



The Review of the Study Programme “Secondary Education (History and Civic Education)”

The reviewed Study Programme “Secondary Education (History and Civic Education)” of the Ferenc Rákóczi II Transcarpathian Hungarian University is designed for the first cycle of higher education and leads to the Bachelor’s degree in Secondary Education, with subject specialization in History and Civic Education. It is a well-structured and professionally grounded educational framework which combines the requirements of teacher training with the fundamental principles of historical scholarship.

As a historian, I consider it especially important that the programme does not limit itself to the practical preparation of future teachers, but also provides students with a solid foundation in historical thinking. The curriculum includes the main fields of historical knowledge, such as Ukrainian history, world history, the history of the Hungarian people, archaeology, special historical disciplines, historical local studies, archival studies and museology. This structure enables students to acquire not only factual knowledge, but also the ability to interpret historical processes, work with sources, understand different historical narratives and apply critical methods of analysis.

The regional context of the programme gives it particular significance. Transcarpathia is a historically complex and multicultural region, where Ukrainian, Hungarian and broader Central European historical experiences are closely intertwined. In this respect, the programme offers an excellent opportunity to train future teachers who are able to present history in a balanced, reflective and academically responsible manner. The inclusion of Ukrainian history, the history of the Hungarian people and local historical studies is especially valuable, as it helps students understand both national and regional dimensions of historical development.

The pedagogical and methodological components of the programme are also well integrated into the curriculum. At the same time, the various forms of practice – archaeological and local history practice, museum and archival practice, teaching practice in general secondary education institutions, summer pedagogical practice and pre-diploma practice – help students gradually connect academic knowledge with practical educational experience.

From the perspective of a university historian, the programme is also important because it may serve as a foundation for further academic development. Graduates who acquire strong historical, methodological and research-related competencies may continue their studies at the Master’s level and, in the case of the most talented students, later in doctoral programmes. In this sense, the programme contributes not only to the training of qualified secondary school teachers, but also to the broader reproduction of historical scholarship in the region.

As the former Head of the Department of Modern and Contemporary Hungarian History at Eötvös Loránd University, I can state with confidence that the study programme is in line with the main principles of the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG). I have personally had the opportunity to experience the preparedness and academic potential of history students from the Berehove institution when students and lecturers arrived at Eötvös Loránd University within the framework of the Erasmus+ mobility programme. Furthermore, we have maintained excellent professional relations with the colleagues from Berehove who have participated in the development and implementation of the programme. Their scholarly competence,

commitment to historical research and teaching, and long-standing cooperation with our department provide a strong guarantee for the successful operation and continuous development of the study programme.

On the basis of the above, I fully support and recommend the approval and implementation of the reviewed Study Programme “Secondary Education (History and Civic Education)” at the Ferenc Rákóczi II Transcarpathian Hungarian University.

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