 7th level requirements of The Latvian Qualifications Framework (LQF). The master's thesis is evaluated by two reviewers, one from the academic environment and one from the professional environment, ensuring that the results of the master's thesis also reach industry practitioners and provide a real contribution to the development of the industry.

3.2.3. Assessment of the study programme including the study course/ module implementation methods by indicating what the methods are, and how they contribute to the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study courses and the aims of the study programme. In the case of a joint study programme, or in case the study programme is implemented in a foreign language or in the form of distance learning, describe in detail the methods used to deliver such a study programme. Provide an explanation of how the

student-centred principles are taken into account in the implementation of the study process.

In the joint study programme, lectures are planned in the form of modules in both Latvian and English. The lecture schedule is planned so that students can focus on a thorough understanding of the topic and ensuring additional time studying it in-depth. All evaluations are planned within the course, not at a separate time after completing the course. At the beginning of the course, the lecturer introduces the students to the course description, which includes the topics covered in the course, practical work done during the study process, literature to be studied, specific requirements for earning credit points, examination forms and evaluation criteria.

The study programme in English is organized based on two years of experience in implementing the programme in Latvian and is designed identically. In English as well as in Latvian, lectures are organized in module format and all evaluations are planned within the study course and not at a separate time after completing the study courses. The study course description indicates the topics to be learned in the course, the practical work to be done during the study process, the literature to be studied, the exact requirements for obtaining credit points, test forms and evaluation criteria. All study materials are available for students in LAC e-study environment LAIS and MOODLE (LAC) and RTU e-study environment ORTUS (RTU).

Both in Latvian and English, the implementation of student-centred education principles in the joint study programme is promoted by the planned significant proportion of seminars, practical lessons, and individual choices in specific topics. The seminar format encourages student participation, gives the opportunity to assess each student's individual knowledge and interests, promotes students' skills and adequate evaluation of their performance. Within the programme, students are given the opportunity to choose from several offered methods that are most suitable for them and benefit their professional development. For example, the study course "Growth in Creative Industries" in the first semester is planned for the whole semester to monitor the personal and professional development of students and provide mutual mentoring with students of the master's programme "Cultural Management" of the Estonian Academy of Theater and Music. In the second semester, students participate in a 48h hackathon to promote closer cooperation with professionals in the cultural and creative sector. In the third semester, the study work must be done together with the students of Erasmus University Rotterdam, developing an international project.

In order for the methods used to meet the goals of the programme, the lecturer of each study course discusses them with the director of the programme at LAC or RTU. The main method that contributes to the achievement of the goals of the joint programme is the involvement of the heads of both universities in the development of the master's thesis (see more in section 3.2.6.)

Both in Latvian and English, each course in the semester is concluded with an examination, in which, according to the course requirements, the student's knowledge, skills and competences are evaluated. The form, manner of execution and evaluation criteria for the examinations of the courses implemented at the Latvian Academy of Culture are defined by the course description approved by the department.

The A and B parts of the programme are completed by fulfilling the requirements set by the course lecturer, which are defined in the course description. A positive evaluation is obtained and the course is passed if a passing grade (from 4 to 10) is received. The C part or elective courses are completed by passing the examination

Both in Latvian and English, the evaluation of students' knowledge is done in accordance with

"Regulations on State Academic Education Standards" and in accordance with the "Regulations on Examinations in Academic Bachelor's and Master's Programme at the Latvian Academy of Culture" of LAC and the "Regulations on Study Results Evaluation" of RTU.

The study results are evaluated based on two quantitative criteria - a 10-grade scale and the number of credit points obtained by passing the course.

The following principles are observed in the evaluation:

- principle of mandatory assessment - at the end of each course, a successful evaluation is mandatory;
- principle of transparency and clarity of evaluation criteria - the requirements for each course's assessment are outlined in the course description, which is available to all students on the *LAIS* and *MOODLE* information systems, and is also explained at the beginning of the course. The content and scope of the assessment corresponds to the content of the course;
- principle of diversity of assessment forms - tests, independent work, creative work, seminars, attendance, exams (written, oral, practical work), defence of practice, defence of the master's thesis;
- opportunity to review the evaluation;
- students' rights to contest the evaluation are described in the "Regulations on Examinations in Academic Bachelor's and Master's Programmes at the Latvian Academy of Culture".

The student-centred approach is also ensured in communication with students, regularly discussing the progress of the programme and the study process. The programme directors maintain direct personal and open communication with each student and the course as a whole, recommend additional activities, provide support, and share most relevant news and challenges from the industry.

3.2.4. If the study programme envisages an internship, describe the internship opportunities offered to students, provision and work organization, including whether the higher education institution/ college helps students to find an internship place. If the study programme is implemented in a foreign language, provide information on how internship opportunities are provided in a foreign language, including for foreign students. To provide analysis and evaluation of the connection of the tasks set for students during the internship included in the study programme with the learning outcomes of the study programme (if applicable).

The study programme does not include internship.

3.2.5. Evaluation and description of the promotion opportunities and the promotion process provided to the students of the doctoral study programme (if applicable).

3.2.6. Analysis and assessment of the topics of the final theses of the students, their relevance in the respective field, including the labour market, and the marks of the final

theses.

The topics of master's thesis are related to the development of culture and creative industries. In order to ensure a direct connection with industry practitioners, the master's thesis is evaluated not only by an academic reviewer but also by an industry reviewer. In 2022, the industry reviewers for the master's thesis were the following experts: Antra Priede, Curator, Vice-Rector of The Art Academy of Latvia, Elīna Drāke, Director of "Kim?" Contemporary Art Center, Artūrs Bernovskis, Founder and CEO of "Efektio", Zane Brikmāne, Cultural Journalist of Latvian Television, Kārlis Kivlenieks, Crypto Industry Expert, Senior Expert of Student Innovation Grant Programme in Latvian University, Asnāte Avotniece, Owner of Abgunstes Manor, Diāna Čivle, Event Producer.

According to the industry reviewers, the following Master's theses were rated as excellent and driving the development of the industry: **"New Artist Career Development Strategies and Business Models"**, **"Television Show Branding in the Context of Digital Transformation"**, **"Challenges of Latvian Artists in Cryptomedia: Business Model Analysis"**, **"Assessment of the Impact of Creative Residencies on Local Community Development"**, and **"Controversial Social Image and Its Relationship with Artist Brand Reputation and Artwork Value"**. The Master's theses **"Development of Nightlife and Entertainment Industry in Riga as a Creative City"** and **"Social and Economic Impact of Digitalization and Digital Innovations on the Art Market in Latvia"** were also considered to provide practical contribution to solving problematic issues within the industry.

The master thesis of Zane Neimane under the title **"Career development and business models of a young artist"** was recommended by a reviewer to be published, highlighting that *"the research helps visually thinking creative minds orient themselves in the various theories presented in the text. The author has made an important contribution and, with her research, has made an excellent mediation step that often lacks in the traditional knowledge transfer, leaving both sides in confusion and in a state of potential conflict."* Based on the thesis, a monograph was published under the project "Cultural Capital as a Resource for Sustainable Development of Latvia" /CARD (No. VPP-KM-LKRVA-2020/1-0003) which is conducted by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia in the framework of the National Research Programme 'Latvian Culture – a Resource for National Development' (2020-2022) named **"Career development and business models of a young artist"**. The publishing of monograph was approved by the Science and Arts Council of Latvian Academy of Culture in October 13th, 2022 (Protocol No. 2/2022).

In June 20th, 2022, the grades for the defended master's theses were as follows: 9 (excellent) - two ratings, 8 (very good) - four ratings, 7 (good) - one rating, 6 (almost good) - one rating.

The programme actively involves students in research projects that will result in master's theses developed within the research projects. Second-year programme student Una Arbidane is involved as an executor in the research project " Rethinking Creative Cities: Networks, Intermediaries, Development Prospects/ REPRINT" (No. Izp-2021/1-0588), which is implemented within the Fundamental and Applied Research Projects (FLPP) programme.

Second-year student Nadina Medne is involved as an executor in the project "Cultural Capital as a Resource for Sustainable Development of Latvia" /CARD (No. VPP-KM-LKRVA-2020/1-0003) which is conducted by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia in the framework of the National Research Programme 'Latvian Culture – a Resource for National Development' (2020-2022)".

3.3. Resources and Provision of the Study Programme

3.3.1. Assessment of the compliance of the resources and provision (study provision, scientific support (if applicable), informative provision (including libraries), material and technical provision, and financial provision) with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the learning outcomes to be achieved by providing the respective examples.

In the study process both universities use the e-learning environment (LKA –Moodle and the Latvian Higher Education Institutions Information System (LAIS), RTU –ORTUS), which ensures the full flow of information with students, access to resources and information. Moodle provides the necessary communication with students in the study process. Each course includes a course description, lecture materials and additional sources, references, tests and evaluation books. The use of the e-learning environment takes place in all study courses and its use is intensified with the provision of study process remotely. From November 2018 to June 2021, the European Social Fund project “Efficiency of Management of the Latvian Academy of Culture and the Latvian College of Culture and Modernisation of the Study Process” was implemented at the LAC (No. 8.2.3.0/018/A/020). Within the project, during the year 2019-2020, the LAC e-learning environment was significantly improved, including:

- Significant improvements in functionality have been made in the e-learning environment Moodle, increasing the efficiency and quality of studies. Since September 2019, the LAC has been transferring study course materials in digital format using e-learning environment resources (Files, URLs, Pages) and adapting students' performance testing using Task, Test and Seminar activities. The improved e-learning environment is used to strengthen the components of students' self-directed learning in education -by developing self-assessment tests of current knowledge and using other self-assessment tools;
- significant improvement of LAIS functions was performed (for example, orders for term papers were created, a printout of the inter-university diploma supplement was prepared, the section “Student” was significantly improved, transitions between different sections were simplified, etc.);
- training of system administrator and lecturers has taken place. An e-learning platform specialist is involved, who provides daily support to lecturers on e-learning environment use issues. Since 2020, in addition to the LAC e-learning environment user manual in PDF format, video tutorials for teachers on the use of LAC e-learning environment resources and activities have been developed. In 2020/2021 a solution for the centralised entry of grades and conclusion of test protocols in the e-learning environment was introduced. From December 2020 to June 2020, with the help of project funding, the LAC subscribed to the services of the company Respondus Lock Down Browser and Respondus Monitor, which ensured the fair conduct of examinations and tests in several study courses;
- programming works have been carried out to improve the efficiency of the governance information system at the LAC study department, accounting and personnel department. As a result, the exchange of LAIS data with the Horizon system used in accounting and personnel management is ensured, thus facilitating the administration of a higher quality study process;
- One large auditorium of the LAC is fully adapted to provide high-quality distance learning and

- conferences, equipping it with a modern speaker, microphone, overhead projector system;
- Improved sharing tools –RTU lecturers are registered in the e-learning environment, study content is shared, students have more convenient access to information.

An important contribution to the university sharing system is the adding of the LAC to the common plagiarism control system, which promotes the improvement of academic integrity throughout the study environment in Latvia. The regulations governing the development and presentation of the Master's thesis of the programme, including the procedure for pre-presentation and defence, are available on the information websites of both universities. They are available on the LAC website and RTU ORTUS system. Methodological materials are available in several of the study courses.

Both universities also regularly add resources to the library by purchasing books and subscribing to databases that will be available to students of the Creative Industries and Growth Management programme at both universities. In the RTU library (<http://www.zb.rtu.lv/>), students also have access to methodological classrooms, where they can get acquainted with the latest periodicals, statistical materials, books, conference materials on economics and business issues, which is an important resource to improve students' professional development in the field of business topics. A particularly important approach to current research in the industry is during the study course "Research Design" (4 CP). The study process is fully provided with the latest study literature, which students receive at the RTU Central Library or textbook subscription and can be used throughout the studies. Students and academic staff have access to an extensive and modern RTU scientific library (Kīpsala, Paula Valdena street5), where it is possible to use all types of educational literature, electronic subscribed databases as well as temporary trial databases: Springer Link data base, The IEEE/IET Electronic Library (IEL), The Web of Science, Contents of the Latvian standards database: Latvian national standards (LVS); European standards adapted as Latvian standards (EN); International Standards (ISO) adapted as Latvian standards, EBSCO databases, Academic Search Complete, Business Source Complete, MasterFile Premier, Library, Information Science & Technology Abstracts (LISTA), ScienceDirect, SCOPUS (published by Elsevier), News, archives, reviews and nozare.lv are available in the national news agency database LETA, Learning Materials Repository –MERLOT, Latvian film database - Filmas.lv, Firms.lv - a data licensee of the Register of Enterprises of the Republic of Latvia.

In order to achieve study results in study courses related to the overarching topic "Business" ("Lifestyle Financial Management"(6 CP) and "Business Modeling" (4 CP)), students are introduced and trained to use The Bloomberg Lab, which is very extensive data base, covering all the world's financial data, data on companies, securities, transactions, marketing activities, real estate and other taxes. RTU ensures that students of the joint programme also have access to the Firms.lv and Amadeus database, which can be used for both study and research purposes. In addition to international cooperation, Harvard Business Publishing provides access to electronic resources. In addition to international cooperation, Harvard Business Publishing provides access to electronic resources. Every month, the latest literature is indicated in the latest edition of the literature bulletin (<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/studijas/biblioteka/jaunieguvumi>) in the section "Economics and Management".

The decision on the necessary and supplementary resources is made by the programme directors and, according to the procedure established by each university, they refer the issue to their university for consideration. Reconciling the needs with the financial possibilities of the university, the replenishment of resources is supported, rejected or transferred to the next period's budget.

See section 2.3.2 for more information about the infrastructural and material-technical provision necessary for the implementation of the field of study and the corresponding study programs, and about the system and procedures applied to the development and acquisition of methodological

and informational provision, see section 2.3.3.

3.3.2. Assessment of the study provision and scientific base support, including the resources provided within the framework of cooperation with other science institutes and higher education institutions (applicable to doctoral study programmes) (if applicable).

3.3.3. Indicate data on the available funding for the corresponding study programme, its funding sources and their use for the development of the study programme. Provide information on the costs per one student within this study programme, indicating the items included in the cost calculation and the percentage distribution of funding between the specified items. The minimum number of students in the study programme in order to ensure the profitability of the study programme (indicating separately the information on each language, type and form of the study programme implementation).

The costs of the programme are calculated in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers Regulations of December 12, 2006 No. 994 "The order in which universities and colleges are financed from the state budget". The current base fee for a study place is EUR 1 630.11. According to the mentioned Regulation No. 994 point 13 study cost coefficient for master's study programmes is 1.5. According to Clause 20 of Appendix 1 of the Regulations, the Academy's funding for one master's study place in the thematic field of education "Arts (excluding the programmes mentioned in Clause 28 of this Appendix)" has a coefficient of 3.1. The estimated amount of the state grant in 2022 is EUR 6 796 for one budget place. Performance funding per 1 student in the programme is EUR 239 per student and tuition fees are on average EUR 1 769, taking into account that tuition fees are revised annually.

