

**AGREEMENT  
TO  
BILATERAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT  
MASTER'S PROGRAMME**

**between**

**Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Sofia, Bulgaria**

**and**

**Bukhara State University, Bukhara, Uzbekistan**

**Preamble**

On the basis of the agreements signed between Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", represented by the Rector, Professor DSc Anastas Gerdzhikov (hereinafter referred to as SU) and Bukhara State University, represented by the Rector Doctor of Economics, Professor, Khamidov Obidjon Khafizovich (hereinafter referred to as BukhSU) **Cooperation agreement** for the creation of a bilateral master's program in 2020 and in particular of Article II, item 4 of this contract, the two institutions sign a new Agreement on the way of organizing and conducting the joint master's program:

**1. Purpose and subject of the Agreement**

1.1. The subject of the Agreement is the implementation by the parties of a joint master's program. This Agreement applies to Master's students of BukhSU in the Master's program "Foreign language (English), literature, media", field: 2.1 "Philology". BukhSU is responsible for recruiting students to participate in the program.

1.2. Master's students who have successfully and fully completed their studies in a joint master's program, the principles of which are determined by this agreement, receive two diplomas: European at SU and Uzbek at BukhSU

1.3. The students accepted by BukhSU in the joint master's program are trained at SU in person in an electronic environment. BukhSU provides the upper students with regular training in the courses that are led by professors from BukhSU



1.4. The curriculum and study programs of the master's program have been approved by BukhSU and SU.

1.5. The master's program runs from the 2023/2024 academic year to the 2028/2029 academic year.

## **2. Conditions for implementing the Program**

2.1. Place of study:

2.1.1. In SU, Bulgari, Sofia

2.1.2. In BukhSU, Uzbekistan, Bukhara region, Bukhara

2.2. Language of instruction: English

2.3. Students who have successfully completed their studies under the joint program, according to the recommendations of the joint examination commission, receive two diplomas: European at SU and Uzbek at BukhSU

2.4. The master's diploma in field 2.1 "Philology" issued by the SU has the same legal force as the master's diploma issued by the SU to Bulgarian students and students from other countries studying at the SU.

2.5. Study period - 1 year (3 semesters). Each semester, students receive 30 credits (ECTS). To complete a full master's program, students must obtain 90 credits (ECTS). The program is organized on the sides as follows:

A. 1<sup>st</sup> -2<sup>nd</sup> -semesters at SU -60 credits, lasting from 1<sup>st</sup> October to 30<sup>th</sup> April

B. 3<sup>rd</sup> Semester at BukhSU-30credits, lasting from 1<sup>st</sup> May to 30<sup>th</sup> July

2.6. Students study according to the unified curriculum approved by both universities, as follows: 65% study load at SU and 35% study load at BukhSU (Writing Masters Thesis and internship before graduation).

2.7. Form of education – regular.

2.8. Each academic year during the term of the Agreement, a maximum of 20 BukhSU students will be admitted to the joint master's program. The list of students' names, as well as copies of the students' personal files (hereinafter referred to as the list) are sent by BukhSU to SU by the beginning of the first semester, by September 20. In the event of a change in the composition of the students, BukhSU must immediately inform the SU.

2.9. Both parties are involved in the candidate selection process. There will be two entrance exams. The first exam in SU includes an interview and a test to prove a level of English proficiency of at least C1 in an online format. The second paper-based exam is held at the State Examination Center of Uzbekistan. Candidates for the program submit their documents on the BukhSU online platform. Applicant-students must meet all the requirements of the regulations for the admission of students to the master's degree of both universities

2.10. The training takes place in accordance with the "Joint Curriculum" approved by the two universities (Appendix).

2.11. Parts of the educational program (subjects, courses, disciplines (modules), practices, other components) implemented by each of the parties, their scope and content are determined by the Joint Curriculum.



2.12. At the end of the studies within the joint master's program, students present their final qualification work (master's thesis). The topics of the master's theses are determined during the first semester of study and are subject to agreement between the parties. Each country appoints a co-supervisor of the Master's thesis. The thesis defense is held jointly in one of the two higher schools. A joint committee is formed, the members of which are the heads of the master's program, the scientific supervisors of the master's theses.

