LITHUANIA

Lithuania is a green flat land in the north of Europe, on the eastern shore of the Baltic Sea. The official language is Lithuanian, which is a member of the Baltic languages group. It is one of the most archaic Indo-European languages.

If you really want to know Lithuania, you must first begin to get to know its people. Most Lithuanians are sincere, hospitable and helpful, and, in fact, we expect the same treatment from our quests.

Lithuania offers you a diversity of choices. If you are tired of civilization, you can have an excellent opportunity for retreat from its pressures. You only need to leave from the big cities and travel to seemingly endless forests, lakes, scattered all over Lithuania, rivers that criss-cross the country or the unforgettably beautiful Curonian Spit washed by the Baltic Sea.

If, on the contrary, you are a truly urban person, you can find lots of things to do in Lithuania’s big cities. There are numerous museums that have accumulated huge collections, national and private art galleries, the never-ending buzz of theatre and music halls, fascinating nightlife, a variety of entertainment options and sports events. Not to mention the national dishes and drinks, which must be tasted, if you like to come home with new experiences.
Vilnius

Vilnius is the capital of Lithuania and its largest city, with a population of about 600,000. There are many picturesque places to see in Vilnius. To begin with, the Old Town is one of the largest ancient heritages in Eastern Europe. Its buildings were erected in different centuries so a very impressive ensemble of various architectural styles, such as gothic, renaissance, baroque, classical and even post-modernistic, is composed. It should be mentioned that the Vilnius Old Town is inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List. Once you really want to get acquainted with the city, it is advisable to visit such admirable places as Vilnius Cathedral Square that contains the Vilnius Cathedral, the Bell Tower, the Palace of the Grand Dukes of Lithuania and a monument for the Grand Duke of Lithuania Gediminas who was the founder of Vilnius city. What is more, spectacular views of Vilnius open from the hill where the majestic Gediminas castle is located as well as from the top of a hill called Three Crosses. The most visited places are Gediminas avenue, Pilies and Didžioji streets, the Bastion of Vilnius City Wall and the charismatic so-called Republic of Užupis.

The city guests can also visit some very informative museums and galleries such like the National Museum of Lithuania, the Museum of Genocide Victims, the Museum of Theatre music and Cinema, the Museum of Applied Arts, the Contemporary Art Center and many others – there are many alternatives for various tastes and interests.

Here is so much to learn about this magnificent city that the only way to get acquainted with it is to come. The 2009 European Capital of Culture is worth to be visited more than ever. Vilnius is one of the most visited cities of Eastern Europe because the city has some special features that undoubtedly attract people from all over the world.
Vilniaus kolegija/University of Applied Sciences was established in 2000 when a binary system of higher education was adopted in Lithuania.

Vilniaus kolegija/University of Applied Sciences (hereinafter – VIKO) emerged on strong roots - the best higher schools in Vilnius were combined and made one entity. After the study programmes were designed and approved by external evaluators at a national and international level, the aforementioned higher schools merged into one entity and obtained the status of a University of Applied Sciences (Kolegija).

Currently VIKO is one of the largest professional higher education institution in Lithuania. VIKO offers 45 study programmes in all fields of study. Experienced and highly skilled teachers maximize the development of active and creative personalities – they have already prepared over 29 thousand graduates for entering the world of work. Besides degree studies, VIKO organizes professional development courses for specialists of different areas of study.

The most impressive employment indicators of the graduates and the highest competition scores of entering students show that VIKO is the best university of applied sciences in the eyes of students and employers.

VIKO is in an active cooperation with its social partners as well as Lithuanian and foreign higher schools. It is also a member of numerous international associations and networks. Students and teachers gain valuable experience in the Erasmus+ and other international programmes. This helps VIKO graduates successfully fit into today’s competitive labour market.

VIKO provides each student with the opportunity to develop his/her creative learning approach and personal growth in the student-centered learning environment. The core values of VIKO are the following: competence, respect, tolerance, sociability, positiveness, social responsibility, reliability, spiritual togetherness, creativity and innovativeness.

Thanks to all who have chosen Vilniaus kolegija/University of Applied Sciences as their Alma Mater!
VIKO – NATIONAL RANKING LEADER OF HIGHER EDUCATION

- 7 FACULTIES
- 6,500 STUDENTS

- 39 study programs
- 12 provided ONLY AT VIKO
- 8 carried out also in ENGLISH

- 1/3 Of studies is dedicated to PRACTICAL TRAINING

- >200 foreign higher education institutions from 36 countries carry out international exchanges with VIKO

- 97 PERCENT
  (according to the data of VIKO and the Lithuanian Labour Exchange, 2018)
FACULTY OF BUSINESS MANAGEMENT
- Advertising Management
- Creativity and Business Innovations
- Enterprise Administration
- Hotel and Restaurant Business
- International Business
- Public Relations
- Tourism Management

