

APPLICATION

Study field "Arts" for assessment

Study field	<i>Arts</i>
Title of the higher education institution	<i>Liepājas Universitāte</i>
Registration code	<i>3042000219</i>
Legal address	<i>LIELĀ IELA 14, LIEPĀJA, LV-3401</i>
Phone number	<i>63423568</i>
E-mail	<i>liepu@liepu.lv</i>

Self-evaluation report

Study field "Arts"

University of Liepāja

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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,.

University of Liepaja (hereafter - LiepU) is the Kurzeme Regional Centre of higher education, science and culture, which contributes to regional development in the Latvia and international context.

Liepaja University Development Strategy for 2016-2020

https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/%C4%80SD/ERASMUS%20dokumenti/Liepaja_University_Development_Strategy_Summary_2016-2023_25.01.2021.pdf

LiepU based on the letter No. 4-10e/21/99 of the Ministry of Science and Education of 11.01.2021. Regarding the development strategies of institutions with decision of LiepU Senate of 25.01.2021. has prolonged the development strategy until 31st December 2023.

Mission of LiepU: be the promoter of Kurzeme education, science, innovations and culture development, which provides competitive, nationally and internationally significant studies necessary for the regional development, implements nationally and internationally acknowledged research, related to the studies, and promotes sustainable development of the society.

Values of LiepU: human being, collaboration, growth, Latvia

Overall goal of LiepU: provide acquisition opportunities of higher professional, academic education and life-long education based on research, necessary for the region, on Latvia and international scale competitive and qualitative, promoting development of national economy based on knowledge and professional competences and strengthening of creative, culture-orientated society.

The University's objectives are:

- to develop study, research, and lifelong learning programmes that provide the human resources needed for the future needs of the growing economy, the nation, and the public, in line with job market requirements, and to promote the uplifting of those involved in education into enterprising, creative, responsible, and competitive members of society;
- to carry out applied and fundamental research, and to transfer knowledge and technology to the relevant sectors of the economy through innovation and lifelong learning processes, making it possible for the sectors to adapt dynamically to changes in the external environment;
- to be an important cultural centre for Kurzeme, Latvia, and the Baltic region.

Quality Policy of LiepU: provide acquisition opportunities of higher professional, academic education and life-long education based on research, necessary for the region, competitive and qualitative on Latvia and international scale, promoting development of national economy based on knowledge and professional competences and strengthening of creative, culture-orientated society, taking into account European Standards and guidelines for quality provision in the European (ESG-2015).

In 2018 three mid-term planning documents were developed which are directed towards the development of LiepU human resources.

1. LiepU Human Resources Development Plan 2018–2023;
2. Action Plan of LiepU Academic Staff Development 2018– 2022;
3. Training Plan of LiepU Management Staff 2018– 2021.

In the beginning of the evaluation period 10 study directions were implemented at Liepaja University. Currently its number has decreased and is 8. First level, bachelor, master and doctoral study programmes are being implemented in these directions.

Study directions and study programmes of Liepaja University:

Study Direction “Education, pedagogy and sports”

- First level vocational higher education study programme “Preschool Teacher”
- Professional bachelor study programme “Speech Therapy”
- Professional bachelor study programme “Primary Education Teacher”
- Professional bachelor study programme “Teacher”
- Second level vocational higher education study programme “Teacher”
- Academic master study programme “Educational Sciences”
- Doctoral study programme “Educational Sciences”

Study Direction “Arts”

- Academic master study programme “New Media Art”
- Professional bachelor study programme “Design”
- Joint academic master study programme with RISEBA University “New Media and Audiovisual Art”
- Doctoral study programme “Media Art and Creative Technologies”

Study Direction “Language and culture studies, native language studies and language programmes”

- Academic bachelor study programme “European Languages and Culture Studies”
- Academic bachelor study programme “Baltic Philology, Culture and Communication”
- Academic master study programme “Writing Studies”
- Joint Doctoral study programme with Ventspils University of Applied Sciences “Linguistics: Latvian Diachronic and Synchronic Linguistics, Applied Linguistics, Comparative and Contrastive Linguistics”

Study Direction “Management, administration and real estate management”

- Professional bachelor study programme “Business and Organization management”
- Professional bachelor study programme “Culture Management”
- Professional bachelor study programme “Tourism and Recreation management”
- Professional master study programme “Management Sciences”

Study Direction “Information technology, computer technology electronics, electrical engineering, telecommunications, computer control and computer science”

- Professional bachelor study programme “Information Technology”
- Professional bachelor study programme “Smart Technologies and Mechatronics”
- Academic bachelor study programme “Computer Sciences”

- Professional master study programme “Information Technology”
- Doctoral study programme “E-Study Technologies and Management”

Study Direction “Health care”

- Professional master study programme “Art therapy”

Study Direction “Social welfare”

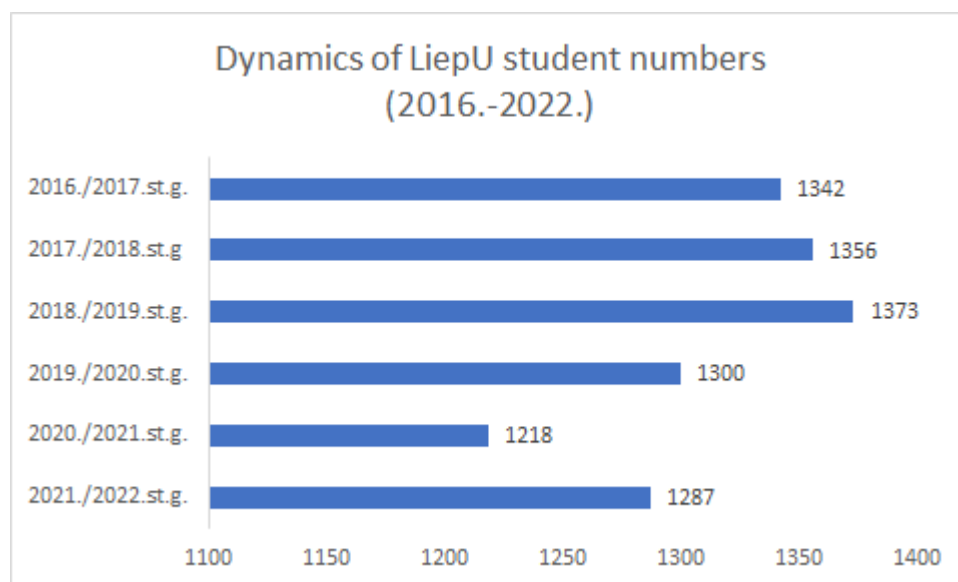
- Professional bachelor study programme “Social Worker”
- Professional master study programme “Social Work”

Study Direction “Environmental protection”

- Professional bachelor study programme “Environmental Innovation Technologies”
- Professional master study programme “Ecotechnologies”

The number of students at Liepaja University has decreased and now is 1287. The decrease of the student number is mainly related to the demographic and economic situation (the number of fee students and full-time foreign students has significantly decreased since the establishment of restrictions related to COVID-19 pandemic).

Dynamics of LiepU student numbers:



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 main decision-making bodies of the University are:

- Council;
- Senate;
- Rector;
- Constitutional Assembly;
- Academic Arbitration Court.

The Council is the University's supreme decision-making body of peers, responsible for the University's sustainable growth, for strategic and financial oversight, and for ensuring that the University operates in accordance with the objectives set out in its development strategy. The Council protects the autonomy of the University, and respects and promotes the academic freedom of its academic staff and students.

The University Council consists of seven members, of whom: three are nominated by the Senate in accordance with the approved procedure; one—a person of eminence in the field who is not involved in the work of the University—is nominated by the President of Latvia; three representatives of the public are selected by the ministry under whose supervision the University is and nominated by the Cabinet of Ministers, in accordance with the procedure established by the Cabinet of Ministers, involving the public in the selection process (including alumni organisations, industry associations and employers, representatives of academic, research, and creative organisations, persons with internationally significant achievements in science, arts, or business, representatives of sector ministries, and local governments).

The selection, nomination, election, and dismissal of the members of the Council is governed by the procedures approved by the Senate.

Council:

- approves the Constitution of the University and its amendments, and submits them to the Constitutional Assembly for approval;
 - approves the University's development strategy, and monitors the progress of its implementation;
 - approves the University's budget, financial plan, and annual accounts;
 - oversees the functioning of the cooperation and funding agreement between the University and the government;
 - oversees the functioning of the internal control and risk management systems, reviews their adequacy and operational effectiveness;
 - approves policies defining the University's governance processes, and the general principles, on which they operate.
 - If proposed by the rector to do so, the Council decides on: the structure of the University; the establishment, reorganisation, and dissolution of the University's departments; the establishment and dissolution of branches and institutions of the University; the participation of the University in companies, foundations, and associations; the University staff remuneration policy; the promotion of investments; the University loan liabilities; the University real estate development plan; the appointment of the University auditor.
 - the approval of the rules governing the election of the rector;
 - the nomination of one or more candidates for election as the rector by the Constitutional Assembly;
 - the rector's duties and remuneration; the Council signs the rector's employment contract and reviews the rector's performance;
 - may propose the removal of the rector from office, and decides on the removal of the rector from office.
- Constitution of Liepaja University (page 4)*
<https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/dokumenti/studentiem/CONSTITUTION%20OF%20LIEPAJA%20UNIVERSITY.pdf>

The Senate is the highest academic executive body of peers at the University, and is in charge

of ensuring the excellence in and expansion of the University's educational, scientific, and creative endeavours, as well as their compliance with international standards of quality. The Senate governs the academic, creative and scientific activities of the University. The Senate protects and ensures the academic freedom of the academic staff and students of the University, as part of the autonomy of the University.

The Senate:

- drafts the Constitution of the University and amendments to it. The Senate is responsible for ensuring that the Constitution meets the University's development needs and complies with laws and regulations;
- approves the University's study development plan, make proposals to the Council on areas of study to be developed;
- At the request of the rector, the Senate decides on: the creation, development, and shutting down of fields of study, and the establishing, development, content and shutting down of study programmes; the requirements, procedures and examinations for the award of degrees and qualifications;
- approves the University's plan for the development of scientific and artistic activities, and encourages the implementation of specific areas of scientific activity;
- sets the requirements for election to academic positions, and criteria for evaluating academic staff;
- determines the requirements and procedures associated with upholding academic integrity;
- Members of the Council are nominated by the University in the manner laid down in the Constitution;
- removes a member of the Council from office if they have lost the confidence of the Senate, broken the law, acted in a manner unworthy of the status of a member of the University Council, and failed to properly fulfil their duties;
- may propose the removal of the rector from office, and decide on the removal of the rector from office;
- provides statements and proposals concerning the strategy and budget of the University, the establishment, reorganisation, or dissolution of the University's units, as well as the plan for the development of University real estate, prior to the review of these matters by the Council;
- approves the documents regulating the internal procedures of the University, if they are not approved by the Council or the Constitutional Assembly;
- approves the statutes of the Study, Science, and General Councils;
- approves the regulations for the award of the titles of honorary doctor, emeritus professor, emeritus rector of the University;
- approves the statute of the Council Member Group;
- approve the statute of the Student Government.

The Senate decides on:

- maintaining or changing the scientific or artistic disciplines, and announcing competitions for vacant professorships in that scientific or artistic discipline;
- the necessary scientific or artistic discipline in which the vacant position of associate professor will be openly advertised, and the salary grade of the position;
- the recruitment of guest professors, guest associate professors, guest docents, or guest assistants (if such a vacancy exists) for a period of up to two years;
- the convening of the Constitutional Assembly.

The Senate consists of 25 members of the University staff, elected by secret ballot by the Constitutional Assembly for a term of three years, with a following breakdown:

- 19 representatives of the academic staff, i.e. no less than 75 per cent of all members of the Senate;
- 5 representatives of the student body, i.e. at least 20 per cent of all members of the Senate;
- The rector is a member of the Senate, in accordance with their position.

The Senate's work is governed by the rules of procedure approved by the Senate. A meeting of the Senate has a quorum if more than half of the total number of members of the Senate are present. A decision is adopted if more than half of the total number of members of the Senate have voted in favour. *Constitution of Liepaja University (pages 5, 6)* <https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/dokumenti/studentiem/CONSTITUTION%20OF%20LIEPAJA%20UNIVERSITY.pdf>

The rector is the top official of the University, who conducts the general administrative management of the University, and represents the University without special authorisation.

The rector is elected by the Constitutional Assembly, and candidates for the position of the rector are selected by the University Council following an open international competition. The rector is elected for a term not exceeding five years, and no more than twice.

The rector:

- performs the management of the University, and is responsible for the achievement of the goals set out in the University's development strategy and for the efficient and lawful use of the University's financial resources in accordance with laws and regulations, the University's Constitution, and decisions of the Council and the Senate;
- functions as a representative of the University, carries out other activities to ensure the success of the University and represents it in cooperation with other institutions and individuals;
- issues orders within the scope of its powers;
- ensures the preparation of the University's plan for the development of studies and research and submits it to the Senate for approval;
- ensures the drafting of the University's development strategy and, with the approval of the Senate, submits it to the Council for approval;
- ensures the implementation of the University's development strategy in cooperation with the University's departments;
- appoints and dismisses vice-rectors and deans, and determines their areas of competence, powers, and responsibilities, in accordance with the objectives set out in the University's development strategy;
- is responsible for the successful implementation of the University's HR policy;
- ensures the preparation of the University's budget and, with the approval of the Senate, submits it to the Council for approval;
- is responsible for the implementation of the budget, and submits the University's annual accounts for approval to the Council;
- disposes of the funds of the University in accordance with the Council's authorisation, including taking the necessary steps pertaining to the University's credit liabilities, and the promotion of investments;
- takes decisions on the acquisition, encumbrance, or disposal of real estate, in accordance with the Council's real estate development plan;
- within the scope of their competence, is responsible for the compliance of the

University's activities with the Law on Higher Education Institutions and other laws and regulations. *Constitution of Liepaja University (pages 6, 7)*
<https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/dokumenti/studentiem/CONSTITUTION%20OF%20LIEPAJA%20UNIVERSITY.pdf>

The Constitutional Assembly is the representative body of the academic and other staff, as well as the students of the University. The principles of representation of the University staff, according to which the number of members of the Constitutional Assembly of the University is determined, is laid down in the Constitution of the University. For the purpose of organising the elections to the Constitutional Assembly, a Constitutional Assembly Electoral Commission is formed from among the academic and general staff of the University and representatives of its students. The conditions and procedure for the formation of the Constitutional Assembly Electoral Commission, the number of its members, duties, and the procedure for conducting and supervising the election process are regulated by the Statute of the Constitutional Assembly Electoral Commission. This Statute is drafted by the Senate, and approved by the Senate and the Council of the University.

The Constitutional Assembly:

- approves the Constitution of the University and its amendments;
- elects the rector;
- may propose that the rector be removed from office;
- reviews the rector's report on University activities;
- elects members of the Senate from among the academic and other staff;
- may dismiss members of the Senate;
- elects the Academic Arbitration Court;
- if necessary, considers other matters relevant to the functioning of the University.

The Constitutional Assembly of the University consists of 51 members of the University staff, elected for a term of three years by public ballot at a general election, as follows:

- 31 representatives of the academic staff (60% of the representatives);
- 10 student representatives (20% of the representatives);
- 10 representatives of the other staff of the University (20 % of the representatives).

If the representatives elected at the Constitutional Assembly cease to work or study at the University, other representatives to the Constitutional Assembly are elected within two months from the respective group. The members of the respective group of representatives may withdraw their elected representative to the Constitutional Assembly if an application addressed to the Constitutional Assembly is signed by at least half of the members of that group.

The rector, vice-rectors, and deans who are not members of the Constitutional Assembly, may participate in the Constitutional Assembly in an advisory capacity.

- The Constitutional Assembly meets at least once a year. The Constitutional Assembly is convened if the rector or the Senate so requests.
- The functioning of the Constitutional Assembly is governed by the Statute, drawn up and approved by the Constitutional Assembly itself.

The Constitutional Assembly has a quorum if more than half of the members of the Constitutional Assembly participate in its work. A decision of the Constitutional Assembly is adopted if a majority of those present vote in favour. When electing or dismissing the rector, amending or adopting the Constitution of the University, a decision is approved if more than

half of all members of the Constitutional Assembly have voted in its favour. *Constitution of Liepaja University* (page 7., 8) <https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/dokumenti/studentiem/CONSTITUTION%20OF%20LIEPAJA%20UNIVERSITY.pdf>

University structure

The structure of the University is set up in accordance with the Constitution of the University. The tasks, functions, and rights of a unit of the University are determined by the statute of the unit, which is approved by the rector of the University.

For the purpose of carrying out study, scientific, organisational, economic, and maintenance work, the University establishes units which do not have the status of legal entities. The Council, based on a proposal by the rector, decides on the establishment, reorganisation, and dissolution of these units. These units have the right to open sub-accounts.

The main units are faculties (departments), and research institutes.

A faculty is created by the University by uniting departments in related fields of scientific activity, artistic creation, and study. A faculty is headed by a dean. The dean of the faculty is appointed by the rector, in consultation with the Faculty Council, for a term not exceeding five years, but no more than twice in succession. The proportion of students in the Faculty Council must not be less than 20 per cent. Student representatives in the Faculty Council are assigned by the student government of the faculty. A faculty may be formed if pooling its scientific potential results in its meeting at least the requirements of the doctoral dissertation board in the relevant scientific field or discipline.

A research institute is a unit of the University formed by the association of research personnel from one or more scientific disciplines with a view to using their scientific potential for the efficient pursuit of common research objectives. A research institute carries out research activities in one or more fields of science, organises and is responsible for the publication of research results, provides research-based academic and vocational studies in conjunction with faculties, promotes the implementation of innovations in the national economy, and the dissemination of research to the public. The activities of the institute and the election of its research staff is governed by its Statute, which is approved in accordance with the procedure laid down in the Constitution. *Constitution of Liepaja University* (page 8., 9) <https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/dokumenti/studentiem/CONSTITUTION%20OF%20LIEPAJA%20UNIVERSITY.pdf>

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 order to implement the overall goal and goals, the University of Liepaja uses the development and planning documents and the internal Quality Management System (hereafter – QMS). In LiepU QMS there are the databases and procedures of the internal normative documents.

Responsibility

- LiepU management has made commitments to provide the necessary resources needed for the Quality Management System's efficient activity and its improvement.
- LiepU approves academic integrity and freedom, stands against academic fraud; supervises any intolerance and students or staff's discrimination.
- All LiepU employees are responsible for implementation, support and development of the Quality Policy, procedures and improvement, they are responsible for the quality and get involved in quality provision.
- Formulations of employees' responsibilities, rights and duties are written in job descriptions and procedures for all work functions affecting the quality of work.

Planning of QMS

- In the QMS manual LiepU has defined procedures and other documents how the requirements of the QMS are reached and how the development of the quality culture happens.
- Observance of the QMS requirements is achieved working according to the ESG-2015 and requirements stated in the QMS documentation.
- The order, in which the changes in processes and documentation are introduced, is stated in the Recordkeeping Instruction. Mechanisms for implementation of an efficient QMS provision;
 - analysis of outcomes of students and graduates' regular surveys;
 - compilation and analysis of employers and other social partners' opinions and suggestions,
 - Management Report considered in the Constitutional Assembly,
 - problem analysis in structural units.

In the development of the QMS procedures, regulations, rules and other normative documents and their execution control the activity of the representatives delegated by the LiepU Student Council is active. Students participate in the following LiepU institutions: in the LiepU Constitutional Assembly, in the LiepU Senate, in the LiepU Senate Development and Budget Commission and the LiepU Senate Academic Commission, in Councils of the Faculties, the Study Councils, Science Councils, Maintenance Councils, Library Council, Scholarship Commission, Scholarship Commission of the LiepU Senate, Loan Granting Commission, Study Direction Councils.

All LiepU employees are responsible for implementation, support and development, of the quality policy, procedure and management system and they take responsibility for the quality and get involved in quality provision.

The electronic link to the website where one can access:

- Quality Policy of the Higher Educational Establishment:
<https://www.liepu.lv/en/124/quality-policy>
- Information on other binding internal laws and regulations can be found in **Appendix I.1.2.A** in the previous section.

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.	Analysis of processes and improvements take place according to Liepu QMS (Quality Management System) system. The indicators of activity and evaluation results of various surveys are being analyzed. The data has been summarized after the end of the academic year. Detailed information in the Clause 5.
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.	Liepu QMS are procedures which regulate formation, licensing and accreditation of study programmes. Separate procedures determine preparation, approval and change management of both study courses and study plans. Procedures are created which regulate the annual study plan development of classes and their management of changes, also preparation of timetable and change management. QMS procedure S-6-I_ENG Development and licensing of study programmes in Annex.
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.	The evaluation of study results takes place in accordance with the "Rules on examinations of a study course/module" (approved in the Senate meeting on 23rd May 2022, protocol No.15) and "Regulation on Final examinations, State examinations and State final examinations" (approved in the Senate meeting on 25th October 2021, protocol No.3) Rules on examinations of a study course/module: https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/dokumenti/studentiem/Regulations%20for%20Course_Module%20Examinations.pdf Regulation on Final examinations, State examinations and State final examinations: https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/%C4%80SD/ERASMUS%20dokumenti/Regulation%20on%20final_state%20and%20state%20final%20examinations_eng.pdf

4.	Internal procedures and mechanisms for assuring the qualifications of the academic staff and the work quality have been developed.	<p>In 2018, three mid-term planning documents were developed, directed towards the LiepU human resources development. LiepU Human Resources Development Plan 2018-2023 in which the current situation is assessed, the goals of human resources management processes, the tasks to be executed and results achieved are determined. The goal of LiepU Human Resources Development Plan are to provide LiepU with the necessary human resources, promote development of the current human resources (academic and general staff), professional growth and development, new teaching staff and scientific staff inclusion in the university education and research process in order to provide modern, towards development orientated studies, research, life-long education in compliance with the LiepU Development Strategy. The Action Plan of LiepU Academic Staff Development 2018-2022 is the staff development and attraction plan, in which the envisaged activities of the academic staff competence improvement, development and attraction are determined and described. The goal of the Action Plan of LiepU Academic Staff Development 2018-2022 is to provide the increase of the LiepU academic staff competences and skills, promote the staff development and LiepU work development according to the quality requirements.</p> <p>3.The Training Plan of LiepU Management Staff 2018-2021 in which the activities for the envisaged managerial staff competence development are stated and described. The goals of LiepU Managerial Staff Training Plan: the increase of LiepU managerial staff competences and skills for a skilful administration, process management, managerial team with a vision of a modern, competitive international university which understands global tendencies, a managerial team which is able to inspire students and employees for a fast and ambitious development. LiepU QMS has procedures about the Employees' training planning, organisation and efficiency assessment and Academic Staff selection and assessment.</p>
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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.	Every year on October 1 the data is collated about the number of students, number of the matriculated, number of graduates, number of staff (https://stat.gov.lv/en/statistics-themes/education/higher-education/tables/igp010-higher-education-institutions-and)- which is included and analysed in the self-assessment report of the study direction. In LiepU procedures are developed which state the order in what way the annual surveys of students' satisfaction and graduates' surveys are carried out. In the reports of the study direction self-assessments the compliance of the study direction and study programmes with the labour market demand, the annual employers' surveys are analysed. In the study direction self-assessment reports the information on financial resources for the study direction in order to implement the corresponding study programmes are analysed, also to provide the academic staff research (creative) activities. Every year in the Senate the enrolment results are analysed, assessment of the Scientific activity and analysis of financial and economic activity are carried out.
6	The higher education institution/ college shall ensure continuous improvement, development, and efficient performance of the study field whilst implementing their quality assurance systems.	Internal quality on the faculty and study direction level is provided by the Faculty council, Council of Study Direction and director of the study direction, director of the study programme. In the framework of the study programme the internal quality is provided by the director of a study programme and the involved academic staff of study programmes. In order to make a continuous development of study programmes, LiepU Council of Study direction monitors the study direction and is responsible for the content and the quality of study programmes' study direction. In the Council of Study direction compulsory have to be the representatives of employers. The Council of Study direction acts in accordance with "Regulation on Liepaja University Councils of Study directions" (approved in LiepU Senate on 17.06.2019., protocol No.2). Functions of the Study council are: ((1) to organize and monitor the development of study programmes of the study direction; to submit study programmes in the Faculty council; (2) to coordinate and promote interdisciplinarity and cooperation with employers in the development of study programme(-s); (3) to promote research-based studies; (4) to supervise the implementation of study programmes of the study direction; (5) to review and accept the annual self-assessment report of the study direction, to submit it to the Faculty council; (6) to evaluate problems of the study process and to prepare proposals for the problem-solving. Regulation on Liepaja University Councils of Study directions: https://liepu.lv/uploads/%C4%80SD/ERASMUS%20dokumenti/Instructions%20on%20Liepaja%20University%20Study%20Directions%20councils.pdf

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 programmes of the 'Art' field of study are implemented by the Faculty of Humanitarian Sciences and Arts of LiepU (FHSA) in cooperation with the teaching staff of the Faculty of Science and Engineering, Faculty of Pedagogy and Social Work, Faculty of Management and Social Sciences. The Arts field includes the academic bachelor programmes 'Contemporary Performing Art', 'New Media Art and Design', the joint master degree programme 'New Media and Audiovisual Art' implemented with RISEBA University of Applied Sciences, and the joint doctoral degree programme 'Media Arts and Creative Technologies', with RISEBA University of Applied Sciences .

The overall aim of the study programme 'Art' is to provide students with the opportunity to acquire quality academic education in the humanities, art study programmes, including interdisciplinary study programmes, preparing themselves for independent, creative, interdisciplinary research and professional activity. The development strategy of the field of study is aligned with the strategic planning documents of FHSA and LiepU:

- - Liepāja University Development Strategy 2016–2020 (available at: https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/%C4%80SD/ERASMUS%20dokumenti/Liepaja_University_Development_Strategy_Summary_2016-2023_25.01.2021.pdf)
- Liepāja University Research Activity Strategy for 2015–2020 (available at (Only in Latvian): https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/files/LiepU%20Zinatniskas%20darbibas%20strategija_2015_2020.pdf) (both extended to 2023);

The 'Art' field of study corresponds to the field of humanities, which is one of the areas of strategic development LiepU defined in 2020/2021.

The 'Art' field of study is in line with the research field of the Faculty of Humanitarian Sciences and Arts and its affiliated research institutions—the Kurzeme Humanities Institute and the Art Research Laboratory: interdisciplinary new media art practices and digital-age art research. Network culture and sustainability, immersive media, social media and networked communities, research-based professional practices in art and design. Researching cultural heritage as a modern resource. Liepāja Theatre in the historical and contemporary Baltic theatre context; ethnolinguistics; language, literature, culture in the Kurzeme cultural space within the context of Latvian culture. Using and learning modern languages and literature in a multicultural environment.

The 'Art' field of study programmes involve interdisciplinary creativity and research, including multimedia text and literature, as well as text-image interfaces. But the field is interdisciplinary, extending beyond the humanities: research on sustainability and new media is linked to ICT and natural sciences, while arts and social sciences collaborate on educational projects, which it is planned to develop and strengthen further.

The following documents are followed in the development and implementation of the field of study: Education Development Guidelines 2021–2027, Latvian Sustainable Development Strategy 2030 (Latvia 2030), Latvian National Development Plan 2021–2027 (NDP 2027), Latvian National Reform Programme for the Implementation of the EU 2020 Strategy (NRP), Science, Technology Development and Innovation Guidelines 2021–2027, Youth Policy Guidelines 2021–2027 (draft), Digital Transformation Guidelines 2021–2027, Liepāja Sustainable Development Strategy 2030, Latvian Design Strategy 2017–2020 and 2021–2027.

The development and activities of the programmes of the 'Art' field of study are aligned with both the Kurzeme region sustainable development planning documents and the 2030 Liepāja City Sustainable Development Strategy, where Liepāja is stated to be an education, science and research centre, and a centre of culture and creativity, closely related to the development of creative industries. Latvia 2030 also emphasises that development in regional cities 'should be in the future directed towards strengthening science and research to increase innovation capacity, and to making full use of human, cultural (knowledge and creativity) and economic potential for better international competitiveness'. One of the 'Art' field of study activities is to promote the qualitative and quantitative growth of culture and creativity in Liepāja and Kurzeme region, and its successful implementation is confirmed by the very good rating (4 points in this category) of the social and regional impact of the research conducted by FHSA in the international evaluation of scientific institution activities. LiepU 'Art' field of study plays an important role in the Liepāja 2027: European Capital of Culture (ECC) programme, which will help to further enhance the visibility of its study programmes and cooperation with the cultural industry, while special emphasis is placed on expanding the international cooperation network by developing joint creative, education, and research projects.

The implementation of the programmes is closely aligned with NDP 2027, which focuses on the interaction between people and technology and has 'Knowledge and skills for personal and national growth' as one of its priority areas. The goal is a knowledgeable, inclusive, and creative society with an efficient, innovative, and productive economy. NDP 2027 stresses that 'culture helps develop a wide range of skills for creativity, and fosters not only personal but also regional and national identity and a sense of belonging. Culture contributes to economic growth.' This is in line with the current situation of the study programmes in the field of study and their regular evaluation for future potential. Latvia 2030, on the other hand, focuses on the interdisciplinary nature of studies and the concept of creativity education, seen as the acquisition of specific competences and

qualifications, and the development of critical thinking, creativity, and cooperation skills and, more generally, of human talents, emotional and social intelligence. The LiepU study programmes 'Art', 'New Media Art and Design', 'New Media Art and Audiovisual Art', 'Contemporary Performing Culture', and 'Media Art and Creative Technologies' are in line with the strategy of the Latvian development planning documents, as they are both interdisciplinary and based on creativity and innovation.

The 'Art' field of study programmes are in line with Priority 4 of the Smart Specialisation Strategy 'Development of modern and up-to-date ICT systems in the private and public sectors'. The role of new media in creating digital content resources and in helping to develop collaborative work between ICT and other sectors is particularly noteworthy. In today's context, where information technology has increased its role in all spheres of human activity, creative technology and media art specialists are visualising data, 3D printing (prototyping), creating augmented reality, video mapping systems, unmanned video cameras (drones). Thus, the arts sector contributes to the objectives of the Smart Specialisation Strategy. NDP 2027 stresses that 'Media literacy and critical thinking are Latvia's best defence against hybrid threats'. New media artists, for example, can draw public attention and expose digital surveillance, covert attempts to influence political and other opinions on social media, the use of artificial intelligence for manipulative purposes, etc., through their work and visually expressive action.

Media arts and creative technology education and related creative industries are growing rapidly worldwide and are considered one of the most promising economic sectors. Digital industries continued to grow steadily during the European economic crisis, when demand fell in a number of sectors. The COVID-19 pandemic has also only increased the need for digital creative products and an online presence for other industries, helped by new media art and design.

The bachelor programme 'New Media Art and Design', the master programme 'New Media and Audiovisual Art' and the doctoral programme 'Media Art and Creative Technologies', due to their interdisciplinary content (with links to IT), are among the STEM programmes considered as one of the promising sectors of the economy. During the period under review, the content of new and existing programmes also increased its emphasis on design and creative technologies, not just media art techniques. Design is a resource for economic development, improving the goods and services provided by companies, and their own processes. Design is seen as a key driver in creating new products and services that are attractive to customers and can set a company apart from the competition and add value to it. The presence of design in the creation of a product or service contributes to a better solution to a problem, for example by making the product more ergonomic and functional. The design industry in Europe points to the importance of design in economic success, and in the field of new media, design thinking is vital for the development of new communication tools and creative technologies.

The 'Art' field of study programmes provide specialised staff/service providers to almost all cultural service institutions of Liepāja (museum, concert hall, theatre, etc.), and to creative industries (advertising agencies, print studios, animation studios, photo studios, sound studios, etc.): performing artists create performances in collaboration with new media artists and designers who take care of stage design, documentation, and new spaces/forms of communication. Of particular social importance is the creativity and socially active work of the instructors and students of the 'Art' field of study in organising international visual art events, which are otherwise rare in Liepāja and the Kurzeme region. (International exchanges only active take place in the field of music). The international competitiveness of the creative work of the 'Art' field of study is confirmed by the active participation of graduates and teaching staff in international art events outside Latvia.

The programmes are interlinked, enabling the exploration of performing, visual and sound art and

design in the context of new media. Courses related to new media art are included in the 'Contemporary Performing Arts' bachelor programme, while performing arts courses are included in the 'New Media Art and Design' bachelor programme. At bachelor level, the focus is on developing technical performance and interdisciplinary collaboration; at master level, on developing research, entrepreneurial, and innovation competences through topic assignments, and at doctoral level, the student learns a methodology that enables the transfer of newly developed knowledge and skills to society, contributing to the development of the sector.

In line with the alignment of the Latvian education system with the European Qualifications Framework, lifelong learning, and the 'Europe 2020' European Qualifications Framework for Higher Education, the creation of new practical/theoretical knowledge, media literacy for personal development, creative growth and productive working life, the content of study programmes was updated and study course programmes were improved in the process of the implementation of the art study programmes.

The implementation of the art field of study, the changes made during the reporting period and the development of study courses are in line with the Guidelines for the Development of Education 2021-2027. Emphasising the provision of modern, high-quality higher education study programmes based on research and creative and artistic activity, strengthening academic integrity in higher education, continuing the education of stakeholders and growing of shared resources, improving the regulatory framework and the national system for the accumulation and dissemination of knowledge.

In the development of the joint programmes, the universities have taken into account the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia objective stating that the educational programmes offered by Latvian universities should be consolidated to avoid overlaps, should be more competitive, should merge and use resources more efficiently. Two new higher-level study programmes were established in cooperation with RISEBA and internal resources were consolidated at the bachelor level, integrating the study programme 'Design' into the academic bachelor programme 'New Media Art and Design'.

The field of study fosters a multifaceted educational experience that ensures the development of competences for personal and professional growth in changing circumstances. To make this happen, open cooperation and voluntary partnerships with government and local authorities, and non-governmental organisation are pursued. The networking of today's society is also essential, facilitating the mobility of students and staff nationally and internationally. The students develop competences such as innovation, entrepreneurship, media literacy, digital and research literacy. The content of the study programmes in this field of study involves openness to the new and innovative, understanding global and local, socio-political, economic, and educational processes. The study programmes of the Liepāja University 'Art' field of study are unique in the Latvian context in that they provide an understanding of media theories and promote critical thinking, while putting into practice the cooperation between art and science and demonstrating the potential for creativity and innovation that only art studies in a multidisciplinary university can effectively provide. Digital humanities education allows reflection on the role, feelings, and challenges of the human in the age of technology, while also ensuring social, not just economic, sustainability. It is of paramount national importance to strengthen the Latvian identity and the representation of Latvian content in the global digital information space and circulation (NDP 2027).

The overall aim of the study programme 'Art' is to provide students with the opportunity to acquire quality academic education in the humanities, art study programmes, including interdisciplinary study programmes, preparing themselves for independent, creative, interdisciplinary research and professional activity. The development strategy of the field of study is aligned with the strategic

planning documents of FHSA and LiepU:

- - Liepāja University Development Strategy 2016–2020 (available at: https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/%C4%80SD/ERASMUS%20dokumenti/Liepaja_University_Development_Strategy_Summary_2016-2023_25.01.2021.pdf)
- Liepāja University Research Activity Strategy for 2015–2020 (available at (Only in Latvian): https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/files/LiepU%20Zinatniskas%20darbibas%20strategija_2015_2020.pdf) (both extended to 2023);

The 'Art' field of study corresponds to the field of humanities, which is one of the areas of strategic development LiepU defined in 2020/2021.

LiepU is a centre for higher education, science and culture in the Kurzeme region, contributing to the development of the region in the Latvian and international context. Its mission is to be a promoter of education, science, innovation and cultural development of Liepāja and Kurzeme, which provides competitive, nationally and internationally significant studies necessary for the development of the region, implements study-related, nationally and internationally recognised research, and promotes sustainable growth of society. Its main goal is to provide research-based, high-quality higher professional, academic and lifelong learning opportunities that are relevant to the region and competitive in Latvia and internationally, promoting the development of a knowledge-based and professional competence-based economy, and promoting a creative, culture-focused society.

Strategic fields of study for the University's development:

- social sciences (education subject areas: teacher education and education sciences, business and administration);
- humanities and arts;
- engineering and technology (subject areas of computer science, and electronics and automation education programme group).

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more competitive, should merge and use resources more efficiently. Two new higher-level study programmes were established in cooperation with RISEBA and internal resources were consolidated at the bachelor level, integrating the study programme 'Design' into the academic bachelor programme 'New Media Art and Design'.

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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 development of 'Art' field of study highlights priority areas of activity, the implementation of which is aimed at sustainable growth, taking into account the current developments in higher education policy, expert recommendations and the results of the analysis of proposals by HMZF staff and students:

1. Ensuring the development of academic and management staff
2. Expanding research and creativity
3. Ensuring the quality, and building the uniqueness and competitiveness of the study programmes;
4. Lifelong learning and increasing the social impact of the field;
5. Targeted public relations and marketing;
6. Cooperation and internationalisation.

To support the implementation of the fields of study, stakeholder communication is carried out in the form of student questionnaires, feedback from employers and graduates, discussions among faculty members involved in the teaching of the field of study, and annual discussions with the students of the field of study. Results of the SWOT analysis:

FHSA 'Art' field of study

SWOT Analysis

STRENGTHS

- **continuity of studies**, full range of studies in new media arts and creative technologies
- **sustained potential student interest** in bachelor-level study programmes
- **ability to develop unique programmes** (New Media Art and Design, New Media and Audiovisual Art, Media Art and Creative Technologies) with no clearly analogous programmes in the country
- **relevance of the study content**: well-designed and balanced study programmes, module structure flexible enough to continuously incorporate current techniques and trends
- ability and skills to bring in **current trends in European education** and highly qualified staff from abroad
- **consolidation of resources** through the establishment of joint master and doctoral programmes with the RISEBA University of Applied Sciences, combining study, scientific, and technical infrastructure to improve the quality of studies and reduce costs
- **student involvement in creativity and research**: active and professional teaching staff who involve students in their creativity and research
- **cooperation with professional organisations and local authorities** in creative activities and projects, active participation of students and graduates in Latvian cultural events
- **visibility**, active community of new media artists in Liepāja (community is also emerging in Riga): graduates involve students in their creative and business projects, creating continuity of their knowledge and encouraging motivation in students
- **extensive international cooperation** in academic work and creativity, mobility opportunities
- **Liepāja municipal government support** and co-financing for attracting foreign guest lecturers, for the education of performing artists, diversifying funding sources
- **good technical support for** student independent work, stable financial support from LiepU and RISEBA for the purchase of art laboratory equipment; modern study environment

The weaknesses in the implementation of the study programme have also been analysed and changes have been made to reduce the negative factors and make more productive use of the opportunities.

WEAKNESSES and action to mitigate them

- **low number of students in higher-level study programmes** (joint master and doctoral programmes with RISEBA have been created, thus optimising resources for teaching the programmes and creating larger student groups. The interdisciplinary aspects of the programmes have been promoted more widely, attracting potential students from other fields of study and countries, and the management and researchers of the 'Art' field of study and LiepU are developing project applications for the involvement of students of master and doctoral programmes in research, offering them to combine studies with research, thus making these programmes more attractive and effective).
- **Insufficiently developed system for promoting LiepU programmes** (in 2022, LiepU will start cooperation with an outsourced advertising agency to improve its marketing activities. Student work is promoted more widely in end-of-year exhibitions, combined with concerts and other activities of interest to potential students, in order to attract their attention and create awareness of 'new media')
- **Insufficient student motivation, followed by dropping out** (Meetings are organised for

faculty members to jointly balance tasks and deadlines within the semester, ensuring a manageable study schedule for students. The assignments are designed to allow the student to combine them thematically with their own interests in acquiring the required technical skills and knowledge).

- **Lack of contemporary approaches, technology in the field of design** (Integrating design education modules into the bachelor academic study programme 'New Media Art and Design' means that both art and design students are trained in media theories (media literacy) as well as in the use and development of the latest technologies, while optimising the workload of the teaching staff and providing more time for further training and international mobility).
- **Moodle features not sufficiently used** (Before 2022, students and faculty of the new media arts and creative technologies course used the electronic platform at <http://forums.mplab.lv/> (access only for registered users) where students can easily book equipment and literature for study projects. By order of the rector, all study modules are also managed via the Moodle platform as of 2022. Programme heads and support staff can also help guest instructors with management through Moodle. Seminars on Moodle are organised for core staff).
- **Lack of specialists and salaries equivalent to the private sector makes implementation of some study modules (creative programming, etc.) difficult** (doctoral students, as well as teaching staff from other faculties, such as the Faculty of Science and Engineering, are involved in teaching study modules).
- **Low number of instructors with doctoral degrees: LiepU has no power to award doctoral degrees in the field of art studies** (6 students have graduated from the doctoral programme 'New Media Art' who are instructors in the field of study, and will defend their doctoral theses at the Art Academy of Latvia in 2023, and at least 3 are planned to be elected as docents at LiepU FHSA. On 22.02.2022, a memorandum of intent on the doctoral degree award process was signed with the Art Academy of Latvia).
- **Insufficient cooperation with the partner university RISEBA in research, with involvement in national and international research programmes** (with the increasing number of doctoral students and doctoral graduates, the potential for joint research increases. Research collaborations with other disciplines, such as linguistics, are under way to help achieve the aims of the field).
- **Lack of supervisory/advisory staff to work in the laboratories outside contact hours with module instructors due to lack of funds/HEI funding model** (providing 24-hour access to study rooms in the Art Research Laboratory with an electronic key for homework and creative experiments allows junior students to consult senior students on the use of the equipment. It also encourages students to collaborate in creative work and the creation of art and electronic music collectives in Liepāja and the region).
- **Distance from Riga, the centre of Latvian contemporary cultural activities, makes it difficult for students and instructors to explore the context of local contemporary culture** (the faculty and administration of the Art Department cooperate with art NGOs organising international exhibitions, concerts, and creative workshops in Liepāja, as well as providing student tours and free admission to art museums and major events in Riga, Klaipėda, etc. We also plan to make greater use of the ERASMUS+ Blended Intensive Programme (BIP) short-term mobility opportunities for students to explore the international art scene).
- **Lack of working space for the creation of independent work, namely, art installations and design prototypes; the creation of large artworks is difficult** (the Education Law of the Republic of Latvia stipulates an insufficient amount of study space per art student: only 7 m³ per student, including teaching staff rooms, similarly to fields where

practical work with computers and various techniques is not required. The lack of working and exhibition space is addressed by working with the municipal government and/or NGOs to repurpose unused premises for students).

- **Lack of interdisciplinary cooperation in the field of performing arts** (addressed by changes to the programme, expanding it, changing the name to 'Contemporary Performing Arts', bringing in instructors and partners from other disciplines, such as cultural management).

Regular identification and discussion of weaknesses (with students during the study process, with the teaching staff in the faculty general meetings and/or in the Faculty Council) has enabled gradual solutions to be found to address them. During the reporting period, a number of examples of good practice emerged to mitigate weaknesses in the development of the field of study, for example: regular work on changes to the field of study programmes, topic groups of teaching staff are created to discuss the content of study courses and the establishment of a council for the field of study with the involvement of employers. The employers share their vision for the development of the field and programmes and update their position relative to the development of the field. Financial support from the Liepāja City Council is also provided to hire guest instructors and improve the quality of each study programme.

THREATS

- **uncertainty in the Latvian higher education space** pertaining to the typology of higher education institutions, the HEI funding model, instability in the provision of higher education as a system, unforeseen possible changes, including in the provision and demand for study fields or study programmes
- **competition**, vulnerability of unique programmes
- **lack of jobs in the region**, lack of competitive wages in Liepāja and the region
- **too large a gap between salaries in the education system and in industry**, making it difficult to hire highly educated and internationally competitive staff, who are leaving for the capital and abroad
- **potential scarcity of technical infrastructure**, the challenge of keeping up with the latest technological developments in terms of faculty recruitment and technical support
- **distance learning leading to** loss of motivation, deteriorating mental health, and difficulties in establishing professional and research contacts

OPPORTUNITIES

- **strengthening the uniqueness of the programmes** (developing immersive media art and design techniques, developing sustainability and inclusive practices, developing the field of sound art)
- **promotion of the programmes, marketing activities in Latvia and abroad** (development of attractive information materials, mobility of teaching and administrative staff, participation in industry networking events such as Icebreakers 2022, promotion of studies, creativity and research results in the media and communication channels appropriate to the target audience)
- **attraction of foreign students for higher level studies** (development of an international relations strategy in cooperation with the International Relations Unit, mobility of teaching and administrative staff, hosting marketing, international workshops, and intensive training sessions at LiepU)
- **offering study programmes/modules for lifelong learning** (diversifying the funding sources, promoting study programmes, fostering creativity, digital competences and critical intelligence in wider society)

- **use of academic networking in the country and abroad to boost research and creativity** (joint international master programmes, research activities, joint research groups with RISEBA)
- **improving cooperation with other universities in Latvia and abroad** (attracting new partners)
- **professional development, staff development** (building teaching, foreign language, and digital competences and staff motivation)
- **increased involvement in national and international scientific and cultural programmes**, engaging in politically, economically, and socially significant events, including the participation of students and faculty in the activities of the Liepāja European Capital of Culture 2027 events (already planned)
- **cooperation with employers and the private sector in the acquisition of specific material and technical resources and in research** (through joint projects)

In order to build the strengths and reduce the weaknesses of the Arts field of study, to promote optimal resource management, the attractiveness of the study programmes, and working towards more successful continuity of studies in the field of media arts and creative technologies during the assessment period, it is planned to integrate the professional bachelor programme 'Design' into the programme 'New Media Art' by changing its name to 'New Media Art and Design' and offering the students the choice of studying either New Media Art or New Media Design. This will prepare, from bachelor level onwards, potential specialists and researchers not only in the field of media arts, but also in the field of creative industries: potential students of the master programme and, later, the joint academic doctoral programme 'Media Arts and Creative Technologies'.

Some of the courses in the previous bachelor degree programmes 'New Media Art' and 'Design' overlapped: courses in graphic design, photography, video editing, etc. To optimise resources, one programme for two the fields of study was created, allowing students to discover the field in the first year and make an informed choice about their future field of study: art or design.

The 'Interior Design' and 'Product Design' branches of the 'Design' programme will not be continued starting from the academic year 2024/2025, as they had a low number of students and were not competitive in the region, and there are no national standards for the professions, which prevents further implementation of a professional study programme. However, the academic and professional qualifications of the teaching staff are assessed and integrated into the academic study programme 'New Media Art and Design', introducing form-making and material studies for all students, as these skills have so far been lacking in the 'New Media Art' programme, preventing sufficient time and attention being devoted to the development of physical interfaces for art installations and digital products, and to the development of form-making and compositional competences.

The professional bachelor degree programme 'Design' has always been in demand, with 25–30 students entering the programme every year, and the Arts field of study management seeks to improve the continuity of studies by increasing the number of young media design specialists continuing their studies at higher levels, as there is great research potential in this field.

We request the accreditation expert commission and Quality Agency for Higher Education to allow Year 3 students (9 students) of the current vocational bachelor programme 'Design' to graduate from the vocational study programme also in the academic year 2023/2024 and in June 2024 get a vocational bachelor degree in Design with qualifications in Art Photography, Computer Design, Interior Design, and Product Design, as these students have so far studied a four-year programme and it is not feasible to align it with a three-year academic programme. We ask for 'Design' second year students to graduate from the three-year academic study programme 'New Media Art and

Design' in June 2024 with Bachelors degree of Humanitarian Sciences in Audiovisual Art and Media Art according to the transition plan, as the general subjects studied in the first year can be harmonised with the content of the academic study programme. We ask for 'New Media Art' second year students to graduate from the programme 'New Media Art and Design' in June 2024 with a Bachelors degree of Humanitarian Sciences in Audiovisual Art and Media Art according to the transition plan . (Requested to Study Quality Commission in November 2022)

The development plan of the study area for the next 6 years (2022-2027) was developed during the discussions of the teaching staff and the management of the field of study "Art" and is attached to the appendix of this chapter "Appendix II 1.2". If necessary, changes may be made in the development plan of the study field "Art" after the inclusion of Liepaja University in the ecosystem of some larger Latvian university of sciences (in 2025), according to the strategic directions, goals and resources of this institution.

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 following Liepāja University departments are involved in the implementation of the 'Art' field of study: Faculty of Humanitarian Sciences and Arts, Study Department, Library, Information Technology Centre, International Relations Department, Public Relations Department, etc. RISEBA University of Applied Sciences and its departments (for the joint master programme 'New Media and Audiovisual Art' and the joint doctoral programme 'Media Art and Creative Technologies'). In cooperation with the Art Research Laboratory and LiepU Kurzeme Institute of Humanities, student research and creativity work is organised, and research is integrated into the study process.

The implementation of the study programme is mainly ensured by the FHSA dean and the head of the study programme, the senior secretary, the records secretary, the information officer, the programme heads and the staff of the Art Research Laboratory (MPLab), where the practical lessons take place. Since the 2017/2018 academic year, LiepU has abandoned the positions of heads of scientific branches, and has introduced heads of fields of study, whose task is to supervise and coordinate the activities of their field of studies. The dean of the faculty, with the involvement of the head of the Field of study, supervises the scientific activities in direct cooperation with the teaching staff of the faculty. The employment of the faculty staff are determined by the LiepU regulatory documents governing studies, the Regulations on the Faculty, job descriptions of the faculty staff, and agreements on the performance of certain functions.

The Faculty organises the work of the study programme heads, and the faculty council is also heavily involved in its control and evaluation. The faculty council is responsible for a wide range of study topics: it approves licensing and accreditation documents, annual study plans, study programme self-assessment reports, final thesis topics, supervisors, reviewers, etc. Some of these topics are discussed in the preparatory phase with different groups of academics (instructors in the field of study, instructors involved in the specific study programme, groups of disciplines/sub-disciplines). The meetings of the faculty council and the teaching staff are recorded, and the recommendations made during the meetings form the basis for the decisions taken by the faculty

council. The management of the faculty is responsible for the supervision of the study process. Information about cancelled lessons and plans for compensating them is available from the secretary.

The faculty council reviews research activity reports and future plans, sabbatical leave plans and reports, publishing and conference plans. In 2018/2019 academic year, the Field of Study Councils were launched: regulations for the councils were developed (<https://liepu.lv/uploads/%C4%80SD/ERASMUS%20dokumenti/Instructions%20on%20Liepaja%20University%20Study%20Directions%20councils.pdf>); the Council was approved.

The effectiveness of the management of the field of study sees continuous improvements; the management layout of the field of study is attached in *II.1.4. Annex A*.

The management of the field of study is carried out in accordance with the documents approved by the Liepāja University Senate, which regulate the relations between the management, academic staff and students, based on democratic principles, for example:

1. Regulations on Undergraduate and Postgraduate Studies.
2. LiepU Code of Academic Integrity.
3. Regulations on Final Examinations, National Examinations, and National Final Examinations.
4. Regulations on the Duties and Rights of Teaching Staff and Students.
5. Regulations on Course/Module Examinations.
6. Liepāja University Internal Regulations for Students.
7. Liepāja University Internal Regulations for Staff.
8. Liepāja University Intellectual Property Management Regulations.

LiepU Quality Management System (QMS) includes procedures pertaining to the study process, which clearly define the relationships between administrative, academic staff and students:

1. Inclusion of the person in the list of Year 1 students (describes the admission process, defining the responsibilities and actions between the applicants and the administrative staff);
2. Enrolment at later stages of studies, transfer from another university or renewal (describes the process, defining the responsibilities and actions between the applicants and the administrative staff);
3. Inclusion in the list of students if the student changes programme or form of study (describes the process, defining the responsibilities and actions between the applicants and the administrative staff);
4. Inclusion of learning outcomes in the student academic record (describes the process, defining responsibilities and actions between the students, the teaching and the administrative staff);
5. Academic leave and returning after academic leave (describes the process, defining the responsibilities and actions between the students, the teaching and the administrative staff);
6. Removing a student from the student list by the student's request (describes the process, defining the responsibilities and actions between the students, the teaching and the administrative staff);
7. Removing a student from the student list for unmet academic obligations, financial obligations (describes the process, defining the responsibilities and actions between the students, the teaching and the administrative staff).

A special governance structure exists for study programmes taught jointly with RISEBA. The master study programme 'New Media and Audiovisual Art' has a programme council consisting of 6 persons: the financial directors of both the higher education institutions, the programme heads and the dean of FHSA, as well as the vice-rector for studies of RISEBA. This is where decisions are taken

on funding, fees, content, etc.

The doctoral programme 'Media Art and Creative Technologies' has a programme council (for similar matters, including the vice-rector for science of both the higher education institutions: 8 people in total), but decisions on the content and conduct of the programme are taken by the council of science. It is made up of programme heads and instructors with doctoral degrees.

The 'Art' field of study management model works effectively – programme directors are easily accessible to students, understand their needs, and are able to respond quickly, reporting the activities necessary to ensure a successful study process to the staff involved in the study process, the field of study and faculty management, who, if necessary, refer questions to the decision-making bodies of the university. The head of the field of study and programme directors are paid bonuses for involving students in extracurricular activities, research, creative projects and for organizing these activities, which motivates the management to develop a diverse, active, high-quality study environment in close cooperation with industry.

Strategic issues regarding the development of the 'Art' field of study are discussed at faculty meetings, the faculty council, as well as the field of study council, ensuring understanding, support and united action to achieve goals.

The management of the joint study programmes is facilitated by regular communication between study program directors in each of the universities (Liepāja University/RISEBA), as well as joint study programme board meetings at least once a semester.

Students are provided with good technical-administrative support at the Liepāja University and RISEBA, MPLab employees are also provided with consultations on the use of creative technology in study work (MPLab computer engineer), as well as on the implementation of art projects (MPLab project manager), the staff of LiepU IT center provide consultations in person and remotely, and have provided remotely accessible instructions for using various services. The library staff provides consultations not only on the use of electronic information resources, but also on the possibilities of word processing software. Moodle support staff are knowledgeable, responsive and reachable remotely.

Inconvenience is sometimes caused by the lack of English language skills of some administrative staff members, which forces the involvement of the programme or field of study management in solving simple issues. During the exam time, there is a very high demand for technical support, and even outside of Liepāja University facilities (exhibitions are also organized in public spaces outside LiepU), which is a big challenge and additional work hours for employees, and there would be a need for temporary technical support staff. Within the framework of the existing administrative system, it is solved by involving other MPLab employees in the provision of technical support, but they do not always have the corresponding skills/abilities to perform the relevant additional duties.

No significant complaints about the lack of technical/administrative support were received during the reporting period.

