

ROMANIA

MINISTRY OF NATIONAL EDUCATION

“VASILE GOLDIȘ” WESTERN UNIVERSITY of ARAD

310025 Arad, Romania Bd. Revolutiei nr. 94-96, tel./fax 0040/0257/280260,

e-mail: rectorat@uvvg.ro, web: www.uvvg.ro

QUALITY ASSURANCE CODE FOR EDUCATION

IN THE "VASILE GOLDIȘ" WESTERN UNIVERSITY OF ARAD

CHAPTER I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Art. 1. The present code regulates the quality assurance of education, with emphasis on teaching and learning, learning environment, relevant links with research and innovation in the "Vasile Goldiș" Western University of Arad.

Art. 2. The term "quality assurance" in this code is used to describe all activities within the cycle of continuous improvement, so that the study programmes and services offered meet the expectations of the beneficiaries (internal and external stakeholders) and comply with the standards and guidelines for quality assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG).

Art.3. This Code is developed in the spirit of legal regulations:

- National Education Law no.1/2011, as amended and supplemented;
- Law no. 87/2006 for the approval of O.U.G. 75/2005 on quality assurance in education, amended and supplemented by O.U.G. 75/2011;
- A.R.A.C.I.S. methodology and guidelines on quality assurance of study programmes at institutional level;
- Charter of the "Vasile Goldiș" Western University of Arad.

CHAPTER II

OBJECTIVES, PRINCIPLES, STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES

FOR INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE

Art. 4. The objectives of this code are the following:

- a) To provide professional and ethical guidelines for all those involved in the teaching-learning-research process and in academic management;
- b) To serve as a support for the elaboration and application of self-evaluation/continuous development policies for the quality of education in the UVVG of Arad;
- c) To ensure transparency, objectivity and fairness in the relations between evaluators and evaluated;
- d) To promote confidence in the application of quality assessment criteria and procedures in the university.

Art. 5. The general principles imposed by the Quality Assurance Code to be respected and promoted by the members of the academic community of the "Vasile Goldiș" Western University of Arad are the following:

- Principle of legality;
- The principle of student-centered education;
- The principle of independence from ideologies, religions and political doctrines;
- The principle of consultation of partners in decision-making;
- Principle of respect for the rights and freedoms of students and teaching staff;
- Principle of transparency;
- Principle of managerial and financial efficiency;
- Principle of equity;
- Principle of university autonomy and public accountability;
- Principle of academic freedom;
- Principle of professionalism;
- Principle of self-reliance in relations with students and other members of the academic community.

Art. 6. The present code aims at the implementation of the standards and guidelines for quality assurance in the European Higher Education Area (EHEA), with reference to:

- Quality assurance policy
- Design and approval of programmes
- Student-centered learning, teaching and assessment
- Admission, progression, recognition and certification of students
- Teaching staff
- Learning resources and student support
- Information management
- Public information

CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY OF QUALITY ASSURANCE IN EDUCATION

Art. 7. Quality assurance in education is mainly focused on results. Results are expressed in knowledge, professional and transversal competences, values and skills, which are obtained through the completion of a level of education or study programme.

Art. 8. The methodology of quality assurance in education comprises the following components:

- a) Criteria;
- b) Standards and reference standards;
- c) Performance indicators;
- d) Qualifications.

Art. 9. Quality in education is ensured through the following processes:

- a) Planning and effective achievement of expected learning outcomes;
- b) Monitoring of results;
- c) Internal evaluation of results;
- d) External evaluation of results.

Art. 10. The components and processes of quality assurance and the relationships between them are differentiated according to:

- a) Level of education and, where appropriate, qualification;
- b) Type of organization providing education;
- c) Type of study programme.

Art. 11. Quality assurance in education refers to the following areas and criteria:

A. Institutional capacity, resulting from the internal organization of the available infrastructure, defined by the following criteria:

- a) Institutional, administrative and managerial structures;
- b) Material base;
- c) Human resources.

B. Educational effectiveness, which consists in the mobilization of resources in order to achieve the expected learning outcomes, as expressed by the following criteria:

- a) Content of study programmes;
- b) Learning outcomes;
- c) Scientific or methodological research activity, as appropriate;
- d) Financial activity of the organization.

C. Quality management, which is defined by the following criteria:

- a) Strategies and procedures for quality assurance;
- b) Procedures for the initiation, monitoring and periodic review of programmes and activities;
- c) Objective and transparent procedures for evaluating learning outcomes;
- d) Procedures for periodic evaluation of the quality of the teaching staff;
- e) Accessibility of adequate learning resources;
- f) Systematically updated database on internal quality assurance;
- g) Transparency of information of public interest on study programmes and, where appropriate, certificates, diplomas and qualifications offered;
- h) Functionality of the education quality assurance structures according to the law.

CHAPTER IV

ORGANISATION OF THE QUALITY ASSURANCE SYSTEM

Art. 12. The quality assurance system comprises an organizational structure of which the following are part:

- Commission for Quality Assessment and Assurance (C.E.A.C.);
Quality Assurance Committees of the faculties;
- The Vice-Rector for Bachelor, Master, Quality Assurance and Student Affairs;
- Department for Quality Assurance (D.A.C.)

Art. 13. (1) The nominal composition of the C.E.A.C. Commission, complies with the legal provisions, is elected by secret vote and is approved by the University Senate.

(2) The Commission for Evaluation and Quality Assurance (C.E.A.C.) is a structure that carries out the internal evaluation of the quality of educational and scientific research services in the University and is chaired by the Rector.

(3) As a support structure of the C.E.A.C. functions the Department for Quality Assurance (D.A.C.) headed by a director, which develops and implements an integrated system of quality assurance in departments, faculties and branches, according to the National Education Law no. 1/2011, the requirements of ARACIS standards and ensures the achievement of the quality of education and services, institutional diversity, student research and encouraging performance in teaching and research.

(4) The activity of the C.E.A.C. and the D.A.C. is established by the Regulations of organization and functioning approved in the University Senate.

Art. 14. All the quality structures work in an integrated way, on the basis of the strategies, plans and programmes elaborated, propose measures to improve the quality of education, analysed in the bi-monthly meetings of the D.A.C. department and in the meetings of the Faculty Council.

Art. 15. The integrated quality assurance system benefits from an important input from the representatives of internal stakeholders (students, master students, doctoral students, employees) and external stakeholders.

Art. 16. The quality of the services offered is officially recognized by the certification of the quality management system according to the SREN I.S.O. 9001:2008 standard with the S.R.A.C. and IQNet certificates.

CHAPTER V

FINAL PROVISIONS

Art. 17. The legal instruments for the application of this Code is provided by the internal regulations, general and operational procedures annexed to the Quality Manual, 2nd edition 2013, approved in the University Senate.

Art. 18. The application of the Quality Assurance Code does not exclude and does not replace the legal rights and obligations contained in other regulations concerning quality assurance.

Art. 19. This Quality Assurance Code, in its revised form, was approved in the meeting of the Board of Directors on 23.11.2015 and approved in the meeting of the Senate on 23.11.2015.

RECTOR,

Prof. CORALIA-ADINA COTORACI, PhD

(signature and stamp illegible)