

CURRICULUM

Please insert the name of the curriculum: **URBAN AGRICULTURE**
CURRICULUM REVIEW

Name of the reviewer: Vladan Bogdanović

Institution: University of Belgrade – Faculty of Agriculture, Belgrade, Serbia

Mission

Development, modernization and improvement of competitive abilities of agricultural sector and agribusiness in urban and peri-urban areas.

Values

Program is well defined and in line with current trends in agriculture;

The aims of the program are clear, well defined and in line with the relevant University's documents;

The concept of the program is sound and well defined;

The structure of the courses is clearly relying on the on local and regional market needs;

The syllabus of each course is well described and detailed;

Quality Statements (Note: checkbox where appropriate)	Excellent	Very good	Good	Average	Poor	n/a
PART I - CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT						
Are institutional goals translated into the academic programs of the institution?	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is program based on local and regional market needs?	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is the employability ensured through curriculum design and development?	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are global trends in higher education reflected in the curriculum?	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Do individual courses focus on experiential learning including practical and work experience?	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are certain courses aiming to promote ethics, responsibility and sustainability?	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
PART II – ACADEMIC FLEXIBILITY						
Is there is the wide range of program options available to students concerning degrees and concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is program available and adapted for international students (exchange and degree)?	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Do interdisciplinary courses exist?	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
PART III - CURRICULUM DESIGN AND CONTENT						
How do you rate the sequence of the courses that students studied are in sequence to what students have studied in the previous semester?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
How do you rate the syllabus of the courses concerning the learning outcomes expected out of the course?	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
How do you rate the allocation of the credits to the courses?	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
How do you rate the offering of the electives concerning their relevance to the specialization streams?	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
How do you rate the adequacy of the Text Books and reference books to the courses?	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Rate the size of the syllabus regarding the load of the student.	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Rate the courses regarding the sequence of offering considering whether the preceding courses have been covered.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

How do you rate the loading of the courses in a semester?	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
How do you rate the evaluation scheme designed for courses?	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
How do you rate the objectives stated for courses?	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
How do you rate ILO (knowledge, skills, competencies) expected out of the courses?	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
How do you rate the composition of the courses regarding discipline core, discipline elective, open elective, project etc.?	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

General opinion and recommendation:

The Master on Urban Agriculture is well defined and in line with current trends not only in agricultural development but also in global trends in higher education. This master program has the aim to train professional specialized in the field of urban agriculture and its related sciences taking into account the most important challenges facing sustainable agriculture. The master program on Urban Agriculture has an ambitious to provide advanced knowledge in the field of urban agricultural systems, skills to develop and manage sustainable production systems, knowledge on urban planning and urban regulations, and expertise in urban agriculture business models following with the ambitious to promote the ethics and responsibility in the agricultural sector. The aims of the program are clear, well defined and in line with the relevant University's documents. The aims of the program and the structure of the courses are clearly relying on the on local and regional market needs which have been previously analysed in detail. Moreover, the specific attention has been paid to possibility of increasing the employability through development of new skills and knowledge in urban agriculture and this is very well described in the Deliverable 2.1 Curriculum draft.

The concept of the master program on Urban Agriculture is sound and well defined. It is consisting of 5 modules: introduction to urban agriculture, food production systems, urban agriculture entrepreneurship, urban planning and resources, and use of technologies and ICT in urban agriculture. Modules meet objectives and priorities for each partner countries' needs based on results delivered in WP1 and this is very good. Integration of traditional and new knowledge on urban agriculture, ecology, food production systems etc. with modern technologies will offer students the best option to match local food needs to the local urban conditions. Taking into account that the BUGI Consortium is consisting of 8 members: 5 from Western Balkan (WB) and 3 from Program Countries (PR), this master program as whole is adapted for international students.

The syllabus of each course is well described. It contains all necessary information, including course name, course code, course status, number of ECTS, number of contact hours, description of course and learning outcomes, list of course units, type of exam and recommended mandatory and elective literature. The literature recommended for reading is up-to-date and adequate for the course. The learning outcomes are clearly stated, enough detailed and will help students to acquire new knowledge and skills important for characterization, valorisation and management of urban agriculture and urban food production systems. The allocation of the credits to the courses is well defined and in accordance to their relevance. First semester (30 ECTS) of the program is consisting of 7 mandatory courses while the second semester (30 ECTS) offers different courses divided into two groups, mandatory and elective courses. There are 12 elective courses in total and all these courses are very relevant for the urban agriculture. The courses are covering topics such as different urban farming systems, GIS application in urban agriculture, beekeeping, plant protection in urban agriculture, economics of urban agriculture etc. However, inclusion of one or two additional courses on urban livestock production in curriculum should be taken into consideration.

Suggestions for improvements:

Despite that this master program is focused on students of plant production, inclusion of one or two additional courses on urban livestock production in curriculum should be taken into consideration. New course(s) on urban livestock production, in addition to already envisaged course on beekeeping, can bring additional benefits not only to the students but also to the program as whole.

Date: 25/01/2021**Name (please print): Vladan Bogdanovic****Signature:**