

**8.1 Types of high education institutions and their status**

According to the Law on Higher Education, the activity of high education in the Republic of Serbia is performed by the following higher-education institutions:

- **University** – A University is an independent institution of higher education, which unites educational and scientific research activities, vocational or artistic activities, as components of integral higher education process. University can perform all types of studies. An institution of higher education has the status of a university if it performs academic study programs at all levels of studies, within at least three fields (natural sciences and mathematics, social studies and humanities, medical sciences, technical and technological sciences, and arts) and in three areas. As an exception, a university can be established in the field of art, if it contains all three levels of studies from at least three areas of art.
- **Faculty or Academy of Arts, as a part of the university** – A Faculty or Academy of Arts is an institution of higher education, i.e. a higher education unit as part of a university, which performs academic study programs and develops scientific research, vocational or artistic work within one or more areas. A Faculty or Academy of Arts can also perform vocational study programs. As a legal entity, a Faculty or Academy of Arts is represented by the name of the university which it belongs to, by its own name and in accordance with the university statute.
- **Academy of Vocational Studies** – An Academy of vocational studies is an independent institution of higher education which unites educational, research, vocational and artistic activities, as a part of the integral process of higher education. An Academy of vocational studies can perform undergraduate vocational studies, specialist vocational studies and master vocational studies. An institution of higher education has the status of the Academy of Vocational Studies if it accomplishes at least five accredited vocational study programs in at least two fields.
- **College** – A College is an independent institution of higher education which performs undergraduate academic, specialist and master academic studies in one or more areas.
- **College of Vocational Studies** – A College of vocational studies is an independent institution of higher education which performs undergraduate vocational, master and specialist vocational studies in one or more areas.

The listed institutions are independent institutions of higher education, except for faculties and academies of arts.

**8.2 Types, cycles and organization of studies**

The activity of higher education is performed through academic and vocational studies based on approved, i.e. accredited study programs for the achievement of higher education degrees.

At **the academic studies**, the academic study program is carried out, which prepares students for the development and application of scientific, professional and artistic achievements. There are three cycles of academic studies.

**Academic studies of the first cycle** are undergraduate academic studies.

**Academic studies of the second cycle** are master academic studies and specialist academic studies. Integrated academic studies are undergraduate academic and master academic studies organised as a whole.

**Academic studies of the third cycle** are doctoral academic studies.

At **the vocational studies**, the vocational study program is carried out, which prepares students to apply professional knowledge and skills necessary for participating in the work process. There are two cycles of vocational studies.

**Vocational studies of the first cycle** are undergraduate vocational studies and specialist vocational studies.

**Vocational studies of the second cycle** are master vocational studies

**8.2.1 Undergraduate (academic or vocational) studies**

Undergraduate studies are organised by all institutions of higher education defined by the Law on Higher Education.

Undergraduate academic studies last three to four years and grant, upon their completion, 180 to 240 ECTS, respectively.

Undergraduate vocational studies last three years and grant, upon their completion, 180 ECTS.

Study program of undergraduate study may include the final thesis.

A person, who completes the undergraduate academic study, earning a minimum of 180 ECTS or lasting at least three years, is awarded an academic degree of the first cycle of academic studies in the corresponding area.

A person, who completes the undergraduate academic study, earning a minimum of 240 ECTS or lasting for at least four years, is awarded an academic title "Bachelor with Honours", with an academic degree of the first cycle of academic studies in the corresponding area.

A person, who completes the undergraduate vocational studies, is awarded a professional degree of the first cycle in the corresponding area.

**8.2.2 Master (academic or vocational) studies**

Master academic studies may be organized by a university, a faculty or a college. Master academic studies last one or two years, depending on the workload of the undergraduate academic studies, so that on the whole their duration should correspond to a minimum of 300 ECTS. The study program of master academic studies requires the final thesis. A person, who completes master academic studies, is awarded a master academic degree, corresponding to the degree of the second cycle of academic studies in the corresponding area.

**8.2.3 Integrated academic studies**

Academic study programs may be also organized as integrated within undergraduate academic and master academic studies (integrated academic studies) with a minimum of 300 ECTS and the maximum of 360 ECTS (academic study programs in medical sciences).

**8.2.4 Specialist (academic or vocational) studies**

Specialist studies last at least one year with a minimum of 60 ECTS and can be either academic or vocational. The study program of specialist studies can include the final thesis. A person, who completes specialist studies, acquires a professional degree of a specialist, with the title from the second cycle of academic or first cycle of vocational studies in the corresponding area.

