REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA D.A. TSENOV ACADEMY OF ECONOMICS – SVISHTOV	
FACULTY „MANAGEMENT AND MARKETING“	**DEPARTMENT „STRATEGIC PLANNING“**

Approved by:
RECTOR:
(Prof. Mariyana Bozhinova, PhD)

Approved by the AC, Resolution № 5 / 02.03.2022
Approved by the FC, Protocol № 4 / 16.02.2022
Approved by the DC, Protocol № 7 / 26.01.2022

QUALIFICATION DESCRIPTION

DOCTORAL PROGRAMME

„ PLANNING “

Educational and scientific degree: **Doctor**		Area of study: **3. Social, economic sciences and law**
Mode of study:	Length of study:	Field of study: **3.8. Economics**
Full-time/Unsupervised	**3 years**	
Part-time/Distance	**4 years**	Code of the document: **ED/QD-D-FT/PT/U/D-3/4-3.8- P-FMM-DSP-2022**
Language: **Bulgarian/English/Russian**		

1. General description of the doctoral programme

The training in the doctoral program "Planning" at the "D. A. Tsenov” Academy of Economics is carried out according to the normative base in the country. Until the repeal (by Decree № 202 of the Ministers Council of 10.09.2010) of the Ordinance on the state requirements for admission and training of doctoral students, adopted by Decree № 222 of the Ministers Council of 2000 (promulgated, SG No. 90 of 2000, amended and supplemented, SG No. 78/2004 and SG No. 79/2009), the training of PhD students in the scientific field is carried out in the scientific specialty 05.02.17 Planning, and in accordance with the requirements of the Higher Education Act- in the doctoral program "Planning" in the professional field 3.8. Economics.

The motives for the development of the program are related to:

- The needs of the practice of highly qualified specialists in the field of forecasting and planning, development of policies, programs and projects;
- The need to train researchers to develop the human resources of the department in compliance with the principle of continuity between generations and management staff;

- The achievements of the graduated PhD students, who are successfully implemented in various fields of planning theory and practice in the country and abroad, and conduct research on the status and development of forecasting and planning activities at company, regional, national and international levels;
- Opportunities of the scientific staff of the Department, which brings together leading specialists and scientists with solid scientific potential and serious publishing activity on topics related to planning.

The Department of Strategic Planning was established in 1955 and during this period has developed and built traditions and is constantly expanding its experience in preliminary, mid-term and ex-post evaluation of dissertations and in preparation for defense before an expert panel. In this sense, the department has established high standards and has developed a training culture at PhD degree. This is a guarantee for the qualitative preparation of the trained doctoral students.

2. Learning objectives

The PhD program in Planning aims *to build highly qualified scientists in the field of planning, who have scientific and expert competence to solve complex problems of scientific and applied nature in accordance with the latest achievements in the field of planning and programming.*

The tasks that are solved in the organization of the training of PhD students in the doctoral program "Planning" are in line with the motives for the development of the program and are expressed in:

- Ensuring the interchangeability of the scientific staff of the department;
- Training of specialists for research, management, consulting and expert work in various structures of the business sector with high qualifications and analytical skills.

The goals are adapted and harmonized with the dynamic development of applied science and business practice. The program is attractive for people who have already acquired high qualification in practice, want to develop their qualification through in-depth independent research, and applied research in the field of planning.

3. Organisation and length of study

The training in the doctoral program is organized in four forms - full-time, part-time, unsupervised and distance. The term of study is 3 years - for full-time and unsupervised forms and 4 years - for part-time and distance forms of education.

4. Knowledge

Doctoral students who have completed the PhD program "Planning" acquire knowledge related to:

- Definition of the research design and the field of the study: purpose, object, subject, hypothetical apparatus and content of the presentation on the topic;
- Formulation of the conceptual apparatus of the research;
- Implementation of theoretical and methodological analysis of the object and subject of research;

- Description of the mechanism of functioning of the researched subject, its elements and forms of manifestation, properties, structure, dependencies, functions of manifestation;
- Development of an indicator frame, ie of indicators, their signs and external manifestation through indicators, with the help of which to prove or disprove the research hypotheses;
- Outlining the guidelines for the development of the problems in the public sector and on this basis the possible solutions in the form of a description of processes, development of methodologies, rules, instructions, strategies, programs, recommendations, etc.