2.13. After completing the educational program, students receive a Master's degree in "Foreign Language (English), Literature, Media" issued by SU and a Master's degree in "Foreign Language: English" issued by BukhSU.

2.14. The parties appoint coordinators of the joint master's program who are responsible for its implementation.

### **3. Obligations of the parties**

3.1. Responsibilities of BukhSU:

3.1.1. Preparation of an application for participation in this project and obtaining permission from the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Special Education of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

3.1.2. Conducting a broad advertising campaign to attract students based on consultations and coordination with the SU.

3.1.3. Managing candidate applications, including doing background work to review their educational level.

3.1.4. Educational and methodical work necessary for teaching academic subjects, namely: organization of students' independent work, intermediate and final certification, verification of students' work, etc.

3.1.5. Transfer to SU for familiarization and approval of the students' report card (Transcript of Records).

3.1.6. Recognition of the credits of students participating in the joint master's program

3.1.7. Registration and issuance of a master's degree by BukhSU upon completion of the full course of study for graduates participating in this project.

3.2. Responsibilities of the SU.

3.2.1. Responsibility for the teaching of all academic disciplines provided for SU in the joint curriculum.

3.2.2. Organization of courses in the disciplines specified in the curriculum.

3.2.3. Recognition of the credits of the students participating in the joint master's program given by BukhSU.

3.2.4. At the end of the semester, the students' information about their progress at SU is submitted to BukhSU.

3.2.5. Organization with BukhSU of the state examination commission and conducting a joint defense of the graduate theses.



#### **4. Procedure for admission to the joint master's program**

4.1. The procedure for admission to the master's program, including entrance exams, is carried out in agreement with the foreign partner universities. The approval of the parameters for admission to programs, fields and specialties of study is carried out by BukhSU in agreement with the partner institution.

4.2. Admission to the programs is based on the results of the entrance exams conducted by SU (Interview and Test) and the State Test Center of Uzbekistan (Test: English).

4.3. Admission to the joint educational program is carried out by the higher education institution's admission committee, appointed for the current academic year, in the manner determined by the higher education institution. The admission committee may also include representatives of a foreign partner university.

4.4. The applications and the necessary documents of the candidates for admission to study in the joint educational programs will be accepted by the selection committee of BukhSU.

#### **5. Preparation and conduct of entrance exams**

5.1. Entrance exams are conducted in the prescribed manner based on a regulation in accordance with the requirements of the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan Order No. 421. Complaints submitted based on the results of the entrance exams are considered by the admissions committee of the educational institution within the framework of 3 working days.

5.2. The results of the entrance exams are published on the official websites of the educational institutions within one working day.

#### **6. Procedure for enrollment and payment of the tuition fee**

6.1. After a positive decision of the admissions committee, Contracts for paid tuition are concluded between the student and SU and BukhSU.

6.2. After signing the contract by all parties, one copy is given to the student. An order to enroll a candidate as a student is issued after he (or the client) has paid the amount under the Contracts for the first semester of study, which is reflected in the contract. Contracts also include the rights and obligations of the parties, the cost of educational services, the terms and conditions of their payment, the duration of the agreement, the liability of the parties and details of the parties.

#### **7. Financial relations of the parties**

7.1. Approved candidates are enrolled as full-time students and enjoy all the rights of students of the respective higher education institution after the Rector's Order is issued and after payment of the prescribed fees.

7.2. The fee that Uzbek students / Master's candidates approved by BukhSU / pay to SU is 1,600 euros and is determined by a decision of the Academic Council, and it is



paid in two installments: first installment of 800 euros upon enrollment in the master's program program and €800 at the end of the first semester (to cover the annual fee)

7.3. The financial relations of Uzbek students with BukhSU are regulated according to the rules and laws in force on the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The tuition fee for studies in the joint master's program is determined by BukhSU and the student pays it to BukhSU.

7.4. The amount of the tuition fee for each student admitted to the joint master's program is determined by the parties annually, taking into account inflationary processes. BukhSU informs SU about the tuition fee no later than 3 months before the start of studies at SU.

7.5. The financial provision of the Joint Master's program is carried out on the basis of Contracts for paid training concluded by the parties with the students for the provision of paid educational services, which provide for the payment of the training costs of the parties in proportion to the completed parts of the educational program.

