



VIDZEME UNIVERSITY  
OF APPLIED SCIENCES

## INTERNATIONAL GUIDE



**WHERE SOCIAL  
SCIENCES AND  
TECHNOLOGIES  
COLLIDE**



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# WELCOME TO THE VIDZEME UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

**BOOST YOUR CAREER AT A FORWARD-  
THINKING NORTHERN EUROPEAN EDUCATION  
INSTITUTION.**

## THE THREE STRATEGIC PRIORITIES OF ViA ARE:

### EDUCATION

ViA offers higher education study programmes, lifelong learning opportunities and extra-curricular education for secondary school students.

### SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

ViA has set a research development strategy that proactively responds to the current social challenges and external demand.

### KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER AND LEADERSHIP OF IDEAS

ViA takes on a role of an intellectual leader to advance the growth of its region and Latvia, through building lucrative partnerships and collaborating with various businesses and educational institutions across the globe.

We have 6 study fields (Business Administration, Travel and Leisure, Communication, Media and Governance, Construction, Mechatronics, Information Technologies) and 16 study programmes. 2 research institutions (Sociotechnical Systems Engineering Institute and Institute of Social, Economic and Humanities Research). Faculty of Society and Science and Faculty of Engineering. And also Knowledge and Technology Centre. We've built strong partnerships with both students, lecturers and industry professionals to offer an inspirational learning environment.

This guide will give you a flavour of the exciting courses you can study at Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences. If you would like to know more, please don't hesitate to get in touch and we hope to see you in person soon.





# WHY STUDY WITH US?

## HERE ARE OUR TOP 5 REASONS TO CHOOSE VIDZEME UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

### 3. INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Partnerships with more than 100 higher education institutions in around 45 countries. More than 150 internship partners worldwide. Collaboration with EkoTekNord, Businet, EAIE, ATLAS, Microsoft

Academy, IEEE Computer Society etc. Erasmus+ and Nordplus exchange opportunities. International Study Module for exchange students. Annual Baltic International Summer School.

### 1. LEARN FROM THE BEST

Our lecturers come from and maintain links with industry. Many of them have their own business, they are leading professionals in companies and field specialists, for example, Accenture Latvia representatives, president of Latvian Mobile Telephone etc.

### 4. HELPING YOU INTO WORK

We have strong links with the business community which helps students to find job already in study process or shortly after graduation.

### 2. TRANSFORMED TEACHING

We have transformed our curriculum with a new range of contemporary, flexible courses. We have built practice-based learning and international opportunities into every stage of our programmes.

### 5. AN INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH

Study programme design, ensuring that students develop skills and understanding across multiple disciplines, which in return will help them excel working across various sectors as their career progresses.



# STUDYING IN LATVIA

## FLIGHTS:

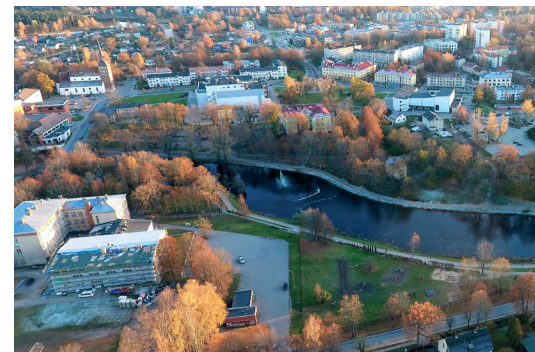
Riga – Kyiv	1h 40m
Riga – Rome	3h 05m
Riga – Berlin	1h 35m
Riga – Amsterdam	2h 20m
Riga – Helsinki	1h 05m
Riga – Paris	2h 50m
Riga – Tbilisi	3h 25m
Riga – Nur-Sultan	6h 30m
Riga – Chisinau	4h 00m
Riga – Madrid	4h 10m
Riga – Lisboa	4h 35m

\*National airline company – AIR BALTIC

© Nils Sokolovs

Local transport is also convenient, with a network of buses and trains.