The funding of the study programme in 2022 is EUR 113 560, it is formed from the budget grant, performance funding and tuition fees. The cost calculations include all expenditure items necessary for the programme, the programme calculation is based on the following split: 53% compensation for ECC (economic classification codes) 1000, 8% ECC goods and services 2000 and 9% other ECC. The high proportion of other EKK expenses is explained by the fact that this is a joint programme and all income is shared between the involved universities. A cost calculation is carried out every year, after which the number of guest lecturers and the amount diverted for the development of study programmes are determined, which is a part of own revenue, in 2022 in the amount of 25%, which amounts to EUR 1 769. The programme is created primarily, on the basis of funding from the state budget, and the own revenue is directed to maximize the extent of the development of the programme and covering unexpected expenses. Great attention is given to optimizing the implementation costs of the study programme, for example, by organizing flow lectures in courses taught by professors and providing remote lectures.

The minimum number of students in the study programme is 20 budget places.

The programme is full time in-class attendance and studies are conducted in Latvian and starting from 2022 also available in English. The costs of the programme in 2022 are the same for those studying in Latvian and English. Foreign lecturers are recruited regardless of the language in which the study process is carried out.

3.4. Teaching Staff

3.4.1. Assessment of the compliance of the qualification of the teaching staff members (academic staff members, visiting professors, visiting associate professors, visiting docents, visiting lecturers, and visiting assistants) involved in the implementation of the study programme with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the provisions set out in the respective regulatory enactments. Provide information on how the qualification of the teaching staff members contributes to the achievement of the learning outcomes.

The selection of teaching staff involved in implementing the programme is organized in accordance with the requirements set out in normative documents, taking into account their competences in the humanities and social sciences and their professional activities, as well as their achievements in research or artistic creative work. The programme is implemented by 14 teachers from the LAC, including five professors, three associate professors, one emeritus professor, one leading researcher, two associate professors, one lecturer and one scientific assistant, a total of nine teachers with a Ph.D. Four responsible teaching staff from RTU are involved, of them two professors, one associate professor and one assistant professor, all responsible teaching staff have a doctorate degree.

In academic master's degree programmes, the responsible academic staff for creation and the content of the programme are the staff members also called "responsible teaching staff". Under the guidance of the responsible teaching staff, a team of lecturers can participate in the implementation of the study course, which may include doctors, industry professionals, researchers, and guest lecturers. A different team of lecturers with appropriate education and, if necessary, professional experience may be involved in the implementation of each study course, in which case the course description will indicate both the responsible lecturer and the lecturers who are implementing the course in the specific programme. The responsible lecturer for the course may implement the course alone, in which case only the responsible lecturer is indicated in the course description

The content of study courses is directly linked with relevant tendencies and knowledge in creative industries, which is evidenced by the regular involvement of guest lecturers.

Since the autumn semester of 2021, in the course of "Arts conceptualization strategies and contexts" guest lectures are organized at School of Jānis Lūsēns Ozols, introducing not only the music industry and the composer's work, but also the challenges of the residency. In January 2022, guest lectures were held and led by Christian Frattima, Artistic Director of Milano Coin du Roi - Société d'Opéra, and Hannele Kand, a theatre specialist from Estonia. In the fall semester of 2022, industry professionals worked with students to expand their vision on the role of art in facilitating development - Viesturs Celmiņš, Mārtiņš Engēlis, Alexis Alamel (Associate Professor at Sciences Po Rennes), Olga Žitluhina, and Professor Aigars Bikše from Art Academy of Latvia." Attracting guest lecturers helps to achieve study results - promotes the ability to identify formal and informal cooperation in the creative industry ecosystem and creates a connection with broader development trends of creative industries.

Since the programme began in the autumn of 2020, every year the teachers of the course "Art

Discourse" organize guest lectures at the contemporary art centre "KIM?", Zuzeum exhibition hall, Latvian National Art Museum and its branches. In addition, the course "Social, Economical and Political Processes of Cultural Sector," guest lecturers are regularly involved - event producer Diana Čivle on large event management, design thinking expert from NGO "Radi!" Līva Stūrmane on creative city development, Professor Igor Mavrin on the development and issues of European Capital of Culture, and international cultural management expert from NGO "Creative Mentorship" Tatjana Nikolic from Serbia on the challenges of cultural policy in Europe.

In the course "Growth in Creative Industries," poet and translator Ingmāra Balode has been leading the "Creative Writing Seminar" since 2020, developing the competence of her research and professional activity.

In 2021, in the course "Branding and reputation Management in Creative Industries," a guest lecture on "Employer Branding" was given by branding expert Kersti Vanna, founder and director of Employer Branding Consultancy "INSTAR." The lecture was organized to expand the students' understanding of the history, strategic significance, global trends and concepts of employer branding. In 2021, guest lectures were also given by Justinas Ignatavičienės, head of the marketing department of the Lithuanian National Opera and Ballet Theatre. In 2022, guest lectures were given by Kristaps Siliņš, Director at advertising agency "McCANN Riga" and Partner in the agency "White Label", and Andreea Turuc from Moldova on the challenges of public image building.

LAC teaching staff ensure the quality of the study process by continuously improving their professional qualifications and are also recognized experts in their professional field. For example, Assoc. Prof. Ieva Zemīte has been a member and the Latvian representative of the European Union expert working group on open coordination methods for issues related to the status and employment of artists and creative people since 2021. Ieva Zemīte has been a member of the International Association for Cultural Economics (ACEI) since 2018. The teaching staff involved in the implementation of the study programme participated in the training on digital skills development and leadership improvement for 64 academic hours, which was financed and implemented in 2021 under the project No. 8.2.2.0/18/A/018 "Development of Latvian Academy of Culture academic staff - investment in study quality." During 2019 and 2020, English language skills development training was carried out twice a week for 9 months, with a total of 144 academic hours.

Since 2020, teaching staff of the programme have been implementing research projects funded by the Latvian Science Council. FLPP project "Creative Industries in Small Cities: Contributions to Sustainability" - Assoc. Prof. Dr. Oec. Ieva Zemīte, Assoc. Prof. Ph. D. Agnese Hermāne, lead researcher Dr. sc. soc. Ilona Kunda. The project was implemented in 2021, and the findings of this research were also incorporated into the courses. From 2022 to 2024, the same team will implement a new FLPP project "Rethinking Creative Cities: Networks, Intermediaries, Development Prospects/ REPRINT" in which Lect. Mg. Sc. Soc. Ance Kristāla is also involved. A. Kristāla and I. Kunda are also involved in the implementation of the VPP "Digital Resources for Humanities: Integration and Development" (2020-2022).

RTU teaching staff is increasing their qualifications in Latvian companies for a total of 200 hours within the European Social Fund Project No. 8.2.2.0/18/A/017 "Development of the Academic Personnel of Riga Technical University in the Strategic Fields of Specialization". Assoc. Prof. D. Ščeuļovs is a certified trainer in the LEGO SERIOUS PLAY© method and uses this method in teaching the course "Business Modeling". Furthermore, D. Ščeuļovs has increased his professional qualifications at Buffalo University in the USA in 2021, within the RTU project "Support for RTU international cooperation projects in research and innovation" (1.1.1.5/18/I/008). During the study programme, since September 2020, 10 teachers have been involved in incoming and outgoing

mobility (both in-person and online classes).

Teaching staff professional development strengthens the results of the programme, because the teaching staff manages their professional and personal growth, reflects on the improvement of their competences and career goals, thus promoting students' understanding of the importance and connection with the wider development trends of the creative industries.

The CV of RTU teaching staff and the list of publications is available in the annex (see Other annexes, annex "RTU mācībspēki / RTU teaching staff").

3.4.2. Analysis and assessment of the changes to the composition of the teaching staff over the reporting period and their impact on the study quality.

In order to ensure the course of the study programme in English for the 2022/2023 academic year, foreign teachers are being purposefully involved in courses. In the course "Arts conceptualization strategies and contexts"(4 CP), guest professor and researcher Dagmar Reichardt (<https://www.dagmar-reichardt.net/>) is teaching. In the course "Growth in Creative Industries"(6 CP), to ensure the international cooperation theme in the 3rd semester, a professor from Erasmus University Rotterdam, Frans Brouwer from the Netherlands has been recruited. He involves students in creating and collaborating on international challenges not only with foreign clients but also with students from Erasmus University Rotterdam. In developing foreign professor involvement, in 2021, the course "Social, Political and Economic Aspects of the Cultural Sector"(4 CP) was taught by Professor Ullrich Kochel from Heriot-Watt University in Scotland.

3.4.3. Information on the number of the scientific publications of the academic staff members, involved in the implementation of doctoral study programme, as published during the reporting period by listing the most significant publications published in Scopus or WoS CC indexed journals. As for the social sciences, humanitarian sciences, and the science of art, the scientific publications published in ERIH+ indexed journals or peer-reviewed monographs may be additionally specified. Information on the teaching staff included in the database of experts of the Latvian Council of Science in the relevant field of science (total number, name of the lecturer, field of science in which the teaching staff has the status of an expert and expiration date of the Latvian Council of Science expert) (if applicable).

3.4.4. Information on the participation of the academic staff, involved in the implementation of the doctoral study programme, in scientific projects as project managers or prime contractors/ subproject managers/ leading researchers by specifying the name of the relevant project, as well as the source and the amount of the funding. Provide information on the reporting period (if applicable).

3.4.5. Assessment of the cooperation between the teaching staff members by specifying the mechanisms used to promote the cooperation and ensure the interrelation between the study programme and study courses/ modules. Specify also the proportion of the number of the students and the teaching staff within the study programme (at the moment of the submission of the Self-Assessment Report).

The study process includes regular formal and informal meetings between colleagues from both universities, which promotes mutual cooperation, among teachers and students. For example, a joint meeting of teaching staff from RTU and LAC took place in January 2022, introducing teachers to the process of master's thesis supervision and current issues. In January 2023, a strategic meeting of the joint study programme council of LAC and RTU took place to evaluate the previous cooperation.

The teaching staff of the programme cooperate on a daily basis in various issues related to the study process. After the first semester, when the students in the course "Growth in Creative Industries" have defined their growth goals, they are introduced to the teaching staff of the 2nd semester courses at both RTU and LAC, ensuring a student-centred approach and a targeted review of the course content. Teachers coordinate with each other and with the programme directors to ensure that there is no overlap in content and a logical course connection. Since the programme is new, the study courses are being improved based on the feedback from students and teaching staff.

LAC and RTU provide approximately equivalent programme content. The programme is staffed by academic staff from various RTU and LAC educational units, so joint events and seminars are an important aspect of ensuring the quality of the programme. Teaching staff from both universities participate in the graduation ceremonies of the programme's graduates.

Taking into account the number of academic staff who are elected to LAC and work full-time, the ratio of students to teachers is one teacher per student.

Annexes

III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme		
Sample of the diploma and its supplement to be issued for completing the study programme	3.1.2._RIIM.zip	3.1.2._RIIM.zip
For academic study programmes - Opinion of the Council of Higher Education in accordance with Section 55, Paragraph two of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)		
Compliance of the joint study programme with the provisions of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (table) (if applicable)	3.1.5._4. RIIM joint programme.zip	3.1.5._4. RIIM kopīgā programma.zip
Statistics on the students in the reporting period	3.1.4._Annex 5_statistical data on students mRIIM 2020_2022.pdf	3.1.4._5. pielikums_mRIIM studejosos skaits 2020_2022.pdf
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof		
Compliance with the study programme with the State Education Standard	3.2.1.-1._state standard_mRIIM.docx	3.2.1.-1_valsts standarts_mRIIM.docx
Compliance of the qualification to be acquired upon completion of the study programme with the professional standard or the requirements for professional qualification (if applicable)		
Compliance of the study programme with the specific regulatory framework applicable to the relevant field (if applicable)		
Mapping of the study courses/ modules for the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study programme	3.2.1.-2._course mapping_mRIIM.xlsx	3.2.1.-2_kursu kartējums_mRIIM.xlsx
The curriculum of the study programme (for each type and form of the implementation of the study programme)	3.2.1.-3_curriculum_mRIIM.xlsx	3.2.1.-3_prog. plāns_mRIIM.xlsx
Descriptions of the study courses/ modules	3.2.1.-4._course descriptions_mRIIM.zip	3.2.1.-4._kursa apraksti_mRIIM.zip
Description of the organisation of the internship of the students (if applicable)		
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.4. Teaching Staff		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the doctoral study programme includes not less than five doctors, of which at least three are experts approved by the Latvian Council of Science in the branch or sub-branch of science in which the study programme intends to award a scientific degree (if applicable)		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the academic study programme complies with the requirements specified in Section 55, Paragraph one, Clause 3 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)	ENG_CONFIRMATION_mRIIM.pdf	mRIIM.zip

Arts (51213)

Study field	Arts
ProcedureStudyProgram.Name	Arts
Education classification code	51213
Type of the study programme	Doctoral study programme
Name of the study programme director	Inga
Surname of the study programme director	Pērkone- Redoviča
E-mail of the study programme director	inga.perkone@lka.edu.lv
Title of the study programme director	Dr.art.
Phone of the study programme director	
Goal of the study programme	<i>The strategic objective of the study programme is to organise professional studies meeting cultural, public and societal needs, based in artistic creativity and science, as well as applicable in artistic practice, as a result of which skills of creating highly valuable art works based on scientific research are acquired and practical skills in the implementation of unique artistic ideas are developed.</i>
Tasks of the study programme	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. To provide in-depth theoretical knowledge about contemporary arts, including music and performing arts, visual arts and design, audiovisual arts, theatre and contemporary dance, development trends of their theoretical concepts, interdisciplinary interaction, unity and interaction between artistic and research practice and research-based practice models and methods;</i> <i>2. To acquire skills to independently assess and choose methods suitable for artistic innovation research and to apply the acquired knowledge, by implementing artistic projects of high artistic value, by implementing large-scale original projects, contributing directly to the expansion of knowledge or offering new understanding of existing knowledge;</i> <i>3. To gain the ability to effectively communicate about one's professional artistic and research-based artistic activity with narrow circles of specialists and with broader public;</i> <i>4. In carrying out independent, critical analysis, synthesis and assessment, to gain the ability to resolve relevant issues of the highest level of complexity relating to the area of one's artistic activity and its development;</i> <i>5. To gain the ability to plan, structure and lead projects of artistic innovation of a large scale, including international level.</i>