**8.2.5 Doctoral academic studies**

Doctoral academic studies may be organized by universities, faculties and academies of arts. Doctoral academic studies last for at least three years with a minimum of 180 ECTS, under condition that previous undergraduate and master academic studies lasted for at least five years and with a minimum of 300 ECTS. Doctoral dissertation is the final part of the study program of doctoral academic studies, with the exception of doctoral studies in arts, which is a project in arts. Exceptionally, a doctoral degree can be awarded to a person who graduated in medical studies and a completed specialization, after the defended doctoral dissertation based on the papers published in top-ranking international journals.

**8.3 Grading system**

A student's achievement in a specific subject is continuously monitored during lessons and expressed in points. By fulfilling the pre-exam duties and by passing exams, a student can achieve the maximum of 100 points. Study program establishes the proportion of points achieved in the pre-exam duties and in the exam, where pre-exam duties bring a minimum of 30 and maximum of 70 points. The student's success at an exam is expressed by grades on a scale from 5 (failing) to 10 (ten). An institution of higher education can establish another, non-numerical method of assessment, by establishing the relation between these grades and those of 5 to 10. A general act of an institution of higher education defines more closely the mode of examination and assessment of examination results.

**8.4 Conditions for enrollment and continuation of higher education**

The higher education institution, in accordance with the law, enrolls candidates following the recognition of general or professional high-school graduation exam for enrollment in academic or vocational studies, respectively secondary art-school graduation exam for enrollment in study programs in the field of art. The higher education institution establishes criteria for the classification and selection of candidates for the admission to study programs. Until the application of the regulations governing the general, professional and artistic secondary school graduation, the candidate for admission to the first degree studies shall pass the entrance examination or the aptitude test in accordance with the general act of an independent higher education institution. The higher education institution makes a rating list of candidates for admission to the first degree studies based on the general success achieved in the four-year secondary education, success on graduation, results achieved at the entrance exam or at the aptitude test, and, if necessary, on the success in national and international scholastic competitions, in accordance with the general act of the higher education institution. The candidate who is ranked within the quota determined according to the Law on Higher Education is **entitled to enroll in the first degree studies**.

A student of **the first cycle studies** of another independent institution of higher education, a person who has acquired higher education at the first cycle studies, and a person whose student status has ceased in accordance with this law, may enroll in the first cycle studies under the conditions and within terms established by the general act of an independent institution of higher education, upon a personal demand.

A candidate enrolls in **the second and the third cycle** of studies under the conditions, in the manner and under the procedure established by the general act of, and in the competition announced by, an independent institution of higher education.

**8.5 Work permit and accreditation**

A higher education institution may start performing its activities upon the issuance of the work permit. The work permit is issued by the Ministry, or the competent authority of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, at the request of the higher education institution. A higher education institution that has been issued a work permit is required to apply for the accreditation of the higher education institution and the study program no later than one year after obtaining the work permit.

A higher education institution may enroll students upon obtaining a certificate of accreditation of the higher education institution and the study program.

An accreditation application is submitted to the National Accreditation Body via the ministry in charge of higher education, in a form determined by the National Accreditation Body.

The accreditation establishes that the higher education institution and study programs meet the standards set by the National Council for Higher Education and that the higher education institution is entitled to issue public documents in accordance with the Law on Higher Education.

The National Accreditation Body issues a certificate of accreditation, or it brings a decision on rejecting the request for accreditation. A higher education institution may, within 15 days from the day of receiving the decision, appeal to the National Council for Higher Education, through the National Accreditation Body, against the decision of the National Accreditation Body on rejecting the accreditation request. The higher education institution has the right to resubmit an application for accreditation after the expiration of a period of 90 days from the day of issuing the final decision on rejecting the application for accreditation.

**8.6 National sources of information**

- **The Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development**, Nemanjina 22-26, 11000 Belgrade, Serbia; Telephone: +381/11/363 11 07, Fax: +381/11/361 64 91, web: www.mp.gov.rs
- **The National Council for Higher Education**, the Palace of the Republic of Serbia, Bulevar Mihajla Pupina 2, 11070 Belgrade, Serbia.
- **The National Entity for Accreditation**, the Palace of the Republic of Serbia, Bulevar Mihajla Pupina 2, 11070 Belgrade, Serbia.
- **Provincial Secretariat for Higher Education and Scientific Research**, Bulevar Mihajla Pupina 16, 21000 Novi Sad, Serbia, AP Vojvodina; Telephone +381/11/487 46 41, Fax: +381/21/456 986; web: www.apv-visokoobrazovanje.vojvodina.gov.rs

## REPUBLIC OF SERBIA



## UNIVERSITY OF NIŠ

(Name and address of the Independent Higher Education Institution)

## Faculty of Sciences and Mathematics in Niš

(Name and address of the Higher Education Institution)



## DIPLOMA SUPPLEMENT

Valid only with the diploma number  dated  year  (Serial number)

Diploma supplement provides a description of the nature, cycle, cohesion, context and status of the studies that were pursued and successfully completed by the individual named on the original qualification to which this supplement is appended. Information in all eight sections should be provided, and where information is not provided, an explanation should give the reason why.

