MATRIX of existing Master course: Tbilisi State University

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| Name of compulsory chair | Year | Semester | Number of ECTS | Number of elective chairs | List of available elective chairs | short description  (of the courses that are relevant to RETHINK’s theme(s)) | relation between the contents and RETHINK’s theme |
| Human Geography  With 2 modules: (i) ‘Social and Political Geography’ (M1), and (ii) ‘Tourism Geography and Spatial Development’(M2) | | | | | | | |
| - English (special for geographers): sem. 1  - Geoinformation technologies in social and political research | 1st year | 1 semester | 5  10 | 3 in M1  4 in M2 | -Globalization of the world politics (M1)-10 ECTS  -Geopolitics, nationalism and geography of ethnopolitical conflicts (M1)-10 ECTS  -Political problems of the Middle East region (M1)-5 ECTS  - Geography of European tourism (M2)- 5 ECTS  - Tourism theory and policy (M2)- 5 ECTS  -Tourism marketing (M2)- 5 ECTS  -Cultures and religions in the Caucasus (M2)- 5 ECTS | English: An advanced course designed for enhancing students’ skills in understanding terminology and professional sources/literature (human geography and adjacent fields) in English, improving grammar, writing and presentation skills. [2 semesters; see also below]  Geoinformation: Application of GIS and other IT in social and political geographic research; its usage for visualization and spatial analyses. The course aims at: (i) introducing ArcGIS, MapInfo, SuperMap for data management and processing; (ii) study of applications for spatial analyses; and (iii) compilation of small research projects using GIS. Urban (planning) cases are often used for GIS applications/projects. | English, and Geoinformation - might be relevant;  Other courses (elective) – not relevant |
| Total |  |  | 15 of 30 |  |  |  |  |
| - Academic writing  - English (special for geographers): sem. 2  - Geography of the world economy | 1st year | 2 semester | 5  5  5 | 3 in M1  3in M2  1 field practice | -Social geography (M1) – 5 ECTS  -Power and political process in Georgia (M1)-10 ECTS  -Geopolitics of the Caucasus (M1)- 5 ECTS  -Organization of touristic activities (M2)- 5 ECTS  -Land policy and land management (M2)- 10 ECTS  -Politics of culture (M2)-5 ECTS  Field practice in regional development (M2)-5 ECTS | Academic writing: Development of writing skills and understanding of main principles of writing compositions like argumented essay, critical essay, analytic report, research paper, etc. Teaching about content and structure of empirical research, standards of referencing of used sources/bibliography, citation, correct interpretation of sources and presentation of written document; avoidance of plagiarism in a written composition.  Social geography: The course provides a perspective on geographic peculiarities and regularities of spatial organization of contemporary societies. It unfolds issues of similarities, differences and identities between different social groups; discusses scholarly theories and approaches about differentiation of people according to races, ethnicities, classes, gender, etc.; reveals social mechanisms of relations and distribution of power between social groups. Urban social geography is an essential part of the course.  Land policy and land management: The importance of land resources in socioeconomic development is discussed. Legal, economical, institutional, planning and other aspects of land management are defined. A context of ‘Fast World’ vs ‘Slow World’ is set up, which envisages completeness, availability and pace of dissemination of land-related information in different societies/economies. The examples of implementation of efficient land policies in particular countries are presented. Special emphases are put on land policies in the post-Soviet space, including Georgia. Land reforms and transformation from command economy land management towards market approaches and efficient land service provision/administration via implementation of modern land technologies are discussed. Urban issues including city planning and development, and urban land-use patterns is a substantial part of the course.  Field practice: Exploration and study of different economic and touristic objects, regional socioeconomic processes, including architecture, urban planning and urban development in a selected region of Georgia (mostly Adjara at the Black Sea side). Research methods including statistics, social polls/interviews, and cartographic technics are applied. Duration 15 days; includes 3phases – preparatory, field study, and conclusive (reporting + presentation). | Academic writing from compulsory; Social geography, Land policy and land management, and Field practice from elective - might be relevant.  Other courses – not relevant. |
| Total |  |  | 15 of 30 |  |  |  |  |
| - Geography of development | 2nd year | 1 semester | 5 | Remaining courses from Semester 1 | -Social theories (M1) – 5ECTS;  Any remaining course from Semester 1 | Geography of development: The course discusses contemporary development trends and patterns in a global context. The issues of development and modernization, theories and strategies of development are explained. Formal approaches and methods of measurement/assessment of development are provided. Emphases are put on human development and ‘mobility’ in modern global space. Cases of Georgia and wider ex-Soviet countries are considered. Social theories: The course teaches main concepts of classical and modern sociology, namely: social fact and holistic paradigm of Émile Durkheim; [Methodological antipositivism](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antipositivism) of Max Weber; Gemeinschaft – Geselschaft of Ferdinand Tönnies; Systems theory of Nicklas Luhman; Genetic structuralism of Pierre Bourdieu; the theory of structuration of Anthony Giddens; Critical theory of Jürgen Habermas; Symbolic interactionism of Cooley, Mead and Goffman; ethnomethodology of Garfinkel; Social exchange theory, Network theory and Rational choice theory; Figurational sociology by Norbert Elias; Culural ecology – risk society; multicultural society and informationalism; Radical postmodernism of Jean Baudrillard. Many of these theories and concepts embrace urban sociology. | Geography of development, and Social theories may be relevant |
| Total |  |  | 5 of 30 |  |  |  |  |
| - Master’s thesis | 2nd year | 2 semester | 30 |  |  |  |  |
| Total |  |  | 30 of 30 |  |  |  |  |
| Total for Master course: | 2 years | 4 semesters | 120 |  |  |  |  |