Results of the study programme	<p><i>Upon completion of the Joint Professional Doctoral Study programme in Arts "Art", the doctoral student:</i></p> <p><i>1) Is able to prove that they know and understand the most relevant scientific theories and concepts, are proficient in research methodology and contemporary research methods in the relevant sector of art or culture or in the professional sector and at the intersection between various spheres.</i></p> <p><i>2) Can independently assess and choose methods adequate for artistic innovation, including research-based innovation, has contributed to expanding the boundaries of knowledge or has attributed new understanding to existing knowledge and their application in practice, by performing creative artistic work, or a large-scale original research, a part of which is done at the level of internationally cited publications.</i></p> <p><i>3) Can communicate both verbally and in writing regarding their respective area of artistic activity with broader professional circles and with society on the whole.</i></p> <p><i>4) Can independently apply professional knowledge in pedagogical, didactic and methodical work at the level of higher education.</i></p> <p><i>5) Can independently improve their professional qualification, implement research-based innovation projects, by reaching achievements meeting international criteria of the specific field, manage research-based innovation or development tasks in companies, establishments and organisations, where vast research-based innovative knowledge and skills are required.</i></p> <p><i>6) Can independently enhance artistically high-value work creation skills and develop practical skills in the implementation of unique international level ideas and artistic creativity.</i></p> <p><i>7) Can, by performing independent critical analysis, synthesis and assessment, perform significant research-based innovation or artistic innovation tasks in areas of artistic activity, independently propose a research idea, plan, structure and manage large-scale artistic creativity projects, including international projects.</i></p>
Final examination upon the completion of the study programme	<i>A state examination, which includes the development and defense of a doctoral theoretical research and an artistic creative work.</i>

Study programme forms

Full time studies - 3 years - latvian

Study type and form	<i>Full time studies</i>
Duration in full years	<i>3</i>
Duration in month	<i>0</i>
Language	<i>latvian</i>
Amount (CP)	<i>132</i>
Admission requirements (in English)	<i>High-level art professionals who have a master's degree in humanities or a master's degree in social sciences, or an equivalent higher education, or a professional master's degree in music or choreography can apply for studies in one of the sub-programmes.</i>

Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Professional Doctor's Degree in Arts</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	-

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
Latvian Academy of Culture	RĪGA	LUDZAS IELA 24, LATGALES PRIEKŠPILSĒTA, RĪGA, LV-1003

Full time studies - 3 years - english

Study type and form	<i>Full time studies</i>
Duration in full years	<i>3</i>
Duration in month	<i>0</i>
Language	<i>english</i>
Amount (CP)	<i>132</i>
Admission requirements (in English)	<i>High-level art professionals who have a master's degree in humanities or a master's degree in social sciences, or an equivalent higher education, or a professional master's degree in music or choreography can apply for studies in one of the sub-programmes. At least level B2 English language proficiency</i>
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Professional Doctor's Degree in Arts</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	-

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
Latvian Academy of Culture	RĪGA	LUDZAS IELA 24, LATGALES PRIEKŠPILSĒTA, RĪGA, LV-1003

3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme

3.1.1. Description and analysis of changes in the parameters of the study programme made since the issuance of the previous accreditation form of the study field or issuance of the study programme license, if the study programme is not included on the accreditation form of the study field, including changes planned within the evaluation procedure of the study field evaluation procedure.

Since the issuance of license number 2020/05K on September 30th, 2020, the Latvian Academy of Culture has not made any changes to the parameters of the joint professional doctoral study programme in arts "Arts", and no changes are planned within the assessment procedures of the study direction.

On the basis of the "Agreement on the Implementation of the Sub-programmes "Music and Performing Arts", "Visual Arts and Design" and "Audiovisual Arts, Theatre and Contemporary Dance" of the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme in "Arts" in the study field Arts" concluded on 6 September 2019 (see Annex No. 18), the following sub-programmes shall be provided in the study programme of the above educational institutions:

1. The JVLAM implements the sub-programme "Music and Performing Arts" (code 51212) - fields of artistic activity: Music, choreography;
2. The LMA implements the sub-programme "Visual Art and Design" (code 5121 1/3/4) - fields of artistic activity: Visual Arts, Audio Visual and Media Arts, Design;
3. LAC implements the sub-programme "Audiovisual Art, Theatre and Contemporary Dance" (code 51213) - artistic fields of Audiovisual Art, Theatre Art, Contemporary Dance Art.

The Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme in arts titled "Arts" complies with the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No. 617 (2 October 2018) "Regulations on the National Standard of the Professional Higher Education for the Doctoral Degree and the Procedures for Awarding of the Professional Doctoral Degree in Arts". Duration of full-time studies is 3 years. In accordance with the requirements of the "Regulations on the National Standard of the Professional Higher Education for the Doctoral Degree and the Procedures for Awarding of the Professional Doctoral Degree in Arts", the programme has 132 CP / 198 ECTS. Credit points are awarded for each course of studies (including practice) completed if the examination mark is positive. Results of the studies are recorded, reflected in the study cards, discussed and analysed at the meetings of the Study Programme Council at the end of each semester, as well as during the semester work process, analysing performances in concerts or other artistic stage or design projects and events.

Upon successful completion of a vocational doctoral study programme in one of the sub-programmes, defense of an artistic newly created work and theoretical study, the State Examination Commission awards Doctoral Degree in Arts.

3.1.2. Analysis and assessment of the study programme compliance with the study field. Analysis of the interrelation between the code of the study programme, the degree, professional qualification/professional qualification requirements or the degree and professional qualification to be acquired, the aims, objectives, learning outcomes, and the

admission requirements. Description of the duration and scope of the implementation of the study programme (including different options of the study programme implementation) and evaluation of its usefulness.

According to the issued license for the joint professional study programme in arts "Arts" implemented by the Latvian Academy of Culture (hereinafter - LAC), Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music (hereinafter - JVLMA), and the Art Academy of Latvia (hereinafter referred to as AAL) and structured in three sub-programmes, four codes have been assigned - 51211, 51212, 51213, 51214. Partner universities provide the following sub-programmes in the study programme:

1. LAC implements the sub-programme "*Audiovisual Arts, Theatre and Contemporary Dance*" (code 51213) - artistic areas of Audiovisual Arts, Theatre Arts, Contemporary Dance Arts;
2. JVLMA implements the sub-programme "*Music and Performing Arts*" (code 51212) - artistic areas of Music, Choreography;
3. AAL implements the sub-programme "*Visual Arts and Design*" (code 51211, 51213, 51214) - artistic areas of Visual Arts, Audiovisual and Media Arts, Design.

The names and codes of the programme and included sub-programmes, comply with the regulations of the Ministry of Education No. 322 "*Regulations on the Classification of Education in Latvia,*" which indicates that the educational thematic group "*Humanities and Arts*" includes education programmes "*Visual Arts*" (code 51211), "*Music and Performing Arts*" (code 51212), "*Audiovisual and Media Arts*" (code 51213), "*Design*" (code 51214) which corresponds to the educational field "Arts" in Latvia. The degree awarded also corresponds to both the programme code and the requirements of the Cabinet Regulation No. 617 of 02.10.2018 "*Regulation on the national standard of professional higher education at level of doctoral degree and a procedure for granting a professional doctoral degree in arts*"

The programme's compliance with the educational field of "Arts" is confirmed by the study modules and courses implemented in the programme, which provide in-depth theoretical knowledge, as well as promote skills in creating artistically high-quality works based on scientific research and developed practical skills for unique artistic idea.

The program is licensed in English and Latvian, which promotes international recognition. 2021/2022 in the academic year, the first English speaking doctoral student was admitted to the program, which ensures the operation of the program in both languages.

Professional doctoral studies promote competitiveness of the students of the Latvian institutions of higher education in culture and arts both in Latvia and internationally. Latvian institutions of higher education in culture and arts are able to participate in the activities of the European network of universities on an equal footing with other countries, through joint vocational doctoral study programmes, mobility and cooperation projects, as well as artistic initiatives.

The Professional doctoral study programme in Arts affects the achievement of the objectives and growth priorities of the "Smart Specialisation Strategy", emphasizing the importance of arts and culture in creation of public welfare, integration and education by compiling contents for information and communication technology innovations, development of the creative capital of human resources, creation of added value in creative industries.

The strategic goal of the professional doctoral study programme in arts "Arts" is defined in accordance with Cabinet Regulation No. 617 "*Regulations on the State Standard for Professional*

Higher Education for Obtaining a Doctor's Degree and the Procedure for Awarding a Professional Doctor's Degree in Arts" and ensuring professional studies that meet the cultural, societal and social needs, based on artistic innovation and science, resulting in applicable skills in artistic practice, where graduates portray skills of creating high-quality artistic works based on scientific research and practical skills that are developed during the study process to demonstrate the implementation of original, unique artistic ideas. Therefore, the tasks of the programme are:

1. provide in-depth theoretical knowledge in contemporary arts, including music and performing arts, visual arts and design, audiovisual arts, theatre, and contemporary dance, the development of their theoretical concepts, interdisciplinary interaction, unity and interaction of artistic and research practices, and research-based practice models and methods;
2. to develop skills to independently evaluate and choose methods for artistic research and creation, to apply the knowledge gained to create high-quality artistic projects, as well as original projects of significant importance that contribute to the expansion of knowledge or provide a new understanding of existing knowledge;
3. to gain the ability to effectively communicate about one's professional artistic and research-based artistic activity with narrow circles of specialists and with broader public;
4. to acquire the ability to independently analyse, synthesize and evaluate current issues of high complexity related to the field of artistic activity and its development;
5. to acquire the ability to plan, structure and lead large-scale artistic projects, including international projects.

The programme fully **meets the direction of higher education "Arts" and its ultimate goal** - to provide sustainable, consecutive, interdisciplinary higher and postgraduate (doctoral) education in the field of culture, arts and the creative sector, to prepare competitive professionals in the field of culture and arts (theatre, dance and audiovisual arts), to deepen the integration of education, research and artistic creation processes in the national and international cultural, art and creative ecosystem. The programme also **meets the common goals of the study direction**, particularly - to develop research and artistic creation-based cultural education, to provide high-quality, internationally recognized studies in culture and the arts (theatre, dance and audiovisual arts) as well as in the creative industry sector, ensuring full-cycle consecutive studies in undergraduate and graduate level programmes, as well as in scientific or professional doctoral study programmes.

Study results expected at the end of the study programme:

Knowledge (knowledge and understanding) - a doctoral student, by acquiring the courses of the compulsory part of studies, which provide in-depth acquisition of the latest developments in the theory and practice of the field of artistic activity, including the courses of the joint study module *Innovative and Interdisciplinary International Interaction of the Arts: Interaction and Role of Arts within the Context of the 20th-21st Century Developments* (implemented by JVLAM), *Art of Living on Art* (implemented by JVLAM), *Art and Philosophy* (implemented by LMA), *Contexts of Contemporary Art and Design* (implemented by LMA), *Interdisciplinary Aspects of Culture and Art Studies* (implemented by LKA), *Current Trends in Audiovisual and Performing Arts* (implemented by LKA); research work study courses: *Elaboration of theoretical research*, joint study module *Artistic Research Methodology and Methods*, study courses *Artistic Research in Music* (implemented by JVLAM), *Research Methods in Art and Design*, *Artistic Research Methodology* (implemented by LMA), *Research Methods in Audiovisual and Performing Arts* (implemented by LKA), as well as *Doctoral Research Seminars* and restricted elective courses, are able to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of the most up-to-date scientific theories and findings, have a good command of research methodology and contemporary research methods in a given artistic or

cultural area or professional field and at the interaction between different fields.

Skills (ability to apply knowledge, communication, general skills) - when acquiring courses of the compulsory part, the restricted part and the practical part of the study courses, a doctoral student **is able to:**

- independently evaluate and select methods appropriate to artistic creativity, including research-based creativity, has contributed to the expansion of the frontiers of knowledge or to a new understanding of existing knowledge and its application in practice, through artistic creativity in artistic fields or original research of significant scope, part of which is at the level of internationally cited publications;

- communicate, both orally and in writing, on his/her field of artistic activity with a broader professional community and the public at large;

- carry out artistic creativity projects of international importance;

- independently upgrade their professional qualifications, carry out research-based creative projects, achieving international benchmarks in their field, manage research-based creative or development tasks in companies, institutions and organisations where extensive research-based innovation knowledge and skills are required;

- independently enhance their skills in creating works of high artistic value and to develop practical skills in the implementation of unique ideas and artistic creativity at an international level.

Competence (analysis, synthesis and evaluation) - as a result of the study programme, the doctoral student is able, by independent, critical analysis, synthesis and evaluation, to solve significant research-based innovation or artistic creativity tasks in the fields of artistic activity, to independently propose a research idea, plan, structure and manage large-scale artistic creativity projects, including international ones.

In full-time studies, not less than 25 per cent of the study programme (excluding the scope intended for artistic practice, the theoretical doctoral research required for the award of the Professional doctoral degree in arts and the elaboration of the artistic creative work) shall consist of contact hours.

The title, degree, qualification, aim, objectives, results of the study programme are mutually coherent, because, in addition to the common theoretical courses in the modules "Innovative and Interdisciplinary International Interaction of the Arts" (Part A_1) and "Methodology and Methods of Artistic Research" (Part A_2), there is an opportunity to acquire in-depth knowledge and skills related to theoretical research and artistic project elaboration in individual study courses (Parts B and C) administered by each institution of higher education separately.

Admission requirements are set by the Senate of each partner institution of higher education, since the existence of the required background knowledge, skills and competences ensures the achievement of the study programme results. Doctoral students in the JVLAM sub-programme "Music and Performing Arts" are admitted to an open and equal competition on the basis of a professional aptitude test and a colloquium. Thus, on the basis of the results of the evaluation of the artistic creativity entries, the competition reveals the applicant's creative capacity, ability to balance the artistic intention with the appropriate form of presentation, ability to judge and argue independently, to orient oneself in the issues of one's artistic field.

The aim, tasks, and results of the three subprograms of Joint Professional Doctoral Programme in Arts "Arts" are mutually united, because there is an identical study plan, in which only the Arts' areas of the individual study courses (parts B and C) are different and

administered by each institution.

Upon completion of the Joint Professional Doctoral Study programme in Arts "Art", the doctoral student:

- 1) Is able to prove that they know and understand the most relevant scientific theories and concepts, are proficient in research methodology and contemporary research methods in the relevant sector of art or culture or in the professional sector and at the intersection between various spheres.
- 2) Can independently assess and choose methods adequate for artistic innovation, including research-based innovation, has contributed to expanding the boundaries of knowledge or has attributed new understanding to existing knowledge and their application in practice, by performing creative artistic work, or a large-scale original research, a part of which is done at the level of internationally cited publications;
- 3) Can communicate both verbally and in writing regarding their respective area of artistic activity with broader professional circles and with society on the whole;
- 4) Can independently apply professional knowledge in pedagogical, didactic and methodical work at the level of higher education.
- 5) Can independently improve their professional qualification, implement research-based innovation projects, by reaching achievements meeting international criteria of the specific field, manage research-based innovation or development tasks in companies, establishments and organisations, where vast research-based innovative knowledge and skills are required;
- 6) Can independently enhance artistically high-value work creation skills and develop practical skills in the implementation of unique international level ideas and artistic creativity;
- 7) Can, by performing independent critical analysis, synthesis and assessment, perform significant research-based innovation or artistic innovation tasks in areas of artistic activity, independently propose a research idea, plan, structure and manage large-scale artistic creativity projects, including international projects.

