

#### Virovitica University of Applied Sciences

# INFO PACK

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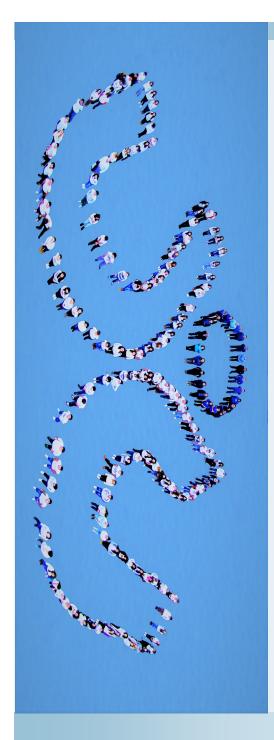
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# ABOUT VIROVITICA UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

Virovitica University of Applied Sciences (VUAS) was founded by the Regulation of the Government of the Republic of Croatia.

#### **HEADQUARTERS:**

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#### VISION

To become the leading regional educational institution in the area of professional and applied higher education, based on the concept of lifelong learning and responsibility for knowledge as a public good and thus significantly contribute to the development of the region and the Republic of Croatia.

#### MISSION

To educate professionals with prominent entrepreneurial spirit, ready for independent application of gained knowledge and competences. Students, teachers, teaching assistants and personnel are the main force of Virovitica University of Applied Sciences because people are the most valuable asset of any society.

The teaching process must be based on academic freedoms, promotion of quality and contemporary knowledge in disciplines which are compatible with the study programmes, and the transfer of knowledge must be supported as the fundamental prerequisite for integration, development and cooperation with the economy and the local community.

## **DISTINCTIVE FEATURES OF VIROVITICA UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES**

- $\Rightarrow$  we offer attractive study programmes in accordance with the needs of society and the Bologna Declaration
- $\Rightarrow$  classes are lectured in small groups
- $\Rightarrow$  mentor approach to working with students
- $\Rightarrow$  students are equal participants in the educational process
- $\Rightarrow$  we foster team work through joint projects and an individual approach to each student, their intellectual needs and interests
- ⇒ we promote FUNDAMENTAL VALUES OF VIROVITICA UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES through the educational process, which are:
- \* **Responsibility** we promote a responsible approach to knowledge as a public good, as well as gaining, using and transferring knowledge in all areas of life
- \* AMBITION we hold high expectations of our students, teachers, teaching assistants and personnel whose fulfilment is based on positively oriented ambitions, persistence and consistency
- \* **OPENNESS** we advocate cooperation, transparency, team work and establishing of partnerships
- \* **CREATIVITY** we are open to new ideas, we support exploratory spirit, creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship
- \* **ACADEMIC AUTONOMY** we promote academic freedom of research to explore significant and controversial issues, as well as academic responsibility which calls for our knowledge to be subject to rigorous and public review, and our arguments to be based on strong evidence
- \* **EXCELLENCE** we strive for a high level of excellence to ensure quality and competitiveness in Croatian and European spheres of higher education

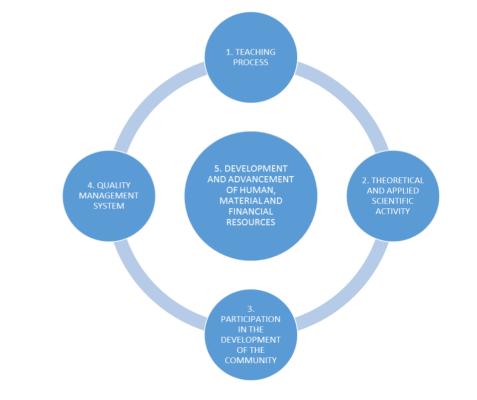
#### **FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

Since 17 September 2011, Virovitica University of Applied Sciences has been situated in the newly refurbished and modernly equipped building of the former army barracks in Virovitica with 2,832.57 m<sup>2</sup> of space available for different purposes (assembly hall, videoconference hall, council chamber, lecture halls, IT laboratories, laboratory, library, students' and teachers' lounges, course materials printing office, student office, offices for the teaching staff, personnel offices, server room, kitchenettes, archive, hallways, anterooms, sanitary facilities and ancillary rooms), furnished to modern standards and equipped with contemporary IT, communication and multimedia equipment, and requisite literature for the students and the teaching staff.