**1. INFORMATION IDENTIFYING THE HOLDER OF THE QUALIFICATION**

1.1 First Name:

1.2 Surname:

1.3 Date of birth:

1.4 Student's identification number:

JMBG:


**2. INFORMATION IDENTIFYING THE QUALIFICATION**

2.1 Title conferred (vocational, academic, scientific):

Doctor of Philosophy in Geosciences  
(Ph.D. in Geosciences)

2.2 Scientific/artistic/vocational field(s) of study:

Geosciences

2.3 Name and status of the awarding institution:

University of Niš, Faculty of Sciences and Mathematics in Niš (state faculty)

2.4 Name and status of institution administering studies (if different from 2.3):

2.5 Language of instruction:

Serbian language

**3. INFORMATION ON THE LEVEL OF THE QUALIFICATION**

3.1 Type and level of qualification:

Doctoral academic studies (third cycle)

3.2 Official length of studies:

3 years (6 semesters)

3.3 Access requirements:

Prospective candidates are required to have completed undergraduate and master academic studies in a relevant field with a minimum of 300 ECTS credits and a GPA of at least 8.00 (eight) at each of previous levels of studies.

**4. INFORMATION ON THE CONTENTS AND RESULTS GAINED**

4.1 Mode of study:

Full-time studies (at the seat of the faculty)

4.2 Name and aims of the study program:

Name of study program: Doctoral academic studies – Geosciences

Program Objectives: Achieving an advanced level of knowledge in the field of Geosciences and developing highly skilled scientific personnel; acquiring theoretical knowledge and practical skills from the specific scientific area of the doctoral dissertation; fostering independent and critical thinking, as well as encouraging individuality and personal affinities; nurturing creative abilities and mastering specific practical skills necessary for future professional advancement; equipping for independent scientific research work by familiarizing with the structure of the scientific research process and mastering academic skills for preparation, writing, and publishing of scientific papers, presenting research results, as well as writing project proposals.

4.3 Please see the next page:

4.4 Grading scheme:

Grades:	Grade description:	Points number	
		from	to
10	ten	91	100
9	nine	81	90
8	eight	71	80
7	seven	61	70
6	six	51	60
5	failing grade	0	50

4.5 Average grade:

4.3 Study program details and the marks obtained:										
No	Code	Title	Status	ECTS	Total number of classes			Year of the study program	Grade	Lecturer (surname and name)
					Lectures	Practice	Other			
				Total	Average grade					
M - mandatory, E – electoral										
Title of the final paper / dissertation / artistic project:										
Commission for the paper defence:										
Passed courses / activities not foreseen in the study program:										

### 5. INFORMATION ON PURPOSE

5.1 Access to further studies:

5.2 Professional status:

Doctor of Philosophy in Geosciences  
Upon completion of the program, students are qualified for professional careers in academia and research institutions.

### 6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

6.1 Additional information on the student:

6.2 Further information sources on the institution:

www.pmf.ni.ac.rs

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### 7. CERTIFICATION OF THE DIPLOMA SUPPLEMENT

7.1 No:  Date:

7.2 Authorised person:

7.3 Official seal and signature:

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### 8. INFORMATION ON THE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

The flowchart illustrates the higher education system in the Republic of Serbia, structured by approximate age and cycle of education:

- Approximate age 18-19:** Candidates with completed secondary education and passed entrance examination or scholastic aptitude test, or with scores achieved at the general or vocational school leaving examination recognized for the admission to academic or vocational studies, or arts secondary school leaving examination scores recognized for the admission to study programs in the field of art.
- First cycle of higher education (Age 18-23):**
  - Undergraduate academic studies (180-240 ECTS)
  - Undergraduate vocational studies (180 ECTS)
  - Specialist vocational studies (60 ECTS)
- Second cycle of higher education (Age 22-25):**
  - Integrated academic studies (300-360 ECTS)
  - Master academic studies (60-120 ECTS)
  - Specialist academic studies (60 ECTS)
  - Master vocational studies (120 ECTS)
- Third cycle of higher education (Age 24-28):**
  - Doctoral academic studies (180 ECTS) (with previously achieved at least 300 ECTS at the undergraduate studies and master academic studies)