The result of the study to achieve the defined knowledge, skills and competencies are facilitated by the co-dependency of admission criteria and the goals and tasks of the programme. To achieve an effective study process and promote academic excellence, an entrance exam is organized – interviews. This admission process allows applicants with high motivation and exceptional experience in artistic creation and research be selected. The applicant's submitted artistic creation project and related theoretical research proposal are evaluated, in which the basis for the theme of the artistic creation project is provided, as well as an overview of the problems and solutions of the artistic creation.

3.1.3. Economic and/ or social substantiation of the study programme, analysis of graduates' employment.

The economic and social basis for the joint professional doctoral study programme in arts "Arts" and its sub-programme "Audiovisual Arts, Theatre and Contemporary Dance" is based on research in the field of art corresponding to the programme, including the environment of creative sphere and labour market of audiovisual and performing arts. LAC has a good understanding of the labour

market for audiovisual art, theatre, and contemporary dance in Latvia and closely follows developments and demands in this market, collaborating closely with industry institutions (National Film Center, institutional and independent theatres, film studios, contemporary dance organizations, Latvian Film Producers Association, Latvian Theatre Workers Union, Latvian Cinematographers Association, etc.). LAC teaching staff is also active in scientific research and artistic innovation, owning excellent understanding of professional needs in the field.

The foundation for the development and implementation of the doctoral study programme in arts "Arts" is a research conducted by the Scientific Research Center of the Latvian Academy of Culture titled *"Research on the Succession of the Implementation of Cultural Education in Professional Orientations, Professional Secondary Education, Higher Education Programmes, and the Number of Prepared Specialists Corresponding to the Requirements of the Cultural and Creative Industries Labor Market"* (2017). This document reflects the position of employers in the cultural and creative industries sector regarding the competencies and skills of creative professionals that need to be improved. For example, the need for the development of soft skills. Generally, the following qualities are expected from those working in the sector, both locally and internationally: communication skills, creative thinking, ability to work in a group, decision-making, motivation, flexibility, holistic and contextual thinking and action, critical and logical thinking, emotional intelligence, erudition in cultural and artistic matters, the ability to evaluate the industry, understanding the context of action, strategic thinking, ability to collaborate with various partners from seemingly very different sectors, ability to integrate people from different sectors. Several employers' representatives indicate that those working in the sector need a cultural background, broad knowledge of culture and art, and a general understanding of current cultural processes and history. These aspects are developed within the study programme, in both parts - A and B of the programme. The planning of contents within the sub-programme allows the graduates to be knowledgeable on current industry trends and be erudite within the creative sphere, having an all-around high-quality knowledge between the many disciplines of the industry.

It should be noted that the programme also has an impact on the achievement of the goals and growth priorities set out in the *"Smart Specialisation Strategy"* (<https://www.izm.gov.lv/en/smart-specialisation-strategy>), emphasizing the importance of art and culture in shaping public well-being, integration, and education, contributing to the development of information and communication technology innovations, creating human resource capital, and creating added value in creative industries.

Therefore, the joint professional doctoral study programme "Arts" combining study forces and ability of three universities provides internationally recognized studies at the doctoral level that are adapted to cultural, societal, and social needs, based on artistic innovation and science, as well as applicable in artistic practice. It creates a unified study, research, and artistic creation area, supported by a shared methodology and interdisciplinary research and practice, that allows competitive participation in the European higher education space in the field of art education. A distinctive innovation and advantage of the study programme is its pronounced interdisciplinary approach as a result of the cooperation of the three universities of arts and culture, as well as the programme's cooperation with industry institutions to ensure the connection between research, students and the integration of graduates into the job market. The structure and content of the programme are designed so that doctoral students can apply their theoretical insights in artistic practice, thereby ensuring a balance between theoretical aspects and practical artistic activities. This approach allows doctoral students to organize professional self-realization opportunities at a highest professional level during their studies.

The programme began in 2021, so there are no graduates as of now, but all students already actively work in their artistic field build successful careers based on creative work and/or

artistic research. There are 11 students in the programme in 2022/2023 academic year - of whom 3 are successfully working and achieving great success in the field of audiovisual arts, 1 in contemporary dance, 3 in theatre arts, 3 in theatre and film dramaturgy, and 1 in directing large-scale cultural event directing art.

3.1.4. Statistical data on the students of the respective study programme, the dynamics of the number of the students, and the factors affecting the changes to the number of the students. The analysis shall be broken down into different study forms, types, and languages.

The demand for the study programme is indicated by the stable and targeted interest of the applicants. Since the launch of the study programme in 2021, 3 to 4 PhD students were enrolled in the first year of the sub-programme "*Audiovisual Art, Theatre, and Contemporary Dance*" each year. The license for the implementation of the programme was issued in September 2020, and the first enrolment was organized in the winter of 2021, when 8 applicants applied for 3 state budget places, of which 4 were enrolled; in the summer of 2021, 3 applicants applied for 3 state budget places, and 3 PhD students were enrolled; in the autumn of 2022, 4 applicants applied for 3 state budget places and 4 PhD students were enrolled. Although the competition for study places is not large, the results of the admission assignments and further studies indicate the motivation and interest of the PhD students. The decrease in the number of applicants in the summer of 2021 is explained by the short interval since the first enrolment in the winter of 2021. PhD students are mostly full-time academics.

The implementation of the sub-programme in English is planned in the programme's license, but has not yet been started, although several potential applicants have shown interest in studying in English in the sub-programme "*Audiovisual Art, Theatre, and Contemporary Dance*". The enrolment of students in English will depend on the interest of potential applicants both in Latvia and abroad. For example, in the sub-programme "*Music, Performing Arts, and Choreography*" implemented by JVLMA, 1 student started studying in English in study year 2022/2023, and LAC teaching staff participate in the implementation of parts A and B of the study courses in English.

3.1.5. Substantiation of the development of the joint study programme and description and evaluation of the choice of partner universities, including information on the development and implementation of the joint study programme (if applicable).

The professional Doctor's of Arts degree or a similar degree after the completion of a three-cycle art study programme is awarded in several countries that have joined the Bologna Process or the European Higher Education Area. Until April 2018, Latvia was the only Baltic country where it was not possible to continue studies in the field of arts in a professional Doctoral study programme after Bachelor's and Master's studies.

The necessity to introduce a three-cycle degree structure in studies of arts was identified in several policy planning documents dating since 2014: "*Science, Technology Development and Innovation Basic Guidelines for 2014-2020*" (<https://likumi.lv/ta/id/263464-par-zinatnes-tehnologijas-attistibas-un-inovacijas-pamatnostadnem-2>)

014-2020-gadam - Only in Latvian), "Basic Guidelines for Cultural Policy 2014-2020 "Creative Latvia"" (<https://www.km.gov.lv/lv/media/152/download> - Only in Latvian), as well as "Strategy for the Cultural Education Sector 2014-2020" (<https://www.km.gov.lv/lv/media/160/download> - Only in Latvian), in which the section "Cultural Education and Excellence Development" specified the Ministry of Culture's activities - promoting cooperation between AAL, JVLMA, and LAC in the development of the joint professional doctoral study programme in arts "Arts". The development strategies of previously mentioned universities also planned three-cycle degree structure in their strategies.

On April 1st, 2018, amendments to the Law on Higher Education in Latvia came into effect, changes were made to the regulations of the Cabinet Regulation No. 322 "Regulations on the classification of education in Latvia", as well as Cabinet Regulation No. 617 "Regulations on the State Standard for Professional Higher Education for Obtaining a Doctor's Degree and the Procedure for Awarding a Professional Doctor's Degree in Arts", the approved amendments allowed an opportunity to begin joint professional Doctorate programme in arts "Arts".

The programme is developed and implemented through collaboration of three universities in the fields of art and culture - JVLMA, AAL, and LAC - and is based on the agreement signed on September 6th, 2019 for the implementation of the sub-programmes "Music and Performing Arts", "Visual Arts and Design", and "Audiovisual Arts, Theatre, and Contemporary Dance" within the joint professional Doctoral Study Programme in Arts. The collaboration of LAC, JVLMA, and AAL universities in the development and implementation of the professional Doctoral Study Programme is logical as all three of the universities mentioned offer undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral programmes in the field of Arts and regularly collaborate in scientific research, artistic creation, and developing other various projects. LAC has been the lead partner in the project "Doctoral Grant Approaches for Apprenticeship and Attraction of Foreign Academic Staff to Latvian Academy of Culture" (8.2.2.0/20/I/002), whose goal is to support the growth of academic staff at LAC and its partners AAL and JVLMA, including support for the next generation of researchers, internationalization, international competitiveness, as well as collaboration and resource sharing among the three partner universities. A prominent example of collaboration between LAC, JVLMA, and AAL is also in the project "Cultural Capital as a Resource for Sustainable Development of Latvia" /CARD (No. VPP-KM-LKRVA-2020/1-0003) which is financed by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia in the framework of the National Research Programme "Latvian Culture - a Resource for National Development (2020-2022)" (Project partners: LAC - leading partner, JVLMA, AAL, National Library of Latvia (LNB), Institute of Literature, Folklore and Arts of the University of Latvia (LU LFMI)). This National Research Programme was administered by the Latvian Council of Science.

The development of the joint professional Doctoral Study Programme in arts "Arts" was carried out within the framework of Operational Programme "Growth and employment" of the European Union and its specific objective "Reduce fragmentation of study programs and strengthen resource sharing" (8.2.1.), and in accordance of the 2nd round project "Development of Professional Doctoral Study Programmes in Arts" (No. 8.2.1.0/18/A/009) which apply to objectives put forth in the strategies of JVLMA, AAL, LAC and decisions made by Senates of the universities regarding the implementation and development of the study programme.

The programme was developed in accordance with the goals and priorities set out in the approved strategies of partner universities - "Strategy of the Latvian Academy of Culture 2015-2020", "Development Strategy of the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music 2016-2020" and "Strategy of Long-term Development of the Latvian Academy of Arts" - as well as in accordance with the accredited study direction "Arts" of LAC, JVLMA, and AAL. The development of the programme was implemented in accordance with the strategic specialization defined in "Strategy of Development of the Latvian Academy of Culture 2015-2020" and its 2nd goal "Develop research-based art and

culture education, provide high-quality, internationally recognized studies in the fields of culture and arts (performing arts (theatre and dance) and film arts), audiovisual, cultural and creative industries. Create new, culturally relevant, including interdisciplinary study programmes at the undergraduate and graduate levels, while continuing to improve doctoral study programmes. In the development of interdisciplinary study programmes, develop cooperation with art universities and other partners in education, culture, art and new technology sectors. Create joint study programmes in traditional culture, cultural heritage, creative industries, audiovisual sector." At the same time, the program was developed in accordance with the 5th goal of the Strategic Specialization defined in the Strategy of Development of the Latvian Academy of Culture 2015-2020 "Develop synergy of research and artistic creation (in particular in the field of theatre, dance, film and audiovisual arts) during the study process."

The implementation of the professional Doctoral Study Programme in arts "Arts" fully complies with the state-level normative acts and planning documents in force during the development of the self-evaluation report, including the priorities defined in the Cultural Policy Guidelines 2022-2027. "Cultural State" specifically *"developing joint professional doctoral study programmes in arts, as well as creating and launching a joint academic doctoral study programme in arts. It is also important to continue developing and improving study programmes in accordance with the needs of the cultural sector and creative industries, successfully implementing planned higher education reforms, promoting internationalization of studies, as well as strengthening cultural research and artistic creation processes, promoting innovation and developing products and services with high added value."* (<https://likumi.lv/ta/id/330444-kulturpolitikas-pamatnostadnes-2021-2027-gadam-kulturvalsts> - Only in Latvian).

The implementation of the programme also complies with the strategy of LAC for 2023-2027 in force during the development of the self-evaluation report, in which one of the main attainable results and indicators for achieving during 2023-2027 is defined as the number of people who have obtained a Doctor of Science degree and a professional Doctor degree. In addition, one of the main tasks under the "Quality of Study Process" is to *"Promote the development of academic and professional doctorates"* (D.1.1.4.).

To ensure the quality of the joint professional Doctoral Study Programme "Arts", a document "Regulations of the Council of Professional Doctoral Study Programme in Arts" (available https://www.jvlma.lv/data/doc_studiju_procesu_reglamentejosie_ieksejie_normativie_akti/2.26-2019-10-28-prof-dok-studiju-istenosanas-nolikums.pdf (Latvian only)) has been developed and approved by the Senates of JVLMA, AAL and LAC. It states that the quality system of the study programme is formed and monitored by the council of the programme, the programme director and the sub-programme leaders. The quality of the study process is ensured by every person involved in the study process, in accordance with the procedures of the respective university implementing the sub-programme, unless otherwise stated and indicated. JVLMA appoints the programme director, and each partner university involved in the programme appoints the head of sub-programme. The programme director resolves issues related to planning, implementation and monitoring of the programme, as well as issues related to the common and unified requirements of the sub-programmes. The sub-programme leaders ensure planning and monitoring of the implementation of the content of the sub-programme in accordance with the common and unified requirements of the programme, while also ensuring coordination of the provision of the study process of the sub-programme.

3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof

3.2.1. Analysis of the content of the study programme. Assessment of the interrelation between the information included in the study courses/ modules, the intended learning outcomes, the set aims and other indicators with the aims of the study course/ module and the aims and intended outcomes of the study programme. Assessment of the relevance of the content of the study courses/ modules and compliance with the needs of the relevant industry, labour market and with the trends in science on how and whether the content of the study courses/ modules is updated in line with the development trends of the relevant industry, labour market, and science.

The joint professional doctoral study programme "Arts" consists of 132 CP/ 198 ECTS. The content of the study courses is mutually coordinated and ensures the achievement of the goals and results of the study courses and the study programme (see in appendix no. 3.2.1. the attached map of study courses).

In the **part A** of the study programme each of the participating universities participates to an equal extent, according to the mutual agreement. **Parts B** and **C** of the programme are implemented by each university according to the artistic activity areas of the respective sub-programme. Internships are implemented individually in accordance with the internship regulations and the developed internship tasks.

