**CURRICULA PROPOSAL FORM**

**Special education**

Approved for 2023-2027

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# 1. General information

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| **1.1. Curriculum title** | **Special education** |
| **1.2. Curriculum developing team** | |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Leading University** | **Member Universities** | | Abai Kazakh National Pedagogical University | Kazakh National Women's Teacher Training University | |  | A.Baitursynov Kostanay Regional University | |  | I. Zhansugurov Zhetysu University | |  | S.Amanzholov East Kazakhstan University | |  | South Kazakhstan State Pedagogical University | |
| **1.3. Type of curriculum**  (in accordance with the National Qualifications Framework | MASTER'S DEGREE  Level 7 |
| **1.4. Total academic credits** | 120 academic credits |
| **1.5. Study mode** | full-time |
| **1.6. Expected program duration** | 2 years |
| **1.7. Short curriculum description** Curriculum goals and objectives | This Educational Programme (EP) "*Special education*" is a Master level national teacher education curriculum, which has been designed in collaboration by various Kazakh universities and with international consulting. Due to the nature of a national curriculum, the descriptive texts within the curriculum do not provide specific information but highlight general pedagogical principles and cross-cutting themes (see also Annex 1.). The more detailed descriptions of e.g. methodologies and assessment will be identified in the implementation plans of the universities, considering also institutional and regional specific conditions.  Educational programme (EP) "*Special education*" is a Master level programme for teachers and other professional who wish to specialize in special education in various levels of education. EP consists of a pedagogical component, a subject component, and a research component including Final Attestation/Master Dissertation.  The EP consists of 5 modules: “General education”, “Concepts of development and behavior”, “Comprehensive assessment of children with autism spectrum disorders”, “Pedagogical approaches to work with autism spectrum disorders”, “Research work of a Master student”, including Final Attestation/Master Dissertation.  This EP is aimed at training specialists in special education who are specialized in educating and working with children with autism spectrum disorders. The graduates of the programme are able to detect autism spectrum disorders and create supportive educational programmes and other forms of assistance to children with autism spectrum disorders in collaboration with the children, parents, teachers, and other specialist in the educational organization. |
| **1.8 Main principles of the curriculum** | |
| **Competence-based initial teacher training (ITE)**  The competence of the teacher combines the competence in the area of pedagogy and its subject area with the theoretical and practical competence of teaching in various working conditions. The teacher has the knowledge and skills necessary for his subject area, and thus is able to teach and monitor young people and adults studying in the same subject.  Teacher competence focuses on planning, leadership, teaching, and evaluation. For this reason, the teacher must have sufficient theoretical knowledge in the field of teaching and competence development. In addition, in modern working life, special attention is paid to cooperation and networking, skills development, as well as support and maintenance of the well-being of oneself and one's surroundings.  The competence of a teacher is influenced by changes in the labor market, in educational structures and in society as a whole, and all these elements emphasize the dynamic nature of the teacher's work. The work, characterized by constant changes in a variety of working conditions, focuses on the teacher's ability to evaluate and adjust their own activities. Self-assessment skills are an important part of the development of professional identity. The teacher constantly makes value decisions, which means that considering issues of professional ethics is one of the necessary professional skills. Change requires the development of experience, the ability to learn, and the ability to reform and update the way things are done within the community.  **Curriculum of pedagogical education based on competencies**  Thus, the curriculum of pedagogical education, based on competencies, consists of three structures: 1) Pedagogical studies, 2) Subject-specific research, 3) Mandatory research. Each of these structures includes modules and corresponding courses. The results of the training courses describe the competencies required for teaching, and are placed in the NQS system (National Qualifications System) at the seventh basic level.  **The curriculum is based on the following basic principles:**   * Competence-based learning * Constructive coordination * Student-centered learning and active learning methods * Competence-based research * Interdisciplinary training * Inclusive education * Professional development of teachers and change management   (for more information, see in the Attachment) | |

# 2. Programme rationale

In the context of the Education Modernization Project funded by the World Bank, several universities providing pre-service teacher education have designed and revised in international collaboration thirty (30) pre-service teacher education curricula according to the principles of competence-based education that ensure a holistic development of Master students’ competences. Moreover, the student-centered approach better prepares Master students to teaching profession by providing practical examples, experiments and experiences, which Master students can transfer to their classroom practices considering better the versatile needs and wellbeing of their students.

In order to match the requirements of the renewed primary and secondary education, teachers’ professional competences need to be re-evaluated and completed. The new approaches in secondary education need to be reflected in pre-service teacher education and the Master students’ profiles. Furthermore, these thirty (30) revised or new pre-service teacher education curricula have been designed to better improve Master students’ various generic competences that are essential in teacher’s profession. Several important and cross- cutting pedagogical principles that Kazakhstan education system aims to develop, such as inclusiveness and interdisciplinarity, have been taken into consideration in the design and implementation of the curricula. In addition, these curricula emphasize the development of Master students’ research skills in a way that they become practitioners who are constantly reflecting and evaluating their own practices and the practices of their schools to develop their own work and their work community, and the whole sector of education.

# 3.Teacher’s professional competences

Teachers' professional competencies are defined as consisting of **pedagogical competencies and subject competencies, as well as general competencies**.

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| **3.1. Pedagogical component: Areas of competence/Learning Outcomes** |
| * **Competence area for scientific thinking**   Master students are able to apply the necessary research methods to solve problems arising during research activities. Master students are able to analyze the possibilities of modern theory and practice. Master students are able to organize research and conduct scientific and pedagogical activities in their profession.   * **Competence area for communication**   Master students are able to communicate orally and in writing in a foreign language in interpersonal and intercultural interaction. Master students are able to apply the acquired language and intercultural communication skills in professional activities.   * **Competence area for pedagogy and management psychology**   Master students are able to carry out critical analysis of problematic pedagogical and professional situations and identify areas for further development in higher education pedagogy. Master students are able to organize, implement, adjust, and predict the development areas of the learning environment and process in educational organizations. Master students are able to apply the optimal leadership style in their profession to motivate their students and colleagues considering the psychological characteristics of an individual. Master students are also able to manage group and interpersonal processes, as well as their own behavior and the behavior of others during pedagogical activity. Master students are able to use the modern methodologies as teachers in designing content and forms of the learning process, in developing educational and methodological materials, as well as in selecting and applying interactive methods of teaching. |
| **3.2. Subject component: Areas of competence/ Learning Outcomes** |
| * **Competence area for the concepts of development and behavior**  1. Master students are able to carry out a critical analysis of fundamental and advanced research in the field of persons education with special educational needs. 2. Master students are able to design and organize a holistic learning process for children with autism spectrum disorders based on innovative psychological and pedagogical approaches. 3. Master students have the abilities to analyze and evaluate new complex ideas. 4. Master students are able to carry out activities for the formation of positive public opinion and popularization of ideas and knowledge in the field of education of persons with special educational needs.  * **Competence area for the comprehensive assessment of children with autism spectrum disorders**  1. Master students have the abilities to design, coordinate and direct team activities to determine the special educational needs of students with autism spectrum disorders in accordance with the regulatory legal acts of the Republic of Kazakhstan. 2. Master students have the abilities to act effectively in non-standard situations, and to find the optimal solution to challenges related to differential diagnostics.  * **Competence area for pedagogical approaches to work with autism disorders**  1. Master students have the abilities to rationally choose and implement technologies based on individually differentiated approaches to a child with autism spectrum disorder. 2. Master students are able to develop, implement, coordinate work on psychological and pedagogical support of a child with autism spectrum disorder in an interdisciplinary context. 3. Master students have the abilities to organize the interaction and cooperation of specialists in compliance with ethical and social norms. 4. Master students are able to advise parents (legal representatives) of children with autism spectrum disorders, and teachers on the implementation of individual development programs, and optimization of socio-environmental conditions of life. |
| **3.3. Research component: Areas of competence/ Learning Outcomes** |
| * **Competence area for research**   Master students are able to plan the structure and procedure of research and carry out research, analysis, systematization of results, as well as draw conclusions and argue them. Master students are able to proficiently prepare scientific reports, publications, and presentations, and share and utilize them in their professional activities. |

# 4. Programme structure and learning outcomes

Teachers' professional competencies are defined as consisting of **pedagogical competencies and subject competencies, as well as general competencies**. Thus, the curriculum consists of three components: 1) Pedagogical component, 2) Subject component, and 3) Research component. The areas of competence and competencies were defined separately for each component (see 3.).

