

ITE-VET
2016–2018



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



Results of 2nd expert evaluation of revised study plans developed by HEIs – partner institutions

The following content is a result of the
ITE-VET project which is part of the
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NATIONAL ACADEMY OF EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES OF UKRAINE
Institute of Vocational Education and Training of NAES of Ukraine

Results of 2nd expert evaluation of revised study plans
developed by HEIs – partner institutions
within the Erasmus+ Project «ITE-VET: Improving Teacher Education for
applied learning in the field of VET»

Kyiv – 2018

INTRODUCTION

In order to analyze the effectiveness of improving the content of the practical training of teachers of vocational education and training, members of the project team of the Institute of Vocational Education and Training of NAES of Ukraine conducted the 2nd expert evaluation of revised study plans for vocational teachers' training which were developed by partner institutions within the Erasmus+ Project «ITE-VET: Improving Teacher Education for applied learning in the field of VET»: Vadym Hetman Kyiv National Economic University (KNEU), Ivan Franko National University of Lviv (IFNUL), Vasyl Stefanyk Prycarpathian National University (VSPNU).

For expert evaluation it was applied such criteria as: number of ECTS of disciplines in pedagogy/didactics (min. 20 ECTS); number of ECTS of internship (min. 12 weeks of internships in vocational schools and min. 8 weeks of internships in companies); spectrum of pedagogic/didactic courses (does the range of pedagogic/didactic courses show a sufficient width/spectrum); balance between didactic and pedagogic courses.

To reconcile foreign and domestic terminology, we note that disciplines in pedagogy in the Ukrainian context are theoretically oriented pedagogical disciplines, and disciplines of didactics, respectively, are practical-oriented.

Results of expert evaluation

First of all, it is necessary to focus attention on the fact that during the Project's development package there were changes in the names of specializations and qualifications. Thus, the Academic Council of the Ivan Franko National University of Lviv (IFNUL) approved a new specialization for specialty 016 "Special Education" - "Work-based Training" and a new qualification "Assistant of the Teacher of Work-Based Training". For the next academic year (2018-2019), a new curriculum will be introduced that covers a new specialization.

In the Vasyl Stefanyk Prycarpathian National University (VSPNU) qualification of graduates on the specialty 011 “Education Science (educational, pedagogical sciences)”, specialization "Pedagogy of Higher School" has been specified from qualification "Teacher of Universities and Higher Educational Institutions" to "Teacher of Vocational and Higher Educational Institutions".

All changes in the curricula are regulated by the requirements of the state standards, according to which the volume of disciplines in the cycle of humanitarian training is $20 \pm 5\%$, natural and scientific and fundamental training - $20 \pm 5\%$, professional and practical training - $60 \pm 10\%$. The total amount of training hours should be for the bachelor's degree 180-240, and for the master's degree - 90-120 credits ECTS.

The newly revised study plans generally take into account the recommendations of the seminar in Vienna (Austria), which took place on December 5-6, 2017 and the seminar-meeting in Kyiv (Ukraine) on February 16, 2018.

Quantitative data on the defined criteria for comparing curricula are given in Table 1.

As a result of further revision of study plans, the percentage of credits ECTS of pedagogy / didactic disciplines has increased in Ivan Franko National University of Lviv (IFNUL) (from 45% to 51%).

Table 1

Changes in study plans developed by HEIs – Project partners

Criteria	KNEU Study plan of Bachelor Preparation (specialization “Professional Education. Economy”)			IFNUL Study plan of Bachelor Preparation (specialization “Special Pedagogy”)			VSPNU Study plan of Master Preparation (specialization “Pedagogy of Higher Education”)		
	Before the Project	The interim results (2017)	The interim results (2018)	Before the Project	The interim results (2017)	The interim results (2018)	Before the Project	The interim results (2017)	The interim results (2018)
Number of ECTS of disciplines in pedagogy/didactics (min. 20 ECTS)	ECTS								
	102	108	108	104	108	123	51	74	74
	%								
	42,0	45,0	45,0	43,3	45,0	51,0	46,7	67,3	67,3
Number of ECTS of internship (min. 12 weeks of internships in vocational schools)	ECTS								
	6	10	10	-	9	9	-	10/15	10/15
	Number of Hours								
	180	300	300	-	270	270	-	300	300
	Number of weeks								
	4	6	6	-	6	6	-	10	5/10
Number of ECTS of internship (8 weeks of internships in companies)	ECTS								
	6	6	6	9	9	12	-	3	6/12
	Number of Hours								
	180	180	180	270	270	360	-	90	180

	Number of weeks								
	4	4	4	8	8	8	-	2	4/8
Number of courses in pedagogy (didactics)	Total number of disciplines								
	26	29	29	32	34	38	14	21	21
	%								
	33,8	38,2	38,2	57,4	61,7	69,0	87,5	91,3	91,3
Correlation between courses in pedagogy and didactics	Number of courses in pedagogy								
	8	7	7	5	5	6	7	8	8
	%								
	10,8	9,2	9,2	10,6	10,2	12,2	43,7	34,7	34,7
	Number of courses in didactics								
	18	22	22	27	29	32	7	13	13
	%								
	24,3	28,9	28,9	57,4	59,2	65,3	43,8	56,5	56,5
	Correlation								
1:2,25	1:3,14	1:3,14	1:5,4	1:5,8	1:5,3	1:1	1:1,63	1:1,63	

Substantial modernization of the study plan for the training of future VET teachers in the field of economics for 2017-2018 was developed by Kyiv National Economic University named after Vadym Hetman at the first stage of change. In particular, practical training has been increased from 12 ECTS to 23 ECTS; 9 new training courses have been developed, aimed at forming professional and personal competencies that future VET teachers have to develop, and the number of psychological and pedagogical disciplines, both normative and selective, has been increased. A cross-cutting program of practice has been developed, which is a comprehensive implementation of the acquired professional competencies in the context of real economic and pedagogical activities and includes educational, work-based and pedagogical practice.

