

## Appendix 11 – ECTS system for national and international students

### REGULATIONS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CURRICULUM REFORM AND OF THE TRANSFERABLE CREDIT SYSTEM AT BUASVMT

#### Terminology used in the transferable credit system

Curriculum reform in the higher education aims at rationalizing all curricula for every year of study, specialization, college, faculty, while making them compatible with the Romanian traditions in education, with the economic and social needs of the country and with the current trends towards internationalization of higher education.

Curriculum reform is part of the reform of education that the Romanian Ministry of Education is implementing at the moment, containing a set of rules that will make it possible to:

a) associate Romanian higher education to the qualifications needed in the economy, administration, the social and cultural life of the country,

b) compatibilize Romanian higher education with the European education system, in order to achieve institutional mobility for our students and recognition of studies completed in another university than their home university.

Discipline - represents the basic formative element, which performs unitary actions, attributed to a distinct content. It can be materialized in course activities (lectures), seminars, laboratories, projects, individual work, practice, etc.

Curriculum - all training and assessment activities reunited into a unitary conception in terms of their content and timespan, for training a specialist whose diploma will be acknowledged. This comprises: the disciplines required for training the students in accordance with their specialization (faculty), together with the number of classes and credits, and how to assess student work and knowledge through exams or viva voce examinations.

The syllabus is the document that presents the content of a discipline in the curriculum. It is prepared by the course holder and shall be reviewed annually.

The structure of the educational process in curriculum cycles

a) Organizing the educational process in cycles.

Long-term agronomical education (5-6 years) is organized in cycles:

- 1st cycle - undergraduate courses

- 2nd cycle - master's studies.

For Veterinary Medicine, both cycles are integrated in the 6 years of study.

- 3rd cycle - doctoral studies

b) Organizing the educational process in disciplines

The curriculum for each specialization contains discipline packages that provide *modularity* and *flexibility* to the educational process.

The first formula for curriculum modularization is based on the importance of every discipline in the professional training of students, as follows:

- package of fundamental disciplines - (*compulsory curriculum*),

- package of specialized disciplines - (*optional curriculum*), in accordance with the specific of each faculty;

- package of complementary disciplines.

Another formula for providing modularity to the curriculum is based on the compulsoriness of studying a discipline, as follows:

- package of compulsory disciplines - disciplines that must be studied when attending a specialization. This category includes most fundamental disciplines and part of the specialized disciplines.

- package of optional disciplines - disciplines that the student can choose from,, necessary for completing the package of disciplines for their specialization.

- package of elective disciplines - disciplines that are complementary and that the student can choose to study. They are introduced for deepening the students' training and for

helping them better understand the specialized disciplines. The psycho-pedagogical elective disciplines give the students the possibility to teach after graduation.

Sizing of curricula incorporates two categories of activities, namely:

- group activity (courses, seminars, practical work)
- individual work (tutoring, periodic guidance, papers).

Transferrable credit system

A credit is a conventional unit that measures the workload required from the student in various forms: attending courses, seminars and laboratories, performing individual study, preparing projects, conducting study practice, taking exams and viva voce examinations, the graduation exam. At the same time, the learning process is evaluated through marks.

Credits do not replace evaluation of the learning process through marks, and their objective is not to measure the quality of learning.

By measuring the workload necessary for learning, credits are a more objective way to monitor the programs of study that reflect the ensemble of disciplines in the curriculum studied by each student.

Credits do not assess the teacher's activity (teaching), but the student's (learning).

Credits are numerical values assigned to disciplines. They are obtained entirely by the student after successful assessment, i.e. by obtaining the minimum mark (5) at the final exam for a discipline, or the grade "admitted".

The disciplines that are part of the graduation exam, as well as the presentation of the diploma project, are credited separately.

Credits can be collected (accumulated) in modules for obtaining a complementary specialization or qualification.

Credits are transferrable between structures that belong to different specializations or profiles (structural transfer). This rule allows of a flexible interpretation of the regime of the discipline, whether it is specialized or complementary.

Credits are transferrable from one education unit to another on disciplines, groups of disciplines (modules) or compact periods of study (horizontal transfer). The transfer is performed upon students' request, based on a convention between the educational institutions involved.

Credits can be obtained in advance and can be reported to the following semesters (credit mobility).

After being obtained, credits will be recognized for the entire period of schooling, and their recognition shall not be influenced by modifications in the syllabus or curriculum.

Application of the ECT system supports student mobility, recognition of the study periods, diversification of the range of options for the student and flexibility of the study program within the curriculum, inclusion of new disciplines in the curriculum, recognition of compact study periods in other universities, integration in the norms of European education.

Conditions for student progression and granting scholarships

Attendance at practical work classes, laboratories, seminars is compulsory and it is a prerequisite for the student's participation in the final exam. The mandatory attendance percentage to courses is established by the Teaching Council of each faculty.

The practical work classes, laboratories, seminars missed by each student shall be authorised by the faculty management and shall be recovered entirely. Unauthorised absences shall be recovered by the student after paying the fee established by the University Senate.

The number of credits necessary for obtaining the university degree is 240 (except for the Faculty of veterinary Medicine, which has 360 credits), depending on the duration of schooling, with an average of 60 credits a year.

The student spends minimum 40 hours a week for training, of which 22 - 26 hours (28 hours for Veterinary Medicine, Management and Food Processing) represent the number of stable (in the curriculum) physical hours, and the difference consists in individual study (preparing papers and projects, doing homework, bibliographic study, etc).

Passing from one year of study to another is based on enrolment; enrolment in the following year of study is conditioned by obtaining a minimum two thirds of the total number of credits in the previous year, where the credits assigned to the annual work practice are mandatory.

Credits that were not accumulated in the previous year can be obtained during the academic year until the end of the autumn session. Examinations for the accumulation of such credits will be organized upon student request, after the student has paid a fee established by the Senate of BUASVMT; the number of such examinations is not limited.

The students who do not accumulate minimum two thirds of the credits in a certain year of study or who do not manage to accumulate the credits from the previous academic year shall be expelled, with the right to enrol again in the year of study that they have not completed. For this, they will have to pay a tuition fee. The tuition fee shall be established proportionally to the number of credits that were not accumulated in relation to the annual tuition fee.

Improvement exams shall be approved for students who have accumulated all credits required for that academic year. The student is allowed to sit in two improvement exams without paying a fee, for every discipline.

At the end of every academic year, the scores accumulated by each student shall be calculated as follows: the mark obtained in the exam shall be multiplied by the number of credits assigned to that particular discipline. The total score is obtained by adding up the scores obtained for all disciplines. At the end of each academic year, the final scores determine the hierarchy of students in each year of study, which is the criterion that regulates the granting of scholarships and of places in student camps.

The university provides free-of-charge tuition only for the legal duration of the study program in each faculty.

The present set of regulations comes into force starting with the 2005/2006 academic year.

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quality management,

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