

MODERN DIDACTICS CENTER

LITHUANIA

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ŠIUOLAIKINIŲ DIDAKTIKŲ CENTRAS

MODERN DIDACTICS CENTER

□ Is public non-profit, non-governmental organization for continuing adult education and in-service training

□ MDC was established in 1999 as inter-university centre by an initiative of Vilnius Pedagogical University and the Open Society Fund-Lithuania

□ Based in Vilnius, Lithuania





MISSION

❑ Mission of MDC- to propose and implement innovations in education, and to support education reform and integration into European Union by continual monitoring, study and analysis of the situation in general education and the needs of Lithuanian schools for change and innovation

AIMS

- ❑ To encourage and to support the initiatives by the academic community designed to bring about changes in higher education and teacher training and foster democracy and cooperation
- ❑ To encourage and support communication and cooperation between institutions of higher education and secondary schools
- ❑ To develop inter-university connections to encouraging openness, tolerance and collegial communication between educators

ACTIVITIES

- Preparation and dissemination of in-service training programs for adults in various professions
- Credit courses for university students
- In-service training courses for primary and secondary school and university teachers
- Summer and winter schools for high school and college students and teachers
- Workshops and conferences on pressing educational problems
- Planning and implementation of local and international projects
- Publishing



PROJECTS 1

NATIONAL PROJECTS

- Integration of the Special Needs Children in Educational Institutions, 2001-2002
- University Didactics, 2001
- Education of Youth Leaders, 2002
- Critical Thinking Development in Higher Education, 2002-2003
- Education against Corruption, 2002-2003
- Cooperation Lessons for Coalition Capacity Building
- Development and Dissemination of Anticorruption Programmes, 2004
- Students to Students Helping to Overcome Learning Difficulties, 2004-2005
- Development and Testing of Preventive Mechanisms

PROJECTS 2

INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

- Reading and Writing for Critical Thinking, 1997-2000
- Critical Thinking Development: Training Programme for Belarus Educators, 2001-2002
- MIND / Critical Thinking for Successful Future Career in EU, 2001-2003 (Socrates Comenius project)
- Critical Thinking for Successful Future Career: Training Programme for Kaliningrad Region Pedagogues, 2002
- MIND / Critical Thinking for Successful Future Career in EU: Practical Approach, 2004-2005 (Socrates Comenius project)
- Sustainable Development of RWCT Network for Educational Change and Innovations, 2004-2006

PROJECTS 3

PARTNERSHIP IN PROJECTS

- European Integration into School Community, 2000-2001
- Economics Training for Modern Society Development, 2002-2003
(Phare project)
- Building Advocacy Capacity for the Coalition of Educational NGOs, 2002-2003
- Trainers for European Citizens, 2002-2004 (Socrates Grundtvig project)
- Preventing Corruption through Education, Information and Consciousness-raising, 2002-2004
- Crime Prevention through Cooperation, 2004
- GUIDANCE is OK - Guidance Information Service and Online Knowledge-

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Base, 2004-2005

PROJECTS 3

PARTNERSHIP IN PROJECTS

- Promoting Innovative Career Choices in Local Communities, 2004-2005
- Vocational Integration of Travelling People in Europe, 2004-2006
- MOST / Mobility Framework and Standard Development for Teachers, 2004-2007 (Socrates Comenius project)
- Crossroad: Coalition for Strengthening Equal Possibilities in the Labour Market, 2005-2007
- Development and Testing of Preventive Mechanisms Reducing Students' Dropout from the System of General Education, 2005-2008
- ASSIST- Mobilization of Community towards Secure

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VILNIUS PEDAGOGICAL UNIVERSITY (VPU)

8 faculties:

- Physics and Technology,
- Natural Sciences,
- History,
- Lithuanian Philology,
- Mathematics,
- Pedagogy and Psychology,
- Slavonic Philology,
- Foreign Languages.

2 institutes:

- Institute of Social Communication,
- Culture and Arts Education Institute.



Studies are conducted at three levels:

1. The main (undergraduate) level of studies, which run for four years, grant the graduates both with a Bachelor's degree and the qualification of a secondary school teacher.
2. The second level is the Master's degree studies that take up two more years. The graduates of the second level are conferred on a Master's qualification degree and the qualification of a gymnasium teacher.
3. The third level is a course of three or four year doctoral studies.

University today

- 13 000 students presently study at the University.
- The number of Bachelor's degree students is 11645; Master's degree studies embrace 755 students. 34 Bachelor degree programmes and 24 Master degree programmes have been approved by the Accreditation Board of Lithuania. Full-time students have a possibility to acquire a second speciality by attending evening courses.
- The University has 132 doctoral students.
- The University staff consists of 1292 employees; 66 of them are Professors and Habilitated Doctors and 286 of them - Associate Professors and Doctors.