IMPORTANT NOTES:

1. TSU doesn’t intend to modify this program into the one dedicated to Urban planning/Environmental engineering; we envisage creation of a completely new program with usage of only some relevant courses from the above-presented masters program;

2. The new program will be coordinated by the Department of Human Geography but managed by the Centre of Interdisciplinary Studies at TSU;

3. Besides the courses listed and resumed above, a few other subjects/courses already existing at TSU – at the department of Human Geography (e.g. Cities of the world: introduction to urban studies (currently implemented at bachelor’s level – will need upgrading); Society, environment and development; etc.) and beyond – could be added to the curriculum. This will happen upon consultation with partner universities

MATRIX of existing PhD (Doctorate) course: Tbilisi State University

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| Name of compulsory chairs | Year | Semester | Number of ECTS | Number of elective chairs | List of available elective chairs | short description | relation between the contents and RETHINK’s theme |
| Human Geography | | | | | | | |
| *Courses offered by TSU*  - Contemporary methods in teaching | Year and semester do not matter (courses available any time) | | 5 | 7 | *General courses offered by TSU*  -Science management: 5ECTS  -Applied statistics: 5ECTS  -Philosophy of social sciences: 5ECTS  -Methods of social research; 5ECTS  -Application of ICT in teaching and research, and design of digital courses - 10ECTS  -Basics of curriculum development -5ECTS  -Academic writing- 5 ECTS | Will be provided upon necessity/request | Not relevant to RETHINK’s theme |
| -- | 1 semester /Fall semester – Year doesn’t matter | |  | 2 | *Special courses offered by the PhD program ‘Human Geography’*  -Development and Geography: 10ECTS  - Geoinformation technologies in social sciences: 10ECTS | Geoinformation: Upgraded version of the similar course at masters level | Contemporary concepts and paradigms of human geography, Geoinformation and Field practices may be relevant to RETHINK’s theme |
| -- | 2 semester/Spring semester – Year doesn’t matter | |  | 2 | *Courses offered by the PhD program ‘Human Geography’*  -Contemporary concepts and paradigms of human geography: 10 ECTS  -Field practice: 5 ECTS | Contemporary concepts and paradigms of human geography: The course consists of three parts: first offers discussion about fundamental concepts like (i) culture - nature, (ii) society - space, (iii) local - global, (iv) control - freedom, (v) self - other, (vi) image –reality, (vii) masculinity – femininity, (viii) science – art, (ix) relevant – esoteric. Second part explains main themes, like cultural, development, economic, environmental, historical, political, social, urban/rural geographies. Third part deals with contemporary theories and methods, like social theories, urban theories, geoinformation and remote sensing, quantitative and qualitative research methods, etc.  - Field practice: Upgraded version of the similar practice at masters level |  |
| Total |  | | 5 of 40 | 35 of 40 |  |  |  |
| Other components |  | | | | | | |
| -Professor’s assistance  -2 scientific seminars (with presenting of written report/essay) |  | | 10  10 |  |  |  |  |
| Dissertation thesis | 3rd year | | 120 |  |  |  |  |
| Total: | 3 years | | 180 |  |  |  |  |