# STRATEGIC GOALS OF VIROVITICA UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

Continuous advancement of the teaching process through: improvements, adaptation and introduction of new study programmes congruent with the development of science, technologies and the needs of the labour market, monitoring of students' accomplishments and gaining of qualifications in the period envisaged by the study programmes, ensuring that the number of the teaching staff is proportional to the number of students, and ensuring adequate study resources and their availability to students.



Supporting development of professional and applied scientific activity in the scientific fields and areas relevant to the study programmes, and giving institutional support to development of scientific research careers of teachers and teaching assistants through the activity of Research and Development Centre.

Participation in the development of the community through: cooperation with business and local communities; facilitating students of lower socio-economic status to gain access to studying; development of communication and partnerships with private, public and civil sectors.

Maintenance and advancement of the quality management system through the activity of the Quality Management Centre, conducting internal audits, evaluation of the management system, self-analyses and third-party audits.



# STUDY PROGRAMMES

There are four undergraduate professional study programmes and one specialist graduate professional study programme established at the Virovitica University of Applied Sciences.

#### UNDERGRADUATE PROFESSIONAL STUDY MANAGEMENT

#### Main field: INFORMATICS MANAGEMENT

Undergraduate professional study programme of Informatics Management is aimed at educating managers for middle and higher level managerial functions in tourismrelated companies and other business systems. Since considerable amount of course content belongs to the field of economics, students who are educated through this programme can successfully work in all professions for which knowledge and skills in business economics and economic analysis are needed.

Study programme of Management, main field Informatics Management is defined by its curricular content which aims to educate students for *managerial activities based on the analysis of economic indicators of business activity* alongside contemporary level of sensitivity to ecological consequences of business activity, environmental management, and humane management through lawful business activity and respect for human rights.

#### Main field: MANAGEMENT IN RURAL TOURISM

Virovitica University of Applied Sciences is the only educational institution in the continental region of Croatia to provide professional higher education in the field of rural tourism and narrowly linked subtypes of rural tourism through the study programme of 'Management in Rural Tourism'.

Current situation which is reflected, among other things, in the shortage of professional staff in the field of rural tourism, as well as the lack of perspective on tourism development, especially the development of rural tourism in the region of continental Croatia, was the starting point for establishing and starting this study programme. Management in Rural Tourism is aimed at educating professional and competent staff qualified for starting their own business entities based on rural tourism, as well as working in tourism and hospitality establishments.

The primary goal of the study programme Management in Rural Tourism is to make students acquainted with the structure and perspectives of rural tourism development, methods for managing resources, and the development of a tourism destination in conditions of a highly competitive environment, as well as forming new tourism products with a positive influence on maintaining ecological balance.

\*All information on the learning outcomes, courses and number of ECTS credits is available on <u>Virovitica University of Applied Sciences</u> website.

#### Main field: ENTREPRENEURSHIP

With the implementation of the concept of free market and market economy, entrepreneurship has become the basis for the development of Croatian economic system. It is promoted by creating an entrepreneurial climate and other favourable conditions to help individuals and business entities develop their creativity and accept both risks and rewards brought about by entrepreneurship.

Being aware that contemporary entrepreneurship restores, transforms and encourages development of the economies throughout the world by generating new business enterprises, which consequently encourages setting up of new businesses and creates new employment opportunities, Virovitica University of Applied Sciences has envisaged this study programme as an incentive for the development of the region by educating entrepreneurial staff in order to strengthen the pillars of economic development. Undergraduate professional study programme of Entrepreneurship is aimed at educating professionals able to work individually in small and medium-sized enterprises.

#### UNDERGRADUATE PROFESSIONAL STUDY COMPUTER SCIENCE

#### UNDERGRADUATE PROFESSIONAL STUDY ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

#### Main field: SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

The number of technologies used in development of information systems in today's world is exceptionally large. Depending on the needs of the client, business information systems include various technologies, i.e. both programming, and communications technologies (ICT in the real sense of the word).

In order for a student to follow those trends it is not enough, and probably not possible either, to teach all possible techniques they will need 'a priori'. Instead, our intention is to teach our students basic programming languages and the basics of programming to the level of proficiency, and to get them acquainted with other technologies through several courses, consequently having them specialize in at least one of them.