5. Skills

PhD students trained in the PhD program "Planning" acquire skills for planning and implementation of independent scientific empirical research. In particular, they have skills to:

- Identification of a scientific problem;
- Development and implementing research approaches and methods for studying the subject of research;
- Formulating a research thesis and supporting working hypotheses;
- Verifying arguments to support or reject these hypotheses;
- Collecting, systematizing, processing information applying to the subject of the analysis;
- Application development (questionnaires specifying the main text of productions, illustrative and experimental material: graphics, drawings, tables, etc.) and bibliography on the topic;
- Interpreting the results obtained and building theoretically cognitive concepts, etc.

6. Competences

PhD students trained in the doctoral program in "Planning" have the following competencies:

6.1. Independence and responsibility

- Create and interpret new knowledge in the field of planning through their own research or other scientific activity;
- Through the acquired new knowledge demonstrate skills for expanding the scope of the hitherto known scientific field and assess the need for up-to-date publications;
- Apply logical thinking, perform problem-oriented analysis and show innovation and creativity in solving non-standard scientific problems;
- Have the ability to self-assess the achievements of research work;
- Have the ability to compose, design, implement and adapt a modern research process with scientific stability.

6.2. Learning competences

Trained PhD students demonstrate the capacity to systematically acquire and understand a significant amount of knowledge from the latest scientific achievements or in the field of professional practice. They gain experience in the field of critical thinking and analysis, in-depth interpretation of acquired knowledge, and the formation of their own scientifically sound and reasoned author's position.

6.3. Communicative and social competences

- PhD students have qualities and skills that require high personal responsibility, self-initiative in complex and unpredictable circumstances, and in a professional environment;
- They demonstrate common abilities to develop concepts, develop and implement projects to generate new knowledge, apply or understand the most advanced achievements, and adapt projects to unforeseen circumstances;
- They fully communicate with some of the most common European languages.

6.4. Professional competences

- The trained doctoral students can apply analytical and planning techniques used in the process of research and in the implementation of complex academic research;
- They evaluate information on complex planning issues, often in the absence of complete data; can present their ideas and conclusions clearly and effectively to specialists and non-specialists;
- They formulate, present and argue clearly and unambiguously ideas, problems and solutions to scientific issues;
- They draw scientifically conclusions and define critical points with potential for new knowledge development and high market applicability;
- They have the ability to continue research in the field of planning at increasingly complex levels, which contributes to the development of new techniques, ideas or approaches.

7. Brief description of the academic staff

There are nine lecturers on the main employment contract in the Department of “Strategic Planning”. Five of them are habilitated - two professors and three associate professors. There are four assistants, three of whom are chief assistant PhD.

8. Professional realization

The level of preparation of the graduates of the doctoral program "Planning" can be considered as a basis for their successful implementation in various fields of science and planning practice at the company, regional, national and international levels. In particular, they can be realized as:

- Lecturers in universities in the country and abroad, training students in economics;
- Researchers (postdoctoral students) in university research centers and non-governmental organizations (think-thank organizations, economic research and forecasting agencies, etc.);

- Senior management staff in business organizations (Chief Executive Officer, Chief Strategy Officer, Chief Business Development Officer, etc.);
- Experts and consultants in project management, corporate strategies, business planning, regional development documents, etc. in specialized agencies and consulting organizations;
- Civil servants in the administration of the Ministers Council, in ministries, in decentralized and deconcentrated structures of the state administration in Bulgaria, regional administrations, municipalities.

9. Educational and scientific degree and professional qualification

Graduates of the Doctoral Program receive a PhD in Planning.

