



The Quality Assurance System at Khazar University

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Khazar University



Established in 1991,
Khazar University became
one of the first private
universities in the NIS and a
leading higher education
institution in Azerbaijan.



Khazar University

With 110 lecturers, mostly educated and trained in Europe and the United States, and some 1,500 full-time students, the university is a pioneer of student-centered model of education in the country.



Khazar University

It is the first university among 47 higher education institutions in Azerbaijan to apply the credit accumulation system.



Khazar University

Khazar University has focused on strengthening links with higher education institutions in Europe and North America.

Quality definition

The quality of the high educational institutions is a very complex category and depends upon several factors:

- The staff, especially the academic one
- Students
- Management
- Educational and research methods
- The content of the studying programs
- Educational and research equipment
- Teaching aids (literature etc)
- Motivation
- Money, as a means for working and development
- The Market

The main factors in the creation process of quality

- **Learners**, who desire a higher education degree (bachelor, master, doctorate).
- **Facilitators**, scientists, teachers, highly specialized experts.
- **Condition and environment** (atmosphere) in which learners and facilitators do their jobs. This includes the spiritual atmosphere (environment), management and material-technical resources.
- **The ideas and programs that teachers refer to during the teaching process**; contemporary and dynamic education model programs and curriculums. Besides learners and facilitators, condition, management, environment (atmosphere), it is also important what they learn (which books, curriculums, programs?)...

Group of Indicators for **“good higher education institution”**

**What Is Good And What
Is Bad?**

**On Development And
Indicators Of Quality In
Higher Education**

Hamlet Isaxanli

(Khazar University)



Group of Indicators for **“good higher education institution”**

- Plans and programs on education and teaching
- Students and organization of student support systems
- Research and teaching
- Education policy, strictness of education and relevant atmosphere
- Material and physical resources
- Library
- Development and action plans

Quality Indicators

- 1. Education, syllabus and curriculum***
- 2. Students and student support system***
- 3. Research and teaching activities***
- 4. Education policy. Seriousness of teaching and environment***
- 5. Material-technical resources (buildings, rooms, labs, cafeteria, etc)***
- 6. Library***
- 7. Development and action plans of the higher education institution***

Quality Assurance at Khazar University

Quality assurance at Khazar University provided by the Academic Quality Assurance Centre established in November 1999, under the framework of Tempus Tacis Compact Project 1999-2001.

Quality Assurance at Khazar University

The University of California in Los Angeles, Princeton University, Harvard University, Georgia State University and other universities continuously share their experience with faculty and staff members of Khazar University in academic quality techniques and procedures.

Tempus-Tacis Project

- **1999-2001** “Quality Assurance Centre Development at Khazar University” (Nottingham Trent University, UK, Haarlem University, The Netherlands)
- **2001-2003** “The establishment of Student Support Services Centre at Khazar University” (Middlesex University, UK, University of Sannio, Italy)

The Quality Assessment System at Khazar University

- The Quality Assurance Centre is responsible for the quality and quality assurance in education and research
- Decisions in the University Board concerning infrastructural matters and resources
- An action plan for central quality enhancement is decided each year
- Students Feedback
- Evaluation of research at Khazar University

Some values and conditions of quality assessment at Khazar University

- ✓ Quality is created and shaped in the schools and departments by teachers and students
- ✓ The central strategies and actions must reinforce a culture of quality enhancement
- ✓ An active student union enhances work with quality issues
- ✓ Some external demands are good for enhancing the internal quality work

The Quality Assurance Centre at Khazar University

Aims:

- To improve instructional and research quality
- To promote renovation and building of learning facilities and resources
- To raise administrative level of higher education institutions
- To form assessment system at various levels

Quality Control Mechanisms

Quality control mechanisms at Khazar University supported by appropriately trained staff, enhances the processes of academic quality assurance in three areas :

- **Curricula Validation and Review;**
- **Student Learning, Teaching and Assessment;**
- **Staff Development and Appraisal.**

Curricula Validation and Review

The results of quality control of syllabus and program design help instructors to improve quality.

As a results of the evaluation Khazar University bring changes to program.



Review of Learning and Teaching

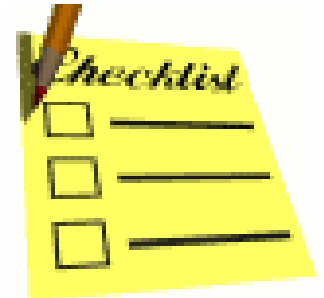
Review of teaching, learning and assessment activities, including curriculum content and design, at appropriate regular intervals.



Staff Development and Appraisal

LEARNING RESOURCES

- **Information and support for staff**
 - Mentoring/Peer review of staff
 - Staff review and development
 - School- or Department-specific guidance for academic staff and supervisors
- **Material resources**



Internal Quality Assurance

Khazar University regularly conducts internal evaluation with active participation of students and results of the evaluation are analyzed by department and school.



Internal Resources and Quality Work

- Different activities on quality issues, e.g. analyses of resource allocations, quality enhancement etc.
- Trainings for quality & evaluation, for teaching & interactive learning, for management training etc.
(Quality Enhancement Program Educational policy, Teaching portfolios, Teacher training, etc.)
- Different projects: Program- & subject-based course evaluation
- Evaluation of the students' views of each semester in programs

Participation of the Students in Evaluation of Education Process

The Students' opinion is important for the curriculum and examining quality as well as for the qualification of the teacher for a high education process in a given field.

Feedback from students

Regular use of questionnaires as a mechanism for obtaining student feedback on teaching and courses is commended as essential good practice in all Schools and Departments.

Student Support Services Center

Student Support Services Center at Khazar University, supported by appropriate trained staff, has developed and maintained the student service mechanism applying European practice adopted for the local needs and peculiarities.



Student Support Services Center

- ***Career services***
- ***International and non-residential students services***
- ***Health care services***
- ***Legal services***

International Students

140 students from 17 different countries and continents – Europe, America, Asia, Africa.



Quality Control and Quality Management

Quality control and quality management are intended to support Khazar University in developing its own rigorous framework concerning admissions, program design, approval and review, teaching and learning processes, student support, communication and representation, assessment and external examining, and staffing.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION!**

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