More information: [www.1188.lv/en](http://www.1188.lv/en)



**GREEN, WELL-CONNECTED AND SAFE, LATVIA IS SET TO BECOME THE GREAT NEW DESTINATION FOR GLOBETROTTING STUDENTS AND PROFESSIONALS.**

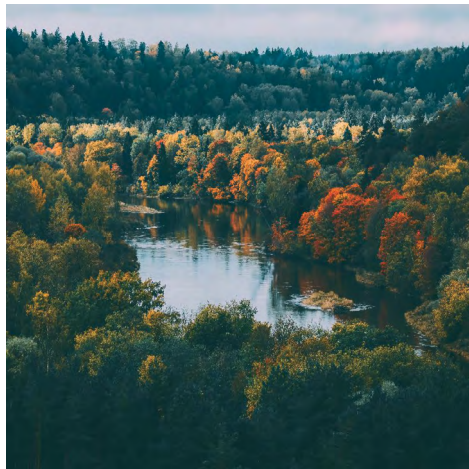
- Welcome to Latvia**  
Latvia declared its independence on November 18, 1918. Official name Republic of Latvia. Capital city is Riga.
- Latvia is among the world's greenest countries**  
Over half of Latvia's territory is covered with forests and one fifth of the country comprises protected nature areas. Among others, there are four national parks, 42 nature parks, and 260 nature reserves – any place is no more than 30 minutes away from a natural forest. Amazing, right?
- Geography**  
Latvia lies along the shores of the Baltic Sea and the Gulf of Riga, and it is bounded by Estonia to the north, Russia to the east, Belarus to the southeast, and Lithuania to the south.
- One of the world's oldest flags and language**  
Latvia's current flag design has been in use since 1280. Only Denmark's has been around longer. And Latvian is one of Europe's oldest languages. Spoken by just 2 million people in the world.
- Latvia has four distinct seasons**  
Depending on when you visit, you will find yourself in a white winter wonderland, colourful autumn, blooming spring and green summer.
- Latvians are also tech-savvy**  
Latvia is in the top 10 countries with the fastest internet speeds across in the world and Riga has been named the Europe's capital of free WiFi.

**FIND OUT MORE** [latvia.eu](http://latvia.eu)



# 10 MOST INSTAGRAMMABLE PLACES IN LATVIA

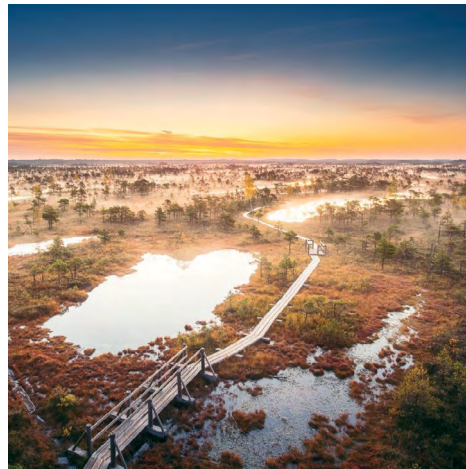
#1 Gauja River Valley in Sigulda  
@anita.austvika\_photographer