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 admissions rules describe the compulsory and additional requirements for the study programmes, and the admissions examinations. The LiepU Admissions Rules for each academic year are approved by the Senate:

- Bachelor admissions rules for the 2022/2023 academic year: https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/dokumenti/uznemsana/2223/Uznemsanas%20noteikumi_pamats_tudijas_2022_2023.studiju%20gadam_ar%2013.06.2022.grozijumiem.pdf (Latvian Only)
- Master degree programme admissions rules for the 2022/2023 academic year: https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/dokumenti/uznemsana/Uznemsanas%20noteikumi%20magistran_tura_2022._2023.st.gadam_ar%2023.05.2022%20grozijumiem.pdf (Latvian Only)
- Doctoral degree programme admissions rules for the 2022/2023 academic year: https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/dokumenti/uznemsana/2223/Uznemsanas_noteikumi_doktorantu_ra_2022_ziemas_un_vasaras_uznemsana.pdf (Latvian Only)

Procedures regulating the technical admission process have been developed for the LiepU QMS:

- The Single Application for Undergraduate Studies, which governs the admission process for undergraduate students via the e-service www.latvija.lv/studijas.
- The inclusion of the person in the list of Year 1 students, which governs the admissions to master programmes and additional admissions.

Foreign students (master's level) apply for studies through LiepU's application system <https://apply.liepu.lv/>. Foreign students (doctoral level) apply for studies through LiepU's website, filling out a questionnaire and sending documents and a doctoral thesis application online. Each applicant for a master's degree programme must submit a portfolio of creative works, an application for a master's thesis topic, which is reviewed by the program director. Applications for doctoral study programmes are examined by the scientific council of the joint programme. Admission to the master's programme is carried out in cooperation with the Department of International Relations, and to the doctoral programme - in cooperation with the vice-rector of science. Educational documents and general compliance with admission requirements are considered. The documents are then sent to the AIC to prepare for their recognition. Once the opinion of the AIC is received, a remote interview is arranged with each applicant. If the documents match, the admission criteria are met, the student is admitted to LiepU. The developed system works, but more work needs to be done with the promotion of these programs, highlighting their uniqueness. Joint programs are also popularized by faculty and management participating in conferences, visits and exhibitions abroad, addressing interested parties and the target group. Informative booklets about the joint doctoral study programme "Media Art and Creative Technologies" have been distributed at various international conferences and galleries dedicated to media art, for example at the RIXC/MPLab festival "Art and Science" and at the Klaipėda Cultural Communication Center (Lithuania).

The regulations of the commission for the recognition of competences acquired outside formal education or through professional experience, and study results achieved in prior education of the Liepāja University are available in electronic format at: https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/dokumenti/Nolikums%20par%20ieprieks.izglit._vai_profes.pieredze_sas_niegtu_studiju_rezultatu_atzisanu.pdf (Latvian Only)

In the reporting period, there were no cases of recognition of competences acquired outside formal education or through professional experience and study results achieved in previous education within study programmes corresponding to the 'Art' field of study.

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.

At the beginning of every study course/module students are introduced with the requirements for the credit point acquisition and the list of practical work to be executed during the study course in order to receive evaluation. Descriptions of study modules and courses with requirements are also published in the e-study environment in Moodle and in personal profiles in the LAIS database. Descriptions of the study courses and modules included in the field of study "Art" are available in point 3.2.1 of the self-assessment reports of according study programmes – Appendix "Description of the study courses/modules". Significant changes have been made during the evaluation process in the study programs of the field of study "Art". Descriptions of study courses/modules will be entered into the electronic system after the completion of the evaluation/accreditation process of the study course, including changes based on expert recommendations.

For each practical task to be executed there is a certain proportion of work stated to get evaluation. Lecturers carry out the control and evaluation of the study activity applying different forms and methods, such as seminars, independent work, tests, problem solving, portfolio, applied games, defence of research, artistic creation and practice projects etc. At the end of each course an examination/test is organized to get a mark.

The evaluation methods are diverse, depending on the study course specifics and set requirements which are reflected in the study course descriptions in the intermediate examination and examination system of the results to be achieved.

The intermediate examination system provides a constant summative assessment during the study course acquisition which promotes formation and provision of the feedback.

Also, collegial assessment is used to evaluate study achievements (teacher- student, student-students, student- students' group, etc.). The diverse evaluation system of study outcomes is made in such a way that the students could appraise diverse evaluation techniques and gain some experience to apply them also in their professional activity in case of a necessity.

The student-centred approach is observed, activating the study programmes and study courses, paying a special attention to a purposeful formulation of the study outcomes, thus promoting the lecturers and students' dialogue about the content of studies, organization forms and methods. In its turn, correctly formulated study outcomes promote the student's awareness and co-responsibility for their learning, self-evaluation and understanding about the evaluation received.

In the study process lecturers use methods, examination forms and evaluation criteria appropriate for the study goal and envisaged study outcomes. Students receive support and feedback from lecturers during the study process. The evaluation criteria are published in advance. Evaluation enables students to show to what extent they have achieved the expected study outcomes.

In the Regulations about the study course/ module examination https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/dokumenti/studentiem/Regulations%20for%20Course_Module%20Examinations.pdf the order of the examination organization and procedure has been determined, in which the principle of achievement and evaluation of results is also stipulated.

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.

Right now within the framework of the project to be implemented at LiepU “Labākas pārvaldības nodrošināšana Liepājas Universitātē” / “Provision of Better Management at LiepU”/ (SAM Nr. 8.2.3.0/18/A/017) regulations and procedures are being developed about the academic honesty and ethical principles to be included in higher education.

Code for Academic Integrity at Liepaja University

(https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/%C4%80SD/ERASMUS%20dokumenti/LiepU%20Akademiska%20godiguma%20kodekss_eng.pdf)

Liepaja University has started cooperation with the Ministry of Science and Education (MSE), Latvia University (LU), Riga Stradins University (RSU) and Riga Technical University (RTU) about the establishment of a common platform for cooperation on academic honesty.

Promotional events of academic integrity are raised in Latvia, also the cooperation vision to strengthen ethical norms among students and teaching staff, the experience of other higher educational establishment representatives and vision about the good practice samples, improving the understanding and respect for academic honesty, are assessed.

Some experience has already been acquired about the activity of the LU united computerized plagiarism control system, which is also used to check LiepU students' final papers in order to combat plagiarism successfully. The system is also used by LiepU.

LiepU representatives have already taken part in different activities (seminars), where in work groups the accomplished solutions found on an institutional and national level have been considered and priorities have been set to which we have to work on in order to promote understanding about the academic honesty in higher educational establishments.

It has been concluded that higher educational establishments of Latvian have to cooperate in the field of academic honesty – a united system shall be used for plagiarism check-up, plagiarism definitions have to be stated clearly, also uniform penalties in case of its identification. Therefore, improvements in the higher educational establishments' preventive work are necessary, educating in this field students, teaching staff, also scientists.

As the introduction of the academic honesty principles in daily work is still under development, the LiepU Senate has already approved the Regulations about the Ethics Commission (available on: <https://liepu.lv/uploads/%C4%80SD/ERASMUS%20dokumenti/Regulations%20about%20the%20Ethics%20Commission.pdf>).

It is planned that within 2023 the core principles of academic honesty will be included in the study course descriptions; the teaching staff and students will be informed about the order of compliance with these principles.

In its turn, right now all final study papers after official submission in the faculty **are checked** in the **inter-university unified computerized plagiarism control system** (see Regulation on Final examinations, State examinations and State Final examinations

(https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/%C4%80SD/ERASMUS%20dokumenti/Regulation%20on%20final_state%20and%20state%20final%20examinations_eng.pdf)).

In order to carry out the check-up in the unified plagiarism control system, students have to convert their final examination paper or the electronic copy of the state examination paper to the PDF(Portable document format), which also includes annotations in Latvian and one of foreign languages, and upload to Latvia University Informative System (LAIS), using the username and password (in the new version) given by the LANET. The students have to do the paper uploading according to the Final/State Examination schedule. During the submission of the printed version of the paper, a person authorized by the Dean checks whether the electronic version of the paper has been uploaded to the LAIS. The submitted paper version has to comply with the uploaded electronic paper version.

During the reporting period for the study direction "Arts", within the framework of the corresponding study programs, detecting all state final diploma papers in the unified computerised plagiarism control system, small text match ratio was detected for 1 person in 2016, and after the reports of the scientific advisor and upon reception of students' explanations they were admitted for defence of the final diploma paper.

The electronic plagiarism control system is effective in the process of comparing texts developed in Latvia, but the teaching staff of the study direction has also observed the use of too direct translations in students' works, as well as the use of too direct artistic references in students' creative works in the field of art. Unfortunately, there are no electronic systems to detect such cases of plagiarism automatically, we have to rely on the knowledge and abilities of the teaching staff to detect such violations of academic integrity, which are most often discovered by the supervisors of final theses or the pre-defense committee, and ask to rework the text or creative work.

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.

In order to guarantee achievement of the goals of the fields of study, LiepU has to take into account the external requirements for the quality assurance and the cooperation partners and involved parties' opinion. To implement the overall goal and goals, LiepU uses the development and planning documents and internal Quality Management System (hereafter – QMS). In the LiepU QMS there are the databases and procedures of the internal normative documents.

In the LiepU QMS there are procedures which regulate the study process – enrolment, course of studies, practices, opportunities of ERASMUS+ studies, final/state examinations. There are procedures on the teaching staff assessment, survey of students' general satisfaction, clarification of graduates and employers' opinion.

In the system there are also described procedures which guarantee support for the study process provision – personnel management, finance management, management of IT, library and economic resources, management of documents, project management, management of information circulation and public information management, as processes of science and research management.

In order to ensure the quality of the “Art” field of study, discussions with the students take place regularly, and the opinions of the students on the study processes and environment obtained in the surveys conducted every semester are taken into account. Once a semester, the dean of the faculty meets with the students, but the program directors regularly hold formal and informal talks with individual groups of students in order to respond to their suggestions in a timely manner and ensure the quality of studies, as well as provide support. Discussions provide information on the artistic achievements of students. Students' active participation in local and national cultural events is encouraged with one-time scholarships for achievements in creative work or research. One-time scholarships are also awarded as a mechanism of social and economic support to students in difficulty upon request, which is reviewed by the faculty council.

If students complain about the quality of the teaching staff's work, the program director conducts discussions with the teaching staff. If there is no improvement after repeated reprimands, then the course/module is offered to be read by another lecturer in the next study year.

According to the available resources and in consultation with the teaching staff of the relevant courses/modules and industry experts, student suggestions regarding the purchase of study materials, equipment, and informational resources are also taken into account, for example, new Sony Alpha photo/video cameras were purchased upon request.

The relevance of the studies to the current affairs of the industry is ensured by the active involvement of the faculty of the department in artistic creativity and the development of products and services of the creative industry, as well as the exchange of experience and opportunities to learn new skills in master classes and discussions with the participation of local and foreign industry experts and creative industry companies, which are created in cooperation with non-governmental art organizations, such as ASTE. Art, Science, Technology, Education and new media culture center RIXC. The active, diverse course of master classes for the additional basic study program promotes the ability and interest of students to constantly and independently improve their artistic skills and acquire new technical skills.

The opinions of the employers of the graduates of the study programmes on current issues in the industry and the technical, theoretical and organizational competencies of the graduates are also clarified during informal discussions and employer surveys. After the teaching staff of the “Art” field of study evaluates feedback and suggestions from employers, study methods and tasks are selected, and content of the courses is updated in accordance with current events and requirements in the industry. For example, the module "Social Art and Design Project" is included in the bachelor's study program "New Media Art and Design", in which inclusive art and design practices are considered.

Teaching staff of the "Art" field of study increase their professional qualifications by engaging in research and creative projects, as well as by using professional development courses provided by the university, such as English language classes and developing presentation skills.

The quality of the joint master's and doctoral study programmes is evaluated in the meetings of the teaching staff of each university's direction and the faculty council meetings, as well as in the mutual discussions between the program directors representing the two universities. The results of student surveys are taken into account and communicated to the program director and/or dean representing the partner university in order to improve the process.

Questions about the strategic objectives and procedures of the programmes are included for discussion and resolution in the joint programme councils.

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 development and the supervision of the implementation of the study programmes is organised by the Field of Study Council. It consists of the dean of FHSA, the head of the field of study, the heads of the study programmes, academic staff representatives, students (at least one student from each study programme of the field of study), and employer representatives. One of the main tasks of the Field of Study Council is to monitor the implementation of the study programmes of the field of study and to review and approve the annual self-assessment report of the field of study, and submit it to the FHSA Council.

The self-assessment report of the fields of study includes a description of the study programmes, analysing the results of a survey submitted for each study programme by students, graduates, and employers. A general student satisfaction survey is conducted in the spring semester, each academic year. The survey is administered using LAIS to all LiepU students. The results of the survey are available in the LAIS. The results are prepared for the faculty as a whole and for each study programme and are included in the self-assessment report of the field of study and in the study programme description. Employer satisfaction is analysed by surveying the heads of the final/national examination commissions, and by including in the internship evaluation form questions about student theoretical knowledge, practical skills, and recommendations for further studies and work.

An electronic graduate survey is also conducted every academic year. The results are also produced for the faculty as a whole and for each of its study programmes, and are included in the self-assessment report of the field of study and the study programme description.

A Quality Management System (QMS) has been created to support the achievement of the goals set in the Development Strategy of Liepāja University. It includes procedures that regulate the creation, licensing, and accreditation of study programmes. Their descriptions, regulatory documents, document forms and templates, development and planning documents of LiepU and its units are available for employees and instructors in the QMS electronic support system.

Based on the changes in the accreditation of study programmes/fields of study, a foundation of regulations (procedures, rules) was developed to support the introduction of new study programmes and programmes. Separate procedures govern the preparation, approval, and change management of courses and study plans. Procedures are in place to govern the creation and management of changes to annual study plans, and the preparation and management of changes to timetables.

The activity of representatives nominated by the Liepāja University Student Council is in the development of regulations, rules, and other regulatory documents, and in the monitoring of their implementation. Students were active in the following LiepU institutions: LiepU Constitutional Assembly, LiepU Senate, Faculty Council, Study Council, Science Council, Library Council, Scholarship Award Commission, LiepU Senate Scholarship Award Commission, Field of Study Council.

During the reporting period, the following new study programmes were developed in the

field of study:

- Academic master study programme 'New Media and Audiovisual Art'
- Academic doctoral study programme 'Media Art and Creative Technologies'
- Academic bachelor study programme 'Acting' (during the assessment period, the title was changed to 'Contemporary Performing Arts')

Creation of the academic master programme 'New Media and Audiovisual Art' (together with RISEBA)

On 14 September 2016, a cooperation agreement was signed with RISEBA, the aim of which was to build a high-quality study process by jointly implementing the RISEBA master study programme 'Audiovisual Media Art' and the Liepāja University master study programme 'New Media Art'. Under this agreement, the joint implementation of the two programmes, and work on the joint master programme licensing documents, started in 2016/2017. The joint programme was based on existing programmes. A working group was set up, based on the criteria set by the participating universities, to develop a programme that covers the specifics of the audiovisual and new media fields and, as far as possible, successfully incorporates new specialisations that will enrich the programme.

The academic master study programme 'New Media and Audiovisual Art' (code 45213) was licensed in the 2017 academic year (Licensing Commission Decision No 53-L of 25 October 2017).

The joint master programme was launched in the 2017/2018 academic year. It operates based on a cooperation agreement. The programme council coordinates the initiation and implementation of the programme.

Establishment of a doctoral programme in Media Art and Creative Technologies:

The joint doctoral study programme 'Media Arts and Creative Technologies' of LiepU and RISEBA was developed under the SAM 8.2.1.0/18/A/010 project 'Reducing the fragmentation of study programmes, and strengthening resource sharing at LiepU'. The joint programme was designed as the next educational stage of the already successful joint master degree programme 'New Media and Audiovisual Art', which was launched in the 2017/2018 academic year on the basis of a cooperation agreement. The experience gained was taken into account in the design of the new programme offered.

The content of the study programme 'Media Art and Creative Technologies' is based on the doctoral study programme 'New Media Art' taught by LiepU, which was aligned with RISEBA's strategic decision to develop a high-quality doctoral study programme. In order to further develop scientific research in line with contemporary interdisciplinarity requirements, to provide complete media arts education and to pool highest-quality intellectual and material resources in media arts, the two universities agreed on the establishment of a joint doctoral programme, thus ensuring the continuation of the joint master programme 'New Media and Audiovisual Art' at a higher (doctoral) level. In the development of the joint programme, the universities have taken into account the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia objective stating that the educational programmes offered by Latvian universities should be consolidated to avoid overlaps, should be more competitive, should merge and use resources more efficiently.

The doctoral programme was developed by a working group of academics from both the universities, with the support of external experts, who were selected to reflect the specific features of audiovisual media and new creative technologies and media arts. The working group includes experts from academic and professional backgrounds, representatives of employers, and professionals from abroad. The Doctoral Programme Team Leaders and Programme Heads are Dr.

sc. soc. Rasa Šmite / Professor, Liepāja University: Head of Doctoral Studies Programme at Liepāja University, and Mg. art. Aigars Ceplītis /Docent, RISEBA /doctoral candidate, Liepāja University: Head of Doctoral Studies Programme at RISEBA, and Dr Christopher Hales/Docent, RISEBA: Doctoral Programme Process Manager. **Working group experts:** Dr. philol. Ilva Skulte /Associate Professor, Riga Stradiņš University/LiepU Lecturer, Mg. art. Jānis Holšteins/Docent, RISEBA, Mg. art. Zilvinas Lilas/Professor, Academy of Media Arts/Cologne, Germany, PhD Alise Tīfentāle /Docent, Liepāja University/Lecturer, Riga Stradiņš University, Mg. art. Agnese Baranova/Lecturer, RISEBA/Head of New Media Culture Centre RIXC, Dr. art. Raitis Šmits/Associate Professor, Art Academy of Latvia/Liepāja University and Creative Director of New Media Culture Centre RIXC, Dr Ellen Pearlman/Docent, RISEBA/Adj. Professor, Parsons School of Design, New School, New York, USA, PhD Raivo Kelomees/Researcher, Estonian Academy of Arts

The working group and the experts drafted the content and curriculum of the programme in accordance with the LiepU and national planning documents and regulations, the programme's objective, and their expertise.

Creation of the academic bachelor study programme 'Acting' (now 'Contemporary Performing Arts').

The development of the Academic bachelor study programme 'Acting' is in line with the strategic development plans of Liepāja Theatre and the need to ensure the replenishment of the acting staff, and with the strategic vision of the city of Liepāja: to support the completion of the development plans of Liepāja Theatre. A decision of the Liepāja City Council of 19 January 2017 (Decision No 15, Minutes No 1, 15.#) provided for co-financing of the LiepU FHSA bachelor study programme 'Acting', in order to ensure the expansion and balancing of the age groups of the acting company of SIA 'Liepājas teātris' established by the Liepāja City Council. A working group was set up to develop the programme, its members were as follows: Herberts Laukšteins (head of Liepāja Theatre), Zanda Gūtmane (dean of LiepU FHSA), Dmitrijs Petrenko (director), Vilnis Vitkovskis (deputy chairman for education, culture, and sports of Liepāja City Council), Antra Brūna (head of Liepāja City Council), and Juris Jirgens (head of Liepāja City Administration for Culture). During the development of the programme, a cooperation agreement was signed with the Latvian Academy of Culture (19 April 2017) and with Klaipėda University (10 May 2017). In the 2016/2017 academic year, the Study Programme Licensing Commission issued a license for the implementation of the academic bachelor study programme 'Acting' (43212) (Licensing Commission Decision No 43-L of 26 July 2017). The first admissions took place in the 2017/2018 academic year.

During the reporting period, significant changes were also made to the bachelor study programme 'New Media Art', integrating the courses of the vocational study programme 'Design' and changing the name of the programme to 'New Media Art and Design', in order to prepare sustainable-minded, tech-savvy, art and design tradition-oriented, research and innovation-oriented digital art and computer design specialists.

The changes were initiated by Zanda Gūtmane, dean of the Faculty of FHSA, and Anna Priedola, programme head, at the beginning of 2021. The programme head established a working group consisting of elected teaching staff: Dr. paed. Inta Klāšone, Dr. sc. soc. Rasa Šmite, Mg.art. Dzintra Vīriņa [docent until 31.08.2022], Mg. art. Solvita Sprīge-Sēne, and Art Research Laboratory project manager Mg.art. Maija Demitere. The working group regularly consults the teaching staff, identifying areas of strength in their qualifications, the interests and needs of students, graduates, and employers, and international experts (PhD Shawn Pinchbeck, CA/EE, Dr Ellen Pearlman, US, etc.) to develop the programme content in line with industry trends, local economic base, and faculty capacity.

In the spring semester of 2022, changes to the 'New Media 'Arts' programme were being

developed, offering more limited and free elective options to the relatively large number of students in the arts sector, thus providing opportunities for interdisciplinary specialisation as a pathway to innovation in the field and to building a unique artistic language, combining artistic traditions with the possibilities offered by the latest digital technologies and research-based creative practice. The modules have also been changed to 4 LV credit/6 ECTS modules, which can be offered to interested professionals in this or other fields, as non-student lifelong learners.

The following actions are being taken to approve new study programmes in the Art field:

1. The study programmes are reviewed and approved by the FHSA Council and the Field of Study Council.
2. The programmes are presented at the LiepU Study Council.
3. They are then referred to the Academic Commission of the Liepāja University Senate.
4. The programmes are approved by the Liepāja University Senate and submitted to the Quality Agency for Higher Education.

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.

At the beginning of the first year of studies, the dean and the programme heads present the specifics, aims, objectives, content, and organisation of the study process. The Liepāja University Internal Regulations (<https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/files/LiepU%20ieksejas%20kartibas%20noteikumi%20studejosajiem%20English.pdf>) establish the right of students to submit proposals and suggestions to the management in all matters concerning the activities of students at Liepāja University, and the work of teaching staff and other employees, to receive a reply within the specified time limit, and to receive information in all matters directly related to studies and possible career.

The LiepU management is required to listen to student proposals, suggestions, and critical remarks, and take measures to improve the working practices'. Replies to student proposals are provided in accordance with the procedures laid down in the laws and regulations, and included in the self-assessment reports of the fields of study, indicating the changes made to the study programmes.

The study process is regularly evaluated and problems are addressed in communication with the study programme heads. The dean/head of field of study are also involved.

For example, in 2019, students complained about the disorganization of a particular lecturer, regularly being late for classes. The head of the study program "New media art" ("New media art and design") conducted discussions with this lecturer, and no complaints about them appeared in the student surveys.

When possible changes in the organization of classes have been made after complaints of students about particular lecture hours.

The technical infrastructure of the programme was updated in accordance with the

recommendations of the student surveys; the purchase of equipment was coordinated with module instructors. Replacement of instructors in the event of three repeated complaints of non-compliance with the timetable or lesson plan, for example lecturers in the studies of photography, philosophy have been changed.

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.

Every year on October 1, statistical data on the number of students, number of matriculated students, number of graduates, number of academic staff are collected - they are included and analysed in the self-evaluation report of the field of study.

LiepU has developed procedures that determine the manner in which annual student satisfaction surveys and graduate surveys are conducted. The self-assessment reports of the fields of study analyse the compliance of the field of study and study programmes with the demand of the labour market, the annual results of the employer survey.

The self-assessment reports of the fields of study analyse the information on the financial resources for ensuring the implementation of the study programmes corresponding to the field of study, as well as for ensuring the research (creative) activity of the academic staff.

Every year, the Senate analyses the Admission results, evaluates the Scientific Activity and analyses the Financial and Economic Activity.

The LiepU study environment parameter evaluation results (especially the analyses of student surveys) are used to improve certain study fields, for example, partial overlap of the contents of several study courses is prevented, changes are made in the volume of courses and their structure (including based on student proposals), field specialists and foreign guest lecturers are invited to teach courses, certain lecturers are switched (as requested by students), academic staff is involved in professional development 8.2.2. SAM project (incl. development of English language skills), expansion of study visits to social institutions in the field (halted during the Covid-19 pandemic), participation of students in the annual international scientific conference of Liepaja University (organised partly remotely during the pandemic), etc.

At the beginning of the 2nd semester of each study year, a student general satisfaction survey is conducted. All LiepU students are interviewed, using LAIS. The results of the survey are available in the LiepU QMS, the results are prepared both by faculties and for each study programme separately, which is thereafter included by the head of the field of study in the field of study self-assessment report and study programme description. Employers' satisfaction with LiepU is analysed by conducting a survey of the chairmen of the final / state examination commissions, as well as by including in the internship evaluation form the questions on students' theoretical knowledge, practical skills and recommendations for further studies and work. Every academic year, an electronic survey of graduates is also conducted, based on the collected contact information of graduates. The results of the survey are prepared both by faculties and for each study programme separately, which is thereafter included by the head of the field of study in the field of study self-assessment report and study programme description.

A report on the results obtained and analyzed in the student surveys, students' future perspectives is provided at the end of the study year.

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 programmes is published on the LiepU website (<https://www.liepu.lv/>). The person responsible for the information published on the LiepU website in Latvian is the secretary of the LiepU Admissions Commission Madara Daudziņa-Šuktere.

Information about the bachelor degree programme "New Media art and Design" is published on the website of LiepU: <https://www.liepu.lv/lv/89/jauno-mediju-maksla>. (only in Latvian).

Bachelor study programme "Contemporary Performing Arts" does not regularly enroll new students. Information about the programme is posted on the website here:

<https://www.liepu.lv/lv/1448/laikmetiga-skatuves-maksla> (only in Latvian).

Academic master study programme 'New Media and Audiovisual Art' has been published:

- On LiepU website, in Latvian: <https://www.liepu.lv/lv/594/jauno-mediju-maksla>
- On LiepU website, in English: <https://www.liepu.lv/en/52/new-media-and-audiovisual-art>

Information about the doctoral programme 'Media Art and Creative Technologies' is published:

- On LiepU website, in Latvian: <https://www.liepu.lv/lv/846/jauno-mediju-maksla>
- On LiepU website, in English: <https://www.liepu.lv/en/111/new-media-art>

Admission rules for study programmes are published in Latvian on LiepU website: <https://www.liepu.lv/lv/1254/uznemsanas-noteikumi-2022-2023>

The English version of the application procedure is published on the LiepU website: <https://www.liepu.lv/en/93/application-procedure>

The compliance of the information about the field of study and the corresponding study programmes on the website www.liepu.lv with VIIS is the responsibility of Kaspars Lauris, head of the IT Centre, Liepāja University VIIS system administrator (the information is available only in Latvian): <https://www.liepu.lv/lv/kontakti/107/kaspars-lauris>

The accuracy of the information about the field of study and the corresponding study programmes on the website www.liepu.lv and that available on the e-platform is the responsibility of Ilze Magazeina, head of LiepU Study Department (information is available only in Latvian): <https://www.liepu.lv/lv/kontakti/99/ilze-magazeina>

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.

In order to ensure the quality of field of study implementation, it is important for Liepāja University (LiepU) to plan financial flows and budget for each year. The financial resources of the field of study consist of the national budget subsidy (the majority of the budget income) and own income (tuition fees) Figure No. 1. The study programmes are financed in accordance with the cost of the study programme set by the Cabinet of Ministers. The tuition fees are paid from by natural individuals and/or legal entities, i.e. personal funds of the student, personal funds of the student's parents, and other relatives, funds of the student's employer, a study loan guaranteed by the government. The tuition fee amounts and the payment procedure for each academic year are determined and approved by the Council. Students can choose an individual payment schedule according to their financial means. In order to increase the number of students, Liepāja University offers tuition fee discounts and implements various promotions using marketing and sales strategies. Tuition fee discounts and other fees related to the study process are approved by the Council for each academic year. The available financial resources are stable.

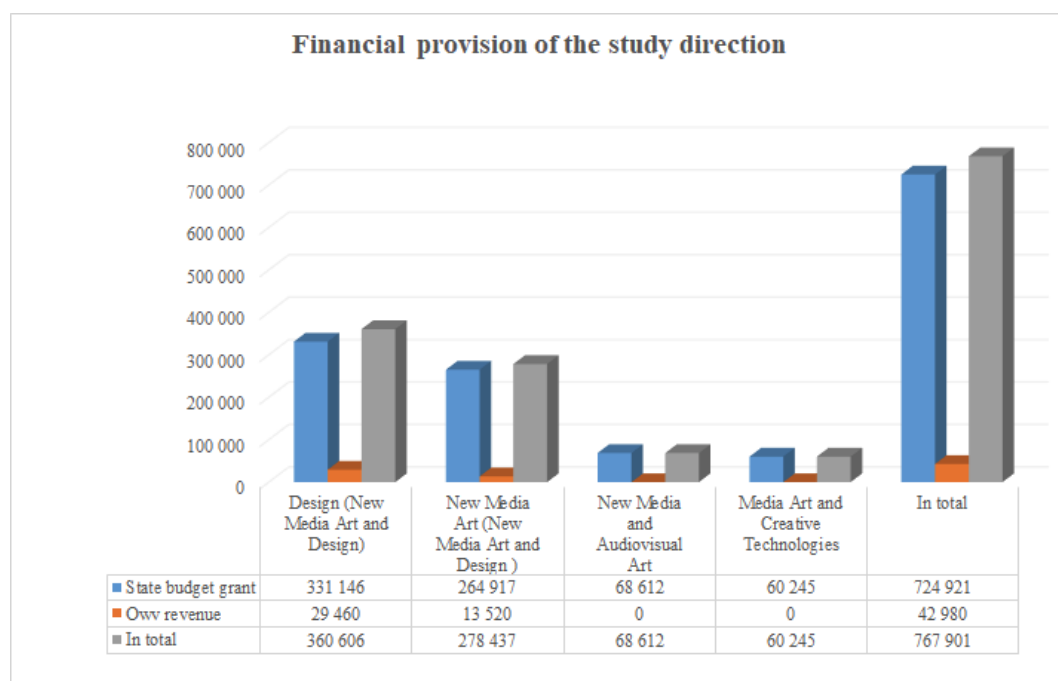


Figure 1. Funding of the field of study in the 2022/2023 academic year, EUR.

Cost per student position and its assessment

The state funding of studies is allocated every calendar year in accordance with the Cabinet Regulation 994 'Procedure for financing universities and colleges using national budget' of 12 December 2006, and the agreement between the Ministry of Education and Science and the Liepāja University on the training of a certain number of specialists.

The calculation of the projected costs of the full-time study programme 'Design' for 2022–2023 results from the base costs for 2022 (EUR 1630.11 per student place) and the factor of the subject field of education 'Audiovisual Media Art' and 'Design' as defined by the Ministry of Education, i.e. 3.9, as well as the cost factor for bachelor higher education study programmes: 1.0. The cost per

student position is EUR 6357.43 in 2022; the total cost of the 4-year study programme is EUR 25,429.72. The number of state-funded tuition positions in 2022 is 50.

The tuition fee for the first year of full-time studies in the 2022/2023 academic year, as approved by the LiepU Council was EUR 2000, and it is set for the entire study period, with the total tuition fee for 4 years being EUR 8000.

The calculation of the projected costs of the full-time study programme 'New Media Art' for 2022–2023 results from the base costs for 2022 (EUR 1630.11 per student place) and the factor of the subject field of education 'Audiovisual Media Art' and 'Design' as defined by the Ministry of Education, i.e. 3.9, as well as the cost factor for bachelor higher education study programmes: 1.0. The cost per student position is EUR 6357.43 in 2022; the total cost of the 3-year study programme is EUR 19,072.29. The number of state-funded tuition positions in 2022 is 40.

The tuition fee for the first year of full-time studies in the 2022/2023 academic year, as approved by the LiepU Council was EUR 2000, and it is set for the entire study period, with the total tuition fee for 3 years being EUR 6000.

The calculation of the costs of the full-time study programme 'New Media Art and Design' for 2023–2024 results from the base costs for 2022 (EUR 1630.11 per student place) and the factor of the subject field of education 'Audiovisual Media Art' and 'Design' as defined by the Ministry of Education, i.e. 3.9, as well as the cost factor for bachelor higher education study programmes: 1.0. The planned cost per student position is EUR 6357.43 in 2023; the total cost of the 3-year study programme is EUR 19,072.29. The planned number of study places funded through the national budget in 2023 is 90.

The planned tuition fee for the first year of full-time studies in the 2023/2024 academic year is EUR 2000, and it is set for the entire study period, with the total tuition fee for 3 years being EUR 6000.

The calculation of the costs of the full-time study programme 'Contemporary Performance Art' for 2023–2024 results from the base costs for 2022 (EUR 1630.11 per student place) and the factor of the subject field of education 'Audiovisual Media Art' and 'Design' as defined by the Ministry of Education, i.e. 3.9, as well as the cost factor for bachelor higher education study programmes: 1.0. The planned cost per student position is EUR 6357.43 in 2023; the total cost of the 4-year study programme is EUR 25,429.72. Taking into account that at the moment there are no government-funded study places, LiepU plans to raise funding from legal entities and individuals. The planned tuition fee for the first year of full-time studies in the 2023/2024 academic year is EUR 6800, and it is set for the entire study period, with the total tuition fee for 4 years being EUR 27,200.00, and the minimum number of students per year being 14.

The calculation of the projected costs of the full-time study programme 'New Media and Audiovisual Art' for 2022–2023 results from the base costs for 2022 (EUR 1630.11 per student place) and the factor of the subject field of education 'Audiovisual Media Art' and 'Design' as defined by the Ministry of Education, i.e. 3.9, as well as the cost factor for academic master programmes: 1.5. The cost per student position is EUR 9536.14 in 2022; the total cost of the 2-year study programme is EUR 19,072.28. The number of state-funded tuition positions in 2022 is 7.

The tuition fee for the first year of full-time studies in the 2022/2023 academic year, as approved by the LiepU Council was EUR 3620, and it is set for the entire study period, with the total tuition fee for 2 years being EUR 7240. The programme is implemented in cooperation with RISEBA University of Applied Sciences, and the tuition fees are the same.

The calculation of the projected costs of the full-time study programme 'New Media Art and Creative Technologies' for 2022–2023 results from the base costs for 2022 (EUR 1630.11 per

student place) and the factor of the subject field of education 'Audiovisual Media Art' and 'Design' as defined by the Ministry of Education, i.e. 3.9, as well as the cost factor for doctoral programmes: 3.0. The cost per student position is EUR 19072.29 in 2022; the total cost of the 3-year study programme is EUR 57,216.86. The number of state-funded tuition positions in 2022 is 3.

The tuition fee for the first year of full-time studies in the 2022/2023 academic year, as approved by the LiepU Council was EUR 4240, and it is set for the entire study period, with the total tuition fee for 3 years being EUR 12,720. The programme is implemented in cooperation with RISEBA University of Applied Sciences, and the tuition fees are the same.

Assessment of the percentage breakdown of costs within the field of study

Total funding for the 2022/2023 academic year (Fig. 1) EUR 767 901. Figure 2 shows the percentage of costs by study programme. 47% of the costs is taken up by the 'Design' study programme. As of 20.09.2022, there were 80 students in this study programme, including 16 tuition-paying students. 36% of the costs is taken up by the 'New Media Art' study programme. As of 20.09.2022, there were 47 students in this study programme, including 7 tuition-paying students. 9% of the costs is taken up by the 'New Media and Audiovisual Art' programme. As of 20.09.2022, there were 7 full-time students in this study programme. 8% of the costs is taken up by the 'New Media and Audiovisual Art' programme. As of 20.09.2022, there were 3 full-time students in this study programme.

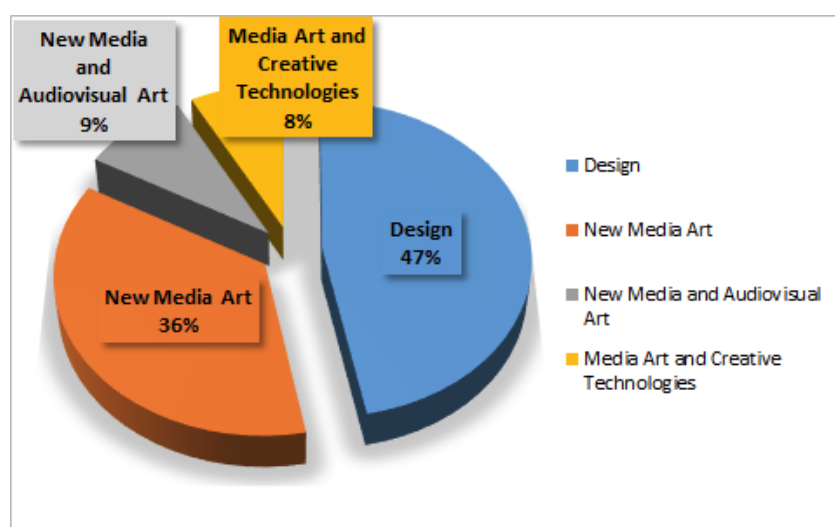


Figure 2. Breakdown of study programme costs for the 2022/2023 academic year.

Planning of expenses is done jointly with the other field of studies. An analysis of the main budget expense positions shows (Figure 3) that the largest one is the salaries, with a relatively high share of salaries of teaching staff and royalties paid for teaching the courses and maintaining the content. The second largest expenditure item is the maintenance of buildings and premises, as well as the costs directly related to student support and services, marketing costs and other maintenance costs, which are regularly reviewed and optimised, prioritising an easily accessible and enjoyable learning environment for the students. The expenses pertaining to the purchase of books, periodicals, and subscriptions to electronic databases are included in the overall main budget of LiepU. All study programmes are provided with study and research resources at the LiepU library. Overall, the cost structure is considered optimal and in line with the development strategy.

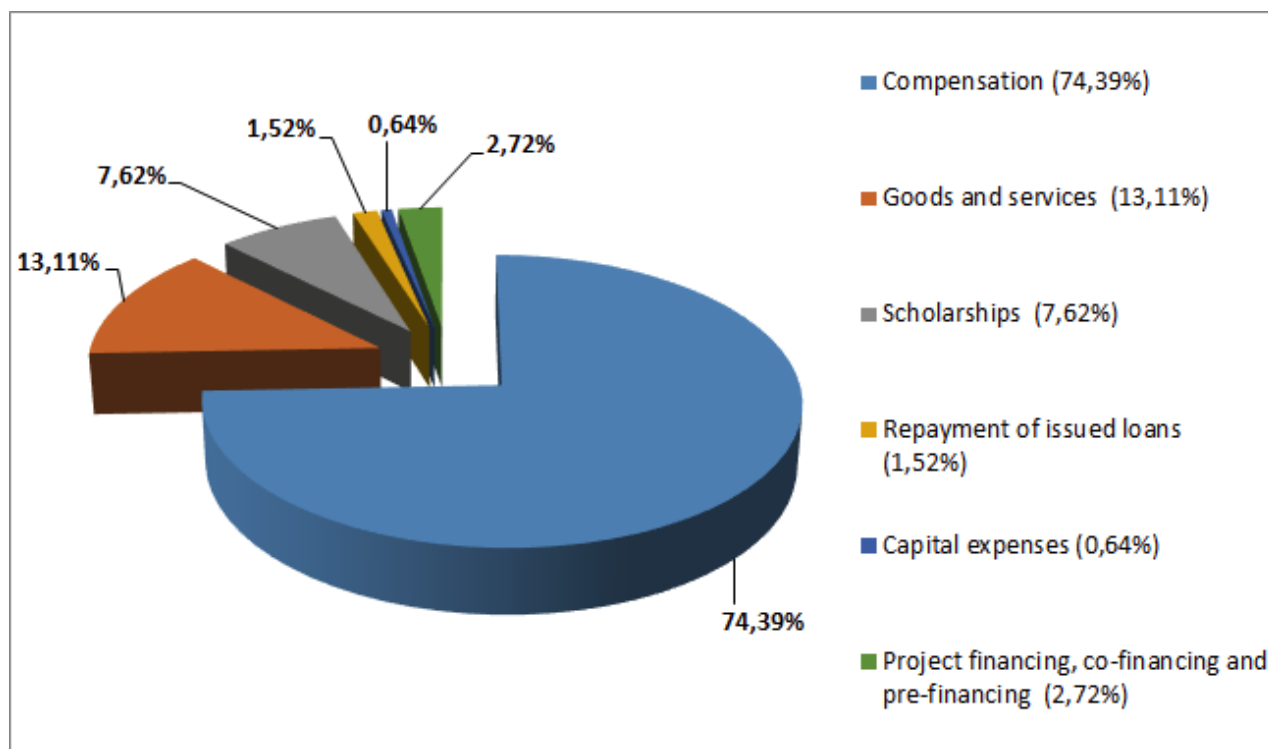


Figure 3. *Structure of main-budget expenses in 2021.*

Financial support for scientific research and/or artistic creation

Funding for scientific research comes from several sources: Basic funding for scientific activities (according to the Cabinet Regulation 1316 'Procedure for the calculation and allocation of basic funding for scientific institutions' (in effect until 22.04.2022) and Cabinet Regulation 252 'Procedure for the allocation of basic funding for research activity' of 19.04.2022) for maintaining elected scientific staff and scientific infrastructure, for partially supporting research work by academic staff: professors, associate professors and docents who perform research work), performance-based funding, funds raised via a competitive procedure (internal grants, project co-financing, projects), as well as the LiepU Scientific Activity Development Fund.

According to amendments in Cabinet Regulation 994 'Procedure for financing universities and colleges using national budget', performance-based funding is provided for results in research and artistic activities. The funds awarded for the previous year's results in research and artistic creativity are used by LiepU in accordance with its approved budget. For supporting the scientific activities of the academic staff involved in the field of study, funding is allocated from the development budget of the LiepU Faculty of Humanitarian Sciences and Arts and the LiepU Scientific Activity Development Fund. The following priorities have been set for receiving this funding: full or partial financial support for publications in *Web of Science* and *Scopus* databases, also in ERIH+ in humanities; full or partial financial support for publications in other databases (e.g. EBSCO, etc.); preparation and publication of peer-reviewed scientific monographs; preparation and publication of follow-up publications in LiepU scientific journals and databases. The faculty development budget is also used for travel to scientific conferences, participation fees and support for student research.

Academic staff applications for scientific publications and conferences are reviewed and approved by the faculty council. According to the Liepāja University Student Research Project Competition Regulations (approved at 15.12.2014 LiepU Senate meeting, Minutes No 4), students have access to funding for scientific and creative activities.

Funding sources and tools at the disposal of the university/college to manage them

The total annual budget of LiepU consists of a cash flow budget, comprising incoming and outgoing funds for the planned calendar year. Financial resources for the study process of the Liepāja University consist mainly of:

- transfers from the main national budget intended for higher education;
- funds received from the paid services provided by LiepU, including tuition fees;
- deductions from projects to cover centralised expenditures at LiepU;
- donations and gifts;
- revenue earmarked for special purposes;
- other own sources of income;
- European Union Structural Fund financing;
- the balance of funds on the main budget bank account from the previous calendar year.

The finance and HR manager, with the prior approval of the Budget Commission, sets the limits for the total amount of expenses in the main budget for the divisions. Each middle manager, together with the staff under their authority, takes into account the overall expenditure limit for the division and prepare a detailed expenditure plan for their division, which is submitted to the Budget Commission for approval. In order to avoid the situation that limits on the amount of expenses prevent a division from achieving its objectives, and to avoid the situation that new ideas related to the activities of the organisation or its division are not discussed and supported, the head of the division can argue their point of view to the Budget Commission during the budget examination process. The Budget Commission is responsible for reviewing the opinions of the division heads and taking the final decision. The finance and HR manager prepares the University's overall main budget. The overall main budget is examined, evaluated, and finally approved by the Budget Commission, and accepted by the Council.

Following the approval of the overall main budget by the Council, the procurement officer in charge of the procurement commission prepares the overall procurement plan for the current calendar year and organises the procurement in accordance with the Public Procurement Law and the QMS procedure.

The finance and HR manager ensure that the people preparing the budget act in accordance with the 'Planning, Execution, and Control of the Liepāja University Main Budget' guidelines during the budget planning and execution. The budget planning takes place in accordance with QMS procedure A-2-1 'Main Budget Planning', and the budget execution and control, in accordance with procedure A-2-2 'Execution and Control of the Main Budget'. The budget breaks down incoming and outgoing funds by main types of expenses. The analysis of the funding is carried out annually, and it is approved by the Council.

In order to support and promote the activities of student self-government, every calendar year, LiepU and LiepU Student Council renew the cooperation agreement and determine the funding amount allocated from LiepU main budget, which is not less than 0.5% of the annual budget, in accordance with Section 53 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions.

The results of the economic activity are regularly reported in the annual accounts and the auditor report. The financial indicators of the Liepāja University show a stable financial situation.

Use of financial resources for the development of the field of study

The available funding is mainly used for:

1. The attraction of foreign teaching staff and guest professors in particularly innovative areas that need to be developed in Latvia and the region;

2. Faculty and student publications, participation in conferences and art events in Latvia and abroad;
3. Promotion of the study direction and the programs included in it;
4. Regular renewal of the technical and information infrastructure.

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 technical and teaching infrastructure of the study programmes matches the aims and objectives of the study programmes. LiepU faculties have computer classrooms equipped with the necessary software and internet connection. The faculties have video/data projectors, interactive whiteboards and graphic projectors, intensively used in computer and other classrooms for demonstrating lecture and seminar materials, teaching aid rooms with visual and teaching materials, and the Moodle e-learning environment. In order to improve the quality of studies and enable the students to learn independently, the academic staff receive methodological support in preparing and uploading study materials via the Moodle environment. Students can communicate with the teaching staff via e-mail, Moodle, or MS Teams. The University uses information systems to support the study process:

- Alise library information system;
- E-learning environment Moodle;
- Latvian University Information System, LAIS.

To support the study process, the University has the following technical infrastructure:

- 356 computers.
- 23 video projectors.
- 7 interactive whiteboards.
- 4 interactive screens.
- 6 photocopiers.
- 18 photo and video cameras (11 photo cameras, 7 video cameras).
- 4 360° cameras (for online hybrid lectures).
- The students have access to a free wireless network in each of the study buildings (36 wireless network access points in total). Liepāja University is a member of *Eduroam*, a secure, international wireless network available to academic users. *Eduroam* is a shared network that allows students, staff, researchers, and faculties at higher education institutions to access wireless network services around the world without the need for a guest account.
- A workstation virtualisation solution has been implemented and three computer classes are equipped with workstation clients (80 workstations in total). Students have their own virtual computer, which is not attached to their workplace. This solution enables the mobility and security of the study process.
- Modern network hardware has been installed to virtualise the computer network and a CAMPUS computer network connection has been set up between all study buildings.
- Students have access to several databases of scientific publications: EBSCO, Letonika,

ScienceDirect, SCOPUS, Web of Science, Cambridge Journals Online.

- A cooperation agreement was signed with Microsoft for the leasing of MS Office and MS Windows software licences, which can be used by academic staff as part of teaching, and in the production of teaching materials. Under this cooperation agreement, LiepU academic staff and students have access to MS Office 365, a 1Tb file archive in the cloud, etc. at no extra charge.

Students of LiepU are given access to the study process records of the Latvian University Information System (LAIS) and the Moodle e-learning environment during the admissions process. Data integration between the information system of Latvian universities and the e-learning environment means that students do not need different authentication credentials. LAIS provides a study process management model, while the e-learning environment Moodle ensures the implementation of the study process.

LiepU MPLab (Liepāja, Kūrmājas pr. 13) has the necessary laboratory equipment for students and academic staff, supporting all the study programmes in the field of study "Art": photo and video studios, photo equipment and lighting, video equipment and lighting (both for work in the studio and for use outside the laboratory), tripods, computer equipment for work with the software provided on site.

The field of study regularly updates the resources needed by the students (new batteries, new flash bulbs, chargers, new backgrounds for the studio, etc.).

A sound studio is also available for lectures and individual creative work, designed for sound recording and processing, and equipped to create spatial sound compositions(*surround*, 5.1 and 7.1). The sound studio also has equipment for use outside the lab (e.g. for field recordings).

The study programmes of the 'Art' field of study is financed from the following sources: government subsidies, Liepāja University's own income, development projects, and small grant projects: VKKF, VKKF Kurzeme programme, Liepāja Culture Administration, etc.

2 large-scale development projects played a significant role: the establishment and development of New Media Arts Education in Liepāja project, which received EEA/Norway Financial Instrument support (before the reporting period). The funds of the project were used to create a study environment, renovating and equipping the premises in Liepāja, and building technical infrastructure. As a result of these projects, the LiepU infrastructure is sufficient for meeting the needs of the study programme: a photography laboratory and studio, a sound production and processing laboratory, a media laboratory and other necessary facilities have been created.

For study programmes managed by MPLab, the facilities are available to students, academic staff and researchers every day, 24/7. There are 30-60 people on the premises every day.

All MPLab classrooms are equipped with audiovisual presentation facilities: video projector or screen, computer, speakers for presentations.

LiepU has 100% wireless internet coverage.

MPLab also has other office equipment: 3 colour printers, 2 black and white copiers (A3 and A4), a scanner.

Premises and equipment available at the Art Research Laboratory, Kūrmājas prospekts 13, Liepāja:

Sound studio	30 m ² + 15 m ²
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Equipment	<p>Microphones: AKG C 480 B, AKG C414 XL II, AKG D5, AMBEO VR 360, Sennheiser MKH 30 P48, Sennheiser MKH 40 P48, SHURE LC, Video Rode X/Y, Rode 2GO, Sennheiser MKH 416, Sony ECM-673, Sennheiser EW 100 G3, Rode NT5</p> <p>Sound recorders: Edirol R-44, Sound Devices 702T, ZOOM H2N, ZOOM H6</p> <p>Sound cards: Gigaport HD+, Motu 828, Motu Traveler, Apogee Duet, Scarlett 8i6 3GEN, Fireface 800</p> <p>Sound consoles: Yamaha MG06x, Allen & Heath ZED 10, Edirol M 100 FX, ProRack H1020</p> <p>Sound effects: Gamechanger Audio Plasma Distortion Guitar Pedal</p> <p>Speakers: Clark Syntesis AQ Aquasonic, Dyanaudio BM 14S, KV2 audio KX 1.2, DYNAUDIO BM 12, Genelec 8050A, Subwoofer Genelec 7070 A, PHANAPHONIC SOUND SHOWER SSH, Adam F7</p> <p>Musical instruments: Modular synthesizer with various Doepfer modules, Volca Samples, Volca Drums, Pocket Operator PO-33, OPZ, Elektron MODEL SAMPLES, Behringer MODEL-D, Axeloti</p> <p>MIDI controllers: Ableton PUSH2, AKAI MPD18, BCF-2000, Korg NanoKONTROL 2, Launch Control XL, Oxygen 25, M-audio Keystation Pro 88, MIDI through box</p> <p>Sound accessories: Multicore, Direct BoX AR-133, Headphone Amplifier HPA4, Headphone Amplifier HP60, Headphones K271, HD 280 pro, K121, stands and cables</p> <p>Mac Pro computers, 11 pcs: CPU 2.66 QuadCoreXeon (2009) 4 pcs, CPU 2 x 2.26 QuadCoreXeon (2009) 4 pcs, CPU 2 x 2.40 QuadCoreXeon (2010) 3 pcs.</p> <p>Macbook Pro computers for field recording, 15 pcs: MacBookPro CPU i7 2.66 (2010) 15 pcs.</p>
Photo/video studio	30 m ² + 30 m ²

Equipment:	<p>photo tripods (3 pcs), video tripods (4 pcs), photo lights (pulse lights, flashlights, umbrellas, reflectors, etc.), video lights: Kino Flo (2 pcs), LED lights (3 pcs), stage spotlights (2 pcs).</p> <p>Video stabiliser (Flycam 6000, DJI RS2, DJI OM4), Video mixing console Edirol V-4, On-set monitor Panasonic BT-LH1710E, HD JVC DT-V9L3D LCD 9", 16:9</p> <p>Intesity Shuttle Thunderbolt 2 video digitiser</p> <p>Video recorders: HDV recorder GV-HD700, SHOOGUN INFERNO 4K</p> <p>Video projectors (for exhibitions, projection mapping, and short film screenings): BenQ MP777, ASUS P2B, Panasonic PT-EZ770Z, Dell HD 7609WU</p> <p>Projection screens: Green screen Chroma Key Green Muslin Backdrop with tripod, Braun Fast Foldable 235*175cm screen BR13324 rear projection REFLECTA 83504</p> <p>Video players: Multimedia Player Iomega 1TB, ASUS O! Play Air HDP-R3, BRIGHTSIGN XD1034, Pioneer DV-420V</p> <p>Digital cameras: SONY HDR-FX7, SONY HDR-HC9E, SONY HVR-Z1E, SONY PWM-EX3, SONY NEX-FS700, SONY Alpha 7iii, GoPro Fusion 360, LG Gear 360 Nikon D90 with various lenses (5 pcs), Nikon D300s (1 pcs), Nikon D700 (1 pcs). Analogue cameras Nikon F100</p> <p>Video cameras (8 pcs), external microphones for video cameras.</p> <p>Intesity Shuttle Thunderbolt 2 video digitiser</p>
3D room	30 m ²
Equipment	<p>Microsoft Kinect XBOX 360, Lidar Apple iPad Pro 12.9' 256GB + Magic Pencil (for photogrammetry) and AR viewing, HTC VIVE + sensors, OCULUS QUEST 2 64GB, Samsung Galaxy 10s, 3D printer LEAFROG CREATON 3D, Leap Motion Sensors, Mindwave sensor (brainwave reader), WACOM INTUOS4 Large graphics tablet, 4 Windows computers: LDC-i7980XKS, LDC-XE5530ks, LDC-i7960ks, LDC-i7930IS, 3D projector with polarising glasses, IZ3D monitors with polarising glasses (2pcs), Samsung 3D monitor with shutter type glasses.</p>
Media room	65 m ² ; 30 seats
Equipment	<p>Sony Bravia 54" TV, screen, projector, sound equipment for presentations, work tables (4—6 pcs), 40 seats.</p> <p>Lacie 1TB external hard drive (USB/Firewire)</p> <p>For lectures: whiteboards, folding screens, portable sound systems.</p>
media archaeology classroom	
Equipment	<p>Macbook Pro CPU 2 Duo 2.16 (2007) 6 pcs, MacMini (2010) 4 pcs, iMac (2006) x 4, iMac 2.66GHz Intel CoreDuo2 20" (2008), iMac MC511Z/A (2011) x 2</p>

Other equipment and gear	E-book readers (2 pcs), graphic tablets (2 pcs), Printer HP Color Lasejet CP3525DN, Canon i-Sensys MF, Copier Canon IR 2016, LG TV 75 inch (3pcs), Sony Bravia 52 inch, Apple LED Cinema Display (19pcs) Computers for exhibitions MacMini MD387 (2014) 2 pcs, MacMini PMGEM2MP/A (2015) 2 pcs.
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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.