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| **Component** | **Courses** |
| Pedagogical component (university component) | 1. Philosophy of Education and Science 2. Foreign language 3. Higher education pedagogy 4. Management psychology 5. Pedagogical practice |
| Subject component (university and optional component) | 1. Research in education of individuals with autism spectrum disorders 1: Basic research 2. Research in education of individuals with autism spectrum disorders 2: Advanced research 3. Theories of activity and behavior 4. Psychological and pedagogical characteristics and systematization of children with autism spectrum disorders 5. Assessment of special educational needs of children with autism spectrum disorders 6. Differential diagnosis of children with autism spectrum disorders 7. Ensuring individual development in autism spectrum disorders 8. Strategies and methods of working with autism spectrum disorders 9. Integration of children with autism spectrum disorders into education system 10. Sensory integration 11. Involving parents in working with autism spectrum disorders 12. Positive parenting |
| Research component (university and optional component) | 1. Research practice 2. Research work of a Master student 3. Evidence-based practice 4. Definition and understanding of professional effectiveness 5. Research review 6. Data analysis 7. Final attestation |

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| 4.1. Structure of the programme |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Module name and main disciplines** | **ECTS** | | **GENERAL EDUCATION** | **20** | | **University Component** | **20** | | History and philosophy of science | 4 | | Foreign language | 4 | | Pedagogy of higher education | 4 | | Psychology of management | 4 | | Pedagogical practice | 4 | | **CONCEPTS OF DEVELOPMENT AND BEHAVIOR** | **15** | | **University Component** | **15** | | Research in education of individuals with autism spectrum disorders 1: Basic research | 5 | | Research in education of individuals with autism spectrum disorders 2: Advanced research | 5 | | Theories of activity and behavior | 5 | | **COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT OF CHILDREN WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS** | **10** | | **University Component** | **5** | | Psychological and pedagogical characteristics and systematization of children with autism spectrum disorders | 5 | | **Optional Component** | **5** | | Assessment of special educational needs of children with autism spectrum disorders | 5 | | Differential diagnosis of children with autism spectrum disorders | | **PEDAGOGICAL APPROACHES TO WORKING WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS** | **20** | | **University Component** | **10** | | Ensuring individual development in autism spectrum disorders | 5 | | Strategies and methods of working with autism spectrum disorders | 5 | | **Optional Component** | **10** | | Integration of children with autism spectrum disorders into education system | 5 | | Sensory integration | | Involving parents in working with autism spectrum disorders | 5 | | Positive parenting | | **RESEARCH WORK OF A MASTER STUDENT** | **55** | | **University Component** | **37** | | Research practice | 13 | | Research work of a Master student | 24 | | **Optional Component** | **10** | | Evidence-based practice | 5 | | Definition and understanding of professional effectiveness | | Research review | 5 | | Data analysis | | **FINAL ATTESTATION** | **8** | | **Total academic credits** | **120** |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **General Education 20 academic credits** | | | During the module, Master students develop their competencies in research, communication, and management for the effective implementation of their pedagogical professional activities. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Course title | **History and philosophy of science** | | Component | Mandatory component, University component | | Module | General Education 20 academic credits | | Cycle | Core disciplines | | Academic credits | 4 | | Course Description/ competencies | The purpose of this course is to improve the following areas of pedagogical competence:   * Competence area for scientific thinking * Competence area for pedagogy and management psychology   During the course, Master students examine the history of science from the origin to the modern stage of post-neoclassical science, the evolution and basic concepts of modern philosophy of science, as well as philosophical problems of the main subsystems of science. Master students form a culture of scientific thinking and develop their analytical abilities and research skills. | | Learning outcomes | **Master students who demonstrate competence can:**   * apply necessary research methods to solve problems arising in the course of research activities; * analyze and comprehend the realities of modern theory and practice; * organize research, and scientific and pedagogical activities. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Course title | **Foreign language (professional)** | | Component | Pedagogical component, University component | | Module | General Education 20 academic credits | | Cycle | Core disciplines | | Academic credits | 4 | | Course Description/ competencies | The purpose of this course is to improve the following areas of pedagogical competence:   * Competence area for communication * Competence area for pedagogy and management psychology   During the course, Master students develop their spoken language skills in professional foreign language allowing them to implement various aspects of the professional activities in foreign language as teachers. | | Learning outcomes | **Master students who demonstrate competence can:**   * apply spoken foreign language to solve the challenges of interpersonal and intercultural interaction; * apply the acquired knowledge, formed foreign language skills and skills of intercultural communication in professional and pedagogical activities. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Course title | **Pedagogy of higher education** | | Component | Pedagogical component, University component | | Module | General Education 20 academic credits | | Cycle | Core disciplines | | Academic credits | 4 | | Course Description/ competencies | The purpose of this course is to improve the following areas of pedagogical competence:   * Competence area for communication * Competence area for pedagogy and management psychology   During the course, Master students develop their general cultural and professional competencies. They also establish their conscious professional position on modern issues of the development of pedagogical science and higher education. Master students develop their psychological, pedagogical and methodological abilities as a teacher of a higher educational institution to solve current pedagogical challenges and tasks in higher education. | | Learning outcomes | **Master students who demonstrate competence can:**   * critically analyze the current state of pedagogical science and practices, and the challenges of their development in higher education; * carry out their teaching activities considering the current trends in the development of higher education; * organize, implement, adjust, and predict the development of the educational environment and the educational process in higher education. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Course title | **Psychology of management** | | Component | Pedagogical component, University component | | Module | General Education 20 academic credits | | Cycle | Core disciplines | | Academic credits | 4 | | Course Description/ competencies | The purpose of this course is to improve the following areas of pedagogical competence:   * Competence area for scientific thinking * Competence area for communication * Competence area for pedagogy and management psychology   During the course, Master students get familiarized with modern concepts of the role and multidimensional aspects of management psychology in practice. They improve their own psychological culture and management skills for the successful implementation of professional activities and self-improvement. | | Learning outcomes | **Master students who demonstrate competence can:**   * apply the optimal leadership style and methods of motivation considering the psychological characteristics of the individual; * manage group and interpersonal processes, and their own behavior as well as the behavior of others in pedagogical activity. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Course title | **Pedagogical practice** | | Component | Mandatory component, University component | | Module | General Education 20 academic credits | | Cycle | Core disciplines | | Academic credits | 4 | | Course Description/ competencies | The purpose of this course is to improve the following areas of pedagogical competence:   * Competence area for scientific thinking * Competence area for communication * Competence area for pedagogy and management psychology   The purpose of pedagogical practice is to ensure the relationship between the theoretical knowledge and practical activities of Master students to apply them into real educational process. During the pedagogical practice, Master students develop their practical skills of teaching and learning methods by conducting undergraduate classes at the discretion of the university. | | Learning outcomes | **Master students who demonstrate competence can:**   * organize, implement, adjust, and predict the development of the educational environment and the educational process in educational organizations; * design the content and forms of educational work, develop educational and methodological material, as well as select and apply modern interactive forms and methods of teaching. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Concepts of development and behavior 15 academic credits** | | | During the module, Master students develop their research competencies in the field of education in analysis, selection, introduction of advanced technologies for teaching, and accompanying children with autistic spectrum disorders (ASD). They explore the concepts explaining the mechanisms of ASD: a psychoanalytic approach, a holistic "organic" approach based on the principles of gestalt psychology, neuro-sensory and ontogenetic approaches, as well as an interdisciplinary approach to the study of autistic spectrum disorders. Master students develop their innovative activities and the research culture of a teacher-researcher, including the ability to reflect, scientifically substantiate, analyze, and creatively apply the concepts of cognition. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Course title | **Research in education of individuals with autism spectrum disorders 1: Basic research** | | Component | Subject component, University component | | Module | Concepts of development and behavior 19 academic credits | | Cycle | Major disciplines | | Academic credits | 5 | | Course Description/ competencies | The purpose of this course is to improve the following areas of competence:   * Competence area for the concepts of development and behavior (1,2,3) * Competence area for research   During the course, Master students develop the necessary knowledge in the field of research on the learning problems and development of children with autistic spectrum disorders. They also develop their abilities to critically analyze, evaluate, and compare various theories and ideas. They learn to apply their knowledge to formulate and prove their own judgments on scientific problems. Master students learn to apply basic methodological principles when using new methods and psychological and pedagogical technologies for children with autistic spectrum disorders. | | Learning outcomes | **Master students who demonstrate competence can:**   * navigate the mimicry of theories explaining the mechanisms of autistic spectrum disorders; * analyze, synthesize and critically summarize scientific information; * evaluate the role of various factors in the formation and prognosis of autistic spectrum disorders; * scientifically substantiate and develop models and technologies for providing assistance to children with autistic spectrum disorders. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Course title | **Research in education of individuals with autism spectrum disorders 2: Advanced research** | | Component | Subject component, University component | | Module | Concepts of development and behavior 19 academic credits | | Cycle | Major disciplines | | Academic credits | 5 | | Course Description/ competencies | The purpose of this course is to improve the following areas of competence:   * Competence area for the concepts of development and behavior (1,2,3) * Competence area for research   During the course, Master students develop the necessary knowledge of leading research in the field of autism studies. They develop their abilities to analyze the effectiveness of the applied methods of differential diagnosis of autistic conditions of various origins developed in domestic and foreign practice. Master students also learn to diagnose the characteristics of mental development of children with different forms of autism. They also analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of support practices and socialization of children with autism. | | Learning outcomes | **Master students who demonstrate competence, can:**   * analyze current trends in the development of content, methods and forms of assistance to children with autistic spectrum disorders; * summarize the results of research: the novelty of the cited materials, results and a conceptually new generalization of previously known materials and provisions; * use experimental and theoretical research methods in professional activities; * diagnose autistic conditions and evaluate the effectiveness of support practices; * adapt modern scientific achievements to the educational process. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Course title | **Theories of activity and behavior** | | Component | Subject component, University component | | Module | Concepts of development and behavior 19 academic credits | | Cycle | Major disciplines | | Academic credits | 5 | | Course Description/ competencies | The purpose of this course is to improve the following areas of competence:   * Competence area for the concepts of development and behavior (1,2,3) * Competence area for research   During the course, Master students build a holistic understanding of the theory of activity, principles, types of activity, and their impact on normal behavior and behavior under violations. They develop their skills in research of children with autistic spectrum disorders. They learn skills in stimulating communication, in regulating the behavior of children with autistic spectrum disorders, as well as in including them in the educational process. Master students form a socially acceptable experience of interaction based on behavior analysis of a child with autistic spectrum disorder. | | Learning outcomes | **Master students who demonstrate competence, can:**   * find, analyze, and systematize scientific information in the theory of activity and its influence on behavior; * implement new, most effective models and technologies for regulating child behavior; * design the educational process considering the psychophysical characteristics and individual educational needs of the child, * apply general pedagogical and special teaching methods, and alternative communication systems. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Comprehensive assessment of children with autism spectrum disorders 10 academic credits** | | | During the module, Master students develop their competencies in assessing the special educational needs of children with autistic spectrum disorders. They receive orientation in the variety of methods of differential diagnosis. The module is practice-oriented and includes the formation of Master students’ abilities in distinguishing autism from other similar conditions. Master students also develop their abilities in designing, coordinating, and directing the activities of a team of specialists to identify and assess the special educational needs of students. They also develop their abilities in acting in non-standard situations. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Course title | **Psychological and pedagogical characteristics and systematization of children with autism spectrum disorders** | | Component | Subject component, University component | | Module | Comprehensive assessment of children with autism spectrum disorders 10 academic credits | | Cycle | Major disciplines | | Academic credits | 5 | | Course Description/ competencies | The purpose of this course is to improve the following areas of competence:   * Competence area for the concepts of development and behavior (1, 2, 3, 4) * Competence area for the comprehensive assessment of children with autism spectrum disorders (5, 6) * Competence area for pedagogical approaches to work with autism disorders (7, 8, 9, 10)   During the course, Master students examine a variety of terminology designating persons falling under the category of "autism". They also investigate the main manifestations of autism: behavior, and features of communication and speech development. Master students explore the medical and psychological classifications of childhood autism and develop their understanding of the importance of working with a family and a team of specialists. | | Learning outcomes | **Master students who demonstrate competence, can:**   * distinguish the manifestations of autism by external manifestations, by the state of motor functions, behavior, contacts with the outside world, features of speech development, forms of autistic protection; * understand the basics of advising parents (legal representatives) of children with autism spectrum disorders and teachers on the implementation of individual development programs. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Course title | **Assessment of special educational needs of children with autism spectrum disorders** | | Component | Subject component, Optional component | | Module | Comprehensive assessment of children with autism spectrum disorders 10 academic credits | | Cycle | Major disciplines | | Academic credits | 5 | | Course Description/ competencies | The purpose of this course is to improve the following areas of competence:   * Competence area for the concepts of development and behavior (2,3) * Competence area for the comprehensive assessment of children with autism spectrum disorders (5,6) * Competence area for pedagogical approaches to work with autism disorders (7,8,9,10)   During the course, Master students explore modern approaches, stages, and methods of evaluation of children with autistic spectrum disorders. They develop their professional and ethical standards and principles of diagnosis. They also build their understanding of the role of psychological, medical, and pedagogical consultations in family counseling. Master students design and coordinate the activities of a team of specialists to determine the special educational needs of children with autistic spectrum disorders in accordance with the regulatory legal acts of the Republic of Kazakhstan. | | Learning outcomes | **Master students who demonstrate competence, can:**   * determine the special educational needs of a child with autism spectrum disorders in accordance with the algorithm and criteria of normative legal acts; * carry out an interdisciplinary assessment of the development of children with autism spectrum disorders on the basis of standardized methods; * determine the special educational needs of a child with autism spectrum disorders in accordance with the algorithm and criteria of normative legal acts; * create a collaboration with the subjects of the educational process; * organize the interaction of specialists in compliance with ethical and social norms; * advise on the implementation of individual development programs. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Course title | **Differential diagnosis of children with autism spectrum disorders** | | Component | Subject component, Optional component | | Module | Comprehensive assessment of children with autism spectrum disorders 10 academic credits | | Cycle | Major disciplines | | Academic credits | 5 | | Course Description/ competencies | The purpose of this course is to improve the following areas of competence:   * Competence area for the concepts of development and behavior (2,3) * Competence area for the comprehensive assessment of children with autism spectrum disorders (5,6) * Competence area for pedagogical approaches to work with autism disorders (7,8,9,10)   During the course, Master students learn to distinguish between different types of emotional disorders and their symptoms: autistic spectrum disorders, hyperactivity and attention deficit disorder, and emotional-depressive conditions. They develop their understanding of modern challenges to the emotional well-being of children. They also investigate modern approaches, stages, and methods of evaluation of children with autistic spectrum disorders. Master students explore the professional and ethical norms and principles of diagnosis and develop their understanding of the role of psychological, medical, and pedagogical consultations in family counseling. | | Learning outcomes | **Master students who demonstrate competence, can:**   * understand the methods and criteria of differential diagnosis; * consider the diversity of students and distinguish similar conditions from each other; * differentiate the degree and nature of mental, speech and emotional development disorders of children with autistic spectrum disorders; * find the optimal solution to problems related to differential diagnostics; * organize the interaction and cooperation of specialists in compliance with ethical and social norms. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Pedagogical approaches to work with autism spectrum disorders 20 academic credits** | | | During the module, Master students analyze the theoretical models and pedagogical approaches of working with autistic spectrum disorders and develop their advanced competencies in the design and implementation of assistance and development programs for children with autistic spectrum disorders. Master students apply special technologies for conducting an individual case. The module also supports Master students’ professional development by forming their research orientation to professional practices and the improvement of the work environment and education in general. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Course title | **Ensuring individual development in autism spectrum disorders** | | Component | Subject component, University component | | Module | Pedagogical approaches to work with autism spectrum disorders 20 academic credits | | Cycle | Major disciplines | | Academic credits | 5 | | Course Description/ competencies | The purpose of this course is to improve the following areas of competence:   * Competence area for the comprehensive assessment of children with autism spectrum disorders (5,6) * Competence area for pedagogical approaches to work with autism disorders (7,8,9,10)   During the course, Master students solve different types of practical tasks with elements of design of assistance and development programs for children with autistic spectrum disorders. They learn to act as a case manager leading the support and help at different stages. They also choose solutions in changing (different) conditions of the situation and assess the current situation and implement corrective activities. | | Learning outcomes | **Master students who demonstrate competence, can:**   * know modern tools for building programs: case management; * determine the amount of assistance to the child, taking into account their current development; * design individual development programmes. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Course title | **Strategies and methods of working with autism spectrum disorders** | | Component | Subject component, University component | | Module | Pedagogical approaches to work with autism spectrum disorders 20 academic credits | | Cycle | Major disciplines | | Academic credits | 5 | | Course Description/ competencies | The purpose of this course is to improve the following areas of competence:   * Competence area for the concepts of development and behavior (1, 2,3) * Competence area for the comprehensive assessment of children with autism spectrum disorders (5,6) * Competence area for pedagogical approaches to work with autism disorders (7,8,9,10)   During the course, Master students develop the necessary knowledge in the field of research, teaching technologies, methods of motivation in the education and development of a child with ASD. They provide pedagogical assistance and develop their skills in individualizing the learning process taking into account the diversity of students and the use of various assistive technologies. They also provide a process of productive interaction with the legal representatives of a child with ASD. | | Learning outcomes | **Master students who demonstrate competence, can:**   * navigate approaches to understanding autism spectrum disorders; * highlight the parameters of the care system for children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder and their families * choose and implement assistive technologies based on individually differentiated approaches to a child with autism spectrum disorders; * develop a model and components of care; * work in a team. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Course title | **Integration of children with autism spectrum disorders into education system** | | Component | Subject component, Optional component | | Module | Pedagogical approaches to work with autism spectrum disorders 20 academic credits | | Cycle | Major disciplines | | Academic credits | 5 | | Course Description/ competencies | The purpose of this course is to improve the following areas of competence:   * Competence area for the concepts of development and behavior (1, 2,3) * Competence area for the comprehensive assessment of children with autism spectrum disorders (5,6) * Competence area for pedagogical approaches to work with autism disorders (7,8,9,10)   During the course, Master students develop the necessary knowledge in integration and inclusion of children with autism spectrum disorders in the educational process. They provide pedagogical assistance and develop their skills in individualizing teaching based on pedagogical and independent research and considering the diversity of students. | | Learning outcomes | **Master students who demonstrate competence, can:**   * understand the specific educational needs of children with autism spectrum disorders; * develop and implement programmes to integrate and include children with autism spectrum disorders in the general and special education system; * ensure contact with the child during the inclusion process; * evaluate their work efficiency. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Course title | **Sensory integration** | | Component | Subject component, Optional component | | Module | Pedagogical approaches to work with autism spectrum disorders 20 academic credits | | Cycle | Major disciplines | | Academic credits | 5 | | Course Description/ competencies | The purpose of this course is to improve the following areas of competence:   * Competence area for the concepts of development and behavior (1, 2,3) * Competence area for the comprehensive assessment of children with autism spectrum disorders (5,6) * Competence area for pedagogical approaches to work with autism disorders (7,8,9,10)   During the course, Master students develop the necessary knowledge in sensory integration and learn the technologies related to sensory integration. They provide pedagogical assistance and develop their skills in individualizing teaching based on pedagogical and independent research and considering the diversity of students. | | Learning outcomes | **Master students who demonstrate competence, can:**   * understand the parameters of sensory development and the main types of sensory integration disorders; * understand sensory systems and their interaction; * develop and implement sensory integration programmes; * ensure contact with the child during sensory integration; * evaluate their work efficiency. