

Higher Education in Lithuania

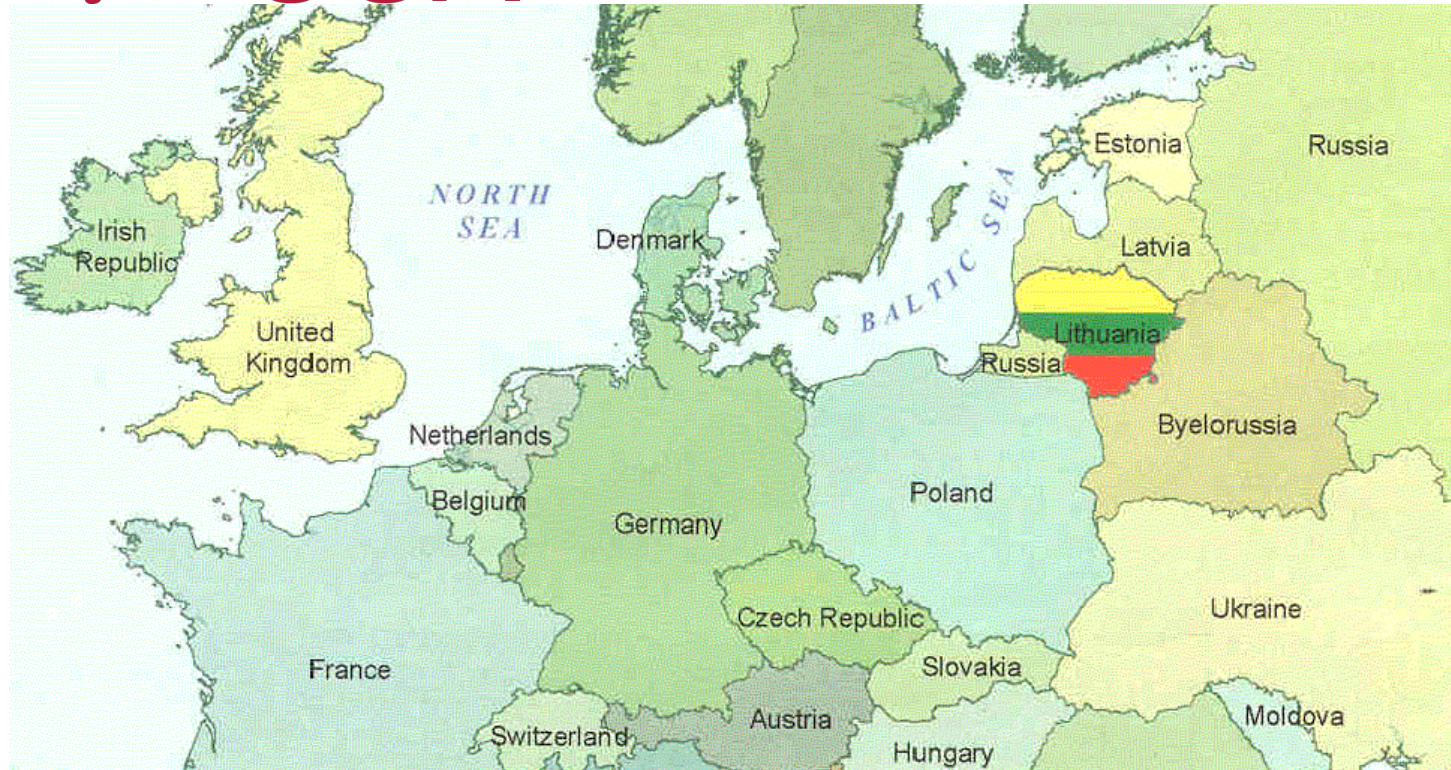


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SOME FACTS ABOUT LITHUANIA

- **Area:** 65 300 km²
- **Location:** Lithuania is a state on the eastern coast of the Baltic Sea
- **Neighbouring states:** Latvia, Belarus, Poland, and Russia
- **Population:** 3,394,000
- **Language:** the official language is Lithuanian
- **Capital:** Vilnius
- **Form of government:** parliamentary democracy



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YOUTH CAREER & ADVISING CENTER



- Is a non-profit, non-governmental institution established in 1999 by the Open Society Fund-Lithuania and Vytautas Magnus University with a strong focus on educational programs and advising
- Is EducationUSA center
- Is TOEFLiBT testing center
- **Staff:** 4 people
- **Visitors:** ~ 2500 people per year



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ADVISING ACTIVITIES

- Information/consultation about opportunities and study programs in the USA
- The latest information on scholarships and financial aid
- Outreach programs for high school and university students
- Preparation for international tests
- Predeparture orientation
- Assisting USA institutions



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HIGHER EDUCATION IN NUMBERS (2009-2010)

Higher education institutions – 46

- 23 universities
- 23 colleges

Number of students – 201 000

- 144 000 in universities
- 57 000 in colleges
- 88% in state higher institutions
- 3 900 international students
- 420 study in the USA (2009)



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PROFILE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

BINARY STRUCTURE

- Non-university studies
- University studies

THREE- CYCLE SYSTEM

- Undergraduate studies
- Graduate studies
- Postgraduate studies



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1ST CYCLE (UNDERGRADUATE) STUDIES

- 4 years
- Lead to *bakalauras* (Bachelor) degree and/or professional qualification
- Give access to 2nd cycle studies
- 140-180 credits are required in order to complete 1st cycle studies



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2ND CYCLE (GRADUATE) STUDIES

- 1,5 - 2 years
- Lead to a magistras (Master) degree or to magistras (Master) degree combined with and a professional qualification
- Give access to 3rd cycle studies
- 60 - 80 credits are required in order to complete 2nd cycle studies



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3rd CYCLE (POSTGRADUATE) STUDIES

THREE DIFFERENT TYPES:

- **Doktorantūra** (doctoral studies) - studies leading to a research degree (not more than 4 years)
- **Rezydentūra** (residency) - studies of Medicine, Odontology, and Veterinary Medicine (3-6 years nominal duration)
- **Meno aspirantūra** (art studies) - studies devoted to the training and specialization of artists and leading to a *meno licenciatas* degree (80 credits required).



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CREDIT SYSTEM

- National credit system
- Average 1600 working hours per academic year
- One credit - 40 hours of student work or to approximately 1,5 ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) credits
- The average volume of full-time studies is 40 national credits



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Recognition of diplomas and qualifications

Lithuanian center for Quality Assessment in Higher Education:

- Implements the external quality assurance policy in research and higher education in LT
- Assess the higher education qualifications acquired abroad;
- Provide information, consultations and recommendations on the issues of education acquired abroad;
- Exchange information with diploma recognition centers world-wide



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USEFUL LINKS

- **Ministry of Education and Science**

www.smm.it

- **Educational Exchanges Support Foundation**

www.smpf.it

- **Center for Quality Assessment in Higher Education**

www.skvc.it



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