

## **1. Program Title: Gender Studies**

*International, English-language program is being developed by the Center for Social Sciences for the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences at Tbilisi State University under framework of CSS - OSI HESP funded grant project (grant code EO476)*

## **2. Academic Degree Offered: PhD in Gender.**

## **3. Academic Supervisor of the program: Joanna Regulska**

(regulska@gaiacenters.rutgers.edu); Professor of Women's Studies and Geography; Vice President for International and Global Affairs, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey; 30 College Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901; tel 848-932-1777 ; fax 732-932-1979.

**Co-supervisor of the program:** Tamar Sabedashvili, Associate Professor, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University; tel: 599501168

## **4. Qualification characteristic of the program**

### ***a) Program goals and objectives:***

The goal of the PhD program is to provide students with comprehensive theoretical knowledge and training in research tools essential to scholarship in Gender Studies and to supervise their thesis projects through to completion. Program will prepare a new generation of scholars in Gender Studies being able to contribute to the development of the field through generation of new knowledge, implementation of high quality independent research and academic practice.

The program will prepare the high qualified researchers and practitioners of the field. The graduates of the program will have theoretical knowledge of Gender Studies, deep understanding of Philosophic basis. They will be able to expand their skills for implementing independent academic research in Gender Studies and generated information elaboration methodologies. Graduates will have capacity to apply Gender perspective while doing any problem based analysis and will lead and run the Gender Studies discipline at Higher Educational Institutions using new methodologies of teaching.

The Gender Studies international PhD program's curriculum has three streams: substantive, methodological and preparation for academic practice and sets three major objectives:

- to support and enrich students' doctoral research;
- to deepen students' knowledge of the discipline;

- to strengthen students' skills as academic practitioners.

Consequently the program curriculum consists of three directions: Essential – Subject specific courses for gaining deeper knowledge in the field and generation a new one; Methodology part – passing research methods training and research design and Academic Practice: new methodologies of teaching and preparation for academic practice.

### ***b) Learning Outcomes:***

#### **b.a) Knowledge and Awareness**

The PhD program in Gender Studies offers students a new level of knowledge in the discipline. The main asset of the program is that it gives the students knowledge of the discipline in the prism of up-to-date methodology. It comprises the best contemporary means to transfer the field knowledge to the students that gives them the opportunity to analyze the field key debates, literature, approaches, methodology, main schools and their backgrounds.

Besides, the students will realize the directions towards which the discipline is developing, so they could continue research and effective teaching after graduation. One of the main benefits for them is that they will be able to analyse the situation of the discipline on international level and orientate in the research independently.

#### **b.b) Application of Knowledge/Practical Skills**

PhD students will be able to “learn how to learn independently”. This means that they will be able to create a research program on their own that will not repeat the existing knowledge; they will be able to widen the knowledge of the discipline independently. They also will be able to understand the newest level of the research methodology to conduct the scientific debates using the contemporary methods and refine this methodology for applying them in the practical research.

The main criteria for evaluation of the application of knowledge in practice is publishing the research results in the world known international publishing houses and refereed journals.

The program graduates will be able to synthesize the existed knowledge within the discipline and generate a new one; conduct a research, critically evaluate various approaches, and represent ways of problem solving based on theoretical knowledge and methodological skills of research.

### **b.c) Reasoning**

The program graduates will be able to synthesize the existed knowledge within the discipline and generate a new one. They will be able to conduct academic research, critically evaluate different relevant approaches, and represent ways of problem solving based on theoretical knowledge and methodological skills of research.

### **b.d) Communication skills**

The program graduates will be able to communicate their scientific opinion and research results to the public orally as well as in written form. They will be able to engage in theoretical discussion with the specialists from the sphere on international level; participate in international conferences; the program supports the students to engage in international academic networks.

### **b.e) Learning Skills**

The program graduates will be able to synthesize the existed knowledge within the discipline and generate a new one; independently develop new academic program in the field, prepare new courses and seminars, publish them as handbooks and teach using new methodologies. The program graduates should be able to spread and transfer the knowledge they acquire.

### **b.f) Values**

The program graduates will demonstrate the scholar's responsibility for the society and scientific circles; they will be able to critically evaluate analytical articles, scientific research, etc. One of the main objectives of the program is to develop respect towards scientific values that includes scientific ethics, plagiarism, and responsibility towards the research object.

### ***c. Employment opportunities:***

International PhD program in Gender Studies graduates will be able to get academic positions at universities (first, as assistant-professor, and after having respective working experience as an associate or full professor's position), be involved in promotion of high quality academic teaching of Gender Studies in all levels of higher education and implementation of independent research in the field or adjacent interdisciplinary areas of social sciences. Graduates of PhD program will have capacity to get both administrative and academic leading positions at the universities (at all three levels BA, MA and PhD). They also will be able to work as high qualified experts of the field and get the leading positions in think-tanks, governmental, international or local non-governmental organizations participating in policy making processes.