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Course title | **Involving parents in working with autism spectrum disorders** | | Component | Subject component, Optional component | | Module | Pedagogical approaches to work with autism spectrum disorders 20 academic credits | | Cycle | Major disciplines | | Academic credits | 5 | | Course Description/ competencies | The purpose of this course is to improve the following areas of competence:   * Competence area for the concepts of development and behavior (2,4) * Competence area for the comprehensive assessment of children with autism spectrum disorders (5,6) * Competence area for pedagogical approaches to work with autism disorders (9,10)   During the course, Master students provide advisory and educational assistance for a child with autism spectrum disorders in a comprehensive system of family support. They ensure successful adaptation of the child and family in changing conditions. They also develop their abilities to diagnose family problems that need to be addressed. Master students choose adequate forms, methods, and programmes of developmental activities. | | Learning outcomes | **Master students who demonstrate competence, can:**   * understand the concepts, types and levels of adaptation; * solve problems in changing conditions in an interdisciplinary context; * inform parents about the most effective ways to organize their living environment and interact with the child; * select ways of interaction for an individual child with autism spectrum disorder and their family considering their specific situation. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Course title | **Positive parenting** | | Component | Subject component, Optional component | | Module | Pedagogical approaches to work with autism spectrum disorders 20 academic credits | | Cycle | Major disciplines | | Academic credits | 5 | | Course Description/ competencies | The purpose of this course is to improve the following areas of competence:   * Competence area for the concepts of development and behavior (2,4) * Competence area for the comprehensive assessment of children with autism spectrum disorders (5,6) * Competence area for pedagogical approaches to work with autism disorders (9,10)   During the course, Master students analyze the focus of parenthood as a sociocultural and psychological phenomenon, as well as the positive goals in raising a child in the family, and the development of individuality and independence of the child. Master students develop their skills in providing constructive counseling and pedagogical assistance to form positive parental attitudes. | | Learning outcomes | **Master students who demonstrate competence, can:**   * understand the principles and content of positive parenthood; * apply the principles of positive parenthood and interaction in practice; * plan recommendations for building a positive parent-child relationship in the family of a child with autism spectrum disorders; * promote the formation of a positive image of the child among parents and the development of parental feelings and attitudes. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Research work of a Master student 55 academic credits** | | | During the module, Master students develop a set of knowledge in a certain field, as well as their research skills. They identify and solve problems based on the nomination and justification of a hypotheses. They formulate theoretical research question and plan research activities, as well as to collect, critically analyze, and interpret the necessary information. They also choose the most optimal research methods, to perform an experiment, and to present research results. Master students develop their abilities to apply their research knowledge and skills in specific activities. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Course title | **Research practice** | | Component | Subject component, University component | | Module | Research work of a Master student 55 academic credits | | Cycle | Major disciplines | | Academic credits | 13 | | Course Description/ competencies | The purpose of this course is to improve the following areas of competence:   * Competence area for the concepts of development and behavior (1,2, 3,4) * Competence area for research   During the course, Master students holistically understand the research process. They solve problems in new conditions in an interdisciplinary context and cope with the difficulties in changing conditions. Master students collect and process quantitative data. They communicate their knowledge and achievements in teaching children with ASD to the scientific community as well as to general public. They also build their understanding of the ethics of conducting research. | | Learning outcomes | **Master students who demonstrate competence, can:**   * understand research process holistically; * collect quantitative and qualitative data, and process it by using various approaches; * present the results of the study; * observe the ethics of research. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Course title | **Research work of a Master student** | | Component | Subject component, University component | | Module | Research work of a Master student 55 academic credits | | Cycle | Major disciplines | | Academic credits | 24 | | Course Description/ competencies | The purpose of this course is to improve the following areas of competence:   * Competence area for the concepts of development and behavior (1,2, 3, 4) * Competence area for research   During the course, Master students develop their skills in academic research work specific to the level of the master's degree. They also develop their abilities to conduct scientific discussion as well as to present the research results in various forms of oral and written activities. | | Learning outcomes | **Master students who demonstrate competence, can:**   * carry out research activities within the framework of tasks and scientific topics; * take part in the organization and implementation of scientific and practical conferences, round tables, and discussions; * develop and test diagnostic materials; * present the final results of the study and demonstrate them in the form established by the educational organization. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Course title | **Evidence-based practice** | | Component | Subject component, Optional component | | Module | Research work of a Master student 55 academic credits | | Cycle | Major disciplines | | Academic credits | 5 | | Course Description/ competencies | The purpose of this course is to improve the following areas of pedagogical competence:   * Competence area for the concepts of development and behavior (1, 3) * Competence area for research   During the course, Master students understand and justify the differences between daily and scientific thinking. They also master the stages and methods of research, as well as argue their own conclusions. | | Learning outcomes | **Master students who demonstrate competence, can:**   * understand the basics, principles, and methodology of scientific research; * investigate cultural, economic, and social phenomena related to the education of individuals with autism spectrum disorders; * describe various research methods related to the education of individuals with autism spectrum disorders; * argue conclusions. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Course title | **Definition and understanding of professional effectiveness** | | Component | Subject component, Optional component | | Module | Research work of a Master student 55 academic credits | | Cycle | Major disciplines | | Academic credits | 5 | | Course Description/ competencies | The purpose of this course is to improve the following areas of pedagogical competence:   * Competence area for the concepts of development and behavior (1, 3) * Competence area for research   During the course, Master students reflect and critically evaluate their values, principles, and methods of work as a teacher researcher. They also develop their understanding of the effectiveness of their professional activities and plan the development of their pedagogical activities and promote their professional growth. | | Learning outcomes | **Master students who demonstrate competence, can:**   * consider their experience based on scientific concepts and from the point of view of values of inclusion; * understand the multiplicity of learning environments; * evaluate the learning environment and processes; * use various methods of evaluating the learning process; * evaluate the effectiveness of their activities and create plans to develop them; * develop and disseminate their teaching experience. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Course title | **Research review** | | Component | Subject component, Optional component | | Module | Research work of a Master student 55 academic credits | | Cycle | Major disciplines | | Academic credits | 5 | | Course Description/ competencies | The purpose of this course is to improve the following areas of pedagogical competence:   * Competence area for the concepts of development and behavior (1, 3) * Competence area for research   During the course, Master students develop their expertise knowledge of scientific and pedagogical research. They critically analyze and summarize the data collected during the research, as well as update the results of the research, correlating with subjective experience. Master students build their own expertise based on scientific research. | | Learning outcomes | **Master students who demonstrate competence, can:**   * conduct research in education and socialization of a child with autism spectrum disorders; * select meaningful information from scientific research and interpret it; * critically analyze and summarize the data collected during the study; * form an attitude to the analysis of their own research activities. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Course title | **Data analysis** | | Component | Subject component, Optional component | | Module | Research work of a Master student 5 academic credits | | Cycle | Major disciplines | | Academic credits | 5 | | Course Description/ competencies | The purpose of this course is to improve the following areas of pedagogical competence:   * Competence area for the concepts of development and behavior (1, 3) * Competence area for research   During the course, Master students build their understanding of the possibilities of interpreting statistical data and research. They master the methods of data collection and measurement in statistical research, as well as carry out their quantitative and qualitative analysis. | | Learning outcomes | **Master students who demonstrate competence, can:**   * describe the goals and basic concepts of statistical research; * apply methods of data collection and measurement in statistical research; * collect quantitative data for research and describe them based on statistical methods; * apply various schemes and methods of quantitative and qualitative analysis of statistical research. |  |  | | --- | | **FINAL ATTESTATION 8 academic credits** | | Final attestation of the graduate is mandatory and is carried out after mastering the educational programme in full. The aim of the attestation is to evaluate the level of maturity of general cultural and professional competences of the graduate, as well as their readiness to perform basic professional activities.  **Final attestation work *(Oral Exam, Written Exam, Master dissertation, Research project, Development project, Organisational project, Strategic project, Art project)*** | |
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| 4.2. Progression of the studies |
| |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Modules and courses** | **Master's degree, 2 academic years** | | | | | 1st year of study | | 2 year of study | | | 1 semester | 2 semester | 3  semester | 4 semester | | **GENERAL EDUCATION 20 academic credits** | | | | | | History and philosophy of science 4 academic credits | 4 |  |  |  | | Foreign language 4 academic credits | 4 |  |  |  | | Pedagogy of higher education 4 academic credits |  | 4 |  |  | | Psychology of management 4 academic credits |  | 4 |  |  | | Pedagogical practice 4 academic credits |  |  | 4 |  | | **CONCEPTS OF DEVELOPMENT AND BEHAVIOR 15 academic credits** | | | | | | Research in education of individuals with autism spectrum disorders 1: Basic research 5 academic credits | 5 |  |  |  | | Research in education of individuals with autism spectrum disorders 2: Advanced research 5 academic credits |  | 5 |  |  | | Activity and behavior theories 5 academic credits | 5 |  |  |  | | **COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT OF CHILDREN WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS 10 academic credits** | | | | | | Psychological and pedagogical characteristics and systematization of children with autism spectrum disorders 5 academic credits | 5 |  |  |  | | Assessment of special educational needs of children with autism spectrum disorders 5 academic credits |  | 5 |  |  | | Differential diagnosis of children with autism spectrum disorders 5 academic credits |  |  |  | | **PEDAGOGICAL APPROACHES TO WORK WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS 20 academic credits** | | | | | | Building individual development in autism spectrum disorders 5 academic credits |  |  | 5 |  | | Strategies and methods of work in autism spectrum disorders 5 academic credits |  | 5 |  |  | | Integration of children with autism spectrum disorders into education 5 academic credits |  |  | 5 |  | | Sensory integration 5 academic credits |  |  |  | | Inclusion of parents in work with autism spectrum disorders 5 academic credits |  |  | 5 |  | | Positive parenthood 5 academic credits |  |  |  | | **RESEARCH WORK OF A MASTER STUDENT 47 academic credits** | | | | | | Research practice 13 academic credits |  |  |  | 13 | | Research work of a Master student 24 academic credits | 7 | 7 | 6 | 4 | | Evidence-based practice 5 academic credits |  |  | 5 |  | | Definition and understanding of professional effectiveness 5 academic credits |  |  |  | | Examination of the study 5 academic credits |  |  | 5 |  | | Data analytics 5 academic credits |  |  |  | | **FINAL ATTESTATION 8 academic credits** | | | | | | Final Attestation 8 academic credits |  |  |  | 8 | | **Academic credits in total** | **30** | **30** | **35** | **25** | |