The content of the programme is structured accordingly:

Part A (compulsory) - 28CP/ 42 ECTS, which consists of two substantive parts – **A1** (12 CP / 18 ECTS) and **A2** (16 CP/ 24 ECTS)

The **A1 module "Innovative and Interdisciplinary International Interaction of Arts"** includes the following study courses: *"Interconnectedness and Role of the Arts within the Context of Developments of the 20th and 21st Centuries"* (conducted by JVLMA, 2 credits/ 3 ECTS), *"Art of Living on Art"* (conducted by JVLMA, 2 credits/ 3 ECTS), *"Art and Philosophy"* (conducted by AAL, 2 credits/ 3 ECTS), *"Contexts of Contemporary Arts and Design"* (conducted by AAL, 2 credits/ 3 ECTS), *"Interdisciplinary Aspects of Culture and Arts Studies"* (conducted by LAC, 2 credits/ 3 ECTS), *"Current Development Tendencies of Audiovisual and Performing Arts"* (conducted by LAC, 2 credits/ 3 ECTS). By completing the courses in this module, the doctorate student will acquire advanced knowledge and understanding of art interactions and their dynamics in the 20th and 21st centuries, research on art interactions in historical and philosophical context, as well as in an international perspective. After completing the module, the doctorate student will be able to apply the knowledge and practical skills acquired professionally, by planning their professional development and in the study process, contextualizing their artistic activity and analysing it in correlation with their research work.

The **A2 module** consists of the following **study courses: "Development of Theoretical Research"** (implemented by the respective university that covers the subprogramme, 4 credits/ 6 ECTS), **"Research Seminars of Doctoral Students"** (jointly implemented by LAC, JVLMA and AAL, 6 credits/ 9 ECTS), and the **module "Methodology and Methods of Artistic Research"** (6 credits/ 9 ECTS). In the course *"Development of Theoretical Research"*, the doctorate student will work with scientific literature and materials of the artistic field, using the knowledge and insights obtained in theoretical courses to develop their doctoral theoretical research. The course *"Research*

Seminars of Doctoral Students" provides the opportunity for doctorate students to present and critically analyse their developed research solutions, methods, models, and results. The module *"Methodology and Methods of Artistic Research"* is made up of the courses *"Artistic Research in Music"* (implemented by JVLMA, 2 credits/ 3 ECTS), *"Research Methods in Art and Design, Methodology of Artistic Research"* (implemented by AAL, 2 credits/ 3 ECTS), and *"Research Methods in Audiovisual and Performance Arts"* (implemented by LAC, 2 credits/ 3 ECTS). The module provides practical knowledge in all three subprogramme areas, providing the doctorate student with the opportunity to learn research methodology in different areas of artistic fields and to meet with professionals from Latvia and worldwide by analysing research-based works of art. As a result, the doctorate student has acquired knowledge and skills in the synthesis of research and artistic field, and is able to develop, evaluate and apply models and methods of artistic research in various areas of artistic directions.

Part B (compulsory choice) - 22 CP/ 33 ECTS:

Development of the Individual Artistic Project (provides the doctorate student with the acquisition of high-value artistic creative project development skills and the ability to improve practical skills in creating unique artistic ideas, improves the doctorate student's skills in the field of artistic activity, and develops the capacity for highly professional artistic activity both in Latvia and in the international market of creative industries).

Artistic Practice – 34 CP/ 51 ECTS

The practice part of the sub-programme implemented by LAC includes *"Practice of Performance or Audiovisual Arts"* (30 CP/ 45 ECTS) and *"HEI Traineeship"* (4 CP/ 6 ECTS), which provides the opportunity to test theoretical findings obtained in studies and research in practical work, promotes the development of professional skills and promotes the integration of theory and practice.

State examinations, consisting of the development and defence of a theoretical study and a creative artistic project – 40 CP/ 60 ECTS

The study programme is concluded with a state examination in the professional - artistic field of the student. The requirements for the state examination of each subprogramme are regulated in the description of the respective study course and in the regulations of the study program.

Part C (free electives) – LV 8/ ECTS 12 CP – free elective study courses are courses of artistic creative work or most recent achievements. Study courses are implemented in the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th semesters. By choosing the offered study courses, the course curriculum is developed by the doctorate students together with the teachers, taking into account the professional wishes of the students for a deeper or wider content.

Students who have not acquired the requirements specified in the Environmental Protection Law and the Civil Protection Law in a lower-level study programme must also take the course *"Civil Protection"* in addition to the programme.

The content of the study course is regularly updated in accordance with not only the trends in the field, the labour market and the development of science, but also in accordance with the individual academic and professional career needs of the specific group of doctorate students. This is ensured by the doctorate student presentations, their discussion in the seminar implemented in the course *"Doctoral Research Seminars"*, as well as the individual cooperation included in the courses *"Development of Artistic Creative Work"* and *"Development of Theoretical Research"* with the supervisor of the artistic creation work and the supervisor of the theoretical research, which encourages an individual approach to the academic and creative growth of each student. The programme teachers are mostly recognized professionals in the field and the academic

environment, who also constantly follow the trends in the field, the labour market, and the development of science in their research and artistic creation work, therefore, updating the content of the courses and modules in this programme is a regular and common practice.

3.2.2. In the case of master's and doctoral study programmes, specify and provide the justification as to whether the degrees are awarded in view of the developments and findings in the field of science or artistic creation. In the case of a doctoral study programme, provide a description of the main research roadmaps and the impact of the study programme on research and other education levels (if applicable).

The **strategic specialization** of Latvian Academy of Culture as a higher education institution in the field of culture and art is closely related to interdisciplinarity in its three operational pillars - educational programmes, scientific research, and artistic creation. **Artistic creation at LAC** is predominantly developed in the directions of theatre arts, audiovisual arts, and contemporary dance and forms a significant reason of LAC's uniqueness and a crucial foundation for LAC belonging to the art and culture field, preparing specialists in theatre, contemporary dance, and film arts. Artistic creation is not only a crucial part of the content of several study programmes and sub-programmes, but also a requirement for the professional activities and qualifications of the involved lecturers.

The awarding of a professional doctorate degree in the subprogramme of "*Audiovisual Art, Theatre, and Contemporary Dance*" within the programme "*Arts*" is closely related to the strategic specialization and the priorities of artistic creation within the LAC. Doctoral students of the programme "*Arts*" build successful careers in artistic creation and academic work, actively participate in the artistic creation and research projects implemented by the Latvian Academy of Culture as initiators, leaders and implementers, develop scientific publications, present their research results at scientific conferences, participate in both local and international masterclasses and symposiums, and participate in the LAC's undergraduate and graduate studies as a teacher or guest lecturer, therefore ensuring direct impact on the artistic creation and research work carried out by the Latvian Academy of Culture.

The awarding of a Doctorate degree is based on achievements and insights in the field of audiovisual art, theatre arts, and contemporary dance. This is ensured and supported by the content of the study courses included in the study programme and the state examinations, according to the specifics of audiovisual art, theatre arts, and contemporary dance, which encompass the development and defence of the doctor's theoretical research and artistic project.

The impact of the Professional Doctoral Programme "*Arts*" on the other education levels of the Latvian Academy of Culture's study direction "*Arts*" is expressed in three aspects: 1) ensuring the continuity of the study programme; 2) promoting the integrity of studies and artistic creation; 3) promoting the academic staff of the undergraduate and graduate study programmes, ensuring continuity of educational growth of the teaching staff.

3.2.3. Assessment of the study programme including the study course/ module implementation methods by indicating what the methods are, and how they contribute to the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study courses and the aims of the study programme. In the case of a joint study programme, or in case the study programme is

implemented in a foreign language or in the form of distance learning, describe in detail the methods used to deliver such a study programme. Provide an explanation of how the student-centred principles are taken into account in the implementation of the study process.

The implementation methods of the professional doctoral programme "Arts" and its sub-programme "Audiovisual Arts, Theatre, and Contemporary Dance" are based on the defined goal of the programme, which is to provide professional studies that are culturally, socially, and scientifically relevant, based on artistic creativity and research, and applicable in artistic practice. The study programme's pedagogical and evaluation methods are selected by the responsible teaching staff based on the content of the course, the specificities of the study programme, and the needs of the student.

The implementation methods and their evaluation within the study programme:

- Lectures (mostly in theoretical study courses) are presented for students with theoretical questions using practical examples, visual material or audiovisual material, etc.; during lectures, teaching staff uses technical means: computers, multimedia projects, sound equipment.
- Seminars – additional process for deepening the theoretical and practical knowledge, in which works of theoretical texts and creative tasks are analysed of audiovisual art, theatre art, contemporary dance art, music, visual art and design, literature and other disciplines of art and culture. Seminars strengthen students' independent information acquisition, analysing, reasoning skills and develop the ability of acquiring knowledge and skills.
- Group works – develops the student's ability to work and cooperate within a team, acquires skill in organizing and completing collective tasks, strengthens the ability to argument and explain individual opinion within the vision of a group. According to the specificity of the study programme, group work is usually organized interdisciplinary, therefore developing knowledge of other fields and specializations in the creative sector.
- Individual assignments – individually completed tasks study of theoretical literature and preparation for seminars, research work, self-reflection, essays, preparing presentations, and conducting creative tasks (rehearsals, filming, etc.)
- Individual sessions - in order to implement an individual approach to the personal artistic and research growth of each student and to promote feedback exchange, the study process includes individual lessons with the supervisor of artistic project and the supervisor of theoretical research related to the artistic project (study courses "*Development of Artistic Project*" and "*Development of Theoretical Research*"), in which, supported by the supervisor, the student supplements theoretical knowledge, analyses his creative and research activity and performs certain individual tasks.
- Practical sessions - provides the knowledge, competences, abilities and skills necessary for the practical ability for audiovisual art, theatre or contemporary dance art fields, helps to integrate and test theoretical knowledge in the practical activity of artistic and creative research, to apply artistic research methods in the creative process. Mainly included in the study course "*Development of Artistic Project*".
- Tests – regular testing of knowledge to make sure of the student's personal growth dynamics, understanding of the learned topics and mastering the necessary terminology.
- Extracurricular activities – students attend dances, theatre performances, art exhibitions, concerts, films, etc., integrating the acquired experience into the study process (knowledge of the context of audiovisual art, theatre, contemporary dance art, etc., ability to analyse

cultural and artistic processes, etc.). Doctoral students participate in conferences organized by LAC, JVLMA and AAL (e.g., LAC's annual international scientific conference "*Culture Crossroads*", student research conference "*The Art-of-Knowing*", etc.) and LAC's annual stage and performing and audiovisual arts festival "*The Autumn of the Patriarch*", therefore strengthening their presentation skills and reaching a wider audience.

Respecting the fact that doctoral students combine their studies with pedagogical and artistic activities by engaging in the specific work environment, and taking into account the work planning of cultural institutions and cultural education institutions. LAC, JVLMA and ALL implement the principles of student-centred education in the implementation of the study process (e.g., creating individual study plans, individualizing study course learning methods, providing individual lessons, regularly evaluating and improving study course implementation methods, trusting student's individual capabilities, and in the same time providing guidance and support from the teaching staff, including consultations). The principles of student-centred education in the programme are also promoted by the proportion of seminar classes both in the content of individual study courses and in the entire programme as a whole. The form of the seminar encourages students' participation in the study process, enables sub-programme heads and teaching staff the opportunity to evaluate the individual knowledge and interests of each student, promotes an adequate evaluation of students' abilities and the work invested. The 6-semester study course "*Research Seminars of Doctoral Students*" contributes to the development of the students' artistic project and related theoretical research, develops the student's presentation skills, promotes discussions between students and lecturers, promotes interdisciplinary cooperation and the exchange of opinions, ensuring additional control of the doctoral student's research and artistic project.

A student-centred approach to the study programme is also ensured in regular communication with students, the programme director and sub-programme heads regularly discuss the content of study programmes and the study process with the students, maintaining direct personal and remote communication with each student and the course as a whole, recommending additional activities, supporting and sharing current information.

Examinations in the study courses of the study programme and assessment of learning the content take place in accordance with the requirements of the Cabinet Regulation No. 617 of 02.10.2018 "*Regulation on the national standard of professional higher education at level of doctoral degree and a procedure for granting a professional doctoral degree in arts*", which determine the basic principles and basic forms of evaluation within the programme. In addition, requirements found in the Study Programme Regulations approved by the Senate of JVLMA, the Study Procedure Regulation approved by the Senate of AAL, and the Regulation on examinations at the Latvian Academy of Culture approved by the Senate of LAC are followed.

In order to obtain a professional doctoral degree in "*Arts*", one must pass a state examination, the components of which are the doctoral theoretical research and the development and defence of the artistic project. The awarding of a professional doctorate in Arts is decided by the state examination commission after completion of an accredited professional doctoral study programme in "*Arts*", development and defence of the doctor's theoretical research and artistic creative work.

In general, the various methods of implementing the study programme, including study courses and modules, are considered appropriate for achieving the results of the study courses and the goals of the study programme.

3.2.4. If the study programme envisages an internship, describe the internship

opportunities offered to students, provision and work organization, including whether the higher education institution/ college helps students to find an internship place. If the study programme is implemented in a foreign language, provide information on how internship opportunities are provided in a foreign language, including for foreign students. To provide analysis and evaluation of the connection of the tasks set for students during the internship included in the study programme with the learning outcomes of the study programme (if applicable).

The procedure for the implementation of internship in the professional doctoral study programme "Arts" is determined in the regulation approved by the Senates JVLMA, LAC and AAL "*Regulation on organising the creative artistic practice in Professional Doctoral Study Programme in "Arts"*".

The following traineeships and practices are implemented within the framework of the Programme:

- sub-programme "*Audiovisual Arts, Theatre and Contemporary Dance*": Performing or Audiovisual Arts Practice and University Traineeship;
- sub-programme "*Music and Performing Arts*": Creative Practice and University Traineeship;
- sub-programme "*Visual Arts and Design*": Creative Artistic or Design Practice and University Creative, Pedagogical and Research Traineeship.

The study programme determines the volume of credits attainable from internship, its distribution by study semesters, and the methods of assessing competency. The goals, achievable results, and content of practice are defined by the descriptions of study courses and the developed practice work programme. The sub-programme supervisor oversees the study course, involving teachers and doctoral artistic creation work and related theoretical research supervisors according to the field of artistic activity. The practice can be carried out in the university or outside of it, in other cultural or cultural education institutions, including outside of Latvia.

The implementation of practice is carried out in accordance with the practice agreements signed between the relevant university and the place of practice or between the university, place of practice, and the doctoral student. The practice agreement includes the goals and tasks of practice, the plan for the conduction of practice, the evaluation procedure for practice achievements, as well as the responsibilities and liabilities of the parties. In determining the goals and tasks of practice, the content also includes the student's acquaintance with the management structure and principles of operation of the relevant practice organization. The representatives of the organizations with which the agreement for the implementation of practice has been signed participate in the determination of the goals and tasks of practice and evaluation.

The **goal of** the student's **practice** is to organize opportunities for doctoral professional self-realization, as a result of which the doctoral student gains experience in professional practical activities, as well as promoting the improvement of qualified and creative teaching staff, deepening the doctoral professional skills and abilities by using theoretical and practical knowledge and insights obtained in the professional doctoral study process.