#3 The most Instagrammable crossing in the Old Town Riga / @valdisksudre



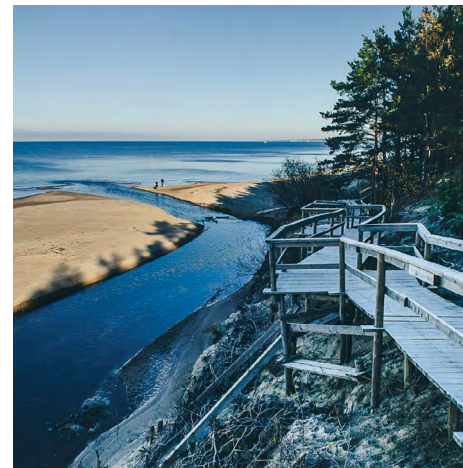
#2 Great Kemerī Bog Boardwalk  
@arvids



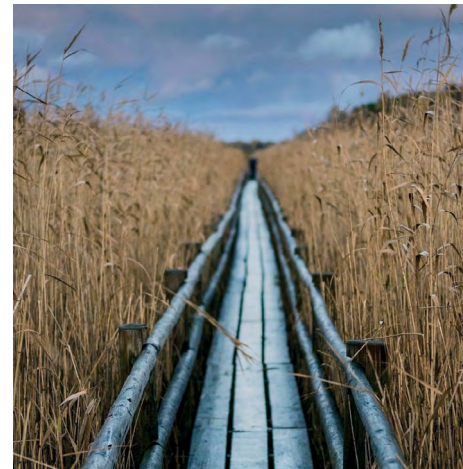
#4 Northern Fort in Liepāja  
@thefella



#5 The White Dune in Saulkrasti  
@lindarutule



#7 Lake Kanieris nature trail  
@billijs.world



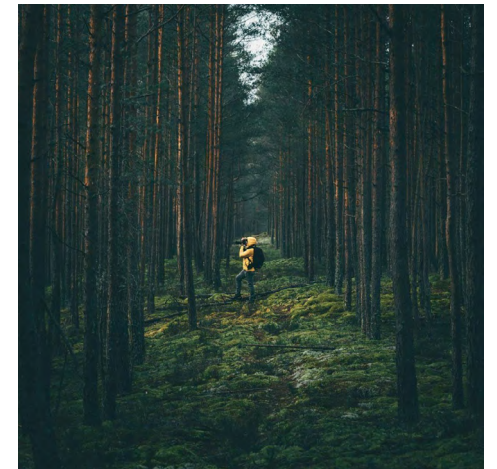
#9 View from Riga St Peter's Church tower  
@martinsnovikovs



#6 Window at the Latvian National Museum of Art  
@latviannationalmuseumofart



#8 Pine forest  
@yourlifevibe



#10 Cabin in Lāčupīte arboretum  
@helloundaa





## VIBRANT BUSINESS COMMUNITY

- Financial Times newspaper fDi Intelligence has placed Valmiera in the TOP 3 Micro European Cities of the Future
- 120 foreign capital companies with a total turnover of €133.1 million are registered in Valmiera
- The number of workplaces in Valmiera exceeds its population
- The city boasts its own Business Incubator
- Students and Alumni can live in Valmiera and work at Valmiera Glass group, Valpro, Food Union/AS „Valmieras Piens”, Valmiermuiža brewery etc.



Valmiera main 'street' is the River Gauja that divides the city in two, one of which is called Pārgauja. Valmiera is located 107km from Riga. The River Gauja endows Valmiera with a naturalness that one can enjoy when walking along the Gauja's banks; it takes just five minutes to reach the walking trails.



## CULTURE

If you are looking for a place where to go to see the latest movie in cinema, eat in restaurant with live music, have fun in nature or enjoy night life then Valmiera is the right one.



## MUSIC

There are many places where you can enjoy music. In summer time Valmiermuiža brewery offers live music evenings, also through the year you can enjoy great music in concert hall "Valmiera" or culture center. Th towns near Valmiera also offers plenty of choices so you will never get bored.



## SPORTS

Whether you're interested in sport as a participant or a spectator, Valmiera has plenty to offer. In 2019 new swimming pool was built, new BMX track was opened where the European Championship has been held. Basketball, floorball, hockey and many, many more.

Ready to joy for your team? P.S. Best basketball, football, hockey etc. players can get university scholarships.



## RELAXING

If you want to get out and about, than You need just 5 to 10 minutes to be in the forest. Often Valmiera is called city of forest.

## FIND OUT MORE

[visit.valmiera.lv/en](http://visit.valmiera.lv/en)

# THE CITY IS YOUR CAMPUS



## TOURISM HIGHLIGHTS

- Valmiera Drama Theatre
- St.Simon Church
- Bachelor Park and Concert Hall "Valmiera"
- Valmiera Culture Centre
- Valmiermuiža Brewery
- Vidzeme Olympic Centre etc.





# THE FACILITIES YOU NEED



## ENGINEERING CAMPUS

Tērbatas street 10

### FACILITIES INCLUDE

- Contemporary classrooms
- Digital learning eco-system
- Virtual reality and augmented reality laboratory
- Computer network laboratory
- Mobile technology laboratory
- Radio frequency identification laboratory
- Cybersecurity laboratory
- Electronics laboratory
- Mechatronics laboratory
- Energy efficiency laboratory
- Study rooms

## SOCIETY AND SCIENCE CAMPUS

Cēsu street 4

### FACILITIES INCLUDE

- Library
- Contemporary classrooms
- Digital learning eco-system
- Multimedia laboratory
- Spatial analysis laboratory
- Student Union
- Study rooms

Three European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) projects (2014–2020) are being implemented with a total value of more than three million euros.

Significant resources including modernization of laboratories, development of facilities and resources.