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| 4.3. Requirements for successful completion of the curricula |
| For successful completion of the educational program, Master students shall have:   * minimum credits for core and major subjects; * achievement of all learning outcomes; * successful completion of compulsory and optional courses; * successful fulfillment and defense of Final attestation work *(Oral Exam, Written Exam, Master Dissertation, Research project, Development project, Organisational project, Strategic project, Art project);*   the minimum average achievement score |

# 5. Description of Master students’ work

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| Master students’ work includes contact teaching, individual, pair and group work, assignments, exams, etc. 1 ECTS = 30 hours of student work.  Master students’ individual and/or pair and group work is divided into two parts: individual and/or pair and group work supervised by a teacher and the work that is performed entirely independently.  Master students’ individual and/or pair and group work is carried out on a specific list of topics allocated for independent/group study, provided with educational and methodical literature and recommendations for each course. Master students’ individual and/or pair and group work supervised by a teacher is carried out according to the schedule, which determines the university or the teacher themselves.  The entire scope of work performed entirely independently is supported by assignments that require the Master student to work independently on a daily basis.  The ratio of time between classroom contact work, Master students’ individual and/or pair and group work is supervised by a teacher, and the work that is performed entirely independently for all types of educational activities is determined by the educational institution independently. |

# 6. Assessment methods/Assessment

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| 6.1. Assessment |
| The Assessment of learning outcomes is based on the competence objectives of the modules and the resulting evaluation criteria of the courses. Assessment criteria are used as a basis for various tasks. Learning tasks include independent tasks, group tasks, plans, reports, group discussions, group tests, development tasks, laboratory tasks, various tasks for reflection and evaluation, or activating tasks. The assessment generates information for the Master student about their achievement of the competence goals of the pedagogical education modules.  Assessment is at the heart of all competence-based education. Competence-based assessment should measure not only what a Master student knows, but also take into account skills and whether Master students can apply what they know to real life problems or situations. Master students should be given assignments and non-standard problems in situations that students are likely to encounter in the workplace. Assessment plays a very important role in competence-based training. Based on the recognition of prior competence and personal situation, competence can be demonstrated on a per-course basis. The demonstration of competence can cover the entire training module. Specific guidelines regarding the practice of recognizing and accrediting prior training or training received elsewhere.  Studies are evaluated on a scale basis. Learning achievements (knowledge, abilities, skills and competencies) of Master students are evaluated in points on a 100-point scale, corresponding to the internationally accepted letter system with a numeric equivalent (positive grades, in descending order, from "A" to "D", and "unsatisfactory" - "FX", "F")  Alphabetic system of evaluation of Master students' learning achievements, corresponding to the digital equivalent of the four-point system.   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Assessment by letter system** | **Digital equivalent of points** | **% content** | **Assessment according to the traditional system** | | А | 4.0 | 95-100 | Excellent | | А- | 3.67 | 90-94 | | В+ | 3.33 | 85-89 | Good | | В | 3.0 | 80-84 | | В- | 2.67 | 75-79 | | С+ | 2.33 | 70-74 | | С | 2.0 | 65-69 | Satisfactory | | С- | 1.67 | 60-64 | | D+ | 1.33 | 55-59 | | D | 1.0 | 50-54 | | FХ | 0.5 | 25-49 | Unsatisfactory | | F | 0 | 0-49 |   The purpose of assessment is to provide guidance and encouragement to Master students, develop their self-assessment abilities, provide information about Master students' competences, and ensure that the competences and intended learning outcomes defined in the educational programme are achieved. Self-assessment skills and peer assessment are considered as the main skills of the world of work, and assessment is a central tool to support the development of these skills during study. |
| 6.2. External evaluation |
| **1) Design of new educational programmes: Internal quality assurance system**  The new curriculum needs to be designed through engagement with all stakeholders, including students, faculty, and employers. The aim throughout the process is to retain and further develop the strengths and high quality of the existing programme while addressing some of the challenges of the current programme, such as the workload demand on students and the need for a course on education management. A survey of all students and alumni, together with focus group discussions and interviews with alumni and employers, also inform the design of the programme. All faculty are involved in discussions of programme aims and learning outcomes, and programme teams worked collaboratively to design the courses for their area of specialization.  On the basis of the faculty (school) of the university, a council on academic quality is formed, which makes decisions on the content and conditions of implementation of curricula, on the policy of evaluation and other academic issues of the faculty (school), organizing a survey of students on the quality of curricula and (or) disciplines/modules.  **2) Procedures for external evaluation of the educational programmes: Continuous Improvement**  All faculty are actively engaged in continuous improvement of their courses as an integral part of the culture of university and their own professionalism as experts in education. In addition to formal student feedback mechanisms such as course evaluations and Student Committee meetings, faculty and students are to communicate closely regarding specific courses and the programme as a whole. The process of continuous reflection and improvement informs the Annual Programme Monitoring process, in which individual faculty reflect on courses they have taught, this feeds into specialization-level reflection and suggestions for improvements, and this in turn goes to programme and School level reflection and plans for further improvement.  Universities have regular, formal mechanisms for obtaining feedback from employers and the professional community. These interactions also inform the continuous improvement of the programme.  For the improvement of the quality assurance of the educational programmes, the universities need to:   * develop an internal quality system that has a delicate balance between quality assurance and quality enhancement. While quality assurance is more of a preventive measure, quality enhancement has higher-order aims and implies transformational change (Jones, 2003). * raise institutional awareness and develop deep understanding of the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG) (2015) and implement ESG 2015 standards. * regularly revisit the existing institutional quality processes for ongoing improvement.   **3) Accreditation**  There are institutional and specialised accreditation in Kazakhstan, they remain voluntary for higher educational institutions. However, accreditation is one of the conditions for obtaining state grants for student education. |

