



YOUNGEST UNIVERSITY

Šiauliai University, the youngest in Lithuanian Republic, was established in 1997 by merging the Šiauliai Pedagogical Institute and the Šiauliai Polytechnical branch of Kaunas Technological University. The goal is to create a modern, open university, able to compete intellectually both nationally and internationally in the 21st century and is determined to strengthen cooperation with other institutions.

The highest governing body at the University is the Senate. Its members are elected for four year terms. The University is led by the rector and three prorectors, each for social studies, research, and infrastructure. Faculties are governed by deans, and work is coordinated by faculty councils. The rector is appointed by Senate which also confirms the prorectors and faculty deans.

The University has six faculties: Pedagogy, Special Pedagogy, Humanities, Physics and Mathematics, Art, and Technology. The establishment of a social studies faculty is also planned for this year. These faculties and the qualification institute function in 7 different facilities, located in the town

center, which cover a total area of more than 33000 square meters. Moreover the University has French, Swedish, and Russian Culture Centers, a botanical garden, zoology and university history museums and will open its own art gallery this autumn. It is also planned to establish Environmental Conservation, American Studies and Public Health Education Centers. The University's library has more than 350,000 volumes. There are 180 work stations in six different reading rooms, and almost 5,000 people have library cards. The "Šiauliai University" newspaper is published twice a month, and the television shows about university studies are produced.

Students at the University choose from bachelor's, master's, and doctorate programs. Today University has more than 5,000 students and 356 lecturers. Every year the University hosts 30-40 guest

lecturers from higher learning institutions both in Lithuania and abroad. University scholars also participate in international project such as the "Step by Step", "Tempus", and "Socrates" programs. There are always a few lecturers on sabbatical, working together with Lithuanian and foreign countries' higher education institutions to organize seminars and conferences. Šiauliai University scholars, striving to reach European study and educational standards, cooperate with institutes from Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Austria, Great Britain, France, the United States, Latvia, Estonia, and Russia.

The academic year is divided into Autumn and Spring semesters. Study at the



University of Šiauliai

University is free for those students financed by the state. Others pay a fee set by the University Senate. Many students receive scholarships. University graduates work in various places, but the majority of them start out at Lithuanian basic education schools. The University will continue its early traditions in the future and try to satisfy the demand for newer specialities such as Political Science, Psychology, Business and Public Administration, Ethics, Social Work, and Foreign Languages.

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VILJANDI CULTURE COLLEGE



Viljandi Culture College gives higher education that is completed as a rule with receiving a diploma in folk culture and art. The college is the center of teaching all kinds of subjects concerning Estonian folk culture and also a center of scientific research and supplementary courses. The college prepares professionals-practitioners, creativity coordinators and culture specialists for different fields of art.

It is possible to study not only church-, contemporary- and folk music or folk handicraft but also dance art, theatrical studies, librarianship, stage management and extracurricula activities coordination for children and youth.

The duration of studies is 3 to 4 years. At the moment there are more than 240 students and 51 full-time lecturers working at the college. About 70% of the graduates have found work according to their field of studies. The college can offer also accommodation for 100 students in hotel-dorms.

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