7.6. The tuition fee in the joint program according to 7.2. and 7.3. is paid by the students of SU and BukhSU after issuing the Rector's Order for the admission of the students and before signing the Contract for studying and enrolling the students in the two universities. The payment of the specified fee is carried out according to the order and in accordance with the Regulations of the SU and the Accounting Department

7.7. The expenses related to the travel of professors of SU and BukhSU for conducting classes, participating in the defense of diploma theses, etc. are covered by the country making these visits, including travel, accommodation and food expenses. In this case, the host country must provide assistance in resolving accommodation and food issues during visits.

7.8. The costs of accommodation, food, travel to and from the place of study, medical insurance, etc., if there is a desire on the part of the students to attend, are paid by the students themselves.

## **8. The procedure for transfer, reinstatement and expulsion of students**

8.1. The procedure for the transfer, reinstatement and expulsion of students based on the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 421 on the study period of BukhSU. For the period of study in Bulgaria based on the Regulations for the activities of the SU.

## **9. Term of the contract**

9.1. This agreement shall enter into force upon its signature by the parties. Additions and changes to this agreement are made after prior agreement by educational organizations in the manner prescribed by the local acts of both parties.



9.2. This agreement is concluded for the period of implementation of the Joint Master's Program provided for in paragraph 1.5. of this agreement. After the expiration of the term of this agreement, the parties may extend this agreement for a new period or enter into a new agreement

## **10. Dispute Resolution**

10.1. In the event of disputes and disagreements related to the interpretation and application of this agreement, they shall be resolved through friendly consultations and negotiations between the parties. Disputes arising in the process of implementation of the joint educational program and this agreement are resolved in the manner prescribed by the Regulations of educational organizations. If it is impossible to resolve disputed issues through negotiations, the parties refer to the arbitral tribunal appointed by both parties. The costs of the arbitration shall be shared equally between the parties. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding on both parties.

10.2. Persons who are not satisfied with the decisions of the educational organizations regarding the procedure for enrollment or reinstatement in studies under a joint educational program have the right to submit an application in the prescribed manner to the Ministries of Education of the Republic of Uzbekistan and Bulgaria, the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Special Education of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Ministry of Higher Education and Science of Bulgaria or the courts of general jurisdiction.

## **11. Other Terms**

11.1. This agreement may be amended in the relevant articles or clauses by written agreement of the parties or in accordance with the current legislation of Uzbekistan and Bulgaria.

11.2. This agreement may be terminated by agreement of the parties or by court order on the grounds provided for in the legislation of Uzbekistan and Bulgaria.

11.3. The agreement is terminated in the event of termination of the educational activity of the SU, suspension or cancellation of the license to carry out educational activity of the SU, termination of the activities of BukhSU, suspension or cancellation of the license to carry out educational activity of BukhSU.

11.4. In the event of early termination of this agreement, the parties undertake to provide all students with the necessary conditions for completing their studies and obtaining diplomas and training certificates, except in cases where the students themselves want to postpone their studies.

11.5. None of the parties shall be liable for full or partial non-fulfillment of the obligations under this agreement, if this is the result of force majeure: natural disasters, decisions of state and official international bodies, affecting full or partial



fulfillment by the parties of the terms of this agreement. However, the party affected by such circumstances must:

11.5.1. To notify the other party in a timely, detailed and written manner of these force majeure circumstances, as well as of non-performance or delay in the performance of certain obligations due to force majeure;

11.5.2. Make every effort to eliminate the negative consequences caused by force majeure circumstances; if, due to force majeure and not at the will of that party, the operation of any clause of this agreement is suspended, then that party must be given the opportunity to continue to perform its obligations by granting a grace period.

11.6. If the party affected by these circumstances cannot remedy the negative consequences within 30 days, then both parties must show good faith to jointly discuss these circumstances and try to find a mutually acceptable solution.

11.7. This agreement is drawn up in two copies with equal legal force, one copy for each party. Changes and additions to this agreement can only be made in writing and signed by authorized representatives of the parties. The parties agreed that the legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan and Bulgaria will be applied in their legal relations.