In this way, the student can quickly become part of a team of programmers, or start their own business— i.e. in the most simple option work on tasks through *Elance* or similar systems. The principal vision of a student after completing this study programme is immediate (self-)employment.

With this goal in mind, this study programme was developed in cooperation with potential employers, companies which are members of associations CISEx and OSC, while students keep in touch with modern technologies through internship and participation in construction exercises.

\*All information on the learning outcomes, courses and number of ECTS credits is available on <u>Virovitica University of Applied Sciences</u> website.

#### Main field: TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Nowadays the number of technologies used in development of information systems is exceptionally large. Depending on the needs of the client, business information systems include various technologies, both programming, and communications technologies (ICT in the real sense of the word).

The goal is to get the students acquainted with the majority of relevant communications paradigms, including 'classical' telephone network, the Internet network, wireless networks, mobile networks, local computer networks etc. Special attention is paid to the Internet network and local computer networks. Our expectations are that, after having completed this study programme, a certain number of our students will find work as system maintenance engineers, considering that knowledge of these technologies is crucial for such a profile of expert. Furthermore, since system maintenance engineers are expected to be up to a certain level of service within a company, not only in the domain of communications, special attention is paid to the 'cloud' paradigm, taking into consideration the growing number of services offered in this way, including hardware infrastructure as service too.

In the 'business' sense, this study programme offers some general competences which are, among other things, related to economic and legal aspects of creating one's own start-up company, as well as market-related activities (marketing, business negotiations). They are integrated into a single course called 'Startup Economics' and should suffice for students with entrepreneurial spirit, especially if they are in doubt as to whether to found their own start-up or seek employment in a company, as taking this course will make the choice easier.

#### SPECIALIST GRADUATE PROFESSIONAL STUDY PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

#### Main field: DESTINATION MANAGEMENT

Changes in preferences and affinities of contemporary tourists ask for constant adaptation of destination products to meet new requirements of the tourist demand market. Owing to global market competition, it is necessary to constantly work on achieving recognizability and originality of the integral tourism destination product, which requires comprehensive knowledge in the field of tourism destination management, especially when it comes to innovation in tourism, strategic management in tourism organisations, experience economy, e-marketing, and branding and managing integral tourism destination product.

In order for a destination product to be recognizable and successful on the market, it is necessary to have a detailed knowledge of the tourism resource base, of the way it is valued, of sustainable development, and creating a product which will represent an original and unforgettable experience for a tourist, but also successful marketing communication through contemporary media and techniques. Therefore, the purpose and the goal of the graduate study programme of Destination Management is to enable students to skillfully manage tourism destinations.

\*All information on the learning outcomes, courses and number of ECTS credits is available on <u>Virovitica University of Applied Sciences</u> website.

#### Main field: MANAGEMENT OF SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES

The changes which have occured in managerial environment have resulted in abandoning of traditional notion and differentiation of entrepreneur from a manager, so nowadays the differences between the two are becomming less distinct, on both theoretical and practical levels. Even entrepreneurs who find themselves at the beginning of their entrepreneurial undertaking need to have certain managerial knowledge and skills. Likewise, managers in existing organisations have to be able to use entrepreneurial model of management.

The purpose and the goal of this study programme, apart from acquiring fundamental managerial knowledge and skills, is for the students to gain competences stemming from the need to adapt to changes in the environment, which are: strategic thinking with the aim of building and maintaining competitive advantage, familiarity with the economic policies and framework of business activity within the EU, identifying consumers' needs, encouraging creativity and innovation through entrepreneurial enterprise, using the possibilities and advantage of integrated marketing communication, and ability to use new sources for financing entrepreneurial enterprises.

# ORGANIZATION OF CLASSES and the ENROLMENT PROCEDURE

Delivery of teaching is organized in form of lectures (L), seminars (S) and exercises (E) as fundamental organizational forms of teaching.

Considerable attention is devoted to systematic raising of the quality of courses through:

 $\Rightarrow$  guest lectures of lecturers who are acknowledged experts in economic practice and in the academic community,

 $\Rightarrow$  student fieldwork and

 $\Rightarrow$  using different methods for enticing collaborative (active) learning and critical thinking in the student body

Classes timetable is made public at the beginning of each semester on the noticeboard and on the Virovitica University of Applied Sciences website .