# 7. Faculty requirements

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| 7.1. Faculty Requirements |
| Availability of teachers in accordance with the disciplines of the educational programme, the correspondence of teachers' education to the profile of the taught disciplines and/or their academic or research degree of "Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)" or "Doctor in Profile", and/or the academic title of "Associate Professor (Associate Professor)", or "Professor" (if any) and/or teachers with the degree of "Master" to the profile of disciplines and (or) senior teachers with at least three years of experience as a teacher or experience practical work on the profile for at least five years.  The advanced/academic degree of the teaching staff corresponds to the academic degree of the doctor/candidate of sciences or the advanced/academic PhD degree of the doctor or master. Basic education or postgraduate education or doctorate/candidate of science degree, advanced/academic PhD degree must correspond to the subjects taught. |
| 7.2. Additionally Required Faculty |
| Part-time teachers in the main place of work engaged in practical professional activities in the profile of the subjects taught, with at least 3 years of work experience in the field of training. Additionally, leading scientists, specialists from other higher education institutions and research organizations, teachers, and supervisors of schools in corresponding categories such as: expert teacher, research teacher, master teacher, can be involved in the work. |
| 7.3. Required professional development of faculty |
| On the basis of the Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan "On Education" (2007; with amendments dated 27.12.2019) and other regulatory legal acts regulating the activities of higher education organizations in the Republic of Kazakhstan, a teacher who carries out professional activity in a higher education organization has the right for professional development at least once every five years for a duration of no more than four months.  The development of professional competences is also one of the priorities adopted in the Republic of Kazakhstan "Concepts of lifelong learning (continuing education)" (2021). |
| 7.4. Required additional administrative staff |
| Vice-rector for academic affairs is responsible for planning and monitoring the implementation of educational services.  Responsibility for arranging and coordinating the implementation of the specific steps of the procedure and the quality of the outputs rests with the heads of divisions. |

# 8. Resources

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| 8.1. Library Resources |
| The library collection is an integral part of the information resources and includes educational, teaching, scientific and other literature.  Availability of a library fund of educational and scientific literature: in the format of printed and electronic publications for the last ten years, providing 100% of the disciplines of the curricula, including those published in the languages of instruction. Updating of the library fund should be carried out in accordance with the regulations of the Republic of Kazakhstan.  Some examples of the databases:   * Onlinelibrary.wiley.com, Webofscience.com, Rmebrk.kz – republican interuniversity electronic library, Elslantar.kz, e-lib.kazmkpu.kz, openu.kz, KazNEB, Thompson, Springer, electronic library system of "Lan" publishing house, Polpred, Elsevier, EBSCO, IPR-books, Oxford |
| 8.2. IT Resources |
| University provides Master students with educational and teaching literature and (or) electronic resources necessary for successful implementation of curricula, provides the functioning of the information system of education management (high-tech information and educational environment, including the website, information and educational portal, automated system of credit technology training, a set of information and educational resources). |
| 8.3. Infrastructure |
| University provides equipment with educational, methodological, scientific and other literature, classrooms with multimedia complexes, computer rooms, access to broadband Internet, sports, material and technical, educational and laboratory facilities and equipment necessary for the implementation of curriculum. |

# 9. Additional information

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| 9.1. Additional materials |
| Inclusion is one of the most important cross-cutting principles of the curriculum (see more in Annex 1.). Inclusion in education means that all students, regardless of their possible impairments or disability, should have the opportunity to participate in the regular school systems and study with their peers. The teacher education emphasizes on pre-service teachers’ perceptions of themselves as experts in implementing curriculum for diverse learners based on the principles of pedagogy of difference or universal design for all. It is important to renew inclusive pedagogies such as co-teaching and differentiating. It is important that not only the specialized teachers (special education teachers) but all teachers can work in an inclusive educational environment. Thus, competences of all Master students need to be developed in areas such as:  ***Knowledge of the concepts and principles of inclusive education***:   * Evaluation of one's own activity in terms of the values of inclusion. * Understanding of the implementation of the principle of inclusiveness in education implemented by a flexible model of the educational process: adaptive programmes, changing the ways of assessing educational achievements. * Understanding of children's different abilities and application of different trajectories to support versatile learners.   ***Practical applications in teaching:***   * Designing of an adapted/individual programme for a child with special education needs in specific subject. * Using of multimodal universal teaching methods, simple structured speech, use alternative communication. |
| 9.2. E-learning |
| The rapid development of digital technologies requires the study of not only specific software tools, but the development of pre-service teachers’ competences on using virtual learning environments and tools in teaching and choosing pedagogical methods suitable for learning processes in digital learning environments (psychological and didactic justification). For this the universities need:   * to create provisions for the professional development of Master students with the effective use of digital technology; * to develop competences of Master students on understanding how individual educational needs of their students can be considered when using digital tools or in virtual learning environments; * to develop digital competences of Master students on using digital learning environments and tools in assessment, such as gamification, digital tests and quizzes, and other formats of digital evaluation; * to promote pre-service teachers’ capabilities in assessing their digital competences and the use of digital tools in pedagogical processes in relation to the requirements of the employers (schools) daily operations; * to put into practice the integration of education, science, and industry, and involve professional communities in teaching school students the basics of applying and using digital technology, and perform an independent assessment of the practical skills acquired; * to include digitalization into the educational process for in-service teachers to increase efficiency and practical application of digitalization in education; * to promote the implementation of global standards in digitalization in initial teacher education (i.e. International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) and the establishment of an expert community of educators in digitalization. |

# 10. Approval

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| - Ensure consideration of developed curricula, their coordination and approval by the Republican educational-methodical council of higher and postgraduate education.  - Expand the scope of all developed curricula at pedagogical universities |

# **APPENDIX 1:** Main principles of the curriculum

**Competence-based approach**

Competence-based approach is a learning-oriented way to organise and implement teaching. It is an alternative to more traditional educational approaches mainly focusing on what learners are expected to learn about in terms of traditionally-defined subject content. In designing the curriculum following the principles of competence-based approach, the focus is on what we want our students to learn. Thus, it is essential to define the competences that the students are supposed to learn during their degree programs. The articulation of competences should include both discipline specific skills as well as the generic competences or soft skills that the teacher students should develop during the curricula. Soft skills include, for example, leadership, communication and collaboration skills, reflection skills, social and emotional intelligence etc. The development of these soft skills should be included in all the curricula, the competences and learning outcomes as well as the implementation of the curricula.

After defining the degree level competences, the learning outcomes of study units and study modules should compiled by comparing them to the objectives of the entire degree. Learning outcomes represent the desired state, which is expressed as knowledge, skills and attitudes. The written learning outcomes of all the interconnected study units should also make visible the accumulated competence. Planning competence-based learning thus starts at degree programme level and is then realised at study unit level through the learning outcomes, the execution of the study unit and its assessment.

The reason for using competence-based approach to designing curricula is that it makes it possible to design courses and study programs in a more student-centred way. Student-centred approach means that the key knowledge and skills that the students need to achieve during their studies determine the content of the course or study programme. The aim of the competence-based approach to designing curricula is that the students acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes/values that are essential. Further, the competence-based approach supports students to identify the knowledge and skills specific to their discipline or field of education as well as the generic competences that accumulate during their studies and are common to all degrees.