FACULTY OF HEALTH CARE
- Biomedical Diagnostics
- Dietetics
- Ergotheraphy
- General Care Nursing
- Hygienic and Decorative Cosmetology
- Physiotherapy
- Radiology

FACULTY OF ARTS AND CREATIVE TECHNOLOGIES
- Apparel Design
- Apparel Technologies and Business Image Design
- Management of Cultural Activities
- Musical Theatre
- Popular Music

FACULTY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATICS
- Computer Systems
- Electronics Engineering
- Information Systems
- Software Engineering
- Telecommunications Systems

FACULTY OF ECONOMICS
- Accounting
- Banking
- Business Economics
- Finance
- Investment and Insurance

FACULTY OF AGROTECHNOLOGIES
- Agribusiness Technologies
- Chemical Analysis
- Food Technology
- Landscape Design
- Veterinary

FACULTY OF PEDAGOGY
- Childhood Pedagogy
- Interpretation of Lithuanian Sign Language
- Primary Education Pedagogy
- Social Pedagogy
International Cooperation agreements are concluded with more than 260 foreign higher education institutions from over 36 countries all around the world.

More than 200 students annually participate in the Erasmus+ Programme and study abroad or have their internships there.

About 100 of incoming students from overseas annually come to study at VIKO.

About 200 VIKO teachers and employees have their teaching and training periods abroad annually.

About 100 teachers of foreign higher education institutions come to VIKO to share their experience annually.

8 study programmes are also taught in English.

Each year 40 foreign students choose to study full study programme at VIKO.

“We are closely cooperating with VIKO as we want to create wider opportunities for students in the business world, while also attracting the best talent in the market. VIKO students participate in our open lectures and field trips to visit the Western Union office, where they learn about the culture of an international company, and witness how to apply their study subjects in practice. The students also join our internship program, and our own representatives are always eager to participate in VIKO Career Days Events – all to get acquainted with young and aspiring talents that will shape and drive the future workforce. We value this partnership, and it is getting stronger each year.”

PAULIUS RAMANTAUSKAS
IT Director, Head of Cooperation with Universities Committee
Studies at VIKO are oriented towards practical training: it covers more than one third of study time. VIKO students carry out their practices in more than 400 enterprises and firms located in Lithuania or abroad.

Practical training is carried out in 24 practical training centres – the Veterinary Clinics, Decorative Plant Nursery, Cosmetology Room, Beauty Salon, Fashion Studio, etc.; practical training firms – „VIKO Bankas“, „VIKO Drauda“, „Miglė“, „Vilionė“, „Agro bitės“; 55 well-equipped modern laboratories.

VIKO Centre „SIMULITH“ – the only centre in Lithuania, which joins together and coordinates the activity of over 50 business simulation firms of practical training located all over the country.

"Even at the school I knew I wanted to study at the Vilniaus kolegija. I have decided to choose International Business study program and I have no regrets! Marketing lectures were the most interesting, I realized that I would like to work in this area, or maybe even to start my own business in the future."

VILINDA
Student of
INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS
“I couldn’t dream that my chosen study program would be so important in my life and would bring me to the entertainment business, and all of that just because I had made the right decision – to study at VIKO.”

**EVALDAS**
graduated
ADVERTISING MANAGEMENT

“To study at VIKO was one of the best solutions in my life. I remember studying at the Vilniaus kolegija only with a smile! When I started studying, I only associated work with the computer, but the Student Council helped me to find myself, my talents and skills I never thought I had before. When I finished my studies, I found a job easily and worked combining the knowledge and skills acquired during the studies.”

**MIGLĖ**
graduated
TELECOMMUNICATIONS
“I can say that it was the Student Council that led me on the path that I am successfully following now. While working at the Student Council at the Leisure Committee, I learned not only to manage people’s flows, but also to evaluate and manage risk. Here at VIKO I realized that I wanted to work only with event management and become a professional in this field.”

RENATA
graduated EDUCATIONAL PEDAGOGY

“I am glad that I have chosen the path of a teacher and started it from studying at VIKO. I am very grateful to the teachers for their practical knowledge, creative ideas and constant support to help me to achieve my goals.”

PETRONELĖ
graduated MANAGEMENT OF CULTURAL ACTIVITIES
VIKO provides students academic support: consultations at the departments, also using distance tools. Individual consultations are available concerning CV preparation, self-presentation for employers, search for an internship or workplace, etc.

The Career Centre and the faculties organize career development seminars, which help students to know themselves, to learn about career possibilities, to prepare for job interviews, to develop learning skills, career plans, job searching strategies, and other skills. Obtaining those and other skills allow graduates to learn flexible reactions to constant labour market changes.

