Akkreditierungsagentur im Bereich Gesundheit und Soziales Accreditation Agency in Health and Social Sciences



Assessment Report

for the Application of "Dimitrie Cantemir" University of Targu Mures for the Accreditation of the Study Program "Law", Bachelor of Law

(Extract)

AHPGS Akkreditierung gGmbH

Sedanstr. 22

79098 Freiburg

Telefon: +49 (0) 761/208533-0

E-Mail: ahpgs@ahpgs.de

Expert group

Prof. Dr. Jochen Baier

University of Education Schwaebisch Gmuend, Germany

Anita Eggert

University of Münster, Germany

Prof. Dr. Ursula Fasselt

Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences, Germany

Dr. Felix Martin Hofmann

Albert-Ludwigs-University Freiburg, Germany

Prof. Dr. Katharina Kunze

Georg-August-University Göttingen, Germany

Prof. Dr. Björn Maier

Baden-Wuerttemberg Cooperative State University Mannheim, Germany

Prof. Dr. Silke May-Landgrebe

Westphalian University of Applied Sciences, Germany

Prof. Dr. Gerd Morgenthaler

University of Siegen, Germany

Prof. Dr. Claudia Mähler

University of Hildesheim, Germany

Prof. Dr. Alexander Pundt

Medical School Berlin - University of Applied Sciences for Health and Medicine, Germany

Prof. Dr. Kim-Patrick Sabla-Dimitrov

University of Vechta, Germany

Prof. Dr. Silke Wiegand-Grefe

Medical School Hamburg – University of Applied Sciences and Medical University, Germany

Prof. Dr. Jana Wolf Sussman

Aalen University, Germany

The faculty has developed a team of teachers, combining theoretical expertise with practical experience. The educational approach emphasizes a balance between theory and practice, encouraging students to apply their knowledge in professional contexts and engage in research. Courses and seminars focus on practical application, stimulate critical thinking, and involve students in debates, simulations, and other modern learning methods. The faculty promotes interdisciplinary studies, connecting legal education with fields such as sociology, psychology, philosophy, ethics, administration science, informatics, economics, politics, and international relations. The students are considered part of the academic family, fostering a supportive learning.

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The Faculty of Law has articulated a comprehensive mission and set of objectives to guide its educational and research endeavors. These objectives encompass a broad spectrum of areas aimed at providing a high-quality legal education, fostering academic integration, and contributing to scientific research and societal development. Some key highlights include:

1. Educational Excellence:

- Acquiring knowledge, skills, and abilities in legal sciences at Romanian and European levels
- Promoting integration in the European academic area, including mobility programs and curricular compatibility
- Attracting prestigious teachers from partner universities.
- 2. Language and Cultural Competence:
- Intensifying training in foreign languages and cultural elements of Romania and Europe
- Designing and developing legal study programs in English.
- 3. Scientific Research and Innovation:
- Intensifying scientific research activities with dedicated research centers
- Organizing scientific events to enhance international visibility.
- 4. Interdisciplinary Approach:
- Offering contact areas with various scientific fields, fostering interdisciplinary studies.

5. Social Engagement:

- Creating postgraduate programs and professional training based on societal needs
- Training specialists in accordance with labor market requirements, promoting values like solidarity and non-discrimination.

6. Technological Integration:

- Covering social-legal relations with suitably trained staff using modern information and communication technologies.
- 7. Quality Assurance and Continuous Improvement:
- Providing quality educational services adapted to a knowledge-based society
- Integrating the University into the European Higher Education Area and continuously adapting the educational offer to labor market dynamics.
- 8. Research Mission and Scientific Objectives:
- Consolidating a well-defined scientific mission as an integral part of teaching
- Contributing to local, regional, and national development through creative and innovative efforts.
- 9. Target Groups and Specific Skills:
- Addressing high school graduates, those seeking to retrain in law, and individuals with training needs in law
- Developing specific competencies for law graduates, including general, cognitive, functional, and personal competencies.

The faculty aims to produce graduates equipped not only with legal knowledge and skills but also with a sense of responsibility, ethical conduct, and an understanding of global trends in the legal field. The emphasis on language proficiency, interdisciplinary studies, and continuous adaptation to societal needs underscores the dynamic and forward-thinking approach of the Faculty of Law at "Dimitrie Cantemir" University in Tirgu Mures.