Performing or Audiovisual Arts Practice (film, theatre and contemporary dance productions, other artistic projects) is carried out as an independent work by the doctoral student. The progress and results of the practice are reflected in the stage or audiovisual practice review, which is submitted to the individual artistic project supervisor at the end of the semester and evaluated.

University Traineeship's implementation of the doctoral practice is primarily provided by the higher education institution implementing the sub-programme with undergraduate and graduate

students. Almost all doctoral students in the *"Audiovisual Arts, Theatre and Contemporary Dance"* sub-programme of the professional doctoral programme are involved in the implementation of the LAC undergraduate and graduate study programmes, teaching courses or working with students in other courses taught by other instructors on themes related to the development of the doctoral thesis (artistic project and related theoretical research). Doctoral students also act as leaders or reviewers in the development and defence of the artistic and research works (course, undergraduate or graduate theses) of undergraduate and graduate programme students. However, considering the creative and pedagogical challenges of the doctoral student, the practice of the higher education institution can also be implemented in collaboration with other Latvian or universities abroad, provided by the extensive local and international network of JVLMA, AAL and LAC. For example, one of the doctoral students of the programme carried out the practice at Liepaja University, participating in the management of the development of a student's master's thesis of the *"Literary Studies"* programme in Liepaja University.

During the self-assessment preparation period, agreements are signed with state organizations - the Latvian National Opera and Ballet, the Latvian National Symphony Orchestra, the State Academic Choir *"Latvija"*, the Latvian National Art Museum, the Latvian National Theatre, Latvian creative organizations - the Latvian Artists Association, the Choreographers Association; organizations - the Music and Art Support Foundation, the design bureau *"H2E"*, *"Art Gallery Daugava - MS"*, Latvian New Theatre Institute. During the implementation of the study programme, the list of cooperation institutions will be supplemented, taking into account the professionally artistic areas represented by the doctoral students and their professional artistic development and growth strategies.

The selection of partner institutions in the context of creative and artistic project practices is linked both to the improvement of the potential doctoral candidate's artistic field of development and to the achievement of the strategic goals and interests of Latvian and foreign cultural institutions as specified in their statutes and corresponding to the artistic fields of the study programme. In most cases, the choice of artistic project locations is made in accordance with the doctoral candidate's professional development plan, with doctoral candidates choosing the practice locations independently. For example, programme students have participated in international contemporary dance projects, collaborated with the film studio *"Mistrus Media"* to develop film scripts, developed the concept of directing a dance production, developed the dramaturgical concept of a theatrical production, and performed other tasks related to audiovisual or stage arts practices according to their artistic field of activity.

As a result of the collaboration, doctoral students gain professional and artistic experience in the cultural and creative industries of the relevant cultural and interdisciplinary performance fields, monitoring their role in the artistic and cultural processes, which allows them to critically evaluate and improve their knowledge, skills, and abilities in the relevant fields, as well as critically evaluate the performance of the appropriate institutions, creating a feedback loop that leads to the improvement of institutional processes in the relevant fields and strengthening the connection of the sub-programme with the industry.

International students within the programme will have internships in place in a foreign language and planned according to *"Regulation on organising the creative artistic practice in Professional Doctoral Study Programme in Arts"* set by LAC, JVLMA, AAL.

"Performing or Audiovisual Arts Practice" and *"University Traineeship"* included in the study programme are implemented in accordance with the goals and tasks of the programme and contribute to the achievement of the programme results.

"Regulation on organising the creative artistic practice in Professional Doctoral Study Programme in

"Arts"" available: https://lkua-my.sharepoint.com/personal/lka_edu_lv/_layouts/15/onedrive.aspx?

3.2.5. Evaluation and description of the promotion opportunities and the promotion process provided to the students of the doctoral study programme (if applicable).

State examination procedure, as well as the procedure for awarding the professional doctorate in the joint professional doctoral programme "Arts" of LAC, JVLMA and AAL with the sub-programmes "*Music and Performing Arts*", "*Visual Arts and Design*" and "*Audiovisual Arts, Theatre and Contemporary Dance*" is defined by the Cabinet Regulation No. 617 "*Regulations on the State Standard for Professional Higher Education for Obtaining a Doctoral Degree and the Procedure for Awarding a Professional Doctoral Degree in Arts*", as well as the Regulations on State Exams and the State Examination Commission in the Professional Doctoral Study Programme in "Arts". (Available:

https://lkua-my.sharepoint.com/personal/austra_cisa_lka_edu_lv/_layouts/15/onedrive.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2Faustra%5Fcisa%5Flka%5Fedu%5Flv%2FDocuments%2F00Akredit%C4%81cija%2FAkredit%C4%81cijas%20dokumenti%202022%2FNolikumi%2FProf%5Fdok%5FNolikums%5Fpar%5Fvalsts%5Fparbaudijumiem%5FEN%2Epdf&parent=%2Fpersonal%2Faustra%5Fcisa%5Flka%5Fedu%5Flv%2FDocuments%2F00Akredit%C4%81cija%2FAkredit%C4%81cijas%20dokumenti%202022%2FNolikumi&ga=1)

Professional doctoral programme "Arts" is concluded with State examination and awarding of the PhD. State examination is conducted by the following procedures:

1. defence of developed artistic project during the study programme;
2. defence of related theoretical research of the artistic project.

Professional doctorate degree in arts is awarded to an individual upon completion of an accredited professional doctoral study programme, following the development and defence of a theoretical doctoral research and artistic project.

The requirements for each subprogramme's State examination are regulated in the respective course description and the regulation of the study programme. The candidate for the doctorate degree in the sub-programme "*Audiovisual Arts, Theatre and Contemporary Dance*" publicly presents one or more artistic projects prepared in accordance with the approved work plan and the chosen field of artistic activity during the study process. The higher education institution implementing the relevant sub-programme forms a state examination commission (hereinafter referred to as the Commission), which evaluates state exams and awards a professional doctorate degree in arts. A separate Commission is created for each field of artistic activity (e.g., each sub-program). The Commission consists of a chairman who holds a doctorate degree in arts, leads the work of the Commission and at least four members of the Commission. The composition of the Commission includes members with a doctorate degree in arts, as well as representatives of professional institutions who engage in contemporary artistic creations (in the relevant industry or related cultural and creative industries). The Commission includes at least one person who has obtained a professional doctorate degree in arts abroad or at least one representative of a foreign organization who engages in contemporary artistic creations. Additionally, the Commission may involve professors from recognized foreign universities in the relevant study programmes and Latvian and foreign experts in the field of doctoral theoretical research and artistic creation. The Commission is approved by the Rector of the higher education institution implementing the relevant sub-program with an order for each academic year. The Council determines two reviewers

for the evaluation of the doctoral candidate's state examination. The reviewer cannot be a relative, direct subordinate or manager of the doctoral candidate, a co-author of the doctoral research, the manager or consultant of the research or artistic project. Reviewers are included in the composition of the state examination commission.

In the state examination "*Development and Defence of the Creative Artistic Project*" for the sub-programme "*Audiovisual Arts, Theatre, and Contemporary Dance*" the doctoral degree candidate publicly presents one or several artistic projects, prepared in the study process according to the approved work plan and the chosen field of artistic activity.

In the state examination "*Development and Defence of the Theoretical Study*", the doctoral candidate submits the text of the theoretical research in 2 copies to the Council no later than one month before the state examination. The reviewers evaluate the theoretical research based on the following criteria: the author has justified the choice of the theme, defined the goals and tasks of the research, characterized the research achievements in the study of the theme and the methods used. The work is original research with results that have significant new contributions in a particular art field. The volume of the theoretical research is not less than 120,000 characters.

The Commission evaluates the knowledge and skills of a doctorate student using a 10-grade system in accordance with the criteria specified in the descriptions of the study courses, and makes a decision in each examination - to support / not support the awarding of a professional doctoral degree in arts. In order to award a professional doctoral degree in arts, a decision to support must be made in both state examinations.

3.2.6. Analysis and assessment of the topics of the final theses of the students, their relevance in the respective field, including the labour market, and the marks of the final theses.

The programme began in 2021, and there are no graduates as of now. In the 2022/2023 academic year, there are 11 students in the sub-programme "*Audiovisual Arts, Theatre, and Contemporary Dance*", of whom 3 are developing their artistic works and related theoretical research in the field of audiovisual arts, 1 in the field of contemporary dance, 3 in the field of theatre arts, 3 in the field of theatre and film dramaturgy, and 1 in the field of large-format cultural event directing.

3.3. Resources and Provision of the Study Programme

3.3.1. Assessment of the compliance of the resources and provision (study provision, scientific support (if applicable), informative provision (including libraries), material and technical provision, and financial provision) with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the learning outcomes to be achieved by providing the respective examples.

Information about the material and technical provision is available in sub-points 2.3.1, 2.3.2, and

2.3.3 of section 3 of Part II of the self-assessment report. However, in this section, the resources available for implementing the doctoral programme "Arts" are described in more detail. The courses for the common doctoral studies in Part A are organized in the buildings of all three universities implementing the arts and culture programmes - LAC, JVLMA, and AAL (in different university buildings each semester for all students in the programme), as well as using the resources of all three partner universities involved. Part B courses are mostly organized in the university implementing the specific sub-programme. In semesters when Part A study courses are held in the LAC premises (for example, in the autumn semester of the 2022/2023 academic year), the study process is provided using LAC buildings in Riga, Ludzas Street 24, Riga, Dzirnavu Street 46 (Theatre House "*Zirgu pasts*"), and Riga, Elijas Street 17 (LAC National Film School (NFS)). Classes can also be scheduled in the LAC structural unit - Eduards Smiļģis Theater Museum in Riga, Eduarda Smilga Street 37. At Riga, Ludzas Street 24, there are 557 m² of technically equipped classrooms available to students, and a library reading room of 35 m². In the Theater House "*Zirgu pasts*" at Dzirnavu Street 46, there are 431 m² of lecture halls and practical training rooms, including two rehearsal halls and a fully equipped modern "*black box-style*" multi-functional hall (107 m²) with sound, light and video technology. During their studies, students have access to the technical support and lighting consultations from specialists at the "*Zirgu pasts*". At NFS, Elijas street 17, students have access to a 1011 m² space, including two film pavilions with a total area of 430 m², a computer class with eight computers for film editing, two separate video editing rooms with two workstations each (for group work), a film colour correction workstation with specific technical equipment and software, a film equipment storage (200 units), film lighting equipment storage (150 units), and film sound recording equipment storage (50 units). The academy's students have access to and actively use digital cinema cameras Sony PMW-F5, Panasonic AU-EVA1E, SONY PXW-FS7M2, Canon EOS C200, and seven Black Magic Pocket Cinema Camera 4K sets. Specialized filming lights are available for filming in the NFS pavilion and interiors. A transition from halogen to LED technology is underway for film lighting. Using these resources, students have access to NFS technical supervisor consultations.

The NFS space operates a cinema archive with over 2500 recorded videos of movies and theatre performances. It houses a student film and theatre performance archive, as well as a collection of movie recordings in DVD format. The recordings available at the cinema archive can be used for free by students, academic and general staff. In case of need, students have access to consultations with the cinema archive director. The collections of the Eduards Smiļģis Theatre Museum and the Riga Film Museum, which are part of the LAC structure, can be used by students and academic staff for study and research purposes. The qualified staff of the museums provides consultations on the history and current developments of audiovisual and performing arts in Latvia and the world.

Wireless internet with 90% coverage is available in all buildings. Classrooms are equipped according to the needs of the study process, with a computer, projector and screen, chalkboard, and other equipment as needed. Computer labs and rooms with transformable tables are available, which can be adjusted for seminars, round table discussions, etc.

Information about the availability of LAC's Library and databases for students and compliance with the requirements of their study programme and direction, including the available literature for the implementation of the study programme, and the available databases for the relevant field, can be found in section 2.3.3. Information about services available through the cooperation agreement with the National Library of Latvia, which is significant for students in the "*Audio-Visual and Performing Arts*" programme, is also provided in section 2.3.3. The information and communication technology solutions used in the study process are described in section 2.3.4.

In general, it can be considered that the resources and facilities provided by LAC meet the

requirements for implementing the study programme and achieving study results, except for facilities in the fields of Theatre and Contemporary Dance, where independent work and training by students is critical. The available facilities are primarily occupied, providing for the needs of undergraduate students and the availability of facilities suitable for doctoral students is limited. In perspective, this issue will be resolved when LAC moves to the renovated spaces in the former Tobacco Factory, Miera iela 58a. Then the entire undergraduate study process will be provided there, and Theatre House "*Zirgu Pasts*" will become the base for the master programmes in "*Audiovisual and Performing Arts*" and the joint professional doctorate in "*Arts*". Until then, LAC is seeking and finding various solutions to properly provide the study process, which has been successful so far.

The other challenging aspect is the available funding for artistic projects. Most doctoral program students seek funding independently (e.g., various projects, sponsor funding), LAC attracts project funding within its means through State Culture Capital Foundation competitions, etc., but it always carries the risk of not receiving funding or receiving it in an insufficient amount. In addition, seeking additional funding from the Latvian Ministry of Culture for this position has not resulted in a solution, this condition can complicate the process of developing artistic works, as well as create risks for doctoral students who cover study fees with personal funds.

The Latvian Academy of Culture supports, organizes, and coordinates scientific research through the LAC's Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies (KMI), which brings together scientists with the best achievements in scientific work, with the main research direction including performing arts, culture, and creative industries, film arts, and audiovisual sectors. The selection of research topics is based on the interests of the cultural sector, art industries (theatre, dance, and film arts), and creative industries. As students of the "*Arts*" doctoral programme in LAC can also participate in research projects implemented by KMI researchers, KMI promotes cooperation between artistic practice and research in the professional doctoral programme. Furthermore, KMI holds internal research project competitions available to LAC students, particularly doctoral students. Student research conference "*The Art-of-Knowing*" organized by the KMI is a platform for students to present their research and creative projects. On the other hand, the "*Culture Crossroads*" international scientific conference is an important platform for further research, covering all the themes covered by the study programs in LAC.

The Creative Activities Center of LAC, Riga Film Museum and Eduards Smiļģis Theatre Museum provide the basis for student research and artistic innovation, complementing the provision of student internship opportunities. During their studies, the Creative Activities Center supports students in organizing various events, and also offers opportunities to attend exhibitions creative works of LAC.

The availability and compliance of the LAC's Library and databases for students and its alignment with the needs of the study programme are described in section 2.3.3, including information on available literature and databases in the relevant field. The section also provides information on the services available through the cooperation agreement with the National Library of Latvia, which is important for doctoral students enrolled in the professional doctoral study programme. The information and communication technology solutions used in the study process are described in section 2.3.4.

3.3.2. Assessment of the study provision and scientific base support, including the resources provided within the framework of cooperation with other science institutes and higher education institutions (applicable to doctoral study programmes) (if applicable).