Dean: (Prof. Margarita Bogdanova, PhD)

Head of Department: (Assoc. Prof. Evelina Parashkevova-Velikova, PhD)

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CURRICULUM

Doctoral programme
„PLANNING“

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Language: **Bulgarian/English/Russian**		Effective as from: **2022/2023 academic year**

I. EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY

№	Type	Code	Subject/Activity	ECTS credits	Form of assessment
1	**F**	Fundamental Courses (doctoral minimum I)		25	exam
		FMM-DSP-D-101	1. Foundations of Planning		
		FMM-DSP-D-102	2 Foundations of project management		
2	**F**	Specialized Courses (doctoral minimum II)		25	exam
		FMM-DSP-D-103	1. Strategic planning		
		FMM-DSP-D-104	2. Corporate planning		
			3. Subject related to the topic of the doctoral degree dissertation		
3	R	FIC-DSSL-D-901	Methodology of science and research	10	c.g.
4	R	FIC-DSSL-Д-902	Academic writing and presentation methods	10	c.g.
5	R	FEA-DSAM-D-901	Methodology and methods of empirical research	10	c.g.
6	R		Attendance and participation in courses (seminars, doctoral degree tutorials), conferences and other training activities	5	IS report
			Total:	**85**	

7	F	FMM-DBI-D-901	Information technology	10	c.g.
8	F	FF-DELT-D-901	English for doctoral degree students (B2)	10	c.g.
9	F	FF-DELT-D-902	English for doctoral degree students (C1)	10	c.g.
10	F	A master or bachelor degree subject		According to the curriculum of the subject	exam
11	F	Participation in trainings related to the doctoral degree studies		5 for each training	certificate
12	F	Participation in mobility for training or practice purposes		30 for each mobility	Mobility protocol

II. SCIENTIFIC, RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION ACTIVITY

№	Type	Subject/Activity	ECTS credits	Form of assessment
1	R	Publications regulated in group D, indicators 4 – 10 from RIDASRBA	30	IS report
		Total:	**30**	
2	F	Participation in science and research projects	10 per project	contract
3	F	Participation in mobility for research purposes	10 per mobility	Mobility protocol
4	F	Participation with science reports in scientific forums (national or international)	1 for each report	Participation certificate publication
5	F	Publications exceeding the standard of minimum required points regulated in RIDASRBA outside ch. II.1 and II.4	1 for each subchapter	publication

III. PREPARATION OF A DISSERTATION PAPER AND AN ABSTRACT

№	Type	Activity	ECTS credits	Form of assessment
1	R	Dissertation paper, including:	50	Science advisor and a DC protocol
1.1.		Theoretic and research work	10	science advisor
1.2.		Empirical and research work	10	science advisor
1.3.		Preparation of a chapter from the dissertation paper	20	science advisor
1.4.		Submission of a final version to the approval of the DC	10	a DC protocol
2	R	Preparation of an abstract and an original contribution declaration	10	a DC protocol
		Total:	**60**	

IV. TEACHING AND EXPERT ACTIVITY

№	Type	Subject/activity	ECTS credits	Form of assessment
1	E	Delivering a series of lectures and/or seminars according to the curriculum	5	Report from the SA visit
		Participation in expert and consultancy activity		Report by the SA; contract/reference
		Total:	**5**	
1	F	Delivering a series of lectures and/or seminars according to the curriculum	5 ECTS credits for 28	Remuneration form

			provisional classes	
2	F	Participation in expert and consultancy activity	2 ECTS credits per participation	report by the SA; contract/reference
3	F	Participation in mobility for teaching purposes	10 ECTS credits per mobility	certificate

BASIC COMPONENTS OF THE CURRICULUM

Activity	ECRS credits
COMPULSORY ACTIVITIES	
Educational activity	85
Scientific and educational activity	30
Preparation of a dissertation paper and an abstract	60
Teaching and expert activity	5
Total:	180
FACULTATIVE ACTIVITIES	
Educational activity	According to the IS of the doctoral student
Scientific and education activity	
Teaching and expert activity	

DEAN:
(Prof. M. Bogdanova, PhD)

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT:
(Assoc. Prof. E. Parashkevova-Velikova, PhD)