Description of the program

The third Cycle (doctoral studies) program in Albanian Language and Literature has been designed to help students acquire knowledge that will orient them to the professions that are closely related to the field of language, culture, literature and education, as well as skills and competencies for employment in higher levels of the public and private sector.

Career

The graduated students will be able to find jobs in different fields of social and professional life, such as:

Teaching: in language schools, in gymnasiums, in primary and secondary schools, in universities, etc.

Employment: linguists, journalists, lectors in different institutions, translators, interpreters in various different ministries and other governmental bodies, translators/interpreters in various different professional and vocational organizations and institutions, translators/interpreters in the public and private sector, translators/interpreters in international organizations, etc.

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

With this program, the candidate acquires general knowledge in many linguistic and literary fields, including both the disciplinary and interdisciplinary fields. This will help them become more creative and professional in resolving the linguistic and literary problems and issues.

Applying knowledge and understanding

The corpus of knowledge for the third cycle students enables them different job opportunities that encompass a large number of different sectors of the social and professional life. The knowledge can be implemented in the educational sector, working as a teacher in secondary schools as well as an assistant in respective faculties and institutes. They can also work as researchers in the field of linguistics and folklore in different Albanological institutes. They can work as journalists in the field
of literature and art, editors and lectors, as well as linguistic critics for different electronic or printed media, whereupon they can contribute to the application of literary norms. They can work as translators and interpreters of Albanian language and literature in bilingual municipalities, ministries and other governmental institutions, in courts, professional organizations, in the private and public sector, in international organizations, etc.

Making judgement

The students will be able to compose and assess curricula and syllabi in the field of languages and literature for primary and secondary schools. They will also be able to evaluate and compare different translations in various languages, assess the proofreading of different literary, linguistic and journalistic texts, etc. They will also be able to assess creations in terms of composition and content, by identifying the cultural and artistic features of those creations. They can be appointed in some professional juries connected to literature, folklore, and literature; assess linguistic researches, or decide on the best item in a competition. They can also get involved in research teams, create lists of graded readers based on level of difficulty and age, etc.

Communication skills

The students will be able to hold grammar or literature classes within the framework of the curricula in primary and secondary schools according to the planes and academic programmes for primary and secondary school. They will also be able to hold language and literature courses for foreigners and also translate scientific texts and literary works from their mother tongue to another language and vice versa. They will be able to participate in scientific discussions, seminars, and conferences in order to further develop and strengthen their knowledge and skills in different sub-fields. They will also be able to write reviews for study programs, textbooks, and works of art, poetry and novels. They can also get involved in research teams; create lists of graded readers based on level of difficulty and age, as well as become spokespeople of political parties or any other public or private institution and/or organization.

Learning skills

The acquired skills will help students represent themselves as future leaders and initiate changes in schools and/or other institutions. They may be able to be leaders in certain projects, in the field of literature and linguistics and make changes in various institutions. In order to achieve the best results, they can introduce themselves with new skills and knowledge; train the others by offering them different professional development courses including spelling, proofreading, essay writing, translation, usage of new technologies and methods in teaching, project preparation, thesis writing, etc. They can propose innovations to meet the shortcomings of the relevant institution, such as: opening of different sections of language and literature, opening of the library, the promotion of a literary and linguistic etc. They can propose new methods for learning the Albanian by level, for foreigners. They can also suggest innovations in the schools they are going to work for, such as establishing different sections in terms of Albanian Language and Literature, library, book promotions, etc.

List of courses

Semester 1

- [10.0 ECTS] Research Methodology
- [10.0 ECTS] Core Issues in Teaching Language and Literature
- [10.0 ECTS] Doctoral Dissertation Writing

Semester 2

- [10.0 ECTS] Review and Approval of the Doctoral Dissertation Plan
- [10.0 ECTS] Elective course 1
- [10.0 ECTS] Elective course 2

Semester 3

Semester 4

Concentration: Semester 3 / Semester 4
• [40.0 ECTS] **Scientific Research Work**

• [20.0 ECTS] **Publication I**

**Semester 5**

• [20.0 ECTS] **Presentation of Research Results**

• [10.0 ECTS] **Publication Activities II**

**Semester 6**

• [30.0 ECTS] **Doctoral Thesis**

**Description of courses**

**Core courses**

• **Research Methodology**  
The material of this course deals with the newest forms and methods of modern methodology in learning the Albanian language and literature. In essence, this includes the methods, forms, techniques, organization of the individual research scientific work with its specific characteristics, etc.

• **Core Issues in Teaching Language and Literature**  
This advanced level language teaching module aims to encourage students to reflect on the relationship between theory and their own teaching practice. The module aims to revise and deepen students’ competence in certain key areas of language education and methodology including: learner-centred teaching methodology, task-based learning, classroom interaction, teacher development in language teaching, contemporary technologies in language teaching, critical issues (social, political) in language teaching.

• **Doctoral Dissertation Writing**  
The students get into a study program and are focused on the selection of scientific research problem, related to their thesis. They collect materials for the thesis; interpret the theoretical and empirical materials and findings by using the adequate qualitative and quantitative methods.