# PROGRAMMES IN ENGLISH

## BACHELOR'S DEGREE

- Information technologies

## MASTER'S DEGREES

- Business Environment Administration
- Media and Information Literacy
- Strategic Communication and Governance
- Cybersecurity Engineering
- Virtual Reality and Smart Technologies

## PHD

- Socio-technical Systems Modelling

### PROGRAMMES IN LATVIAN

#### COLLEGE LEVEL

- Information Technologies
- Mechatronics
- Wooden Houses and Eco-building

#### MASTER'S DEGREE

- Strategic Tourism Management

#### BACHELOR'S DEGREE

- Communication and Public Relations
- Media and Journalism
- Business Administration
- Information Technologies
- Tourism Organisation and Management
- Mechatronics



BUSINESS  
ADMINISTRATION



TRAVEL AND  
LEISURE



COMMUNICATION,  
MEDIA AND GOVERNANCE



CONSTRUCTION



MECHATRONICS



INFORMATION  
TECHNOLOGIES



# BACHELOR'S IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

The study programme has been developed and approbated within the framework of the Urban Innovative Actions project Next Generation Micro Cities of Europe. In the framework of the project, an innovative teaching method is being implemented in the study programme with a greater emphasis on practically based training. The innovative methodology has been developed with a broader scope in mind, applying and combining it with other methodologies at the university – which promotes synergies in the study process between courses, projects and other activities within and outside the university.

## PROGRAMME CONTENT

The content of the study programme has been developed in close cooperation with industry professionals and their requirements for the new IT specialists. The curriculum not only includes courses that provide students with the knowledge, skills, and competencies in the basics of the industry, systems' analysis and development, programming, but also incorporates the latest trends in the IT industry, such as introduction to artificial intelligence and machine learning, introduction to data science, internet of things, virtual reality, and cyber security.

## THE FOLLOWING SPECIALIZATION FIELDS ARE POSSIBLE WITHIN THE STUDY PROGRAMME:

- Cyber Security and Programming
- Development of Virtual Reality and Mobile Systems



## FAST FACTS

- **Duration:** 4 or 5 years
- **Mode:** full-time or part-time
- **Degree:** Software engineer
- **Language:** English
- **ECTS:** 240
- **ISCED:** 0610
- **EQF:** Level 6
- **Class size:** 30-40 students
- **Location:** Valmiera, Latvia

## INDUSTRY PARTNERS

Overly, Vividly, TestDevLab, Accenture, Latvian Mobile Telephone, Wunder

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

- Average grade in the following subjects:
- mathematics/algebra and geometry, computer science/applied informatics, one of the lessons subjects of natural sciences
  - Exam results
  - Interview
  - Evidence of English language competence (e.g. TOEFL, IELTS)

## IMPORTANT:

- **Application deadline:** Beginning of May (Non-EU/EEA); End of June (EU/ EEA/ Swiss Confederation)
- **Start of the programme:** September



# MASTER'S IN BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT ADMINISTRATION

The programme prepares highly competent top level managers for work in both, public and private sector organisations and equips students with the skills necessary to succeed in the rapidly changing business world.

Particular emphasis is placed on providing learners with practical experience and competences in the management of business environment. This is achieved through practical classes, applied and scientific research, research and live projects, a study internship and a master's thesis.

## PROGRAMME CONTENT

**I. Administration:** Global marketing and client services management, business and public finances, modern logistic systems, human resource development, project management strategies and innovative management processes. Organisational psychology, business process imitation and modelling, long-term business relationship development, planning and management.

**II. Business environment:** Business management environment, advertising trends, e-commerce and business, regional development trends, social media for business, international bookkeeping systems, corporate social responsibility, the EU politics in business administration, international legal environment, cross-cultural communication, research methods in social sciences.

**III. Practical experience:** All of our students have to intern or gain work experience whilst working towards their degrees. The aim of the internships is using their study knowledge and theory in sync with their practical skills in solving various operational problems for a vast array of businesses. Internships can take place outside Latvia.

**IV. Research and Internship**



WE OFFER  
5 SCHOLARSHIPS  
FOR NON-EU,  
NON-EEA STUDENTS

## FAST FACTS

- **Duration:** 1,5 or 2 years
- **Mode:** full-time
- **Degree:** Company Manager
- **Language:** English
- **ECTS:** 90 or 120 (depending on the program length)
- **ISCED:** 0410
- **EQF:** Level 7
- **Class size:** 20-25 students

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent
- Evidence of English language competence (e.g. TOEFL, IELTS)

## IMPORTANT:

- **Application deadline:**  
Beginning of December (Non-EU/EEA)  
Beginning of January (EU/ EEA/ Swiss Confederation)
- **Start of the programme:** February



# MASTER'S IN MEDIA & INFORMATION LITERACY

Master's programme in Media & Information Literacy is designed to provide internationally competitive education in communication science with an emphasis on media literacy and information literacy, to train highly educated professionals for media content creation, distribution, analysis and promotion of media education in various fields.

