University life

Fundamentality is the main feature of Belarusian higher education. A three-level system of tertiary education acts in Belarus. The first degree level generally lasts 4 years. Training on the second degree level confirmed by a Master’s Degree Diploma and lasts from 1 to 2 years. And the third degree level lasts 3 year civil courses that leads to the degree of a Doctor of Science.

What about programmes in other countries? So, in the UK Bachelor’s degree requires 3 years of studying whereas in the US it’s 4 years. Master’s degreed are 1 and 2 years respectively and Doctoral degrees are 3 and from 5 to 7 years.

All HEIs in Belarus are made up of faculties, which provide different specialities. In the UK HEIs are made up of “colleges” that are dedicated to specific subject. American universities have different “schools” or departments, which house a number of related majors.

An academic year in Belarus is divied into 2 tearms. Students in the US study 2 semesters whereas acamedic year in Britain consists of trimesters.

In the UK most schools are much more lecture-based, and focused on one final exam. In the US grade based on overall performance on all assignments. Concerning the Belarusian system, it embraces the features of both British and Americans ones.

Cost of education in US and UK is far from cheap, but in the US is generally higher. In Belarus in public HEIs students are admitted on a cost-free basis and granted a scholarship, but some students must pay tuition fees which lower than in UK and US.

So, what about my university? BSUIR mission is to train engineers and scientists capable of generating and implementing innovative ideas, creating competitive high-tech products in the spheres of computer science and electronics. Today the University framework includes 8 faculties, 32 departments, 49 specialities, the Institute of Information Technologies, the Research and Development Department. The highly qualified teaching staff consist of academicians, foreign Academics of Sciences, professors, doctors, associate professors, senior lecturers and assistants.

First-year students study physics, higher mathematic, descriptive geometry, technical drawing and social sciences. Later they acquire profound knowledge in electronics, cybernetics, computing machinery, impulse technique, analog and digital computers. Students study English. Several specialities are also available in English.

Lectures, seminars, laboratory works and practical classes is obligatory make up the majority of the curriculum. University facilities at the students’ disposal include a number of computer classes and the modern engineering laboratories. A video conferencing centre and lecture theatres are equipped with up-to-date multimedia means.

The BSUIR is a large scientific organisation with 34 R&D labs, 8 scientific centres and an IT business incubator that cooperate with different science organisation and educational institution from variety of countries.

The University sports teams regularly win the leading position and compete at a national level. The Student Club organizes forums, contests, tournaments, festivals, discos and other social events.

There are some personal traits and skills needed for university success. For example, be self-motivated, work hard, persist in pursuing your goals, don’t skip classes, ask questions, manage your time useful. If you want to be a better student, you should not only love what you’re doing, listen and take down notes, but also be punctual, take good care of your health and participate in different activities.

What about me, my daily routine as a student at the moment mostly consists of studying in university and doing my homework. My academic life is accompanied with lectures, lab works, practical classes and, of course, my homework. I am a member of student council, so my social life can be full of some extracurricular activities, for example dancing, acting. I live in dormitory and I spend some of my free time on cooking and cleaning. The rest of the time I can play videogame or watch some videos on YouTube or TikTok. One of the most challenging aspects of the university experience is striking the right balance between your studies and social life. This skill will useful in the future. So, one of the main things is time management. It’s equally important set actionable goals and don’t forget to maintain good health.