A significant factor in the implementation and development of the professional doctoral study programme "Arts" especially in promoting doctoral candidates' artistic creation and scientific research work, is the cooperation of the LAC with other universities and scientific institutions, particularly the cooperation in the field of artistic creation, whose partners are universities JVLMA and AAL, as well as a number of important international cooperation partners involved in the art and culture fields

Since 2015, the Latvian Culture Academy has been involved in the **Platform of European Theatre Academies (Platform of European Theatre Academies - PLETA)** along with 7 other theatre academies from Brussels, Helsinki, Maastricht, Munich, Oslo, Warsaw and Salzburg. The aim of the platform is to establish new ways for future theatre artists to see a wider European theatre context with the help of masterclasses and co-studies, promote their intercultural competence and professional diversity. The platform aims to use high-quality artistic practices of various directions to promote international cooperation between future stage artists during their studies, creating new artistic values based on the interaction of various European theatre traditions. Latvian Culture Academy's participation in this project provides students with professional training and practical opportunities in the international environment that would not be possible here without the participation of international partners and the financing of the "Creative Europe" programme. On the other hand, the platform also provides an opportunity to assess our school and achievements in a wider European context compared to other theatre academies and to popularize the best achievements and teachers of Latvian theatre schools by involving them in common project activities (see: <http://pleta.eu/>).

Collaborative partners in the European Theatre Academy platform are:

- Zuyd University of Applied Sciences, Zuyd Hogeschool – leading partner;
- University of the Arts Helsinki, Theatre Academy;
- The Aleksander Zelwerowicz National Academy of Dramatic Art in Warsaw;
- The Academy of Theatre - Oslo National Academy of the Arts;
- Bayerische Theaterakademie August Everding;
- Royal Institute for Theatre, Cinema and Sound, RITCS;
- Mozarteum University Salzburg, Drama/Direction - Thomas Bernhard Institute.

The project manager in Latvia is programme's assistant professor Zane Kreicberga.

Since 2018, the Latvian Academy of Culture has been included in the **Northern European Platform for Baltic and Northern Stage Arts Colleges, "NORTEAS"**, which brings together 17 colleges and is part of the lifelong learning programme "Nordplus" of the Northern Ministerial Council. The aim of "NORTEAS" is to promote innovation and new approaches in performing arts education through the exchange of knowledge and experience. The platform initiates and supports international cooperation in theatre and dance education in the Baltic and Northern countries, ensuring student and teacher mobility and organizing special cooperation projects for participating colleges. One of the common "NORTEAS" activities is the Northern United Study Week, during which several colleges exchange students, ensuring intensive international exchange of experience for students and teachers. (More information about the "NORTEAS" platform can be found on its website: <http://www.nortecas.org/>). The coordinator of "NORTEAS" activities at the Latvian Academy of Culture is Asst. Prof. Zane Kreicberga.

Collaborative partners in NORTEAS:

- Iceland Academy of the Arts – coordinating partner;

- The Danish National School of Performing Arts
- The Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre
- University of Tartu, Viljandi Culture Academy, Performing Arts Department
- University of Tampere, Faculty of Communication Sciences
- University of The Arts, Helsinki
- Aalto University, School of Arts, Design and Architecture
- The National Theatre School of Greenland
- Latvian Academy of Culture
- Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre
- Norwegian Theatre Academy, Ostfold University College)
- Oslo National Academy of the Arts
- Nord-Trøndelag University College
- Stockholm University of the Arts, Stockholm Academy of Dramatic Arts
- Lulea University of Technology
- Malmö Theatre Academy
- The Academy of Music and Drama, University of Gothenburg

A successful collaboration example is the participation of the National Film School of the Latvian Academy of Culture in **"EUFA" (European University Film Award) or the European University Film Prize partner organization**. "EUFA" is an international initiative founded in 2016 by the European Film Academy in collaboration with the Hamburg Film Festival. The goal of the initiative is to promote youth involvement in cultural events, spread the *"European idea"*, and popularize European film schools among students, as well as develop film analysis and discussion culture. Every year, an expert committee selects five films nominated for the European Film Academy Prize. These films are viewed and discussed in the lecture courses at "EUFA" partner universities throughout Europe. Each university delegates one student to the "EUFA" jury meeting in Hamburg, where school representatives from all over Europe discuss the nominated films and choose the winner. The director of the winning film receives a special European University Film Prize at the European Film Prize award ceremony in December. The "EUFA" partner-university network comprises 23 universities from 23 countries - Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, and the United Kingdom. (See <https://www.eufa.org/en/>; https://www.eufa.org/en/universities/025_Latvian_Academy_of_Culture.php).

Cooperation in the field of scientific research is also crucial, supported and coordinated by the Latvian Culture Academy Institute of Culture and Arts. The main cooperation partners from the scientific institutions are the Latvian Academy of Sciences, the Latvian Academy of Music, Latvian National Library and the Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art of the University of Latvia. This partnership is based on shared or similar strategic research priorities, the connection of research themes with the cultural and creative ecosystem, the need to create a unified network of cooperation among humanistic and art scientists, as well as interdisciplinary researchers, which promotes the scientific knowledge integrity and inclusion in the study content. A successful example of this partnership is the State Research Programme project *"Cultural Capital as a Resource for Sustainable Development of Latvia"* / CARD (No. VPP-KM-LKRVA-2020/1-0003) is funded by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia in the framework of the National Research Programme *"Latvian Culture – a Resource for National Development"* (2020-2022). The National Research Programme is administered by the Latvian Council of Science. (Project partners: LAC - leading partner, JVLMA, AAL, LNB, LU LFMI) (see <https://lka.edu.lv/lv/petnieciba/petijumu-projekti/valsts-petijumu-programmas/kulturas-kapitals-ka-esurss-latvijas-ilgtspejigai-attistibaic/> - Only in Latvian). Partners in other state research

programmes also include Rezekne Technology Academy, Liepaja University, Institute of Mathematics and Computer Science at the University of Latvia, the Latvian Institute at the University of Latvia, the Latvian Language Institute at the University of Latvia, Riga Technical University, etc.

LAC, as a leading partner, collaborates with other Latvian art and culture universities in the European Social Fund project "*Doctoral Grant Approval and Attraction of Foreign Academic Staff to LAC*" (8.2.2.0/20/I/002), which aims to provide support for the development of academic staff at LAC, its partners AAL and JVLMA, including continuity of scientists, internationalization, international competitiveness, as well as cooperation and resource sharing among the three partner universities. The project implements a new doctoral funding model, providing funding for doctoral students' remuneration for research or study work related to the development of a thesis at LAC. The result of the project is the continuity of LAC's academic staff, contributing to the improvement and quality of academic work.

3.3.3. Indicate data on the available funding for the corresponding study programme, its funding sources and their use for the development of the study programme. Provide information on the costs per one student within this study programme, indicating the items included in the cost calculation and the percentage distribution of funding between the specified items. The minimum number of students in the study programme in order to ensure the profitability of the study programme (indicating separately the information on each language, type and form of the study programme implementation).

The costs of the programme are calculated in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation of December 12, 2006 No. 994 "*The order in which universities and colleges are financed from the state budget*". The current base fee for a study place is EUR 1 630.11. According to the mentioned regulation No. 994 Clause 13 study cost ratio for doctorate study programmes in Clause 28 of Appendix 1 of the Regulations, LAC's funding for one doctorate's study place in the thematic field of education "*Audiovisual Media Art*" coefficient is 3.9. The estimated amount of the state grant in 2022 is EUR 17 395 for one budget place. Performance funding per 1 student in the programme is EUR 239 and tuition fees are on average EUR 1 769, taking into account that tuition fees are revised every year.

The funding for the study program in 2022 was EUR 160 716 and was comprised of state budget grants, performance funding, and tuition feed. The cost calculation includes all the necessary expenditures for the programme, the cost splits accordingly: 67% reimbursement of ECC (economic classification codes) 1000, 1% ECC goods and services 2000, and 32% other ECC. Based on the annual cost calculation, the number of guest lecturers and the amount allocated for the development of the study programme is determined, in 2022 it was 25% of the self-generated revenue, which was EUR 1 769. The programme is mainly funded by the state grants, and self-generated income is maximized for programme development and covering unanticipated expenses. Great attention is paid to optimizing the expenses of the study programme's implementation, for example, by organizing flow lectures in courses taught by professors and in some cases providing remote lectures.

The minimum number of students in the study programme, in order to ensure the profitability of the study programme, is determined for each admission period, according to the needs of the programme and the number of budget places - usually 3 budget places per year. As a result of the

previous stages of admission, 9 budget places have been secured. Students of the professional doctoral study programme "Arts" in the sub-programme implemented by LAC have so far been admitted only to the Latvian language stream. The LAC Senate and the LAC Council decide on the amount of tuition fees in the sub-programme implemented by the LAC for the following study years.

Statistics on students during the reporting period can be viewed in the appendix section "Statistics on students during the reporting period"

The program is full-time attendance and currently the LAC sub-programme is implemented only in Latvian.

3.4. Teaching Staff

3.4.1. Assessment of the compliance of the qualification of the teaching staff members (academic staff members, visiting professors, visiting associate professors, visiting docents, visiting lecturers, and visiting assistants) involved in the implementation of the study programme with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the provisions set out in the respective regulatory enactments. Provide information on how the qualification of the teaching staff members contributes to the achievement of the learning outcomes.

As of January 2023, the teaching staff of the programme, including the sub-programme "*Audiovisual Arts, Theatre, and Contemporary Dance*" implemented by the LAC, **consists of 12 LAC elected academic instructors**, of which **9 are professors** and **2 associate professors**, (See Appendix No. 3.4.1.), one elected researcher from the Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies, and one professor emeritus from LAC with whom a labour agreement is signed. In the joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme "*Arts*", which also incorporates sub-programme "*Audiovisual Arts, Theatre and Contemporary Dance*", **there are 8 persons elected to the academic positions with a PhD degree in the academic staff**. (See Appendix No. 3.4.1.). Therefore, the academic staff of the study program fully complies with the requirements specified in the third point of the first part of Article 55 of the Higher Education Law.

As the joint study programme, as well as its sub-programmes, is implemented in collaboration with three universities of art and culture, academic staff of LAC, JVLMA, and AAL participate in providing mandatory Part A, as well as Parts B and C of the study courses. In the provision of A1 and A2 parts, teaching staff of all three universities are equally involved, and the responsible personnel for the implementation of the study courses include JVLMA Professor *Ph.D.* Anda Beitāne, JVLMA Associate Professor *Mg.art.* Toms Ostrovskis and JVLMA lecturer, director of the joint professional doctoral program "*Arts*" *Dr.art.* Diāna Zandberga, AAL Professor *Dr. art.* Andris Teikmanis, AAL Professor *Dr. art.* Silvija Grosa and AAL Professor *Dr.phil.* Jānis Taurens. The responsible teaching staff for the implementation of the study courses - in accordance with the goals, tasks and attainable results of the study courses and modules - also involve other Latvian and foreign teachers, visiting lecturers, and professionals in the relevant art or culture sector, whose qualifications meet the internal regulations of LAC, JVLMA and AAL, as well as the state-level external regulatory acts, and whose artistic creative work and research experience provides a significant contribution to the provision of

programme content and achievement of goals.

In the following section of this self-assessment report, the qualification of **the involved teaching staff from LAC in the implementation of the programme** will be described.

The research and artistic activity of LAC teaching staff is in high level - significant researchers and artists in their fields are involved in the programme's study process, and their achievements are recognized with the highest professional awards in Latvia. For example, Prof. *Mg.art.* Māra Ķimele received the "*Spēlmaņu nakts*" award for lifetime contribution to theatre arts (2020), while Prof. *Mg.art.* Olga Žitluhina received the "*Dance Award*" for contribution to dance arts (for artistic, pedagogical, and organizational activities in Latvia and internationally, 2017-2018) and was recognized as the best contemporary dancer (2019-2020). Prof. *Mg.art.* Olga Žitluhina was also nominated in various "*Spēlmaņu nakts*" categories (2018). In addition, Prof. *Dr.art.* Dāvis Sīmanis has received the "*Liels Kristaps*" award for his films (2021), and this award was also nominated for Prof. *Mg.art.* Māra Ķimele (2022). Prof. *Dr.philol.* Valda Čakare has been nominated twice for the Normunds Naumanis annual award in art criticism. (2022, 2020).

Emeritus Professor of LAC, *Mg.art.* Peter Krilov was an associate professor at LAC until 2022, and his knowledge and experience in film direction and acting techniques are a significant resource for the professional doctoral study programme in "*Arts*".

The programme's teaching staff is actively involved in academic activities - Prof. *Dr.art.* Rūta Muktupāvela, Prof. *Dr.art.* Inga Pērkone-Redoviča, Prof. *Dr.art.* Dāvis Sīmanis, Prof. *Dr.art.* Zane Šiliņa, Prof. *Mg.art.* Zane Kreicberga, and Asst. Prof. *Dr.art.* Līga Ulberte are elected to academic positions at the Institute of Arts and Cultural Studies of LAC. The teaching staff was involved in the State Research Program "*Cultural Capital as a Resource for Sustainable Development of Latvia*" (VPP-KM-LKRVA-2020/1-0003) research projects (2020-2022), for which they received excellent international expert evaluations for the implementation and results. In addition, these and other professors regularly participate in academic conferences, publish academic publications, including articles in peer-reviewed academic journals, which are included in the *Scopus*, *Web of Science*, *IPSA*, *EBSCO*, and *CEEOL* databases.

More detailed information about the research and artistic activities of the teaching staff involved in the implementation of the programme is included in their resumes which are found in the Appendix No. 2.3.-2. and in the list of publications of the academic staff attached in Appendix No. 2.4.4.-1.

The qualifications of the teaching staff involved in the implementation of the programme directly affect and help achieve the results of the studies, as their active involvement and quality of work in current audiovisual arts, theatre and contemporary dance artistic processes and research provides students with the necessary knowledge, competencies, and skills in their chosen thematic areas, as well as, in the interdisciplinary sectors, taking into account both the historical development of the fields and current trends and achievements.

According to the laws of the Republic of Latvia and internal normative regulations of LAC, an open selection is announced for academic positions. The evaluation and election of candidates for professor and associate professor positions is carried out by the LAC Professor Council, in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 129 adopted in 2021 named "*The evaluation of the scientific and pedagogical qualifications or artistic creation results of a professor or associate professor candidate and a professor or associate professor in office*". In addition, the evaluation of candidates for lecturer, assistant and professor positions take place at a Senate meeting of LAC in accordance with the aforementioned LAC "*Regulations on Academic Positions at Latvian Culture Academy*" (https://drive.google.com/file/d/1koZa85B9MdVM1JA4IgMwiZQpvlawel_V/view - Only in

Latvian). In evaluating candidates for positions related to artistic creation, including the professional doctoral study programme "Arts", special attention is given to the candidate's experience in artistic creation, their contribution to Latvian artistic culture, and international achievements. Before electing and providing the academic position, open lectures are organized to test and analyse the candidate's ability to convey their knowledge and skills to the audience of students. Therefore, the qualifications of the academic staff elected to academic positions for the implementation of the professional doctoral study programme "Arts" and its sub-programmes "Audiovisual Arts, Theater and Contemporary Dance" meet the conditions and requirements of the study programme and normative acts.