Over the course of these studies, students will acquire a set of theoretically informed competences to research, analyse, evaluate media content of any format and kind for its content and aesthetics, and utilise various media technologies to create sophisticated, artistic and effective media materials. The programme will provide in-depth knowledge and skills for further career development and participation in today's globalised, digitised and mediated world.

## WHY SHOULD YOU CHOOSE A MASTER'S IN MEDIA AND INFORMATION LITERACY?

- The programme has been developed in collaboration with communication and media experts. It is based on recommendations for international media and information literacy education.
- It's the only such programme available in English across Europe.
- Programme is based on utilising such innovative study methods as strategic games and simulations, which help to integrate theoretical knowledge with the development of practical skills when looking for solutions for various strategic communication issues in ever-changing world.

## PROGRAMME CONTENT

**Compulsory part A:** Communication Theory; Social Cognition and Behaviour; Ethics and Values in Communication; Theory of Argumentation, Critical Thinking Media Law, Persuasive Communication; Smart Technologies and Data Security; Quantitative Research Methods; Qualitative Research Methods; Media Management and Online Economics; Internship; Master Thesis.

**Elective part B:** Visual Culture and Semiotics Culture, Society and Digital Environment; Civil Society and Participation; Project Management and Innovations in Creative Industries; Data Visualization; Transmedia Storytelling.

**Additional courses:** Civil Protection; Environmental Protection and Management.



WE OFFER  
5 SCHOLARSHIPS  
FOR NON-EU,  
NON-EEA STUDENTS

## FAST FACTS

- **Duration:** 1,5 or 2 years
- **Mode:** full-time
- **Degree:** Master's of Social Science
- **Language:** English
- **ECTS:** 90 or 120 (depending on the program length)
- **ISCED:** 0388
- **EQF:** Level 7
- **Class size:** 20-25 students

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent
- Evidence of English language competence (e.g. TOEFL, IELTS).
- Master's thesis proposal

## IMPORTANT:

- **Application deadline:** Beginning of May (Non-EU/EEA); End of June (EU/ EEA/ Swiss Confederation)
- **Start of the programme:** September



# MASTER'S IN STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION & GOVERNANCE

The programme is aimed at experienced communication professionals working in governmental and non-governmental sector and business organisations across a wide range of industries, where communication is considered as the critical competency to advance organisation's goals and mission.

Over the course of these studies, students will acquire a sharpened strategic mindset and will become prepared to work successfully as communication leaders and offer strategic counseling in communication to any organization.

The program offers integral view on strategic communication management and role of leadership in order to achieve meaningful, purposeful and ethical relations between individuals, organisations, in national and global context.

## PROGRAMME CONTENT

**I. Individuals, Societies and Technology:** Theories of Democracy and Security. Social Cognition and Behaviour. Theory of Argumentation and Critical Thinking. Euro Atlantic Values and Issues of Contemporary Geopolitics. Civil Society and Participation. Digital Technology and Data Security.

**II. Strategic Communication:** Concept of Strategic Communication; Communication Theories; Ethics and Values in Communication; Persuasive Communication; Strategic Communication Management; Strategic Political Communication and Diplomacy; Communication Law.

**III. Governance:** Strategic Leadership in Organizations; EU Institutions and Governance; Governance and Innovation Management; Policy Analysis; Sustainable Development.

**IV. Research and Internship:** Master thesis seminar (1st part of Master thesis); Quantitative Research Methods; Qualitative Research Methods; Master Thesis.

**V. Additional courses:** Civil Protection; Environmental Protection and Management.



**WE OFFER  
5 SCHOLARSHIPS  
FOR NON-EU,  
NON-EEA STUDENTS**

## FAST FACTS

- **Duration:** 2 years
- **Mode:** full-time
- **Degree:** Master's of Social Science
- **Language:** English
- **ECTS:** 120
- **ISCED:** 0388
- **EQF:** Level 7
- **Class size:** 20–25 students

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent
- Evidence of English language competence (e.g. TOEFL, IELTS).
- Master's thesis proposal

## IMPORTANT:

- **Application deadline:**  
Beginning of May (Non-EU/EEA);  
End of June (EU/ EEA/ Swiss Confederation)
- **Start of the programme:** September



# MASTER IN CYBERSECURITY ENGINEERING

The level of turbulence in the information space is growing rapidly. Security has become a broad and complex concept and being competent in matters related to cybersecurity is important to us as individuals as well as representatives of states and organizations. The course aims to provide the necessary competencies for a cybersecurity specialist who is responsible for strengthening information systems as well as preventing cyber-attacks and security incidents, carrying out risk analysis and offering security measures to mitigate threats in their workplace or for an external client. In the near future, the demand for engineering and ICT specialists will surpass supply, which opens up great career prospects for cybersecurity specialists. Upon graduating from this program, specialists can work in various public and private sector organizations as integrated security testers and cybersecurity specialists, who can collaborate effectively, think critically and make data-based decisions.