LiepU Library is the support for LiepU students and teaching staff in the study process and research (information about the Library is available in the library's section of LiepU site, for example, here: <https://www.liepu.lv/en/85/contacts-and-opening-times>). The aim of the library's activities is to ensure studies and scientific activities with printed works, electronic and other documents, as well as to be a centre for culture promoting national and regional cultural values. A collection is made and services are provided in the Library by implementing the aim of activities.

Library's collection and resources of databases

The library's collection comprises about 65 800 information resources (94% of monographic publications and other units of the collection, 6% serial publications). 75% of the entire collection is open display on shelves, so the teaching staff and students have chance to choose the most appropriate editions by themselves..

In order to ensure the learning process of "Art", literature is offered according to the topics of the taught courses, such as graphic design, interface design, cultural project management, sound art, video art, art photography, stage culture, theater history, etc. In the reading room of the Art Research Laboratory, students have access to more than 1,000 publications on art, design and media topics.

The thematic correspondence of the collection to the study programs of the field of study "Art" is as follows:

1. The academic Bachelor's study program **"New media art"** offers literature according to the following topics, such as art (sound art, performing arts, video art, photo art, etc.), art history, design, new media and media art, creativity, visual language, culture, research methodology, project management, information technology, civil and environmental protection, etc. Out of all the information resources at the library's disposal, the mentioned topics comprise about 4% of the items in the collection.

2. In the academic Master's study program **"New media and audiovisual art"** literature is offered according to the following topics of taught modules, for example, new media (audiovisual media, etc.), arts (sound art, performing arts, etc.), creative industries, culture (audio culture, visual culture), media research, etc. Out of all the information resources at the library's disposal, the mentioned topics comprise approximately 3% of the items in the collection.
3. The study program **"Contemporary performing arts"** offers literature according to the following taught course topics, such as culture, theater, literature, drama, arts (sound art, film art, stage art, etc.), audiovisual communication, creativity, acting and speech art, Latvian language culture and academic writing, project management, civil and environmental protection, etc. Out of all the information resources at the library's disposal, the mentioned topics comprise about 5% of the items in the collection.
4. The doctoral study program **"Media art and creative technologies"** offers literature according to the following topics, such as creativity and aesthetics, new media, arts, research in the arts, academic writing, etc. Out of all the information resources at the library's disposal, the mentioned topics comprise approximately 2% of the items in the collection.

More than 60% of the informational resources found in the reading room of the Art Research Laboratory of LiepU are in English, providing an informational base for students of higher-level joint study programs that are realized in English.

If there are no necessary information resources at the Library's disposal, there are offered services for Interlibrary Loan (ILL) and International Interlibrary Loan (IILL). Successful cooperation has been established with the document delivery service SUBITO, National Library of Latvia, etc. Latvian and foreign libraries.

The Library offers the use of free databases for the needs of both students and teaching staff by organising access to subscribed, trial and open-access databases within and outside LiepU computer network. The access to the subscribed databases outside LiepU computer network is provided in LiepU e-library interface (available on <https://e-biblioteka.liepu.lv/>). To access the databases remotely the user must use a VPN service. LiepU teaching staff (both being elected and invited) and students can install and configure the VPN service on their computers by following the instructions for setting up a VPN client on a computer (available here (Only in Latvian): <https://serviss.liepu.lv/vpn-klienta-iestatisana-datora/>). Authorization for the service takes place using LiepU MS Office365 (MS Teams) authentication data.

At teaching staff and students disposal are such online databases subscribed by LiepU, such as "Cambridge Journals Online", "EBSCO eBooks Academic Collection", "EBSCO Academic Complete", "Letonika" (extended by subscription of the Reading Room section), as well as financially supported databases by MSC (Ministry of Science and Education): "ScienceDirect", "Scopus" and "Web of Science", and databases "Marketing Hand-book", "Business Manager's Hand-book", "Personnel Management Hand-book" by Dienas Bizness. Everyone has also the opportunity to use open-access databases made by the Library: Academic Staff publications database, Doctoral theses database and Final work database. In the databases within the study direction "Arts" are offered information resources on various topics of the teaching courses, such as: EBSCO e-books collection has 7200 editions according to key words: media theory, drama theory, art research, art, art history and culture, multimedia, digital, interactive art, performing arts, creative industries, etc.

The Library ensures training, inquiries and consultations in matters relating to the use of information resources and the use of services. In 2021, the databases subscribed by LiepU have been used in 25 827 user sessions.

Library's infrastructure and services

In circumstances without Covid-19 pandemic restrictions the library is open to users for 55 hours in a week (working days from 9:00 to 18:00 or 19:00, on Saturdays from 11.00 till 16:00). A visit to the library in 2021 was 25 users per day (comparison: in 2019 (without pandemic restrictions) on average of 150 users per day). At users' disposal is the Lending (handing out and receiving information resources), Copying (copying, printing, scanning and binding of works), Group discussion room (at the request of users), as well as 96 independent workplaces for studies and research in the Reading room and Library's lobby, 16 computerized workplaces with the internet connection in the Reading room of Electronic Resources. Within the library's working hours users can use the self-service device (*Self-Check*) to receive or hand books which is located in the Lending Department. Outside the library's working hours books can be handed over to the *Book-drop box* which is located in LiepU lobby. Throughout the Library is available the free wireless internet. Since 2011, the RFID security system has been used for identifying and protecting information resources of the Library.

For 30 years (since 1992) Library's activities have been automatized. In the Libraries' information system ALISE are automatized librarian processes such as the processing of bibliographic data, acquisition, registration of users, handing out/receiving and ordering/booking information units, remote access to WebPPAC, mobile WebPAC, etc. The electronic catalogue of LiepU Library (<https://alise.liepu.lv/Alise/en/home.aspx>) and the joint catalogue of Higher education institutions and special libraries (<https://alise.liepu.lv/Alise/en/federatedsearch.aspx>) are available remotely, both on computers and mobile devices. The electronic catalogue of the library provides a unified search for bibliographic information on both the library collection and the local databases created. The remote access allows the user to connect from any place to the section "My Library" and follow the handing out of books, delivery deadlines, requesting an extension of the deadline, and booking or queuing the required literature.

You can find the most current information about the library's services and working hours on LiepU site in the Library's section (<https://www.liepu.lv/en/85/contacts-and-opening-times>), but regarding the information resources in the monthly newsletter of LiepU Library "Lasonis" (Only in Latvian) (<https://www.liepu.lv/lv/223/jaunieguvumi>). LiepU Library also presents its current events on its social network profiles (Facebook, Twitter).

Procedures for replenishing the Library's collection and subscribing databases

The acquisition of the library's collection takes place in accordance with the necessities of study programmes, in cooperation with the teaching staff and students. In accordance with LiepU QAS procedure "A-10-II Acquisition of the Library's collection", the teaching staff shall fill out the "Request for the collection acquisition to the Department of Acquisition and Processing of LiepU Library". A request with recommendations for the purchase of information resources may be filled out and submitted by any faculty (both elected and invited). Students may submit recommendations for the purchase of information resources by filling out the published web form on LiepU site - in the section of the Library's collection (available here (Only in Latvian)): <https://www.liepu.lv/lv/1340/studenta-ieteikums-gramatas-iegadei>) or in the section of the student application forms (available here (Only in Latvian)): <https://www.liepu.lv/lv/674/iesniegumu-veidlapas>). Applications shall be reviewed in accordance with the policy of the library's acquisition.

The decision on the subscription of the specific databases is taken in several stages. Firstly, data has been analysed: (1) statistics on the use of free trial databases; (2) statistics on the use of subscribed databases over a period dynamics of several years. Attention has been paid also to the recommendations from the teaching staff. Secondly, the matter on the changes in the offer of databases is being discussed in the Library's Council, where are represented the librarians, the

teaching staff and students of all the faculties. Thirdly, the matter of subscribing databases is being discussed with the Director of Finance and Personnel, as well as with the vice-rectors for science and studies. The decision is taken when opinions are summarized.

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 latest information and communication technologies are used for the implementation of the study programmes of the study field "Arts" - mobile video conference rooms, computer graphics rooms, computer classes, multimedia, Internet, e-learning environment Moodle (estudijas.liepu.lv), library, study subject methodology classrooms, laboratories with access to video conferencing equipment, interactive whiteboards, data projectors, document cameras, graphic projectors and visual materials, internet connection are provided.

Students can remotely book equipment for working on study tasks both inside and outside of LiepU buildings via the platform <http://forums.mplab.lv/>

Students in each of the study buildings have access to a free-access wireless network (a total of 36 wireless network access points are installed).

A workstation virtualization solution has been implemented and three computer classes are equipped with workstations for clients (a total of 63 workstations). Students create their own virtual computer, which is not attached to the workplace. This solution ensures the mobility and security of the study process. Modern network hardware has been installed, providing virtualization of the computer network, and a CAMPUS computer network connection has been established between all study buildings.

A cooperation agreement has been concluded with Microsoft on the lease of MS Office and MS Windows software licenses, which teachers can use both in the implementation of the teaching process and in the production of teaching materials. Within the framework of this cooperation agreement, both the LiepU lecturers and students have access to the MS Office 365, 1Tb file archive in the cloud, etc. at no extra charge.

Students of the University of Liepāja are issued access to the study process accounting information system of Latvian higher education institutions (hereinafter LAIS and e-learning environment Moodle) during the study admission process. Data integration takes place between the information system of the Latvian higher education institutions and the e-learning environment, which means that students do not need different authentication data. LAIS is a model of study process management, while in the e-learning environment Moodle provides the implementation of the study process.

Log in to the e-learning platform Moodle on the website <https://estudijas.liepu.lv/> or by going through the main home page of LiepU, using the username and password issued by LAIS.

Starting from 3 February 2020, the use of the e-learning platform Moodle during the study process has been made mandatory for the teaching staff and students of the University of Liepāja. In the e-learning platform, it is possible for teachers to publish study materials, receive the developed works submitted by students, as well as create websites for the materials necessary for the study process,

purposefully participate in the development of diverse student competences testing materials, evaluate, provide feedback. The range of tools used in the Moodle environment is constantly updated, transformed according to the recommendations of the teachers.

In order to develop modern understanding of the academic staff regarding the challenges of the digital age, from March to June 2022, special training of teachers will take place within SAM project No. 8.2.2.0/18/I/003. After market research in the field of such training and identification of the needs of LiepU, three thematic parts are planned for the training: 1) digital teaching aids; 2) Moodle; 3) MS Teams.

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.

Electronic link for the regulation of the process of attracting and/or employment of teaching staff: (Only in Latvian) <https://www.liepu.lv/lv/181/darba-iespejas>

In order to ensure high-quality and innovative implementation of the study programme, several criteria are used for the selection of teachers, to ensure that study courses are taught by qualified, scientifically and methodically prepared lecturers, specialists of the specified field of study, using modern approaches and technologies in their work.

The mandatory selection criteria for lecturers are:

- compliance of the qualification of the teaching staff with the requirements specified in the laws and regulations;
- the field/interests of scientific research correspond to the content of the study programme / course;
- adequate knowledge of the state language and foreign languages.

The selection of the teaching staff in the implementation of the study programmes is carried out on the basis of the Criteria for the Assessment of the Compliance of the Professional Qualification of the Academic Staff with the Taught Courses (Approved by the LiepU Study Council on 13.06.2005).

The professional qualification of the academic staff is assessed by the Faculty Council.

The evaluation criteria are as follows:

In academic (bachelor's, master's) programmes:

- Doctoral, master's degree according to the course to be taught or a related field;
- Publications in the subsector or in the field of artistic creation.

In professional and professional bachelor's, master's programmes:

- Doctoral, master's degree according to the course to be taught or a related field;
- Publications in the subsector or in the field of artistic creation.
- Professional activity according to the course to be taught at least 5 years;
- Relevant higher professional education.

The requirements set for the teaching staff-applicant are determined in accordance with the LiepU Regulations on Elections in Academic Positions, and the person has a doctoral or master's degree in a relevant or related field of science, has research / creative work experience, has publications /

creative work in a relevant or related field of science, the person has experience in developing or improving teaching materials, the person uses innovative teaching methods in the study process, the person has a good knowledge of English (at least at B1, B2, C1 level according to the Europass self-assessment table) and the ability to use language skills in studies and methodological work; the person has good digital skills according to the Europass self-assessment table, as well as knowledge of new technologies.

The requirements for the selection of foreign teaching staff and participation in the implementation of the study programme are specified in the LiepU Academic Staff Development Action Plan for 2018-2022 (see the section 'Other Annexes').

In accordance with the Law on Higher Education Institutions (<https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/37967-law-on-higher-education-institutions>), LiepU "Regulation on Election of Professors and Associate Professors, Evaluation Procedure and Councils of Professors at the University of Liepaja" (https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/dokumenti/Nolikums%20par%20prof.un%20asoc.prof.velesanam_nov.kart._profesoru%20%20padomem%20LiepU_EN.pdf) and the LiepU "Regulation on election to academic positions" (<https://liepu.lv/uploads/%C4%80SD/ERASMUS%20dokumenti/Regulation%20on%20Election%20to%20Academic%20Positions.pdf>) both residents of the Republic of Latvia and foreign residents may be elected to academic positions, as well as their election to academic positions is regulated by the above-mentioned laws and regulations.

Application, selection procedure and criteria for foreign academic staff (in accordance with the 'Academic Staff Development Action Plan', page 39)

1. An open tender is organized for the selection of doctoral students and applicants for scientific degrees by publishing a notice in the official publication 'Latvijas Vēstnesis', the European Commission portal 'Euraxess' and the website of the Ministry of Education and Science izm.gov.lv.
2. The requirements set for applicants are determined in accordance with the LiepU 'Regulation on Election of Professors and Associate Professors, Evaluation Procedure' (https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/dokumenti/Nolikums%20par%20prof.un%20asoc.prof.velesanam_nov.kart._profesoru%20%20padomem%20LiepU_EN.pdf), Regulation on Election to Academic Positions' (<https://liepu.lv/uploads/%C4%80SD/ERASMUS%20dokumenti/Regulation%20on%20Election%20to%20Academic%20Positions.pdf>) and uniform specific requirements for additional fields 'Art', 'Management, Administration and Real Estate Management', 'Information Technology, Computer Technology, Electrical Engineering, Telecommunications, Computer Management and Computer Science', 'Environmental Protection' and 'Education, Pedagogy and Sports':
 - a person who has been employed in an academic position in one of the accredited foreign higher education institutions during the previous five years,
 - the person has a doctoral degree in a relevant or related field of science (at least a master's degree in the field of art),
 - the person has research / creative work experience,
 - the person has publications / creative works in a relevant or related field of science,
 - the person has experience in the development or improvement of teaching materials,
 - the person applies innovative teaching methods in the study process,
 - the person has a good knowledge of English (at least at C1 level according to the Europass self-assessment table) and the ability to use language skills in studies and methodological work,

- the person has good digital skills according to the Europass self-assessment table, as well as knowledge of new technologies.

3. The submitted documents evaluated within the selection:

- an application addressed to the rector,
- CV in Europass template format,
- a copy of diploma of scientific degree / copy of master's diploma,
- list of publications (creative works) for the last five years.

4. Within the framework of SGS projects, the applicant's motivation to get involved in the project and the desire to continue cooperation with LiepU after the completion of the specific SGS project will also be assessed during selection of applicants.

5. Applicants are evaluated by a tenderer evaluation commission established by the order of the Rector.

6. Applicants are elected to the LiepU academic staff in accordance with the LiepU 'Regulations on Elections to Academic Positions'.

In accordance with the Law on Higher Education Institutions (<https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/37967-law-on-higher-education-institutions>) and the LiepU "Regulation on Election of Professors and Associate Professors, Evaluation Procedure" (https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/dokumenti/Nolikums%20par%20prof.un%20asoc.prof.velesanam_nov.kart._profesoru%20%20padomem%20LiepU_EN.pdf), Regulation on Election to Academic Positions' (<https://liepu.lv/uploads/%C4%80SD/ERASMUS%20dokumenti/Regulation%20on%20Election%20to%20Academic%20Positions.pdf>) persons are elected to LiepU academic positions in an open tender.

Taking into account the need to acquire practical skills and knowledge, a person with higher education without a scientific doctoral degree or without a professional doctor's degree in arts may hold the position of docent, lecturer and assistant in professional study programme profile subjects, if he or she has sufficient practical work experience. In order to elect a person who does not have a scientific doctoral degree or a professional doctoral degree in arts, this person needs at least seven years of practical work experience. The requirements to be set for applicants for the position of such assistant professor at the higher education institution and college shall be approved by the senate or the council, respectively. Lecturers and assistants not having a scientific or academic degree need five years of practical work experience corresponding to the subject to be taught.

Despite the low salary in the AI system, the good reputation of LiepU's study direction "Art" allows to attract teaching staff in specific study subjects. The teaching staff is mostly attracted by the program directors, inviting industry researchers and specialists from Latvia and abroad, whom the program directors have met in joint work, conferences, projects, to apply for vacancies. The best graduates of master's and doctoral study programs are also invited to continue activities in the "Art" field of study as lecturers, promoting the regeneration of teaching staff and researchers.

Elected teaching staff are much more involved in the strategic planning of the field of study and the achievement of goals, in measures to popularize the field of study, such as organizing exhibitions, master classes, and discussions. Elected faculty must conduct research, publish articles, and present the results of their research and creative projects at conferences. Unelected teaching staff are mostly involved only in the study process. However, the unelected teaching staff - graduates of study programs of the direction - in some cases also get involved in the realization of the goals of the direction, research and organization of various events sustaining a lively community around the "Arts" field of study in Liepaja University which is attractive to youth and young

artists/researchers.

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.

Procedures for ensuring the qualification and quality of work of the academic staff.

The qualitative composition of the lecturers working in the field of studies complies with the Law on Higher Education Institutions of the Republic of Latvia and the requirements of the Cabinet Regulation No. 512.

The qualifications of the academic staff involved in the implementation of the study programme are appropriate to the specifics of the study programme offered and the conditions for its implementation. Teaching staff are professionals in their scientific sectors who have demonstrated their competence in research and the use of e-environments in the study process, have participated in various international projects, and have developed course materials and teaching aids. The unified procedure for ensuring the qualification and quality of work of academic staff in accordance with the QMS procedures is supervised by specialists of the Personnel and Document Management Department of the University of Liepaja in cooperation with the Dean of the FHSA.

Opportunities offered by improvement of qualification.

The improvement of the professional qualification of the teaching staff takes place in accordance with the standards and criteria of the LiepU quality management system, which are supervised and provided a feedback by the head of the field of study, the programme director and the field of study council.

The criteria used for the work quality monitoring are as follows:

- student rating (LiepU QMS questionnaire);
- study internship evaluation indicators (QMS practice evaluation questionnaire);
- effective involvement in didactic competence improvement measures, incl. preparation of didactic seminars, observation of study classes, participation in lifelong learning, etc.

In order to improve the quality of scientific and pedagogical activities of the teaching staff, in 2018, three medium-term planning documents were developed and aimed at the development of LiepU human resources.

1. LiepU Human Resources Development Plan for 2018-2023 (see section 'Other Annexes') - which assesses the current situation, certain human resources management process goals, tasks to be performed and results to be achieved.

The aim of the LiepU Human Resources Development Plan is to provide LiepU with the necessary human resources, promote the development of existing human resources (academic and general staff), professional growth and improvement, inclusion of new teaching staff and research staff in

the university education and research process to ensure modern, development-oriented studies, research, lifelong learning in accordance with the LiepU development strategy.

The LiepU Human Resources Development Plan for 2018–2023 was developed in accordance with:

1. The current laws and regulations of the Republic of Latvia;
2. LiepU Constitution (available: <https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/dokumenti/studentiem/CONSTITUTION%20OF%20LIEPAJA%20UNIVERSITY.pdf>);
3. LiepU Development Strategy for 2016–2020 (available: https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/%C4%80SD/ERASMUS%20dokumenti/Liepaja_University_Development_Strategy_Summary_2016-2023_25.01.2021.pdf);
4. LiepU Teacher Education Development Plan for 2018–2023;
5. Identified requirements included in the World Bank report 'International Trends and Good Practices in Internal Financing and Governance of Higher Education' (available at: http://tap.mk.gov.lv/doc/2017_05/IZMinfp1_100517_AI_modernizac.959.pdf) (Only in Latvian);
6. Projects of the Action Programme 'Growth and Employment' of the European Union Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund 2014-2020 programming period, European Social Fund and European Regional Development Fund:
 - Specific Support Objective 2.1. 'Reduce the fragmentation of study programmes and strengthen the sharing of resources',
 - Specific Support Objective 2.2. 'Strengthen the academic staff of higher education institutions in the fields of strategic specialization',
 - Specific Support Objective 2.3 'Ensure better governance in higher education institutions'.
 - Measure 1.1. 'Support for post-doctoral research' of the Specific Support Objective 1.1.1.2. 'To increase the research and innovative capacity of the Latvian scientific institutions and their ability to attract external funding by investing in human resources and infrastructure',
 - Measure 1.1. 'Support for international cooperation projects in research and innovation' of the Specific Support Objective 1.1.1.5. 'To increase the research and innovative capacity of the Latvian scientific institutions and their ability to attract external funding by investing in human resources and infrastructure', etc.

2.LiepU Academic Staff Development Action Plan for 2018-2022 is a staff development and attraction action plan, defining and describing the planned academic staff competence improvement, development and attraction measures.

The goal of the LiepU Academic Staff Development Action Plan for 2018-2022 is to ensure the increase of competencies and skills of LiepU academic staff, promote the development of staff and LiepU activities in accordance with quality requirements.

The LiepU Academic Staff Developed Action Plan for 2018-2022 has been developed in accordance with:

1. LiepU Constitution (available: <https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/dokumenti/studentiem/CONSTITUTION%20OF%20LIEPAJA%20UNIVERSITY.pdf>);
2. LiepU Development Strategy (available at: https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/%C4%80SD/ERASMUS%20dokumenti/Liepaja_University_Development_Strategy_Summary_2016-2023_25.01.2021.pdf);

3. LiepU Human Resources Development Plan for 2018-2023 (see section 'Other Annexes');;
4. LiepU Teacher Education Development Plan for 2018-2023 (see section 'Other Annexes');
5. LiepU Scientific Activity Strategy for 2015-2020 of the Scientific Institution 'Liepajas University' (available at: https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/files/LiepU%20Zinatniskas%20darbibas%20strategija_2015_2020.pdf) (Only in Latvian)
6. Projects of the Action Programme 'Growth and Employment' of the European Union Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund 2014-2020 programming period, European Social Fund and European Regional Development Fund:
 - Specific Support Objective 2.1. 'Reduce the fragmentation of study programmes and strengthen the sharing of resources',
 - Specific Support Objective 2.2. 'Strengthen the academic staff of higher education institutions in the fields of strategic specialization',
 - Specific Support Objective 2.3. 'Ensure better governance in higher education institutions', etc.

3.LiepU Management Staff Training Plan for 2018-2021 - which defines and describes the planned management staff competence improvement measures.

Objectives of the LiepU Management Staff Training Plan: Enhancing the competencies and skills of LiepU management staff for professional administration of management processes, a management team with a vision of a modern, competitive international university that understands global trends, a management team that can inspire students and employees for rapid and ambitious development.

The LiepU Management Staff Training Plan has been developed in accordance with:

1. LiepU Constitution (available: <https://www.liepu.lv/lhttps://www.liepu.lv/uploads/dokumenti/studentiem/CONSTITUTION%20OF%20LIEPAJA%20UNIVERSITY.pdfv/172/satversme>);
2. LiepU Development Strategy for 2016-2020 (available at: https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/%C4%80SD/ERASMUS%20dokumenti/Liepaja_University_Development_Strategy_Summary_2016-2023_25.01.2021.pdf);
3. LiepU Human Resources Development Plan for 2018-2023 (see section 'Other Annexes');
4. Identified requirements in the 'International Trends and Good Practices in Higher Education Internal Funding and Governance' (available at: http://tap.mk.gov.lv/doc/2017_05/IZMinfp1_100517_AI_modernizac.959.pdf) (Only in Latvian);
5. Projects of the Action Programme 'Growth and Employment' of the European Union Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund 2014-2020 programming period, European Social Fund and European Regional Development Fund:
 - Specific Support Objective 2.1. 'Reduce the fragmentation of study programmes and strengthen the sharing of resources',
 - Specific Support Objective 2.2. 'Strengthen the academic staff of higher education institutions in the fields of strategic specialization',
 - Specific Support Objective 2.3. 'Ensure better governance in higher education institutions'.

The management staff of LiepU in the context of this curriculum consists of the rector, vice-rectors, deans, directors of scientific institutes, heads / directors / specialists of structural units, heads of fields of study, directors of study programmes and deputy staff, as well as members of LiepU decision-making institutions.

In addition to the information specified in the existing LiepU human resource development plans, the needs for improvement of employees' professional competencies are / can be identified based on the results of employee work and competencies assessment and / or independent individual discussions, as a result of which the existing education and competencies of the LiepU academic and general staff are / can be supplemented in practice at work, as well as, to the extent possible, acquiring new knowledge to raise their level of education, attending courses, seminars, conferences, congresses, forums, participating in Erasmus + mobility events and other experience exchange events.

The added value of the used opportunities for the implementation of the study process and the quality of studies.

During the training provided by LiepU, the management staff of the department has improved their level of foreign language skills, as well as management competencies, such as process management and stress management, which directly improves the quality of management processes, organization, and internationalization opportunities in the study field of Arts.

Teaching staff also have improved their level of foreign language skills, and used internship opportunities in workplaces of the local creative industries. During internships they learned to work with the technologies available in the industry and gained a better understanding of the needs of employers, which is particularly important for the development of academic study programmes - to make the programmes economically relevant and provide good employment prospects for the programme graduates.

For example, a lecturer in glass-work has improved his knowledge of glass printing by practicing in the printing studio, bringing more automation processes into the content of the design modules.

Program directors have learned the basic principles of process management, improving the administration of the direction and study process.

The teaching staff of the department also constantly improve their skills in master classes organized in cooperation with creative industry companies and foreign partners, for example, by learning sound spatialization techniques, which are useful in improving the content of immersive digital vision dubbing classes.

Improving the English language skills of teaching staff helps to ensure higher quality studies in English language programs.

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 qualitative composition of the teaching staff working in the field of study complies with the requirements of the Law on Higher Education Institutions. The qualifications of the academic staff involved in the implementation of the study programme are appropriate to the specific nature of the study programme and the conditions for its implementation, as well as the requirements of the laws and regulations governing education. The teaching staff are professionals who have demonstrated their expertise in research and/or creative work in their field; they have participated in international projects and in the development of teaching tools and materials. Professionals practical work experience in the field are also involved in the implementation of the study programmes in this field of study, mainly in study courses that are linked to specific courses in the

field, so it is not possible to change these instructors in favour of core instructors.

Several of the elected teaching staff also work as researchers, but it is not possible to accurately indicate the distribution of workload between academic, administrative and research workload, as it changes even within the study year in connection with involvement in various research projects. The regulations of Liepaja University state that employees cannot work more than one full-time job.

The staff involved in the study programmes of the 'Art' field of study are listed in **Annex II.3.7.A**, indicating the degree and/or professional qualification, position, elected/non-elected status, and courses, modules taught in the study programmes, as well as the creative and scientific resumes of all the staff members (see **Annex II.3.7.B**).

All the four faculties of LiepU are involved in the implementation of the study programmes, with 55 instructors in total. 24 (44%) of them have a doctoral degree, 31 (56%) have a master degree. 26 faculty members (47%) are elected to academic positions at LiepU. Of the 26 elected faculty members, 15 (58%) have a doctoral degree in one of the fields of specialisation offered by the study programme, 2 are studying for a doctoral degree, and 9 of the non-elected faculty members have a doctoral degree. It should be noted that out of 29 non-elected faculty members, 9 are studying in doctoral programmes, and at least 3 will be elected to Liepāja University positions after obtaining the scientific degree in accordance with the conditions of SAM project No 8.2.2.0/18/A/021 'Development of Liepāja University academic staff in strategic specialisation areas: natural sciences, mathematics and information technologies, arts, social sciences, business and law'.

Because all faculties of LiepU are involved in the implementation of the study programme, the areas of scientific research are also broad, for example, management, arts, humanities, informatics, social sciences. The scientific research is led by Prof Zanda Gūtmane, Prof Inta Klāsone, Prof Diāna Laiveniece, and others. Valuable teaching materials for art are developed by Dr. art. Vēsma Lēvalde. Guest instructors, such as PhD Agita Gritāne, Art Academy of Latvia vice-rector for research, media researcher Dr. philol. Ilva Skulte (RSU), also actively participate in research; with them, the instructors of the new media art field are working on joint activities and projects to promote media literacy, including assistant professors Krista Dintere and Anna Priedola from the 'Art' field of study at LiepU who teach courses in the new, international RSU master study programme 'Media and Information Literacy'.

Some of the instructors of the programme are involved as researchers and senior researchers at the Kurzeme Humanities Institute (KHI): prof Zanda Gūtmane, prof Diāna Laiveniece, prof Edgars Lāma, and others, and in the scientific activities of the Art Research Laboratory (MPLab): prof Rasa Šmite, Anna Priedola. Guest instructors from AAL, RSU, RISEBA, foreign higher education institutions carry out research activities independent of FHSA, the results of which are integrated into the content of the 'Art' field of study programmes at LiepU. A list of scientific publications in peer-reviewed journals by the instructors and their other scientific and creative achievements that characterise the professional competence of the academic staff involved in the field of study in the teaching of their courses is provided in **Annex II.2.4.A**.

Cooperation with RISEBA University of Applied Sciences also plays an important role in the implementation of the Art field of study. RISEBA instructors have long experience in media art research and innovative creative activity, and are also involved in the implementation of LiepU 'Art' bachelor level study programmes, providing insights into current developments in media art and design, for example, in the creation of art using machine learning technologies (AI) (PhD Ellen Pearlman, USA), as well as interactive filmmaking techniques (Dr Christopher Hales, UK).

The experience of the teaching staff in the fields of professional arts and creative technologies is very important for the implementation of study programmes in the 'Art' field of study. The faculty

members involved are award-winning experts in the fields of stage speech, movement, drama (Dmitrijs Petrenko, Kristīne Brīniņa, Rasa Bugavičute-Pēce) and renowned artists in the fields of visual, sound, and media arts (Anna Priedola, Krista Dintere, Paula Vītola, and others), as well as multimedia design teaching (2D: Jānis Jankevics, 3D: Ģirts Edvarts Stepīņš). The heads of the New Media Culture Centre RIXC, Dr Rasa Šmite and Dr Raitis Šmits has been nominated twice for the Purvītis Prize in Art and received the ARS ELECTRONICA award for Innovation in media art.

Several teaching staff members have taken the opportunity to go on various mobility events to partner universities abroad, and every academic year, LiepU students and teaching staff are visited by instructors from foreign partner universities. However, faculty members do not make sufficient use of ERASMUS mobility, which is explained by their workload in projects and studies. Students of the 'Art' field of study actively use the broad range of ERASMUS+ mobility opportunities offered by LiepU. In 2021/2022, one student also used the new ERASMUS+ short-term mobility feature, taking part in a 3ECTS course at the Bauhaus University in Weimar (Germany).

The 'Arts' programme regularly hosts guest instructors from partner and twinning universities (KHM in Germany, Aalto University, Estonian Academy of Arts, Budapest Metropolitan University, Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre), who give lectures and workshops in innovative fields of art and design, such as 3D scanning, music surround in *Ambisonics* format, etc.

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.).

Students have access to technical and informational support for working in scientific publication databases - EBSCO, Letonika, ScienceDirect, SCOPUS, Web of Science and Cambridge Journals Online.

During the studies, students have access to the general staff of LiepU faculties as a support staff, who provide information to both full-time and part-time students in connection with the provision of the study process, as well as in case of various uncertainties, introduce and inform about various activities or improvements related to the study process, continuously taking place in LiepU, for example, automatic registration system for studies, electronic application for scholarships, work remotely etc.

Students have the opportunity to apply for various types of scholarships, such as a Senate scholarship or a one-time scholarship for a student in social difficulties (applies to the Student Council).

LiepU students have access to a legal advisor in case of uncertainties, for example, in case of drawing up an individual study schedule, or to foreign students to clarify issues related to study agreements.

LiepU has a Psychological Support Centre, which can provide advice in case of psychological issues, as well as LiepU provides an opportunity to move around for people with disabilities, including wheelchairs, because there are special ramps, and the LiepU building makes it possible to move between floors, using an elevator, while for the visually impaired, instructions are available in Braille at the university's common areas.

For the support and integration of students, a Student Council, as well as employees of the International Relations Department as mentors for foreign students throughout the study period are operating at LiepU. In order to continuously ensure the study process, students have the opportunity to use the Moodle study environment, the Library's offer both in terms of the provision of literature, as well as in terms of group work and computer area.

LiepU lecturers provide consultations to students on the development of artworks and scientific papers and preparation of presentations regularly both during the lectures and consultations with lecturers. Also in preparation for scientific conferences both in LiepU and other universities, for competitions that are regularly announced in various fields (for example, economics, business), students have the opportunity to receive additional consultations from the teaching staff.

The increasing opportunities for students to acquire new knowledge and skills outside the study programme are related to students' research work activation, which is confirmed by the increase of student numbers in the annual students' conference (sections in the social sciences and service, entrepreneurship fields) and other science and creativity week events (e.g. in the events organized within the Science and Creativity Week etc.), as well as in professional art and culture events.

One of the largest support staff in the entire period is formed by the study programme directors, who help students integrating in the life of the university, advise on the choice of internship companies, organize study tours to various organizations and companies during the study process, etc.

Data on the frequency of student support cases are not registered in LiepU. With a certain regularity, students are supported by the dean of the faculty and program directors. Once a semester, the dean of the faculty meets with students in the direction to discuss questions about the study process, news in university, changes in regulations, and students can turn to the dean with complaints. Before the exam time, struggling students are contacted by the dean or senior secretary of the dean's office to discuss options for successfully continuing their studies. Program directors are approachable on regular basis in the study environment, and students can ask them individual questions.

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 peers body governing scientific activity and research is the Science Council, which, according to Article 18 of the Liepāja University Constitution, is responsible for the organising and coordination of scientific research in all fields of science relevant to Liepāja University.

The LiepU main budget is used to create a fund for the development of scientific activity, which aims to increase the number of internationally cited publications and monographs, to support participation in international conferences, especially in cases when researchers or faculty members do not have project funding. The size of the fund varies from year to year, it does not fully fund all applications, but it has contributed to the stability of internationally citable publications in several

LiepU research areas, including education.

LiepU Science Council also coordinates the publication of scientific and teaching literature produced by all faculties and scientific institutes through the publishing house LiePA. The publishing of education and scientific literature is financed through projects, natural individuals, and legal entities, and using the funds earmarked for publishing in LiepU's main budget.

The research and creative activity of the teaching staff takes place in accordance with the aims and deliverables set out in the *Scientific Activity Strategy 2016–2020*.

Scientific and research (creative) activities take place in accordance with the annual plan approved by the Liepāja University Senate. An overview of the scientific and creative activities carried out by academic staff during the period covered by the self-assessment report is available here (Only in Latvian):

2016: <https://www.liepu.lv/lv/263/petniecibas-parskati>

2017:

https://sciencelatvia.lv/#/pub/institucijas_publ_parskats/254278

2018:

https://sciencelatvia.lv/#/pub/institucijas_publ_parskats/1013080

2019:

https://sciencelatvia.lv/#/pub/institucijas_publ_parskats/1660168

2020:

https://sciencelatvia.lv/#/pub/institucijas_publ_parskats/15893513

2021:

https://sciencelatvia.lv/#/pub/institucijas_publ_parskats/29936294

Since all faculties of LiepU are involved in the implementation of the field of study, the areas of scientific research are also broad, e.g. humanities, computer science, management, and social sciences.

Scientific studies in the highly ranked databases Web of Science and SCOPUS were published both by LiepU researchers and academic staff members, for example, Diāna Laiveniece, Vēsma Lēvalde, etc.

The following medium-term strategic objectives are defined in the LiepU Research Strategy 2015–2020 (extended)

(https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/files/LiepU%20Zinatniskas%20darbibas%20strategija_2015_2020.pdf

(Only in Latvian) :

- the research topics are in line with the national priorities (of the national research programme), internationally relevant research areas, and regional development needs (orders by local governments, regional businesses, etc.);
- the LiepU research institutes and faculty research groups represent creative teams performing national and international collaborative research, forming a national and international network for the implementation of research projects in relevant research topics;
- LiepU has interdisciplinary research groups solving complex scientific problems in cooperation with Latvian and foreign universities and businesses, which are involved in obtaining funds from national and international projects to achieve their results;

- the collaboration between research and business is supported by the Technology Transfer Centre and the Prototyping Centre. Cooperation with the Kurzeme Business Incubator and Liepāja University Science and Innovation Park is used for the implementation and commercialisation of research by students and young scientists;
- the publication of research results at international level (international conferences and congresses, internationally cited journals) rises;
- Liepāja University scientific journals and magazines are included in databases of internationally cited publications;
- Promoting science and research in conjunction with all social partners, all age and social groups, in particular by building cooperation with schools, creative and professional organisations, encouraging youth interest in science and understanding scientific activity and creativity as the basis for a successful career in any field of activity.

The Faculty of Humanitarian Sciences and Arts and its affiliated research institutions—the Kurzeme Humanities Institute and the Art Research Laboratory: interdisciplinary new media art practices and digital-age art research. Network culture and sustainability, immersive media, social media and networked communities, research-based professional practices in art and design. Researching cultural heritage as a modern resource. Liepāja Theatre in the historical and contemporary Baltic theatre context; ethnolinguistics; language, literature, culture in the Kurzeme cultural space within the context of Latvian culture. Using and learning modern languages and literature in a multicultural environment.

The overall aim of the study programme 'Art' is to provide students with the opportunity to acquire quality academic education in the humanities, art study programmes, including interdisciplinary study programmes, preparing themselves for independent, creative, interdisciplinary research and professional activity. Research and creative work creative fields mentioned before help to achieve this goal.

Throughout the reporting period, the following have played a key role in the implementation of the field of study:

1. LiepU Art Research Laboratory (MPLab): involving in the study process the laboratory's leading researcher Dr.sc.soc. Rasa Šmite, and organising discussions, seminars, workshops, and networking events with industry representatives. Twice a year, MPLab organises International Weeks, when artists and researchers from different countries gather at MPLab to discuss various topics in media art, such as gamification (iWeek 2016), with students. MPLab together with the RIXC New Media Culture Centre, publishes the peer-reviewed journal Acoustic Space, whose editorial board includes educators from various countries and universities: Oslo Metropolitan University, Vilnius Academy of Arts, etc., and publishes articles by internationally renowned media artists and scholars on the most relevant topics in the field: virtual reality (third wave of virtual reality), network culture, sustainability, etc. There is cooperation in organising the RIXC conference Open Fields, which is free of charge for LiepU and RISEBA students.
2. LiepU Kurzeme Humanities Institute (KHI), which conducts research in the fields of linguistics, literary studies, and cultural studies. An outstanding contribution to the research of the cultural, theatre, and music activities, latest events, and history in the region is made by Dr.art. Vēsma Lēvalde, while prof Zanda Gūtmane conducts research in the field of comparative literary studies; prof Diāna Laiveniece develops research and teaching materials on the language of science, which are also very useful in the implementation of the study programmes of the 'Art' field of study and enriches its research side. FHSA also publishes the 'Scriptus Manet' journal in collaboration with KIH.
3. LiepU Institute of Educational Sciences (IES): as part of the study process, as teaching staff,

also involving the Institute's scientific staff (Dr.paed. prof Inta Klāsone and others), thus promoting research-based studies, understanding of the therapeutic and educational role of art. Currently, Inta Klāsone is leading a project administered by IES and the Baltic-German University Cooperation Office, which promotes cooperation among doctoral students and young researchers and entrepreneurs.

4. Cooperation with RISEBA University of Applied Sciences in the implementation of the joint doctoral programme 'Media Art and Creative Technologies'. RISEBA docents PhD Ellen Pearlman and Dr Christopher Hales conduct innovative research in interactive arts and technologies, also encouraging doctoral students to participate in conferences and to engage in structured research in media arts and creative industries. Doctoral students are also encouraged to get involved in the academic work of the field by taking courses in undergraduate modules. RISEBA publishes the scientific journal 'ADAM Arts' (ISSN 2256-0890), in which doctoral students of the joint programme can get published. RISEBA and LiepU MPLab also collaborate in creative activities, for example, jointly at the Media and Architecture Centre H2O in Riga, organising media and sound art exhibitions and concerts in Liepāja, such as 'Impulses. New Sound Days' in 2016, and establishing joint research groups in immersive media and audiovisual art.
5. Cooperation with non-governmental organisations such as the E-Lab electronic art and media centre and ASTE.Art, Science, Technology, Education, as well as the local government. These organisations help involve young artists, including students of the 'Arts' field of study at LiepU, in professional art and electronic music production, including their works in exhibitions for the wider public, concerts, and workshops for the professional qualification of young artists and students. Every year, the international media art week event UPDATE and the sound art festival Sound Days are organised in collaboration with ASTE, as well as at least 2 visual art exhibitions. Together with ASTE, Art, Science, Technology, Education, the regional media art research and archiving project 'Liepāja Media Art Archive' is also being developed <https://arhivs.aste.gallery/> (under development). Liepāja Theatre involved 'Acting' students in several productions during their studies.

Academic staff participation in conferences, scientific seminars, publications profile and topics can be found in the annual LiepU Scientific Activity Reports, available here: <https://www.liepu.lv/lv/263/petniecibas-parskati> (Only in Latvian) and in the NZDIS system: https://sciencelatvia.lv/#/pub/institucijas_publ_parskats/254278

Professionals involved in the work of the field of study are also involved in international project activities and present their professional experience in publications, e.g. Diana Laiveniece, Zanda Gūtmane, Vēsma Lēvalde, etc., while prof Zanda Gūtmane, Anna Priedola, and Maija Demitere, etc. were involved in a wide range of research and creative projects, as project leaders and as participants.

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.

The scientific research of the academic staff involved in the field of study is related to the subject matter and content of the courses taught. This is reflected in research topics and project activity.

Involving students in research (creative) projects, linking instructor and student research:

1. the students are involved in the research and creative projects of instructors;
2. FHSA Student Research Conference on 17 March 2020: took place via the MS Teams platform (held annually);
3. the students participate as audience members, assistants, perform specific tasks (depending on the focus of the event) in all the above scientific and creative events of FHSA and MPLab, as well as in the RIXC Open Fields International Conference, where doctoral students from both the universities are also invited to give free of charge presentations or research and creative work;
4. The FHSA scientific journal *Scriptus Manet* publishes research by doctoral students;
5. The choice of topics for students' bachelor and master theses is largely related to their instructors' research, scientific, and creative interests (virtual reality, sound art, 360° video, data visualisation, eco-art, sustainable art, etc.);
6. teaching materials prepared within the research projects are directly useful for study work, for example, prof Diana Laiveniece, in cooperation with the partners of the project 'Fundamental and Applied Research Project of the Latvian Science Council 'Latvian Language of Science in Intralingual Aspect', developed an easy-to-use online encyclopaedia of the language of science <https://zinatnesvaloda.lv/sakums> (Only in Latvian) and her publications on the language of science, while video materials and articles about theatre by Vēsma Lēvalde and Sandra Okuneva about Theatre Tradition in Liepāja. VIII-XX Centuries have found use in the bachelor study programme Contemporary Performing Arts. The RIXC/MPLab journal *Acoustic Space* also provides innovative ideas and a base of information for innovative research by students of media arts degree programmes.

The 'Arts' field of study involves educators who are active in research and creativity, who are constantly pursuing their professional growth, and whose creativity and research are demonstrated in the modules they teach. Here are some examples:

- Sound artist Krista Dintere teaches such courses as 'Sound Art and Generative Sound Creation' at bachelor level, 'Sound Art and Electronic Music I and II' at master level, and she transfers her—rare in the Latvian context—sound surround skills to students in the module '3D Interplay and Immersion'. This module is also taught by guest instructor Ieva Vīksne, a former 'Art' student who has developed several empathy-building VR experiences, such as making it possible for visitors of the Žanis Lipke Memorial Museum to understand the feelings of hiding in a bunker. The generative tuning is taught by award-winning electroacoustic composer Platons Buravickis.
- Guest docent, and during the reporting period (until 2019), also LiepU docent Dr Christopher Hales specialises in interactive video development, has published articles on the use of various sensors, machine learning for interactivity with video imagery, and he transfers this knowledge to students in modules such as Video Art and Experimental Cinema at bachelor level, Visual Culture and New Media Aesthetics at master level, and is the creative director of the joint LiepU/RISEBA doctoral programme.
- Doctoral candidate, guest instructor Maija Demitere is researching sustainable art practices and eco-philosophy, and has developed the module 'Sustainable Art and Design Project' in collaboration with professor, environmental science, and eco-design researcher Dr. biol. Māra Zeltiņa. Prof Rasa Šmite's creative work erases the boundaries of art and science, developing innovative media art projects that visualise data that are imperceptible to the human senses, such as major climate changes or processes in the microscopic world. By organising the international conference and publishing the journal *Acoustic Space*, which brings together the latest thinkers in media theory and media philosophy, as well as artists from all over the world, Prof Rasa Šmite not only follows, but also shapes trends in this field of art. She transfers her expertise to students in modules such as 'Research Methodology in Art and

Design' at bachelor level, and at master level, in modules such as 'Conceptual Thinking and Practice-Based Research', and 'Digital Art' and at doctoral level.

- The bachelor programme 'Contemporary Performing Arts' is taught by director, artistic director of Liepāja Theatre, LAC doctoral student Dmitrijs Petrenko ('Acting and Performance Art Practice'), and by LAC doctoral student, playwright Rasa Bugavičute-Pēce, who is very active in her artistic work and can convey to students both the most important traditions of performing arts and the latest innovations and topics in the field.

Many KHI researchers are involved in the research of cultural processes and teach courses in the academic programmes 'Contemporary Performing Art' and 'New Media Art and Design', providing an understanding of the most current cultural processes in Latvia and the region, which are of particular relevance within the framework of the academic programmes:

National Research Programme *Letonika for the Development of a Latvian and European Society* sub-project *Landscapes of Identities: History, Culture, and Environment* (No VPPIETONIKA-2021/1-0008), conducted by prof Zanda Gūtmane — project coordinator at the Liepāja University, lead researcher Benedikts Kalnačs: UoL ILFA (lead partner), senior researcher. Elīna Veira, doctoral student of the LiepU 'Art' field of study, also participates.

The Latvian Council of Science project 'Latvian Language of Science in Intralingual Aspect' No Izp-2018/2-0131, which takes place in collaboration with Ventspils University of Applied Sciences, is led by prof Diāna Laiveniece, who teaches courses related to scientific research and academic writing in the 'Art' field of study.

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.

During the reporting period, the Art Research Laboratory and the 'Art' field of study instructors collaborated in research and creative projects with leading European art, prototyping, and research organisations in the field of media art, such as Faboratory of Hangar (Spain), Art in Society Research group of Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences (Norway), Ars Longa (France), Baltan Laboratories (Netherlands) in the Creative Europe project 'Renewable Futures', which developed a new networking and representation platform for European artists and researchers researching techno-ecological issues. The project included several conferences and workshops in Liepāja and Riga, involving new media art students of all levels.

Digital storytelling and virtual memory technologies were explored in collaboration with Aalto University Media Lab in Finland, Art in Society Research group of Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences (Norway) and RIXC New Media Culture Centre in the project "Hybrid Laboratories", also through laboratories and international conferences for all levels of students in the 'Art' field. The students learned about 3D scanning, virtual reality, and other techniques, and tasks that were not included in the content of media arts study programmes, but help to gain understanding and first skills in working with current trends in the industry.

Baltan Laboratories, Antre-Peaux Gallery (France), Oslo MET (Norway), Zavod Projekt ATOL (Slovenia), Aalto University Media Lab, RIXC and Liepāja University collaborated in the project

'Green Revisited — Encountering Emerging Naturecultures' to introduce a European platform for artistic creation and sharing, with the aim of exploring the trope of 'greenness' and challenging the historical divide between 'nature' and 'culture'. Media art and design students at all levels participated in workshops and exhibitions exploring the representation of nature and culture in culture and everyday life: 'Plastiskā daba' (2019) and 'Māksla garākai dzīvei' (2020), as well as "Econauts" (2021). This project helped to promote the works of students of bachelor's and master's study programmes in the sub-field of media art, including them in professional, international exhibitions, and also promoted the research results of the students of the doctoral study programmes "New Media Art" and "New Media and Audiovisual Art" at international conferences. This project helped to exhibit internationally significant works in Latvia - in the exhibitions organized by RIXC in the Latvian National Library and the Latvian National Art Museum, providing an opportunity for bachelor's, master's and doctoral media art students to learn from the analysis of physical media artworks, not just reproductions. There are not enough of such opportunities in Latvia.

From 2018 to 2021, 'Art' field of study instructors and bachelor programme "New media art" ("New media art and design") participated in ERASMUS+ 'Virtual Reality as a tool for countering bullying among youth' in conjunction with social work, education, and children's rights organisations in Romania, Croatia, and Greece. The lessons learned from the development and validation of the VR project materials can be used in the module 'Social Art and Design Project'

Currently MPLab, in conjunction with Liepāja City Council Education Authority and Trondheim Science Centre, Jærmuseet Regional Museum in Norway is working as part of the project 'Development of Innovation Centre in Liepāja' supported by the Norwegian Financial Mechanism, No NFI/IC/VIAA/2020/2, creating digital content for educational installations about nature in the Liepāja Nature House. In the development of the installations, it is also planned to involve undergraduate students ("New media art and design"), making sound and video recordings and in practice evaluating their representation on different screens, in different expositions, and master's students ("New media and audiovisual art"), working with the development of VR experiences. Difficulties in the project are caused by the complex material procurement processes carried out by the project partner - a municipality institution. However, project participants, including students, can learn the development of long-lasting, intensively used installations for museum-type exposition.

Informal cooperation projects with partner universities and institutions in Lithuania and Poland also took place: mainly in the form of workshops and symposia where students develop and publicly present or exhibit their creative work, such as the Photography Symposium at the Nida Art Colony, which is attended annually by docent Mārtiņš Krūmiņš and his students. Meanwhile, the Vilnius Academy of Arts Symposium on Baltic Media Art 1989–2019: Cracks and Continuities included a seminar featuring Baltic media artists and media art school instructors, and a collaboration among Baltic and Polish art students resulting in an exhibition at the Nida Art Colony Gallery (2019). Such symposia allow developing the methodology of media art and design studies, and the resulting publications are one of the rare documents about media art activities in the Baltic region that can be used in the bachelor and master studies process in the field of media art.

In 2020, KHI researcher Diāna Laiveniece, in collaboration with the University of Tartu (Estonia), Vilnius University (Lithuania) and the University of Bergen (Norway), started an EEA financial mechanism grant research collaboration project '*Academic writing in the Baltic States: rhetorical structures through culture(s) and languages*, EMP475, abbreviated *Bwrite*, the results of which will be of practical use in higher-level studies in 'Art' and other fields.

In the future, it is planned to develop cooperation projects with a large number of media art and

design universities in Europe, working on the youth networking and co-creation project UPDATE, exploring issues such as environmental and content access design solutions, visualisation and communication of Baltic Sea pollution data, the role of the periphery in European cultural space, digital technology solutions for the inclusion of young people living in regional cities in the European professional (art and design) scene. There is also communication on death and suicide through inclusive art practice: these projects are to be completed as part of the Liepāja 2027: European Capital of Culture programme, raising funding from international art and science foundations and partners from art institutions in Baltic coastal cities, already identified during the ECOC application planning period. There are also plans to collaborate with *Causa Creations*, a game development company from Austria, to develop augmented reality content in Karosta and to explore possible solutions for recreating historical scenes in augmented reality, using funding from ERDF, EEA/Norway grants, etc.

Cooperation with the RSU Faculty of Communication is to explore current issues of media literacy through Creative Europe project competitions in the media sector.

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 financial motivation of academic staff is supported by the system of allocating funding implemented in LiepU, compensating conference and publication expenses and taking into account the achieved scientific results, as well as involvement in project activities and the offer of contract work.

The scientific and creative potential of the faculty and students has been strengthened through cooperation with partners at international, national, regional, and city level. International scientific conferences and various academic debates, as well as results of student research work provide important emotional motivation. Motivating factors include international, national, and regional recognition, interest in the research and creative process and results from the media, other partner organisations, including government institutions and local authorities. During the reporting period, MPLab's leading researcher, doctoral programme head prof Rasa Šmite was nominated twice for the Purvītis Prize in Art.

Student involvement in research and creative activities can be attributed to the activities of the LiepU Science and Creativity Day events organised during the reporting period: FHSA student scientific conference: bachelor and master thesis pre-defence.

Information about publications by LiepU teaching staff: <https://www.liepu.lv/en/publications>

However, the management of the 'Art' field of study has concluded that such a system of motivation is not enough and has set as a goal of the programme the hiring of leading researchers in the field of arts and the formation of research working groups, whereby the quality and quantity of research and creativity are achieved through sharing and joint work, rather than just through individual effort.

The 'Art' field of study teaching staff is engaged in innovative creative activities of high artistic quality, actively setting up group and solo exhibitions. However, the scientific research capacity

needs to be strengthened, also in cooperation with the LiepU library, so that the periodicals published in cooperation between RIXC and MPLab, in which an international group of authors publishes innovative ideas and research, are included in the scientific databases.

The involvement of teaching staff in scientific research is promoted with the support of funding of scientific performance, as well as by attracting the funds of projects and research programs, which facilitate the preparation, submission and presentation of articles at foreign conferences. For elected academic personnel, the minimum number of scientific publications in a six-year period is determined in the employment contract.

For a list of publications and creative works published by the teaching staff during the reporting period, see **Annex II.2.4.A.**

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 study process in the Arts is closely linked to creative work. The students develop artworks, films, compositions, performances, and public presentations as part of the modules. The students learn how to organise an exhibition and event together with their teaching staff: from conceptualisation, writing accompanying texts, choosing spaces and materials, set design and construction, including in collaboration with other institutions that, for example, own exhibition spaces. The students organise at least 3 exhibitions or public screenings/presentations each year, in physical spaces or online, within the COVID-19 restrictions (e.g. bachelor year 1 photo and video exhibition 'Brīvs' (2020): <https://brivs.aste.gallery/>) The best student work is also included in instructor-curated professional art exhibitions. One of the most recent examples is the inclusion of a video work by bachelor student Lelde Gūtmane in the exhibition 'Dedz lēni. Skaņas māksla garīgai labbūtībai' at Liepāja Museum, curated by docents Anna Priedola and Krista Dintere, was included in the Latvian Museums Association's sustainable museum exhibitions database because it raised a social issue and used sustainable materials in the set design.