## **5. Preconditions for Admission:**

Program applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Have Master's degree. MA degree in Social Sciences, especially in Gender Studies is preferable but not necessary.
- English language proficiency – B2 level - demonstrated either by taking the corresponding examination at TSU language Center or submitting standardized English Language test scores (TOEFL IBT 82 or equivalent on IELTS 6.2, Cambridge, etc.). Applicants, who studied abroad at English language programs and passed courses in English, don't have to present the language certificate again.
- Have knowledge respective to Gender Studies Master's program major courses. Applicant who lacks the Master's degree in Gender or Women Studies is obliged to be prepared preliminarily using respective reading materials of Gender Studies Master's program major courses and pass entrance exam in Gender Studies. Such applicants will have access to respective readers and exam topics in advance.

### ***Application procedure and selection:***

Along with the general application package requested by university, the program applicants must additionally submit following documents:

1. Letter of motivation (The applicants should describe their academic and professional experience and link it with their future carrier plans. They should state clearly why they are interested to study at this. Applicants also should present their research topic/theme, on which they will write their research proposal)
2. Example of their written work (applicants should present 10 page written work on the topic related to Gender Studies or to any themes of social sciences).

3. One page book review (applicants should present their review on any academic title in Gender Studies, they have read recently. They should mentioned in their review the topics of title, what they learnt from it and why they liked, or disliked the book)

## **6. Structure of the PhD Program**

Language of instruction: English

Length of study: three years

Students are obliged to cover the teaching component – substantive (discipline specific core seminars), research design seminars and academic practice (pedagogy, academic writing/journal article, grant proposal and academic program administration) – that will take first four semesters. Research and doctoral thesis writing will be implemented in parallel regime. Thesis will be defended in the sixth semester.

The number of PhD credits is set by the law at a minimum of **180 ECTS** credits, mostly allocated for independent research. The whole program is divided into components **1) Teaching** (60 ECTS) and **2) Research** (120 ECTS) components.

### **1) *The teaching component***

The teaching component of doctoral program is consisted of **60 ECTS credits**, which are divided between following components:

- 15 ECTS - Substantive discipline-specific courses
- 25 ECTS – Research Methods Training
- 10 ECTS - doctoral colloquiums I and II
- 5 ECTS – Innovative Teaching Methods (university mandatory course)
- 5 ECTS – Professor’s Assistantship

The teaching component training has three major goals:

- Support student in implementing research
- Deepen students’ discipline-specific knowledge of the field
- Expand students’ skills of teaching for their future academic carrier

The PhD program in Gender Studies target three general goals of teaching: Essential – Subject specific, Methodological and preparation of students for academic practice career in the

universities. There is a strong focus on interdisciplinary teaching in the Program. Consequently students don't have to hold academic degree in Gender Studies. Any applicant with Master's degree in any other field of study, who will be interested in the field Gender Studies, will be eligible to study at the program.

## 1) **Study Component, 60 ECTS**

### **Research Methods Module:**

Students have to pass three compulsory doctoral courses in research methods during first three semesters starting from their admission:

- ) Philosophy of Social Sciences, 5 ECTS
- ) Introduction to the Applied Statistics with SPSS elements, 5 ECTS
- ) Social Research Methods, 5 ECTS

### **I Semester:**

- ) Substantive: Field seminar (1): Contemporary Feminist Theories, 5 ECTS
- ) Method: Research Design (1): Gender Research Methods - Choosing and refining a research question and proposal writing (part I), 4 ECTS

### **II Semester:**

- ) Method: Research Design (2): Gender Research Methods - Choosing and refining a research question and proposal writing (part II), 2 ECTS

### **III Semester:**

- ) Substantive: Field Seminar (2): Contemporary debates in Feminist Theory (Part I), 5 ECTS
- ) Innovative Methods of Teaching, 5 ECTS
- ) Method: Research Design (3): Work in Progress, Research proposal writing and proposal defense, 4 ECTS

### **IV Semester:**

- ) Substantive: Field Seminar (3): Contemporary debates in Feminist Theories (part II), 5 ECTS
- ) Doctoral colloquium I: Feminist Pedagogy, 5 ECTS
- ) Doctoral colloquium II: Preparing a journal article – 5 ECTS
- ) Professor's Assistantship, 5 ECTS<sup>1</sup>

## 2) ***Research Component***

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<sup>1</sup> This component can be also covered in V and VI semesters

The research component of doctoral program is **120 ECTS credits**, which are divided between following components:

- 20 ECTS – Doctoral colloquium I
- 20 ECTS – Doctoral colloquium II
- 80 ECTS – Research, preparation and defense of Research Thesis