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Graduates of the Faculty of Law have the possibilities for diverse career paths in the legal profession, including roles as judges, prosecutors, attorneys, notaries, legal advisors, and mediators. They can also pursue specialized fields such as bailiffs, insolvency practitioners, intellectual property counselors, forensic experts, or diplomats. Opportunities in EU institutions, secretarial, and administrative roles are available.

Graduates can also contribute to national and local public administration or engage in education as researchers or academic personnel. The Bachelor program equips them with versatile competencies for adaptation to various work environments, facilitating integration into the national and European labor market.

The current situation on the labor market for law specialists indicates a persistent demand for various roles, including magistrates (judges or prosecutors), lawyers, notaries, mediators, legal counselors, intellectual property counselors, bailiffs, civil servants, European officials, and insolvent practitioners. Major law firms express continuous interest in recruiting new generations of lawyers due to the perpetual need for human resources. Law offices at the local level regularly hire trainee lawyers, graduates, or law students preparing for admission to the profession.

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From the experts' point of view, the Bachelor study program "Law" focuses on specific qualification objectives. These objectives cover professional and interdisciplinary aspects and particularly refer to the domain of academic competences, competences necessary for a qualified employment, skills of social commitment and personal development.

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The curriculum's subjects are logically sequenced, correlating with general and specialized competences at the Bachelor level in Law. These competences facilitate smooth progression to the second cycle of education (Master level). Recent efforts have enhanced compatibility with curricula and syllabi in European Union states. Each subject in the curriculum includes a syllabus outlining objectives, thematic content, allocated hours, seminar and practical applications, along with the student evaluation system and minimal bibliography.

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The didactic concepts and methods of teaching at the Law Faculty are designed to be student-centered. The teaching strategy emphasizes increasing student training according to their needs, expectations, and targets. The methods include implementing new teaching procedures, active-participative approaches, utilizing technology for educational purposes, maintaining a teacher-student dialogue through electronic mail, and organizing interdisciplinary didactic activities. The faculty encourages independent and critical thinking among students to prepare them for the evolving legislative context and societal challenges. Students receive counseling and can contact professors through consultation programs. Evaluation of curricula and syllabi is conducted through questionnaires, allowing continuous improvement of the teaching process.

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The Faculty of Law ensures that practical training is a crucial aspect of student learning. The supervisory teacher, designated by the Faculty's Council, oversees and guides students during internships, which can occur in various legal settings, including local courts, prosecutor's offices, law offices, notary offices, bailiffs, police inspectorates, penitentiary units, and commercial companies or non-profit foundations.

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The study program's goal is to teach and deepen legal knowledge in the field of public and private law of Romania and the EU. Therefore, the program should prepare students to practice law with professional excellence and commitment to fairness, justice, compassion and the highest ethical standards within the local Mures County, Romania and the EU. The experts agree with the above-mentioned qualification objectives. Moreover, the study program "Law" also focuses on qualifying students for social responsibility and personal development throughout all modules. The experts conclude that graduates have good employment opportunities on the Romanian job market.

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The expert group also points out that research elements are integrated in some modules. Moreover, methods of teaching are related to research and to the transfer of research into legislation. Hence, students develop a basic understanding of qualitative and quantitative research. They also develop the ability to plan and conduct fundamental or applied research in their area of expertise. The experts recommend using synergies between the study programs wherever possible, e.g. when communicating research methods.

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The Faculty of Law ensures fair treatment for students with physical disabilities, providing accessible spaces and organizing activities on the ground floor. Discrimination based on age, sex, ethnicity, religion, and chronic diseases is strictly prohibited in admission, access to activities, and evaluations.

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The University ensures that information about its activities, particularly the programs it offers, is easily accessible to prospective and current students, graduates, other stakeholders and the public. The published information includes detailed insights into the selection criteria for programs, intended learning outcomes, qualifications awarded, and the procedures employed for teaching, learning, and assessment. Furthermore, pass rates and available learning opportunities to students as well as graduate employment information are shared.

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The experts find the number of human resources allocated to the program to be sufficient to carry out its functions. The teaching staff is well qualified and in possession of academic and technical credentials and experience adequate to their tasks.

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The experts appreciate the positive development of the University over the last five years since the last accreditation of the study program "Law".

The examination system is well-regulated and fair, with various tools available to assess student progress. The staff is qualified and there is a good balance between research and teaching. The quality assurance system in place is robust. Evaluation results are used to make changes and shared with students. The institution has non-discriminatory practices in place for admission and promoting gender equality.

The expert group highlights that the "Law" study program has been offered for 25 years at the University. Graduates have access to a wide range of legal professions due to a quite broad curriculum.