Involvement of students in research (creative) projects:

Bachelors:

1. FHSA student research conference (held annually);
2. students are involved in the research and creative projects of instructors (for example ERASMUS+ cooperation project "VR not bullies", exhibitions in Museum Night, Science Night.
3. the students participate as audience members, assistants, perform specific tasks (depending on the focus of the event) in all the above scientific and creative events of FHSA and MPLab, as well as in the RIXC Open Fields International Conference
4. the international workshop weeks UPDATE and 'Skaņas dienas', the results of which are presented in public exhibitions and concerts.
5. The unique Open Lab project, in which Art field of study instructors act as mentors in the development of student curator skills, not only assisting in the completion of the art project, but also allowing students to choose the content and topics for a series of workshops and discussions on socially relevant topics for young people through art practice, and to carry out

the process and publish the results themselves. It is organised in collaboration with arts NGOs.

6. The involvement of students of 'Acting (Contemporary Performing Arts)' in creative projects of Liepāja Theatre and Liepāja Puppet Theatre, as well as those of independent artists, for example, production 'UPE' by Kristīne Brīniņa and Rasa Bugavičutė-Pēce.
7. Mārtiņš Krūmiņš, docent of the bachelor programme, regularly involves the best design students in various activities related to photographic creative work, such as the aforementioned International Photography Symposium at the Nida artist residency.

Masters:

1. FHSA student research conference (held annually);
2. students are involved in the research and creative projects of instructors (for example development of educational VR experience on Norway grant project NFI/IC/VIAA/2020/2 "Development of Innovation Center in Liepaja")
3. the students participate as audience members, assistants, perform specific tasks (depending on the focus of the event) in all the above scientific and creative events of FHSA and MPLab, as well as in the RIXC Open Fields International Conference
4. the international workshop weeks UPDATE and 'Skaņas dienas', the results of which are presented in public exhibitions and concerts.
5. The unique Open Lab project, in which Art field of study instructors act as mentors in the development of student curator skills, not only assisting in the completion of the art project, but also allowing students to choose the content and topics for a series of workshops and discussions on socially relevant topics for young people through art practice, and to carry out the process and publish the results themselves. It is organised in collaboration with arts NGOs.
6. Faculty members – curators – include the master's student works in professional art exhibitions and among the works of the augmented reality platform ART+.

Doctoral:

1. FHSA student research conference (held annually);
 2. students are involved in the research and creative projects of instructors (for example 1. doctoral student Elīna Veira was invited to participate in prof Zanda Gūtmane's project *Identity Landscapes: History, Culture, and Environment* (No VPPELETONIKA-2021/1-0008));
 3. the students participate as audience members, assistants, perform specific tasks (depending on the focus of the event) in all the above scientific and creative events of FHSA and MPLab, as well as in the RIXC Open Fields International Conference where doctoral students from both the universities are also invited to give free of charge presentations or research and creative work;
-
1. The FHSA scientific journal 'Scriptus Manet' publishes research by doctoral students, such as articles by Maija Demitere;
 2. The unique Open Lab project, in which Art field of study instructors act as mentors in the development of student curator skills, not only assisting in the completion of the art project, but also allowing students to choose the content and topics for a series of workshops and discussions on socially relevant topics for young people through art practice, and to carry out the process and publish the results themselves. It is organised in collaboration with arts NGOs.

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 programmes of the 'Art' field of study, especially in the field of new media arts and creative technologies, are innovative by nature: analysing, critically testing, and synthesising new forms of art, using the latest technologies: at least not yet widely used on a local level. The work of students and faculty explores topical topics such as naturecultures, emphasising the illusory distinction between the cultural and the wild in the age of biodesign; technoecologies, which investigate the processes in the technological environment in which modern humans live. Applied student research is also underway to address technological and aesthetic challenges, such as what tools and sensors can best achieve a user's brain-powered motion experience in virtual reality.

Innovations in the study process are related to cooperation with social partners, such as Liepāja Nature House, NGOs, which provide students with industry, performance, and exhibition experience as part of their studies, enabling feedback from the public, which is lacking in many art study programmes, where study works are evaluated in the form of a closed show, where only instructors participate and the student receives only short feedback, a long time after the fact. It helps students develop their entrepreneurial and organisational skills.

Organisational innovations in the implementation of the field of study include the UPDATE and 'Skaņas dienas' ('Sound Days') international workshop weeks which are in the form of a hackathon, that includes theories, discussions, practices, networking experiences, and feedback from the public and industry. These weeks are also free to attend for interested parties outside of Liepāja University, giving potential applicants an insight into the specifics of the programme and the sector before they start their studies. These intensive training activities motivate students to achieve results and to build collaborative competences.

An organisational innovation in the context of Liepāja University is the doctoral school for promoting cooperation between research and business, organised by the Baltic States-Germany cooperation project led by prof. Inta Klāsone.

Another organisational innovation is the use of online and hybrid workshops and seminars to attract an international audience, which was successfully implemented during the COVID-19 restrictions, and can be further applied to ERASMUS+ short-term mobility and intensive training activities. During COVID-19, a video archive of lectures was created for student needs in the future.
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFDIdRkaOaQwSzH_TmH2NSQ/videos

(in English)

Another organisational innovation in the study process is the student-centred educational project OPEN LAB, where students create the content, and instructors assist as mentors; this takes place in collaboration with arts NGOs:

<https://openlab.mplab.lv> (Only in Latvian)

<https://www.facebook.com/OpenLabLiepaja> (Only in Latvian)

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.

The choice of partners appropriate to the field of study and study programmes is determined by the content of the study programme and the research interests of the field.

The main criteria for choosing partners among businesses are:

- sector represented;
- organisational structure that provides for the employment of workers;
- duration of business;
- previous cooperation experience, presence of graduate in the company/organisation, relevance of the issues to the student.

The employers' own interest is also taken into account, and the mutual contribution by LiepU students and by employers is praised.

The promotion of cooperation is strengthened by formal cooperation agreements and informal links with employers interested and loyal to the programme and research. Employers are involved in the assessment process of the study programmes, international scientific assessment, etc. In preparing the licensing and accreditation of the programmes, employers have expressed their opinions on the performance of the programmes, as well as significant recommendations for improving the performance of the programmes. During the international weeks, conferences and seminars held by MPLab repeatedly included discussions with employers—representatives of the city's cultural sector and creative industry companies—on current problems and possible solutions. Employers approach programme heads when they need temporary services by media artists or designers for a creative project, offering to employ students and/or instructors. In cooperation with creative industries companies, 'Art' students can learn how to work with specific, expensive technologies used in the industry, such as printing machines, surround sound recording microphones, etc.

In the 'Art' field of study there is also cooperation with other Latvian higher education institutions and NGOs in the implementation of creative projects and goals with NGOs and municipal institutions, and with Latvian higher education institutions in the achievement of research goals.

Information about conferences, workshops and exhibitions in Riga and Liepāja is shared with the Art Academy of Latvia and with students and faculty so that they can improve their professional competences.

There is sharing of information about media literacy with RSU, with ideas for joint projects on media literacy challenges and solutions.

Information about conferences, workshops and exhibitions in Riga and Liepāja is shared with the Latvian Academy of Music and with students and faculty so that they can improve their professional

competences.

However, the closest cooperation was achieved with RISEBA University of Applied Sciences, with which the master and doctoral study programmes are jointly implemented in the 'Art' field of study, achieving optimisation of resources, creation of larger study groups, and promotion of the results of the field of study in Riga. The next programming period aims to develop closer research cooperation with RISEBA.

Very close cooperation with non-governmental organizations is also realized in the study field "Art", especially with the association ASTE, Art, Science, Technology, Education (Liepāja), and the electronic art and media center E-LAB (Riga). In cooperation with these institutions the annual new media arts creative workshop weeks UPDATE and Sound Days are organized, ensuring the exchange of experience of art students and acclaimed artists and creative professionals on an international scale. In 2023, it is also planned to organize creative workshops in the field of animation and audiovisual art. These non-governmental organizations are engaged in the promotion of young artists and not only include the best works of students and graduates in professional art exhibitions in Latvia and abroad (Nordic - Baltic countries), but also advise students and graduates on writing cultural projects thus helping to start activities in the industry as young artists.

There is also close cooperation with the non-governmental organization – new media culture center RIXC – which promotes new media artists who are educated in Liepāja in its gallery in Riga thus promoting their recognition among professionals and the wider society. RIXC are influential facilitators of the new media discourse not only in Latvia, but also at the international level. The international festival "Art and Science" as well as the international conference "Open Fields" are organized in cooperation with Liepāja University's MPLab and the study direction "Art" and the journal "Acoustic Space" is issued. LiepU art students can visit the conference for free.

Together with RIXC LiepU, the "Art" direction is also involved in international networks of media art organizations and educational institutions, such as "Renewable Futures", which researches and develops sustainable art practices. Such organizations as Baltan Laboratories (Netherlands), Ars Longa (France), OSLO OG AKERSHUS University (Norway), Media Lab / Aalto University (Finland), Hangar (Spain) are involved in this network.

There is good cooperation with companies in the creative industry, such as SIA Dirty Deal Audio or Giraffe 360, in which LiepU "Art" field of study prepares employees for these companies (without a contract), while company employees supplement the study programme with guest lectures and master classes, as well as offering to try a specific industry techniques for the realization of study tasks.

Very good cooperation has also been established with Liepāja municipality, which provides funding for the implementation of programmes in the study field of "Art" – study programmes in the field of media art and design help implement STEM education in the municipality, while "Contemporary performing arts" ("Acting") prepares the professionals looked for in the municipality's cultural institutions.

A cooperation agreement has also been signed with "Liepāja Theater" for the preparation of young professionals, involving them in professional creative activities already during their studies.

Both the professional contacts of teaching staff and researchers of the department and active search for partners in databases are used to attract cooperation organizations, for example, search databases for partner organizations of various project funding open calls. Likewise, representatives

of the "Art" field of study regularly participate in various professional networking events, such as the "IT Meetup" organized by the Liepāja Digital Technology Park, etc. where they present the goals and results of the study programme - the works of students and researchers, and teaching staff.

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.

International cooperation and internationalisation of studies are pursued in accordance with the 'Plan for the Internationalisation of Studies' developed by LiepU in 2016, as well as other strategic development documents (LiepU Development Strategy 2016-2020, LiepU Scientific Activity Strategy 2016-2020) and the Action Plan for Implementation of the LiepU Strategy. Internationalisation is important to LiepU institutional cooperation: it enables the development of study programmes and processes in accordance with the quality criteria accepted by international practice, makes it possible for teaching staff to expand international cooperation by participating in international study and research projects or programmes, and to attract foreign teaching staff. The aim of the LiepU internationalisation plan is to define the tasks for the internationalisation of the university, which include implementing international study programmes, attracting and selecting foreign students, pursuing international mobility, building international cooperation, and providing an international study environment.

International cooperation within the 'Art' field of study is based on ERASMUS+ agreements with foreign universities, and on research contacts (mainly with Lithuanian, Estonian, German, French, Dutch, and Nordic higher education institutions). In 2016, however, a group of art students from Calgary, Canada, travelled at their own expense to participate in the international sound art week 'Skaņas dienas' in Liepāja. This mobility event was organised in collaboration with PhD Shawn Pinchbeck, on faculty at Alberta College, Canada.

In preparation for the European Capital of Culture events, international contacts have been expanded and cooperation has been established with the Portuguese UNESCO creative city Braga, and for the second year in a row, 'Art' students will participate in the Aveiro MTF Labs art and technology research week dedicated to environmental topics. Informal contacts have been established with other European Capital of Culture cultural organisations, and media art and design education institutions, but contracts are still in the process of being signed.

For a list of LiepU bilateral agreements see: <https://www.liepu.lv/en/40/erasmus-partner-universities>

The main criteria for choosing international partners among businesses are:

- business sector represented, alignment with research topics;
- organisational structure, efficiency;
- duration of business, reliability;
- previous experience working with an instructor.

Collaborations are built in research and creative projects, mainly by creating transnational

platforms for the promotion of new artists and new art forms, conferences and workshops, which benefit students: contacts, excellent guest teaching staff. The teaching staff of the field of study can learn from European academic and innovation methods, including discussing regulatory frameworks in similar fields in different countries, which also helps organise process improvements, in studies and in research and innovation.

Creative collaborations within projects are with important, innovative art and design NGOs (Baltan Laboratories, Hangar Barcelona, etc.), which help to promote sharing of good practices.

The following mechanisms are used to attract foreign partners - the international relations department attracts new foreign organizations (universities, companies, etc.) by participating in international education exhibitions, international events abroad. Art teachers and staff actively use Erasmus+ mobility opportunities, which work very effectively in attracting new foreign organizations. LiepU actively uses Erasmus+ mobility grants, inviting foreign lecturers, artists, etc. representatives of the "Art" field of study.

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.

A mechanism for attracting international students and staff, developed in collaboration with the International Relations Division:

1. Attendance of educational exhibitions abroad (both online and in person), meeting with students (information brochures prepared under the SAM 8.2.1.0./18/A/010 project 'Reducing the fragmentation of study programmes, and strengthening resource sharing').
2. Visiting Erasmus partner universities abroad: every year more than 150 LiepU lecturers and staff members participate in mobility abroad, especially in Erasmus partner universities with which LiepU has established cooperation, in Mexico, Philippines, Dominican Republic, South Africa. During these mobility events, LiepU staff present LiepU to potential students.
3. Intensive work with education agents abroad, from which LiepU receives most of its students.
4. Online marketing: information about study programmes in English is posted for a fee on various search portals where potential students look for study programmes, such as, <https://www.bachelorsportal.com/> and <https://www.mastersportal.com/> [for master and bachelor programmes]
5. Via social media campaigns (Facebook, Intsgaram, Twitter, Tumblr), website in English.
6. The Latvian National Scholarship Programme reaches out to potential students, especially at master level.
7. By organising exhibitions, workshops, discussions at LiepU and online, disseminating information about them and attracting participants from the industry abroad, promoting LiepU and informing people about opportunities to study at LiepU in English. For example, the discussion 'Art and Research: Challenges and Opportunities' during COVID restrictions.

Bachelor students of New Media Art and Design actively benefit from ERASMUS+ mobility, including postgraduate internships abroad. There are not many incoming students, though: 1 to 4 per year. However, students coming from other study programmes also choose to attend the modules offered by the 'Art' field of study. The modules that attract most interest are digital art, video, and sound

art.

5–7 art lecturers every year benefit from instructor mobility. LiepU also employs 4–7 (in recent years) foreign lecturers every year. There are not many full-time international students: 1 to 5 per year. This is due to free education in Western countries like Germany and France; also, outside Europe, the Far East and America, students often have a poor understanding of new media art and creative technologies, associating it with advertising or web design. As a result, they are not prepared for higher-level studies in the arts and creative technologies, and it is not possible to admit all those interested. Therefore, it is all the more important for lecturers to engage in mobility, introducing people to the specifics of creativity and research in the 'Art' field of study at LiepU.

Bachelor's level art students are very active users of Erasmus mobilities, every year almost half of LiepU's outgoing study mobility participants are from "Art" field of study. Also, very active graduates of this field of study use the internship opportunities abroad. Art students also actively go on short-term, week-long trips, for example to a photography summer school in Lithuania, Nida, or intensive weeks at one of LiepU's partner universities. In essence, there are no difficulties, because the foreign courses the students have completed are recognized by LiepU. Lecturers and employees are very active implementers of mobilities abroad. Also, this field of study attracts the largest number of invited specialists who work at LiepU, receiving Erasmus scholarships.

Since it can be concluded that there are no difficulties. There are few master's and doctoral students, they work, so there is not so much mobility.

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.

Liepāja University 'Art' field of study was evaluated within the project 'Assessment of study programmes in higher education and proposals for improving their quality' (No 2011/0012/1DP/1.2.2.1./11/1PIA/VIAA/001). The field of study was accredited on 26 June 2013, by Decision No 234 (with the issue of first field of study accreditation sheet No 229, 26.08.2013).

The field of study is accredited until 25 June 2019. The field of study is accredited until 11 June 2019. Paragraph 48 of the Transitional Provisions of the Law on Higher Education Institutions stipulates that the accreditation period for a field of study is extended until a decision to accredit the field of study or a decision to refuse to accredit the field of study is adopted, but not later than 31 December 2023.

During the previous accreditation process, the expert commission made valuable recommendations that have been taken into account in the development and pursuit of the field of study's development strategies:

1. Cooperate with other higher education institutions in Latvia, thus prevent competition.
2. Promote growth among academic staff: hire loyal, permanent teaching staff to foster the

interconnection of study modules, hire teaching staff who are artists—modern art and design experts who actively participate in creative projects in the field of contemporary art.

3. Improve the qualifications of academic staff: English language skills, modern teaching methods.
4. Introduce a pedagogy module in study programmes.
5. Improve working spaces, creating more room for design prototyping.
6. Promote international student exchanges.
7. Encourage creative collaborative projects between students and staff.
8. Develop a strategy for raising financial resources to ensure the sustainability of the programme.
9. Increase the number of international publications.
10. More literature and periodicals on contemporary art in the library.

These recommendations were implemented or partially implemented (in response to changing political and socio-economic circumstances) during the reporting period. As a result of the recommendations and the initiative of the 'Art' field of study management and teaching staff, the language and other skills of the teaching staff were improved, and the updating of the teaching staff was stimulated by hiring experts in digital technologies and multimedia fields. Graduates of bachelor degree programmes continue their studies at a higher level, becoming researchers and academics, thus ensuring the sustainability of the field.

By actively using the opportunities of international cooperation, as well as interdisciplinary cooperation (with creative institutions), the lecturers and students of the 'Art' field actively use international exchange, as well as active participation in exhibitions; creative workshops organised at Liepāja University by international academic and creative technology business experts (in which both students and lecturers participate), as well as the attractive information collection of the Liepāja University Library, allow 'Art' lecturers to navigate and successfully participate in contemporary art at the local and international level.

The art research project manager and the LiepU Project Division, together with partners from academic, business, and creative institutions, as well as non-governmental organisations, raise project funding to ensure the sustainability of the field of study (attracting foreign academic staff, renovating the infrastructure, etc.), which could be increased in the future by redesigning the LiepU structure and increasing the capacity of the Project Division (currently understaffed). Liepāja City Council also financially supports the continued implementation of the 'Art' field of study at Liepāja University.

The growth of the field is positively viewed by students and partners, and its social relevance in the region was highly rated in the 2019 International Assessment of Scientific Institutions.

The implementation of the expert recommendations has had a positive impact on the quality of studies in the 'Art' field of study. For the results achieved, see Annex II.6.2.A

The study process has been improved - the renewal of teaching staff has made possible to attract teaching staff who live and organize contemporary art, stage art and media art activities in Liepāja, thus ensuring regularity of classes and ability to follow up development of students' creative work. Study process is connected with professional art activities in Liepāja. Exhibition rooms have been created for students' work, which allow students to learn the skills of exhibition setup. Following the recommendations, more foreign guest lecturers are attracted, thus developing an understanding of international trends in contemporary and media art. Constantly increasing quality of final theses and novelty of the research topics has followed the improvements in the study process.

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 reporting period, the following programmes were included in the accreditation sheet and licensed, and also included in this evaluation procedure:

Academic bachelor study programme 'Acting' (43212): license No 04043-74, by Decision No 43-L of 10.08.2017.

- Joint academic master study programme 'New Media and Audiovisual Art' (45213): license No 04043-75, by Decision No 53-L of 25.10.2017.
- Academic doctoral study programme 'Media Art and Creative Technologies' (51213) - by Decision of 17.03.2017.

The licensing expert commission did not see the need for significant improvements in the implementation of **the bachelor programme 'Acting'**. On the contrary: they praised the initiative of Liepāja University and the support of Liepāja City Council in creating an acting course near Liepāja Theatre, enabling the integration of the study process in the future workplace and the formation of a strong attachment to the existing acting staff. Experience shows that only one performer who completed the acting study course created at the Latvian Academy of Culture in Riga to supplement the Liepāja theatre company ended up working at Liepāja Theatre. This experience and the experience gained in the Liepāja University acting programme's implementation led the management of the 'Arts' field of study, as well as the city's cultural institutions, to set the goal of broadening the focus of the academic bachelor programme in order to train more young performing artists of a broader specialisation so much needed for the city's stages. See Annex II 6.2.A for an overview of the recommendations

The expert commission for the licensing of **the joint master study programme 'New Media and Audiovisual Art'** encouraged the two universities to work even closer together in the implementation of both study programmes and research, as well as to cooperate more with industry, identify the needs of employers, and organise greater employer involvement in the development of the study programme. Closer cooperation between module instructors is also recommended for the master studies. A more united teaching staff has been formed during implementation of the recommendations.

Up to 50% of the study process is organized remotely, which contributes to the attractiveness of the program among persons already working [in the industry] and reduces study costs.

The administration of the field of study "Art" took into account the recommendations of the expert commission and organized discussions with employers, identified the perspective of the creative industry sector in Latvia, marking it as a potential field of activity for program graduates, and also organized creative workshops together with representatives of creative industry companies, so that students could get to know the techniques, approaches used in the industry, and establish contacts. Meetings and joint creativity with representatives of creative industries (Erica Synths / Dirty Deal Audio, etc.) take place once a semester during international weeks at the University of Liepāja. In general, the study process has improved, but mutual and interdisciplinary cooperation must be strengthened constantly. The recommendations continue to be implemented by the new management of the study program (new directors of the joint study programme since 2022).

Cooperation between higher education institutions became closer during the reporting period by implementing the expert recommendations, and a joint doctoral programme was launched at both the universities.

The **joint doctoral programme ‘Media Arts and Creative Technologies’** licensing expert commission [2021] recommended further expansion of collaboration with creative industries: working with business to explore issues relevant to the sector. The teaching staff of the ‘Art’ field of study at LiepU so far was busy developing and planning cooperation projects with the municipal government, which also involved doctoral students from the joint programme: a project funded by the European Economic Area and Norway (EEA/N) grant programme ‘Research and Education’ is implemented with the Liepāja City Council Education Administration (Project identification No: NFI/IC/VIAA/2020/2

Agreement No: 9.-20.2.2.1/1, agreement concluded on: 23 July 2020. In close cooperation with the City Council’s Culture Administration, several project applications were submitted for the ‘Liepāja 2027: European Capital of Culture’ programme, which is also to involve doctoral students. These projects have a strong emphasis on the topic of sustainability, in social and environmental sense, which can also be explored through creative practice, and even through immersive experiences. Marine pollution and perception of the environment, digitisation, virtual reality for building empathy: these are some of the topics of Liepāja 2027 that are in line with the research interests of new media art and creative technology specialists. The European Capital of Culture projects will launch in 2023 with the events starting in 2025.

With the change of in the management of the ‘Arts’ field of study and the change of the heads of the RISEBA joint programmes, a more in-depth research and development of a strategy for strengthening cooperation with the creative industries business will be launched in 2022. There are also plans to set up inter-university research groups for more intensive involvement in international and national research programmes. International activities are one of the ways the programme attracts students from abroad. The quality of the study process has greatly improved, as the teaching staff improves their knowledge of the English language and acquires the C1 level of foreign language knowledge.

The implementation of the expert recommendations has had a positive impact on the quality of studies in the ‘Art’ field of study.

See Annex II.6.2.A for an overview of the implementation of the recommendations.

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)		
List of the governing regulatory enactments and regulations of the higher education institution/ college	List of the governing regulatory enactments and regulations of the higher education institution.docx	Liepājas Universitātes galvenie iekšējie normatīvie akti un regulējumi.docx
The management structure of the higher education institution/ college	The management structure of the higher education institution.pdf	LiepU struktūrhēma_28.09.2022_17 versija.pdf
II - Description of the Study Field - 2.1. Management of the Study Field		
Plan for the development of the study field (if applicable)	Plan for the development of the study field.docx	Studiju virziena attīstības plāns MĀKSLAS.docx
The management structure of the study field	Study direction structure.pdf	Studiju virziena struktūra.pdf
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.	Cooperation agreements on continuing studies at another university.pdf	Sadarbības līgumi par studiju turpināšanu citā augstskolā.pdf
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.	Attestation_1.-1.6.-367_SKENETS.pdf	Apliecinājums_1.-1.6.-368_SKENETS.pdf
Standard sample of study agreement	Sample_Study_agreement_study_field_Arts_ENG_updated.pdf	Studiju līgumu tipveida paraugi_stud_virz_Mākslas_LV_precizēts.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	6.12 Analysis of student graduate and employer survey results (1).docx	Aptauju rezultātu analīze (6.12.).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	II 3.7.A LIST OF ACADEMIC STAFF_labots.xlsx	II 3.7.A MĀCĪBSPĒKU SARAKSTS_labots.xlsx
Biographies of the teaching staff members (Curriculum Vitae in Europass format)	CV_ENG.pdf	CV_LATV.pdf
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.	27.09.2022_1.-1.6._378.edoc	27.09.2022_1.-1.6._377.edoc
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)	27.09.2022_1.-1.6._379.edoc	27.09.2022_1.-1.6._381.edoc
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 study field in the reporting period.	creative and scientific activity ART.xlsx	Radošā un zinātniskā darbība pārskata periodā (Māksla).xlsx
List of the publications, patents, and artistic creations of the teaching staff over the reporting period.	II.2.4.A. List of teachers' publications, patents, works of artistic creation_05_12.docx	II.2.4.A. Mācībsp. publ., patentu, māksl. jaunr. darbu saraksts_06_12.docx
II - Description of the Study Field - 2.5. Cooperation and Internationalisation		
List of cooperation agreements, including the agreements for providing internship	Annex II 5.1._List of cooperation agreements (1).pdf	II 5.1.pielikums_Sadarbības līgumus saraksts (1).pdf
Statistical data on the teaching staff and the students from abroad	Statistical data on the teaching staff and the students from abroad.docx	Statistikas dati par ārvalstu studentiem un mācībsp. LV.docx
Statistical data on the incoming and outgoing mobility of students (by specifying the study programmes)	Statistical data on the incoming and outgoing mobility of students_03_12.docx	Statistikas dati par studentu iezīti un izeju mobilitāti_03_12.docx
Statistical data on the incoming and outgoing mobility of the teaching staff	Statistical data on the incoming and outgoing mobility of the teaching staff_05_12.docx	Statistikas dati par mācībsp. ienākumu un izeju mobilitāti_03_12.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.	II 2.6.2 A Report on the implementation of recommendations for the study field Arts (1).docx	II 2.6.2 A Rekomendāciju ieviešana (1).docx
An application for the evaluation of the study field signed with a secure electronic signature	07.12.2022_1.-1.6._472.edoc	07.12.2022_1.-1.6._471.edoc
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
Liepājas Universitātes galvenie iekšējie normatīvie akti un regulējumi	Liepājas Universitātes galvenie iekšējie normatīvie akti un regulējumi.pdf
List of the governing regulatory enactments and regulations of the higher education institution	List of the governing regulatory enactments and regulations of the higher education institution.pdf
QMS procedure_S-6-I_ENG Development and licensing of study programmes	S-6-I_ENG_Development and licensing of study programmes.pdf
KVS procedūra_S-6-I Studiju programmu izstrāde un licencesana	S-6-I_studiju programmu izstrade un licencesana_LV.pdf
II.2.1.A_Lemums_par_LiepU_attistibas_strategijas_pagarinasanu	LiepU_attistibas_strategija_2016-2020_pagarinata_lidz_2023.gadam_25.01.2021.pdf
Liepājas Universitātes vadības personāla mācību plāns 2018.-2021.gadam	LiepU_Vadibas_personala_macibu_plans_2018-2021.pdf
LiepU_Cilvekkresursu_attistibas_plans_2018-2023_LV.pdf	LiepU_Cilvekkresursu_attistibas_plans_2018-2023_LV.pdf
LiepU_Akademiska_personala_attistibas_pasakumu_plans_2018-2022.pdf	LiepU_Akademiska_personala_attistibas_pasakumu_plans_2018-2022.pdf
LiepU_Development Plan of Academic Staff_2018-2022.pdf	LiepU_Development Plan of Academic Staff_2018-2022.pdf
LiepU_Human Resource Development Plan for 2018 -2023.pdf	LiepU_Human Resource Development Plan for 2018 -2023.pdf
LiepU Management Personnel's study plan 2018-2021	LiepU Management Personnel's study plan 2018-2021.doc
LiepU_Akademiska_personala_attistibas_pasakumu_plans_2018-2022.pdf	LiepU_Akademiska_personala_attistibas_pasakumu_plans_2018-2022.pdf
LiepU_Development Plan of Academic Staff_2018-2022.pdf	LiepU_Development Plan of Academic Staff_2018-2022.pdf
S-6-I_studiju programmu izstrade un licencesana_LV.pdf	S-6-I_studiju programmu izstrade un licencesana_LV.pdf
S-6-I_ENG_Development and licensing of study programmes.pdf	S-6-I_ENG_Development and licensing of study programmes.pdf
Liepājas Universitātes galvenie iekšējie normatīvie akti un regulējumi.docx	Liepājas Universitātes galvenie iekšējie normatīvie akti un regulējumi.docx
List of the governing regulatory enactments and regulations of the higher education institution.docx	List of the governing regulatory enactments and regulations of the higher education institution.docx
Studiju maksas atlaides 2022._2023. studiju gadam.docx	Studiju maksas atlaides 2022._2023. studiju gadam.docx
Tuition fees and tuition fee discounts for the academic year 2022_2023.docx	Tuition fees and tuition fee discounts for the academic year 2022_2023.docx
Kartiba fakultasu finansu lidzeklu pieskirsanai un izmantosanai_ar 30.03.2020.grozijumiem.doc	Kartiba fakultasu finansu lidzeklu pieskirsanai un izmantosanai_ar 30.03.2020.grozijumiem.doc
Procedure for the allocation and use of financial resources of Faculties.doc	Procedure for the allocation and use of financial resources of Faculties.doc
LZP letter for PhD studies	2023_45-32_lzp_16.01.2023 - 1-3.N-68.edoc

New Media and Audiovisual Art (45213)

Study field	Arts
ProcedureStudyProgram.Name	New Media and Audiovisual Art
Education classification code	45213
Type of the study programme	Academic master study programme
Name of the study programme director	Maija
Surname of the study programme director	Demitere
E-mail of the study programme director	maija.demitere@liepu.lv
Title of the study programme director	Mg.art.
Phone of the study programme director	29948430
Goal of the study programme	<i>The aim of the study programme: to combine resources and experience to implement a high-quality, innovative academic Master's study programme of national and international significance - "New Media and Audiovisual Arts" in the field of humanities. The specific objective of the programme is to train competitive, research-oriented professionals - artists who have a comprehensive knowledge of new technologies, audio-visual arts and digital cultural processes, as well as specific skills in the creation of works of art and innovative media products, scientific research and the implementation of creative projects, and who are competitive in the art, innovation technology and creative industries labour market. Digital technologies will be used in the production of more traditional audio-visual artworks (documentaries, television programmes, video scenography, multimedia performances, digital art installations), in the search for new art forms (augmented/virtual reality, 360-degree video, interactive narratology, immersive environments and game design) and in the development of practice-based research and digitisation of cultural processes (cultural analytics, data visualisation, archiving, etc.).</i>
Tasks of the study programme	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. To ensure a purposeful and qualitative study process, to provide students with the necessary support in knowledge and skills development and research, to attract new media professionals to the study programme and research and to initiate professional development of Liepu and RISEBA teaching staff.</i> <i>2. To develop a creative environment for the study and research of new media art and to offer a versatile, interdisciplinary academic education, to continuously upgrade the material and technical base, and to develop cooperation with the New Media Culture Centre RIXC, creative industries and contemporary culture festivals.</i> <i>3. To stimulate students' creativity in developing innovative ideas, to develop the skills and competences needed for professionalism and research, and to offer versatile opportunities for presenting research projects.</i> <i>4. To provide students with multiple opportunities to participate in the network of partner universities and organisations and the projects they initiate, to stimulate the international visibility of artistic research projects.</i> <i>5. To strengthen the understanding of a culture-based economy, to provide students with specific production and management skills in the field of new media arts.</i>

Results of the study programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Students have developed competency of research processes. Student understands and can independently use theoretical and practical methods and approaches of practice-based art research</i> • <i>Knows and can independently use basic audiovisual art techniques (approaches) and tools (software and devices).</i> • <i>Student has in-depth knowledge and ability to independently use the specific tools of their chosen field of study.</i> • <i>Students have developed creativity, entrepreneurship, and critical thinking in order to be able to identify the creative industry and market opportunities and create new products that are in demand on the market and valuable to society.</i> • <i>Student can use their management and marketing knowledge to work in the field of creative industries.</i> • <i>Students have highly developed digital competence and media literacy, which they can use independently in creativity, research and use in the labor market.</i> • <i>Students have global and civic competence, they can work in intercultural, international, and cross-industry cooperation networks.</i> • <i>The student understands academic and research ethics.</i> • <i>The student understands copyright law, data ethics and cyber security issues.</i>
Final examination upon the completion of the study programme	<i>Master's Thesis</i>

Study programme forms

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 Humanities/second level professional higher education in Humanities, Art Studies or Educational Sciences and a minimum level of B2 in English, and entrance exam</i>
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Master's degree of Humanitarian Sciences in Audiovisual and Media Arts</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	<i>-</i>

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
University of Liepāja	LIEPĀJA	LIELĀ IEĻA 14, LIEPĀJA, LV-3401

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.

Changed degree to be awarded:

Master's degree of Humanitarian Sciences in Arts in Audiovisual and Media Arts

Changes in study results:

- Students have developed competency of research processes. Student understands and can independently use theoretical and practical methods and approaches of practice-based art research
- Knows and can independently use basic audiovisual art techniques (approaches) and tools (software and devices).
- Student has in-depth knowledge and ability to independently use the specific tools of their chosen field of study.
- Students have developed creativity, entrepreneurship, and critical thinking in order to be able to identify the creative industry and market opportunities and create new products that are in demand on the market and valuable to society.
- Student can use their management and marketing knowledge to work in the field of creative industries.
- Students have highly developed digital competence and media literacy, which they can use independently in creativity, research and use in the labor market.
- Students have global and civic competence, they can work in intercultural, international, and cross-industry cooperation networks.
- The student understands academic and research ethics.
- The student understands copyright law, data ethics and cyber security issues.

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.

University of Liepaja (LiepU) and RISEBA University of Business, Arts and Technology (RISEBA) are jointly implementing a Master's degree programme in the field of Arts in the Humanities called

"New Media and Audiovisual Art". The joint programme was created on the basis of existing programmes, combining the Master's study programme "New Media Art" of the University of Liepaja and the Master's study programme "Audiovisual Media Art" of RISEBA. In a move towards higher quality education, the two universities decided in 2016 to pool their resources and create a joint programme with a more diverse offer for students.

The **title** of the study programme "New Media and Audiovisual Art" (**code** 45213) corresponds to its content and programme outcomes - Master's degree of Humanitarian Sciences in Arts (Audiovisual Arts and Media Arts).

The degree is in line with the **aim** of the study programme: to combine resources and experience to implement a high-quality, innovative academic Master's study programme of national and international significance - "New Media and Audiovisual Art" in the field of humanities. The specific objective of the programme is to train competitive, research-oriented professionals - artists who have a comprehensive knowledge of new technologies, audio-visual arts and digital cultural processes, as well as specific skills in the creation of works of art and innovative media products, scientific research and the implementation of creative projects, and who are competitive in the art, innovation technology and creative industries labour market. Digital technologies will be used in the production of more traditional audio-visual artworks (documentaries, television programmes, video scenography, multimedia performances, digital art installations), in the search for new art forms (augmented/virtual reality, 360-degree video, interactive narratology, immersive environments and game design) and in the development of practice-based research and digitisation of cultural processes (cultural analytics, data visualisation, archiving, etc.).

To achieve this goal, the following **tasks** are set:

1. To ensure a purposeful and qualitative study process, to provide students with the necessary support in knowledge and skills development and research, to attract new media professionals to the study programme and research and to initiate professional development of LiepU and RISEBA teaching staff.
2. To develop a creative environment for the study and research of new media art and to offer a versatile, interdisciplinary academic education, to continuously upgrade the material and technical base, and to develop cooperation with the New Media Culture Centre RIXC, creative industries and contemporary culture festivals.
3. To stimulate students' creativity in developing innovative ideas, to develop the skills and competences needed for professionalism and research, and to offer versatile opportunities for presenting research projects.
4. To provide students with multiple opportunities to participate in the network of partner universities and organisations and the projects they initiate, to stimulate the international visibility of artistic research projects.
5. To strengthen the understanding of a culture-based economy, to provide students with specific production and management skills in the field of new media arts.

Study results:

- Students have developed competency of research processes. Student understands and can independently use theoretical and practical methods and approaches of practice-based art research
- Knows and can independently use basic audiovisual art techniques (approaches) and tools (software and devices).
- Student has in-depth knowledge and ability to independently use the specific tools of their chosen field of study.
- Students have developed creativity, entrepreneurship, and critical thinking in order to be

able to identify the creative industry and market opportunities and create new products that are in demand on the market and valuable to society.

- Student can use their management and marketing knowledge to work in the field of creative industries.
- Students have highly developed digital competence and media literacy, which they can use independently in creativity, research and use in the labor market.
- Students have global and civic competence, they can work in intercultural, international, and cross-industry cooperation networks.
- The student understands academic and research ethics.
- The student understands copyright law, data ethics and cyber security issues.

The study programme is implemented in a modular system of **80 CP**. The choice of the programme was determined by the previous level of education at the University of Liepaja, which amounted to 120 CP. The duration of these full-time study programmes is 5 years. The Master's programme amounting to 80 CP consists of Integrated (Part A) modules of 40 CP, Specialisation (Part B) modules with 4 directions of 20 CPs and a Master's thesis of 20 CPs. 2 specialisation fields - "Audiovisual Media" and "Multimedia Performing Arts" are held in Riga and administered by RISEBA, and the other 2 specialisation fields - "Digital Arts" and "Sound Arts and Electronic Music" are held in Liepaja and administered by the Liepaja University.

The scope of the study programme is optimal for an academic study programme - to provide insight into the theories, history and methodology of the field of science, as well as to provide specific knowledge, skills and competences in areas of specialisation.

To further develop research and provide a full-cycle media arts education, the two universities have also developed a joint PhD programme: "Media Arts and Creative Technologies". The Master's programme thus provides a link between the first (Bachelor's) and higher (PhD) levels of study.

The Master's programme draws on the European Commission's Education and Culture study "The Impact of Culture on Creativity" and other relevant studies, as well as the strategic documents of the universities involved. The Master's programme was developed by a working group of academics from both universities, with the support of external experts, who were selected to reflect the specificities of both the audio-visual media and new media arts fields. In the development of the joint programme, the universities have taken into account the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia's objective that the educational programmes offered by Latvian universities should be consolidated in order to avoid overlaps, be more competitive, merge and use resources more efficiently.

The programme "New Media and Audiovisual Art", jointly implemented by LiepU and RISEBA, focuses on research based on creative practices and the transformative potential of digital technologies. The Master's programme offers advanced studies in the use of digital technologies in new media environments and audio-visual arts. Alongside more traditional art and media production practices, innovative forms such as expanded and virtual reality, 360-degree cinema, cultural analytics, data visualisation, etc. will be developed.

Although there are separate programmes in multimedia, visual communication, computer graphics, design, etc. in Latvia, this Master's programme has a unique setting, covering both art and research in digital environments - with an emphasis on data visualisation and cultural analytics - and audio-visual media and multimedia performance production skills - with an emphasis on interactive narratology, 360-degree video and virtual reality.

The development and activities of the "New Media and Audiovisual Art" programme are aligned with the sustainable development planning documents of the Kurzeme region, as well as with the

"Liepaja City Sustainable Development Strategy 2030", which marks Liepaja as an education, science and research centre, as well as a cultural and creativity centre, closely related to the development of creative industries. The development of the programme is based on the National Development Plan 2030 and the Sustainable Development Strategy 2030 of Latvia, which emphasises the interdisciplinarity of studies and the concept of creativity education. Education is seen in this strategy as the acquisition of specific competences and qualifications, as well as the development of critical thinking, creativity and cooperation skills and, more generally, of human talents, emotional and social intelligence. The "New Media and Audiovisual Art" study programme is in line with this strategy, as it is both interdisciplinary and grounded in creativity and innovation.

The "New Media and Audiovisual Art" programme is in line with Priority 4 of the Smart Specialisation Strategy "Development of a modern and up-to-date ICT system in the private and public sectors". This priority corresponds to the specialisation area "Information and Communication Technologies", which also includes new media sphere. The role of new media in creating digital content resources and in helping to develop collaborative work between ICT and other sectors (developing language technologies, digitising cultural and educational content, etc.). In today's situation, where the role of Information Technology has increased in all spheres of human activity, new media specialists are visualising data, 3D printing (prototyping), creating expanded reality, video mapping systems, operating unmanned video cameras (drones). In this way, the arts sector contributes to the objectives of the Smart Specialisation Strategy.

New media education and related creative industries are developing rapidly worldwide and are considered one of the most promising economic sectors. At a time of economic crisis in Europe, when a number of traditional industries were declining, the creative industries continued to grow strongly.

The study format is varied - it includes lectures, seminars and laboratory work. Studies are conducted in English on weekday evenings and weekends. Study with foreign guest lecturers on a more intensive schedule - all week with results. The study process also includes two annual festivals - the annual international new media week "Update" in November in Liepaja in collaboration with the RIXC Arts and Science Festival and "Sound Days" in May/June in Liepaja.

Admission requirements

Bachelor's degree in Humanities or 2nd level professional higher education in Humanities, Social Sciences, Arts, Education or other disciplines and a minimum level of B2 in English language and entrance examinations.

Criteria for the admission/entrance examination competition

Entrance examination: Master's thesis application - a creative research project in one of the specialisations offered by the programme: audiovisual media, multimedia performances, digital art, sound art/electronic music. The project is developed in the context of the expected Master's thesis. Applicants are required to develop their application in one of the chosen fields of specialisation. *

Entrance test: Creative activity portfolio - showcase a choice of 3-5 works, projects, prototypes, commissions or research projects in new media art, audiovisual art, sound art.

In the case of a competition, if the sum of the grades in the admission requirements is equal, the average grade in all subjects in the supplement to the higher education document (transcript of results) is taken into account.

*Specialisation courses "Audiovisual Media and Multimedia Performing Arts" are held in Riga and administered by RISEBA, while specialisation courses "Digital Art and Sound Art" and "Electronic Music" are held in Liepāja and administered by LiepU.

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

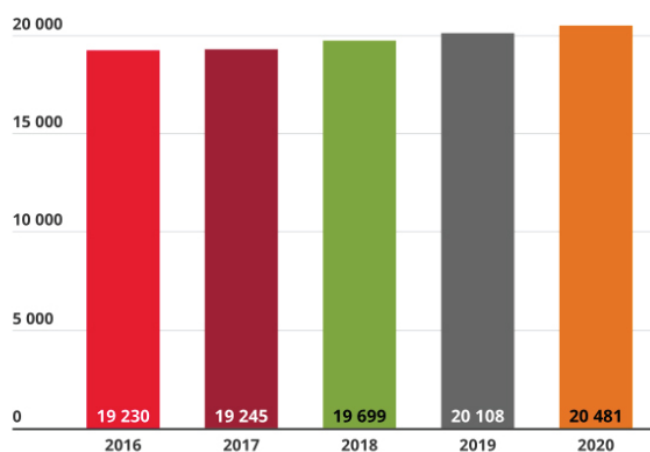
The studies lead to a higher education diploma – Master's degree of Humanitarian Sciences in Arts in Audiovisual and Media Arts.

Graduates of the programme have the opportunity to continue their studies at PhD level and/or choose different areas of the creative industries in the labour market. As a result, upon completion of their Master's studies, students become professional new media artists and socially active citizens who have received an innovative and high-quality new media arts education and who are also able to compete in the labour market, as they have the necessary specific knowledge and skills in working with various new media technologies, as well as management and marketing knowledge.

The future labour market is expected to have a high demand for professionals in engineering, ICT, software developers, augmented and virtual reality systems developers, data analysis, systems analysis. All these areas require high cognitive abilities, critical thinking, high-level literacy, media literacy and information processing skills. (source: CEDEFOP Skills intelligence data <https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/skills-intelligence/>). The European Commission highlights the potential of the creative industries: cultural and creative industries are essential for the continued development of society and are at the heart of the creative economy. Creative industries are knowledge-intensive and rely on individual creativity and talent to generate significant economic wealth. It should also be mentioned that people working in the creative industries represent and promote a common European identity, culture and values. In economic terms, the creative industries are showing above-average growth and creating jobs, especially for young people. (source: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cros/content/essnet-generalities_en, <https://culture.ec.europa.eu/cultural-and-creative-sectors/cultural-and-creative-sectors>).

Data from the Latvian Ministry of Culture show that the number of companies in the creative industries is growing steadily. See visualisation of MoC data. This is an area in constant need of innovation and therefore of dedicated, research- and innovation-competent staff and partners.

The number of companies working in the creative industries and related industries



Until now, the new media and audiovisual art professionals who have graduated from the study

program work as self-employed creatives, educators, teaching staff at universities, also in the field of social entrepreneurship, creating exhibition works, books, compositions, etc.

In an interview with the manager of the Liepāja Digital Innovation Park and advisor to the Liepāja City Council in the field of IT and smart digital solutions, Agate Ambulte, who plans and expands Liepāja municipality's cooperation with ICT and creative product companies, she says that "it is easier to train an artist in technology than to teach art to an engineer," emphasizing that education in new media and audiovisual arts at the master's and later doctoral level is necessary. Although the industry is currently still in the development stage in this sector in Latvia, an "explosion" is expected in 3 years and a great demand for specialists in the development of VR/AR products, as well as in the research of art and machine learning processes. You have to be ready for it. Artists make products and complex processes understandable and attractive to a wider audience.

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 two-year Master's study programme "New Media and Audiovisual Art" currently has 15 students, 6 of them in the LiepU-administered study fields "Digital Arts" and "Sound Art and Electronic Music". The number of students in the joint study programme is sufficient for a successful study process, but there is a continuous need to promote the programme and explain the study process, encouraging potential applicants that the programme is also suitable for applicants from other sectors (e.g., teachers). During their studies, students are provided with sufficient information on sources for updating their technical knowledge, and may join undergraduate modules to acquire specific technical knowledge and to integrate into masters student groups.

1-2 students per year leave the programme of their own volition, most often during the first semester, while 6 students have been expelled for academic failure during the COVID-19 restriction period. Up to 10% of students are exmatriculated before graduation, which is in line with the norm (up to 25% of early exmatriculates) used in the planning documents of the University of Liepāja Council. Following discussions with the teaching staff, the introduction of a more even timetable of classes and assignments during the academic year has helped to reduce the number of early exmatriculates.

The number of students in the joint Master's programme is in line with the art programmes, but is set to increase with marketing and international relations activities.

Dynamics of the number of students enrolled in the academic Master's study programme "New Media and Audiovisual Art" for the period from the academic year 2018/2019 to the academic year 2021/2022

Statistical data on students in the LiepU study programme

Reporting year	Total number of students Duration (years, month), Language	Study year				Of the total number of students		Exmatriculated		Graduates	The country from which the foreign student came
		1.	2.	3.	4.	Study at the expense of the state budget	Study by private fund	Upon his/her own will	Of inattendance		
2018./2019.	8 of them 1 foreign student	3	5	0	0	7	1	0	0	4	Pakistan
2019./2020.	15 of them 5 foreign student	12	3	0	0	10	5	1	0	2	Pakistan Bangladesh
2020./2021.	13 of them 3 foreign student	6	7	0	0	11	2	0	6	5	India Turkey
2021./2022.	7 of them 1 foreign student	3	4	0	0	6	1	1		2	India

Statistical data on students in the RISEBA study programme

Reporting year	Total number of students Duration (years, month), Language	Study year				Of the total number of students		Exmatriculated		Graduates	The country from which the foreign student came
		1.	2.	3.	4.	Study at the expense of the state budget	Study by private fund	Upon his/her own will	Of inattendance		
2018./2019.	9 of them 2 foreign student	4	5	-	-	-	9	2	-	2	Russia Turkey
2019./2020.	8 of them 1 foreign student	5	3	-	-	-	8	2	-	2	Russia
2020./2021.	11 of them 3 foreign student	6	5	-	-	-	11	3	-	5	United States of America Russia Uzbekistan

2021./2022.	10 of them 5foreign student	4	6	-	-	-	10	2	-	4	United States of America Russia Uzbekistan India Iran
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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).

On 14 September 2016, a cooperation agreement was signed with RISEBA, the aim of which is to create a high-standard study process by jointly implementing RISEBA Master's study programme "Audiovisual Media Art" and University of Liepaja Master's study programme "New Media Art" in order to reduce competition, create sustainable student groups and active exchange of ideas between media art experts from both universities, promoting the development of the field. Under this agreement, the joint implementation of the two programmes started in 2016/2017, as well as work on the joint Master's programme licensing documents. The joint programme was built on existing programmes. A working group was set up, based on the criteria set by the participating universities, to develop a programme that both reflects the specificities of the audio-visual and new media fields and, as successfully as possible, incorporates new specialisations that will enrich the programme.

In the academic year 2017 the academic Master's study programme "New Media and Audiovisual Art" (code 45213) was licensed (Licensing Commission Decision No 53-L of 25 October 2017).

The joint Master's programme was launched in the 2017/2018 academic year. It is based on a cooperation agreement. The Programme Board coordinates the start-up and implementation of the programme.

The strategic goal of the partner university - RISEBA - is to become an internationally recognised university of business, arts and technology. The following strategic development priorities have been defined for the successful implementation of the University's strategy, in line with the development and reform of the unified European higher education system (in line with the objectives of the Bologna Process):

1. Further internationalisation of the university;
2. Science development;
3. Development of academic staff;
4. Consolidation of the range of study programmes in line with current trends and future challenges;
5. Continuous improvement in the quality of training;
6. Improving relations with graduates;
7. Developing lifelong learning;
8. Strengthening the University's brand;
9. Promoting social responsibility.

These priorities are set in line with the mission, vision and values of the University.

In accordance with the RISEBA strategy and its priorities, specific strategic goals and objectives have been defined for the higher education institution, as well as deadlines, responsible persons, methodology and criteria for measuring the achievement of the objectives.

The study direction "Art" is implemented at the University from the academic year 2008/2009. This direction continued the diversification of the study directions already offered by the University, complementing the traditional business programmes with communication, art and then architecture programmes. This is the path to the University's vision of becoming a university of business, arts and technology in the future.

The new slogan of the University was "Art in Business - Business in Art" or "Business Meets Art". In this context, the Arts programme has so far included a Bachelor's degree programme in Audiovisual Media Arts and a Master's degree programme in New Media and Audiovisual Art. The professional Bachelor's degree programme prepares audio-visual professionals such as television and film producers, television directors, television cameramen and scriptwriters. The Master's programme offers the opportunity to acquire specialist knowledge in the audio-visual field, complemented by the study of the latest trends and technologies under the guidance of professionals in the field and renowned lecturers from abroad, as well as the opportunity to study the production of audio-visual works.

The prospects for the development of the study programme are related to the possibilities of interdisciplinary development in the fields of media arts and creative technologies, based not only on the intellectual and material resources of both joint programme implementers (LiepU and RISEBA), but also on the possibilities of sharing intellectual and material resources of local and international cooperation partners.

LiepU and RISEBA provide equivalent technical and academic competences in their basic education programmes, therefore RISEBA and LiepU are also equal partners in the development of a joint Master's programme, which corresponds to education code 45213 (Audiovisual and Media Arts).

Regulations on the national standard of academic education. No. 240; (13.05.2014)	LiepU and RISEBA master's study program "New Media and Audiovisual Art"
The volume of the master's study program is at least 40 CP	The total amount of the Master's study program is 80 CP
In full-time studies, no less than 30% of the volume of the master's study program consists of contact hours	The planned amount of contact hours for 1 CP is 12 academic hours, as well as 3 academic hours for each module for taking the final exam

<p>Study of theoretical findings and approbation of theoretical findings in the aspect of current problems of the chosen sub-field of science (at least 24 CP)</p>	<p>Study of the theoretical knowledge of the field chosen by the branch or sub-branch (total 10 CP):</p> <p>Module (5 CP) CONCEPTUAL THINKING AND PRACTICE-BASED RESEARCH (administered by LiepU)</p> <p>Module (5 KRP) MEDIA THEORY AND RESEARCH METHODS (administered by LiepU)</p> <p>Approbation of theoretical findings in the field of science or in the aspect of current problems of the chosen sub-sector (30 CP in total):</p> <p>Module (5 CP) AUDIO CULTURE (administered by LiepU)</p> <p>Module (10 CP) VISUAL CULTURE AND THE NEW MEDIA AESTHETICS (administered by RISEBA)</p> <p>Module (5 CP) CREATIVE INDUSTRIES (administered by RISEBA)</p> <p>Module (10 CP) INTERACTIVE ART AND MULTIMEDIA PERFORMANCES (administered by RISEBA)</p>
<p>Specialization (4 fields) (at least 20 CP)</p>	<p>Module (20 KRP) AUDIOVISUAL MEDIA ART (administered by RISEBA)</p> <p>Module (20 KRP) MULTIMEDIA STAGE ARTS (administered by RISEBA)</p> <p>Module (20 KRP) SOUND DESIGN AND ACOUSTIC ARTS (administered by LiepU)</p> <p>Module (20 KRP) ART AND RESEARCH IN DIGITAL ENVIRONMENTS (administered by LiepU)</p>
<p>Master's thesis (20 CP)</p>	<p>Master's thesis (20 CP)</p>
<p>A master's thesis is a research work in which the master's student has conducted independent research and made science-based conclusions or developed research-based creative work.</p>	<p>The master's thesis consists of an independently conducted scientific study, designed in accordance with the regulations issued by the university, and the practical part - documentation, the necessary conceptual and technical description is included in the edition of the master's thesis; the developed work of art is presented in an exhibition, concert, performance or any other creative presentation.</p>

If the student has not learned the requirements set out in the Law on Environmental Protection and the Law on Civil Defense in a lower-level study program, he learns it in addition to the master's study program.

The study course "Environment and civil protection" is offered in the amount of 2 CP in the 1st study semester.

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.