#### Addresses, details and signatures of the Parties

**BukhSU:**

Bukhara State University  
Adress: Uzbekistan, Bukhara Region,  
Bukhara City, M. Ikbol., 11, 200117  
Tel.: +998652212914  
Fax.: +998652212707

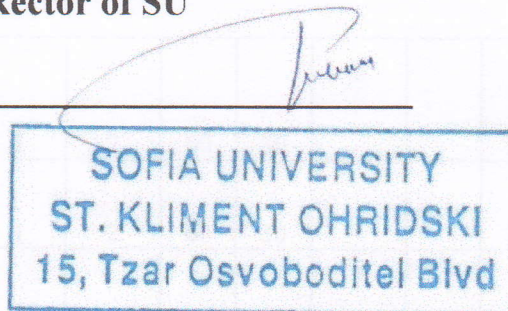
**SU:**

Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski  
Adress: 1504 Sofia, 15 Tsar  
Osvoboditel Blvd.  
Tel.: (+359 2) 987 39 96  
(+359 2) 9308 207

**Prof. Obidjon Khamidov**  
**Rector of BukhSU**



**Prof. Anastas Gerdjikov**  
**Rector of SU**



*[Handwritten signatures and dates]*  
04/04/23  
04-07-2023



**MA Program: Foreign Language (English), Literature, Mass Media ( in English)**

**Academic year beginning from 2023 / 2024**

№	Course code			Course Title	Type – C, E, O	Term	ECTS credits	Number of classes- total					Number of classes per week	
								Total	Lectures	Seminars	Practical classes / practice	Extracurricular employment		
1	2			3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
<b>Compulsory disciplines</b>														
1	C	0	1	0	Academic writing /Academic writing/	C	1	2	60	30			30	2+0
2	C	0	2	0	Practical language - 1 part	C	1	10	300			150	150	0+10
3	C	0	3	0	Modernist experiment /Modernist experiment/	C	1	3	90	45			45	3+0
4	C	0	4	0	Literature and adaptation /Migration and literature/	C	1	3	90	45			45	3+0
5	C	0	5	0	Migration and literature	C	1	2	60	30			30	2+0
6	C	0	6	0	English literature (XX-XXI century) /Uz/	C	1	2	60	30			30	2+0
7	C	0	7	0	Theory and practice of literary translation /Uz/	C	1	2	60	30			30	2+0
8	C	0	8	0	Communication and literature Communication and literature/	C	2	3	90	45			45	3+0
9	C	0	9	0	Intercultural Communication /Intercultural Communication/	C	2	2	60	30			30	2+0
10	C	1	0	0	Digital culture	C	2	3	90	45			45	3+0
11	C	1	1	0	Mass media in modern society Media and contemporary society/	C	2	3	90	45			45	3+0

**Elective courses – the chosen courses must carry a minimum of 10 (6 cr. first semester + 4 cr. second semester) credits**

1	Z	0	1	0	Race and Ethnicity in American Literature and Culture	E	1	2	60	30			30	2+0
2	Z	0	2	0	American Popular Culture and Politics	E	1	2	60	30			30	2+0
3	Z	0	3	0	The American novel in cinema	E	1	2	60	30			30	2+0
4	Z	0	4	0	The letter in literature and cinema	E	1	2	60	30			30	2+0
5	Z	0	5	0	Creative writing - 1 part	E	1	2	60	30			30	2+0
6	Z	0	6	0	Genre Literature: Science	E	1	2	60	30			30	2+0



					Fiction										
7	Z	0	7	0	Cognitive approaches to literature and culture	E	1	2	60	30				30	2+0
8	Z	0	8	0	Writing and project management	E	1	2	60	30				30	2+0
9	Z	0	9	0	Theater in the age of the Internet	E	1	2	60	30				30	2+0
10	Z	1	0	0	Practical language - part 2	E	2	4	120			60	60		0+6
11	Z	1	1	0	Genre Literature: The Gothic Novel	E	2	2	60	30				30	2+0
12	Z	1	2	0	Literature in the information age	E	2	2	60	30				30	2+0
13	Z	1	3	0	Creative Writing - Part 2	E	2	2	60	30				30	2+0
14	Z	1	4	0	Canada: Culture and Literature	E	2	2	60	30				30	2+0
15	Z	1	5	0	Irish Revival	E	2	2	60	30				30	2+0
16	Z	1	6	0	The postmodern fictionalization of the biographical in contemporary English-language literature	E	2	2	60	30				30	2+0