In case of any timetable change, be it a permanent change or a temporary one, it is announced in the same way.



#### **Enrolment procedure for Virovitica University of Applied Sciences**

#### undergraduate study programmes

Enrolment in the study programmes delivered at Virovitica University of Applied Sciences is carried out through the National Information System for Applications to Higher Education Institutions web page: <u>www.postani-student.hr</u>.

The enrolment procedure is described in the Call for applications for enrolment in the first year of study programme announced on Virovitica University of Applied Sciences website.

Entrants who can apply for admission to undergraduate study programmes: Management (main fields Informatics Management and Management in Rural Tourism), Entrepreneurship, (main field Entrepreneurship), Computer Science (main field Software Engineering) and Electrical Engineering (main field Telecommunications and Information Technology) must have completed a four-year secondary school programme in the Republic of Croatia or a corresponding secondary school abroad, passed the state matura exam, and applied to study programmes through the National Information System for Applications to Higher Education Institutions web page www.postani-student.hr.

The obligation of passing the state matura exam does not apply to entrants who completed four-year secondary education in The Republic of Croatia before 2010 or entrants who completed secondary education abroad.

#### Enrolment procedure for foreign students

#### (from EU and non-EU countries)

EU citizens apply for enrolment and study within enrolment quotas for full time students who are Croatian citizens.

Foreign citizens from non-EU countries have the right of application to undergraduate professional study programmes under equal terms as the Croatian citizens, within specially approved foreign citizens quota.

# Recognition of foreign higher education qualifications and study period

Virovitica University of Applied Sciences conducts procedures of academic recognition of foreign higher education qualifications and/or study period spent at a foreign higher education institution, with the aim of continuation of education at Virovitica University of Applied Sciences.

The application for the academic recognition is to be submitted to the Office for Academic Recognition of Foreign Higher Education Qualifications of Virovitica University of Applied Sciences (Ured za akademsko priznavanje inozemnih visokoškolskih kvalifikacija Visoke škole Virovitica), Matije Gupca 78, Virovitica, tel. 033/721-099.

#### Rules on the transfer procedure and recognition of ECTS credits

Virovitica University of Applied Sciences conducts the procedure of recognition of courses and ECTS credits obtained during the period of student mobility, based on the Ordinance on International Mobility within the Erasmus+ Programme available on Virovitica University of Applied Sciences website.

# INTERNATIONAL COOPERA-TION

On 30th December 2013 Virovitica University of Applied Sciences was awarded the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education - ECHE for the Erasmus+ Programme spanning the time period from 2014 to 2020.

Erasmus+ is the largest European Union programme for education, training, youth and sport which encompasses all European and international programmes and EU initiatives in the field of education.

Erasmus+ is directed towards strengthening of knowledge, skills and employability of the EU citizens, as well as advancement of education, training and work in the field of youth and sport. It is specially aimed at linking education, training and youth sector with the business sector and it is open to their joint projects.

Besides mobility, it is possible to win a scholarship for studying abroad within the Erasmus+ Programme.

#### **INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS**







Vysoká škola technická a ekonomická rite v Českých Budějovicích









Международно Висше Бизнес Училище International Business School





Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences





# STUDENT STANDARD

#### **STUDENTS' UNION**

Students' Union of Virovitica University of Applied Sciences website is a non-party, non-political student representative body which participates in decision-making of all Virovitica University of Applied Sciences governing bodies. Here are some of the duties of the Students' Union:

- $\Rightarrow$  care for the students' quality of living, quality of the studying process and the quality of student standard,
- $\Rightarrow$  protecting students' rights and dealing with other issues important to students,
- $\Rightarrow$  encouraging students' extracurricular activities,
- $\Rightarrow$  electing student body representatives to various organisations, institutions and companies founded by Virovitica University of Applied Sciences,
- $\Rightarrow$  proposing the student activities financing plan to the competent authorities,
- $\Rightarrow$  undertaking activities of interest for Virovitica University of Applied Sciences students

You can also contact us on: Studentski zbor VUV



# SPORTS ASSOCIATION OF VIROVITICA UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

Sports Association of Virovitica University of Applied Sciences is a non-party and apolitical association founded with the aim of organizing, promoting, developing and advancing sports and amateur sporting activities at the Virovitica University of Applied Sciences.