VIKO cooperates with Lithuanian and foreign public and private companies. The students have their internships in the international companies, public and private institutions.

Meetings with employers are organised constantly where the employers give lectures, practical trainings, companies invite students for Open-door activities.

The students have possibilities to apply their theoretical knowledge practically and work in real working conditions.

VIKO students’ intercultural competences, experience and foreign language skills are most valued by the employers.

VIKO is the beginning of your international career!

VIKO graduates employability is 97 PERCENT (according to the data of VIKO and the Lithuanian Labour Exchange, 2018).
“Students of the Faculty of Health Care of VIKO are especially welcome in our institution. This major health care professional training institution helps to renew the hospital as an institution, supplementing the hospital’s medical team with proactive, professionally trained specialist. I particularly appreciate study programs that provide long-term placements where students can apply their knowledge in practice, gain practical nursing skills, and learn patient care peculiarities. I am pleased that VIKO students are willing to choose a graduate practice in our departments: this gives them priority over graduates from other educational institutions when they start work. Every year we take new graduates to our team.

The hospital administration sincerely welcomes such productive cooperation with VIKO team, graduates of this institution and expects to continue mutually beneficial social partnership. Thanks to all!”

EGLĖ LIŽAITYTĖ
Executive Director of the Lithuanian Hotel and Restaurant Association

“Long-term relationships and cooperation with Vilniaus kolegija | University of Applied Sciences are based on efficient communication – employers and teachers participate in common projects, the content of study programmes regarding Hotel and Restaurant Business is continually renewed considering business needs, student organizations invite employer representatives to meetings and their final thesis defence. VIKO | UAS students are amazing – helpful, inquisitive and motivated. During hospitality events VIKO | UAS students are irreplaceable helpers. the heads of hotels and restaurants, where the graduates carry out their practices, are of a high opinion of VK/UAS students. Their final theses are of long-lasting value.”

RAIMONDA STEIKŪNIENĖ
Chief Nursing Administrator
Vilnius City Clinical Hospital
INTERNATIONAL WEEKS
Each Spring Vilniaus kolegija organises International Weeks, attended by lecturers from all over the world. Students have a possibility to participate in the lectures on different topics from their study fields. The VIKO teachers have a possibility to meet their colleagues. Thus “Internationalisation at Home” is fostered actively.

LEISURE ACTIVITIES
Students can participate in the Song and Dance Ensembles “Voruta” and “Želmuo” and the Girls Choir “Vaidilutės”.

The Fitness and Sports Centre organizes training sessions and competitions in many different sports. Students volunteer in Animal Care Organizations; each year they participate in Blood Drives and Campaigns for Environmental Protection as well as organize charity events.

STUDENT ORGANISATIONS
Each faculty has a council of Student Representatives and Science Fellowships.

Student organisations provide students with the possibilities to enhance their skills and abilities, to develop their potential by organising various activities.

ESN VIKO is a non-governmental organization uniting mentors, ESN members and the ESN VIKO board. ESN VIKO activities include organizing various events for VIKO international students. ESN VIKO help international students to get personal mentors who can answer most of the questions about living in Lithuania.
MEMBERSHIP

**EURASHE** – the European Association of Institutions in Higher Education, representing universities of applied sciences and university colleges  
**UASNET** – the Universities of Applied Sciences network  
**SPACE** – the European Network for Business Studies and Languages  
**ENPHE** – the European Network of Physiotherapy in Higher Education  
**CDIO™ INITIATIVE** – innovative educational framework for producing the next generation of engineers  

**VETNNET** – the European Network for veterinary nurse training  
**ECLAS** – the European Council of Landscape Architecture Schools which unites higher education institutions offering landscape architecture education  
**COMENIUS ASSOCIATION** – the European network of teacher training institutes  
**ELIA** – the European network which unites higher arts education institutions  

VIKO is one of the founders of Visoriai Information Technology Park and both a member of the Vilnius Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Crafts INFOBALT.

“I’m very happy to study in English. I will be able to apply my knowledge in international market, and the opportunity to study in Portugal, Estonia and Lithuania and acquire three diplomas sounds incredible!”

**ARNAS**  
Student of CREATIVITY AND BUSINESS INNOVATIONS
“Only here I was able to reveal all my colors. I always repeat that my faculty has the coziest and most creative atmosphere. The most creative students are studying here, it motivates me to go forward. From the beginning I wanted to take everything from the studies, and I do it.”

RASA
Student of MANAGEMENT OF CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

“Even at school I knew I wanted to study at Vilniaus kolegija. I decided to choose International Business study program and I have no regrets! Marketing lectures were the most interesting, I realized that I would like to work in this area, or maybe even to start my own business in the future.”

ERVIN
Student of SOFTWARE ENGINEERING
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