The teaching staff involved in implementing the programme regularly participates in qualification-raising activities. For example, within the framework of the ESF funded project "*Development of Academic Staff of Latvian Culture Academy - Investment in Study Quality*", No. 8.2.2.0/18/A/018, training was provided to the academic and scientific staff of LAC on issues crucial to strengthening study quality: (1) "*Skrivānek Baltic*" provided 144 academic hours of English language training in 2019/2020; (2) "*TRIVIUMS*" provided 64 academic hours of "*Digital Skills*" training in 2021; (3) the company PEER and O.D.A. provided 58 academic hours of "*Leadership Skills*" training in 2021. In total, 7 academics involved in implementing the sub-programme participated in the training and qualification-raising activities within the project.

The sub-sections A1 and A2 of the programme have equal involvement by all three collaborating university academics and the responsible teaching staff. The programme is implemented by *Ph.D.* Anda Beitāne, JVLMA Professor; *Mg.art.* Toms Ostrovskis, JVLMA Associate Professor; *Dr.art.* Diāna Zandberga, JVLMA Lecturer and director of the joint professional doctoral programme "Arts"; *Dr.art.* Andris Teikmanis, AAL Professor; *Dr.art.* Silvija Grosa, AAL Professor; and *Dr.phil.* Jānis Taurens, AAL Professor. The responsible teaching staff also recruits other Latvian and foreign lecturers, visiting professors, and professionals in the relevant field of arts whose qualifications meet the internal normative acts of LAC, JVLMA, and AAL, as well as the state-level normative acts and whose artistic and research experience provides a significant contribution to the content of the programme and the achievement of its goals.

3.4.2. Analysis and assessment of the changes to the composition of the teaching staff over the reporting period and their impact on the study quality.

The composition of the teaching staff for the implemented program courses from LAC side has not changed, however, since the start of the programme's operation, there has been the admission of new doctoral students three times (in January 2021, August 2021, and August 2022), therefore, it is only natural that the circle of people in charge of artistic projects and related theoretical research has expanded. During the preparation of the self-assessment report, the head of the doctoral theoretical research is Professor *Dr.philol.* Raimonds Briedis, while one of the most talented Latvian National Theatre directors, *Mg.art.* Valters Sīlis, is planned to be as the head of artistic projects starting from the spring semester of the 2022/2023 academic year. He has successfully directed artistic projects in the Liepāja Theatre, Dirty Deal Teatro, National Theatre, independent theatre "*Skatuve*", and at the festival "*Homo Novus*". He received the "*Spēlmaņu nakts*" award for "*Director of the Year*" and "*Small Form Performance of the Year*" in 2020.

The programme is also involving foreign guest lecturers. In the autumn semester of the 2022/2023 academic year, the sub-programmes will have the course "*Arts Entrepreneurship*" under the sub-

section A1 of Part A, which will be conducted by a group of lecturers from the University of Colorado Denver led by Dr. Mark Rabideau.

Expansion of the teaching staff enhances the quality and development of the programme, promotes the development of unique artistic projects and original theoretical foundations associated with them, which in the future will not only make a significant contribution to the development of the respective artistic fields of the sub-programme, but will also foster the development of artistic creations and theoretical research that is significant for the acquisition of new knowledge, innovative artistic practices, and the development of Latvian culture as a whole.

3.4.3. Information on the number of the scientific publications of the academic staff members, involved in the implementation of doctoral study programme, as published during the reporting period by listing the most significant publications published in Scopus or WoS CC indexed journals. As for the social sciences, humanitarian sciences, and the science of art, the scientific publications published in ERIH+ indexed journals or peer-reviewed monographs may be additionally specified. Information on the teaching staff included in the database of experts of the Latvian Council of Science in the relevant field of science (total number, name of the lecturer, field of science in which the teaching staff has the status of an expert and expiration date of the Latvian Council of Science expert) (if applicable).

During the implementation of the programme, the involved teaching staff have prepared 7 individual and collective scientific monographs and about 94 articles in peer-reviewed scientific journals and collections, of which 8 are in the SCOPUS/WoS and 3 in ERIH databases. A list of the most significant publications by the academic staff is attached in Appendix No. 2.4.4.-1.

Most significant publications by the academic staff in the assessment period:

Latvijas kinomāksla. Jaunie laiki. 1990–2020, **zin. red. Pērkone, I.**, Rietuma, D., Rīga: LKA, Dienas Grāmata, 2021, ISBN 978-9934-595-51-6, 432 lpp.; publicēts ar Latvijas Kultūras akadēmijas Zinātnes padomes 2021. gada 18. oktobra lēmumu, Valsts pētījumu programmas projekta Nr. VPP-KM-LKRVA-2020/1-0003 “Kultūras kapitāls kā resurss Latvijas ilgtspējīgai attīstībai” (CARD) ietvaros

Laķe, Anda, **Muktupāvela Rūta**, Tjarve, Baiba (zin. red.). Kultūras mantojuma kopienas: prakses, attīstība un izaicinājumi. Rīga: Jāņa Rozes apgāds/ LKA, 2022.

Muktupāvela, Rūta, Anda, Laķe (eds.). Dziesmu un deju svētki. Tradīcijas anatomija. Rīga: Latvijas Kultūras akadēmija, Jāņa Rozes apgāds, 2018.

Muktupāvela, Rūta, Laķe, Anda. Comparative aspects of the Song and Dance Celebration of the Baltic countries in the context of nation branding processes.//Nic Craith, Mairead, et al. (eds.). Heritage and Festivals in Europe. London and New York: ROUTLEDGE, 2019, pp. 29-46. (Indexed in SCOPUS, Web of Science)

Muktupāvela, Rūta, Laķe, Anda. Kopienas jēdziena konceptualizācija, kopienu daudzveidība un kultūras mantojuma kopienas kā īpašs kopienas veids. // Laķe, Anda, Muktupāvela, Rūta, Tjarve, Baiba (zin. red.). Kultūras mantojuma kopienas: prakses, attīstība un izaicinājumi. Rīga: Jāņa Rozes apgāds/ LKA, 2022. (in print)

Muktupāvela, Rūta, Muktupāvels, Valdis. Artistic Research: On the Way Towards Conceptual Clarity and Off the way with the Folkloratorio Rivers of Our Being.//Kockel, Ullrich, McDermott, Philip,

Campbell, Liam (eds.). *Per Scribendum, Sumus: Ethnopoiesis, or: Writing Heritage*. Vienna: LIT Verlag, 2020, pp. 177-187.

Muktupāvela, Rūta, Vītola Ieva. The Role of Non-governmental Organizations in Ensuring Sustainability of Cultural Heritage: A case study of the SERDE Art Residency Centre.// Laķe, A., Tiškeizere, E. (zin. red.). *LETONICA*. 2022 (in print).

Muktupāvela, Rūta. University Students' Humour in Digital Environment: Internet Memes as a Folklore Genre. // Laķe, Anda (ed.) *Culture Crossroads*. Volume 12. 2018., Pp. 4-19. *Cultural Crossroads*. Rīga: Latvian Academy of Culture. Accessible at www.culturecrossroads.lv

Pērkone, Inga. War and Women in Jānis Streičs` Films. *Baltic Screen Media Review*, Volume 6, Issue 1. First online: 07 Mar 2019, <https://content.sciendo.com/view/journals/bsmr/6/1/article-p56.xml>

Pērkone, Inga. *Ekrāna skatuve: par aktiermākslu Latvijas kino*. Rīga: Neputns, 2020, ISBN 978-9934-565-88-5

Šiliņa, Zane. Interpretation of the Theme of Night: A Case Study of Rainis's Creative Laboratory. *Letonica*. Nr. 46, 2022, 210-226. (indexed in Scopus, ERIH, EBSCO).

Kreicberga, Z., Tiškeizere, E., **Ulberte, Līga**. Defining Contemporary Theater: Global Experiences and Latvian Practices. *Letonica*. Nr.46, 2022, 80-10. (indexed in Scopus, ERIH, EBSCO).

3.4.4. Information on the participation of the academic staff, involved in the implementation of the doctoral study programme, in scientific projects as project managers or prime contractors/ subproject managers/ leading researchers by specifying the name of the relevant project, as well as the source and the amount of the funding. Provide information on the reporting period (if applicable).

Since the start of the professional doctoral programme, the teaching staff has been involved in several significant research projects that are closely related to the key areas of the art sector that intertwine with the doctoral programme's direction.

Dr. art. Rūta Muktupāvela (*from December 2018 to December 2020 (extended to December 2021)*) served as the project leader and main executor in the implementation of the applied research project **"Community Participation in Cultural Heritage Governance: Practices, Developments and Challenges"** (No. Izp-2018/2-0280), financed by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia and administered by the Latvian Science Council. The project had a budget of 199 340 EUR and was conducted in partnership with the National Library of Latvia (LNB), Latvian Academy of Culture, Jazeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music, Art Academy of Latvia, and the Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art of the University of Latvia.

Several of the programme's teaching staff from 1.10.2020-30.09.2022 participated in the National Research Programme project **"Cultural Capital as a Resource for Sustainable Development of Latvia"** / CARD (No. VPP-KM-LKRVA-2020/1-0003) which is funded by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia in the framework of the National Research Programme *"Latvian Culture – a Resource for National Development"* (2020–2022). The National Research Programme is administered by the Latvian Council of Science. The project budget was 1,000,035.00 EUR. Partners: Latvian Culture Academy (LAC), Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music (JVLMA), Art Academy of Latvia (AAL), Latvian National Library (LNB), Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art of

the University of Latvia. **Professor Rūta Muktupāvela** was the project leader and main executor, **Professor Dr. art. Inga Pērkone-Redoviča** - main executor of the subproject "**Latvian Cinema: Recent History 1990-2020**", **Associate Professor Dr. art. Līga Ulberte** - executor and head of the subproject "**Contemporary Theater Terminology: Concepts and Contexts**". **Professor Mg. art. Zane Kreicberga** participated in the project as a researcher.

The project was implemented with the aim of creating an interdisciplinary human capital and knowledge base on the diversity and value of cultural capital, and knowledge of the processes that shape the sustainability of the cultural sector ecosystem as a resource for sustainable development in Latvia. The project was implemented in several thematic areas, including research on the history of artistic creation and its results as a resource for the development of cultural capital, as well as the specificities and development of methods for research in artistic creation and cultural heritage. Within the sub-project "*Contemporary Theatre Terminology: Concepts and Contexts*", a theatre glossary in Latvian was developed, which explains and illustrates the most important theoretical concepts and practical terms of contemporary theatre with recognizable examples from Europe, including Latvia; translating in Latvian, testing, and explaining internationally accepted theatre terminology. Meanwhile, within the sub-project "*Latvian Cinema: Recent History 1990-2020*" a collective scientific monograph on Latvian cinematography, entitled "*Latvian Cinema: Recent History 1990-2020*" was prepared and published (Riga: LAC, Dienas Grāmata, 2021), and a series of public events relevant to the topic was organized.

Detailed information is attached in Appendix No. 2.4.4.-1.

3.4.5. Assessment of the cooperation between the teaching staff members by specifying the mechanisms used to promote the cooperation and ensure the interrelation between the study programme and study courses/ modules. Specify also the proportion of the number of the students and the teaching staff within the study programme (at the moment of the submission of the Self-Assessment Report).

Cooperation between teaching staff is a very important aspect of the doctoral study programme "Arts" at the Latvian Academy of Culture, especially in courses taught by multiple teachers. It should also be noted that three universities are involved in the delivery of the programme's courses: LAC, JVLMA and AAL. The cooperation is organized and facilitated by the programme director in collaboration with the head of each approved sub-program at each university. The programme as a whole and its implementation are monitored by the programme's council, which includes representatives from all universities involved in the study programme. Cooperation is facilitated by the course "*Research Seminars of Doctoral Students*" which is implemented in the form of presentations by doctoral students, followed by academic discussion involving the participants of the seminar, including other doctoral students, programme's teaching staff, the programme director, and sub-programme heads. These seminars not only advance the development of theoretical research in doctoral artistic research projects, but also enhance discussion between doctoral students and faculty, including interdisciplinary cooperation and exchange of views, promoting the connection between individual course content and facilitating the development of models for cooperation in programme's implementation. These seminars provide a platform for discussion and opinions for improving the programme's content.

Annexes

III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme		
Sample of the diploma and its supplement to be issued for completing the study programme	3.1.2._prof.dipl.zip	3.1.2._prof.dipl.zip
For academic study programmes - Opinion of the Council of Higher Education in accordance with Section 55, Paragraph two of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)		
Compliance of the joint study programme with the provisions of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (table) (if applicable)	Compliance of the study programme with the requirements set for a joint study programme.zip	Kopīgās studiju programmas atbilstība Augstskolu likuma prasībām.zip
Statistics on the students in the reporting period	3.1.4._Annex 5_statistical data on students Prof Doc 2021_2022.pdf	3.1.4._5_ pielikums_Prof Dokt. studejoso skaits 2021_2022.pdf
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof		
Compliance with the study programme with the State Education Standard	3.2.1.Compliance of the Study Programme with the State Education Standard (1).docx	3.2.1.Studiju programmas atbilstība valsts izglītības standartam (1).docx
Compliance of the qualification to be acquired upon completion of the study programme with the professional standard or the requirements for professional qualification (if applicable)		
Compliance of the study programme with the specific regulatory framework applicable to the relevant field (if applicable)		
Mapping of the study courses/ modules for the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study programme	PD_Arts_mapping on study results (1).xlsx	PD_Mākslas_kartējums pret studiju rezultātiem (1).xlsx
The curriculum of the study programme (for each type and form of the implementation of the study programme)	Annex 5_Curriculum of the Study Programme (1) (1).docx	5. pielikums_Studiju programmas.docx
Descriptions of the study courses/ modules	3.2.Study course descriptions_PD (1).zip	3.2.Studiju kursu apraksti_PD (3).zip
Description of the organisation of the internship of the students (if applicable)	Regulations of the creative artistic practice in Professional Doctoral Study Programme.docx.pdf	Prakses nolikums prof. dokt. .docx.pdf
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.4. Teaching Staff		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the doctoral study programme includes not less than five doctors, of which at least three are experts approved by the Latvian Council of Science in the branch or sub-branch of science in which the study programme intends to award a scientific degree (if applicable)	3.4.1._Apliecinājums.zip	3.4.1._Apliecinājums.zip
Confirmation that the academic staff of the academic study programme complies with the requirements specified in Section 55, Paragraph one, Clause 3 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)		