## PROGRAM CONTENT

**Strengthening of information systems:** Web application Penetration Testing; Reverse Engineering; Mobile and Cloud Computing Security; Digital Forensics; Intrusion Detection and Prevention; Security Incident Management; Information System Security Engineering; Applied Cryptography; Fundamentals of Computing for Security Professionals; IT security, administration and protection.

**Entrepreneurship and Innovation:** Project Management Methods and Tools; Innovation and Creative Problem Solving; Strategic IT Management; Cyber Security Requirements Engineering.

**Collaboration in the digital age:** Introduction to Propaganda and Persuasive Communication; Information Collection Techniques; Internet psychology.

**Legal and ethical aspects:** Obligations, Responsibilities and Rights in the Internet; Protection and investigation of personal data.

**Cyber security management:** Cyber security Policy; Information System Audit and Security; Information Security Risk Management; Security Culture.

**Research:** Latvian language; Python for Security Testers; Analysis of social media; Argumentation and critical thinking; New trends in open data management and GIS; Data Mining.

**Internship, Master's thesis.**



WE OFFER  
5 SCHOLARSHIPS  
FOR NON-EU,  
NON-EEA STUDENTS

## FAST FACTS

- **Duration of program:** 2 years
- **Mode:** full-time
- **Degree:** Master's in Information Technologies
- **Language:** English
- **ECTS:** 120
- **ISCED:** 0710
- **EQF:** Level 7
- **Class size:** 20-25 students

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

- Professional Bachelor's degree or level two professional or equivalent higher education in Information Technologies or Information and Communication Technologies or equivalent (completing a full-time study program of at least four years)
- Evidence of English language competence (e.g. TOEFL, IELTS)
- Master's thesis proposal

## IMPORTANT:

- **Application deadline:** Beginning of May (Non-EU/EEA); End of June (EU/ EEA/ Swiss Confederation)
- **Start of the programme:** September



# MASTER IN VIRTUAL REALITY & SMART TECHNOLOGIES

The study program provides extensive knowledge about Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality (VR/AR) technologies, their usage and role in innovation.

A vital part of the program is the opportunity for students to gain hands-on experience whilst working on live projects alongside various tech businesses, start-ups and industry professionals to solve current problems and create new solutions.

Participating in the annual AR/VR Hackathon is an integral part of the Master's study program in Virtual Reality and Smart Technologies at Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences.

Upon graduation, students will have a complete skill set to implement and manage VR/AR projects as well as to apply their knowledge to innovating new products/solutions and ensuring the advancement of VR/AR through scientific research.

## PROGRAMME CONTENT

**VR/AR project planning and implementation:** VR/AR innovations and actuality in various industries, VR/AR hardware and physical structure, elements of IoT, Interactivity, scenarios composition and serious games.

**VR/AR authoring:** Mobile technology solutions, Programming advanced 3D graphics, 3D modeling approaches, and scripting, Development of advanced 3D interactive environments.

**User experience design and implementation:** UX strategy framework, Human factors and human-computer interaction, Motion graphics and environmental effects.

**Recognition services and intellectual environments:** Geometry processing and visualization, Augmented reality and computer vision algorithms, Introduction in machine - learning and neural networks.

**VR/AR project sustainability and transformation:** Innovations and project management, Research methodologies and scientific publications, Hackathon and teamwork, Simulation modeling and data 3D visualization.