At the level of the master's preparation in the Vasyl Stefanyk Prycarpathian National University (VSPNU), a substantial increase also occurred at the previous stage (67.3%), when the total amount of training from 90 credits of ECTS to 110 credits of ECTS was increased by introducing new disciplines in pedagogy and didactics.

As for the volume of practice at the Ivan Franko National University of Lviv (IFNUL), the volume of credits and hours for work-based practice has increased (educational (volunteer) practice - 3 credits, 90 hours, training (work-based) practice - 9 credits, 270 hours, at the same time, the number of weeks hasn't increased. However, the practice will acquire a special professional direction in accordance with a new specialization. For example, educational (work-based) practice involves the practice of future specialists of a new specialization at the educational production facilities, where they will simultaneously acquire practical skills and pedagogical skills of interaction and training of students with special needs. In general, 14 weeks and 21 credits are provided for the training of the assistant of work-based training teacher.

In Vasyl Stefanyk Prycarpathian National University (VSPNU), as compared with the previous study plan which was discussed during the seminar in Vienna, the number of hours and credits for students to take work-based practice in the second and third semesters has been increased (practical training and internship: pedagogical practice in higher educational institutions of different types of accreditation) from 3 ECTS credits to 12 ECTS credits. Of these, 6 credits (4 weeks) are put into practice in vocational schools. Compared with the previous stage of revision of study plan submitted in December 2017, the volume of work-based practice (both credits and weeks) increased, the volume of teaching practice

in VET schools in the number of credits has not changed, but the number of weeks has been increased (5).

There have been some changes in the number of disciplines in pedagogy and didactics at the Ivan Franko National University of Lviv (IFNUL), which according to the new specialization "Production Training" and the new qualification "Assistant of teacher of production training" is still under development. According to this study plan, introduction of new disciplines - the pedagogical course "Methodology and didactics of professional education" (6 credits), courses of professional direction - "Fundamentals of publishing" (3 credits), "Work in production workshops" (3 credits), as well as psychological-pedagogical course "Ergotherapy" (4 credits) have been developed.

It is planned to increase the number of credits for the disciplines included in the study plan for 2017-2018. In particular, the volume of academic discipline "Fundamentals of auto-dealings in educational workshops" increased from 1 to 3 credits. For the discipline "Fundamentals of professional guidance" instead of 2,5 credits 5 credits are offered, similarly for the discipline "Models and technologies of social rehabilitation work" 5 credits instead of 2,5 are provided. According to the new study plan, it is planned to introduce blocks of new psychological and pedagogical disciplines for the choice of future specialists in special education.

According to the recommendations given in the previous description of the results of the expert evaluation regarding the incorrectness of the names of certain disciplines, the presence of repetitions, verbose words, in the study plan of the Ivan Franko National University of Lviv (IFNUL), the title "Design of professional preparation of a specialist in the pedagogical process in Ukraine" was changed to "Design of education and vocational training of specialist in pedagogical process in Ukraine ". The content of this discipline has also been updated.

CONCLUSIONS

As there was an objective need for changes in the names of some specialties and qualifications in 2 partner universities such changes took place. Thus, the Academic Council of the Ivan Franko National University of Lviv (IFNUL) approved a new specialization for specialty 016 "Special Education" - "Work-based Training" and a new qualification "Assistant of the Teacher of Work-Based Training". For the next academic year (2018-2019), a new curriculum will be introduced that covers a new specialization. In the Vasyl Stefanyk Prycarpathian National University (VSPNU) qualification of graduates on the specialty 011 "Education Science (educational, pedagogical sciences)", specialization "Pedagogy of Higher School" has been specified from qualification "Teacher of Universities and Higher Educational Institutions" to "Teacher of Vocational and Higher Educational Institutions".

The obtained results testify that all universities - project participants - increased the number of disciplines in pedagogy / didactics, respectively, the number of ECTS credits for psychological and pedagogical training has increased. The number of didactic disciplines (in particular trainings and workshops), which ensure the formation of practical skills, has increased.

Universities - Project participants have followed the recommendations of the results of the previous expert assessment regarding the correction of the names of disciplines (Vasyl Stefanyk Prycarpathian National University (VSPNU), ensuring the training electiveness (Ivan Franko National University of Lviv (IFNUL)).

In general, the volume of practical training in vocational schools has been increased. In particular, the number of ECTS credits for work-based practice has increased in the Ivan Franko National University of Lviv (IFNUL) and Vasyl Stefanyk Prycarpathian National University (VSPNU). The Kyiv National Economic University has developed a cross-cutting program of practice, which is a

comprehensive implementation of the acquired professional competences in the context of real economic and pedagogical activities and includes educational, work-based and pedagogical practice. At the same time, in the conditions of the existing educational standards in Ukraine, it is difficult to implement the recommendation to increase the number of weeks for pedagogical and work-based practice.