• **Review and Approval of the Doctoral Dissertation Plan**  
After the first semester, the student begins his activities for the development of the plan on his doctoral dissertation. Activities include the definition of literature, defining hypothetical framework, the definition of the work methodology and determination of the individual plan as well as the first public presentation. If necessary, can be held elective courses for this purpose.

• **Scientific Research Work**  
The students of third cycle get into a study program and are focused on the selection of study problems related to their PhD thesis. They collect materials for the thesis; interpret the theoretical and empirical materials and findings by using the adequate qualitative and quantitative methods.

• **Publication I**  
Publication of research activities under the table relevant to the media for publication. Publication activities and successes of the candidate checked before scientific audience by area and the relevance of the research.

• **Presentation of Research Results**  
The main feature of the presentation of the results of research of the third cycle of studies lies in original contribution to knowledge gained. Research on doctoral dissertation is evidence to prove that the researcher has made an original contribution in the field he has chosen. Research results must prove two main things: that the candidate has identified a valid problem or an issue that is not yet answered, and that has solved the problem or answer on this issue.
Publication Activities II
In the context of the activity, the work and his successful activity the applicant must develop and assist various publicistics activities, which affect his future training and development in order to achieve greater efficiency in the field science and research. For this reason, all the work and the various topics arising from doctoral dissertation and also should be published, as well as scientific works that participation in symposiums, seminars, together with the written materials prepared by the candidate.

Doctoral Thesis
Continuing the work of doctoral dissertation. Submitted thesis (dissertation), accepted by the Scientific-Teaching Council of the Faculty and submitted to committee members and begin the procedure of public defence.

Elective courses

- **Albanian Language Grammar Studies**
  Course Albanian language grammar studies, is extensive and expanded and covers on the concept of language, including: Phonetics, Lexicology, Syntax, Morphology. The basic concept of this matter, studies for the doctoral degree is something more specific, because covers topics that are more pressing, when speaking fo grammar not only as a concept, but also as a science where are conceptualised principles of a language in its standard dialect. The aim of this matter is to obtain doctoral students, generally with standardized comparative cultural values.

- **Albanian Literary Studies - Prose**
  This course treats the contemporary Albanian literature with a qualitative overturn and literary production at current times. The cult of the beauty in arts and the beginning of a new era as well as the culmination of artistic literary values. The determination and nomination of stylistic concepts is also examined.

- **Sociolinguistics and Language Education**
  This course aims to familiarise the student with the basic concepts and topics of Sociolinguistics: varieties of language, linguistic variation and change, speaker variables, social network and speech community, discourse analysis and the ethnography of communication as well as language and gender. It focuses on variation in linguistic systems and on the role of speakers in implementing and diffusing linguistic change. The implications of these ideas for such fields as language and education are discussed. The following applications of sociolinguistics will be considered: language policy and planning; the inter-relationships between language and society; language contact; current research, debates and ideas from different traditions within Sociolinguistics.

- **Literary Criticism**
  Introduction to the basics of studies in literature. How to read, understand and learn the modern Albanian literary criticism. The relationship between literature, history and politics as well as critical thinking as an important “Critical theory” is introduced through this course.

- **Literary Theory**
  This module aims to cover a significant range of critical and theoretical approaches to literary and film studies including work on authorship, texts and reading, ideology and power, gender, sexuality, race, place and postcolonialism. The course will follow the shift in theoretical discourse from liberal humanist perspectives in the early part of the twentieth-century to various forms of post-structuralism and postmodernism. Theories under discussion will include deconstruction, varieties of feminism, theories of ‘the other’ and postcolonial discourse, the death of the author and reader reception theories. The module encourages students to recognise dialogue and dissent within the field, and introduces the ground rules for scholarship in the discipline of literary studies.

- **Folklore**
  This material contains quite a rich and concentrated content of the Albanian and Balkan folklore, through which the high values of the spiritual culture, inherited from our national and regional geniuses, are emphasized. These values prove the beauty and geniality of the power of creative poetry of our anonymous creators who were able to present in a very clear and fluent way the rich history of our nation, as well as of the Balkan region.

- **Multiculturalism**
  The purpose of this subject will be multilingualism in multicultural societies as a social phenomenon. This phenomenon is massive in the world. During the lectures more precise terms will be considered such as:
monoculturalism and multiculturalism. The term ‘linguistic nationalism,’ has at least two forms of this nationalism, which collide with each other: for the leaders of the most powerful countries nationalism means expansion, and for minorities it takes the form of defiance and struggle for the affirmation of identity, despite such pressure. Prominent place during the program of third cycle will be multiculturalism in education. In the schools curricula consists of contents from different cultures.

- **International Communication**
  The course is focused on the development of international communication skills that are essential for effective functioning in the professional world. Students will study the process for analysis of different international communication situations, and will accordingly comprehend them. Among the themes that will be covered are international communication in organization, interpersonal and group communication, oral presentations, interviews for employment, professional business letters and interpersonal skills including group dynamics and team work.