**Internship, Master's thesis.**



WE OFFER  
5 SCHOLARSHIPS  
FOR NON-EU,  
NON-EEA STUDENTS

## FAST FACTS

- **Duration of program:** 1,5 years
- **Mode:** full-time
- **Degree:** Master's in Virtual Reality and Smart Technologies
- **Language:** English
- **ECTS:** 120
- **ISCED:** 0710
- **EQF:** Level 7
- **Class size:** 20-25 students

## INDUSTRY PARTNERS

Overly, AnatomyNext, Vividly, OrangeLV, Accenture, Latvian Mobile Telephone

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent in Information Technologies or Computer Sciences
- Evidence of English language competence (e.g. TOEFL, IELTS).
- Motivation letter

## IMPORTANT:

- **Application deadline:** Beginning of December or May (Non-EU/EEA); End of January or June (EU/ EEA/ Swiss Confederation)
- **Start of the programme:** February or September



# PHD IN SOCIO-TECHNICAL SYSTEMS MODELLING

The aim of the programme is to promote the development of system analysis and modelling within the information technology field. We want to encourage and educate young competitive researchers, who would be able to bring forward the newest scientific results within system modelling into the social sciences in the digital age, thus raising the quality of products and services.

## CAREER

Graduates of the programme secure roles in various research fields.

## PROGRAMME CONTENT

### Engineering

#### Scientifically academic work

### Modelling

Methodology of research work and modelling data processing, modelling of business information systems, tourism systems and regional development, political systems and modelling of public administration, systems in social theories, logistic information systems and organisation of transport. INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES PhD students will have an opportunity to participate in the European Research Area as well as undertake various preparation and design activities for Horizon 2020 projects.



# RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

VIDZEME UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES  
CARRIES OUT RESEARCH WITHIN ITS KEY  
STRATEGIC DIRECTION – DIGITAL SOLUTIONS  
FOR SOCIAL CHALLENGES.

#### IT COVERS:

- Virtual reality technologies, visualization and computer vision
- Eco-buildings and smart technologies for national economy
- Socio-technical Systems Modeling Technologies
- E-learning management and technologies
- Cybersecurity engineering
- Sustainable national economy and knowledge society

## INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND HUMANITIES RESEARCH (HESPI)

Established in 2013. The main focus of HESPI is developing research activities in regional development and planning, sustainable development, development of high added value products based on local resources as well as to strengthen research institution capacity and cooperation with stakeholders in the region, Latvia and neighbouring countries as well as the EU.

## SOCIOTECHNICAL SYSTEMS ENGINEERING INSTITUTE (SSII)

Founded in 2006. Its main research directions are logistics, information systems and RFID technologies, Modelling the adoption and sustainability of sociotechnical systems, heterogeneous and divided imitation modelling technologies, the use of imitation modelling simulation in engineering and social environment, electronic teaching tools as well as Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality technologies.

## FAST FACTS

- **Language:** English
- **Duration:** 3 years (6 semesters)
- **ECTS:** 150
- **Degree title:** PHD IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES
- **ISCED:** 0611
- **EQF:** Level 8

## IMPORTANT:

- **Application deadlines:** EU, EEA, Swiss Confederation – end of August. Non-EU, Non-EEA – Beginning of May

## KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNOLOGY CENTRE (KTC)

A department of the Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences that was established in September 2014.

#### IT OFFERS:

- **SUPPORT** for young entrepreneurs: preincubation cooperation with business incubators.
- **COOPERATION** in the region, Latvia and abroad: with educational and scientific institutions with partners from private, public and non-governmental sectors

- **CONSULTATION AND INDIVIDUAL SOLUTIONS** for individuals and legal entities:

- Student practice laboratory
- Innovation laboratory
- Participation in development projects
- High quality **LIFELONG LEARNING** services:
- **OPEN UNIVERSITY**
- Individual and non-formal education programs
- Professional development programs
- Preparatory courses for university Applicants and students from comprehensive schools



# STUDY ABROAD

YOU MAY HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO GAIN MORE INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE BY STUDYING ABROAD FOR A SEMESTER OR TWO AND PRACTISE THERE IN SUMMER TIME.



We very welcome exchange students:

- 1 semester or 1 academic year
- Bachelor and Master's levels
- Media, Communication, Tourism, Business, Information Technologies

**APPLICATION DEADLINES for exchange:** May 1 (autumn, academic year), October 15 (spring).

**REQUIREMENTS:** Good command of English, nomination from your home institution, online application.

**STUDIES BEGIN:** September (autumn semester) and February (spring semester).

Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences offers opportunities for full-time undergraduate and postgraduate students to study part of their degree overseas.

Decisions about how long you can study abroad for, where you can go, and how your international experience contributes to your degree are determined by your study field and University regulations specific to your degree.