Digital technologies have now entered all areas of society, on the one hand opening up new opportunities and, on the other, increasing complexity. This new situation calls for new kinds of knowledge and approaches, as cultural research, film and media production and distribution, the process of art making, forms and modes of exhibition continue to change and transform as a result of digitisation. Arts and other creative practices using audio-visual media and digital technologies have a hitherto under-exploited potential for research and the creation of new knowledge. It is important to offer an academic programme in Latvia that seeks to combine theory with practice, thus contributing to the development of art as a field of research. New media education and related creative industries are developing rapidly around the world. In Latvia, too, there is a great interest in new media as a tool in artistic and cultural processes, among artists, young people, partner universities and experts in Europe and elsewhere.

There is a need in Latvia for new media specialists - artists and producers who are educated and skilled in creative practical work with new media technologies (from digital video to mobile communications). This programme trains students in the tools and skills of various new media (interactive, multimedia, sound, network, etc.) to create works of art.

The cornerstone of this programme is research - art is also researched, but the main approach is to consider art as a form of research, which in new media art means that the artist is not only the creator of the artwork, but also the researcher and reflector of new tools, media, technologies, social processes, scientific discoveries, etc.

The study process integrates (Part A) modules of 40 CP, Specialisation (Part B) modules with 4 compulsory options of 20 CP, and a Master's thesis of 20 CP. Both integrated (A) and specialisation (B) modules combine theory and practice. Integrated A modules are held for all specialisations

together in Riga (75%) and Liepaja (25%), but the tasks are differentiated, adapting the final tasks to the respective specialisation and the topic of the Master's thesis chosen by the student. Specialisation B modules are held separately for each of the 4 specialisation areas: 1. Audiovisual Media Arts and 2. Multimedia Performing Arts are held in Riga and administered by RISEBA; 3. Digital Arts, and 4. Sound Art and Electronic Music are held in Liepāja and administered by University of Liepaja.

Specialisation modules such as "Digital Art" and "Sound Art and Electronic Music" are designed to cover the latest approaches to art and related theories.

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 order to obtain the academic Master's degree in Humanitarian Sciences, the student defends a Master's thesis, which is in accordance with the rules developed by LiepU and RISEBA. The Master's thesis includes a chapter describing and validating an original work of art, series of works or product of sufficient size, created as part of the student's research.

The Master's thesis in the Art programmes is an independent artistic research, which is complemented by an original artwork/project or design object/project developed by the student, thematically related to the theoretical part. The aim of the Master's thesis is to explore a topical issue in depth and to propose a creative, innovative solution in the relevant field of art, using a practice-based art research methodology. In his Master's thesis the author demonstrates the ability to use academic knowledge to develop research, as well as the ability to combine his creative work with theory and to reflect on it using different art and media theories, as well as demonstrating a broader knowledge of the art context and the work of other artists (working in a similar field).

The rules on the presentation of final theses and the assessment criteria can be found online: https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/dokumenti/studentiem/HMZF_zin%C4%81tnisko_%20darbu_noteikumi2020.pdf (only Latvian)

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 Master studies takes place every week on Thursday and Friday afternoons, as well as on Saturday. The first semester of studies takes place in Riga, at the RISEBA School of Business, Art

and Technology. After that, students start to study the Option B modules, and in LiepU-administered courses, studies also take place in Liepāja and/or online, especially during COVID-19 gathering restrictions.

Study modules that take place in Liepaja University premises:

Digital Art

Sound Art and Electronic Music

Study modules that take place in RISEBA premises:

Conceptual Thinking and Practice Based Research

Audio Culture

Visual Culture and New Media Aesthetics

Creative Industries

Interactive Art and Multimedia Performances

Media Theory and Research Methods

Audiovisual Media Art

Multimedia Performing Arts

Descriptions of the methods used to deliver the courses are included in the module descriptions, which are published both in students' personal profiles in the LAIS database and in the e-learning environment Moodle. In addition, at the beginning of each module, students are introduced to the credit requirements, the theoretical knowledge to be acquired and the list of practical work and assignments to be completed in order to obtain a grade.

The main methods of study are lectures, seminars, discussions, tests, practical work, independent work, research, creative and project work. Alongside traditional forms of work (lectures, seminars), interactive forms of study such as group work, various types of discussions, problem-oriented studies, creative methods of group and individual work, studies using online and other multimedia tools, Internet sites are practised.

Each task has a weighting in the final grade. Assessment methods are varied, depending on the specifics of the study course and the requirements set, which are reflected in the descriptions of the study course in the system of achievable results and intermediate examinations and tests. The system of mid-term examinations ensures continuous summative assessment throughout the course of study, which contributes to the development and provision of feedback. Formative assessment and collegial assessment are also used to assess learning achievements: teacher-student, student-student, student-student group, etc. The assessment system is designed to enable students to use a variety of assessment methods and to gain experience in assessing their professional performance. All professional specialisation modules include a variety of tasks to build and develop professional skills, and in these modules students present performance of specific creative tasks.

At the end of each module, a test is organised in the form of an exam/assessment with a grade. The overall assessment of the study work is based on a summative system, which provides for the

gradual formation of the final assessment from a number of student's work in each study module. Methods of implementation and evaluation of study courses of the study programme are implemented in accordance with the University of Liepaja Regulations on Study Course / Module Examinations (https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/dokumenti/studentiem/Regulations%20for%20Course_Module%20Examinations.pdf)

The deliverables of the study modules of the study programme "New Media and Audiovisual Art" are reflected in the content of the study modules and are closely related to the overall aims, objectives and deliverables of the study programme. The relevance of the course outcomes to the study programme outcomes can be ascertained through the mapping of study modules. This confirms that the study process produces new media and audio-visual artists who, using theoretical knowledge in the field of new media and audiovisual art, knowledge and skills in working with new media technologies, as well as knowledge in marketing and management, are able to work independently, professionally and creatively as new media artists, audio-visual media art producers and creative entrepreneurs in line with contemporary requirements.

The principles of student-centred education are applied in the organisation of the study process: 1) the formulation of aims and objectives of study modules, which promote students' understanding of the overall objectives of the study programme; 2) the formulation of learning outcomes, which promote dialogue between lecturers and students on study content, forms and methods of organisation, students' understanding and co-responsibility for their own learning, self-assessment and understanding of the assessment received.

Students receive regular support and feedback from lecturers and are informed about the assessment criteria. Communication between lecturers and students takes place in the classroom, in individual consultations, via email or online tools, 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).

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 Master's theses are topical, with an **average** mark of between 8 and 9 for the final theses in the reporting period. Students explore and practice, for example, sustainable art practices, tactical media to update data security, and spatialisation techniques for multi-channel sound compositions. Most of the final works are of high artistic and/or social value, but there are also studies of practical application, such as **Visualising Subjective Attitudes: social data art practice in the context of secondary school education** or **Interactive Communication between Artist, Artwork, Visitor and Curator in Virtual Galleries**.

Exmatriculation year	Thesis name
2014	<i>Environmental art practice: research project "Apis mellifera"</i>
	<i>Manipulation of time in video art</i>
	<i>Interaction of different temporal structures in sound organisation</i>
2015	<i>Unmasking the network</i>
	<i>Sustainability as "slow" media art</i>
	<i>Experiment No 1 - Generative sculptures</i>
	<i>Artists' interventions in public space as a means of artistic expression. Happenings and tactical media.</i>
	<i>The sound spectrum as a material for art: the development of techniques based on the sound spectrum in sound art</i>
2016	<i>Interpreting the Dainas Cabinet in the context of visual communication</i>
	<i>Visualising subjective attitudes: social data art practices in the context of secondary education</i>

2017	<i>Representing the food chain in sustainable art: Mapping the "direct purchase" network</i>
	<i>Mental disorders as a source of musical composition</i>
2018	<i>Awareness of Privacy in the Art Practice of Pēteris Riekstiņš</i>
	<i>Fennobahia: Telematic Art in Imagining Translocal Political Agency among Civil Societies of Finland and State of Bahia</i>
	<i>The meaning of immersion in the electroacoustic composition "Burtnieki Sounds"</i>
2019 (joint programme, LiepU students)	<i>Interactive communication between artist, artwork, visitor and curator in virtual galleries</i>
	<i>The play environment as an engaging playground: exploring play</i>
	<i>Using collective intelligence in art</i>
	<i>An acousmatic immersive sound installation. BIM-IN-(m)E</i>
2020 (joint programme, LiepU students)	<i>Brainwave virtual reality video interface</i>
	<i>Sonic placemaking approach based soundwalk in Liepāja pet cemetery</i>

2021
(joint programme,
LiepU students)

Dirty laundry in the port. VR data visualisation of particulate matter deposition on hanging laundry from air pollution in the port area

Stages of Grief. Aesthetic representation of emotions in an abstract art computer game

Dream realism in 3D

The role of immersive experiences in socially oriented art projects

Augmented reality in cyberspace

Graduates of the study program have published their artworks created as part of the master's thesis in the augmented reality application ART+ (artplus.app): Marta Gūtmane, Haralds Dravnieks, Undīne Celitāne. Two of them are available online:

<https://artplus.app/map/?artwork=gutmane-dirty-laundry&location=liepaja>

<https://artplus.app/map/?artwork=celitane-time-portraits&location=kuldiga>

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.

One of the aims of this joint study programme is to pool resources so that students have access to a wider range of resources at both universities. RISEBA's study process is carried out in one of the largest and most modern university audio-visual media centres in the Baltics. For a more detailed description of the resources of the "Arts" field of study, including those provided in cooperation with RISEBA, please refer to the **information provided in criteria 2.3.1 - 2.3.3 of Part II, Chapter 3.**

Resources available for the study programme at the LiepU

LiepU study programme "Media Arts and Creative Technologies" is implemented in cooperation with RISEBA university of applied arts, LiepU MPLab and other LiepU departments in a unified system. LiepU material and technical base is available for both students and teaching staff. More about the equipment available at MPLab one can read in the description of the field of study "Art", point 2.3. "Resources"

Resources available for joint study programmes with RISEBA:

Since the establishment of the university, RISEBA has significantly expanded the premises for its study process. In 2017, the total area of the premises was 11350.61 m². The study process at RISEBA takes place in three buildings in Riga: at Meža iela 3, Meža iela 1/6, and Durbes iela 4 (H2O6 RISEBA Architecture and Media Centre, part of the Riga Creative Quarters). The building at Durbes iela 4 is adapted for people with disabilities.

All classrooms are equipped with visual display equipment and powerful stationary video projectors. A total of 204 computers with Windows operating system and 82 Apple computers are used for teaching at RISEBA in classrooms, computer labs and assembly rooms. 198 computer-assisted learning places are equipped for the study process, of which 137 are available directly to students. All RISEBA computers are connected to the local university computer network and the Internet. Wireless internet access (Wi-Fi) is available in the premises of the University. Internet speeds are 200 Mbps in Latvia and 100 Mbps abroad.

Various multimedia technical facilities are used for the preparation and demonstration of multimedia presentations and teaching materials, as well as for data processing: a conference room with LCD projector, large screen and sound device; 36 classrooms, each equipped with a stationary LCD projector, screen and computer; 5 portable projectors; 5 laptops that could be used with the portable projectors without additional stationary equipment.

Lecture recording facilities at the university are provided in 2 lecture auditoriums - Meža iela, where lecture recording facilities are based on Panopto video recording, management and streaming system and Architecture and Media Centre H2O6 (Durbes iela 4), where lecture recording facilities are based on Blackmagicdesign and Thomson Video Networks VS7000 video streaming system. In addition, the university has the possibility to provide lecture recording with mobile multi-camera equipment (Live GV Director Nonlinear Live Production System), which provides recording and broadcasting with 8 cameras (Sony FS700 series cameras with special SLOW MOTION function and 4K video format).

Since academic year 2012/2013 the study process also takes place in the new building - Architecture and Media Centre H2O6 (Durbes iela 4), where students have access to: photography studio (equipped with stationary BOWENS Gemini 750 and 400Rx lighting equipment), sound recording studio (equipped with stationary Yamaha N16, ALLEN&HEATH Q16 audio recording and editing equipment), video studio (equipped with stationary ARRI lighting equipment, MOLE-RICHARDSON-CO spotlights, dressing room, make-up room, props and costumes storage), three video editing studios (50 workstations - Apple computers with Apple Final Cut, Apple Logic and Adobe Creative Suite software), two video editing workrooms (one with 2 workstations and 2 Apple computers with Apple Final Cut, Apple Logic and Adobe Creative Suite software and one with 4 workstations and 4 Apple computers with Apple Final Cut software, Apple Logic and Adobe Creative Suite software) for students' independent work, an acting room with a Thomson Video Networks VS7000 video streaming system, a multi-camera Live GV Director Nonlinear Live Production System with 8-camera recording and streaming capability, equipped with Sony FS700 series cameras with SLOW MOTION function and 4K video format). For classes and independent work, students and faculty have access to: professional video cameras with additional equipment, digital video cameras, digital still and SLR cameras, photo and video lighting kits, professional microphone kits and other audio-visual equipment.

In 2011, RISEBA implemented the ERP system Hansa World for Enterprise (HW), which is widely used for the management of companies' financial resources. RISEBA has signed a contract with a HW supplier for the adaptation of the system to the requirements of the university's business and study process and support in maintaining the system. In April 2013, RISEBA launched an online

portal for students' grades. The HW is integrated with the e-learning platform MOODLE, resulting in regular synchronisation between the two systems of personal student data, data on study programmes and courses.

The library of RISEBA University of Business, Arts and Technology provides support for study processes and scientific activities, as well as information services for students and academic staff. Since 17 June 2016, RISEBA Library has been accredited by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia and has acquired the status of a library of local importance.

The library's premises in Meža iela 3 cover 453 m². It has a large reading room with 32 workstations and a computer room with 6 computer workstations. For the convenience of students, RISEBA Library has two branches - at the Architecture and Media Centre in Riga Durbes iela 4 and at the RISEBA Daugavpils branch in Daugavpils, Mihoelsa iela 47. The branch available in Daugavpils is important for students who do not live in Riga or Liepāja, but closer to Daugavpils.

In order to provide opportunities for independent work of students and research activities of teaching staff, the library offers databases subscribed by the University: Ebsco , WOS , Emerald , Leta.lv, Nozare.lv, as well as trial data bases Scopus , Ebrary , Passport GMID , ScienceDirect , RUBRICON , ProQuest , EBSCO eBook etc.

Since 2010, RISEBA has been included in the National Unified Library Information System. Students can also use databases offered by libraries of other universities (LU, RTU, RSU, EKA, etc.). The library has an electronic catalogue of the ALEPH system. Students and lecturers have the possibility to use the services of the Interlibrary Loan (ILL) and the International Interlibrary Loan (IILL).

The RISEBA library has more than 25 000 sources of information - monographs, reference books, press publications in Latvian and foreign languages, CD-ROMs. 60% of the library's books and other information items are in English, 15% in Latvian and 25% in Russian.

The library offers English-language magazines - Harvard Business Review, Blumberg Business Week, The Economist, Forbes, Frame, DETAIL, A10 and others. Periodicals in Latvian and Russian are widely represented. The Library has a cooperation agreement with Harvard Business Publishing . Teaching staff can order the resources they need to study the programme. The library collection is regularly updated and developed according to the specialisations studied at RISEBA.

Special attention is paid to providing study programmes with teaching and information materials, therefore the library also serves as an archive of final theses and lecture materials developed by the students of the University.

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).

RISEBA does not receive any state budget funds to support the study process, so its income comes mainly from tuition fees. The University of Liepaja, on the other hand, will raise both state budget funds and tuition fees. The amount of tuition fees and the payment procedure for each academic year shall be determined by the Joint Programme Council of the two universities and approved by the Senate of each university.

The calculation of the projected costs of the study programme "New Media and Audiovisual Art" for full-time studies for the years 2022-2023 is based on the base costs for 2022 (EUR 1630.11 per one study place) and the coefficient of the thematic area of education "Audiovisual Media Art" and "Design" established by the Ministry of Education: 3.9, as well as the cost coefficient for academic Master level study programmes: 1.5. The cost per study place in 2022 is EUR 9 536.14, and the total cost for 2 years is EUR 19 072.28. The number of study places funded by the state budget in 2022 is 7.

The tuition fee for full-time studies for the first year of the academic year 2022/2023 approved by the LiepU Council is EUR 3 620 and it remains unchanged for the whole study period, the total tuition fee for 2 years is EUR 7 240. The programme is implemented in cooperation with Riga International School of Economics and Business Administration (RISEBA) and the tuition fees are the same.

The financial resources are invested in the study process, the development and maintenance of the material and technical base, as well as in covering the general expenses of higher education institutions. The mutual settlement of the part of the study programme between the two higher education institutions is determined by the mutual cooperation agreement. The main point of reference is the amount of study in terms of credits carried out at each university. For mutual settlements, 1 CP in monetary terms is calculated as €75. The percentage of the funds raised will be invested in roughly the following proportions: 60% academic and administrative staff salaries, 30% technical investments, 20% general administrative expenses. As an example of technical investment, RISEBA invests around EUR 70 000 annually in audio-visual technology to purchase the latest computer software, filming and editing equipment for audio-visual works. University of Liepaja invests about EUR 7 000 annually to improve the material base of the Art Research Laboratory, which was established with EEA/Norway Financial Instrument funds.

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 faculty members involved in the study programme are from the creative industries, practicing artists, practitioners in the field of new media and audio-visual arts. The teaching staff are renowned experts and professionals in the field, both in Latvia and internationally. The programme is also supported by a teaching staff that is able to provide an academic framework and enable students to learn current research methods, data processing, etc. The expertise of the teaching staff is described in the table below.

The teaching staff is able to provide practice-based conceptual and theoretical each in their specialty to prepare students for the creative process and the labor market.

Teaching staff table

Name, surname	Degree + Latvian Council of Science (LZP) expert (term, field)	Position (elected, institution)	Expertise
Anita Jansone	Dr.sc.comp. LZP Expert (until 31.03.2024, Engineering and Technology - Electrical Engineering, Electronics, Information and Communication Technology)	Professor (University of Liepaja)	Software engineering, data quality, business process modelling, information technology, e-learning technologies
Zanda Gūtmane	Dr. philol.	Professor (University of Liepaja)	History of writing and literature, processes, recent features, criticism
Inta Klāsone	Dr.paed. LZP Expert (until 17.06.2023, Social Sciences - Educational Sciences)	Professor (University of Liepaja)	Research, art history, visual language,
Diāna Laiveniece	Dr.paed.	Professor (University of Liepaja)	Applied Linguistics, Research Methodology
Ilva Skulte	Dr. philol. LZP Expert (until 04.11.2023, Social Sciences - Media and communication)	Assoc.prof. (Riga Stradiņš University)	Semiotics, philosophy, media theory, research

Rasa Šmite	Dr.sc.soc.	Assoc.prof. (University of Liepaja)	New Media Art, Media Art Theory, Contemporary Art History and Current Affairs
Raitis Šmits	Dr. art.	Assoc.prof. (Art Academy of Latvia)	Exhibiting, archiving, history of new media art
Signe Mežinska	Dr. philol. LZP Expert (until 01.09.2024, Social Sciences - Sociologu and social work)	Assoc.prof. (University of Latvia)	Research methodology, ethics
Chris Hales	Ph.D.	Lecturer	Research methodology, interactive media, video, art installations
Ellen Pearlman	Ph.D.	Guest lecturer	Interactive media, immersive media, virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR), user experience (UX)
Shawn Pinchbeck	Ph.D.	Guest lecturer	Interactive media, sound art, sound installations, interactive installations
Mg. art. Krista Dintere	Mg. art.	Docent (University of Liepaja)	Sound art, sound technology, sound installations
Mg. Platons Buravickis	Mg. art.	Lecturer	Sound art, sound technologies, composing
Helen Newall	Ph.D	Professor (Edge Hill University, GB)	Creative writing, performing arts
Kristine Vende- Kotova	Dr. psych.	Guest lecturer	Art therapy, dance and movement therapy
Alvis Misjūns	Mg.	Guest lecturer	Virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR), user experience (UX), motion tracking, photogrammetry, 3D modelling

Aigars Ceplītis	Mg. art.	Docent (RISEBA)	360-degree video, narrative in new media art, interactive installation, production
Jānis Rēdlihs	Mg.	Lecturer (RISEBA)	Direction, set design, cinematography, video, production design
Antra Cilinska	Mg.	Lecturer	Editing, production, video, film
Lauris Gundars	Mg.art.	Lecturer	Dramaturgy, performance, script, directing, producing

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.

No changes are foreseen in the composition of the teaching staff.

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).

Module lecturers design and develop their part of the module in close collaboration with the other lecturers, agreeing on assignments and an assessment system. This is facilitated by regular communication between the teaching staff and the study programme administration, and by organising annual faculty meetings (as needed).

All module lecturers participate in module examinations and examination work (e.g., creative work, presentations) is assessed by mutual agreement between module lecturers.

Cooperation between teaching staff takes place within modules. Module instructors jointly plan the semester workload, assignments and exam work. The teaching staff creates uniform guidelines on how to evaluate semester and exam tasks.

Number of students: 15

Number of teaching staff: 14

Ratio: 1:1.07

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	Diploma_diploma_suppl_sample_JMAM_ENG.pdf	Diploma un diploma pielikuma paraugs_JMAM_LV.pdf
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)	New Media and Audio-visual Arts (45213) Compliance Law.docx	Jaunie mediji un audiovizuālā māksla (45213) Augstskolu likums.docx
Statistics on the students in the reporting period	Statistical data on students in the study programme_New Media and Audiovisual Art(45 213).docx	Statistikas dati par studējošiem studiju programmā _Jaunie mediji un audiovizuālā māksla (45213).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	New Media and Audiovisual Arts (45213) Compliance with Standard.docx	Jaunie mediji un audiovizuālā māksla (45213) atbilstība stand.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	New Media and Audiovisual Arts (45213) Mapping.docx	Jaunie mediji un audiovizuālā māksla (45213) Kartejums.docx
The curriculum of the study programme (for each type and form of the implementation of the study programme)	NEW MEDIA AND AUDIOVISUAL ART (45213)study programme plan.xlsx	Tipveida plāns _JAUNIE MEDIJI UN AUDIOVIZUĀLĀ MĀKSLA (45213).xlsx
Descriptions of the study courses/ modules	New Media and Audiovisual Arts (45213) MODULES.docx	Jaunie mediji un audiovizuālā māksla (45213) Modules.docx
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)	Certificate_JMAVM_EN.pdf	Apliecinājums_JMAVM_LV.pdf

New Media Art and Design (43213)

Study field	Arts
ProcedureStudyProgram.Name	<i>New Media Art and Design</i>
Education classification code	43213
Type of the study programme	<i>Academic bachelor study programme</i>
Name of the study programme director	<i>Anna</i>
Surname of the study programme director	<i>Priedola</i>
E-mail of the study programme director	<i>anna.priedola@liepu.lv</i>
Title of the study programme director	<i>Mg.art.</i>
Phone of the study programme director	<i>27832477</i>
Goal of the study programme	<i>To provide the opportunity to acquire a basic academic education and a Bachelor of Arts in Audiovisual art and Media art, to prepare for an independent professional research-oriented activity in new media arts and jauno mediju product design, to acquire a comprehensive knowledge of new technologies, audio-visual arts, computer design and digital cultural processes, and to master basic and specific skills in the creation of artworks and innovative products, research and creative project implementation.</i>
Tasks of the study programme	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. To provide an adequate scientific, methodological and material basis for academic education;</i> <i>2. To provide the interdisciplinary theoretical knowledge in the fields of humanities and arts, multimedia, audio-visual and interactive arts, design, media theory, as well as art and design project management, necessary for full-fledged work in new media art and new media design.</i> <i>3. To promote the acquisition of skills and abilities necessary for new media art and design by using various methods and forms of study work, creating a close link between theoretical and practical courses in study modules;</i> <i>4. To stimulate students' creative potential in developing ideas, their ability to independently explore new ideas, critically analyse, draw conclusions, develop skills and abilities necessary for research work.</i> <i>5. To foster students' experience of learning and working collaboratively by engaging in, creating, presenting and leading projects to understand new media art and design processes and to create artworks and products in different mediated communication environments (mobile, online, location, virtual and augmented reality, etc.)</i> <i>6. To strengthen the link between studies and real practice in national and international cooperation networks.</i>

Results of the study programme	<p><i>As a result of the studies, professional (new media art and design) and general competencies (global, digital, research, innovative, entrepreneurship, and civic) are developed.</i></p> <p><i>After graduating from the study program, students are able to:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. work professionally and regularly increase mastery in various forms of new media art - audiovisual media and sound art, immersive and interactive media art, multimedia performance art, animation, digital graphic design, interactive digital product and service design; to participate in the development of the professional field of new media art and design;</i> <i>2. analyze and evaluate the processes of new media art and design in the context of cultural-historical and current developments, apply gained knowledge in argumentation and research;</i> <i>3. develop and implement innovative, interdisciplinary, sustainable and socially inclusive new media art and design projects;</i> <i>4. take responsibility and initiative when doing work individually or cooperating in a team, make decisions and find creative solutions;</i> <i>5. understand the professional ethics of new media art and design, and evaluate the impact of your professional activity on the environment and society.</i>
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	<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 and entrance exam</i>
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Bachelor degree of Humanitarian Sciences in Audiovisual art and Media art</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	<i>–</i>

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
University of Liepāja	LIEPĀJA	LIELĀ IEĻA 14, LIEPĀJA, LV-3401

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.

The most significant changes in the programme parameters are related to the **consolidation of the programmes** in line with the higher education reform and resource optimisation initiated by the Ministry of Education and Science, integrating the competences of the teaching staff of the bachelor study programme "Design" into the bachelor study programme "New Media Arts", expanding it in line with the interests expressed by graduates and employers, and creating two study directions - new media arts and new media design. Depending on their interests and motivation, students will be able to choose specialisation modules either in media art techniques or in the development of new media products and digital graphic design. A bachelor thesis can be a research-based artwork or a design project. **The title of the broadened academic bachelor programme is "New Media Arts and Design"**. From the bachelor's level this will prepare potential specialists and researchers not only in the field of media arts, but also in the field of creative industries - potential students of the Master's degree and later of the joint academic doctoral programme "Media Arts and Creative Technologies".

Some of the study courses in graphic processing, photography, video processing, etc. overlapped in the previous bachelor study programmes "New Media Arts" and "Design". By optimising resources, one programme with two study fields is created, allowing students to get acquainted with the study field in the first year and make an informed choice about the future direction of study - in art or design.

The "Interior Design" and "Product Design" programmes of the "Design" direction will not be continued in the academic year 2024/2025, as they had a low number of students and are not competitive in the Kurzeme area, and there are no national standard for the profession, which prevents the continuation of the professional study programme. However, the academic and professional qualifications of the teaching staff are assessed and integrated into the academic study programme "New Media Arts and Design", introducing form-making and material studies for all students, as these classes have so far been lacking in the "New Media Arts" programme, preventing sufficient time and attention being devoted to the development of physical interfaces for art installations and digital products, and to the development of form-making and compositional competences. This will be improved now.

The Professional Bachelor's degree programme "Design" has always been in demand, with 25-30 students entering the programme each year, and the management of the study direction "Art" wants to promote the continuity of studies by increasing the number of young media design specialists continuing their studies at higher levels of study of new media, as there is great research potential in this field.

We request the Accreditation Expert Committee and AIKA to allow the 3rd year students (9 people) of the current professional bachelor programme "Design" to graduate from the professional study programme "Design" also in the academic year 2023/2024 and in June 2024. To obtain a

Professional Bachelor's Degree in Design with qualifications in Art Photography, Computer Design, Interior Design and Product Design, as these students have so far studied according to the curriculum of the four-year programme and it is not feasible to equate it to a three-year academic programme. We kindly ask the second-year students of "Design" to graduate from the three-year academic study programme "New Media Art and Design" in June 2024 with a Bachelor degree of Humanitarian Sciences in Audiovisual Art and Media Art according to the transition plan, as the general subjects studied in the first year can be equated with the content of the academic study programme. We kindly ask the 2nd year students of "New Media Art" to graduate in June 2024 from the programme "New Media Art and Design" with a Bachelor degree of Humanitarian Sciences in Audiovisual Art and Media Art according to the transition plan.

Aim of the study programme:

The evaluation procedure extends the aim of the Bachelor's degree programme "New Media Art and Design" by offering a broader range of modules in a limited choice specialisation than in the previous reporting period: *To provide the opportunity to acquire a basic academic education and a Bachelor degree of Humanitarian Sciences in Arts, to prepare for an independent professional research-oriented activity in new media arts and new media design, to acquire a comprehensive knowledge of new technologies, audio-visual arts, computer design and digital cultural processes, and to master basic and specific skills in the creation of artworks and innovative products, research and creative project implementation.*

Study results of the programme:

The studies lead to a higher education diploma - Bachelor's degree, academic degree - Bachelor degree of Humanitarian Sciences in Audiovisual Art and Media Art.

- 1. As a result of the studies, professional (new media art and design) and general competencies (global, digital, research, innovative, entrepreneurship, and civic) are developed.
After graduating from the study program, students are able:*
- 2. to work professionally and regularly increase mastery in various forms of new media art and design - audiovisual media and sound art, immersive and interactive media art, multimedia performance art, animation, digital graphic design, interactive digital product and service design; to participate in the development of the professional field of new media art and design;*
- 3. to analyze and evaluate the processes of new media art and design in the context of cultural-historical and current developments, apply gained knowledge in argumentation and research;*
- 4. to develop and implement innovative, interdisciplinary, sustainable and socially inclusive new media art and design projects;*
- 5. to take responsibility and initiative when doing work individually or cooperating in a team, make decisions and find creative solutions;*
- 6. to understand the professional ethics of new media art and design, and evaluate the impact of your professional activity on the environment and society.*

After completing the compulsory optional modules, students will be familiar with the knowledge required for the field of new media and with the guidelines of the field of art studies (visual culture, contemporary art, design methods, media theory, network art, art and design research, etc.), working with information in both their native and foreign languages, and be able to analyse it critically.

In the process of limited elective studies, students acquire the skills to work with various new media tools and are able to choose the most suitable ones independently.

Admission requirements are also changed according to current regulations:

Admission requirements	Criteria	
	Personām, kuras vidējo izglītību ieguvušas no 2004. gada	Personām, kuras vidējo izglītību ieguvušas pirms 2004. gada vai atbrīvotas no CE kārtšanas, personām ar īpašām vajadzībām, ārvalsts personām
Secondary education diploma and entrance exam	Obligātās prasības: CE in Latvian (higher or optimal level) CE matemātikā (higher or optimal or intermediate level) CE in foreign language (English, German, French) (higher or optimal level) or CE in foreign language (Russian) (higher level) vai ST in foreign language The average of all CE sum.	Obligātās prasības: YG or CE in Latvian (higher or optimal level) YG or CE matemātikā (higher or optimal or intermediate level) YG or CE in foreign language (English, German, French) (higher or optimal level) or CE in foreign language (Russian) (higher level) vai ST in foreign language
	Iestājpārbaudījums - in composition (portfolio presentation), which reveals the potential student's creative potential, skills and interests by presenting a creative idea - a project in the field of new media (video, graphic design, photo series, interactive installation, social media, web-project, sound, electronic music, etc.), which demonstrates knowledge and understanding of the field of new media and helps to identify the applicant's interests	
	Priekšrocības: 1.-3. place in olympiads of Latvian Republic in Latvian language and literature, Foreign language, Visual Art, Programming.	

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 bachelor's study programme "New Media Art and Design", code 43213 (corresponding to audio-visual and media arts), is part of the full-cycle studies in new media arts and creative technologies, offering further studies in the master's programme "New Media and Audiovisual Arts" and the doctoral programme "Media Arts and Creative Technologies"), which University of Liepaja implements in the field of study "Arts", providing a unique education in the Latvian context, combining digital competences, knowledge of art and media theories and forms of visual art and design expression. During the course of the studies, the students of "New Media Art and Design" also collaborate with the students of the Bachelor's degree programme “Acting (Contemporary Performing Arts)”, working on module and extra-curricular creative tasks - new media artists create

communication spaces, while performing artists fill them with their performances, and students organically learn the interdisciplinary collaboration inherent in the professional environment. The academic bachelor's study programme "New Media Art and Design" contributes to the overall goal of the field of study: to provide students with the opportunity to acquire a high-quality academic education in the humanities by obtaining a Bachelor degree of Humanitarian Sciences in Audiovisual Art and Media Art.

The development plans of the "New Media Art and Design" programme are aligned with the sustainable development planning documents of the Kurzeme region, as well as with the "Liepāja City Sustainable Development Strategy 2030", which marks Liepāja as an education, science and research centre, as well as a cultural and creativity centre, closely related to the development of creative industries. The development of the programme is also linked to Liepāja's status as the European Capital of Culture 2027 and is in line with the aims and objectives of the programme (see: <https://www.liepaja2027.lv/#izaicinajumi>).

The development of the programme is based on the National Development Plan 2030 and the Sustainable Development Strategy 2030 of Latvia, which emphasises the interdisciplinarity of studies and the concept of creativity education. Education is seen in this strategy as the acquisition of specific competences and qualifications, as well as the development of critical thinking, creativity and cooperation skills and, more generally, of human talents, emotional and social intelligence. The "New Media Art and Design" study programme is in line with this strategy, as it is both interdisciplinary and grounded in creativity and innovation.

The study programme "New Media Art and Design" is in compliance with the University of Liepāja Development Strategy (2016-2020, approved at the University of Liepāja Senate meeting on June 20, 2016, Protocol No 11; extended for 2023 (25.01.2021 Senate decision of University of Liepāja (Protocol No. 7); available:

https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/%C4%80SD/ERASMUS%20dokumenti/Liepaja_University_Development_Strategy_Summary_2016-2023_25.01.2021.pdf

The study programme meets the requirements defined by the Ministry of Education and Science for higher education institutions to prepare specialists necessary for the development of the region, as well as the concept of polycentric development, which is included in several Latvian development planning documents.

The **title** of the study programme - "New Media Art and Design" (code - 43213) is appropriate to the aim of the study programme: to provide an opportunity to acquire basic academic education and to obtain a Bachelor degree of Humanitarian Sciences in Arts, to prepare for independent professional research-oriented activity in new media art and new media design, to acquire comprehensive knowledge of new technologies, audio-visual arts, computer design and digital cultural processes, and to master basic and specific skills in the creation of artworks and innovative products, research and implementation of creative projects. The majority of the study content corresponds to Education classification code 213 - Audiovisual Arts and Media Arts, preparing professionals competent in the use of technology and media development trends, who, by supplementing their knowledge and skills in relevant specialisation courses, can work either as new media artists or designers, using technology to effectively achieve their creative goals. The range of modules in the restricted elective specialisation is significantly expanded in the reporting period compared to the previous reporting period.

The **tasks** of the study programme are set in line with the aim:

- *To provide an adequate scientific, methodological and material basis for academic education;*
- *To provide the interdisciplinary theoretical knowledge in the fields of humanities and arts,*

multimedia, audio-visual and interactive arts, design, media theory, as well as art and design project management, necessary for efficient work in new media art and new media design.

- To promote the acquisition of skills and abilities necessary for new media art and design by using various methods and forms of study work, creating a close link between theoretical and practical courses in study modules;*
- To stimulate students' creative potential in developing ideas, their ability to independently explore new ideas, critically analyse, draw conclusions, develop skills and abilities necessary for research work.*
- To foster students' experience of learning and working collaboratively by engaging, creating, presenting and leading projects to understand new media art and design processes and to create artworks and products in different mediated communication environments (mobile, online, web, virtual and augmented reality, etc.)*
- To strengthen the link between studies and real practice in national and international networks.*

The overall aim and tasks of the study programme shall be achieved through the implementation of the study programme **content** and the individual **study outcomes** to be achieved through its mastering.

Study results of the programme:

The studies lead to a higher education diploma - Bachelor's degree, academic degree - Bachelor degree of Humanitarian Sciences in Audiovisual Art and Media Art.

- 1. As a result of the studies, professional (new media art and design) and general competencies (global, digital, research, innovative, entrepreneurship, and civic) are developed.
After graduating from the study program, students are able:*
- 2. to work professionally and regularly increase mastery in various forms of new media art and design - audiovisual media and sound art, immersive and interactive media art, multimedia performance art, animation, digital graphic design, interactive digital product and service design; to participate in the development of the professional field of new media art and design;*
- 3. to analyze and evaluate the processes of new media art and design in the context of cultural-historical and current developments, apply gained knowledge in argumentation and research;*
- 4. to develop and implement innovative, interdisciplinary, sustainable and socially inclusive new media art and design projects;*
- 5. to take responsibility and initiative when doing work individually or cooperating in a team, make decisions and find creative solutions;*
- 6. to understand the professional ethics of new media art and design, and evaluate the impact of your professional activity on the environment and society.*

After completing the compulsory optional modules, students will be familiar with the knowledge required for the field of new media and with the guidelines of the field of art studies (visual culture, contemporary art, design methods, media theory, network art, art and design research, etc.), working with information in both their native and foreign languages, and be able to analyse it critically.

In the process of limited elective studies, students acquire the skills to work with various new media tools and are able to choose the most suitable ones independently.

The aims and tasks of the study programme are feasible and the results are achievable within the

planned **implementation period** of 3 years, in the **amount** of 120 CP, by carrying out full-time face-to-face studies in Latvian for 6 semesters and thus motivating students to deepen their knowledge and continue their studies at the Master's level. The 6-semester course offers the opportunity to acquire a basic knowledge of the humanities and the arts, as well as an insight into the techniques and trends of a specific, current sub-discipline: new media art and design. Graduates have acquired the knowledge, skills, digital, innovation, entrepreneurial and research competences to continue their studies at Masters level, enter employment/self-employment or start a creative industries business. Media arts are expensive to study, and a compact 6-semester programme helps to keep students motivated to complete their studies rather than drop out and go into full-time work. If a student co-payment model of HEI funding is introduced, the lower cost of the programme may make it more attractive compared to other study programmes.

Admission requirements are also changed according to current regulations:

Bachelor study programme **“New media art and design”** (43213) **admission requirements**

Admission requirements	Criteria	
	Personām, kuras vidējo izglītību ieguvušas no 2004. gada	Personām, kuras vidējo izglītību ieguvušas pirms 2004. gada vai atbrīvotas no CE kārtšanas, personām ar īpašām vajadzībām, ārvalsts personām
Secondary education diploma and entrance exam	Obligātās prasības: CE in Latvian (higher or optimal level) CE matemātikā (higher or optimal or intermediate level) CE in foreign language (English, German, French) (higher or optimal level) or CE in foreign language (Russian) (higher level) vai ST in foreign language The average of all CE sum.	Obligātās prasības: YG or CE in Latvian (higher or optimal level) YG or CE matemātikā (higher or optimal or intermediate level) YG or CE in foreign language (English, German, French) (higher or optimal level) or CE in foreign language (Russian) (higher level) vai ST in foreign language
	Iestājpārbaudījums - in composition (portfolio presentation), which reveals the potential student's creative potential, skills and interests by presenting a creative idea - a project in the field of new media (video, graphic design, photo series, interactive installation, social media, web-project, sound, electronic music, etc.), which demonstrates knowledge and understanding of the field of new media and helps to identify the applicant's interests	
	Priekšrocības: 1.-3. place in olympiads of Latvian Republic in Latvian language and literature, Foreign language, Visual Art, Programming.	

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

The knowledge and skills acquired in the Bachelor's programme "New Media Art" allow graduates to

continue their education in the Master's level "New Media and Audiovisual Art" and other study programmes in the humanities and arts and/or to become media artists and researchers, creative entrepreneurs, participate in the work of higher education and research institutions, as well as enter the labour market. Examples of graduate employment (data sourced from regular inquiries of graduates):

1. cultural institutions (state and municipal sector), arts centres and new media arts organisations (NGO sector);
2. individual artist (self-employed) in professional art, design and new media;
3. creative industries - media (digital/interactive/internet/television), advertising design, creative technology and software development, printing, publishing, set design, theatre, concert halls, etc.

The New Media programmes at all three levels are rooted in a real working environment, as the study process is coordinated by the department of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities' Art Research Laboratory (MPLab), a unit dedicated to the development and research of new media arts projects.

Employers' opinion was sought during the preparation of the study programme for the accreditation of the art study direction, as well as during the organisation of student internships in the existing professional study programme "Design" (Employers' feedback is included in the study programme accreditation document set, the Art study field implementation evaluation material set **point 2.2. Appendix**). During the reporting period, positive feedback and recommendations were received from employers on the relevance of the academic Bachelor's study programme "New Media Art and Design" to the requirements of the labour market.

Recent graduates are surveyed annually to assess their employability, and as part of the direction evaluation, a broader, a graduate survey of all year graduates was carried out, which highlighted similar trends - graduates work as new media design and graphic design specialists, creative technology product developers, set designers, self-employed artists. There are also a small number of people who are not employed, or are employed on short-term projects, which the administration attributes to personal characteristics, health and lack of entrepreneurial skills. As part of the evaluation of the direction, the module "Project management" has been transformed to provide an insight into basic business project management skills, not only cultural funds in the form of cultural projects.

In the bachelor's programme "New Media Art and Design", students work on developing their creative portfolio from the first year, and as part of their studies they have to learn how to present their work in public - from oral presentation skills to exhibition design and communication. The Art Research Lab and partners provide opportunities for students to participate in professional creative projects, so that when they graduate, they can present a diverse creative portfolio and experience that will enable them to compete successfully in project competitions, the job market and academic careers.

Students of the bachelor study programme "New Media Art and Design" develop innovation competence that helps to discover new media/creative industry products and services or art forms that are missing in the local environment, and among the graduates of the programme there are successful creative entrepreneurs such as "Sense Media" CEO and creative director, producing content for Google and other international clients, "RobyWorks" CEO and creative director, whose growing companies employ future graduates of the study programme "New Media Art and Design".

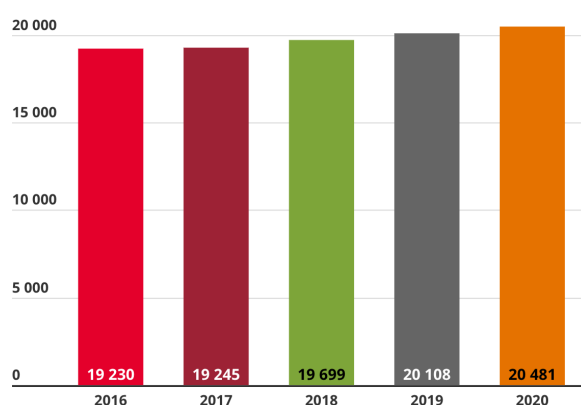
High-quality study programmes in the humanities, and even more so in the arts, are not only of economic but also of high social importance for the Kurzeme region. While Liepāja lacks contemporary art galleries, the graduates of the Liepāja University "New Media Art and Design"

programme make up a large part of contemporary visual art events, and also organise the otherwise rare exhibitions and workshops with international artists. The city of Liepāja won the title of European Capital of Culture 2027 in a national competition, and a significant part of the programme is made up of art and creative industries and education projects submitted by new media artists and institutions such as the Liepāja University Art Research Laboratory, "Art" Study direction, and the "ASTE Art, Science, Technology, Education" association. In the evaluation of the scientific activity of the Liepāja University, international experts also highly appreciated the social importance of the Faculty of Humanities and Arts, including the Arts direction, in the region, rating it with 4 out of 5 possible points, recommending further cooperation with local government institutions. This is also done through participation in the project "Development of Innovation Centre in Liepāja City", managed by the Liepāja City Municipality Institution "Education Board".

After the extension of the programme, it is even more in line with the needs of the creative industries, and this is an area where Latvia has seen steady growth, as evidenced by the statistics of the Ministry of Culture on the number of creative industries companies over the last five years (see Image). New media arts and design professionals are not only able to add value to products, services and places (Liepāja city), but also critically evaluate and contextualise the use of new technologies, highlighting the social and ethical challenges often caused by the widespread diffusion of newly developed technologies in society. The "Latvia 2030" Guidelines emphasise the balancing influence of culture in a society whose growth is based on the use of technology. New media artists and designers are also able to interest children and young people in STEM fields, revealing the amazing world of science and discoveries in an engaging, entertaining way, as evidenced by the successful involvement of graduates of the Bachelor's programme "New Media Arts" in the development of content for the Science and Innovation Centre (Zinātnes un Inovāciju Centrs - ZIIC) of the Liepāja Municipality "Education Board" within the framework of the "Development of Innovation Centre in Liepāja", funded by the European Economic Area and Norway Grants Programme "Research and Education".

See the reviews of the programmes graduates' skills and competencies in the report about the "Art" study fields part 2.2. in Appendix.

Radošo industriju nozarēs un saistītajās nozarēs strādājošo uzņēmumu skaits



Avots: KM (oficiālā statistika)

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 three-year Bachelor's degree programme "New Media Art" currently has 50 students, but if combined with the Bachelor's degree programme "Design", the programme would have over 90 students. The enrolments for 2021 and 2022 saw an increase in first-year students - 29 students in 2021 and 22 students in 2022, respectively. The number of students is sufficient for a successful study process, and in practical classes, the course should divide students into two or more groups so that practical creative techniques can be taught effectively in computer labs, etc.

In the period from 2014 - 2020, there was a slight decrease in the number of students (51 students in the academic year 2013/2014 vs. 36 students in the academic year 2019/2020), but this is also attributable to a decrease in the birth rate of the respective generation, namely, among those born from 1993-2000. After the lifting of the COVID restrictions, the programme management and students were also able to resume wider dissemination and explanation of the programme results to the public by organising exhibitions open to the general public.

On average, 3.22 students per year leave the study programme of their own volition, most often during the first semester, while 5.7 students per year are expelled for poor results. On average, 21% of students are exmatriculated before graduation, which corresponds to the norm used in the planning documents of the Liepāja University Council (up to 25% of early exmatriculates). Following discussions with the teaching staff, the introduction of a more regular timetable of classes and assignments during the academic year has helped to reduce the number of early exmatriculants.

The number of students is in line with the number of study programmes in the field of art and the space of facilities of the Liepāja University. The study programme is cost-effective and the study process can be organised efficiently.

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.

New Media Art and Design is a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary field of art that uses the latest technologies to create artworks and creative products to create new environments for communication and interactivity. The academic bachelor study programme "New Media Art and Design" is designed in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers' *Regulations on the State Standard of Academic Education* (01. 03. 2002.; 13.05.2014). Its study content ensures the achievement of study outcomes that include the acquisition of in-depth theoretical knowledge and the development of research skills and competences in the chosen scientific or artistic field. The programme meets the requirements of the National Academic Education Standard.

The goals and objectives of the programme are based on *Latvia's National Development Plan 2021-2027*, which includes comprehensive changes in all sectors, "putting human-technology interaction at the centre". The Plan was approved by the Parliament on 2 July 2020 and its implementation has started from 2021. The priority of this plan is "education and science for personal and national development", which aims to improve the quality and accessibility of higher education, its integration and competitiveness in a single European (global) education area and is in line with the process of creating a single European higher education area, the Bologna Declaration. The *National Development Plan* recognises the importance of culturally literate, media-savvy individuals and access to culture for the development and security of the country. The need to foster students' drive for continuous self-development through research-based studies is emphasised.

The study programme is designed in accordance with *Latvia's Sustainable Development Strategy (Latvia 2023)*, which particularly emphasises interdisciplinarity of studies, links with the needs of society and the concept of creativity education. The strategy sees education not only as the acquisition of specific competences and qualifications, but also as the development of critical thinking, creativity and collaboration skills, and more generally of human talents, emotional and social intelligence, "which play a balancing role in the education of future technological competences". The New Media Art and Design programme not only stimulates interest and skills in learning the latest technologies, but also stimulates to critically assess their potential impact on human psychosocial well-being and society as a whole, promoting comprehensive media literacy as an element of national security and well-being.

The programme combines both traditional research-based teaching methods and practical skill-building exercises, corresponding to the teaching and analysis of different aspects of media literacy and the language of artistic expression, using a project-based approach. The programme is designed to prepare students for professional careers after graduation and provides graduates with the research foundation needed for an academic career. It trains students in interdisciplinary theoretical approaches and methods related to new media arts and design, so that they can successfully continue their studies at Master's level. The research skills and competences provided by this academic bachelor's study programme are also useful for graduates in practical work with new technologies and the development of new creative products - graduates are able to innovate in the field, make decisions independently, and not just follow the employer's instructions in solving creative problem situations.

From the very beginning, the study process in this programme was based on a module system. On the one hand, it ensures the integrity of the teaching and learning process, and a purposeful and motivated cross-curricular approach, while on the other hand it allows flexibility to make changes to the process as the situation requires. The module includes lectures, seminars, network discussions, practical sessions, independent studies, work on the project/module deliverable.

However, during this reporting period, the administration of the study field has also faced limitations caused by the module system - it is difficult for interested students to start their studies at later stages, as it is not possible to equate the CPs gained in the course system to large modules, nor is it possible to offer 7-8 CP modules to interested students to study as free attendees and/or in lifelong learning programmes (interest in digital skills is high). After discussing the advantages and disadvantages of the module system, the management and teaching staff of the Art study direction agreed to continue with the module system, which promotes collaboration between teaching staff to create smaller modules, mainly consisting of 6 ECTS, which are organised in thematic blocks within the semester.

The content of the modules has also been updated during this reporting period, in line with industry, labour market and scientific developments. For example, the introduction of limited choice modules, such as 'Sustainable Art and Design Project' and 'Social Art and Design Project', which are not only a hot topic of research globally and especially locally, where interest in inclusive art and design practices is just beginning to develop and the field of research is very broad, but also link art and [other] disciplines into a social project.

During the reporting period, students have started to take free elective modules such as "3D game and immersion", allowing them to learn how to create three-dimensional visual and aural soundscapes. Immersive media can be further intensified after the Bachelor's degree in the Master's programme "New Media and Audiovisual Art". Immersive media have a great potential, especially in the implementation of educational projects, and the interest in the development of such products for the administration of Liepāja University "Art" direction has been expressed by the Liepāja City Culture Board (Liepāja 2027), Liepāja City Education Board (Norwegian grant project "Innovation Centre Development in Liepāja City"), etc., as well as foreign organizations.

The administration of the study field "Art" also participates in networking events in the technology sector, such as those organised by the Liepāja Digital Innovation Park, to learn about the needs of employers in the field of creative industries/new media design.

The teaching staff and administration of the "Art" direction are in regular contact with local employers in the field of design, as well as art institutions, and are involved in local and international art events, thus keeping abreast of current developments in the field and being able to place the material covered in the modules in the context of current developments in the field. However, changes of up to 20% in the content of a study programme within one academic year can be made in agreement with the Study Programme Board, which includes not only representatives of the administration, but also employers, teaching staff, students and researchers.

Surveys of graduates and employers carried out during the sector review period revealed a need for more specific specialisation and enhanced technical skills in new media design - in drawing, digital illustration, composition, and in new media arts - user experience design, creative programming. The introduction of more restricted choice courses has helped to meet this labour market need.

The objectives and deliverables of the study modules are designed in relation to the aim and deliverables of the study programme, they are based on a competency-based approach in order to prepare independent and competitive new media artists and designers (see module mapping for study programme deliverables) *who* are able to organise their own research and creative work independently, and who are also able to become successful self-employed.

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.

Descriptions of the methods used to implement the study courses are included in the course descriptions, which are published both in the students' personal profiles in the LAIS database and in the e-learning environment Moodle. Among the students of the "Art" field of study - also on the platform forums.mplab.lv. In addition, at the beginning of each course, students are introduced to the credit requirements, the theoretical knowledge to be acquired and the list of practical work and tasks to be carried out in order to obtain a grade.

The main methods of study are lectures, seminars, discussions, tests, practical work, independent work, research, creative and project work. Creative exercises and workshops are a particularly important form of learning media art skills, for example in camera work, creative programming, 3D scanning, creative writing, sound recording and other areas of creative activity. Alongside traditional forms of work (lectures, seminars), interactive forms of study such as group work, various types of discussions, problem-oriented studies, creative methods of group and individual work, studies using online and other multimedia tools, websites, in particular the Moodle environment, are practised. The performance of creative tasks and the regular development of performing arts skills play an important role in the achievement of the learning outcomes of the "New Media Art and Design" programme.

Each task has a weighting in the final grade. Assessment methods are varied, depending on the specifics of the study module and the requirements set, which are reflected in the descriptions of study modules in the system of achievements and intermediate examinations and tests. The system of intermediate tests ensures continuous summative assessment throughout the study module, which contributes to the development and provision of feedback. Formative assessment and collegial assessment are also used to assess learning achievements: teacher-student, student-student, student-student group, etc. The assessment system is designed to enable students to use a variety of assessment techniques and to gain experience in assessing their professional performance. All professional specialisation modules include practical tasks to build and develop professional competence; in these modules, students present the completion of specific tasks and creative works. The quality of the presentation of the creative work is also assessed, which includes not only the oral presentation but also the form in which the work is displayed in the room or in the digital environment.

At the end of each module, a test is organised in the form of an examination/marked examination,

which is marked by both members of staff who have taught the module. The overall assessment of the study work is based on a summative system, which provides for the gradual formation of the final assessment from several student's works in each study module.

Methods of implementation and evaluation of study modules of the study programme are implemented in accordance with the Liepāja University regulations on course / module examinations (https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/dokumenti/studentiem/Regulations%20for%20Course_Module%20Examinations.pdf)

The deliverables of the study modules of the study programme "New Media Art and Design" are reflected in the content of the study modules and are closely related to the overall aims, objectives and deliverables of the study programme. The relevance of the results of the study modules to the results of the study programme can be verified in the mapping (see Annex III 3.2.B). This confirms that the study process produces new media artists and designers who, using theoretical knowledge in the field of humanities and arts, knowledge of new media art and design, and practical skills in the use of creative techniques and technologies, are able to work independently, professionally and creatively in the fields of new media arts and design in accordance with contemporary requirements.

The modules of the study programme are organised in thematic blocks, allowing to work on one common, larger, multimedia creative project - the development of a learning outcome, such as a short film, its script and soundtrack - in different modules during the semester. This allows to focus on this one task better and create a more meaningful entry in one's creative portfolio. There is also progression in academic writing, which can be challenging for art students. Each semester, a step-by-step assignment is completed as part of the BA Writing course - in semester 1, the basic knowledge of academic writing is covered in the "Introduction to New Media Studies" module and the principles of analysing an artwork are covered. In the second semester, the module "Photography: history, theory, practice" covers creative writing for the conception and annotation of an artwork. In semester 3, students of the module "Design: theory, methods and practice" learn the skills of developing a researcher's diary and a description of creative work; in semester 4, they analyse the cultural and art historical context; in semester 5, they learn the skills of choosing the appropriate theoretical framework [media] for the research; and in semester 6, they learn research methodology and project management, which in a design context also helps to develop research with the target audience and budget in mind.