**Optional subjects - minimum number of ..... credits**

1	O	0	1	0	Business models in the outsourcing industry	O	1, 2	3	90	15	15			60	1+1
2	O	0	2	0	Search for business information on the Internet	O	1, 2	3	90	15	15			60	1+1
3	O	0	3	0	Skills for summarizing and synthesizing economic data	O	1, 2	3	90	15	15			60	1+1
4	O	0	4	0	Basics of business /Uz/	O	1, 2	3	90	15	15			60	1+1
5	O	0	5	0	The keys to professional success - skills that are valuable to acquire and develop	O	1, 2	3	90	15	15			60	1+1

**Practices**

№	code				Name of practice	Type - C, E, O	Semester	ECTS credits	Weeks	Hours
1	P	0	1	0	Educational practice /Uz/	O	1	2	2	30

**Graduation**

Method of graduation	ECTS credits	First state exam/ thesis defence session	Second state exam/thesis defence session
Defense of a diploma thesis SU and Uz	15	May/June	October



Director of the Institute / Dean of the Faculty

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(name of institute/faculty) Full name*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*director of the institute / dean of the faculty)*

Student \_\_\_\_\_ course,  
groups \_\_\_\_\_  
Joint educational program of the direction of training  
(specialty)  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(code and name)*

profile \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Name)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(full name of the student in the genus case)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(student's mobile phone number) (student's e-mail  
address)*

**Statement**

Please enroll me in the number of students who intend to study in \_\_\_\_\_ semester(s)  
20\_\_-20\_\_ academic year in \_\_\_\_\_ to this organization and  
*(name of the participating organization)*  
stay there until \_\_\_\_\_ (the end of the term for mastering a part  
of the program / module / internship / collecting material for writing a master's thesis, etc. - enter the right  
one).

" \_\_\_\_\_ » \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_ y.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(signature)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(signature)*



Director of the Institute / Dean of the Faculty

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(name of institute/faculty) Full name*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*director of the institute / dean of the faculty)*

Student \_\_\_\_\_ course,  
 groups \_\_\_\_\_  
 Joint educational program of the direction of training  
 (specialty) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(code and name)*

profile \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Name)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(full name of the student in the genus case)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(student's mobile phone number) (student's e-mail  
 address)*

**Statement**

Please sign me up for study at \_\_\_\_\_ semester 20\_\_\_\_ - 20\_\_\_\_  
 educational years in \_\_\_\_\_ the  
 following disciplines:  
*(name of participant's organization)*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
- ...

" \_\_\_\_\_ » \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_ y. \_\_\_\_\_  
*(signature)*

During the training, I passed (a) test, homeworks and final exams in the following disciplines:

Name disciplines, practices, coursework	Number of credit units according to the curriculum	Marked as value	Credits



ON THE OFFICIAL STEP OF THE UNIVERSITY

INFORMATION ON TRAINING

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Period(s) of study in \_\_\_\_\_  
 (indicate the name of the educational organization)

Normative term for mastering the educational program for full-time education  
 Direction /speciality \_\_\_\_\_

Orientation (profile) of the educational program / specialization  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Form of study \_\_\_\_\_

Source of training funding \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (specify position)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 signature

Full name

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (specify position)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 signature

Full name

During the training, I passed (a) tests, intermediate and final exams in the following disciplines:

Name disciplines, practices, coursework	Number of credit units according to the curriculum	Mastered in volume	Grade

Total:  
 Including classrooms:



## Translation of SU grades into BukhSU grades

Assessment levels	Rating on a 6point scale in Bulgaria	Description	Rating on a 100 point scale in Uzbekistan	ECTS rating
Very High	6	Honours	95-100	A+
	5	perfect	90-94	A
High	4	Very good	81-89	B
	4	Fine	70-80	C
Average	3	almost satisfactory	65-69	D
	3	satisfactorily	60-64	E
low				
	2-1	not satisfactory	55 and below	Fail