#	Course/seminars (by original regulation)	Contact hours	ECTS (by PhD programs regulation of 2010)	Form of study lecture/ seminar	Professor
<b>Research Methods Module</b>					
0.1	Philosophy of Social Sciences	30	5	I, II or III Sem.	Dr.Tamar Tskhadadze
0.2	Introduction to Applied Statistics with SPSS elements	30	5	I, II or III Sem.	Dr.Lili Khechuashvili
0.3	Social Research Methods	30	5	I, II or III Sem.	Dr.Tamar Zurabishvili
<b>Total credits:</b>			<b>15</b>		
<b>I SEMESTER</b>					
1.1	Field seminar (1): Contemporary Feminist Theories (Feminist philosophy)	30	5		Dr.Tamar Tskhadadze
1.3	Gender Research Methods - Choosing and refining a research question and proposal writing (part I)	15	4		Prof. Joanna Regulska, Prof. Franciska de Haan
<b>Total credits:</b>			<b>9</b>		
<b>II SEMESTER</b>					
2.1	Gender Research Methods - Choosing and refining a research question and proposal writing (part II)	15	2		Prof. Joanna Regulska
<b>Total credits:</b>			<b>2</b>		
<b>III SEMESTER</b>					
3.1	Field Seminar (2) Contemporary debates in Feminist Theory - Part I	30	5	Seminar	Dr. Tamar Tskhadadze
3.2	Innovative Methods of Teaching	30	5		Dr. Eter Gvineria
3.2	Research Methods in Gender – (part III)	15	4	Seminar	Prof. Joanna Regulska
<b>Total credits:</b>			<b>14</b>		
<b>IV SEMESTER</b>					
4.1	Field Seminar (2) Contemporary debates in Feminist Theory - Part II		5	Seminar	Prof. Parvis Gashem Fachandi
4.2	Doctoral colloquium I – Feminist Pedagogy	15	5	Seminar	Prof. Joanna Regulska Prof. Darjia Zavrsek,
4.3	Doctoral colloquium II – Preparing a Journal article		5	Seminar	Prof. Fran Mascia-Lees; Mary Hawkesworth
4.4	Professor's assistantship*	15	5		
<b>Total credits:</b>			<b>20</b>		
<b>Total ECTS for Study Component</b>			<b>60</b>		
<b>VI-VIII SEMESTERS</b>					
6.1	Doctoral Research colloquium I		20		
6.2	Doctoral Research colloquium II		20		

6.3	Doctoral thesis preparation (research, thesis writing, submission) and defense**	80	
Total research and thesis writing:		120	
Total Degree requirement: 180 ECTS		180	

*\*Teaching by graduate students will be limited, and considered to be part of their doctoral training. PhD students will be involved in undergraduate and graduate teaching assistance, apart from their own research and training.*

*\*\* Research and doctoral thesis writing is implemented in parallel regime to study component. Final version writing and thesis defense is implemented in fifth and six semesters respectively.*

## 7. Grading Scheme

Scores	Evaluation	Classification of Evaluation	GPA
91%-100%	(A) "Excellent"	Positive	4.0
81%-90%	(B) "Very good"	Positive	3.0
71%-80%	(C) "Good"	Positive	2.0
61%-70%	(D) "Satisfactory"	Positive	1.0
51%-60%	(E) "Sufficient"	Positive	0.5
41%-50%	(FX) "Marginal Fail" ( Failed with the right to resit an exam)	Negative	0.0
0%-40%	(F) "Fail" (Has to retake the course)	Negative	0.0

In case of getting FX "Marginal Fail" evaluation in courses/seminars, students will be given permission to be prepared and pass the exam for second time. In case of getting F "Fail" evaluation, student must pass the course again, from the beginning to get the credit.

The dissertation is evaluated according to the following scheme:

summa cum laude	Excellent, 91% and more
magna cum laude	Result is very good and completely exceed the requirements, 81-90%
cum laude	Result is good and exceed the requirements, 71-80%
bene	Result completely meets the requirements, 61-70%
rite	Despite the gaps result meets the requirements, 51-60%
insufficenter	Result does not meet the requirements because of significant gaps, 41-50%
sub omni canone	Result that does not meet the requirements at all, 40 %



	and less
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## **8. Facilities**

The students of PhD program in IR will have access to CSS library, which is specially composed for social sciences. CSS created one of the few social science libraries in Georgia, and it is extensively used both by the faculty and students of TSU. This CSS project envisages the constant updating of the library based on the needs of the workshops (administrative training, research training, methodology training) as well as the students' requirements for books, databases, online journals, etc. The upgrading of databases and the library will be closely coordinated with the partner institutions, to avoid double charging of expenses. The PhD students can also use the computer lab and e-data basis available at CSS library.

## **9. Number of Students: 7**

## **10. CVs of respected faculty is attached**

## **11. Contact Persons:**

George Khelashvili, CSS Graduate Studies Project Director ([gkhelashvili@ucss.ge](mailto:gkhelashvili@ucss.ge))

Manana Mikaberidze, CSS Administrative Director ([m.mikaberidze@css.ge](mailto:m.mikaberidze@css.ge))

Diana Lezhava, CSS Doctoral Training Coordinator ([d.lezhava@css.ge](mailto:d.lezhava@css.ge)).

## **12. Financial Provision of Program:**

The program is funded by using the budget of the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences and tuition fees paid by PhD students. The program is developed under the framework of CSS grant project (code: EO476) and the costs of travel, accommodation and honoraria of international scholars involved in the program is reimbursed by the Center for Social Sciences.