

Admission Prerequisites

The right to study in the doctoral educational programme is granted to a person who holds a Master's degree or an equivalent academic degree in one of the following detailed fields of the Classifier of Fields of Study: 0821 Forestry; 0829 Forestry – Not Elsewhere Classified; 0811 Crop and Livestock Production; 0812 Horticulture; 0712 Environmental Protection Technology; 0521 Environmental Sciences; 0522 Natural Environments and Wildlife; 0511 Biology.

A candidate wishing to enrol in the programme must submit:

1. A research project outlining the applicant's research aim and direction;
2. A relevant international certificate confirming knowledge of English at no lower than B2 level, or successfully pass a B2-level English language test organised and administered by GTU. A candidate who has completed a recognised English-language educational programme at any level of higher education is not required to pass the examination or present a certificate (completion of an English-language programme is confirmed by the relevant qualification document, i.e. a diploma);
3. Document(s) confirming previous work/publications in the relevant field and/or participation in scientific research projects and events and/or at least 2 years of work experience in the relevant field;
4. Other documentation/information predetermined by the University on the basis of the Regulations on Doctoral Studies of the LEPL Georgian Technical University.

A candidate whose submitted documentation fully meets the formal requirements is interviewed by the Temporary Faculty Commission. In accordance with the procedure established by the legal acts of GTU, the Temporary Faculty Commission ensures the assessment of persons wishing to be admitted to the programme in compliance with the principles of objectivity, fairness and transparency. Consideration is given to the assessment of the candidate's experience and abilities necessary for the successful completion of the doctoral educational programme, including (where available) the candidate's scientific publications, experience of participation in scientific conferences, and other documents and materials related to teaching/research activities (certificates, diplomas, patents, etc.).

Enrolment in the programme through mobility is possible twice a year, within the time frames set by the Ministry of Education, Science and Youth of Georgia, in compliance with the conditions and rules defined by the legislation of Georgia and the legal acts of GTU.

Enrolment in the programme from a recognised higher education institution of a foreign country is carried out in accordance with the procedure established by the legislation of Georgia.

Programme Goal

The goal of the doctoral programme in Forestry is to prepare highly qualified specialists and researchers who are able to apply innovative methods in line with the international standards of the forestry sector, are competitive on the labour market and meet international requirements.

The programme aims to provide graduates with a solid opportunity for continuous professional development, so that, with the education they have received, they can contribute to the effective functioning of the forestry sector.

Graduates will be able, using modern theoretical and practical methodology, to make effective decisions for solving problems arising in the forestry sector, and to contribute to forest management and to the planning, implementation and improvement of effective measures in the forests of Georgia, as well as to the sustainable management and development of the forestry sector.

Learning Outcomes/Competences (General and Professional)

- Possesses knowledge based on the latest achievements in the forestry sector, which enables the expansion of existing knowledge and the use of innovative methods;
- Analyses complex ideas and approaches of scientific communication and scientific activity; presents new methodology and new knowledge in a well-founded and clear manner;
- Independently carries out the planning and implementation of research in the forestry sector and the development of new research and analytical methods oriented towards the creation of new knowledge;
- Critically analyses the state of the forestry sector at the national and regional level; independently prepares recommendations for the systematic and comprehensive solution of problems of forest ecosystem protection, the rational use and regeneration of forest resources and forest management, and develops proposals for the effective and sustainable management of the forestry sector, taking into account national and regional specifics;
- Is able independently to carry out critical analysis, synthesis and evaluation of new, complex and contradictory ideas and approaches in forestry research, and to arrive at correct, effective conclusions and decisions for solving problems;
- Using new research and analytical methods, develops correct and effective solutions to problems in the forestry sector; formulates project proposals, new ideas and ways of solving existing problems;
- Substantiates and clearly presents measures for the protection of forest ecosystems, the rational use and regeneration of forest resources and effective forest management, as well as research results and conclusions, to both colleagues and the wider public in thematic discussions held at the local and international level;
- Shares and observes the norms of ethical and professional responsibility, and, in compliance with the principles of professional integrity, carries out research based on the latest achievements in the forestry sector and measures for effective forest management;
- Teaches by combining the latest teaching and learning methods and their strategies, by transferring knowledge based on the latest achievements and designing assignments aimed at consolidating it, by ensuring the involvement/participation of students in the analysis of issues, and by using relevant methods and criteria for their assessment.

Student Knowledge Assessment System

Assessment is carried out on a 100-point scale.

Assessment of the study component:

Positive grades are:

- (A) – Excellent – 91–100 points;
- (B) – Very good – 81–90 points;
- (C) – Good – 71–80 points;
- (D) – Satisfactory – 61–70 points;
- (E) – Sufficient – 51–60 points.

Negative grades are:

- (FX) – Did not pass – 41–50 points, which means that the student needs more work to pass and is given the right to sit an additional examination once after independent work;
- (F) – Failed – 40 points or less, which means that the work carried out by the student is not sufficient and the subject must be studied anew.

If FX is received, an additional examination is scheduled no earlier than 5 days after the announcement of the results. The grade obtained in the additional examination is not added to the points received in the final assessment.

Assessment of the scientific research component/components:

- Excellent (*summa cum laude*) – an outstanding piece of work;
- Very good (*magna cum laude*) – a result that exceeds the set requirements in every respect;
- Good (*cum laude*) – a result that exceeds the set requirements;
- Average (*bene*) – a work of average level that meets the basic set requirements;
- Satisfactory (*rite*) – a result that, despite shortcomings, still meets the set requirements;
- Unsatisfactory (insufficient) – a work of unsatisfactory level that does not meet the set requirements due to significant shortcomings;
- Completely unsatisfactory (*sub omni canone*) – a result that completely fails to meet the set requirements.

The research component is assessed once, at the stage of the dissertation defence, by a final assessment.

Subject	Credits
Scientific Communication Techniques	4
Scientific Research Methods in Forestry	5
Teaching Methods	6
Efficient Use of Forest Resources in Consideration of Modern Requirements of Forest Ecology	5
Forest Ecosystems and Their Protection	5
Advanced Course in Silvics	10
Thematic Seminar in Forestry	15
Professor's Assistantship in Forestry	10
Research Component	-
Total	60