The principles of student-centred education are applied in the organisation of the study process: 1) the formulation of aims and objectives of study modules, which promote students' understanding of the overall objectives of the study programme; 2) the formulation of learning outcomes, which promote dialogue between lecturers and students on the content, forms and methods of organisation of studies, promote students' understanding and ownership of their learning, self-assessment and understanding of the assessment received. 3) The free choice of the form of presenting the results of studies - an exhibition - which allows to create significant entries in one's creative portfolio already during studies, according to one's own creative goals.

Students receive regular support and feedback from lecturers during their studies, and are informed about the assessment criteria. Communication between lecturers and students takes place in class, in individual consultations, via email or online tools, and in the Moodle environment.

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).

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 bachelor thesis in new media art (hereafter "New Media Art and Design") consists of two parts:

1. Creative work in new media art (or new media design)
2. Development and defence of the theoretical part of the bachelor thesis

New media art (and new media design) are still relevant and constantly evolving fields, and the themes and artistic creations of the bachelor theses are also mostly topical and innovative. It explores sustainable technologies, generative art, artworks as commentaries on social injustices, bio-art, virtual reality and real-time communication processes, etc.

In the field of art, it is difficult to commercialise the results of a bachelor thesis, and this is not the aim, but several bachelor theses have been related to professional challenges, such as the development of binaural recordings suitable for blind audiences for exhibitions, which are also of interest to creative entrepreneurs and the social sector. By introducing the design approach, study direction "Art" wants to promote commercialisation of the students' research.

Topics of study year 2012/2013

Title

Sustainable energy for sound installation

Archiving

Real-time data visualisation

Creating Imaginary Spaces in a Sound Walk

Sustainable Office Art

Theremin as a performance instrument

Applications of the television electromagnetic wave spectrum in the arts

An experiment – generative sculptures

Artwork as social commentary: interpreting mixed ethnic identities in art

2013/2014

Electromagnetic waves as a medium in art

Computer game as an art form

Organic principles of digital networks in new media art

Lolism as a perspective of the modern creative movement

A portrait of the processes taking place in the body

The living mechanism – automatons in the context of media archaeology

Pepper's ghost principle in an interactive art installation

Data visualization. A method to assign an identity to a data source. Folk Latvian terps as a medium of identity

Reconstruction of memory objects in installations

A robot driven by biological processes

2014/2015

Point of view in an anamorphic installation

Experiences of text perception in the synthesis of poetry and media technologies. A post-digital poetry book

Representation of the equality of gender roles in an interactive video installation

Typological photo series - we met@internet

The use of optical illusion in an art installation

Representation of user-media interaction in an audiovisual installation

Visual coding of private digital data

3D printing as an eco-art practice

Lens photography as everyday evidence

Representation of bipolar disorder through musical composition

2015/2016

An interactive sound sculpture controlled by an electroencephalograph

Semiotics and placement of brand marks in cinematography – an audiovisual kaleidoscope of brands

Generative wind processes in nature and art. Wind as a tool in the creation of works of art

Visualization of textual information in mass media

Space and Body in Electromagnetism and Virtual Environments

Applications of neural networks in the context of art

Visual perception and illusion in video installation art

Digitizing food in brain data-driven visualizations

Creating an interactive audio story for visually impaired and blind people using binaural sound recording techniques

Neo-craftsmanship as a future perspective in the preservation of Latvian traditional textiles

Application of video surveillance systems in New Media Art

Visual perception and illusion in video installation art

The use of drones in surveillance art

Visualization of non-verbal communication

Topics of academic year 2016/2017

Title

Reflecting gender identity in an audiovisual installation

Earthquake: using data sonification to create a sound installation

Virtual narrative in museums

Self-organising processes in an art installation

Biological self-portrait. Micro-organisms as a means of artistic expression

Using mobile device data in an interactive installation

Interspecies communication in an audiovisual installation

Psychedelic expressions in interactive video installations

2017/2018

The role of 3D audio in enhancing immersion in virtual reality.

[You won't believe what happens next! - video essay as a tool for self-knowledge in new media and internet culture.](#)

The impermanence of the messages to be conveyed in the interactive light installation.

Evolutionary art and virtual ecosystems

Discomfort as an immersion-promoting agent in virtual reality

Neotribalism as a response to information stratification in the digital age.

Mechanical representation of nature motifs in kinetic art

The absence of coincidence in new media art.

An analogue of "glitch art" and the "aura" of a work of art

The use of polyethylene as a resonating material in sound art

Topics of academic year 2018/2019

Title of work

Narration of Latvian superstitions and myths in interactive media

Dome projections - a platform for immersive art experiences

Art representation and appropriation

House of Memories.Environment as a narrative builder in virtual reality

Video projection as an image in a performance. Interaction with an actor

The role of deity in roleplaying computer games and their impact on narrative development

Virtual reality as a storytelling tool

Smell as an artistic medium

The symbiosis between people and technology. The Cyborg Era

Human population visualisation. From information aesthetics to data art

Virtual reality and the application of user brainwave data in immersive art

Mokumentarium "Patron of the Arts"

Topics of academic year 2019/2020

Ruins of biological nature in technosphere

Voice and artificial neural networks

Biofeedback based audio-visual installation "Light in You"

Visual self-representation and creation of a work of art - emotional absence during the trip

Light meaning in kinetic artwork "Light train"

Topics of academic year 2020/2021

Use of animation in the video essay "Admiring the forest again"

Crypto Art / NFT - the path to the art of the future

Visualising sound vibrations in an interactive audiovisual installation

Cells in a giant cybernetic organism

Representing the dream world in computer games

Binocular rivalry in virtual reality

Milk machine. Installation as an ironic toy in contemporary society

Representation of the poetry anthology "In the City - in the Shadow of a Dying Sun" in an audiovisual environment

Human-plant relationships: Representing plant blindness in animation

Atmospheric creation in a interactive digital comic

The works have mostly been of a high quality, resulting in grades of good, very good, excellent and even outstanding if the student exceeds the requirements of the undergraduate level. The average mark over the period ranges from 8 to 8.85.

In Latvia, new media art is a relatively new, little-studied sector. The themes of the final theses of the students of the bachelor's study program "New media art and design" (formerly "New media art") are innovative in most cases, and contribute to the industry by developing new forms of art and new media design products. For example, the thesis "Voice and Artificial Neural Networks" explores the identity of voice in the age of AI-generated audio content, which outlines today's challenges. Research on immersive media - virtual reality, sound spatialization, etc. - is also being regularly developed - which helps to develop and describe the relatively new immersive art direction in Latvia. Students also develop interactive systems that are innovative in a global context, such as "Sustainable energy acquisition in a sound installation" (2013), "Virtual reality and the use of user brainwave data in immersive art" (2019), as well as "An interactive sound sculpture controlled by an electroencephalograph" (2016).

Several of the students' final works have been nominated for participation in professional art exhibitions, international festivals and film screenings. In the labor and creative services market, graduates' skills in electronic composition and sound processing, as well as the development of interactive and immersive products, which they acquired while developing study assignments and final theses, are relevant.

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 programme "New Media Art and Design" is implemented in the premises of the University of Liepāja, Kūrmājas Prospekt 13 (room 205 with 60 places for the compulsory optional theoretical orientation modules, room 207 with 15 places for computer work (3D modelling, game engines, sound processing, generative sound design, digital graphic design, creative programming), in the Art Research Laboratory (sound synthesis, sound recording techniques, sound reproduction techniques, VR/AR laboratory, photo and video equipment, art library, small electronics, presentation rooms and equipment)), as well as at Lielā iela 14 (room 303 with 15 computer workstations (digital graphic design, image processing), photo laboratory, textile workshop, painting studio, drawing studio, ceramics workshops, glass processing workshop, print workshop). For more detailed information on the study, scientific, information and technical facilities that is available to all students of study field "Art", see Part II, Chapter 3, paragraphs 2.3.1 to 2.3.3.

Specifically to the students of bachelor study programme "New media art and design" design laboratories are available at Lielā iela 14. The art studies infrastructure at Lielā iela 14 was improved in the academic year 2020/2021, based on the specialisations of the programme 'Design': interior design, product design, computer design, photography. Consequently, the implementation of the study process was tailored to the needs of graphic design, making, ceramics, interior design, composition, material work, textile design, glass design, ceramics, painting, drawing and photography. Description of workshop/laboratory equipment.

Table 7

Name of workshop/laboratory	Equipment specifications
Graphic arts workshop	Screen printing machine: machine for printing on a flat surface Vacuum table TY-ME78, ATMA MEGA-LIGHT UV Fluorescent Exposure System Manual carousel for 4-colour printing M&R, chameleon ECONOMAX 2 tunnel Acoma dryer Protective mask FORCE 145 high-pressure washer Metal shelf Silkscreen inks Aluminium frame with a 90T mesh
Visual arts workshop	Large-format printer/plotter Milling machine Electric cutter IDEAL-95 EP Large-format professional cutter with stand IDEAL 1110 Drawing tables
Ceramics workshop	Kiln RAKU kiln Ceramic pigments, clays, glazes, stone paste
Glass design workshop	Glass melting furnace Sandblasting machine Pro Vetro-5133000 Pro Vetro 3072100 glass grinder Diamond disc Silicon carbide disc
Photo lab (creation in progress)	NIKON D90 16-85VR camera Sony PMV-EX3 video cameras. Study lights with a reflector and stand Studio umbrella METZ UMBRELLA

For lessons in computer graphics and electronics, there are also study rooms available at Lielā iela 14, for example:

Room 416 Electronics classroom for working with Arduino and sensors

Equipment:	Processor (CPU): I5, 2500, 3.3 GHz, RAM: 8 GB Hard drive: 512 GB SSD Graphics card: 2 GB Operating system: Windows 10 Software: MS Office , SolidWorks, Visual Studio, C#, Community 2022, MySQL Workbench, Python, Arduino CC.
Room 337	computer graphics classroom with 12 graphics tablets
Equipment:	Processor (CPU): I5,10505, 3.2 GHz, RAM: 32 GB Hard drive: 512 GB M2 Graphics card: 4 GB Operating system: Windows 10 Software: MS Office, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe InDesign, Adobe Lightroom, SketchUp Pro, V-ray for SketchUp, 3Ds Max, Blender, ,AutoCAD, ArchiCAD, SweetHome, Inkscape, GIMP, Shotcut, Adobe Reader

Other classrooms at FHSA Kūrmājas iela 13 are also intensely used for the study programme: the large rooms 118 and 205 with equipment for presentations (computer, projector, sound system), as well as a hall for exhibiting artworks, where exhibition lights and rails with fastening devices are provided. Computer graphics and 3D modelling lessons are also held in room 207:

Room 207	Multimedia processing classroom
Equipment:	iMac computers 15 pcs: iMac 27"/16GB/200GB/SSD/GPU 2GB (2017) 14 pcs, iMac 27"/32GB/512GB/SSD/GPU 4GB (2017) 1 pc, LG TV 75"

The information and technical facilities are constantly updated. Liepāja University allocates 8-10 thousand Euros annually (this does not include funding for cloud software, which Liepāja University subscribes to centrally for all programmes), and this funding is supplemented by co-financing attracted through various projects, for example, the VKKF project competition for renewal of the material and technical base of art education, where it manages to attract from 2-6 thousand Euros almost every year for the "New Media Arts and Design" programme - for the purchase of electronic sound systems, VR/AR devices, powerful exhibition projectors and other state-of-the-art equipment.

The rental income (around 5000 Euros per year) can be used for maintenance, as well as for other purposes, such as student mobility, visiting the most current art events [with a commentary by a faculty member] in the capital or in neighbouring countries.

The mobile equipment of Liepāja University and the Art Research Laboratory (MPLab) helps students to gain practical experience in organising and conducting public, professional-level events - the students learn skills in working with professional art and design product realisation and presentation equipment, such as projectors, various VR devices, sound equipment, media players, which are also used in museum exhibitions.

In the future, the Liepāja University plans to renovate the building at Valdemāra iela 4, thus expanding the space available for study programmes, and as a future goal it aims to attract funding

to create a permanent, multifunctional filming and photography studio for more successful acquisition of video recording and visual effects. At the moment, the filming space has to be changed every time, which takes time.

Alumni surveys often give a positive assessment of the study programme's facilities.

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 funding of studies from the state budget is allocated each calendar year in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers' Regulation No. 994 of 12.12.2006. "Procedures for Financing Institutions of Higher Education and Colleges from the Funds of the State Budget" and the agreement between the Ministry of Education and Science and the Liepāja University on the training of a certain number of specialists.

The calculation of the full-time costs for the study programme "New Media Arts and Design" for the period 2023-2024 uses the base costs for 2022 (EUR 1630.11 per one study place) and the coefficient of the thematic area of education "Audiovisual Media Arts" and "Design" as defined by the Ministry of Education and Science (IZM): 3.9, as well as the cost factor for bachelor vocational higher education study programmes: 1.0 The projected cost per study place in 2023 is EUR 6 357.43, the total cost of the study programme for 3 years is EUR 19 072.29. The number of study places planned from the state budget in 2023 is 90. The planned tuition fee for full-time studies for the 1st year of the academic year 2023/2024 is EUR 2 000 and it is fixed for the entire period of study, the total tuition fee for 3 years is EUR 6 000.00.

Assessment of the percentage breakdown of costs within the field of study

Total funding for the 2022/2023 academic year (Fig. 1) EUR 767 901. Figure 2 shows the percentage of costs by study programme. 47% of the costs is taken up by the 'Design' study programme. As of 20.09.2022, there were 80 students in this study programme, including 16 tuition-paying students. 36% of the costs is taken up by the 'New Media Art' study programme. As of 20.09.2022, there were 47 students in this study programme, including 7 tuition-paying students. 9% of the costs is taken up by the 'New Media and Audiovisual Art' programme. As of 20.09.2022, there were 7 full-time students in this study programme. 8% of the costs is taken up by the 'New Media and Audiovisual Art' programme. As of 20.09.2022, there were 3 full-time students in this

study programme.

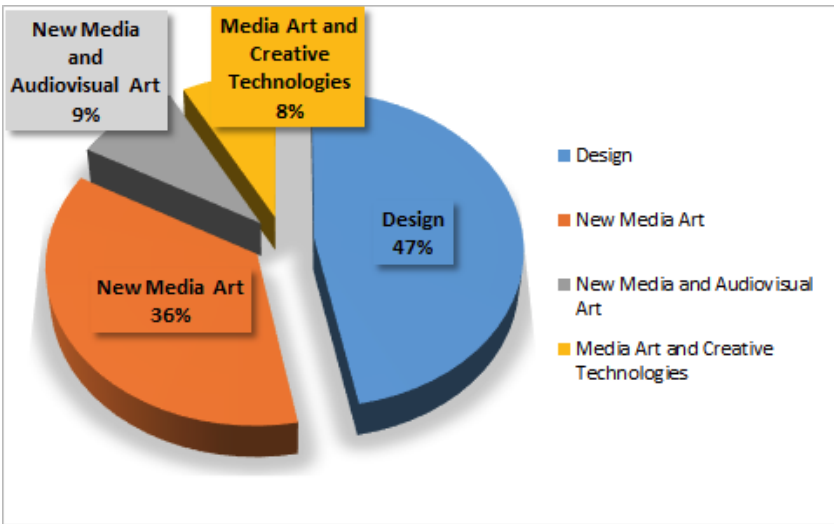


Figure 2. Breakdown of study programme costs for the 2022/2023 academic year.

Planning of expenses is done jointly with the other field of studies. An analysis of the main budget expense positions shows (Figure 3) that the largest one is the salaries, with a relatively high share of salaries of teaching staff and royalties paid for teaching the courses and maintaining the content. The second largest expenditure item is the maintenance of buildings and premises, as well as the costs directly related to student support and services, marketing costs and other maintenance costs, which are regularly reviewed and optimised, prioritising an easily accessible and enjoyable learning environment for the students. The expenses pertaining to the purchase of books, periodicals, and subscriptions to electronic databases are included in the overall main budget of LiepU. All study programmes are provided with study and research resources at the LiepU library. Overall, the cost structure is considered optimal and in line with the development strategy.

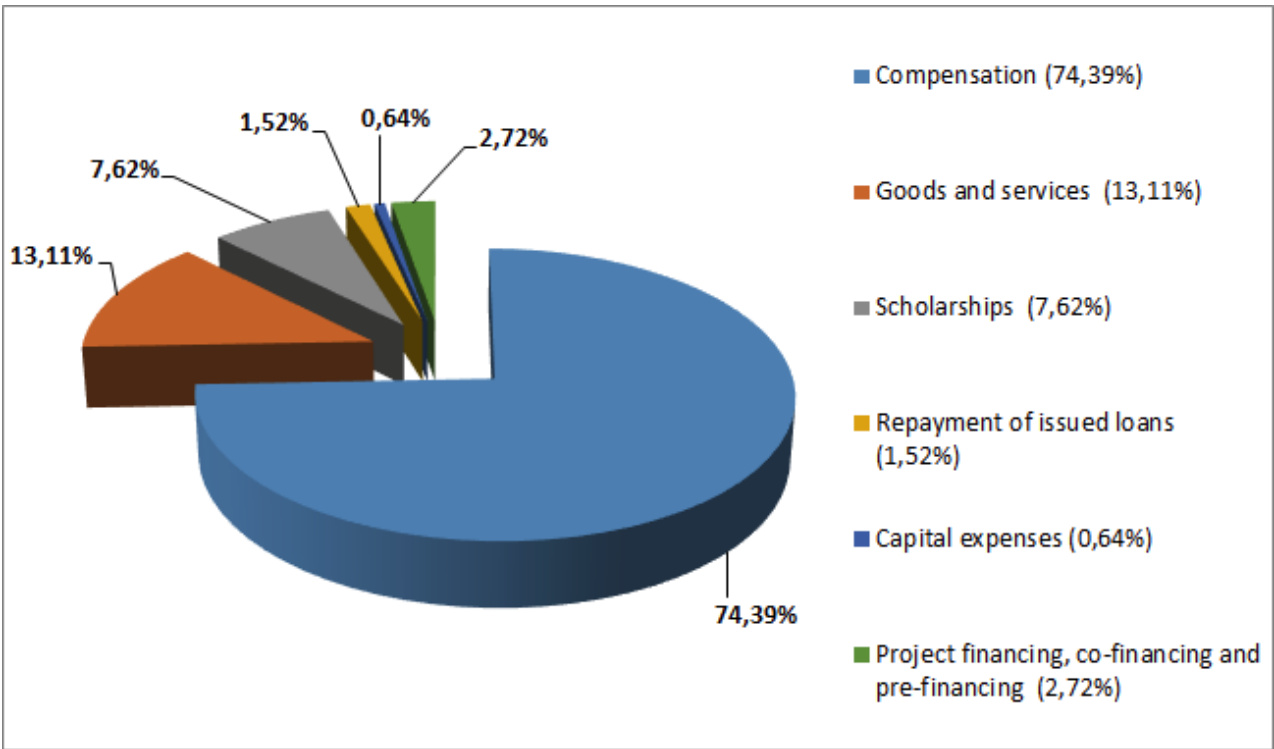


Figure 3. Structure of main-budget expenses in 2021.

The study programme is cost-effective.

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.

Information on the teaching staff involved in the study programme can be found in Section II - Characteristics of the Study Programme (3. Resources and facilities of the studies).

The programme has a total of 39 lecturers.

The lecturers involved in the study programme meet the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the *requirements set out in the third paragraph of the first part of Section 55 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions*, which stipulates that "Not less than five professors and associate professors altogether, who are elected to academic positions in the relevant higher education institution, shall take part in the implementation of the compulsory part and the limited elective part of academic study programmes". 5 LiepU elected professors and associate professors participate in the implementation of the academic study programme "Contemporary Performing Arts": Zanda Gūtmane, Dr. philol., prof.; Diāna Laiveniece, Dr. paed., prof.; Inta Klāsone, Dr. paed., prof., Pāvels Jurs, Dr. paed., prof. Professors and Associate Professors provide the compulsory part and the restricted elective part, which includes the guidelines, principles, structure and methodology of the humanities and arts, new media arts and design, as well as the characteristics and problems of the humanities and arts and performing arts from an interdisciplinary perspective and general education subjects. Their work is essentially about the acquisition of global competences and research competences and their associated learning outcomes.

12 lecturers, or 30% of all lecturers in the programme, have a PhD. 3 of the faculty members are PhD candidates, and 3 are pursuing doctoral studies in the field of arts and education. The teaching staff are professionals in their fields and have demonstrated competence and achievement in research and evaluation in the humanities and arts. They are mainly involved in the compulsory and restricted elective courses, which cover the guidelines, principles, structure and methodology of the humanities and arts, new media arts and design, as well as the characteristics and problems of the humanities and arts and performing arts from an interdisciplinary perspective, but also in the restricted elective specialisation modules. In addition to the global competences and research competences in the humanities and arts, especially new media arts and design, they also provide innovative competences (Ph.D Shawn Pinchbeck - Interactive Arts, Dr. Christopher Hales - Interactive Cinema, Ph.D Ellen Pearlman - Artificial Intelligence and other new technologies in innovation, and Dr. sc.soc, asoc. prof. Ilva Skulte - Media Theory) and the related study outcomes. The visiting professors are also highly respected local and international professionals in new media arts and design/electronic music, such as Platons Buravickis. It is not possible to change these professionals in favour of the core staff.

18 lecturers have been elected to the core staff, or 46% of all lecturers in the programme. Most of the core teaching staff have Master's degrees and provide training in interdisciplinary skills as well as in field-specific skills (generative music production, generative graphics, printing, etc. technologies).

To ensure the development of certain skills, the programme temporarily brings in other experts and researchers as workshop leaders during the international weeks.

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 a consistently high quality of the study process and content, the main quality assurance criteria are: the relevance of the study content to the programme objectives, labour market requirements and industry development trends. The relevance of the teaching staff involved in the study programme is regularly analysed. Its evaluation is based on data from annual reports on the research activities of teaching staff, student satisfaction surveys and information on creative achievements.

The changes in the composition of the teaching staff are due to several reasons:

1. the inclusion of new modules and courses,
2. as a result of the growth in the number of lecturers,
3. due to changes in the rhythm of life of the visiting lecturers,
4. the integration of the faculty of the Design programme into the New Media Arts and Design programme.

More detailed information on the teaching staff involved in the study programme can be found in **Annex II 3.7.A** in the 2.3 chapter of the report "Resources of the study field "Art"

From 2013-2018, a large part of the programme's faculty were guest lecturers from Riga and other cities and countries. Their lecture schedules were subordinated to their core work and projects, so student surveys sometimes gave negative feedback about the irregular and/or changing timetable. Currently, the teaching staff consists mainly of Liepāja University faculty members and new media artists and designers from Liepāja - including graduates of the "New Media Arts programme", who understand the specifics and needs of this relatively new field of art. Teaching staff are also experts in their field, working on practical and/or research projects, often involving students, for example in the organisation, construction or sound design of exhibitions or multimedia projects. Liepāja-based faculty members are able to ensure regular, reasonable timetables and greater involvement in the study and planning processes.

During the reporting period, new faculty members have been elected, such as Anna Priedola (Docent in New Media Arts), Krista Dintere (Docent in Sound Arts), Pēteris Riekstiņš (Lecturer in Interactive Arts), Ph.D student, artist Gunta Krastiņa (Docent in Visual Plastic Arts). Several Ph.D candidates, graduates of the LiepU doctoral study programme "New Media Arts", such as Maija Demitere, Paula Vītola, Elīna Veira, and Ģirts Edvarts Stepiņš are also intensively involved in the study process. Several teaching staff have obtained higher qualifications and have been recruited to higher academic posts: Dr.sc.soc. Rasa Šmite has obtained the position of Professor, similarly to Dr.philol. Zanda Gūtmane.

Visiting lecturers from abroad continue to contribute to the programme, such as: Ph.D Christopher

Hales (UK), PhD Shawn Pinchbeck (Canada) providing insights into global issues in a rapidly evolving field such as new media arts and design, which is changing with the arrival of each new technology on the market, joined by Ph.D Ellen Pearlman (USA).

The interdisciplinary cooperation is facilitated by attracting excellent teaching staff from other LiepU faculties - Faculty of Natural Sciences and Engineering, Faculty of Management and Social Sciences and Faculty of Pedagogy and Social Work. This is a great advantage of pursuing art education in a university rather than in an academy - the link between art and science and the integration of interdisciplinary discourse into the content of studies and research.

Among the teaching staff there are also such outstanding professionals as composer Platons Buravickis, media artist and educator Jānis Jankevics, etc. 3D technologies are taught by the programme's graduates, Ieva Vīksne, who holds a master's degree in ViA VR development, and Līga Vēliņa, a Ph.D student at the Latvian Academy of Art (the research topic of her dissertation is "Virtual and augmented reality works in Latvian art").

During the reporting period, not only the professional qualifications of the teaching staff, but also their organisational and social competences have been taken into account, which students have mentioned in their feedback as being very important for a quality study process.

As a result of these changes, the study programme is expected to achieve its broadened objectives and outcomes in a targeted manner.

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 content is organised in a module format, in which two members of staff work together and jointly assess the students' module final examination results. The curriculum is organised in such a way that the final examinations of the modules are thematically coherent with each other, sometimes also forming a larger multimedia project from the final works of different modules (if they result in artistic creativity). This form of study requires mutual cooperation and regular joint discussions among all art academics, both on the most relevant topics in the field for determining the content of the study tasks (e.g. the choice of an exhibition or film topic) and on the study outcomes, tasks and teaching methodology. The results of the studies are presented in public viewings (in session) and midterm-views (mid-semester), which are attended by all or as many of the programme's elected faculty members as possible. The cooperation of teaching staff with guest lecturers is mediated and supervised by the study programme director, who makes sure that the content and methodology are linked.

Faculty staff: 39 (elected - 18)

Students: 46 (97 including "Design" program students attending joint lectures under the transition plan).

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	Diploma_diploma_suppl_sample_NMAD_ENG.pdf	Diploma un diploma pielikuma paraugs_JMMD_LV.pdf
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	Statistical data on students in the study programme_New Media Art.docx	Statistikas dati par studējošiem studiju programmā _Jauno mediju māksla.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	06.12.Academic bachelors study programme New Media Arts compliance with the national academic education standard.docx	06.12. Pielikums III JMMD atbilstība akad. 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	Map of study courses of the study programme New Media Arts and Design 06.12..docx	Programmas kursu kartējums - rezultāti 06.12..docx
The curriculum of the study programme (for each type and form of the implementation of the study programme)	New Media Arts and Design (43213)study programme plan.xlsx	Studiju programmas JAUNO MEDIJU MĀKSLA UN DIZAINS (43213) tipveida plāns.xlsx
Descriptions of the study courses/ modules	New Media Arts and Design (43213)_Modules _EN 6.doc	Jauno mediju māksla un dizains(43213) moduļu apraksti LV 6.docx
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)	Certificate_JMMD_EN.pdf	Apliecinājums_JMMD_LV.pdf

Contemporary Performing Arts (43212)

Study field	Arts
ProcedureStudyProgram.Name	<i>Contemporary Performing Arts</i>
Education classification code	43212
Type of the study programme	<i>Academic bachelor study programme</i>
Name of the study programme director	<i>Dmitrijs</i>
Surname of the study programme director	<i>Petrenko</i>
E-mail of the study programme director	<i>dmitrijs.petrenko@gmail.com</i>
Title of the study programme director	<i>Mg.soc., Mg.art.</i>
Phone of the study programme director	<i>00371 25629151</i>
Goal of the study programme	<i>To provide an opportunity to acquire basic academic education and obtain a bachelor's degree in humanities in music and performing arts, to prepare for independent professional activity in the fields of contemporary performing arts (acting, dance, music, writing, movement, performances, audiovisual communication, etc.), as well as performing arts project management.</i>
Tasks of the study programme	<i>1) to provide a scientific, methodical and material basis for obtaining academic education;</i> <i>2) to provide theoretical knowledge necessary for contemporary performing arts activities in the fields of humanities and arts, interdisciplinary performing arts (acting, dance, music, writing, movement, performances, audiovisual communication, etc.), as well as performing arts project management;</i> <i>3) promote the acquisition of skills and abilities necessary for contemporary stage art, using various methods and forms of study work, creating a close connection between theoretical and practical courses.</i>
Results of the study programme	<i>As a result of the studies, professional (contemporary stage) and general competencies (global, research, innovative, entrepreneurship, and civic) are developed. After graduating from the study program, students are able:</i> <i>- to work professionally and regularly increase mastery in various forms of performing arts - acting, music, the art of movement and gesture, writing, dance, performance art, and audiovisual communication; participate in the development of the professional field of performing arts;</i> <i>- analyze and evaluate the processes of contemporary performing arts in the context of cultural-historical and current developments, apply knowledge in argumentation and research;</i> <i>- develop and implement a contemporary stage art project;</i> <i>- take responsibility and initiative when doing work individually or cooperating in a team, make decisions and find creative solutions;</i> <i>- understand the professional ethics of performing arts, and evaluate the impact of your professional activity on the environment and society.</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 exam</i>
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Bachelor degree of Humanitarian Sciences in Music and Performing Arts</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	<i>-</i>

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
University of Liepāja	LIEPĀJA	LIELĀ IELA 14, LIEPĀJA, LV-3401

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.

The academic bachelor study programme 'Contemporary Performing Arts' was formerly called 'Acting'. On 26 July 2017, with Licensing Commission decision No 43-L, the bachelor study programme 'Acting' (43212) was licensed and included in the 'Arts' field of study.

The programme was developed and is implemented in conjunction with Liepāja Theatre, Liepāja City Council, and Liepāja University. On 29 November 2016, SIA 'Liepājas teātris' sent a letter to the Liepāja City Council 'On training young actors for Liepāja Theatre' (No 1-08/48), in which it asked the Council to support the training of actors in Liepāja.

A Liepāja City Council decision of 19 January 2017 (Decision No 15, minutes No 1, 15.#) refers to the long-term and medium-term development planning documents of Latvia and to Section 15 (1) (5) of the Law on Local Governments, which states that the autonomous functions of local governments include also taking care of culture, promoting the preservation of traditional cultural values and the development of folk creativity. The decision of the Council provided co-financing for a bachelor study programme in acting to be implemented at Liepāja University in order to achieve the expansion of the acting company SIA 'Liepājas teātris' created by Liepāja City Council and the balancing of its age groups.

Based on these considerations, LiepU developed, licensed, and implemented the academic bachelor study programme 'Acting' within the accredited 'Arts' field of study. The first admissions took place in the 2017/2018 academic year. 16 students were admitted with the aim to join the Liepāja Theatre acting company after graduation. In 2021, 10 actors graduated from the study programme and were employed as actors at the Liepāja Theatre and Liepāja Puppet Theatre that same year.

The licensed programme provided for the training of actors at LiepU at intervals of approximately six years, depending on the job market requirements, supplementing the programme with the current specialisation or fields of study. The potential for further development of the programme was studied, and appropriate conclusions were drawn during the preparation of the programme and accreditation documents in order to be able to train specialists in performing arts (acting, music, dance, movement, performance art, audiovisual communication) necessary for the development of culture and art in the Kurzeme region and the city of Liepāja at certain time intervals in the future:

1. as a result of job market research in Liepāja and Kurzeme region, it was concluded that the city and regional performing arts institutions had a foreseeable need for additional actors in their staff (in Liepāja Theatre, starting from 2027; in Liepāja Puppet Theatre, after the accreditation of the Art field of study), and there was a need to provide the diversity and interdisciplinarity of cultural life in the city of Liepāja and Kurzeme region with skilled specialists, as part of the implementation of the *Liepāja: European Capital of Culture 2027* projects and their subsequent development, and as part of cooperation with other Liepāja cultural institutions, such as the Lielais Dzintars concert hall (after the accreditation of the Art field of study);

2. the latest research into the development of performing arts has led to the conclusion that contemporary performing arts are no longer limited to the traditional rigid division of forms of expression into acting or puppetry, object theatre, performance, dance, musical theatre, event management, creation of stage texts, etc., but are manifesting themselves in interdisciplinary, hybrid forms, requiring, in addition, project development and management skills.

These conclusions are the basis for transforming the previously relatively narrowly vocationally specialised programme 'Acting' into a programme designed to meet the job demand of cultural institutions and train individuals, self-employed, and multifunctional performing arts professionals. For these reasons, the following changes were made in the programme prepared for accreditation:

1. changed name of the licensed programme: 'Acting' was replaced with a title that is in line with the dynamic changes in contemporary art: 'Contemporary Performing Arts, encompassing the diverse fields and expressions of contemporary performing arts: acting, dance, music, text, movement, performance art, audiovisual communication, and related skills;
2. according to the study results, the degree to be obtained has been changed - a Bachelor of Humanitarian sciences in music and performing arts;
3. adjustments were made to the study content and plan to include the study of contemporary performing arts: acting, dance, music, text, movement, performance art, audiovisual communication, and related professional skills;
4. by the changes, the results to be achieved in the study program have been clarified.

During the licensing of the programme, there were no recommendations for changes to its content, but there was a recommendation from the Licensing Commission to improve the scientific qualifications of the academic staff involved. During the implementation of the programme, several improvements were made in this respect: a few lecturers improved their scientific and professional qualifications (Dr. art. Rita Lūriņa, Dr. art. Agita Gritāne, Mg. art. Mārtiņš Kalita), Mg. art. Dmitrijs Petrenko and Mg. in Writing Studies Rasa Bugavičute-Pēce are studying for a doctoral degree; LiepU elected instructors with doctoral degrees (Dr. paed. Diāna Laiveniece, Dr. paed. Baiba Trinīte, PhD Sigita Ignatjeva) and professionals whose creative work is prized and who continue to improve their skills, were hired, for example, Mg. art. Anna Priedola, the artist, curator, and director of the study programme "New media art and design", engaged in socially involving art practices.

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 study programme in Contemporary Performing Arts is a part of the field of study Arts at LiepU, which together with the field of study Language and Culture Studies and research and creative activities in humanities and arts conducted by LiepU form one of the areas of strategic development for LiepU: Humanities and Arts, as approved by the Ministry of Education and Science. The definition of strategic development and specialisation implies the implementation of

this field as a priority of the university in research (and creative activities) and studies.

The academic bachelor study programme 'Contemporary Performing Arts' contributes to the common goal of the field of study: to provide the students with a high-quality academic education in humanities, resulting in a degree of Bachelor of Arts in Humanities.

The bachelor programme 'Contemporary Performing Arts' enable a balanced acquisition of academic knowledge and professional and creative skills. It is oriented towards the teaching of the content of LiepU strategic specialisation, which is specific in the context of Latvian higher education and is based on the dynamic contemporary development of the field of art. The programme, like other programmes in this field, is interdisciplinary in its orientation, enabling preparation for independent, creative, interdisciplinary research, creative, and professional activity in arts—in this case, in the field of contemporary performing arts. The programme is geared towards dynamic changes in performing arts and the loss of boundaries between different forms of performing arts, the expansion of the skills and competence of the performing artist, including the increasingly interdisciplinary aspects of dance, movement, music, performance, text, visual communication, etc.

The development plans for the Contemporary Performing Arts programme are aligned with both the Kurzeme region sustainable development planning documents and the 2030 Liepāja City Sustainable Development Strategy, where Liepāja is stated to be an education, science and research centre, and a centre of culture and creativity, closely related to the development of creative industries. The development of the programme is also linked to the status of Liepāja as the European Capital of Culture in 2027 and is in line with the aims and objectives of the programme (see: <https://www.liepaja2027.lv/eng#challanges>)

The development of the programme is based on Latvia's 2030 National Development Plan and the 2030 Sustainable Development Strategy, which particularly emphasises the interdisciplinary nature of studies and the concept of creativity education. In this strategy, education is seen as the acquisition of specific competences and qualifications, and the development of critical thinking, creativity, and cooperation skills and, more generally, of human talents, emotional and social intelligence. The Contemporary Performing Arts programme is in line with this strategy, as it is interdisciplinary and based on creativity and innovation.

The study programme 'Contemporary Performing Arts' is in compliance with the LiepU Development Strategy (2016–2020, approved at the LiepU Senate meeting on 20 June 2016, Minutes No 11; extended for 2023 (25.01.2021. Liepāja University Senate decision (Minutes No 7); available at: https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/dokumenti/LiepU_attistibas%20strategija%202016-2020_pagarinata%20lidz%202023.gadam_25.01.2021.pdf - Only in Latvian). It includes the following goal for the field of study: 'to implement education programmes (...) in the fields of study relevant to the regional specialisation'. The study programme meets the requirements set by the Ministry of Education and Science for higher education institutions preparing specialists necessary for the development of the region, and the national concept of polycentric development, which is included in several Latvian development planning documents.

The **title of** the study programme—'Contemporary Performing Arts'(code: 43212)—includes an understanding of contemporary performing arts in their broadest context, as performing arts that are presented to an audience in any form of expression and in any medium: traditional (theatre), non-traditional (any space, interactive environment, etc.), digital space, and using the potential of modern technology. This performing art form can potentially include a wide variety of elements and creative expressions: acting, dance, movement and gesture, music, text, object work, performance,

audiovisual communication, etc.

The **degree awarded** in the study programme - Bachelor degree of Humanitarian Sciences in Music and Performing Arts - reflects the **goal of** the study programme: to make it possible to acquire academic education and a Bachelor degree of Humanitarian Sciences in Music and Performing Arts to prepare for independent professional activity in the fields of contemporary performing arts (acting, dance, music, text, movement, performance, etc.) and in the management of performing arts projects.

The **objectives** of the study programme are set in line with the goal:

- 1) provide an adequate scientific, methodological, and physical basis for academic education;
- 2) provide the theoretical knowledge necessary for fully-developed contemporary performing arts activities in the fields of humanities and arts, interdisciplinary performing arts (acting, dance, music, text, movement and gesture, performance, audiovisual communication, etc.), as well as performing arts project management;
- 3) encourage the acquisition of skills and abilities necessary for contemporary performing arts by using various methods and forms of study, creating a close link between theoretical and practical courses.

The overall goal and objectives of the study programme are achieved through the delivery of the study programme **content** and individual **study outcomes** to be achieved through the learning of the content.

As a result of the studies, a diploma of higher education is obtained - a bachelor's diploma, an academic degree - a bachelor's degree in humanitarian sciences in music and performing arts. As a result of the studies, professional (contemporary stage) and general competencies (global, research, innovative, entrepreneurship, and civic) are developed.

After graduating from the study program, students are able:

- to work professionally and regularly increase mastery in various forms of performing arts - acting, music, the art of movement and gesture, writing, dance, performance art, and audiovisual communication; participate in the development of the professional field of performing arts;
- analyze and evaluate the processes of contemporary performing arts in the context of cultural-historical and current developments, apply knowledge in argumentation and research;
- develop and implement a contemporary stage art project;
- take responsibility and initiative when doing work individually or cooperating in a team, make decisions and find creative solutions;
- understand the professional ethics of performing arts, and evaluate the impact of your professional activity on the environment and society.

The goals, outcomes, and objectives of the study programme are achieved within the planned **duration** (4 years) and **scope** (160 credits).

Admission requirements for the Bachelor's study programme **Contemporary Performing Arts** (43212):

Admission requirements	Competition criteria	
	For persons who completed secondary education after 2004	Persons who completed secondary education before 2004 or who are exempt from CE, persons with special needs, foreign nationals
Secondary education and entrance exam	Compulsory requirements: CE in Latvian (highest or optimal level) CE in mathematics (highest, optimal or general level) CE in a foreign language (English, German, French) (highest or optimum level) or CE in a foreign language (Russian) (highest level) or ST in a foreign language Average of all CE aggregate ratings	Compulsory requirements: GA or CE in Latvian (highest or optimum level) GA or CE in mathematics (highest, optimal or general level) GA or CE in a foreign language (English, German, French) (highest or optimum level) or CE in a foreign language (Russian) (highest level) or ST in a foreign language
	Entrance examination - discussion on the motivation for choosing a study programme. Examination in acting and stage speech - monologue (prose or poetry), song, etude.	
	Advantages: 1st-3rd place winners in the Latvian State Olympiad in Latvian language and literature, foreign languages, visual arts in the last three school years. 1st-3rd place winners in Latvian linguistics, Latvian literature science and history, Philosophy, History and cultural heritage, Foreign linguistics and foreign literature science and history section, Cultural studies section of the Latvian National or Regional Pupils' Scientific Conference in the last three academic years.	

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

The creation and implementation of the Liepāja University academic bachelor study programme 'Contemporary Performing Arts', and the periodic nature of enrolment, is related to the current developments of performing arts in Liepāja and the Kurzeme region, the goals and development strategy of Liepāja Theatre, and the activities and development strategy of the Liepāja Puppet Theatre. The mission of Liepāja Theatre is to be a professional musical-dramatic theatre for the Kurzeme region, with a permanent and highly skilled company of performers, which offers a diverse, artistically rich, and high-quality repertoire to everyone in the region, and functions as a centre for art, music, theatre, and culture in Kurzeme. The aim of Liepāja Puppet Theatre is to cooperate with professional directors to achieve high artistic quality in various types of performances: with floor puppets, stick puppets, marionettes, mask puppets, object theatre, or interactive action with an actor, etc.

The strategic goals of the projects initiated by the Liepāja performing arts institutions and independent project authors, and projects resulting from national and regional development planning include the creation and maintaining of permanent and highly skilled companies, and the employment of individual artists. These processes need to be considered from a future perspective, by planning the training of performing artists at certain intervals.

The study programme is based on a long-term analysis of the situation in performing arts in Liepāja un Kurzeme's region. In 2017, the core of the Liepāja Theatre company consisted of actors who received their higher education at the Liepāja College of Applied Arts, Liepāja Theatre Acting Course (Studio 4, 1990–1993), Liepāja Pedagogical University, now Liepāja University (LiepU), Liepāja Theatre Acting Course (Studio 5, 1994–1998), and Klaipėda University in Lithuania (2006–2009). The core company of Liepāja Theatre, both then and in 2022, consists of only one actor, who received their acting education at the Latvian Academy of Culture in Riga. Liepāja Puppet Theatre also mainly employs Liepāja Theatre actors who got their education or professional experience in Liepāja.

These findings, obtained over a longer period of time, as part of the creation and development of the study programme, confirmed that young actors who got their education in Riga, basically stay to live and work there after completing their studies, because their families and personal lives are settled there. In the other Baltic States, Lithuania and Estonia, a similar situation has been seen for several decades. Training actors in the capital cannot fully meet the needs of the region's theatres, so this education is also offered in the regions. In Lithuania, for example, young actors are trained in the bachelor Theatre Arts programme at the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre (*Lietuvos muzikos ir teatro akademija*), and the programmes are run in both Vilnius and Klaipėda (see <https://lmta.lt/lt/bakalauro-studiju-programos/teatro-krypties-programos/teatro-menas/> - only in Lithuanian). In Estonia, one can study acting at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre (*Eesti Muusika- ja Teatriakadeemia*) in Tallinn, and at the Viljandi Culture Academy of the University of Tartu (*Tartu Ülikooli Viljandi Kultuuriakadeemia*, see <https://ut.ee/et/oppekavad/etenduskunstimid> - only in Estonian).

The already mentioned unproductive experience of training actors in the Latvian capital, Riga, and the positive experience of training actors in Liepāja led to the conclusion that the opportunities for providing new performers should be sought in cooperation between Liepāja Theatre, Liepāja City Council, and Liepāja University. As a result of this cooperation, the academic bachelor study programme 'Acting' was developed, and it was licensed in the 2016/2017 academic year. In 2017–2021, as a result of the bachelor study programme 'Acting' taught by Liepāja University, 10 stage artists graduated from the programme, who already worked in Liepāja Theatre during their studies, and since 2021, nine of them work as actors in the staff of Liepāja Theatre (see <https://liepajasteatris.lv/makslinieki/> - only in Latvian), and 1 is an actress in the staff of Liepāja Puppet Theatre (see <http://liepajaslles.lv/par-mums/darbinieki/> - only in Latvian). All actors are intensively employed (see Art field of study self-assessment reports since 2017), and their performances have been professionally praised on several occasions.

Based on this experience, one can state that the training of performing arts specialists at Liepāja Theatre University is fully justified and necessary for the diversity of cultural life and performing arts in the region and in Latvia, for the implementation of the strategic goals and objectives of Liepāja Theatre, and for raising funds and the economic impact of culture in the Kurzeme region. It has been demonstrated that the co-financing of the 'Acting' study programme by the Liepāja City Council encourages the students to be responsible in achieving the study results. Based on these conclusions, the Contemporary Performing Arts programme should continue to be fully linked to the study of job market demand.

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.

Statistical data about study programme students

Contemporary Performing Arts

Table 1

Number of students					Graduates
Study year	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021
Acting (full-time studies, co-financed by Liepāja City Council)	16	12	11	10	10

In 2017, 16 students were enrolled in the study programme, 6 students discontinued their studies, and 5 of them, in the first year. 10 students graduated in 2021. Given the potential eligibility of the students to work in Liepāja Theatre and Liepāja Puppet Theatre and the demand of the job market, the drop-out rate is considered to be reasonable.

Since the main task of the study program is to prepare high-quality and professional actors and performers, the study programme is not oriented to quantity but to quality.

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 academic bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Performing Arts" is designed according to the national academic education standard. The strategic goal of the study programme is to ensure that students acquire the theoretical knowledge and research skills, achieving the study results determined in the study programme, which correspond to the knowledge, skills and competence of level 6 of the European Qualification Framework.

The content of the bachelor's study programme ensures the achievement of scientifically based study results in humanities and contemporary performing arts. The expected study results relate to the contemporary performing arts labour market requirements.

The content of the 'Contemporary Performing Arts' study programme is designed in accordance with the objectives to be achieved in its courses, generally aimed at achieving the overall goal of the programme: to make it possible to acquire basic academic education and a Bachelor's degree in Humanitarian sciences in Music and Performing Arts, to prepare for independent professional activity in the fields of contemporary performing arts (acting, dance, music, text, movement, performance, audiovisual communication, etc.) and in the management of performing arts projects.

The structure of the programme is designed to pursue a gradual progression from the study of general humanities and arts courses (History of Latvian Theatre; History of World Literature, Culture, and Theatre: I, II, III, IV; Drama Theory and Analysis: I, II, III; Drama Terminology and Translation; Narrative Forms and Creation of Texts for Stage: I, II, III; History of Art; Audiovisual Communication; Latvian Language Culture; History of Theatre and Film Music; State, Civil and Environmental Protection; Academic Writing) to the study of the theoretical and practical aspects of professional specialisation in the field of contemporary performing arts (Acting and Performance Art Theory: I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII; Acting and Performance Art Practice: I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII; Stage Speech Methodology: I, II, III, IV, V, VI; Stage Speech: I, II, III, IV, V, VI; Performing Arts Project Management; Vocal Skills: I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII; Stage Gesture, Movement and Performance: I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII; Stage Dance and Performance: I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII; Developing a Performing Arts Project; Study Assignment). In that way the acquired skills and abilities are strengthened in diverse professional and creative activities.

In recent decades, and especially since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, performing arts have become a dynamic and rapidly changing artistic field, which calls for a sufficiently flexible and variable performing arts programme structure and content. In line with innovations in the field of performing arts, the specialisation courses in the field include up-to-date content alongside the fundamentals of performing arts, which is why the titles of the specialisation courses are broad and inclusive, responding to the dynamic development of the field and incorporating the latest trends. The programme's course descriptions are designed with the traditional basis of performing arts studies at their core and with the requirement to regularly review and evaluate the current developments in performing arts, the latest trends and the demand of the job market.

The relationship between the content of the studies (courses), their scope, and the results to be achieved according to the national academic education standard is shown in Table 2.

Table 2

Relationship between programme content (programme parts and their credit scope) and expected study outcomes

Programme part/content/credits	Study course	Scope Credits	Expected study outcomes (according to the knowledge, skills, and competences of level 6 of the framework of knowledge, skills and competences defined in the Latvian Classification of Education)
COMPULSORY PART 63 credits	History of Latvian Theatre	2	<p>The students are familiar with and understand the basic and specialised knowledge, key concepts and patterns in the field of humanities and arts, performing arts.</p> <p>They can independently obtain, select, analyse, and use information, make decisions and solve problems. They can structure their learning independently and demonstrate a scientific approach to problem solving.</p> <p>They can apply knowledge in reasoning and research.</p> <p>They demonstrate competence in humanities and arts, performing arts, in interdisciplinary contexts, and in project management</p> <p>They can demonstrate an understanding of professional ethics in performing arts, assess the impact of their professional activities on the environment and society, and participate in the growth of the professional field of performing arts.</p>
General education, humanities, and arts courses	History of World Literature, Culture, and Theatre: I, II, III, IV	8	
	Drama Theory and Analysis: I, II, III	6	
	Drama Terminology and Translation	2	
	Narrative Forms and Creation of Texts for Stage: I, II, III	6	
	History of Arts	2	
	Audiovisual Communication	4	
	Latvian Language Culture	2	
	History of Theatre and Film Music	2	
	State, Civil and Environmental Protection	2	
	Academic Writing	2	

Field Specialisation Theoretical Courses	Acting and Performance Art Theory: I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII	14	<p>The students can use the theoretical foundations and skills they have learned and can work professionally in a variety of performing arts: acting, music, movement, text, dance, gesture, performance art, audiovisual communication. They can take responsibility and initiative working individually or as part of a team, make decisions, and find creative solutions.</p> <p>They demonstrate competence in humanities and arts, performing arts, in interdisciplinary contexts, and in project management</p> <p>They can demonstrate an understanding of professional ethics in performing arts, assess the impact of their professional activities on the environment and society, and participate in the growth of the professional field of performing arts.</p>
	Stage Speech Methodology: I, II, III, IV, V, VI	7	
	Performing Arts Project Management	4	
LIMITED ELECTIVE PART, 83 credits Practical Specialisation Courses	Acting and Performance Art Practice: I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII	28	
	Stage Speech: I, II, III, IV, V, VI	7	
	Vocal Skills: I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII	12	
	Stage Gesture, Movement and Performance: I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII;	14	
	Stage Dance and Performance: I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII;	14	
	Developing a Performing Arts Project	4	
	Study Assignment	2	
National examination 12 credits	Theoretical part of bachelor's work	2	Demonstrate a combination of all the above knowledge, skills and competencies.
	Bachelor's work	12	
FREE ELECTIVE PART, 2 credits	From the list of free elective courses of LiepU	2	Knowledge, skill, competence development

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.

Descriptions of the methods used to teach the courses are included in the course descriptions, published in the student personal profiles in the LAIS database and in the e-learning environment Moodle. In addition, at the beginning of every course, the students are introduced to the credit requirements, the theoretical knowledge to be learned and the practical work and tasks to be carried out in order to obtain a grade.

The main methods of study are lectures, seminars, discussions, tests, practical assignments, independent assignments, research, creative, and project assignments. Creative exercises and workshops are a particularly important form of learning performing arts skills, for example in acting, object theatre, vocal development, dance, movement, creative writing and translation, etc. In addition to traditional forms (lectures, seminars), interactive forms of study such as group work, various types of discussions, problem-oriented studies, creative methods of for group and individual work, studies using online and other multimedia tools, websites, in particular, the Moodle environment, are practised. The performance of creative tasks and the regular development of performing arts skills play an important role in the achievement of the study outcomes of the Contemporary Performing Arts programme.

Each task takes up a certain portion of the final grade. The evaluation methods depend on the specifics of the course and the requirements set, as shown in the course descriptions, as part of the system of expected outcomes and mid-term examinations and tests. The system of mid-term examinations ensures continuous summative assessment throughout the course, which contributes to the provision of feedback. Formative assessment and peer assessment are also used to evaluate learning achievements: teacher-student, student-student, student-student group, etc. The assessment system is designed to provide students with a variety of assessment methods and experience in assessing their professional performance. All professional specialisation courses have a variety of tasks to build and develop professional skills, and as part of these courses, students

present the performance of specific mastery assignments. All specialisation courses (acting and performance, stage speech, vocal performance, stage dance, stage gesture and movement) assess the development of professional skills and professional discipline.

At the end of each course, a test is organised in the form of an exam/graded final test. The overall evaluation of the studies is based on a summative system, which provides for the gradual accumulation of the final grade based on multiple of the student's assignments in each course. The methods for the teaching and evaluation of courses of the study programme are implemented in accordance with the Liepāja University regulations on course/module examinations (https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/dokumenti/studentiem/Noteikumi%20par%20studiju%20kursa_modula%20parbaudijumiem_speka%20no%2001.09.2022.pdf - only in Latvian)

The expected outcomes of the Contemporary Performing Arts study programme are shown in the syllabi of the courses and are closely related to the overall goals, objectives and expected outcomes of the study programme. The mapping (see Annex 8) offers evidence of the relevance of the course outcomes to the study programme outcomes. This confirms that the study process produces contemporary performing artists who, using theoretical knowledge in the field of performing arts and practical knowledge of acting and performance art skills, dance, movement, vocal, text, audiovisual communication and management skills, can work independently, professionally, and creatively in the field of performing arts, in line with modern requirements.

Principles of student-centred education are applied in the organising of the study process: 1) the definition of the goals and objectives of the courses, which contributes to the students' understanding of the overall objectives of the study programme; 2) the definition of the study outcomes, which contributes to the dialogue between the instructors and the students in what pertains to the study content, forms and methods of organisation, to the students' understanding and their share of responsibility for their learning, self-assessment, and understanding of the grade received.

Students receive regular support and feedback from instructors during studies, and are informed about the relevant evaluation criteria. Communication between the instructors and the students takes place in class, in individual tutorials, via e-mail or online tools, and in the Moodle environment.

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).

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.

In the 2021/2021 academic year, the national examination for the Acting programme consisted of two parts:

- developing and presenting performances to audiences: the bachelor performances 'Upe' (directed by Kristīne Brīniņa), 'Cietsirdīgās spēles' (directed by Dmitrijs Petrenko), 'Diagnoze — jaunība' (directed by Māra Ķimele), and the puppet theatre play 'Harolds un pīle' (directed by Lelde Kaupuža);
- preparation and defence of the theoretical part of a bachelor thesis.

All the performances prepared as part of the bachelor thesis were included in the Liepāja Theatre and Liepāja Puppet Theatre repertoire in 2021 and 2022. The play 'Cietsirdīgās spēles' is a part of the 'Skolas soma' programme, and all performances have been assessed by experts and critics in the field. Thus, the significance of the outcomes of the study programme in the development of the Latvian cultural space and the current theatre art process and for the promotion of the Liepāja economy is fully and positively confirmed. The actuality of the final works from an academic point of view is related to the study of the history of theatre and the theory of drama in connection with the theory of acting and the development of a specific role. The practical relevance of the final works - students' involvement in creating the Latvian contemporary performing art process.