- $\Rightarrow$  organizing and conducting coaching for the members preparing for competitions,
- $\Rightarrow$  preparation for playing for representative teams,
- $\Rightarrow$  organization and management of sporting competitions,
- $\Rightarrow$  care for health and health protection of the Association members,
- $\Rightarrow$  encouragement of understanding and embracing of ethical values by doing sports







#### **STUDENT LIFE**

Besides its official duties, Students' Union participates in numerous:

- $\Rightarrow$  humanitarian activities,
- $\Rightarrow$  economy fair Viroexpo,
- $\Rightarrow\,$  Career Fair, but also in
- $\Rightarrow\,$  organizing the FRESHMEN PARTY and
- $\Rightarrow\,$  excursions for final year students!!!

The town of Virovitica itself offers many cultural, social and recreational facilities and events, contributing to diversified spending of students' leisure time and student stress relief.

Among cultural facilities you can find: the Town Museum of Virovitica, Town Theatre, Town Library and Reading Room Virovitica, and alternative cultural activities of the association Urbana kultura mladih Virovitica (Urban Youth Culture Virovitica).

Social activities are related to doing voluntary work for the association Veranda or volunteering at the Animal Shelter.

Recreational activities are provided by: the Virovitica University of Applied Sciences Sports Association, Fitness and Bodybuilding Centres Baturina, Boss Sport and Fana...

Naturally, all available leisure facilities offer discounts or are free for students!!!

Apart from the activities aimed at our students, a massive dosage of fun is available on Wednesdays and Thursdays in cafés and clubs of Virovitica.













#### STUDENT MEALS AND ACCOMMODATION

Studying at Virovitica University of Applied Sciences offers numerous possibilities besides studying in a new, modernly and contemporarily equipped building.

Opposite the Virovitica University of Applied Sciences building, there is a newly built restaurant, i.e. student cafeteria 'Škola' with a coffee bar. On a daily basis, restaurant 'Škola' offers a wide range of cooked, high-quality meals prepared without additives or artificial preservatives.



Restaurant and coffee bar 'Škola' ('School')





Besides the modernly equipped Virovitica University of Applied Sciences building and the restaurant, a student dormitory has been built, with the capacity of 108 beds, which has contributed to the quality of studying and raised the standard of living of our present and future students.

Accommodation for the users of the Student Dormitory Virovitica is organized in single and twin rooms. A common room for socialising, an IT room, and free WiFi in all rooms are available to users. Student Dormitory Virovitica is equipped with professional washers, driers and ironing equipment.

#### See the interior of the Dormitory.



### CORNER

#### **ABOUT THE TOWN OF VIROVITICA**

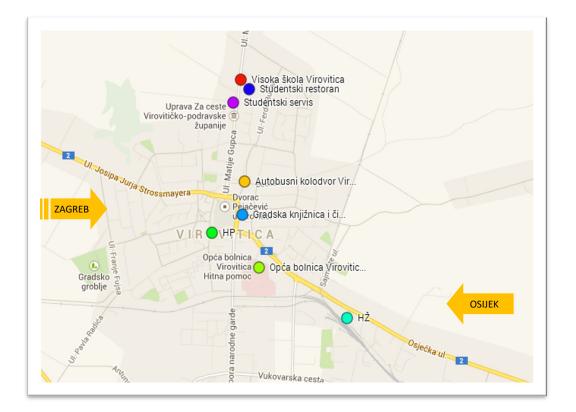
Virovitica is a town which offers its inhabitants a wide range of different activities and facilities, ranging from attractive museum and theatre events, concerts and traditional events to sporting events and the like.

With its many advantages and good road and railroad infrastructure, Virovitica makes a very attractive and easily accessible destination.

Virovitica is a town which is tailor-made for people everything is within walking distance and easily accessible!

\*You can find more information on the town, events in the town and Virovitica-Podravina County, accomodation, restaurants etc. on the official websites of:

Tourist Board of Virovitica-Podravina County: Tourist Board of the Town of Virovitica Where to find us:





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