

## **ADMISSION GUIDELINES**

### **DOCTORAL DEGREE PROGRAMMES**

- > Architecture and Planning**
- > Business Economics**

Enacted by the Rectorate on Feb. 27, 2018

**This document has been translated into English. If there is any inconsistency or ambiguity between the German and the English versions, the German version shall prevail.**

The University Council authorizes the Rectorate to issue admission guidelines. Accordingly, the following admission guidelines for the doctoral degree programmes in Architecture and Planning and Business Economics are adopted:

## 1. General admission requirements

Pursuant to Article 25 of the “*Hochschulgesetz vom 25. November 2004 (HSG)*”, graduates

- of a relevant Master’s degree programme or
- equivalent university degree programme

can be admitted to a doctoral degree programme.

In addition to the statutory admission requirements, proof of sufficient language proficiency for the respective degree programme is required. For the doctoral degree programmes in Architecture and Planning and Business Economics, the language proficiency required are as follows:

### Language skills – English

All applicants whose first language is not English must demonstrate that their English language proficiency levels are sufficient for admission (proficiency of at least **level C1** - Common European Framework of Reference for Languages – CEFR). In degree programmes held in English, a higher level of proficiency may be specified as desired.

Language skills needs to be proven by supplying one of the certificates listed in the appendix. The requirement to provide a certificate may be waived for candidates whose Master’s degree programme was taught entirely in English, or for candidates who have lived and/or worked in the respective language area for at least two years and if the resulting presumption of adequate language skills is confirmed in interviews with the supervisor. Language certificates shall not be older than five years.

## 2. University places - capacity restriction

Art. 27 of the “*Gesetz vom 25. November 2004 über die Universität Liechtenstein (LUG)*” stipulates that the university may limit the number of places in the programmes. By virtue of Art. 27 LUG, the University Council stipulates a maximum number of applicants to be accepted for each degree programme (capacity restriction). For applicants not on passports from the European Economic Area (EEA) or Switzerland, the Rectorate can impose a separate ceiling on the number of places in the programmes.

## 3. Specific admission criteria

In addition to the general admission requirements, the Rectorate stipulates the following criteria for the doctoral degree programmes in Architecture and Planning and Business Economics for assessing the qualification:

| Criterion   | Explanation/specification for the Master’s degree programmes named above  |
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| a) Prior educational requirements for the intended degree programme | Under Art. 15 of the <i>Studierendenordnung</i> (Student Regulations) of the University of Liechtenstein, it is necessary for applicants to provide evidence that they hold a relevant Master’s degree of the consecutive degree system from a university or another comparable degree of the consecutive degree system from a university. For admission under the consecutive degree system, the knowledge, skills and qualifications gained during the applicant’s postgraduate degree must constitute relevant prior education for the doctoral degree programme concerned. A prior degree is deemed to be relevant if it comprises modules which correspond to the standard of a postgraduate degree programme in the subject concerned at the University of Liechtenstein and which are worth at |

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|   | <p>least 60 ECTS credits. The applicant must demonstrate that the programme has a clear connection to his/her previous educational background. Additional qualifications related to the intended programme, for example publications, projects and so on, may have a positive impact on the evaluation of the application.</p> <p><b>Research skills</b></p> <p>It must be possible to determine an applicant's research skills from the Master's thesis or a comparable final year thesis. These skills must also be demonstrated in a synopsis on the planned research work. Published contributions in peer-reviewed academic journals and/or successful and critically documented projects in the fields of architecture and planning are good indications of these research skills. In addition, evidence of assistance on academic projects is favourable for admission.</p>   |
| <p>b) Prior academic achievements</p>                   | <p>The previous academic qualifications gained must correspond to at least 270 ECTS credits or equivalent. Overall performance on the Master's degree or a comparable degree from a university must be stated with one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- grade average (overall grade) of at least 5.0 (good) or equivalent;</li> <li>- an honours degree;</li> <li>- a degree "with merit" or "with distinction".</li> </ul> <p>In exceptional cases, this requirement may be waived by decision of the Doctoral Commission, provided that there are particular reasons for carrying out the research project – in particular a high scientific value and a high regional relevance – and that the candidate's overall portfolio promises a successful completion of the project.</p> <p>In case no overall grade or another type of assessment of overall performance is stated in the diploma certificate or diploma supplement, this will be determined using all of the grades for the individual modules or courses. Where the ECTS credits or the number of hours are shown, the grades will be weighted according to the ECTS credits or number of hours.</p> <p><b>Additional qualifications</b></p> <p>Additional qualifications of up to 60 ECTS credits can be required prior to admission (Art. 20 <i>Studierendenordnung</i> / Student Regulations). The scope of additional qualifications required depends on possible shortcomings, the subjects already taken as well as the focus of the first degree (practical or academic orientation). The additional qualifications required must be completed by attending modules in the Bachelor's or Master's degree programmes at the University of Liechtenstein.</p> |
| <p>c) Type and duration of relevant work experience</p> | <p>Relevant work experience gained prior to the degree programme may have a positive impact on the application process. In the interview, particular focus will be placed on the question of whether, and to what extent, the applicant wishes to work during the degree programme. There will be an assessment as to whether the applicant's plan is compatible with undertaking the degree programme. Heavily reduced working hours will be required (part-time job; max. 50%).</p>  |
| <p>d) Motivation for the intended programme</p>         | <p>In a letter of motivation (approx. 1-2 pages), applicants must present their prior knowledge and personal experiences, and explain how this degree programme is applicable to their planned areas of study and research, interests and job perspectives. In particular, the letter must explain the motivation behind selecting the desired course of study. It should be clear why the University of Liechtenstein has been selected. Additionally, interviews conducted by the requested supervisor with the applicant serve to reinforce and expand the impression gained of the applicant and his/her motivation from the various documents submitted, and to ascertain how far the applicant has familiarised him-/herself with</p>  |

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|                  | the degree programme and the environment at the University. The personal interview offers an opportunity to discuss the planned research work in detail together with the applicant. Written acceptance from the requested supervisor is required for admission.               |
| e) Social skills | An applicant's social skills will be assessed both on the basis of his/her CV , in which developments, experiences, activities and services provided in both professional and private life should be listed, and through a personal interview with the applicant's supervisor. |

## APPENDIX

### Language skills required - English

For tests that are split up into parts to be taken separately, all parts must be passed at the required level (e.g., only "Listening and Reading" is not sufficient).

| Diploma / Certificate  | Type, level or specification          | Minimum points, level, designation required |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|
| IELTS (British Council)  |                                       | 7.0   |
| TOEFL iBT  | Internet-based                        | 95  |
| Cambridge ESOL   | Advanced Certificate in English       | CAE   |
|  | Certificate of Proficiency in English | CPE   |
|  | Business English Certificate (BEC)    | Higher                                      |
| TOEIC  |                                       | 1305  |
| UNICERT  |                                       | UNIcert III                                 |
| ALTE   |                                       | Level 4                                     |
| The Pearson Test of English General  | PTE General                           | Level 4                                     |
| LCCI   |                                       | 4   |
| Certificate issued by a recognized university regarding the level of language modules passed by the applicant in prior studies | Module(s) comprising at least 5 ECTS  | Level C1 (CEFR)                             |