In the theoretical part of their bachelor theses, the students demonstrated the skills of applying theoretical knowledge in the process of research and analysis of their creative activity. The students could devote the theoretical part of their thesis to the development of a specific role or roles in one of the bachelor shows:

- *Creating the role of Nikita in Dmitrijs Petrenko's production 'Cietsirdīgās spēles'.*
- *Ērika in the diploma show 'Cietsirdīgās spēles', and Lūcija in the diploma show 'Diagnoze — jaunība'. Development of roles and theoretical background.*
- *Development of roles for the diploma show 'Harolds un Pīle' at the Liepāja Puppet Theatre.*
- *Development of the role of Kai in the diploma show 'Cietsirdīgās spēles' and its theoretical basis.*
- *Preparation for the role of Junkers in Dmitrijs Petrenko's 'Cietsirdīgās spēles'.*
- *Role of Daisy in the bachelor play 'Diagnoze — jaunība' and its theoretical basis.*
- *Development of the role of Frēders in the show 'Diagnoze — jaunība' and its theoretical basis.*
- *Working on the roles of Junkers and Ēriks in the diploma show 'Cietsirdīgās spēles'.*
- *Role of Neļa in the diploma show 'Cietsirdīgās spēles' and its theoretical basis.*
- *Development of the role of Marija in 'Diagnoze — jaunība' by Māra Ķimele.*

The students received grades ranging from 8 to 10 for their work in the bachelor shows and the development and defence of the theoretical parts of their bachelor theses. Electronic versions of the theoretical parts of the defended bachelor theses are available via the LAIS system.

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.

Study and material-technical base of the study program 'Contemporary Performing Arts'.

The program is implemented on the premises of the Liepāja University of Liepāja at Kūrmājas prospect 13: auditorium 205 (60 seats) for compulsory theoretical courses, auditorium 205 in the foyer - hall (50 seats) for professional specialization classes (acting and performing arts), auditorium 207 (15 seats) for work with a computer (audiovisual communication), auditorium 105 and auxiliary rooms in the Art Research Laboratory for audiovisual communication, vocal lessons, stage speech lessons, independent work.

On the premises of the Liepāja University at Lielā Street 13, several study courses are implemented: room 413. - an assembly hall with a stage (200 seats) for professional specialization classes (acting and performing arts, vocal lessons and stage speech classes), room 140. - sports hall (capacity 25 people), equipped with the necessary equipment for stage movement, dance and performance art classes. In case of necessity and depending on the type of lessons, practical courses can also take place on the premises of cooperation partners - Liepāja Theatre, Liepāja Puppet Theatre, and concert hall "Lielais Dzintars".

In the development plan of the Liepāja University, it is planned to restore and arrange the building Kr. Valdemāra Street 4, which will expand the availability of premises, incl. for learning performing arts.

Informative and scientific base.

The informative and scientific base consists of the collections of the LiepU library. The library's collection comprises about 65 500 information resources (92% of books, 8% serial editions and other units of the collection). 75% of the entire collection is open display on shelves, so the teaching staff and students have a chance to choose the most appropriate editions by themselves.

In order to ensure the study process in the programme 'Contemporary Performing Arts' literature is offered according to the topics of the taught courses, such as culture, theatre, literature, drama, arts (sound art, cinematography, etc.), audiovisual communication, creativity, acting and stage speech, Latvian language culture and academic writing, project management, civil and environmental protection, etc. Out of all the information resources at the library's disposal, the mentioned topics make up about 5% of the items in the collection.

More precise indications about the study, scientific, informative and material-technical base are given in Part II, Chapter 3, 2.3.1. - 2.3.2.

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 funding of studies from the state budget is allocated each calendar year in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers' Regulation No. 994 of 12.12.2006. "Procedures for Financing Institutions of Higher Education and Colleges from the Funds of the State Budget" and the agreement between the Ministry of Education and Science and the Liepāja University on the training of a certain number of specialists.

The calculation of the full-time costs for the study programme 'Contemporary Performing Arts' for the period 2023-2024 uses the base costs for 2022 (EUR 1630.11 per one study place) and the coefficient of the thematic area of education "Choreography" as defined by the Ministry of Education and Science (IZM): 3.9, as well as the cost factor for bachelor education study programmes: 1.0 The projected cost per study place in 2023 is EUR 6 357.43, the total cost of the study programme for four years is EUR 25 429,72.

The planned tuition fee for full-time studies for the 1st year of the academic year 2023/2024 is EUR 6 800 and it is fixed for the entire period of study, the total tuition fee for four years is EUR 27 200.00. The minimum number of students per course is 14.

The program currently does not have a study place paid for by the state, so LiepU plans to attract funding from legal persons and individuals. Admission to the program is provided in two ways:

1. Because the programme is unique in Latvia and Kurzeme's region, its financing can be made up of students' personal funding. If it is impossible to complete the minimum number of students in the group (14), students' matriculation to the program does not occur.
2. LiepU has long-term cooperation with the municipality of Liepāja State City Council. Between 2017 and 2021, the municipality co-financed the implementation of the study programme "Acting": at 67,176 euros per year. Based on the labour market requirements of the Liepāja and Kurzeme region, before the planned admission to the programme "Contemporary Performing Arts", a cooperation agreement on the amount of co-financing will be concluded with the municipality.

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.

Information about the teaching staff involved in the study programme can be found in this report's Section II: Study Programme Description (3. Resources and assets of the field of study).

The programme has a total of 24 lecturers.

The academic staff involved in the study programme meet the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the *requirements set out in Section 55 (1) (3) of the Law on Higher Education Institutions*, which stipulates that 'not less than five professors and associate professors altogether, who are elected to academic positions in the relevant higher education institution, shall take part in the implementation of the compulsory part and the limited elective part of academic study programmes'. 7 elected LiepU professors and associate professors participate in the delivery of the academic study programme Contemporary Performing Arts: Zanda Gūtmane, Dr. philol., prof.; Benedikts Kalnačs, Dr. habil. philol., prof.; Anda Kuduma, Dr. philol., asoc.prof.; Diāna Laiveniece, Dr.paed., prof.; Edgars Lāms, Dr. philol, prof.; Baiba Trinīte, Dr.paed., prof.; Ilze Valce, Mg. music., prof. The professors and associate professors enable the teaching of the compulsory part and the limited elective part, which includes the guidelines, principles, structure, and methodology of the field of humanities and arts, contemporary performing arts, and the characteristics and problems of the field of humanities and arts, and performing arts from an interdisciplinary perspective. Their work mainly pertains to the learning of global competences and research competences, and their associated study outcomes.

12 lecturers, or 50% of all academic staff in the programme, have a doctoral degree. The academic staff are professionals in their fields and have demonstrated competence and achievements in the research and evaluation of the humanities and arts. They are mainly involved in compulsory and limited elective courses covering the field of humanities and arts, the guidelines, principles, structure, and methodology of contemporary performing arts, and the characteristics and problems of the field of humanities and arts and the performing arts from an interdisciplinary perspective.

For example, Dr. habil. philol. Benedikts Kalnačs' research work (publications, monographs, conferences) in the field of drama theory and theatre history is integrated into all study courses related to drama and theatre. Research work in literary studies, history of literature and culture, and linguistics (publications, monographs, conferences - see CV) by Dr. philol. Zanda Gutmane, Dr. philol. Edgars Lāma, associate, Dr. philol. Anda Kuduma, PhD Sigita Ignatieva, Dr. art. Vēsma Lēvalde, Dr. paed. Diana Laiveniece is integrated into humanities and arts courses. The research work of the lecturers helps to achieve such study results as, for example, the student knows how to analyze contemporary performing arts processes in the cultural-historical context of current developments, the students can select and analyze information, able to discuss and study contemporary art problems.

In addition to the global and research competences in the fields of humanities and arts, especially performing arts, they also provide innovative competences and related study outcomes (Rita Lūriņa, Dr.art., in gesture and stage movement; Zanda Gūtmane, Dr. philol., in text production; Sigita Ignatjeva, PhD, in the translation of dramatic texts; Vēsma Lēvalde, Dr.art., in the evaluation and critique of performing arts processes). The qualifications of all these lecturers help to achieve the study result - students can work professionally in various fields of performing arts and are able to engage in performing arts research.

In the development of the contemporary stage arts, the possibility of additional training is important. Two instructors of performing arts courses: head of programme Dmitrijs Petrenko, Mg.art., Mg.soc., and the stage text creation course lecturer Rasa Bugavičute-Pēce, Mg.art., Mg. in writing studies, have been studying for a doctoral degree at the Latvian Academy of Culture since the 2021/2022 academic year.

14 lecturers have been elected to the core staff, or 56% of all instructors in the programme. Only two of the core instructors have a master degree, and they provide interdisciplinary skills in audiovisual communication (Anna Priedola, Mg.art.) and project management (Uldis Drišļuks, Mg. in management studies), necessary for contemporary performing arts.

Invited guest lecturers are well-regarded professionals in the field of contemporary performing arts: Latvian Academy of Culture lecturer Jānis Siliņš, Mg. art., Rita Lūriņa, Dr. art.; Liepāja Theatre artistic director, director Dmitrijs Petrenko, Mg. art, Mg.soc; head of Liepāja Theatre, actor and director Herberts Laukšteins, Mg.art; actor and director Mārtiņš Kalita, Mg. art.; Agnese Grīnberga, Mg. paed. As a result of the professional and teaching activity of all these lecturers, graduates of the 'Acting' programme achieved the planned study outcomes and continue to use the excellent skills they learned in the fields of acting, vocal, dance and movement, working in Liepāja Theatre. It is not possible to replace these professionals with core staff.

To ensure the acquisition of certain skills, the programme could potentially involve other experts in the field, in particular in puppetry, object theatre, creative writing, etc., as workshop instructors, on a temporary basis. The long-term cooperation with Liepāja Theatre potentially enables the hiring of foreign specialists who work as guest directors at Liepāja Theatre. During the development of the Acting programme, a cooperation agreement for the training of actors was concluded with Klaipėda University so potentially Lithuanian performing arts specialists could also be used as guest instructors.

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 the licensing and implementation of the Acting programme (2017–2021), minor changes were made in the composition of the academic staff of the programme prepared for accreditation:

1. some faculty members improved their scientific and professional qualifications, obtained master or doctoral degrees (Dr. art. Rita Lūriņa, Mg. art. Mārtiņš Kalita);
2. some of the academic staff are improving their qualifications by studying for a doctoral degree at the Latvian Academy of Culture (Mg. art., Mg.soc. Dmitrijs Petrenko and Mg. in Writing Studies, Mg. art. Rasa Bugavičute-Pēce);
3. lecturers with doctoral degrees have also been employed for the programme (Dr. paed. Diāna Laiveniece, PhD Sigita Ignatjeva, Dr. art. Agita Gritāne);
4. as part of gearing the programme towards the acquisition of diverse skills in contemporary performing arts, highly skilled professionals in the field of contemporary performing arts (contemporary dance and performances: Kristīne Brīniņa), and lecturers and professionals in performing arts project management and development: Mg. in Management Studies Uldis Drišļuks, Mg. art. Dace Bluķe, lecturer in visual communication and new media artist Mg. art. Anna Priedola).

As a result of these changes, the study programme is expected to achieve its broadened objectives and outcomes in a focused manner.

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).

During the development and study of the programme, there was intensive cooperation among the academic staff: regular communication took place, aligning the course objectives and study outcomes with the overall goals and outcomes of the programme. Regular joint tasks (e.g. synthesis of acting and vocal, dance or movement arts, or stage speech) were developed and evaluated during the study process. All performing arts instructors and, where possible, lecturers in theoretical courses, regularly participated in the evaluation of term papers and mid-term examinations for all performing arts courses. Work was done to look for links between theoretical and practical courses (e.g. analysis of drama or literary works as inspiration for creative ideas, use of knowledge of music history in the development of creative performances, etc.)

At the time of the submission of the self-assessment, the study programme had no students.

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	Diploma_diploma_suppl_sample_ContempPerfArts_ENG.pdf	Diploma un diploma pielikuma paraugs_Laikmet_skat_maksia_LV.pdf
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	Statistical data on students in the study programme_Acting_Contemporary_Preforming_Arts.docx	Statistikas dati par studējošiem studiju programmā_Aktiermāksla_Laikmetīgā_skatuves māksla.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 with the study programme with the State Education Standard.docx	Atbilst_valsts_akad_izglit_standartam.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	Map of courses of the study programme.docx	Studiju kursu kartējums.docx
The curriculum of the study programme (for each type and form of the implementation of the study programme)	The curriculum of the study programme.docx	Tipveida plāns_Laikmetīgā_skatuves māksla.xlsx
Descriptions of the study courses/ modules	ENG Studiju kursu apraksti_LSM_30_11 .pdf	LAT Studiju kursu apraksti_LSM_30_11 .pdf
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)	Certificate_Contemporary Performing Art_EN.pdf	Apliecinājums_Laikmetīgā_skatuves māksla_LV.pdf

Media Art and Creative Technologies (51213)

Study field	Arts
ProcedureStudyProgram.Name	<i>Media Art and Creative Technologies</i>
Education classification code	51213
Type of the study programme	<i>Doctoral study programme</i>
Name of the study programme director	Rasa
Surname of the study programme director	Šmite
E-mail of the study programme director	<i>rasa.smite@rixc.lv</i>
Title of the study programme director	<i>Dr.sc.soc.</i>
Phone of the study programme director	+371 26546776
Goal of the study programme	<p><i>The main goal of the study programme: by combining the resources and experience of both universities, to implement a high-quality and innovative academic doctoral study programme in the field of Arts in the Humanities, subfield - Media Arts and Creative Technologies, which would enable suitably qualified doctoral candidates to engage in original and independent research - creation of new knowledge - in digital media and audio-visual arts and creative use of innovative technologies, and which has an impact on culture, economy, politics and social sphere in Latvia and beyond.</i></p> <p><i>The specific objective of the programme is to train competitive, research-oriented professionals - artists who have a comprehensive knowledge of new technologies, audio-visual arts and digital cultural processes, as well as have mastered specific skills in the creation of works of art and innovative media products, scientific research and the implementation of creative projects, and who are competitive in the art, innovation technology and creative industries labour market. The acquired academic degree is a prerequisite not only for a successful research career, but also for an academic career in higher education.</i></p>

Tasks of the study programme	<p><i>1.To ensure a purposeful and qualitative study process, to provide students with the necessary support in knowledge and skills development and research, to attract professionals in the field of media arts and creative technologies to the study programme and research and to promote professional development of LiepU and RISEBA teaching staff.</i></p> <p><i>2.To develop a creative environment for the study and research of media arts and creative technologies, to offer a versatile, interdisciplinary academic education, to continuously upgrade the material and technical base, and to develop cooperation with creative industries and contemporary culture organisations.</i></p> <p><i>3.To stimulate students' creativity in developing innovative ideas, to develop the skills and competences needed for professionalism and research, and to offer versatile opportunities for presenting research projects.</i></p> <p><i>4.To provide students with versatile opportunities to participate in the network of partner universities and organisations and the projects they initiate, to stimulate the integration of artistic research projects into other disciplines, as well as international visibility.</i></p> <p><i>5.To strengthen the understanding of the culture-based economy, to provide students with the necessary support to develop their knowledge, skills and research, providing them with opportunities to acquire entrepreneurial knowledge alongside cultural project management skills and experience.</i></p> <p><i>6.To provide the highest level of knowledge to students who, upon graduation, can become experts, recommendation authors and project evaluators in national, European Union and international organisations.</i></p>
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Results of the study programme	<p><i>The studies lead to the higher academic diploma of Doctor of Science, the academic degree of Doctor of Science (Ph.D.) in the Humanities and Arts Sciences. Graduates of the programme have the opportunity to pursue their academic career and/or choose different areas of the creative industries in the labour market. As a result, upon completion of their PhD studies, students become professional media artists, academic researchers and socially active citizens who have received an innovative and high-quality media arts education and who are also able to compete in the labour market, as they have the necessary specific knowledge and skills in working with different creative technologies, as well as management and marketing knowledge.</i></p> <p><i>Study outcomes to be achieved:</i> <i>The study programme outcomes are formulated in accordance with the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) and Latvian Qualifications Framework (LQF) level 8 and the European Qualifications Framework for Higher Education Area cycle 3 qualification level.</i></p> <p><i>Knowledge:</i> <i>1. is familiar with and understands the most up-to-date scientific theories and findings, research methodologies and contemporary research methods in the field of media arts and creative technologies and at the interface between different fields;</i></p> <p><i>Skills:</i> <i>1. can independently evaluate and select appropriate methods for scientific research, contribute to the expansion of the frontiers of knowledge and bring new understanding to existing knowledge and its applications in practice by carrying out original research of significant scope, some of which is at the level of internationally cited publications;</i> <i>2. can communicate both orally and in writing about media arts and creative technologies to the wider scientific community and society at large;</i> <i>3. can independently improve their scientific qualifications, implement scientific projects and achieve achievements that meet international scientific criteria,</i> <i>4. manage research or development tasks in companies, institutions and organisations where extensive research knowledge and skills are required;</i></p> <p><i>Competences:</i> <i>1. is able to independently, critically analyse, synthesise and evaluate significant research or innovation tasks, independently propose a research idea, plan, structure and manage large-scale scientific projects, including international ones;</i> <i>2. make scientifically sound decisions in solving problems and defend their views in a reasoned manner;</i> <i>3. manage, coordinate and collaborate multidisciplinary media arts and creative technology teams in an international context;</i> <i>4. demonstrate considerable authority, innovation, autonomy, scientific and professional independence and a sustained commitment to the development of new ideas or processes at the forefront of the work or media field, including research.</i></p>
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Final examination upon the completion of the study programme	<i>Exmatriculation exam</i>
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Study programme forms

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>Master's degree in arts, humanities or another field (sociology, communication and information science, computer science, physics, etc.) and a minimum level of B2 in English, and entrance exam</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 the Humanities and Arts Sciences</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	<i>-</i>

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
University of Liepāja	LIEPĀJA	LIELĀ IELA 14, LIEPĀJA, LV-3401

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.

Changes in degree awarded:

Doctor of Science (Ph.D.) in the Humanities and Arts Sciences

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 doctoral study programme "Media Arts and Creative Technologies" is part of the field of study "Arts" implemented by LiepU, which together with the study direction "Language and Culture Studies" and research and creative activities in humanities and arts implemented by LiepU form one of the strategic development directions of LiepU - "Humanities and Arts" approved by the Ministry of Education and Science. The definition of strategic development and specialisation foresees the implementation of this direction as a priority of the university in the field of both research (and creative activity) and studies.

Alongside the academic bachelor's study programme "New Media Art and Design", the academic bachelor's study programme "Contemporary Performing Arts" and the academic master's study programme "New Media and Audiovisual Arts", the academic doctoral programme "Media Arts and Creative Technologies" contributes to the common goal of the field of study: to provide students with the opportunity to acquire a high-quality academic education in the humanities by obtaining a degree of - Doctor of Science (Ph.D.) in the Humanities and Arts Sciences

All study programmes of Liepaja University study direction "Arts" provide a balanced acquisition of academic knowledge and professional and creative skills. All programmes are oriented towards the implementation of the content of LiepU strategic specialisation, which is specific in the context of Latvian higher education and is based on the contemporary dynamic development of the art field. The PhD programme "Media Arts and Creative Technologies" is designed to foster the development of original and independent research (in media arts, creative and artistic innovation in the use of technology) that is embedded in the broader cultural, economic, social and political context of Latvia and internationally. The programme is developed on the basis of interdisciplinary and dynamic "intellectual territories" of media art, which are in line with the current strategies of LiepU. The RISEBA joint doctoral programme gives students the opportunity to practice and apply the

latest technologies in their creative research and to build professional links with entrepreneurship and the creative industries. This interdisciplinary research approach fits into the common academic definition of research as "accessible, systematic research" that is effectively disseminated.

The activities of the Media Arts and Creative Technologies programme are in line with the sustainable development planning documents of the Kurzeme Region, as well as with the "Liepāja City Sustainable Development Strategy 2030", which identifies Liepāja as an education, science and research centre, as well as a cultural and creativity centre, closely linked to the development of creative industries. The development of the programmes is based on the National Development Plan 2030 and the Sustainable Development Strategy 2030 of Latvia, which emphasises the interdisciplinarity of studies and the concept of creativity education. Education is seen in this strategy as the acquisition of specific competences and qualifications, as well as the development of critical thinking, creativity and cooperation skills and, more generally, of human talents, emotional and social intelligence. The "Media Arts and Creative Technologies" study programme is in line with this strategy, as it is both interdisciplinary and grounded in creativity and innovation.

The development of the programme is also linked to Liepāja's status as the European Capital of Culture 2027 and is in line with the aims and objectives of the programme (see: <https://www.liepaja2027.lv/eng#challenges>).

The study programme "Media Arts and Creative Technologies" is in compliance with the University of Liepāja Development Strategy (2016-2020, approved at the University of Liepāja Senate meeting on June 20, 2016, Protocol No 11; extended for 2023 (25.01.2021 Senate decision of University of Liepāja (Protocol No. 7); available: https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/%C4%80SD/ERASMUS%20dokumenti/Liepaja_University_Development_Strategy_Summary_2016-2023_25.01.2021.pdf) (available only in Latvian) It includes a study field goal: "to deliver the education programmes (...) the region needs in the fields of study relevant to regional specialisation". The study programme meets the requirements defined by the Ministry of Education and Science for higher education institutions to prepare specialists necessary for the development of the region, as well as the concept of polycentric development, which is included in several Latvian development planning documents.

The **title** of the study programme is "Media Arts and Creative Technologies" (code - 51213) and the **degree to be obtained** in the study programme is a diploma of higher academic education - Doctor of Science (Ph.D.) in the Humanities and Arts Sciences - reflects the **main goal** of the study programme: by combining the resources and experience of both universities, to implement a high-quality and innovative academic doctoral study programme in the field of Arts in the Humanities, subfield - Media Arts and Creative Technologies, which would enable suitably qualified doctoral candidates to engage in original and independent research - creation of new knowledge - in digital media and audio-visual arts and creative use of innovative technologies, and which has an impact on culture, economy, politics and social sphere in Latvia and beyond.

The specific objective of the programme is to train competitive, research-oriented professionals - artists who have a comprehensive knowledge of new technologies, audio-visual arts and digital cultural processes, as well as have mastered specific skills in the creation of works of art and innovative media products, scientific research and the implementation of creative projects, and who are competitive in the art, innovation technology and creative industries labour market. The acquired academic degree is a prerequisite not only for a successful research career, but also for an academic career in higher education.

Thus, the study programme provides an opportunity to complete the study cycle in media art at the University of Liepāja and in audio-visual art at RISEBA, which can be started at the bachelor study level. The PhD programme contributes to research capacity in the Arts and also prepares future

faculty members at the undergraduate level.

The **tasks** of the study programme are set in line with the aim:

1. To ensure a purposeful and qualitative study process, to provide students with the necessary support in knowledge and skills development and research, to attract professionals in the field of media arts and creative technologies to the study programme and research and to promote professional development of LiepU and RISEBA teaching staff.
2. To develop a creative environment for the study and research of media arts and creative technologies, to offer a versatile, interdisciplinary academic education, to continuously upgrade the material and technical base, and to develop cooperation with creative industries and contemporary culture organisations.
3. To stimulate students' creativity in developing innovative ideas, to develop the skills and competences needed for professionalism and research, and to offer versatile opportunities for presenting research projects.
4. To provide students with versatile opportunities to participate in the network of partner universities and organisations and the projects they initiate, to stimulate the integration of artistic research projects into other disciplines, as well as international visibility.
5. To strengthen the understanding of the culture-based economy, to provide students with the necessary support to develop their knowledge, skills and research, providing them with opportunities to acquire entrepreneurial knowledge alongside cultural project management skills and experience.
6. To provide the highest level of knowledge to students who, upon graduation, can become experts, recommendation authors and project evaluators in national, European Union and international organisations.

The overall aim and tasks of the study programme shall be achieved through the implementation of the study programme **content** and the individual **study outcomes** to be achieved through its mastering.

The studies lead to the higher academic diploma of Doctor of Science, the academic degree of Doctor of Science (Ph.D.) in the Humanities and Arts Sciences. Graduates of the programme have the opportunity to pursue their academic career and/or choose different areas of the creative industries in the labour market. As a result, upon completion of their PhD studies, students become professional media artists, academic researchers and socially active citizens who have received an innovative and high-quality media arts education and who are also able to compete in the labour market, as they have the necessary specific knowledge and skills in working with different creative technologies, as well as management and marketing knowledge.

Study outcomes to be achieved:

The study programme outcomes are formulated in accordance with the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) and Latvian Qualifications Framework (LQF) level 8 and the European Qualifications Framework for Higher Education Area cycle 3 qualification level.

Knowledge:

1. is familiar with and understands the most up-to-date scientific theories and findings, research methodologies and contemporary research methods in the field of media arts and creative technologies and at the interface between different fields;

Skills:

1. can independently evaluate and select appropriate methods for scientific research, contribute to the expansion of the frontiers of knowledge and bring new understanding to

existing knowledge and its applications in practice by carrying out original research of significant scope, some of which is at the level of internationally cited publications;

2. can communicate both orally and in writing about media arts and creative technologies to the wider scientific community and society at large;
3. can independently improve their scientific qualifications, implement scientific projects and achieve achievements that meet international scientific criteria,
4. manage research or development tasks in companies, institutions and organisations where extensive research knowledge and skills are required;

Competences:

1. is able to independently, critically analyse, synthesise and evaluate significant research or innovation tasks, independently propose a research idea, plan, structure and manage large-scale scientific projects, including international ones;
2. make scientifically sound decisions in solving problems and defend their views in a reasoned manner;
3. manage, coordinate and collaborate multidisciplinary media arts and creative technology teams in an international context;
4. demonstrate considerable authority, innovation, autonomy, scientific and professional independence and a sustained commitment to the development of new ideas or processes at the forefront of the work or media field, including research.

The aims and objectives of the study programme are feasible and the results are achievable within the **planned duration** (3 years) and **scope** (138 credits).

Documents to be submitted: 1. Secondary education certificate,

2. Bachelor's diploma,

3. Master's diploma and attachments.

Admission requirements:

Master's degree in arts or humanities or another discipline (sociology, communication and information science, computer science, physics).

Admission to the joint doctoral programme takes place at the university of the applicant's choice: The University of Liepaja specialises in digital media arts, while RISEBA specialises in audio-visual media and creative technologies.

Entrance exams

- Doctoral project application
- Interview in English

Recommended prior knowledge and competences of the candidates, their recommended level, which the students demonstrate in the interview and the application project.

Digital competence

Prior knowledge and list of competences

Description of desired level

Digital information and data - searching, browsing, rating, managing, filtering, reusing and merging content	Oriented and able to apply confidently and independently within their specific field and with general information
Communication and collaboration through digital technologies. Understands digital communication ethics, etiquette and security - protection of personal data and privacy	Is able to apply independently and purposefully, i.e., in the context of independent and distance learning
Development of digital content	Is able to independently or under the guidance of lecturers develop digital content necessary for themselves and the study process, within their specific field (e.g., sound recording, processing, video, photo, etc.)
Copyright and licences	Knows and applies independently and purposefully
Entrepreneurial capacity	

Prior knowledge and list of competences	Description of desired level
A creative approach to problem solving	Is able to identify a problem independently or under the guidance of a supervisor, lecturers, and propose a solution in a research and business context
Open communication, ability to cooperate in intercultural and interreligious situations	Applies independently and consistently
Active involvement and autonomy, mobilising peers and experts	Applies independently and consistently
Communication	

Prior knowledge and list of competences	Description of desired level
Making the necessary contacts for teamwork (internal, national and international networking)	Applies independently and consistently
Innovation competence	

Prior knowledge and list of competences	Description of desired level
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Idea generating, creativity, ability to generalise	Applies independently and consistently
Alternative thinking	Can independently and consistently use different/unconventional ways of thinking, which include posing questions and solutions to problems and constructively critiquing them
Research competence	
Prior knowledge and list of competences	Description of desired level
Research interest	Is able to formulate research interests independently or with the support of a supervisor, based on external support, personal interests or current developments in the field
Conceptualising and designing the study	Is able to independently or with the support of a supervisor select and target a research methodology, assess the validity of the research, define the research question
Communication and publicity	Understands the importance of dissemination of research results and is willing to publicise own research to a wider or narrower audience through a conference, presentation, methodological material or scientific publication

Full-time studies last 3 years (36 months), including 11 months of studies and 1 month of leave each year. The study programme scope is 132 credits / 198 ECTS, which is enough time to complete the programme requirements - developing a methodology, case studies, publicity assignments, etc.

The scope of the study program is 132 KRP, because doctoral students have only 1 month of vacation per year (instead of 2, as in bachelor's and master's studies).

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

Based on the digital strategy developed by the European Commission "The Digital Commission of the Next Generation", the strategies of the European Green Deal and the European Digital Decade clearly show that digital technologies and digital skills have become an important part of virtually all spheres of society., on the one hand opening up new opportunities and, on the other, increasing complexity. The ubiquity and, in some cases, dominance of digital technologies makes the need for critical and practice-oriented digital media studies particularly pressing. Society needs a critical, not a cheerful, response to the media, which on the one hand push the boundaries of human creativity, but on the other impose control by the state and other forces through surveillance and the influence of opinion. This new situation calls for new kinds of knowledge and approaches, as cultural research, film and media production and distribution, the process of art making, forms and modes of exhibition continue to change and transform as a result of digitisation.

Arts and other creative practices using audio-visual media and digital technologies have a hitherto under-exploited potential for research and the creation of new knowledge. It is important to implement an academic programme in Latvia that seeks to combine theory with practice, contributing to the development of art as a field of research. Media arts and creative technology education and the related creative industries are developing rapidly around the world. In Latvia, too, there is a great interest in new media as a tool in artistic and cultural processes, among artists, young people, partner universities and experts in Europe and elsewhere. There is a need in Latvia for media art and creative technology specialists at the highest level of academic education - artists and academic researchers educated and skilled in creative practical work with the latest technologies (from digital video to mobile communications).

Research is the cornerstone of this programme - art is also studied, but the main approach is to consider art as a research method. In the context of media art and creative technologies, this means that the artist is not only the creator of the artwork, but also the researcher and reflector of new tools, media, technologies, social processes, scientific discoveries, etc. And new knowledge is created through these research processes. The joint LiepU and RISEBA doctoral study programme "Media Arts and Creative Technologies" focuses on art research based on creative practices and the transformative potential of digital technologies. The new PhD programme offers academically advanced studies in the use of digital technologies in different media environments and audio-visual arts. Alongside more traditional art and media production practices, the use of innovative technologies such as augmented and virtual reality, 360° cinema, cultural analytics, data visualisation, etc. is being developed. In addition to new practical possibilities to capture new kinds of images, structure information or offer new kinds of experiences to audiences, these technologies offer opportunities to create entirely new narratives.

The "Media Arts and Creative Technologies" programme is in line with Priority 4 of the Smart Specialisation Strategy "Development of a modern and up-to-date ICT system in the private and public sectors". This priority corresponds to the specialisation area "Information and Communication Technologies", which also includes media arts and creative technologies. The role of creative technologies in creating digital content resources and in helping to develop collaborative work between ICT and other sectors (developing language technologies, digitising cultural and educational content, etc.). In today's situation, where the role of information technologies has increased in all spheres of human activity, creative technology and media art specialists are visualising data, 3D printing (prototyping), creating expanded reality, video mapping systems, operating unmanned video cameras (drones). In this way, the arts sector contributes to the objectives of the Smart Specialisation Strategy. They also contribute to tackling a range of current social issues, such as drawing attention to and exposing digital surveillance, covert attempts to influence political and other opinions on social media, the use of artificial intelligence for manipulative purposes, etc. Media arts and creative technologies education and related creative industries are developing very rapidly worldwide and are considered as one of the promising economic sectors. At a time of economic crisis in Europe, when a number of traditional industries were declining, the creative industries continued to grow strongly.

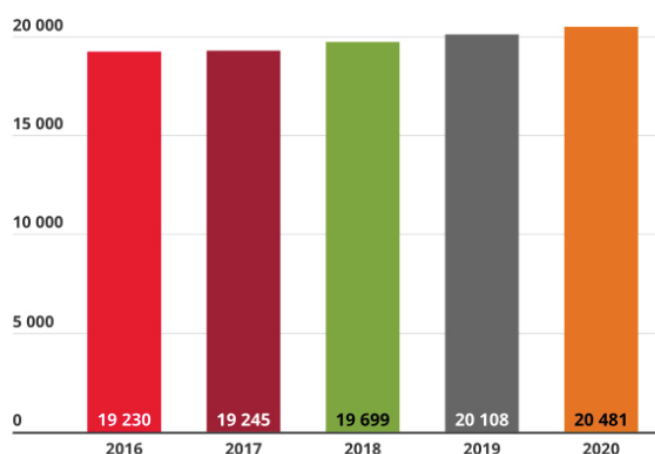
According to the Information Report on Sectoral Policy Guidelines for the planning period 2021-2027, improving technology transfer systems that ensure the successful transformation of intellectual property generated by universities and research institutions into innovations and higher added value products for the business sector. The new study programme is implemented in cooperation between two higher education institutions - LiepU, whose mission is to be a promoter of education, science, innovation and cultural development in Liepaja and Kurzeme, and RISEBA University of Business, Arts and Technology, which has a goal to become an international centre of business, creativity and innovation development in Northern Europe. The establishment of the

programme is in line with the strategic direction of both universities. By combining resources, the mission of the Media Arts and Creative Technologies programme offered by both universities is to provide competitive, nationally and internationally relevant studies necessary for the development of Riga city and the Kurzeme region, as well as to implement study-related, nationally and internationally recognised research, contributing to the sustainable development of society.

The future labour market is expected to have a high demand for professionals in engineering, ICT, software developers, augmented and virtual reality systems developers, data analysis, systems analysis. All these areas require high cognitive abilities, critical thinking, high-level literacy, media literacy and information processing skills. (source: CEDEFOP Skills intelligence data <https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/skills-intelligence/>). The European Commission highlights the potential of the creative industries: cultural and creative industries are essential for the continued development of society and are at the heart of the creative economy. Creative industries are knowledge-intensive and rely on individual creativity and talent to generate significant economic wealth. It should also be mentioned that people working in the creative industries represent and promote a common European identity, culture and values. In economic terms, the creative industries are showing above-average growth and creating jobs, especially for young people. (source: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cros/content/essnet-generalities_en, <https://culture.ec.europa.eu/cultural-and-creative-sectors/cultural-and-creative-sectors>).

Data from the Latvian Ministry of Culture show that the number of companies in the creative industries is growing steadily. See visualisation of MoC data. This is an area in constant need of innovation and therefore of dedicated, research- and innovation-competent staff and partners.

The number of companies working in the creative industries and related industries



Currently 6 people have graduated from the Doctoral Programme in Media Arts at the University of Liepaja, all of them lecture at different universities in Latvia (LiepU, RISEBA, LMA), 4 of them are professional artists (regular exhibitions at least once a year) and 4 continue research in their field (participate in conferences, produce publications).

Students and degree candidates also receive social and creative support through projects.

Project: "Improvement of the academic staff of Liepaja University in the fields of strategic specialization – natural sciences, mathematics and information technologies, art, social sciences, business and law".

Project number: No 8.2.2.0/18/A/021

Funded by: European Social Fund

Project period: 01.11.2018 - 31.10.2022.

Involved doctoral students: Maija Demitere, Signe Pucena, Paula Vītola

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 study programme is offered in one study form and language. All students in the study programme are Latvian citizens.

All students study in state budget places or in study places financed by LiepU.

The increase in the number of students in 2021 can be attributed to the positive work with students in the Master's programme "New Media and Audiovisual Arts", encouraging students' interest in research and academic development, with 2 graduates entering the next level of study.

Year	Admitted	Graduates	Number of students	Comment
2016	5	0	5	
2017	2	0	3	3 dropped out 1 suspension of studies
2018	1	1	3	2 suspensions of studies
2019	1	3	5	1 dropped out LiepU programme "New Media Art". Year of transition to a joint program
2020	0	0	2	1 suspension of studies
2021	0	0	2	1 suspension of studies
2022	3	2		2 MA graduates admitted, 1 student joins after a 3-year break

Reasons for dropping out and taking study breaks (4 students who dropped out were interviewed) - changes in family situation and/or work situation - 100%, lack of confidence in the chosen topic - 50%, focus on professional work (art practice, participation in residencies) - 50%.

To reduce drop-out, one of the reasons for dropping out - loss of confidence in your research topic - can be influenced by offering extra guidance to students before they start their studies and during their first year.

There is a decrease in the number of students in 2020 and 2021, which can be attributed to the

changes in the Master's programme and the decrease in the number 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 joint doctoral study programme "Media Arts and Creative Technologies" of LiepU and RISEBA was developed within the framework of SAM 8.2.1.0/18/A/010 project "Reduction of fragmentation of study programmes and strengthening of resource sharing at LiepU".

The joint programme was designed as the next educational stage of the already successful joint Master's degree programme "New Media and Audiovisual Arts", which was launched in the 2017/2018 academic year on the basis of a cooperation agreement. The experience gained has been taken into account in the design of the new programme offered.

The content of the study programme "Media Arts and Creative Technologies" is based on the doctoral study programme "New Media Arts" implemented at LiepU, which is aligned with RISEBA's strategic decision to develop a high-quality doctoral level study programme. In order to further develop scientific research in line with contemporary interdisciplinarity requirements, to ensure full-cycle media arts education and to pool the highest quality media arts intellectual and material resources, the two universities have agreed on the establishment of a joint PhD programme, thus ensuring the continuation of the joint Master's programme "New Media and Audiovisual Arts" at a higher (PhD) level.

The Doctoral programme was developed by a working group of academics from both universities, with the support of external experts, who were selected to reflect the specificities of both the audio-visual media and new creative technologies and media arts fields. The working group includes experts from both academic and professional backgrounds, representatives from employers and professionals from abroad.

In the development of the joint programme, the universities have taken into account the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia's objective that the educational programmes offered by Latvian universities should be consolidated in order to avoid overlaps, be more competitive, merge and use resources more efficiently.

Doctoral programme team leaders and programme directors:

Dr. sc. soc. Rasa Šmite / Professor, University of Liepaja - Director of the Doctoral Studies Programme at the University of Liepaja.

Mg. art Aigars Ceplītis / docent, RISEBA / Candidate of Doctor's degree, LiepU - Director of the Doctoral Programme at RISEBA.

Dr. Christopher Hales / docents, RISEBA – Head of the Doctoral study programme.

Work group experts:

Dr. philol. Ilva Skulte / assoc. prof., Riga Stradiņš University / LiepU lecturer

Mg. art Jānis Holšteins / docent, RISEBA

Mg. art Zilvinas Lilas / professor, Academy of Media Art /Cologne, Germany

Ph.D. Alise Tifentāle / docent, University of Liepaja / lecturer, Riga Stradiņš University

Mg. art Agnese Baranova / lecturer, RISEBA / director, New Media Culture Centre RIXC

Dr. art Raitis Šmits / assoc. prof., Art Academy of Latvia / LiepU and Creative Director of the New Media Culture Centre RIXC

Dr. Ellen Pearlman / docent, RISEBA / adj. professor Parsons School of Design, New School, New York, USA

Ph.D. Raivo Kelomees / researcher, Tallinn University of Arts

The Academic Doctoral Programme "Media Arts and Creative Technologies" is based on the following documents:

1. The compliance of the programme with the "Law on Scientific Activities", "Law on Higher Education Institutions" of the Republic of Latvia, as well as with the Decision of the Council of Higher Education No 62 (18.06.1999) has been assessed. "Regulations on the establishment and implementation of doctoral study programmes".
2. Section 11 (2) of the Law on Scientific Activity, "Procedure for Awarding the Doctoral Degree", defines the general requirements for a doctoral thesis and its author: a doctoral candidate is able to independently conduct original scientific research, has mastered the research methodology and methods necessary for work in the specialty, is able to independently analyse the obtained results and draw conclusions appropriate to them. The content of the study programme "Media Arts and Creative Technologies" of LiepU/RISEBA, the organisation of studies and the intellectual and material resources necessary for the studies ensure the implementation of the requirements mentioned in the Law.
3. Section 57 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions stipulates that the duration of the doctoral study programme is 3-4 years, which corresponds to the duration of doctoral studies at LiepU / RISEBA.
4. The studies comply with the requirements of the ISO9001:2008 quality management system.
5. The doctoral study programme "Media Arts and Creative Technologies" has been developed in accordance with the rules of the Higher Education Council on the division of the programme into compulsory and optional (specialisation) study subjects, as well as types of research and academic work.
6. Latvia's Sustainable Development Strategy 2030, which emphasises interdisciplinarity of studies and the concept of creativity education. Education is seen in this strategy as not only the acquisition of specific competences and qualifications, but also as the development of critical thinking, creativity and cooperation skills and, more generally, of human talents, emotional and social intelligence. This programme is in line with this strategy, as it is both interdisciplinary and grounded in creativity and innovation.
7. National Development Plan, which recognises the importance of culturally educated personalities in the development of the country and emphasises the ability of such personalities to engage in and evaluate Latvia's cultural processes.
8. LiepU Constitution and LiepU Development Strategy (2016 - 2020, approved at the LiepU Senate meeting on 20 June 2016, Minutes No.11; available: https://www.liepu.lv/uploads/%C4%80SD/ERASMUS%20dokumenti/Liepaja_University_Development_Strategy_Summary_2016-2023_25.01.2021.pdf) (available only in Latvian). One of the priorities of the LiepU development strategy is the development of the arts direction, development of full-cycle studies and programme consolidation. The "Media Arts and Creative Technologies" programme corresponds to these priorities.

A quality assurance system has been established to ensure the quality of the study program, which

is included in the internal quality assurance systems of both institutions.

Quality assurance mechanisms include conducting student questionnaires once a year, evaluating the results of the questionnaires, preparing and evaluating the self-evaluation report of the study program, etc. processes.

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 innovation of the curriculum in its approach to arts research is the creation of an environment in which practice - the active process of (art) making and critical reflection on it - is central to the research process. An artist who carries out such research is called a "reflective practitioner". This designation is very important as it confirms the practitioner's special and specific knowledge and thus underlines the leading role of the practice in the thesis research. This in turn implies that the methodology is "practice-led". This means that the practice itself (or some specific aspects of it) can lead to research questions (in relation to the context being researched); can encourage the creative (but therefore no less rigorous and no less analytical) use of research methods; and can make research results "visible" and "tangible" in a creative way. The doctoral study process is thus closely linked to the doctoral internship in the arts or creative technologies.

The innovation of the PhD programme is also reflected in its pedagogical aspect, which is inclusive and inviting, discursive, ambitious, open to new ideas and change. In this programme, "reflective practice" is interpreted on the basis of two leading philosophical perspectives: how to "arrive at knowledge" (or learning) and understanding, i.e., the "experiential" (empirical) and the "constructive" perspectives. The empirical perspective involves "studying by doing", by going into and experiencing practical action and creating a critical understanding of it through reflexive processes. The constructivist perspective assumes that studying is a process created (constructed) according to each individual's prior knowledge and experience. Finally, studies take place in a socially dynamic environment involving formal and informal relationships, providing the opportunity for "shared reflection", thus facilitating the process of "collaborative learning" and the "bridging" of knowledge (acquired through independent individual research). The interaction between these two perspectives (learning/understanding) also reinforces the closer links between action and knowledge, doing and thinking, action and reflection, practice and theory, thus ensuring the creation of new knowledge - which is the overarching objective of this programme.

The international aspect of the programme is very important: artists graduating from the programme will be oriented in the international media art environment and circulation, and will be able to contribute to the future scientific and educational development of media art.

The achievement of the study outcomes - the degree of Doctor of Humanities in Arts - Doctor of Science (Ph.D.) - is ensured by the extensive modules on research methodology (A1-01 and A1-02 "Academic Writing and Creative Practice") and art and media theory (A1-03 "Theory and Methodology"), etc., included in the programme content, as well as the student's own active academic and research practice. The programme consists of the following parts:

- **Theory and creative research**

Part A compulsory part - 42 CP

A1 Fundamentals of Research, A2 Topics and Research Processes, A3 Research Critique.

- **Doctoral thesis and exams**

Part B - 79 CP

B1 Research Process and Progress Analysis (annual final examinations), B2 Doctoral Thesis - Directed Art Research, B3 Doctoral Examinations)

- **Competences**

Part C elective part - 11 CP

Teaching and organisational activities, conference papers, exhibitions, etc.

As the programme is based on individual studies, the largest amount of CPs and the corresponding number of hours is devoted to the development of the Doctoral thesis or the Lead Art Research (70 CPs), which takes place between seminars.

The correlation between the study content (courses), their scope and the results to be achieved is shown in the table below.

The logic behind the structure and content of the study programme

Study outcomes to be achieved

1. is familiar with and understands the most up-to-date scientific theories and findings, and is proficient in research methodology and contemporary research methods in the field of media arts and creative technologies and at the interface between different fields;
2. can independently evaluate and select appropriate methods for scientific research, contribute to the expansion of the frontiers of knowledge and bring new understanding to existing knowledge and its applications in practice by carrying out original research of a significant scope, some of which is at the level of internationally cited publications;
3. is able to communicate both orally and in writing about media arts and creative technologies to the wider scientific community and society at large;
4. is able to independently improve their scientific qualifications, implement scientific projects and achieve achievements that meet international criteria in the field of science,
5. lead research or development tasks in companies, institutions and organisations where extensive research knowledge and skills are required;
6. is able to independently, critically analyse, synthesise and evaluate significant research or innovation tasks, independently propose a research idea, plan, structure and manage large-scale scientific projects, including international ones;
7. make scientifically sound decisions in solving problems and defend their views in a reasoned manner;
8. lead, coordinate and work collaboratively with multidisciplinary media arts and creative technology teams in an international context;
9. demonstrate considerable authority, innovation, autonomy, scientific and professional

independence and a sustained commitment to the development of new ideas or processes at the forefront of the work or media field, including research.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Module:	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Fundamentals of Research.									
Outcomes within the framework of A1-01 "Academic Writing and Creative Practice":									
-the skills to prepare an academic research proposal, identifying areas of knowledge, defining clear research questions, key terms, etc;									
-the ability to present academic research to colleagues and lecturers;									
-increased knowledge to demonstrate understanding of the fundamentals of academic research;									
-develop skills in using libraries and other academic resources;									
-developed skills and competences to demonstrate better knowledge of methodologies and methods;									
-develop the skills to understand the style and standard of academic writing and its importance;									
-improved knowledge of practice-based research;									
-thematic knowledge areas related to creative technologies and audio-visual media arts promoted.									

Module:

x x x x x x x x x

Fundamentals of Research.

Outcomes within the framework of A1-02 "Academic Writing and Creative Practice":

- increased knowledge of practice-based research;
- developed and refined competences to reflect on artistic research with reference to key texts and articles by experts in the field of artistic research;
- demonstrated good knowledge of academic writing techniques and different styles (APA, Harvard, etc.), referring to the "School for Scholarly Writing" publication;
- demonstrated improved skills and quality of academic writing;
- positioning competences for practical work in the context of new media art;
- demonstrated ability to write a doctoral dissertation to high standards of academic writing;
- essential components of the practical element of the work have been prepared and documented, and knowledge of the standard documentation and analysis to be included in the final work has been provided.

Module:

X X X X X X X X X

Fundamentals of Research.

Outcomes within the framework of A1-03 "Theory and Methodology":

- reviewing and demonstrating the development and improvement of the original academic study proposals;
- fostering PhD students' critical and commenting skills on their individual research;
- assimilated introductory knowledge of research paradigms; artistic research;
- demonstrated deeper knowledge of methodology, methods and research ethics;
- knowledge of the criteria for awarding the doctorate and the nature of originality;
- understand the structure and content of successful dissertations through practical case studies and lecture research;
- improved skills and experience in presenting their research;
- understanding and relevance to the application of the relevant theory;
- improved academic knowledge through the acquisition of reading skills relevant to the research.

Module:

X X X X X X X X X

Themes and Research Processes.

Outcomes:

- demonstrate good academic knowledge relevant to the chosen artistic research;
- demonstrate additional technical and procedural skills and experience gained during the PhD internship;
- demonstrates progress in the overall doctoral thesis process.

Module:	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Theory and Creative Research - Research Critique.								
Outcomes:								
-demonstrated regular and constant contact with the supervisor,								
-present the progress of the work, taking into account the recommendations of the supervisor.								

Module:	X	X	X	X		X		X
Dissertation and Examinations - Analysis of the Research Process and Progress.								
Outcomes:								
-documentation compiled as evidence of successful performance during the academic year, submitted at the end of each academic year;								
-evidence of successful collaborative activities with academic colleagues throughout the academic year, submitted at the end of each academic year;								
-(Year 1 of the progress assessment) during the winter colloquium, completed an assignment that is relevant to the student's research, while providing evidence of the doctoral student's academic quality and research viability;								
-(Year 3 of the progress assessment) successfully defended his research in front of a panel of experts.								

Module:	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Doctoral Dissertation - Leading Art Research.									
Outcomes:									
-a single document presented to the Examination Board, representing a completed leading artistic research project developed over 3 years of study.									

Module:									
Dissertation and Examinations - Dissertation Examinations.									
Outcomes:									
-a single document presented to the Examination Board, representing a completed leading artistic research project developed over 3 years of study.									

Module:									
Competences.									
Outcomes:									
-active participation in international research events (conferences, symposia, exhibitions, etc.); - achievements have benefited their field and university (LiepU, RISEBA).									

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 study program provides an opportunity to obtain an academic doctorate in arts and creative technologies. In connection with the signed Memorandum of Intent with the LMA signed on December 6, 2022 (attached), graduates of the program may be awarded a Ph.D.

Scientific qualification in Latvia is confirmed by promotion - the award of a scientific doctor's degree (Ph. D.). The degree is awarded for a doctoral thesis independently developed and publicly defended under the guidance of an experienced scientist (hereinafter referred to as the thesis supervisor), which contains the results of original scientific research and provides new knowledge in science - in the field of "Music, visual arts and architecture" and "Sciences of creative industries"

When applying for a second degree in another field of science, it is possible to develop a doctoral thesis without the supervision of a thesis supervisor, using the consultations of the industry's leading specialists (hereinafter referred to as consultants).

A person who successfully completed an accredited doctoral study program and/or passed exams in a specialization and a foreign language can apply for the award of a doctor's scientific degree.

The doctoral study program "Media art and creative technologies" addresses the following questions:

1. What can be the role(s) of media arts and creative technologies in imagining and creating future paradigms and models of future cultural economies, creative entrepreneurship and cross-cutting concepts, practice models and their value hierarchies? What tools and

technologies can be developed?

2. How can media art by creating works of artistic quality help develop collective intelligence, awareness of cultural identity and values, individual freedom and self-governance, creative expression, imagination and inspiration?
3. What impact can media arts and creative technologies have on interdisciplinary development, engaging in the sciences, natural resources, environment, climate, policy issues, business model development, administrative systems, etc.?

Thus, in its content, the program will focus on the following intellectual areas or indicative research directions:

1. Interdisciplinary practice – creation of hybrid media environments, narratives and non-linear narratives, information and energy networks, art and science, ecology and technology research, developing critical discourses on surveillance, subversion and control as integral components of digital technologies, etc.
2. Sound, Image, and Immersive Environments – Sound Art, Electronic Music, Responsive Environments, Networked Art, Interactive and 3D Filmmaking, Virtual Reality, Augmented Environments, Drone and 360 Degree Video Creation, etc.
3. Network Culture and Sustainability - Culture and Economy in the Digital Age, Social Media and Networked Communities, Participatory Culture, Media Ecology, Semantic Web, Open Source, Intellectual Property, etc.

The content of the doctoral study program includes mandatory academic work practice (teaching 2 courses or supervising at least 1 or 2 bachelor's or master's theses in a corresponding study program), thus doctoral students can transfer their knowledge and skills to other levels of education in the direction of "Arts". Doctoral students give lectures, contributing to the renewal of the teaching staff of the university, supplement the study process with the latest research data and information, and they also learn such competencies as planning their own and others' time, public speaking, presentation culture, punctuality, critical thinking, and other skills.

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 order to promote student-centred study and interaction between PhD students, three face-to-face study sessions are scheduled for all PhD students during the academic year: in October (Autumn Colloquium), February (Winter Colloquium) and June (Summer Colloquium).

These colloquia include seminar sessions: one-to-one support, mutual exchange of ideas and topics, and a set of colloquia and seminars tailored to the needs of each student.

In between colloquia, studies are facilitated by online learning environments and/or off-campus consultancy and project development sites (e.g., creative industry sites, NGOs, government institutions, hospitals, laboratories). Research carried out in collaboration with external institutions

(e.g., NGOs, creative industries, research and higher education institutions, network communities, etc.) is discussed individually with the help of a scientific steering group and coordinated by an administrative group. These collaborative studies are in line with the philosophy of the programme and its implementation context.

Each study year ends with an Annual Progress Report (APR), which must be successfully completed to ensure progression and progression to the next academic year. To pass the APR, the artistic research in progress must be presented to the expert commission and other PhD students in a research project development workshop.

At the end of the first year of the doctoral programme, students must pass a progress assessment in artistic research; in the first part of the third year, students must pass a progress assessment in a sub-specialisation.

As the programme is based on individual studies, the largest amount of CPs and the corresponding number of hours is devoted to the development of the Doctoral thesis or the Lead Art Research (70 CPs), which takes place between seminars.

The academic year is divided into three trimesters, each of which includes one colloquium:

1. the trimester runs from 1 February to 31 May - includes one week of PhD colloquium in February (part A1) and individual discussions with PhD students (part A3 "Research Critique") in the inter-semester.
2. the trimester runs from 1 June to 30 September and includes one week of the PhD Colloquium in June.
3. the trimester runs from 1 October to 31 January and includes one week of the PhD Colloquium in October.

These colloquia bring together all PhD students and lecturers from Latvia and abroad.

1. YEAR OF DOCTORAL STUDY PROGRAMME

Winter Colloquium 1: Introduction to the PhD programme: introduction to research paradigms; artistic research - methodology and research ethics; criteria for the degree, features of originality. Task - developing a PhD topic.

Summer Colloquium 1. Progress review, completion of PhD proposal, methodology and methods workshops, e.g., contextualisation, reflection. Task - to identify and evaluate 3 completed practice-led doctoral thesis examples (case studies) related to the student's research proposal.

Autumn Colloquium 1. Progress report, PhD case study presentation; methodology and methods workshops, e.g., project design, research ethics, etc. Task - to prepare an annual progress report (presentation/demonstration and article).

First Annual Progress Report (APR). Submission of a Progress Report Document (PRD), which includes a presentation of the work in progress, a contextual statement, a self-assessment, a bibliography. Task - preparation for presentation/demonstration and critical analysis.