To sum up the key elements in designing competence-based curricula, it is essential to focus on describing explicitly a) what competences (including subject-specific and general competencies) should a student have after graduation/after study unit/after an individual course, b) how do different study modules, courses and study modes support the development of the competencies, c) how is it ensured that the degree program and the learning objectives of the courses form a coherent entity supporting the development of the competencies, and d) how is it possible for students to make their competence visible (assessment related decision).

The implementation of all curricula should introduce methodologies that promote student-centeredness and active learning, such as gamification, PBL, etc. In a student-centred learning approach, students are active participants, placed at the core of the learning process. The learner is not seen as a passive receiver of knowledge but, rather, an active participant. The teacher's role becomes that of a guide who assists the learner in the difficult process of constructing his/her knowledge. Student-centred approach to teaching broadly means the shift of focus from the teacher to the student and their learning processes (Tran et al., 2010). The emphasis in student-centred approach to teaching is on what the student does and the ways to improve students’ active engagement and deep approach to learning (Biggs and Tang, 2011; Prosser and Trigwell, 2014). In student-centred approach the student is seen as an active constructor of knowledge. Thus, the focus of the student-centred teaching practices is to develop autonomy and active learning that eventually enable lifelong learning.

**Student-centred approach & Active Learning Methodologies**

Student-centredness differs from traditional teaching approach, also known as teacher-centredness, in that the focus is on designing the teaching-learning process in a way that it promotes students’ active participation and deep approach. Teaching that requires active engagement from students is likely to increase quality learning (Biggs and Tang, 2011). However, student-centered learning does not sideline or diminish the role of teachers. Instead, it seeks to use teachers’ expertise in different ways to increase student engagement.

Student-centeredness requires a change in the mindset of the teachers and has many implications for the teaching practices. For example, teaching and learning activities should be designed in a way that they support and promote active learning. Active learning methods place greater responsibility on the learner rather than passive approaches such as lectures. Active learning activities promote higher order thinking skills such as application of knowledge and analysis and engage students in deep learning processes rather than surface learning. Furthermore, they enable students to transfer and apply knowledge better. There is a variety of active learning methods, such as case studies, problem-solving, group projects, debates, peer teaching, games etc. to mention a few. However, it should be kept in mind that the methods should always be chosen purposefully to support the attainment of the intended learning outcomes. Thus, when choosing the active learning methods, it should always be considered from the perspective of which methods support the attainment of the intended learning outcomes in a best possible way.

**Constructive alignment**

The principle of constructive alignment has long been promoted as a powerful way to enhance the quality of teaching and learning (Biggs and Tang, 2011). Constructive alignment is an integrative design for teaching and curriculum design in which the alignment between intended learning outcomes/competences, teaching-learning activities and assessment tasks is emphasised to optimise the conditions for quality learning. The fundamental principle is that curriculum should be designed in such a way that the learning activities and assessment tasks are aligned with the intended learning outcomes (ILOs), and what the students should be able to do or demonstrate after completing the degree, module or a course. High quality learning may be supported by integrating these components together.

Constructive alignment reflects the more general paradigm shift from teacher-centred teaching to student-centred teaching described above. The central step in designing teaching is to define the intended learning outcomes or the competences that the students are supposed to learn during the learning process and how they will demonstrate that learning has taken place (Biggs and Tang, 2011). The role of the instructor is to engage the student in relevant activities that support the attainment of the intended learning outcomes (Biggs, 1996). By choosing appropriate teaching and assessment methods and tasks and aligning them with the intended learning outcomes/competences it is possible to effectively guide students’ study practices and enhance deep, meaning-oriented learning (Biggs and Tang, 2011; Boud and Falchikov, 2006). Constructively aligned teaching is essentially a criterion-referenced system where the central elements, that is, intended learning outcomes, teaching-learning activities and assessment, are aligned and there is consistency throughout these elements.

Constructive alignment should be applied at all levels of the educational system, including institutional, departmental and classroom levels as teaching and learning take place in the whole system. In a good system, all aspects of teaching and assessment are tuned to support high level learning, so that all students are encouraged to use higher-order learning processes.

Figure 1. Illustration of constructive alignment



**Research-based Initial Teacher Education**

The recognition of the importance of research-based teacher education is growing worldwide (Flores, 2018). The research-teaching integration in the teacher educators’ work has been suggested to be an effective solution to develop the profession in many aspects. They should be able to make explicit links between the educational theory, research and teaching practices. There is an increasing recognition that research is an important component of teacher education practices and is beneficial for preparing reflective practitioners (Flores, 2018). Research-based teacher education can take place in different forms. In its simplest form, it can mean that the teaching content is based on research, or that the teaching methods and pedagogical designs are based on research. It can also mean that teachers use inquiry-oriented methods in their teaching to enhance their students’ own knowledge construction and research skills. Moreover, research-based teacher education can mean that the teacher educators themselves conduct research of their own work or more generally about topics related to teacher educators’ work. The different forms of research-based teacher education identified in a recent research are presented in Table 1.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Teaching content is based on research | Teacher educators use their own or others’ research as their teaching content to transfer academic knowledge to student teachers and develop the student teachers’ independent thinking (Visser-Wijnveen et al. 2010). |
| Teaching methods and course design are based on research | Teacher educators benefit from their research work in teacher education and develop their teaching methods accordingly (Cochran-Smith 2005; Krokfors et al. 2011). |
| Applying inquiry-oriented methods in teaching | Teacher educators organise the course based on inquiry-oriented activities to guide student teachers to learn in an analytical and inquiring way to develop their pedagogical thinking (Krokfors et al. 2011). |
| Acting as researchers in teacher education | Teacher educators work as researchers and conduct research on what and how they teach, and on topics in teacher education (Cochran-Smith 2005). |
| Encouraging student teachers’ involvement in research work | Teacher educators involve student teachers in research process to provide them with the experience of conducting research (Visser-Wijnveen et al. 2010). |
| A supportive relationship between research and teaching | Teacher educators consider the research-teaching nexus is complementary and fairly evident. Teaching and research support each other in a general and broad sense. |

Table 1. Forms of research-based teacher education (Cao, Postareff, Lindblom-Ylänne & Toom, 2021

Teacher education can adopt the research-based approach in diverse ways, and it is important to consider what kind of forms fit the cultural context and practices. The ultimate goal of research-based teacher education is to support student teachers to become pedagogically-thinking, reflective and inquiry-oriented teachers with an inquiring attitude towards teaching. Teachers’ pedagogical thinking means the ability to analyse and conceptualise educational occasions and phenomena, to evaluate them as part of larger instructional processes and to make rational and theory-based decisions and justify their decisions and actions as teachers. Their readiness to consume as possibly also conduct research enhances their ability to meet the challenges of the future (Toom et al., 2010).

Research-based teacher education not only enhances the teacher educators’ own professional development, but also enhances teacher students’ reflective and deep learning. By engaging in research-based activities, the students can acquire a set of highly valued competences, such as critical thinking, problem solving and reflective skills (Lunenberg, 2010). Thus, it is important, that teacher educators support the student teachers’ to become reflective practitioners with an inquiring attitude (see Toom et al., 2010), which they can learn not only from what their teachers say about how to teach, but most importantly, from how their teachers engage their students in collaborative and interactive teaching-learning activities (Berry, 2004).

To make research-based teacher education occur in practice, it should be made visible in the teacher education curricula. Secondly, the teacher education programmes should develop their students’ inquiry-oriented and research-oriented approach to their work and enhance their research skills. Becoming an inquiry-oriented reflective practitioner requires time and space to deeply reflect on theory, practice, and the link between them. Therefore, the curriculum of teacher education should provide possibilities for reflection and practicing new skills.

**Interdisciplinary learning**

*Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL)*

CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning) is a dual-focused educational approach in which an additional language is used for learning and teaching of both content and language (Coyle, Hood & Marsh, 2010:1). The umbrella term of CLIL also includes a range of other language programs, such as bilingual education, English- medium of education or immersion programs (Coyle, 2007; Mehisto, Marsh, and Frigols, 2008). But CLIL differs from those language programs by its equal focus on both content and language (Coyle, 2008; Dalton-Puffer, 2008; De Zarobe, 2008; Marsh, 2012). Thus, this approach is neither language learning nor subject learning but a combination of both; hence, attention is given both to the language and the content. Contrary to the common belief, the CLIL instruction takes place with and through a foreign language and it is not the approach when non-language subjects are taught in the foreign language (Eurydice, 2006).