Find out more: [international@va.lv](mailto:international@va.lv)



Erasmus+ is the EU programme for education, training, youth and sport. One of its aims is to boost the skills and employability of university students by taking your studies overseas for between two and 12 months or internship. It's your chance to continue your course in a new environment and experience a different culture while you're at it.



## PARTICIPATE IN THE INTENSIVE PROGRAMMES

Intensive programmes usually are one week long for international students at Vidzemes University of Applied Sciences. The programme is entirely taught in English and includes classroom teaching, seminars, workshops, company visits and meetings with managers, professionals and important stakeholders. Follow [va.lv/en](http://va.lv/en) for announcement to next intensive programme.



# THE APPLICATION



## IMPORTANT DATES

### MAY 8

Application for full-time studies Non-EU, Non-EEA

### JUNE 30

Application for full-time studies EU, EEA, Swiss Confederation

### MAY 1 (autumn, academic year)

Application for exchange studies (Erasmus+, Nordplus etc.)

### OCTOBER 15 (spring)

Application for exchange studies (Erasmus+, Nordplus etc.)

**LAST WEEK OF AUGUST** (autumn) Orientation days

**LAST WEEK OF JANUARY** (spring) Orientation days

**SEPTEMBER – JANUARY** Autumn semester

**FEBRUARY – JUNE** Spring semester

**NOVEMBER 18** Independence day of Latvia

**DECEMBER 1** Application for full-time studies Non-EU, Non-EEA

**JANUARY 1** for full-time studies EU, EEA, Swiss Confederation

**LAST WEEK OF JANUARY** Registration week (full – time studies)

**MARCH/APRIL** Easter holidays

**MAY 1** National holiday – Labour Day

**MAY 4** National holiday – Declaration of Independence Day

**JUNE 24** Summer Solstice

See the list of programs at [www.va.lv/en](http://www.va.lv/en)

## 1.

Apply online and attach all relevant documents including application fee payment

## 2.

Receive confirmation if you are eligible to study at your chosen program

## 3.

*For Bachelor level*  
Interview  
*For Master level*  
Master Thesis proposal and interview

## 4.

Sign the study agreement and pay tuition fee

## 5.

Apply for visa (if needed)

For more information:  
international office e-mail:  
[international@va.lv](mailto:international@va.lv)  
phone: +371 64250853;  
+371 22042022  
[www.va.lv/en](http://www.va.lv/en)

\*The whole process might take 2-3 months.





Average temperature in Latvia per month:

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Min (°C)	-8	-8	-5	1	6	10	12	12	8	4	0	-4
Max (°C)	-2	-2	3	10	16	20	22	21	16	10	4	0

So far, the highest observed temperature in Latvia is +36.4°C, the lowest: -43.2°C.



Latvian is the dominant language as well as the official language of Latvia. English, Latgalian, Ukrainian, Belarusian and Russian are also spoken. 1 out of 10 speak English.


Some phrases that may help in first few days:

„Es nesaprotu Latviski” – “I don’t understand Latvian”

„Angliski, lūdzu” – “English please”

„Vai jūs runājat Angliski?” – “Do you speak English?”


„Mani sauc...” – “My name is...”



**Get your higher education diploma in Europe, Latvia!**

Not the only practical experience that is highly valued by employers, but also the opportunity to study in programs that responding to the challenges and needs of the modern world – information technologies, cybersecurity, virtual and augmented reality, strategic communication and management, media literacy and business environment administration.

# INFORMATION THAT MIGHT BOTHER YOU



## LIVING COST

COSTS PER MONTH, EUR

- Meal/Food
- Transportation,
- Sports And Leisure,
- Accommodation



## ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Non-EU nationals need a visa or residence permit (up to 5 months) to enter Latvia.

EU/EEA citizens should obtain the European Health Card.

Students from other countries should obtain a valid health insurance policy.

### GRADING SYSTEM

Achievement level	Grade	Meaning	Approx. ECTS grade
very high	10 9	with distinction	A
high	8 7	very good good	B C
medium	6 5 4	almost good satisfactory almost satisfactory	D E E/FX
low	3-1	unsatisfactory	Fail





- VIA BUILDING
- VIA DORMITORY
- CAFE / RESTAURANT
- SPORTS CENTER
- TRAIN STATION
- BUS STATION
- POLICE
- HOSPITAL / CLINIC
- THEATER
- CLUB / BAR
- CINEMA
- TOURISM INFORMATION CENTER
- BUSINESS INCUBATOR
- HOTEL





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