2. YEAR OF DOCTORAL STUDY PROGRAMME

Winter Colloquium 2. Presentation and feedback of progress report documentation; methodology and methods workshops, e.g., evaluation and analysis, conducting research; practice models; organisational skills. Task - to launch and organise a student-led public forum for the Winter Symposium.

Summer Colloquium 2. Student-led public forums, options for curriculum development (according to student needs), consideration of different forms of critique. Task - public forum reflection and

critique.

Autumn Colloquium 2. Review and intensive development of project work, options for curriculum delivery (according to student needs). Task - Preparation of the Annual Progress Report.

Second Annual Progress Report. Submission of a Progress Report Document (PRD), which includes a presentation of the work in progress, a contextual statement, a self-assessment, a bibliography. Task - preparation for presentation/demonstration and critical analysis.

3. YEAR OF DOCTORAL STUDY PROGRAMME

Winter Colloquium 3: Presentation of the Progress Report documentation and feedback. Exploring presentation forms and formats (including e.g., writing, demonstrating, etc.). Task - plan for submitting work.

Summer Colloquium 3. Progress report - thesis submission plan, review of the thesis originality criteria. Task - Preparation of the first form of the final submission.

Autumn Colloquium 3. Doctoral thesis examinations and preparation for the *viva voce* (pre-defence) of the submitted thesis. Task - submission of the first version of the written part of the thesis and preparation of the thesis presentation.

Each PhD candidate, together with the research supervision group, develops an individual study programme according to the nature and context of his/her research, thus taking an active part in structuring his/her experience during the PhD studies.

The programme is based on an independent study model, which allows students to focus on a research topic of their own interest in relation to the indicative research areas of the programme. There is also the possibility to form part of a wider research programme or collaborative project in an original way, according to the chosen research question (priority topic or research project).

The programme is not a curriculum *per se*, but includes the compulsory and optional options required for a PhD. The learning model of the programme uses a combination of teaching methods that maximises the learning experience for students, drawing on a range of teaching and learning methods:

4. lectures (including online lectures), seminars and creative workshops;
5. studying with other PhD students in study teams/pairs/networks;
6. online consultations and individual contact with teachers;
7. independent study, creative practical research.

Student-centred methods of learning are complemented by discussions between management and students on the organisation and improvement of the learning process.

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).

"Academic practice" is, depending on the field and specialization chosen by the student, managing or advising undergraduate theses, managing semester assignments or consulting for undergraduate students. In some cases, doctoral students also teach 1 or 2 KRP lectures within the modules in their field of specialization.

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).

Currently, the dissertation defence board is provided by the Art Academy of Latvia on the basis of the Letter of Intent signed on 6th of December, 2022 between the Art Academy of Latvia, the University of Liepāja and RISEBA University of Business, Arts and Technology (attached in the appendix):

1. The parties agree on cooperation in the activity of the defence board within the framework of the joint doctoral program "Media art and creative technologies" of the University of Business, Arts and Technologies "RISEBA" and the University of Liepāja.
2. The parties agree:
 - 2.1. The defense of doctoral theses takes place at an open meeting of the Defence board of the Latvian Academy of Arts, if until the defense of the doctoral theses the University of Business, Art and Technology "RISEBA" or the University of Liepāja has not been granted the right to award a scientific doctoral degree (PhD.) in humanities and arts sciences.
 - 2.2. The parties agree that each of the parties will delegate a certain number of members of the Defence board to work in the Defence board. The Defence board will be organized by the Latvian Academy of Arts in accordance with the Cooperation Agreement signed by all parties.
 - 2.3. All interested parties may attend the meeting, ask questions to the applicant, the Defence board and the reviewers, and comment on the thesis.
 - 2.4. All interested persons may participate in the meeting, ask questions to the applicant, the council and reviewers, as well as comment on the doctoral thesis.
 - 2.5. Reviewers participate in the Defence board meeting with decision-making voting rights.
 - 2.6. The public defense of the doctoral thesis takes place in the national language or in a foreign language upon agreement with the author and with the acceptance of the Defence board.
 - 2.7. The decision on awarding or refusing to award a degree is made by the Defence board by a majority of votes, by open voting. If the votes are equally divided, then the council holds a discussion and votes again. If, after repeated voting, the votes are equally divided, the council will review the work again, but no earlier than one month and no later than six months after the meeting, in which the decision was not made. Until the next meeting of the council, the applicant has the right to make corrections in the doctoral thesis after coordination with the chairman of the Defence board.
3. The parties agree that the Cooperation Agreement on the obligations and responsibilities of the parties agreed in this document will be concluded no later than within 3 (three) months after the signing of this Letter of Intent. If the Cooperation Agreement is not concluded between the parties within the mentioned term, this Memorandum of Intent becomes invalid and the parties are not bound.

4. The parties agree that the financial relations, as well as other issues related to the implementation of the project, will be discussed in the Cooperation Agreement.
5. The parties are responsible for fulfilling the obligations of the Protocol in good faith, on time and in good quality. The Parties undertake not to take any actions that may directly or indirectly harm the performance of the obligations of the other Party.

The first Defence board is scheduled to convene at the end of the first semester -f 2023, with 6 theses to be assessed.

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 students' doctoral theses are relevant and original in the Latvian context. Most of the research has focused on immersive media - VR, XR, 360° narrative. This research also has great potential for commercialisation and application, not only in the arts, but also in the entertainment industry, medicine and other fields. However, interdisciplinary research is also of great importance for the region, such as research on the curation of contemporary art, including media art residencies in a regional small town, and their relationship to practices of preserving tangible and intangible cultural heritage. The need for the region's historical heritage was also highlighted by the International Commission of Experts on the Evaluation of Latvian Scientific Institutions. An interdisciplinary link with the linguistics research traditions was formed by the research on coding art - artistic experiments with imaginary scripts and codes, as well as on the dissemination and distribution of poetry in transmedia space, which allowed one of the PhD students to join the HMZF/KHI project in the national research programme "Letonika". Studies on "slow" media art and electrical art are very useful for the content of the lower levels of the Arts programme.

Students' work is rated from "very good" to "excellent", indicating that they are highly motivated.

Exmatriculated

Year	Number of exmatriculated students, topics	Assessment: exmatriculation examination / English language examination	Relevance
2018	1		
	Rhizomatic Narratives in 360 Degree Stereoscopic Spherical Cinema	9 / 10	360-degree video is a technology of growing relevance; understanding storytelling in 360 environments is compelling for film, animation, virtual and augmented reality projects. The study adds to our understanding of the relationship between audio-visual media and the use of sound.

2019	3		
	"Deep" sustainability and the art of "slow" media	8 / 8	"Sustainable" art has not been studied much in Latvia, the Baltics or the world. The compilation of "sustainable" artworks and key figures is an internationally significant study. Another topical aspect of the study is the methodological description of the auto-ethnographic methodology used.
	ELECTRIC ART: the influence of natural philosophy, technology and the history of ideas on media art in the 20th and 21st centuries	8 / 8	An important compendium of the history and methodology of the visual arts (technological arts).
	Interaction of the cultural heritage and interdisciplinary art. SERDES experience study	8 / 8	Significant collection, documentation, context and contextualisation of the UNESCO Heritage Object (SERDE) in Latvian art history and contemporary art
2022	2		
	Coding art: Artistic experiments with imaginary scripts and codes	9 / 8	Definition and art historical context of "coding art", description and mapping of key artists and works. Research and analysis of textual art methods.
	The expansion of print-based poetry within the trans-medial space: a practice-led study of poetry creation, delivery, and audience perception	10 / 10	A unique approach to text-based audio-visual art; a new, unique perspective on video as a medium, as well as on prose and poetry texts as content creators in the field of new media art.

Students

Course	Topic	Relevance
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1	Algorithmic VR/XR interfaces for multi-modal staging of live data in the continuum between immersive analytics and artistic aesthetics	Algorithmic art and augmented and mixed reality research are important not only for exploring artists' aesthetics, but also for understanding interface design and optimisation (optimising VR/XR data and processes is crucial for product developers and system maintainers).
1	The critical interrogation of the metaverse vision by building "Hyperreality" –extended reality (XR) game environment for artistic research on a digital presence	Describing and mapping metamodernism as a phase of contemporary art history is essential for conceptualising and understanding contemporary artistic transitions (both in themes and content)
1 (currently on suspension of studies)	Participatory VR platform "Gallery of Empathy". Practices and methodologies using immersive technologies in socially engaging arts	Using VR to foster empathy is a hot research topic in both art practice and the VR industry

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.

Resources available for the study programme at the LiepU

LiepU study programme "Media Arts and Creative Technologies" is implemented in cooperation with RISEBA university of applied arts, LiepU MPLab and other LiepU departments in a unified system. LiepU material and technical base is available for both students and teaching staff. More about the equipment available at MPLab one can read in the description of the field of study "Art", point 2.3. "Resources"

Resources available for joint study programmes with RISEBA:

Since the establishment of the university, RISEBA has significantly expanded the premises for its study process. In 2017, the total area of the premises was 11350.61 m². The study process at RISEBA takes place in three buildings in Riga: at Meža iela 3, Meža iela 1/6, and Durbes iela 4 (H2O6 RISEBA Architecture and Media Centre, part of the Riga Creative Quarters). The building at Durbes iela 4 is adapted for people with disabilities.

Meža iela 3, Riga	Meža iela 1/6, Riga	Durbes iela 4, Riga	Mihoelsa iela 47, Daugavpils	Total
18 classrooms (668 seats)	13 classrooms (480 seats)	9 classrooms (263 seats)	9 classrooms (375 seats)	49 classrooms (1786 seats)
4 computer classrooms (92 seats)	-	3 classrooms (video editing studio/computer classrooms for architects) (59 seats)	3 computer classrooms (52 seats)	10 computer classrooms (186 seats)
Photocopying centre		2 video editing workrooms (6 seats)		
Student government rooms		architecture and design studio (731 m ²)		
		architect workshop		
		photo studio (30 seats)		
	Creative business incubator	sound recording studio (10 seats)		
		video studio (50-60 seats)		
1 meeting room		art studio (15 seats)		
		acting room (30-40 seats)		

All the classrooms are equipped with visual display equipment and powerful fixed video projectors.

In total, 212 computers with a *Windows* operating system and 97 *Apple* computers support the learning process in RISEBA classrooms, computer labs, and editing rooms. There are 278 computer-based learning stations, 178 of which are available directly to students. Computers are based on *Intel Core* and *Pentium* processors with *MS Windows* and *MS Office* software or *Apple MacOS X* software installed.

All RISEBA computers are connected to the local university computer network and the Internet. *WiFi* is available on the premises of the university. The internet speeds are: 200 Mbps in Latvia and 100 Mbps abroad.

RISEBA has 10 multifunctional network printers with scanners. Two of them provide colour printing.

Various technical multimedia features are used for the preparation and demonstration of multimedia presentations and teaching materials, as well as for data processing: a conference room with an LCD projector, large screen and sound device; 36 classrooms, each equipped with a fixed LCD projector, screen and computer; 5 portable projectors; 5 laptops that could be used with the portable projectors without additional fixed equipment.

Lecture recording infrastructure is provided in 4 lecture rooms: 3 lecture rooms at Meža iela 3 and Meža iela 1 k6, where the recording of lectures is based on Panopto video recording, management, and streaming system, and 1 lecture room in Architecture and Media Centre H2O6 (Durbes iela 4), where the recording of lectures is based on Blackmagicdesign and the video streaming system Thomson Video Networks VS7000. In addition, the university can record lectures using mobile multi-camera equipment (Live GV Director Nonlinear Live Production System), which enables recording and broadcasting with 8 cameras (Sony FS700 series cameras with special SLOW MOTION function and 4K video format).

Since the 2012/2013 academic year, the study process also takes place in the new building: Architecture and Media Centre H2O6 (Durbes iela 4), where students have access to: a photography studio (equipped with stationary *BOWENS Gemini 750* and *400Rx* lighting equipment), a sound recording studio (equipped with stationary audio recording and editing equipment *Yamaha N16*, *ALLEN&HEATH Q16*), a video studio (equipped with *ARRI* stationary lighting equipment, *MOLE-RICHARDSON-CO* spotlights, a dressing room, a make-up room, props and costumes storage), three video editing studios (50 workstations: equipped with *Apple* computers with *Apple Final Cut*, *Apple Logic* and *Adobe Creative Suite* software), two video editing workrooms (one equipped with 2 workstations and 2 *Apple* computers with *Apple Final Cut*, one with 4 workstations and 4 *Apple* computers with *Apple Final Cut*, *Apple Logic* and *Adobe Creative Suite* software) for student independent work, an acting room with a *Thomson Video Networks VS7000* video streaming system, a multi-camera *Live GV Director Nonlinear Live Production System* with 8-camera recording and streaming capability (equipped with *Sony FS700* series cameras, special for their *SLOW MOTION* function and 4K video format). For lessons and independent work, students and teaching staff have access to: professional video cameras with additional equipment, digital video cameras, digital photo cameras and SLR cameras, photo and video lighting sets, professional microphone sets, and other audio-visual equipment.

Academic staff and resources

The study direction "Arts" at RISEBA is headed by the Dean of the Faculty of Media and Communication and the Head of the Department of Audiovisual Media Arts, while at LiepU - by the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Arts and the Head of the Art Direction. The Dean of the Faculty of Media and Communication of RISEBA serves in the RISEBA Constitution, Senate, Methodological Council and other collegial management groups, which ensure the direct connection and influence of the Head of the direction in the decision-making process of the University. The Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of LiepU serves in the LiepU Senate and the Council of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities. This is important as it ensures that the Arts direction is continuously represented and the interests of both partner universities are respected.

The next level of management in a study programme is the Director of the Programme. The Director of the study programme at both RISEBA and LiepU is responsible for the quality of the study programme content and academic support. The Director of the study programme is involved in the work of the council of the study field "Arts".

The doctoral study programme "Media Arts and Creative Technologies" is managed and administered according to the general principles of higher education institutions, which are determined by the internal normative base; their cooperation is regulated by the cooperation

agreement signed between LiepU and RISEBA.

Operational organisational and planning work is carried out by the administrators of the University's Study Department.

Various internal quality management measures are ensured during the study process, setting certain requirements for both academic staff and students' own learning outcomes. During the study process, students are regularly (at the end of each semester) surveyed to determine their satisfaction with the study content and the quality of academic staff. According to the results of the questionnaire, necessary adjustments are made both in the content of study courses and in the activities of academic staff.

Units and support staff involved in the study programme and their tasks

LiepU HMZF and the Art Research Laboratory (MPLab) are involved in the development of the study programme "Media Arts and Creative Technologies" from LiepU side. The Art Research Laboratory was established on 1 November 2006 as a research unit of LiepU HMZF. Its aim is to establish a solid scientific research base and develop research projects in the field of art studies and science, in the interdisciplinary field of new media arts. MPLab in collaboration with the New Media Culture Centre [RIXC](#) and the Culture and Information Centre [K@2](#) (until 2008), as well as the residency centre SERDE, the electronic art and media centre E-LAB and the ASTE association. Art, Science, Technology, Education provides new media art education in Liepaja, while also aiming to raise public awareness of new media and their specificities. Over more than a decade of activity, it has developed full-cycle study programmes in new media arts. Graduates and PhD students are actively engaged in art research and organising new media art exhibitions and educational events in Liepaja, Latvia and abroad.

MPLab staff (Director, Project manager, researchers, IT technician, Secretary) are involved in the content development of the PhD programme, as well as in the availability of the material and technical base for the study process and research for students and lecturers.

The following LiepU departments and officials are also involved in the development and implementation of the study programme:

- LiepU Faculty of Arts and Humanities staff (Dean, Senior Secretary, Secretary, Registrar), who ensure the implementation of the study direction strategy and promote various types of cooperation projects, direct the development and management of the study programme, support the preparation of documents, organise the study process,
- LiepU Study Department, which ensures the organisation and planning of the study process,
- LiepU Library, which provides the study process with literature sources,
- LiepU Director of Finance and Personnel and Accounting, who ensures the administration of tuition fees, as well as planned expenses of the study process;
- LiepU Quality Management System Manager, who provides support in the development of study documentation and oversees the quality assurance of studies,
- IT centre providing IT equipment and software for the study process;
- Liepaja University Management Department, which provides the study process with management services;
- International Relations Unit, which organises ERASMUS mobility programmes and promotes the attraction of potential international students.

The following University of Business, Arts and Technology (RISEBA) departments and officials are also involved in the development and implementation of the study programme:

- RISEBA Faculty of Media and Communication staff (Acting Dean, Creative Director of the

Master's study programme "New Media and Audiovisual Arts", Faculty Assistant), who ensure the implementation of the study direction strategy and promote various types of cooperation projects, provide support in the preparation of documents, and organise the study process;

- Department of Audiovisual Media Arts, which ensures the development and management of study programmes,
- Study Department, which ensures the organisation and planning of the relevant study process,
- An art studio that participates in the study and artistic projects of the direction programmes;
- Technical Support Department, which provides audio-visual equipment for the study process;
- IT Department providing IT equipment and software for the study process;
- Library, which provides the study process with literature sources;
- Department of Finance and Accounting, who ensures the administration of tuition fees, as well as planned expenses of the study process;
- Management Department, which provides the study process with management services;
- International Relations Unit, which organises ERASMUS mobility programmes and promotes the attraction of potential international students;
- Administration, which provides management and decision-making for study processes, methodological materials, personnel management, etc;
- "RISEBA production", which creates opportunities for students to practice on real audio-visual commissions;
- "RISEBA Creative Business Incubator", which offers students the opportunity to start their own business and provides advisory and other support.

Administrative staff	Tasks to be performed and responsibility spheres
Dean of the Faculty of Media and Communication	Responsible for the strategy of the field of study and various types of cooperation projects
Head of the Department of Audiovisual Media Arts	Responsible for the implementation of the field of study, the organisation and development of the department
Assistant of the Faculty of Media and Communication	Responsible for the record-keeping of the field of study: study plans, teaching contracts, as well as the technical preparation, supervision, storage of faculty documentation
Directors of the Programmes	Responsible for the development and quality of study programmes, initiating new programmes, managing licensing and accreditation processes
Administrator of the Study Programmes	Responsible for planning studies and lectures, monitoring lecturers' workloads, communicating with students about the study process
Faculty of Media and Communication, Technical Support Unit	Responsible for the acquisition and maintenance of the audio-visual equipment necessary for the implementation of the field of study

Department of Information Technology	Responsible for, ensures and supervises the University's computer information technology equipment and its proper functioning, as well as the University's information systems
Management department	Responsible for and supervises the University's material and technical support and its adequacy
Information Centre	Performs support functions of the Study Department - day-to-day administrative work and communication with current and prospective students

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).

Information and methodological bases

LiepU uses information systems to support the study process:

- Library information system "Alise",
- E-studies environment "Moodle";
- Latvian University Information System - LAIS.

LiepU students are given access to the study process accounting system of the Latvian Universities Information System (hereinafter referred to as LAIS) during the study admission process. The information system is available on the World Wide Web at www.lais.lv.

LiepU library is a support for LiepU students and teaching staff members in the process of study and research. The Library's aim is to provide printed, electronic and other materials for study and research, and to be a cultural centre that promotes national and regional cultural values. The Library develops its collection and offers services in line with its objectives.

The library collection is assembled in accordance with the needs of the study programme, in cooperation with the teaching staff, in accordance with the Assembling Policy and the QMS procedure A-10-2 Assembling Library Collections. The library has about 67 000 information resource units (92% books, 8% serial editions and other items). 72% of the entire collection is on open-access shelves, allowing teaching staff and students to choose the most appropriate issues.

If the Library does not have the necessary information resources, the services of the Interlibrary Loan (ILL) and the International Interlibrary Loan (IILL) are offered. Successful cooperation has been established with SUBITO, the document delivery service, the National Library of Latvia, etc. Latvian and foreign libraries. The total number of domestic interlibrary loan (DILL) literature requests was 45 in 2016/17 and 7 in 2017/18 academic year. The decrease in the number of requests is due to the increased use of electronic resources in subscription and open access databases.

The library is open 55 hours a week (weekdays until 18.00 or 19.00, Saturdays until 16.00). Library's on-site attendance - 150 users per day on average. Users have at their disposal a Subscription (for issuing and receiving information resources), a Copy Room (for copying, printing, scanning and binding), a Group Discussion Room (on request), as well as 96 stand-alone workstations in the Reading Room and the Library Lobby, 16 computer workstations with Internet

access in the Electronic Resources Reading Room. During library opening hours, users can use the Self-Check facility to check out or return books. Outside the library opening hours, books can be deposited in the *Book-dropbox* in the LiepU lobby. Free Wi-Fi is available throughout the Library. RFID security system is used to identify and protect the library's information resources.

Since 1992, the Library's activities have been automated. Library information system ALISE automates library processes such as bibliographic data processing, collection, reader registration, issuing/receiving, ordering/reserving, remote access WebPAC, mobile WebPAC, etc. LiepU Library electronic catalogue (<https://alise.liepu.lv/>) and the University and Special Libraries Shared Catalogue (<https://alise.liepu.lv/Alise/lv/federatedsearch.aspx>) are available remotely - both on computers and mobile devices. The library's electronic catalogue provides a unified search of bibliographic information both about the collection and in the local databases created by the library. Remote access allows users to log in to My Library from anywhere and keep track of book issues, due dates, request extensions, and reserve or queue for the literature they need.

For the needs of both students and lecturers the Library offers free use of databases, organizing access to subscribed, trial and open access databases in LiepU computer network and beyond. Students and faculty members have access to LiepU subscribed online databases such as "Letonika", "EBSCO eBooks Academic Collection", "EBSCO Academic Complete", "ScienceDirect", "Cambridge Journals Online", "Scopus" and "Web of Science". Everyone can also use the Library's open-access databases: Academic Staff Publications Database, Doctoral Theses Database and Final Theses Database. The library provides training, information and consultations on the use of information resources and services.

You can find out about the latest information resources in the Library section on the LiepU website (<https://www.liepu.lv/lv/202/kontaktinformacija-un-darba-laiki>) (available only in Latvian) and in the LiepU Library monthly newsletter "Lasonis" (<http://www.liepu.lv/lv/223/jaunieguvumi>) (available only in Latvian). LiepU Library also presents the latest news on its social network profiles (Facebook, Twitter).

The University of Liepaja has a library and electronic resources - scientific and specialised catalogues, journals and books. In addition to the University of Liepaja collection, the Art Research Laboratory has an extensive media library of literature in the field - current publications (magazines, catalogues), relevant publications, books, articles, audio and video collection. The collections of the Media Library are purposefully expanded and renewed every year (following the development of the field, the interests of lecturers, students and researchers, and the areas of research).

Kurzeme Humanities Institute (KHI), University of Liepaja

Kurzeme Humanities Institute (KHI) of the University of Liepaja was founded in September 2007. The goal of KHI is: The study and scientific research of the heritage of Latvian culture, especially the folklore, language, history, art and literary processes of the Kurzeme ethnogeographical region, as well as the promotion of studies and research in the humanities.

KHI regularly organises conferences, congresses and seminars, produces and publishes books and organises research projects.

KHI provides support in study process:

- offering advisory support to students,
- offers students the opportunity to participate in scientific conferences by presenting papers,
- offers regular submissions to *Scriptus Manet*, an academic journal with an international editorial board, published 1-2 times a year since 2015.

University of Business, Arts and Technology (RISEBA)

The library of RISEBA University of Business, Arts and Technology provides support for study processes and scientific activities, as well as information services for students and academic staff. Since 17 June 2016, RISEBA Library has been accredited by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia and has acquired the status of a library of local importance.

The library's premises in Meža iela 3 cover 453 m². It has a large reading room with 32 workstations and a computer room with 6 computer workstations. For the convenience of students, RISEBA Library has two branches - at the Architecture and Media Centre in Riga, Durbes iela 4 and at the RISEBA Daugavpils branch in Daugavpils, Mihoelsa iela 47.

In order to provide opportunities for independent work of students and research activities of teaching staff, the library offers databases subscribed by the University: Ebsco , WOS , Emerald , Leta.lv, Nozare.lv, as well as trial data bases Scopus , Ebrary , Passport GMID , ScienceDirect , RUBRICON , ProQuest , EBSCO eBook etc.

Since 2010, RISEBA has been included in the National Unified Library Information System. Students can also use databases offered by libraries of other universities (LU, RTU, RSU, EKA, etc.). The library has an electronic catalogue of the ALEPH system. Students and lecturers have the possibility to use the services of the Interlibrary Loan (ILL) and the International Interlibrary Loan (IILL).

The RISEBA library has more than 25 000 sources of information - monographs, reference books, press publications in Latvian and foreign languages, CD-ROMs. 60% of the library's books and other information items are in English, 15% in Latvian and 25% in Russian.

The library offers English-language magazines - Harvard Business Review, Blumberg Business Week, The Economist, Forbes, Frame, DETAIL, A10 and others. Periodicals in Latvian and Russian are widely represented. The Library has a cooperation agreement with Harvard Business Publishing. Teaching staff can order the resources they need to study the programme. The library collection is regularly updated and developed according to the specialisations studied at RISEBA.

Special attention is paid to providing study programmes with teaching and information materials, therefore the library also serves as an archive of final theses and lecture materials developed by the students of the University.

Scientific magazine "ADAM arts"

RISEBA produces and publishes the magazine "ADAM arts" (Architecture, Design and Audiovisual Media Arts) - an academic journal with an international editorial board dedicated to architecture and media arts in the Baltic Sea Region. ADAMarts is published every 1-2 years and is available in print as well as electronically.

Academics, master and doctoral students, architects, designers, planners, media artists, anthropologists, historians, psychologists, sociologists and others with a specific interest in architecture and interior design, urban planning and audio-visual media arts can submit scientific articles, theoretical and practical research, reviews and other types of submissions.

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 funding of studies from the state budget is allocated each calendar year in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers' Regulation No 994 of 12.12.2006. "Procedures for financing higher education institutions and colleges from state budget funds" and the agreement between the Ministry of Education and Science and the Liepaja University on the training of a certain number of specialists.

The calculation of the projected costs of the study programme "Media Arts and Creative Technologies" for full-time studies for the years 2022-2023 is based on the base costs for 2022 (EUR 1630.11 per one study place) and the coefficient of the thematic area of education "Audiovisual Media Arts" and "Design" established by the Ministry of Education: 3.9, as well as the cost coefficient for doctoral-level study programmes: 3.0. The cost per place in 2022 is EUR 19 072.29, and the total cost for 3 years of the study programme is EUR 57 216.86. The number of study places funded by the state budget in 2022 is 3. The minimum number of students per course is 3.

The tuition fee for full-time studies for the first year of the academic year 2022/2023 approved by the LiepU Council is EUR 4 240 and it remains unchanged for the whole study period, the total tuition fee for 3 years is EUR 12 720. The programme is implemented in cooperation with Riga International School of Economics and Business Administration (RISEBA) and the tuition fees are the same.

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 total, of the 17 lecturers involved in the study programme, 6 are Latvian Council of Science (LZP) experts, 15 - with PhD degree and 1 PhD candidate, 5 elected lecturers from RISEBA, 4 elected lecturers from LIEPU, 4 foreign guest lecturers, 4 guest lecturers from Latvia and 7 are elected professors / assoc.prof. in Latvian and foreign universities.

Teaching staff come from different fields of interest in the creative industries, audio-visual arts and research to offer students the support they need in their studies and research.

Raitis Šmits and Rasa Šmite are internationally recognized artists who are directing RIXC, a digital art center recognized in Latvia and Europe, and run a residency center and a gallery.

Ellen Pearlman is an internationally recognized artist and curator involved in collaborative and

multi-level educational and residency networks.

Lecturers who have experience in the labor market, who are active in the field as experts (artists), orient themselves and work in international cooperation networks, are able to offer students not only theoretical knowledge, but also skills and competences, so that they can successfully integrate and work in the fields of art and creative industries.

No.	Name, surname	Position, elected or temporarily recruited	Scientific or academic degree, LZP expert
1.	Aigars Ceplītis	PhD Candidate / MA	RISEBA docent (elected)
2.	Christopher Hales	Ph.D.	RISEBA docent (elected)
3.	Anita Jansone	Dr.sc.comp. / LZP expert	LiepU professor (elected)
4.	Raivo Kelomees	Ph.D.	Guest lecturer, researcher at Tallinn Academy of Arts
5.	Inta Klāšone	Dr. Paed. / LZP expert	LiepU professor (elected)
6.	Diāna Laiveniece	Dr. Paed.	LiepU professor (elected)
7.	Žilvinas Lilas	MFA, professor	Guest Lecturer / Professor, KHM Cologne (Germany)
8.	Iveta Ludviga	Dr.sc.administr. / LZP expert	RISEBA professor (elected)
9.	Signe Mežinska	Dr.sc.soc. / LZP expert	Programme's Guest Lecturer / Associate Professor, University of Latvia
10.	Ellen Pearlman	Ph.D	RISEBA docent (elected) / Adj. Prof. New School / Parsons Design School, New York
11.	Piibe Piirma	Ph.D	Programme's Guest Lecturer / Lecturer at the Tallin Academy of Arts
12.	Shawn Pinchbeck	Ph.D	Programme's Senior Guest Lecturer / Viljandi Academy of Culture, Tartu University, Lecturer / Grand Prairie Regional College / Alberta / Canada, LiepU lecturer

13.	Ilva Skulte	Dr.philol./ LZP expert	Programme's Guest Lecturer / Assoc. prof. Riga Stradiņš University / LiepU lecturer
14.	Rasa Šmite	Dr.sc.soc.	Professor, LiepU (elected), Senior Researcher at LiepU MPLab / Guest Lecturer, MIT Art, Culture and Technology Program, Boston, USA
15.	Raitis Šmits	Dr.Art	Programme's Guest Lecturer / Assoc. prof. Art Academy of Latvia / Guest Lecturer at the MIT Art, Culture and Technology Programme in Boston / LiepU lecturer
16.	Alise Tīfentāle	Ph.D.	Programme's Guest Lecturer
17.	Tatjana Vasiljeva	Dr.oec. / LZP expert	RISEBA professor (elected)

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.

No changes in teaching staff are planned.

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).

1. Number and sample of publications (2016-2022)

Chris Hales - 5

1. Hales, C. (2022). Experimental Film Meets Artificial Intelligence. In: Kelomees, R., Guljajeva, V., Laas, O. (eds.) *The Meaning of Creativity in the Age of AI*. Estonian Art Academy, Tallinn (2022). pp. 39-58. [book chapter]
2. Hales, C. (2019). Interactive Stories for the Brain: Interaction and Response in Brainwave-

Influenced Non-linear Films. In: Rasa Smite and Raitis Smits (eds.), "VIRTUALITIES AND REALITIES New Experiences, Art and Ecologies in Immersive Environments", Acoustic Space Vol. 17, Riga: RIXC. 2019. pp. 67-78.

3. Hales, C (2017). Cinelabyrinth: The Pavilion of Forking Paths in "Interactive Storytelling. 10th International Conference on Interactive Digital Storytelling, ICIDS 2017 Funchal, Madeira, Portugal, November 14-17, 2017", Nunes, N., Oakley, I., Nisi, V. (Eds.). Springer Int. Publishing. pp.117-125.
4. Hales, C (2017). Designing Brainwave-responsive Films in "Graphic Design: traditions and innovations. Proceedings of the International Scientific and Practical Conference, St. Petersburg, June 28-29, 2017". Kisliitsyna, A., Kuznetsova, M., Dvorko, N.(Eds.). http://publish.sutd.ru/docs/content/sb_grafdz_2017.pdf. pp.140-147.

Raivo Kelomees - 25

1. Kelomees, R., Guljajeva, V., Laas, O. (eds.) *The Meaning of Creativity in the Age of AI*. Estonian Art Academy, Tallinn (2022)
2. Kelomees, R. (2021) Sillad ja konfliktid ida-lääne kunstiteljel: Ida-Euroopa kui „lähedase Teise“ kodustamine 1990. aastatel [Bridges and conflicts on the Eastern-Western art axis: the domestication of Eastern Europe as „close Other“ in the 1990s] Published: 1 January 2021 by Tallinn University Press in Philologia Estonica Tallinnensis Philologia Estonica Tallinnensis pp 145-161; <https://doi.org/10.22601/pet.2021.06.07>
3. Kelomees, R. (2019). The Competency Gap: the Audience in Confrontation with the Research-based and Hybrid Artworks. *Sentient States: Bio-Mind and Techno-nature: 21st International Conference Consciousness Reframed 2019*. Ed. Roy Ascott, Christina Sã, Rui Torres, André Sier, André Baltasar, Diogo Marques, José Vasco Carvalho. Porto, Portugal: Universidade Católica Portuguesa, 58
4. Kelomees, R. (2017). From Digital to Corporeal: The Aesthetics of Proprioception. dataAche: DRHA: Digital Research in the Humanities and Arts. Ed. Dr Sana Murrani, Prof Roberta Mock and Sally Murrani. Plymouth: University of Plymouth, 92–93
5. Kelomees, R. (2017). From Net Art to Post-Internet Art. *Estonian Art*, 1, 43–49.
6. Kelomees, R. (2016). Interactive Art as a Method of Preserving and Exhibiting Physical Artworks. *Visual Digital Humanities. Representing and Interpreting Humanities Data: Digital Humanities in Estonia A° 2016*. Ed. Mari Sarv & Liisi Laineste. Tartu: ELM Scholarly Press, 7–8

Diāna Laiveniece - 23

1. Jūrīne, A., Leijen, D., Hint, H., Laiveniece, D., Sinkuniene, J., Johansson, C., & Groom, N. (2021). Academic Writing in the Baltic States. *Educare - Vetenskapliga Skrifter*, (1), 27 - 37. <https://doi.org/10.24834/educare.2021.1.3>
2. Laiveniece, D. (20210). *Pirmais teikums: zinātniskā raksta pieteikums*. Vārds un tā pētišanas aspekti : rakstu krājums. 25. Liepāja : LiePA. DOI: <https://dom.lndb.lv/data/obj/966091>
3. Laiveniece, D. (2020). Infinitīva izvēle un lietojums mērķa formulējumā zinātniskajos rakstos latviešu valodā (2008–2018). Vārds un tā pētišanas aspekti : rakstu krājums. 24 (1/2). Liepāja : LiePA. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.37384/VTPA.2020.24.103>

Inta Klāsone - 11

1. Klāsone, I. (2020) Historical Background of Artistic Education in Latvia. ICLEL Conferences. Izdevējs: Izglītības zinātņu institūts (IZI)
2. Klāsone, I. (2018). Topicality of Integrating Art Therapy Work Forms Into Visual Art Education. ICLEL 2018 (4th International Conference on Lifelong Education and Leadership for ALL-ICLEL 2018. Online Publication: 28th December, 2018 ICLEL Publication: ICLEL Conferences Sakarya University Faculty of Education 54300 Sakarya, TURKEY pp.875 - 883; ISBN:

3. Klasone, I., Jurs, P. (2017). The challenges of Educational Philosophies in the Cultural Space of Latvia. *European Scientific Journal*, June 2017, Vol. 13, No.16, pp. 32-42; ISSN1857-7431 (Online); ISSN: 1857-7881 (Print)
4. Klasone, I., Klasone I. (2017). Some topical aspects for improvement of art Education. 11th International, Technology, Education and Development Conference 6-8 March, 2017, Valencia (Spain) Published by IATED Academy iated.org pp. 4164- 4172 ISBN: 978-84-617-8491-2 ISSN: 2340-1079 Depósito Legal: V-369-2017 (Web of Science)
5. Klasone, I. (2017). Historical background of the importance of art Education in teacher training process in Latvia. *Menas, dizainas ir meninis ugdymas: Kurybiškumo lavinimo metodai ir patirtys. 10 - osios tarptautinės mokslinės praktinės konferencijos medžiaga: rakstu krājums. Kauņa: Kauno kolegijos leidybos centras*, pp. 9 – 16; ISSN 2424 -4597
6. Klasone, I., Klasone, I. (2017). Possibilities of Application of Visual Art to Education Curriculum. ICLEL 2017 (3rd International Conference on Lifelong Education and Leadership for ALL-ICLEL 2017. pp.872 – 882; ISBN:978-605-66495-2-3
7. Klasone, I., Klasone, I. (2016). Impact of Interest-Related Education on Personality Self-Realisation ICLEL 2016 (2sd International Conference on Lifelong Education and Leadership for ALL-ICLEL 2016. pp. 603-610 ISBN:978-605-66495-1-6 Page (Web of Science)

Iveta Ludviga - 15

1. Ludviga, I., Leimane, S., Zakrizevska - Belogradova, M. (2022). The Gap between Theoretical and Practical Understanding of Gamification. *RURAL ENVIRONMENT. EDUCATION. PERSONALITY*. Vol. 15. ISSN 2661-5207 DOI: 10.22616/REEP.2022.15.025
2. Ludviga I., Sluka I. (2018). Cultural Diversity in Project Management: How Project Success is Perceived in Different Cultures, *The International Journal of Organizational Diversity*, Common Ground Publishing, pp.1-15. (indexed is SCOPUS)
3. Ludviga I., Sennikova I., Dubinska E. (2018). Management and Leadership Development Needs: The Case of Latvia, in *Business and Society Making Management Education: Relevant for the 21st Century*, ed. Purg D., Bracek-Lalic A., Pope J., pp.87-114. (indexed in SCOPUS)
4. Ludviga I., Ergle D., Kalviņa A. (2017). Turning data into valuable insights: A case study in Aviation Sector Company, *Proceedings from CBU International Conference, Prague, Czech republic*, Vol. 5, DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.12955/cbup.v5.941> (indexed in Thomson Reuters)
5. Ludviga, I., Cirule, I. Grama, S.A.M., Kreituss, I. (2017). Open Innovation Strategies and Business Incubation Service Impact on the Success of Incubation, *Proceedings of the 2017 International Conference "ECONOMIC SCIENCE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT"* No 44, Jelgava, LLU ESAF, 27-28 April 2017, pp. 36-43. (indexed in Thomson Reuters)
6. Ludviga I. (2017). Social Representations of Employee Creativity in Workplace: Are Myths Still Alive?. In: Bilgin M., Danis H., Demir E., Can U. (eds) *Country Experiences in Economic Development, Management and Entrepreneurship. Eurasian Studies in Business and Economics*, vol 5, pp. 899-914 (indexed in Thomson Reuters)
7. Ludviga, I., Sennikova, I., Kalviņa, A. (2016). Turnover of Public Sector Employees and the Mediating Role of Job Satisfaction: Empirical Study in Latvia, *SOCIETY. INTEGRATION. EDUCATION Proceedings of the International Scientific Conference. Volume IV, May 27th -28th, 2016*. 364-378, (indexed in Thomson Reuters)
8. Ludviga, I., Sennikova, I. (2016). Organisational Change: Generational Differences in Reaction and Commitment, 9th International Scientific Conference "Business and Management 2016" proceedings, May 12-13, 2016, Vilnius, Lithuania. (indexed in Thomson Reuters)

Signe Mežinska - 7

1. Dammann, O.; Mežinska, S.; Gefenas, E. (2022) *Health Humanities in Medicina: The Auxiliary*

Stance. *Medicina* 2022, 58, 411. <https://doi.org/10.3390/medicina58030411>

2. Akyüz, K., Chassang, G., Goisauf, M. et al. (2021) Biobanking and risk assessment: a comprehensive typology of risks for an adaptive risk governance. *Life Sci Soc Policy* 17, 10 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40504-021-00117-7>
3. Mezinska S., Salmane Kulikovska I., Poplavska E., Ceha M. (2019). Use of generic medicines in Latvia: awareness, opinions and experiences of the population. *Journal of Pharmaceutical Policy and Practice*, 12, 1. doi:10.1186/s40545-018-0159-5
4. Mezinska S., & Mileiko I. (2019). 'Women-protective' language as a tool of exclusion: Debates on oocyte donation in Latvia. *European Journal of Women's Studies*. 26 (4), 421-434 doi:10.1177/1350506818812920
5. Mezinska S., Leonardo Alves T., Poplavska E., Salmane-Kulikowska I., Andersone L., Mantel-Teeuwisse A. K., & Mintzes, B. (2018). Disease awareness campaigns in printed and online media in Latvia: cross-sectional study on consistency with WHO ethical criteria for medicinal drug promotion and European standards. *BMC public health*, 18(1), 1322. doi:10.1186/s12889-018-6202-2

Ellen Pearlman - 19

1. Pearlman, E. (2020); AI Comes of Age. *PAJ: A Journal of Performance and Art* 2020; 42 (3 (126)): 55-62. doi: https://doi.org/10.1162/pajj_a_00539
2. Pearlman E. (2019), AIBO: An Emotionally Intelligent, Artificial Intelligent Brain Opera – Proof of Concept, New Media Caucus 2019, University of Michigan
3. Pearlman E., Cuan C., McWilliams A. (2019), OUTPUT: Translating Robots and Human Movers Across Platforms in a Sequentially Improvised Performance, AISB 2019 Symposium, Falmouth University, UK
4. Pearlman E. (2018), A Co-Lab On Developing Cyborg Arts – Interdisciplinary Collaborations and Practice Based Solutions, in *Journal of Problem Based Learning in Education (JPBLHE)*, Aalborg University, Copenhagen, Denmark
5. Pearlman E. (2018), The World's First Co-Lab in Cyborg Art, Hybrid Labs Symposium, 3rd Edition of Renewable Futures, Aalto University, Finland
6. Pearlman E. (2018), The World's First Co-Lab in Cyborg Art, 3rd Annual Global Summit on Posthuman Ethics, New York University
7. Pearlman E. (2018), 3D Opera, in *PAJ (Performance Arts Journal)*, MIT Press
8. Pearlman E. (2018), The Approaching Storm, in *Open Fields, Virtualities and Realities Acoustic Space Journal*, Volume 18
9. Pearlman E. (2017), Brain Opera – Exploring Surveillance in 360-degree Immersive Theatre, *PAJ (Performance Arts Journal)*, MIT Press
10. Pearlman E. (2017), Utopic or Dystopic, The Rise of Immersion and Biometric Indicators, Codes And Modes, Reframing Reality, Virtuality and Non-Fiction Media, Hunter College, NYC College of Technology, CUNY, New York
11. Pearlman E. (2016), "Is There A Place In Human Consciousness Where Surveillance Cannot Go?", International Conference On Live Interfaces, University of Sussex, UK
12. Pearlman E., Demirjian A., Boisvert H., Nazir C. (2016), "Emerging Platforms for Artist Interaction", Conference Proceedings of the International Society For Electronic Art (ISEA) 2016 Hong Kong

Ilva Skulte - 6

1. Skulte, I., & Kozlovs, N. (2020). Discourse on safety/security in the parliamentary corpus of latvian saeima. *CEUR Workshop Proceedings*, 2865, 108-120.
2. Skulte, I., Kozlovs N. (2019). The evolution of foucault's reasoning on pathology // Sabiedrība, integrācija, izglītība : starptautiskās zinātniskās konferences materiāli = Society, integration,

education : proceedings of the international scientific conference. Rēzekne: Rēzeknes Tehnoloģiju akadēmija. Izglītības, valodu un dizaina fakultāte. 4.daļa : Sports un veselība. Māksla un dizains, 174.-182.lpp.

3. Skulte I., Kozlovs N. (2017). Politics, ideology and tourism : the discourse on tourism in parliamentary debates of Latvian Saeima (1993-2014). // Tourism, politics and communication / edited by T.Doulkery. - Thessaloniki : Zigos - P.46-56.
4. Skulte I. (2017). Post-media reading : examples of literature in/as art in Latvia // Renewable futures: art, science and society in the post-media age / edited by R.Smite, R.Smits, A.Medosch, p.127-138.
5. Skulte I. (2016). Dzeja hibrīda telpā : tekstu grupas "Orbīta" darbi starp virtuālo un materiālo // Kultūras studijas. - Nr.9: Hibrititāte literatūrā un kultūrā, 83.-94.lpp. - Kopsavilkums angļu valodā.

Rasa Šmite un Raitis Šmits - 3

1. Smite, R., Smits R. (2019). Zinātniska rakstu krājuma "Virtualities and Realities, Acoustic Space" (Vol. 17) sastādītāji, Rīga: RIXC; Liepāja: LiePU MPLab
2. Smite, R., Smits R., Medosch A. (2017). Zinātniska rakstu krājuma "Renewable Futures, Acoustic Space" (Vol.16), Rīga: RIXC; Liepāja: LiePU MPLab
3. Smite, R., Smits R., Medosch A. (2016). Zinātniska rakstu krājuma "Open Fields, Acoustic Space (Vol. 15), Rīga: RIXC; Liepāja: LiePU MPLab

Alise Tifentāle - 6

1. Rožukalne, A.; Kleinberga, V.; Tifentāle, A.; Strode. (2022) I. What Is the Flag We Rally Around? Trust in Information Sources at the Outset of the COVID-19 Pandemic in Latvia. Soc. Sci., 11, 123. <https://doi.org/10.3390/socsci11030123>
2. Tifentale, , (2020) "The "Olympiad of Photography": FIAP and the Global Photo-Club Culture, 1950-1965". CUNY Academic Works. https://academicworks.cuny.edu/gc_etds/3537
3. Tifentale, A. (2019) Introduction to José Oiticica Filho's 'Setting the Record Straighter' // ARTMargins 8, no. 2: 105-115.
4. Tifentale, A., Manovich., L. (2018) Competitive Photography and the Presentation of the Self. In Jens Ruchatz, Sabine Wirth, and Julia Eckel (eds.), Imag(in)ing the Self in Digital Media (Palgrave Macmillan): 167-187.
5. Tifentale, A. (2018) The Selfie: More and Less than a Self-Portrait. In Moritz Neumüller (ed.), The Routledge Companion to Photography and Visual Culture (Routledge): 44-58.
6. Tifentale, A. (2018) Machines, Methods, and Humans: On the Production Line of Contemporary Photography // Fotografija 35, no. 1 (New Tools in Photography: From Google to the Algorithm).

2. List of creative works

Piibe Piirma - 5

1. Piirma, P. (2020). Live video production to "Arvo Pärt. Children's Song Concert". Alexela concert hall, Tallinn.
2. Piirma, P. (2019). Co-producer of Open House Tallinn 2019 event.
3. Piirma, P. (2017). Co-organizer of "BioComputation" workshop in Department of Architecture, Estonian Art Academy.
4. Piirma, P. (2017). Curator assistant of bioTallinn TAB2017 (Tallinn Architecture Biennale).

Shawn Pinchbeck - 10

1. Pinchbeck, S. (2019). Pathways – multichannel audio installation, Glass Gallery, Grande Prairie, Canada
2. Pinchbeck, S. (2019). Pathways –multichannel audio installation, Burning Man, Black Rock City, Nevada, USA.
3. Pinchbeck, S. (2018). Sea of Sound Festival – Curator and Producer, April 2018, Edmonton, Canada
4. Pinchbeck, S. (2018). Ghostly Pleasures and Aural Delights – Installation, Glass Gallery, GPRC, Grande Prairie, Canada
5. Pinchbeck, S. (2018). Pathways – Installation, +15 Soundscape Gallery, Arts Commons, Calgary, Alberta.
6. Pinchbeck, S. (2017). Ghostly Pleasures and Aural Delights – Installation, Koidu Seltsimaja, Hansa Days, Viljandi, Estonia.
7. Pinchbeck, S. (2016). Koidu Seltsimaja Media Art Residency and Exhibit – Curator/Organiser, Koidu Seltsimaja, Hansa Days, Viljandi, Estonia.
8. Pinchbeck, S. (2016). Calgary Sound Art – Curator, Exhibit, Liepaja Sound Days, Liepaja, Latvia

Rasa Šmite un Raitis Šmits - 18

1. Smite, R., & Smits R.(2020) Atmospheric Forest. VR instalācija (point cloud and data viz) / Multi-channel video and sound / Research documentation (interviews with scientists, resin experiments)
2. Smite, R., & Smits R. (2019). 23. marts – 9. jūnijs – Instalācija “Mikropasauļu svārstības” izstādē “Purvīša balva 2019” LNMM, LV
3. Smite, R., & Smits R. (2018). Septembris – Instalācija “Purva radio” Ars Electronica festivāla izstādē, Linca/AT
4. Smite, R., & Smits R. (2018). Augusts – Instalācija “Mikropasauļu svārstības” izstādē “Eco-Visionaries” galerijā HEK, Bāzele/CH
5. Smite, R., & Smits R. (2018). Maijs – novembris – “Biotricity. Swamp Radio Laboratory” instalācija, Venēcijas arhitektūras bienāle, Lietuvas paviljons “Swamp School”, kuratori Gediminas un Nomeda Urbonas, IT
6. Smite, R., & Smits R. (2018). Septembris – “Swamp Radio Wireless” instalācija, Ars Electronica festivāla izstādē “Error”, Linca, AT
7. Smite, R., & Smits R. (2018). Augusts – novembris – “Fluctuations of Microworlds” un “Swamp Radio VR” instalācijas, izstāde “Ecovisionaries”, Elektroniskās mākslas centrs HeK, kuratore Sabine Himmelsbach, Bāzele, CH
8. Smite, R., & Smits R. (2018). Aprīlis – maijs – “Swamp Radio Laboratory”, instalācija, MIT Teorētiskās Fizikas centrā CTP, Progresīvo Vizuālo Studiju centrā CAVS 50 gadu oficiālajā programmā, simpozija “Zooetics” ietvaros, Bostona, US
9. Smite, R., & Smits R. (2017, augusts - 2018, augusts) – “Biotricity - Bacteria Battery” instalācija, izstādē “Open Codes”, kurators Peter Weibel, ZKM, Karlsrūe, DE

Latvian Council of Science experts, expiry date, field:

1. Dr.philol. Ilva Skulte - LZP Expert (until 04.11.2023, Social Sciences - Media and communication)
2. Dr.sc.comp. Ilva Skulte - LZP Expert (until 31.03.2024, Engineering and Technology - Electrical Engineering, Electronics, Information and Communication Technology)
3. Dr.paed. Ilva Skulte - LZP Expert (until 17.06.2023, Social Sciences - Educational Sciences)
4. Dr.sc.admin. Iveta Ludviga - LZP Expert (until 06.01.2024, Social Sciences - Economics and Business)
5. Dr.sc.soc. Signe Mežinska - LZP Expert (until 01.09.2024, Social Sciences - Sociologu and

social work)

6. Dr.oec. Tatjana Vasiljeva - LZP Expert until (17.06.2023, Social Sciences - Economics and Business)

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).

Project "Landscapes of Identities: history, culture and environment"

- Implemented under the National Research Programme "Letonika for the Development of a Latvian and European Society"
- Project No.: VPP-LETONIKA-2021/1-0008
- Project implementation: 20.12.2021 –19.12.2024
- Project funded by: Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia, Latvian Council of Science
- Total project funding: EUR 1,068,000
- Involved persons: Zanda Gūtmane, Elīna Veira (PhD Candidate at LiepU)

Project "Latvian Scientific Language in Intralingual Aspect"

- Project No. Izp-2018/2-0131
- Programme: Fundamental and Applied Research of Latvian Council of Science
- Project implementation period: 01.12.2018 – 01.12.2020
- Project funding (LiepU part): EUR 59 940.00
- Involved person: KHI Senior researcher: Diāna Laiveniece

Project "Academic Writing in the Baltic States: rhetorical structures in culture and language"

- Project number: EE-RESEARCH-0011
- Funding (total): 907.947
- Project period: 01.01.2020 – 31.12.2023
- Funded by: EEA Financial Mechanism Research Cooperation Grants
- Researchers (LiepU): Diāna Laiveniece

Project: Assessment of competences of higher education students and their development dynamics during the study period (Stage 1)

- Project number: 8.3.6.2/17/I/001 (23-12.3e/19/103)
- The Contracting Authority: Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia
- Period: 01.07.2020 – 31.08.2021
- Research funding: EUR 300,000
- Involved researchers: Maija Demitere (PhD Candidate at LiepU)

Ilva Skulte:

- Lead Researcher; National research program project "Challenges and solutions of the state and society of LATVIA in an international context" (VPP-IZM-2018/1-0005)

- Leading researcher, National research program project "Reflection on values and behavior patterns during social and economic changes" (10-4/VPP-9/11)
- "Memento mori: the end of life, death and the imagined afterlife in the life world of contemporary Latvians" (Izp-2019/1-0223)
- EZZ and Norwegian financial instrument project "Religion and gender equality: developments in the Baltic and Nordic countries" (ReliGen) (S-BMT-21-4 (LT08-2-LMT-K-01-036)) (1.01.2021.-31.12.2023.)
- LZP/ FLPP project "From indifference to changes in climate policy: improving the interaction between political narrative and public perception in Latvia" (Izp-2020/1-0047) (1.01.2021. - 31.12.2023)
- EU HORIZON project "A critical assessment of media risks and opportunities in relation to balanced communication: Scenarios for the development of the European media space (MEDIADCOM) (101004811) (1.03.2021 - 28.02.2024)

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).

Regular meetings (three times a year) during intensive working weeks (colloquia) foster cooperation between teaching staff. The faculty members involved in the programme actively collaborate to support the work and research progress of the PhD students, each within their own area of expertise, and this is most directly facilitated and ensured by the work of the Colloquium Director, Christopher Hales, who invites the faculty to participate in discussions, student-organised presentations, conferences, etc. Communication between teaching staff also takes place remotely (mostly by e-mail).

Teaching staff and student ratio:

Students: 4 students (LiepU)

Teaching staff: 17

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	Diploma paraugs dokt_MedMaksiaRadTehn_ENG.pdf	Diploma paraugs dokt_MedMaksiaRadTehn_LV.pdf
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)	Media Art and Creative Technologies (51213) Compliance with law.docx	Mediju māksla un radošās tehnoloģijas (51213) Atbilstība likumam.docx
Statistics on the students in the reporting period	Statistical data on students in the study programme_Media Art and Creative Technologies_51213.docx	Statistikas dati par stud. progr._Mediju māksla un radošās tehnoloģijas_51213.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	Media Art and Creative Technologies (51213) Compliance Standart.docx	Mediju māksla un radošās tehnoloģijas (51213) Atbilstība akad. standartam.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	Media Art and Creative Technologies (51213) Mapping.docx	Mediju māksla un radošās tehnoloģijas (51213) Kartējums.docx
The curriculum of the study programme (for each type and form of the implementation of the study programme)	Media Art and Creative Technologies (51213) Curruc.docx	Mediju māksla un radošās tehnoloģijas (51213) Gada plans.docx
Descriptions of the study courses/ modules	Media Art and Creative Technologies (51213) Modules.docx	Mediju māksla un radošās tehnoloģijas (51213) Moduli.docx
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)	Certificate of study direction_LZP_EN.pdf	Apliecinājums par LZP ekspertiem_LV.pdf
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)	Certificate_MMRT_EN.pdf	Apliecinājums_MMRT_LV.pdf