The reasons for introducing CLIL include provision of a more holistic educational experience for the student as well as content-and language-learning outcomes realized in class. Furthermore, benefits of CLIL are also linked with insights from interdisciplinary research within neurosciences and education (Coyle, Hood & Marsh, 2010). Due to these advantages CLIL is increasingly attracting stakeholders’ attention across continents.

In terms of the curriculum implementation, the CLIL approach is inclusive and flexible; it includes a range of models that can be adapted according to the age, ability and needs of the students (Coyle, 2007). Thus, implementing CLIL varies based on the context. In primary stage, language learning can be embedded across the curriculum and link with one or more subjects of the curriculum. For example, through specific themes or projects (e.g. lifestyle, sports, and holidays).

Secondary CLIL can make specific links between a language and a subject (e.g. history through Kazakh, science through English) or it can take a broader approach integrating language with parts of curriculum. More recently, CLIL is less aligned to a single subject and is evolving through links with a variety of subjects or themes. The content for lessons can include particular aspects of the curriculum for individual subjects. In practical terms, lesson planning involves joint effort across a number of subjects focusing on the cross-curriculum feature for the secondary curriculum. But there is a need for research to explore whether such an approach is compatible with the local context.

The existing curriculum models integrating CLIL vary in length from a single unit which comprise a sequence of 2-3 lessons to a more sustained approach through modules lasting half a term or more. Some successful cases include schools with bilingual sections where subjects are taught through the medium of another language for extensive periods (Coyle et al., 2010).

*STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) education*

Interdisciplinarity in natural sciences and mathematics, so called STEM -education can be defined as “an effort to combine some or all of the four disciplines of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics into one class, unit, or lesson that is based on connections between the subjects and real-world problems” (Moore et al. (2014). Implementation and integration of engineering in K-12 STEM education. In S. Purzer, J. Strobel, & M. Cardella (Eds.), Engineering in Pre-College Settings: Synthesizing Research, Policy, and Practices (pp. 35–60). West Lafayette: Purdue University Press.). STEM -pedagogy in teacher education aims to prepare students to design, teach and develop research-based active learning STEM -lesson plans to educate competent citizens, who can access and make sense of science relevant to their lives and global perspectives (Feinstein, N. W., Allen, S., & Jenkins, E. (2013). Outside the pipeline: Reimagining science education for nonscientists. Science, 340(6130), 314-317.).

Active learning includes student centered active methods, such that project based education, and benefitting from diverse out of classroom learning environments and communities of learners and ICT. On the hand, Science education should also focus on competences with an emphasis on learning through science and shifting from STEM to STEAM (A = All) by linking science with other subjects and disciplines (Hazelkorn, Ellen & Ryan, Charly & Beernaert, Yves & Constantinou, Costas & Deca, Ligia & Grangeat, Michel & Karikorpi, Mervi & Lazoudis, Angelos & Pintó, Roser & Welzel-Breuer, Manuela (2015). Science Education for Responsible Citizenship. 10.2777/12626). In the ITE curricula in Kazakhstan, the A should include at least developing the English linguistic skills of teacher students (KAZ ITE D-3 Framework Report).

**Digitalisation in Education and Teachers’ Digital competence development**

New information and communication technologies (ICTs) provide teachers and learners with an innovative learning environment to stimulate and enhance the teaching and learning process. In this context, novel educational concepts such as online learning, or blended and hybrid learning are being developed (López-Pérez, Pérez-López & Rodríguez-Ariza, 2011). Hybrid or blended learning can be defined as the integration of face-to-face classroom instruction learning with web-based tools and materials (e.g. Garrison & Kanuka, 2004), as contrast to fully online learning. Blended or hybrid learning is becoming increasingly significant to complement traditional forms of learning. Often these two terms are defined similarly, but can also be differentiated. Blended learning can be defined as a mix of various event-based activities, including conventional face-to-face classrooms instruction, e-learning, and self-paced learning, while in hybrid learning a part of the learning activities and assignments are transferred from the face-to-face environment to the distance learning environment (see Valiathan, 2002, in Koohang, Britz & Seymor, 2006).

Blended forms of learning has the potential to enhance both the effectiveness and efficiency of meaningful learning experiences, and some researchers have suggested that blended learning has the potential to be even more effective and efficient when compared to a traditional classroom model (see Garrison & Kanuka, 2004). Other benefits of blended forms of learning include convenience, student satisfaction, flexibility and higher retention (Koohang, Britz & Seymor, 2006).

Especially in situations where student numbers are high, online, blended or hybrid forms of learning have the potential to provide greater opportunities for improved learning (Osguthorpe & Graham, 2003). In teacher education, student teachers can also learn from their teachers the use of various digital tools and platforms. Thus, not only teacher educators should have the skills to adopt digital tools in their teaching, but also student teachers should develop their digital skills during teacher education. Times faced with uncertainty and sudden changes, such as pandemics, require flexible and advanced use of digital tools and instructional practices functional in online contexts.

**Inclusion in education and recognition of different learners**

Inclusion in education is a principle which means that all students, regardless of their possible impairments or disability, should have the opportunity to participate in the regular school systems and study with their peers. Inclusion is based on several international United Nations declarations, such as the Salamanca Statement (1994) and The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948). Inclusive pedagogy is a pedagogical approach that is impacted by the sociocultural context of learning (Florian & Black-Hawkins, 2011) and it aims to respond to the diverse learning needs of students in as varied ways as possible.

The concepts of ‘inclusion’ and ‘diversity’ are reviewed in the teaching and education practices with the activities and arrangements that promote inclusion as the centre. The key words in education are educational equality, accessibility, individuality, lifelong learning and co-operation. The teacher training emphasizes on teachers’ perceptions of themselves as experts in implementing curriculum for diverse learners based on the principles of pedagogy of difference or universal design for all. It is important to renew inclusive pedagogies such as co-teaching and differentiating. The teacher’s task is to teach and guide students to become lifelong learners while taking each student’s individual learning style into account. Four core values related to teaching and learning have been identified as the basis for the work of all teachers in inclusive education (European Agency). These core values are associated with areas of teacher competence. The areas of competence are made up of three elements: attitudes, knowledge and skills. All teachers must commit to the idea of equality for all students. (Saloviita, 2018.)

**Teachers’ professional development and change management**

Considering the dynamic and constantly changing nature of teachers’ work, teachers at all levels must be continuous learners throughout their professional careers. Teachers’ professional development needs to address simultaneously the teachers’ beliefs and conceptions and the improvement in their practices (Timperley & Phillips, 2003), as well as integration of theoretical and practical knowledge (Tynjälä, Häkkinen & Hämäläinen, 2004). Often an experience of a successful implementation in teaching changes teachers’ attitudes and beliefs, and therefore, positive experiences are central for teachers’ professional development (Guskey, 1989).

Development and growing as a teacher can be understood in different ways: 1) growing understanding of one’s content area, in order to become more familiar with what to teach; 2) getting more practical experience as a teacher, in order to become more familiar with how to teach; 3) building up a repertoire of teaching strategies, in order to become more skilful as a teacher; 4) finding out which teaching strategies work best for the teacher, in order to become more effective as a teacher, and 5) continually increasing understanding of what works for students, in order to become more effective in facilitating student learning (Åkerlind, 2007).

It is important to notice, that professional development of teachers is often a slow process. Furthermore, the development is not a linear continuum, but instead, the development may be interrupted by various reasons (Beijaard, Meijer & Verloop, 2004). Some teachers may experience change and development as threatening and change processes often include feelings of anxiety or uncertainty (Postareff et al., 2008). Such negative emotions towards the change may narrow the teacher’s attention (Fredrickson, 2001). Therefore, it is important to ensure that teachers receive enough support from diverse sources (e.g. peers, supervisors, work environment) and encouraging feedback. It is also important for teachers to understand, that failures are part of the teachers’ professional development, and mistakes should be seen as learning opportunities. When teachers have the possibility to share experiences and engage in collaboration with their peers, it has been shown to have positive influences of their learning and development (Voogt, et al., 2011). When teachers feel well and are engaged in their work, they are more likely to engage in pedagogical practices that promote their development (Fredrickson, 2001) The development of teaching is, at best, a continuous process, and thus, teachers should be encouraged to reflect on their own teaching on a continuous basis to increase their pedagogical awareness (Parpala & Postareff, 2021).

Teachers should also be provided with agency, which refers to the teacher’s possibilities to influence, make decisions and take actions. The aim of exercising agency is to create new work practices and transforming the course of activities (Hökkä et al., 2012). When teachers have a possibility engage in development and changes, and when they experience that their opinions truly matter, they are likely to become highly engaged in their work (e.g. Day, Elliot & Kington, 2005; Pyhältö et al. 2012).

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