

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: Social Sciences, Humanities, Law, Public Administration, Security and Defence. Persons holding a Master's academic degree in other fields are admitted to the doctoral programme in exceptional cases, for the purpose of conducting interdisciplinary research, by decision of the academic department.

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.).

Full information on the rules of admission to doctoral studies and the conditions of enrolment, as well as sample(s) of the English language examination tests, is available on the official website of the University. <https://www.gtu.edu.ge/migheba/programebi/migheba-saphekhurebis-mikhedvith/doqtorantura/doqtorantura-migheba/>

Enrolment in the programme by way of mobility is possible twice a year, within the time frames established 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 educational programme is:

- To prepare, for research activities and in accordance with the requirements of scientific and technological progress, scientific personnel capable of conducting original and systematic research, based on the latest achievements, on topical problems of international relations;
- To produce, on the basis of the generation of new knowledge, high-quality scientific work in the field of international relations that demonstrates novelty in the study and development of the rel-

evant issue;

To contribute to the preparation of academic personnel proficient in modern teaching and learning methodology.

Learning Outcomes/Competences (General and Professional)

- On the basis of a critical analysis of the latest and most relevant information, extends the boundaries of knowledge and generates new scientific ideas that allow innovative methods to be applied, including in a multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary context.
- Develops research or analytical methods and/or approaches oriented towards the creation of new knowledge in the field of international relations (at the level of the standard required for international forums and international peer-reviewed publications); develops scientific recommendations and proposals for the development of the field;
- Carries out a critical analysis, synthesis and evaluation of new, complex and contradictory ideas and approaches concerning the development trends, priorities and specific features of international relations, as a result of which they independently make correct and effective decisions (in research and/or innovation) to solve complex problems;
- Using various teaching and learning methods, and taking into account the characteristics of the audience and the specifics of the teaching material, independently conducts the teaching process;
- Participates in thematic discussions on international relations and presents and communicates new knowledge, in relation to existing knowledge, in a well-reasoned and clear manner both to colleagues and to the wider public.

Implements, in academic and professional contexts, research projects based on the latest achievements and development-oriented activities on topical problems of international relations, in compliance with the principles of leadership, academic and/or professional integrity, and demonstrating innovation and independence.

Student Knowledge Assessment System

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.

Assessment of the scientific research component/components:

- a) Excellent (summa cum laude) – an outstanding piece of work;

- b) Very good (magna cum laude) – a result that exceeds the set requirements in every respect;
- c) Good (cum laude) – a result that exceeds the set requirements;
- d) Average (bene) – a work of average level that meets the basic set requirements;
- e) Satisfactory (rite) – a result that, despite shortcomings, still meets the set requirements;
- f) Unsatisfactory (insufficienter) – a work of unsatisfactory level that does not meet the set requirements due to the significant shortcomings it contains;
- g) Completely unsatisfactory (sub omni canone) – a result that completely fails to meet the set requirements.

The scientific research component of the doctoral educational programme is assessed once, by a final assessment. The assessment system of the scientific research component is available at the link:

<https://www.gtu.edu.ge/uploads/2026/03/edu-research-components.pdf>

Subject	Credits
Scientific Communication Techniques in the Social Sciences	4
Modern Teaching Methods	6
Research Methods in International Relations	5
Professor's Assistantship in International Relations	10
Contemporary Theories and Concepts of International Relations	5
Elective courses related to the doctoral programme	10
Thematic Seminar	10
Scientific/Research Project	
Total	40