

EVALUATION REPORT

OF STUDY PROGRAMME TRANSPORT AND SPECIAL STRUCTURES (61202T102, 612H21001)

at Vilnius Gediminas Technical University

GENERAL ASSESSMENT

The study programme *Transport and Special structures* (state code - 61202T102 (new code – 612H21001)) is given **positive** assessment.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1.

Consideration should be given to making this programme a specialisation of a general civil engineering programme, or a masters degree ‘deepening’ programme that specialises in energy and transport structural engineering where prior learning is required from an appropriate first cycle civil engineering programme.

3.2.

Improvements should be made in the order of the study subjects to ensure a better sequence and a better transfer from basic to special subjects. The following changes are recommended:

- the subject ‘Dynamics and Stability of Buildings’ should be placed in Semester VI, instead of Semester VII, to immediately follow the subject ‘Structural Mechanics’;
- the subject ‘Fundamentals of Elasticity Theory’ should be placed in Semester V, instead of Semester VI, to immediately follow the subject ‘Mechanics of Material 2’;
- the subject ‘Soil Mechanics’ should be placed in Semester V, instead of Semester VII;
- the subject ‘Foundations of Civil Engineering Structures’ should be placed in Semester VI, instead of Semester VIII; (presently this subject is offered after the completion of all subjects on design of structures, which is contrary to the international best practice).

3.3.

It is recommended that the number of contact hours of the subject ‘Foundations of Civil Engineering Structures’ should be increased from 24 P + 24 PU to 32 P + 32 PU.

3.4.

It is recommended that the subject ‘Special Geotechnical Works’ be included in the list of free choice subjects for both Special Structures and Bridges.

3.5.

Notwithstanding current good standards of teaching, international best practice indicates that more formal collegial evaluation of teaching, instead of informal evaluation of teachers work by department staff, is recommended. This could be implemented by using certain evaluation criterions.

3.6.

Student accommodation facilities should be improved to enhance study conditions.

3.7.

The University should consider providing a professional resource specifically devoted to student welfare, such as a Faculty Student Advisor or Student Counsellor

3.8.

The Review Group recommend that VGTU examine the more efficient use of programme management resources. The Review Group questions whether or not it is necessary to have so many separate engineering programmes. Consideration should be given to grouping several undergraduate programmes, including this one, under one programme, such as VGTU’s programme Civil Engineering (*Statybos inžinerija*) 61202T107 (new code – 612H21002), with an increase in the number of specialisations in that programme.

Vilnius

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